

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

February 19, 2025
10:00 AM



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



MINUTES-RATIFIED

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

Ratification Date: March 19, 2025

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

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

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

INVOCATION: Reverend Clifton Dawkins, Jr., County Chaplain

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recite in unison

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

CONSENT AGENDA**25-0112 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 Thorne and seconded by Commissioner Ivory, to adopt the Consent Agenda. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

25-0113 Board of Commissioners

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

Proclamation recognizing "Reginald Tatum Remembrance Day."

(Pitts/Abdur-Rahman)

February 8, 2025

Proclamation recognizing "Eagle Scout Kevin Xiang Zhang Appreciation Day."

(Thorne)

February 8, 2025

Proclamation recognizing "Eagle Scout Avaneesh Jadhav Appreciation Day."

(Thorne)

February 8, 2025

Proclamation recognizing "Anthony "DJ Unk" Platt Remembrance Day."

(Arrington)

February 8, 2025

Proclamation recognizing "Deborah Clark Howard Remembrance Day."

(Abdur-Rahman)

February 8, 2025

Proclamation recognizing "Dr. Bernard Thompson Remembrance Day."

(Abdur-Rahman)

February 13, 2025

Commissioners' District Board Appointments

**25-0114 Board of Commissioners
LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE
CONSENT AGENDA)**

Pursuant to House Bill 595 (2015), there shall be seven Fulton County appointed members, with one such member appointed by each member of the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County.

Term = Each member of the board of trustees appointed by a member of the board of commissioners shall serve at the pleasure of the appointing member of the Board of Commissioners and for the same term as the Commissioner making such appointment.

Term below expired: 12/31/2024
Beverly Rice (**Abdur-Rahman**)

Commissioner Abdur-Rahman nominated Beverly Rice for a District reappointment to a term ending December 31, 2028.

**25-0115 Board of Commissioners
LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE
CONSENT AGENDA)**

Term below expired: 12/31/2024
Priscilla Borders (**Hall**)

Commissioner Ivory nominated Paul Bolster for a District appointment to a term ending December 31, 2028.

25-0116 Board of Commissioners**COMMISSION ON ELDER AFFAIRS (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Seven (7) appointees by the Board of Commissioners (one for each District); three (3) appointees from each of the non-profit umbrella agencies, which the County contracts with for aging services; and three (3) senior citizens elected by seniors in the three geographical areas of the County. The terms of such members appointed by the Board of Commissioners shall end at the end of the term of the appointing District Commissioner. Such members may continue to serve beyond his/her term until a successor is appointed.

Term = Shall end at the end of the term of the appointing District Commissioner

Term below expired: 12/31/2024

Linda Adams (**Hall**)

Commissioner Ivory nominated Linda Adams for a District reappointment to a term ending December 31, 2028.

25-0117 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 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

Onaje Henderson (**Hall**)

Commissioner Ivory nominated Onaje Henderson for a District reappointment to a term ending December 31, 2026.

**25-0118 Board of Commissioners
FULTON COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE
CONSENT AGENDA)**

Term = 2 years

Term below expired: 12/31/2024

Gary E. Snyder (**Barrett**)

Commissioner Barrett nominated Gary E. Snyder for a District reappointment to a term ending December 31, 2026.

**25-0119 Board of Commissioners
FULTON COUNTY VETERANS' EMPOWERMENT COMMISSION, INC.
(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

The Veterans Commission shall have the following members: Each Commissioner shall appoint two (2) members. Such appointees shall be residents of, or work in Fulton County and shall have military experience or expertise in the areas affecting military veterans. Veterans Commission shall serve three (3) year terms, with such term subject to the discretion of the appointing Commissioner, who can remove a member for cause, otherwise such member may continue to serve beyond his/her term until a successor is appointed.

Term = 3 Years

Term below expired: 12/31/2024

Patricia Lewis (**Abdur-Rahman**)

Commissioner Abdur-Rahman nominated Lawrence Reeves for a District appointment to a term ending December 31, 2027.

**25-0120 Board of Commissioners
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING OFFICERS (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF
THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Two-year terms pursuant to Section 34-67(a) of the Fulton County Civil Service Act.

Term = 2 Years

Commissioner Arrington nominated Jana J. Edmondson-Cooper for an appointment to a two-year term.

25-0121 Board of Commissioners
ADMINISTRATIVE HEARING OFFICERS (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

Two-year terms pursuant to Section 34-67(a) of the Fulton County Civil Service Act.

Term = 2 Years

Vice-Chairman Ellis nominated Sterling Eaves for a reappointment to a two-year term.

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

25-0122 Board of Commissioners
Execution by Chairman Robert L. Pitts of a TEFRA (Tax Equity Fiscal Responsibility Act) for documentation pertaining to the proposed issuance of its Development Authority of Fulton County Revenue Bonds (Spelman College), Series 2025, in an amount not to exceed \$45,000,000.00 (the "Bonds").
(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

Open & Responsible Government

25-0123 Real Estate and Asset Management
Request approval of Sanitary Sewer System Ownership, Operation, Maintenance, and Repair Agreement between Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, and Piaskey Holdings, LLC, for the purpose of granting Fulton County legal access to extend and maintain the sanitary sewer system at 10365 Waters Road, Alpharetta, Georgia 30022 (the Development). **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

25-0124 Real Estate and Asset Management
Request approval of a Water Easement Dedication of 37,877 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from EA Homes, LP for the purpose of constructing the Argosy Park Project at 0 Northpoint Parkway, Alpharetta, Georgia 30005. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

25-0125 Finance
Ratification of the January 2025 Grants Activity Report. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Arts and Libraries**25-0126 Library**

Request approval to increase spending authority - Library, 24SSREQ1339341B-RT, Tablet Stations with EnvisionWare, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$9,404.24 for the purchase of eight (8) additional Hublet Tablet Stations to be distributed throughout the library system. Effective upon BOC approval.

(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

Health and Human Services**25-0127 Community Development**

Request approval to enter into a Memorandum of Agreement ("MOA") between Fulton County, as the GA 502 Fulton County Continuum of Care ("CoC") Collaborative Applicant, and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA), on behalf of the Georgia Housing and Finance Authority ("GHFA"), to implement the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS). The term is from December 1, 2024, through November 30, 2025. This item is 100% grant funded in the amount of \$72,659.00 (HMIS grant through the DCA).

(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

SECOND REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**25-0128 Board of Commissioners**

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Ivory, to adopt the Second Regular Meeting Agenda as amended by removing item #25-0107 as requested by Commissioner Barrett; and revising item #25-0133. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

25-0129 Clerk to the Commission

Ratification of Minutes. **(RATIFIED)**

Second Regular Meeting Minutes, January 29, 2025

First Regular Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, February 5, 2025

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

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

25-0130 Board of Commissioners

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

Proclamation recognizing "Atlanta Jewish Film Festival Appreciation Day."
(Barrett/Ivory/Thorne/Ellis)

PUBLIC HEARINGS**25-0131 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)

5 Speakers: Beverly Williams (Section 8 Housing); Michael Collins (Fulton County Jail); Devin Franklin (Fulton County Jail); J. Wesley Day (Justice/Solicitor Office); L.A. Pink (Justice/Sheriff's Office)

25-0132 Public Works

Public Hearing for the Fulton County 2045 Comprehensive Plan Update and request for approval to transmit the 2045 Comprehensive Plan for Unincorporated Fulton County to the Atlanta Regional Commission (ARC) and Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) for their required review. **(APPROVED)**

PUBLIC HEARING CONDUCTED**1 Speaker: J Wesley Day**

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

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

COUNTY MANAGER'S ITEMS**Open & Responsible Government****25-0133 County Manager**

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

25-0134 Finance

Request approval of a Resolution to Equalize the 2025 Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLAs) among all pensioners by providing those retirees who participated in pension plans without automatic adjustments with the same three percent (3%) COLA that is mandated by the formula provided in the 1982 and 1991 DB Plans and their amendments, effective April 1, 2025. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

25-0135 Finance

Discussion of the estimated rollback rate to be provided to the Tax Commissioner as required in the provisions of the new State law HB 581. **(DISCUSSED/APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Ellis and seconded by Commissioner Barrett, to adopt the rate for certification, necessary to provide to the Tax Commissioner, at the current rate of 8.87. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, and Ivory

Nay: Arrington

Did Not Vote: Abdur-Rahman

25-0136 Purchasing and Contract Compliance

Request approval of a termination of contract for the Office of the Tax Commissioner, Electronic Transaction Processing Agreement with Official Payments Corporation for electronic check payment and processing and credit/debit card payment transaction services. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

25-0137 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval to utilize cooperative purchasing contract - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, Sourcewell Contract RFP #063022-SES, Commercial Kitchen Equipment with Related Supplies and Services in an amount not to exceed \$241,001.15 with Strategic Equipment, LLC dba TriMark USA, LLC (Albany, GA), for the purchase, delivery and installation of three (3) 80-gallon gas kettles, one (1) roll-in gas oven, and one (1) 2-vat gas fryer with related accessories for the Fulton County Jail. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

COMMISSIONERS' ACTION ITEMS**25-0107 Board of Commissioners**

Request approval of a Resolution to amend Fulton County's current approved FY2025 budget by approving an increase to the total budget provided to the Department of Arts and Culture by an additional amount of \$1,700,000.00 for the Contracts for Services ("CFS") Program to maintain the current level of services provided in FY2024 and recent years; and for other purposes. **(Barrett/Arrington) (MOTION TO APPROVE FAILED ON 2/5/25) (REMOVED)**

ITEM REMOVED AS REQUESTED BY COMMISSIONER BARRETT

Commissioners' Full Board Appointments**25-0138 Board of Commissioners
BOARD OF ETHICS (APPROVED)**

Each member selected after the initial terms of office have expired shall serve a term of three (3) years or until the termination of his or her membership in the organization from which he or she was selected. The chair shall serve as chair for the remainder of the calendar year and until a successor is chosen. (See Fulton County Code of Laws, Section 2-80).

Term = 3 years

Term below expired: 2/12/2025

LaTonya Nix Wiley (**Atlanta Airport Chamber of Commerce**)

The Atlanta Airport Chamber of Commerce recommended LaTonya Nix Wiley for a Full Board reappointment to a term ending February 12, 2028.

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

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

b. A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Ellis and seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, to call for a breach of decorum against Commissioner Arrington. Without a super majority vote, the motion failed by the following vote:

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

Nay: Barrett, Ivory, and Arrington

COUNTY MANAGER'S PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**Open & Responsible Government****25-0139 External Affairs
Presentation: 2025 State Legislative Session Update. (PRESENTED)**

EXECUTIVE SESSION**25-0140 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, PERSONNEL AND CYBER SECURITY: Chairman Pitts, Vice-Chairman Ellis, Commissioners: Thorne, Barrett, Ivory; County Manager Dick Anderson; County Attorney Y. Soo Jo; Chief Information Officer Kevin Kerrigan; and Clerk to the Commission Tonya R. Grier. Commissioners Arrington and Abdur-Rahman were absent.

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

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, and Ivory

Absent: Abdur-Rahman

Did Not Vote: Arrington

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Thorne and seconded by Commissioner Ivory, to approve requests for representation in items #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6 as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, and Ivory

Absent: Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

c. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Ivory, to approve item #13, a contract with Superior LLC in the amount of \$793,448.55 annually, for a five year term with annual renewals thereafter, contingent upon BOC budget approval each year, as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Ellis, Barrett, and Ivory

Absent: Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S
SECOND REGULAR MEETING
FEBRUARY 19, 2025
10:00 A.M.

Alexander Solutions, LLC
"A Court Reporting Firm"

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Good morning, everyone, and welcome to the Second Regular Meeting of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners. Today is February 19th, 2025; 10 o'clock a.m. Madam Clerk, please, call the roll."

CLERK GRIER: "Chairman Robb Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Bridget Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Vice Chairman Bob Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Dana Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Mo Ivory."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Marvin Arrington, Jr."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Khadijah Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIR ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Present."

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

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

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Continue, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 2, Consent Agenda, **25-0112**, 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: "All right, any items?"

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

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

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. I'll entertain a motion to adopt. Motion to adopt by Commissioner Thorne; seconded by Commissioner Ivory. Cast your vote, please."

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 7, Second Regular Meeting Agenda, **25-0128**, Adoption of the Second Regular Meeting Agenda. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, I have two amendments to today's agenda. On page 8, item to be removed, 25-0107: Request approval of a Resolution to amend Fulton County's current approved Fiscal Year 2025 Budget; and an item to be removed --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- wait a minute. Why is it being removed?"

CLERK GRIER: "Requested by Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "That was one that we voted on last week and it came back because it's routine to bring them back if they haven't been, you know, tabled or what have you. I just didn't feel like we needed to put the community through another vote on that."

CLERK GRIER: "Also, on page 8, item to be revised, 25-0133: Presentation of the Fulton County Operational Report. This item was revised to include a service-level agreement between the cities of Alpharetta, John's Creek, Milton, Roswell, Sandy Springs, and EMS Ventures, Inc."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, anything else?"

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioners?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to adopt by Commissioner Barrett; Commissioner Ivory. Cast your vote -- as amended."

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

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0129**, Ratification of Minutes. Second Regular Meeting Minutes, January 29th; First Regular Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, February 5th, 2025."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioners?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, motion to adopt by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by -- strike that; Vice Chairman Ellis; seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0130**, Presentation of proclamations and certificates: Proclamation recognizing Atlanta Jewish Film Festival Appreciation Day sponsored by Commissioners Barrett, Ivory, and Thorne."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "All right. I am very honored to be able to present a proclamation today to the Atlanta Jewish Film Festival on their 25th anniversary. Congratulations to all of you. We're a proud supporter of the Film Festival through our Fulton Films Program and thank you, Shaunya for all your work on this. And the proclamation reads: WHEREAS, Fulton County recognizes the value of film as an economic driver and a critical tool in fostering cultural understanding; and WHEREAS, Fulton County, through its Fulton Films Office, is a proud supporter of the Atlanta Jewish Film Festival; and WHEREAS, the Atlanta Jewish Film Festival was established by the Atlanta Regional Office of the American Jewish Committee in the year 2000, and is the largest film festival in the state of Georgia, and the largest Jewish Film Festival in the world attracting nearly 40,000 patrons each year; and WHEREAS, the Atlanta Jewish Film Festival is an annual 23-day showcase of international cinema that explores themes of identity, history, and culture to inspire diverse communities to higher levels of social and cultural understanding; and WHEREAS, the Atlanta Jewish film Festival annually contributes to the film industry's \$4.1 billion economic impact in the state of Georgia; and WHEREAS, the 25th annual Jewish Film Festival will be held February 19th through March 16th showcasing 50 films that include 22 documentaries and 28 narrative works that celebrate the diversity of Jewish experiences around the globe."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners congratulates the Atlanta Jewish Film Festival on its 25th Anniversary; and does hereby proclaim Wednesday, February 19th, 2025 as 'Atlanta Jewish Film Festival Appreciation Day' in Fulton County, Georgia."

SARI EARL, RECIPIENT: "I'm Sari Earl, immediate past president of the Board of the Atlanta Jewish Film Festival, and I cannot thank you enough. We are so grateful. We're grateful for your support. We all recognize the importance of arts and culture, storytelling. Universal stories help bring us together, and this proclamation is such an honor, and we're so grateful to Fulton County. Fulton Films do amazing job, and we're just so grateful to be in Fulton County and serving our community. Thank you."

STEVE LABOVITZ, RECIPIENT: "Hello, I'm Steve Labovitz, and I am the -- along with my wife -- the co-chair of the 25th anniversary along with Ingrid Saunders Jones of Coca-Cola fame. We are thrilled to have this festival in Fulton County and really, to have you guys recognize us like this is truly inspiring. It is an honor. We -- this has come a long way since the first few years when we had just 20 or 30 people showed up; and now, we have close to 40,000 people that will be there. And we hope, we really hope that all of the Commissioners -- we brought books or program guides, you will look through it and decide some good movies that you like to see that will be meaningful and that you'll attend. And thank you, Fulton County. Thank you very, very much. We are also pleased and we hope we see you at the movies."

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

CLERK GRIER: "Continuing on page 7, Public Hearings, **25-0131**, Public Comment: Citizens wishing to participate in public comment will be allowed to appear in person or may choose to participate virtually via Zoom videoconferencing or by submitting their comments in writing by registering on the County 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 here in Assembly Hall. We have received five speaker cards. Would all five speakers please come forward: Beverly Williams, Michael Collins, Devin Franklin, J. Wesley Day, and L.A. Pink."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, speakers when you have 15 seconds left, I'll say 15 seconds."

BEVERLY WILLIAMS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. I am here again today. My name is Beverly Williams, and the last time I was here I brought some documents which I submitted to, I think this lady here, related to the ongoing issues, and my concern with HAFC and their none communication or any resolution given or sent to me by either mail or in person. My phone number is blocked. When I call, there is no response. Same thing with management and the issues continue where HFC cannot and does not seem to want to address the issue with management where I live related to things that are being charged and somehow are not in line with HUD and with HFC contract with management. I don't know what else to do. And due to what I've been going through, I ended up in the hospital the week before I came here, with A-Fib that I've never had and was taken to emergency room all night when the snow fell that week. I should have mentioned it last time. It is a burden on me and it is causing tremendous amount of anxiety. And I directly relate going to the hospital has been maybe even 80 percent of what I've been going through that same day; and my efforts to get things resolute and kind of lackadaisical ambivalence even from HAFC. Nothing has been done, to my knowledge, related to resolution and to address the issues as related to HFC and my communication with them to get resolution. I'm living on a lease."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds, ma'am."

BEVERLY WILLIAMS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "I'm living on a lease that will be expired and there's nothing being done to my knowledge again about addressing and resolving what they're doing wrong. I'm really, really humbly asking that something be done, please."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you."

MICHAEL COLLINS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hi everyone, I'm Michael Collins with Color of Change. I was at Southern Center event last night on the people's process that was focused on giving a community voice to issues around the jail. And one of the things that my colleague, Tiffany Roberts, from Southern Center said struck me which was there are limitations to the Consent Decree, right. We're about to -- you know, we are in the midst of negotiating around this Consent Decree process; hopefully, getting a monitor. But I wanted to stress to the Commission that the Consent Decree, much as it is a positive step, really focuses on conditions in the jail. It doesn't focus on drivers and what's driving the jail population and jail deaths. And so, you know, I wanted to talk about, you know, the fact that the Commission should not sit on their laurels and just let the Consent Decree clear out, but really still focus on policies that can reduce the jail population. And, you know, some of these policies I would say are focusing on prosecutor practices; you fund the DA, you funds the Solicitor General. So digging into issues around how much cash bail do they asked for? How long is somebody in the system when they're given a cash bail amount? Are we having regular reconsiderations of cash bail with somebody in the system because they cannot afford \$200, \$300, something like that. Missed diversion; are we missing opportunities to use the diversion same so that you have invested too heavily in; are police really using that? And court dates; police. We hear anecdotally regularly missed court dates and, therefore, cases

are reset and people spend more time in the system. And then also for the Commission, updating and publishing the --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

MICHAEL COLLINS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- the jail dashboard which doesn't seem to have been updated in a while. I think these are all helpful policies that the Commission could get involved in as we pursue the other track of the Consent Decree. Thank you."

DEVIN FRANKLIN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning Commissioners. My name is Devin Franklin. I'm senior movement policy counsel with the Southern Center for Human Rights. And as you all are familiar, for a few years now, I have come forward to this Board in my formal capacity with the Southern Center to speak as an advocate for the incarcerated at the Fulton County Jail. In several forms, I have come to you all and spoke against the lease of AC/DC to Fulton County; I came to you all to speak against the proposed two billion-dollar construction of a jail; and today I am here to speak to you all concerning what is pending at the General Assembly SB7. SB7 for those who are not aware is a proposed bill that would make Fulton County the only county in the state of Georgia that could unilaterally request usage of a municipal jail. The proposed rationale for this, of course, is that more bed space would somehow make the conditions at the Fulton County Jail safer. I'm here today to tell you that that is an incorrect assertion. One of the reasons for that is that we have continued to see the maltreatment of individuals held at the Fulton County Jail over recent weeks. Yesterday, at first appearance in court, three deputies were arrested for abuse of persons who are incarcerated a few weeks ago. It's not made news headlines at this point, but another individual was killed at the jail. I would like to talk to you all specifically about the need for more bed spaces, or the proposed need for more bed spaces. Fulton County Jail has a capacity of 2,669 beds. That is across all four facilities at Rice Street, Union City, Marietta Annex, and the Alpharetta Annex. Currently, across those facilities as well as the out of county leases --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

DEVIN FRANKLIN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- thank you. There are about 200 fewer individuals under Fulton County detention amongst all of these places. There is literally not an actual need for additional bed spaces because the Fulton County Sheriff's Department was able to realize at maximal staff capacity, you would have enough bed spaces to house everyone safely. Thank you."

J. WESLEY DAY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. Commissioner Pitts, is that velvet?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

J. WESLEY DAY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "That's a line from Coming to America. As you all are aware that my case was seen by the Fulton County Ethics Board, and I didn't

anticipate a win there considering I have litigation with the County at this point due to the over prosecutorial reach in the torturous conduct of Keith Gammage. However, a few things came out of that ethics board hearing was that one of the things that Keith Gammage did was that he called me one day and he said I appreciate if you keep your name out of my mouth. You're defaming my character. And so, that was very intimidating. Another thing that came out of that meeting was that Keith Gammage put me out of his office; the public's office. That's the people's office: for no reason. And then I provided you all with a timeline that any time I have spoken publicly against Keith Gammage, there was an action against me that he took. It was clearly able to see, and I gave it to you all in the packet. However, I want you to be aware that there is still ongoing investigations into Keith Gammage's behavior with the Georgia State Bar. They have not dismissed the case, and the prosecuting qualifying attorneys counsel. I want you all too really consider consolidating the Solicitor General's Office. Fani Willis says she wants more money --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

J. WESLEY DAY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- just like in corporate America, give them more money and give them more work. Give her half the budget and you all can take that budget and give 33 percent to Fani Willis, 33 percent to the jail, 14 percent to the arts, 19 percent to --"

L.A. PINK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "So as we know, the streets is talking. Once again, we're down here for multiple things that continue to happen here in Fulton County. With the Sheriff Department, as you guys can see more corruption, more incompetence, more poor leadership of the Sheriff and the things that's going on over there. We're just wondering if this is a smokescreen for the things that continue to happen with the deputies, because we can't understand that. We can't understand why we keep blaming the deputies for the Sheriff's problem. And the reason why I say that is because the apple don't fall far from the tree. So if you have incompetent officers that are doing things that is against the policy and procedures of the jail, what do you think they were taught? And who do you think they were taught that from? So, if you can't give it to the Sheriff and arrest him for the actions of the things that continuously to happen -- we can see if this was the first time, the second time, but this is about the what, the thousandth time that this have happened. That this keeps going in the paper, and the deputies keep getting blamed. I mean, they get blamed for the murders; they get blamed for everything that's happening. We keep giving them money. Here it is we have homelessness right now outside this building in the rain, dying; dying. Still some of them have to go to this jail; still dying in the jail. Like, when are we going to wake up? What is it going to take, that's what I want to know? We're already in a massacre. Like -- I can't even understand it's getting any worse. But what is it going to take --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

L.A. PINK, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- one of you to have to go to jail to actually see what it is to survive in there? And I'm talking really to the men because they're the ones that's really dying off in there."

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

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Good morning, Commissioners. The first person to speak is Sarah Donehoo. Sarah Donehoo. Okay. With that being said, this concludes the Zoom public comments."

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

CLERK GRIER: "Bottom of page 7 --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- yes."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "-- if you don't mind. I just want to take an opportunity to thank those that showed up yesterday. Ben Howard has been a big part of this community even in your city council days. And we had a memorial service for him yesterday, and I liken him to Paul Harvey when he said, and the rest of the story is, because he would always say, stayed tuned: Ben Howard, here; policy analyst, senior advocate. But more importantly, the work that he did, he did unselfishly. And I just wanted to go on record saying that we want to offer condolences not only to his family, but we want to make sure that everybody has the opportunity to give to this community as much as Ben Howard did. So I just want to take that privilege, Chairman. Thank you for indulging me."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: Thank you Commissioner. Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Bottom of page 7, **25-0132**, Public Works: Public Hearing for the Fulton County 2045 Comprehensive Plan update and request for approval to submit the 2045 Comprehensive Plan for Unincorporated Fulton County to the Atlanta Regional Commission and Georgia Department of Community Affairs for their required review."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Mr. Clark."

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "Good morning, Commissioners. Before we open it up for public hearing, we want to run through a quick presentation on what this is, even though Fulton County -- it's mostly made up of municipalities. Now there's still a small area of the unincorporated area around the airport that we are still required by DCA, that's the Department of Community Affairs, for the state to provide a

Comprehensive Plan for that area. Nothing has really changed. You'll see in this document, the last page update was in 2016, and we've updated it. It's still an industrial area with some of the -- incorporated some of the projects that we put in around the airport. Next slide, please. So we'll just run real quickly through what the purpose of the master plan is and some other things. Next slide. We did hire a firm called Goodwyn, Mills, Cawood to assist us with the plan documents, and they put the slide together. Next slide, please. So again, this still is a state requirement for Fulton County to have a comprehensive plan for the unincorporated area. And the reason why that's so important, when you have a comprehensive plan that's been accepted by the state, it opens up state funding that is tied to it. There's programs that GDOT offers. We still get QLG money from GDOT on a regular basis, so it's important for us to have this. Any GEFA loan that we want to have, as well as CDBG funding, is all tied to a plan that's been adopted by the state. So that's why, even though it's a fairly short document, it is one that is important for us to continue doing. Next slide, please. So again, the comprehensive plan really is just what is our long-term plan for how the community wants that area to grow in the future? As I said, no real changes. It's an industrial area in the Fulton 2016 Comp Plan. We're going to keep it as industrial as part of this Comp Plan. Next slide, please. There is a map on the right-hand side there that shows the area. The airport is the upper left-hand part of that, but then there is quite a bit of industrial property south and to the west of Fulton Industrial Boulevard as well as MLK. MLK kind of runs in that northwest to southeast alignments, and Fulton Industrial Boulevard runs from Southwest to Northeast there. Next slide, please. We did have several opportunities for public involvement along the way. There are some of the key milestones. We also had a steering committee made up of both some area interests of the CID for the area was on its number of Fulton County departments were on the steering community as well. Next slide, please. With the first public hearing that we did, was actually held out at the Emma Darnell Center on September 24th. Next slide, please. Here is just a couple things that we heard. Again, it's when you go through this list it's really nothing that surprises anybody. There's continued concern to make sure the area remains a commercial industrial development area that people want to go, economic development for the area has always been a need for it as well as increasing broadband access. We work with Select Fulton on a lot of these goals. Next slide, please. In addition to that public hearing that we held, we sent out actual survey requests to all of the property owners in the unincorporated area, and we did get a number of responses back, and here are some other things basically echoed a lot of things that we heard in person during the public forum. Next slide, please. There are -- these eight or so key elements in it. A lot of the times what we do is refer to other documents, for instance, the transportation section. We don't have our own transportation plan for the area, but ARC does. And so, we just reference ARCs. Some of the housing plans is not ones that we made up for this plan, but we referenced what the Fulton County Housing Authority has for our Housing Authority and those types of things; same thing with Select Fulton for the economic development. We didn't develop our own plan, we instead referenced their plans. Next slide, please. This is just a general layout as part of the agenda item. You received a copy of the full documents, and these are the areas that are included in there. Next slide. So right now, we're basically near the end of this process. What we have to do right now, if you go to the

next slide, please, we'll walk through some short-term work plans that is part of it. A lot of it is just supporting the existing plans that are in place. Next slide. This is what the community work plan looks like within the document itself as just an example. And the final slide. So where we are, we do have to do one last public hearing and after I'm done speaking, we'll open up to the public comment if there's anybody here that wants to talk about it. We are not -- and this is important -- we are not adopting the Comp Plan today. All we're asking for is permission from the elected officials to submit it to ARC and DCA, the draft version so that they can look at it. Once we get their comments back, we will submit the final version, probably in the April timeframe, for full adoption by the BOC."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Mr. Clark. Any questions before we hear from the public?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, anyone from the public to speak on this issue?"

J. WESLEY DAY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "My question is: What is the cost of the consultants that you referenced and what was the need for the consultants that we could not provide ourselves within Fulton County? And, lastly just to the Board, for these costs that's going to be mentioned: Consolidating the Solicitor General's office will give you more funding for more projects like this. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Mr. Clark, are you able to respond to that right now?"

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "Yes. The contract with Goodwyn, Mills, and Cawood was about \$35,000, that cover about a seven-month process altogether. The reason why we use the consultant, if you remember when the city of South Fulton became a city, the planning department for Fulton County basically was dissolved, and that function was turned over to the city of South Fulton. We still have to have some planning function in the unincorporated area, but it's so little and so infrequent that we have a consultant to do that work instead of keeping staff on staff to do very little work."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Anyone else from the public? Sir, we're not going to debate this. Now, do you have another statement to make?"

J. WESLEY DAY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "I ask legitimate questions, sir."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What's your question?"

J. WESLEY DAY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "I would like to ask the Commission and this gentleman here, is there any thoughts or possibility of doing something for the homeless, the arts? And also, I know they involve costs, consolidating the Solicitor General's office will give you that extra funding. Thank you."

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "The arts is not part of the Comprehensive Plan. As for the housing, we refer back to the Fulton County Housing Authority Master Plan."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. All right. Anyone else?"

THE PUBLIC: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. This will conclude the public hearing. All right, I'll entertain a motion to approve the transmission of the document. Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman; seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Please vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Continue, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 8, County Manager's items under Open and Responsible Government, **25-0133**, Presentation of the Fulton County Operational Report."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Now the manager is at a GDOT meeting isn't he? So what time is he due here?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, FC COO: "Yes, sir."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What time is he due here?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, FC COO: "He asked us to proceed, and he'll provide his comments at the end of the report."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, thank you."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, FC COO: "Sharon is just going to give a brief overview."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. In today's report, we will have three main focus areas: justice -- the justice system update, and update on the jail blitz plan; then we have a special focus area today, the ambulance service in Fulton County. And then we have presented the routine financial and purchasing reports which include our monthly ARPA reporting, our monthly financials; and any emergency purchases and/or contracts that have been approved by the County Manager. Those items are presented for your information. In the justice area, Steve Nawrocki is going to lead us off this morning and provide us with the justice system update. That update also includes information on our jail improvement plan, our work with ACOM, some updates on our ability to provide information to you for the

justice system scorecard, and plans and meetings that have been held with our justice partners as we look forward to revising the information that we report to the Board in this report. So with that, Steve is going to kick us off this morning."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Thank you, Madam CFO. Good morning, Commissioners; Steve Nawrocki Strategy Office. We are presenting our first post ORCA report this morning, and we will be starting with our justice system scorecard. Can we go to the next slide, and the next one. The average length of stay in January saw a significant improvement moving from 48 days down to 40 days. Our next metric there, population unindicted without other charges. The CFO just alluded to this. We are unable to report this data right now. Just in context, previously during ORCA, we had leverage contract resources to manually analyze each individual in the jail. We are now switching to an automated process to pull this data, and that is a work in progress currently. The clearance rate for felony criminal cases saw a 49 percent decrease in January compared to December. And finally, cases disposed within 180 and 365 days both saw decreases down to 27 percent and 50 percent respectfully. Next slide. We'll move to our jail population update. Looking at the average monthly jail population, January continued to decrease in average population now down -- or it was down to 2,470 individuals. And these levels are remaining consistent, at least in the early part of February, with a one-day snapshot of 2,497 individuals at the midpoint of February. Next slide. Here's the table representation from the previous slide. You can go to the next one. Next, we have our facility utilization for the jail population across all facilities. Occupancy does remain largely consistent at each facility compared to last month. We can go to the next slide. And here is where we would typically -- this and the next slide typically report our full inmate analysis and the further breakdown with the aging of the unindicted population. And as I just mentioned a minute ago, the scorecard update -- or during the scorecard update, this analysis was a manually intensive process where we did have to evaluate each of the 2,500 or so individuals in the jail. So we are now -- our go-forward plan is to automate this and, again, we're working to set that up right now. Next slide. You can go to the next one. Here we do have an update on our county-funded anchor monitor program: 846 participants are on monitors as of January 27th; 60 percent of the participants have been on a monitor for under a year with about 40 percent on monitor for greater than one year. And the counts, just as a comparison to previous months -- previous month January was consistent with December across all areas. Next slide. Our next section here begins the monthly update on the jail capital improvement program. Activities begin in January with the data-gathering of existing facilities information and interviews with D.R.E.A.M. facilities maintenance staff and the Sheriff staff under operations. The facility assessment teams were boots on the ground the week of February 10th, so last week, starting with Rice Street. The table you can see at the top right, shows each assessment area across Rice Street that the assessment teams are reviewing. These are largely -- this consist of intake, medical and mental health areas, central plant and support areas, laundry, kitchen, the security towers, the roof, and exterior building envelope, and then the site itself. We do plan to start the Marietta and South Annex assessments in early March. And then looking at the bottom of the page, the schedule will track our process against the initial two stages of this project, both the information gathering and the options

analysis. We do plan to have two formal presentations to the Board coming up with our assessment findings presented to this group in June; and the recommendations for the renovations and special-purpose building in August. Next slide. And finally, we do have our priorities: We are working to resume the inmate analysis reporting and specifically the unindicted rate as previously mentioned. And our Go-Forward plan, and Sharon had alluded to this in her opening remarks, we have had a very collaborative meeting with our Superior Court partners last week regarding potential identification of backlogs as well as case management strategies that they are working to identify, so we will be continuing these discussions, meeting with them, and working with them to set up these new reporting measures. While this is a priority, we do anticipate this taking several months to stand up this new reporting structure for the monthly ops report. And with that, I can take any questions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Questions? Any questions? And so, we still have inmates in Alpharetta? I thought that was going to be closed."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "My understanding is yes; yes, sir."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We do or do not?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Yes, sir. We do still have inmates still in Alpharetta. I have not heard a determination whether we are closing the Alpharetta facility yet."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Thanks. It looks like the numbers are going in great directions. Is there any factor that you see, are the courts just working better or --"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Nothing Commissioner, nothing, I would say noteworthy other than, yes; I continue that collaboration. ORCA was such a powerful tool and model, even though that funding has been removed, even though some of those resources are no longer with us, it did prove to be a very effective model for the system. And so, I can say that's continued success there; but otherwise, there is no new variable introduced that I can say is driving the system."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay. Well, thank you."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Thank you, ma'am. Thank you."

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

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. I would be interested in knowing one, how many inmates we have in Alpharetta and what's the operating costs

that we have. Not to say whether it's justified or not, but I think for the sake of the public, it would be good for us to know exactly what we're utilizing operational wise out there and how much it's costing the taxpaying citizen."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Yes, ma'am. If you look at page 9 of the presentation, we do have -- our count there of 50 individuals as of the midpoint of February."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Is that individuals or beds?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Individuals in those beds. There's 50 beds; there's 50 individuals. No individuals are on the floor."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "So it's 50 inmates there?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Yes, ma'am."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Any other questions of cost?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yes, I was wondering what the cost was."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "\$50 per inmate per day."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a couple questions, but I do want to just comment on the scorecard, because there is a positive decrease in the average length of stay, an eight-day decrease, that's great. The other three statistics, the decreases are negative. Those are bad things. We were aiming for a hundred percent clearance rate for felony criminal cases. We're down to 39 percent. We were looking at, you know -- hoping for a 90 percent goal for felony cases disposed within a hundred and eighty days; that's at 27 percent. And the felony cases disposed within 365 days from the goal of 98 percent is at now down to 50 percent, so -- and they are on a downward track to your point. And your response -- you sort of already answered, so I just wanted to point that out because there are some -- there is one positive change there, but the rest are not so good, and the trend is not so good. So I don't know how those things are going to ultimately end up affecting average length of stay, but they may, I guess, from my perspective, would you say that's accurate?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Having been reporting this data for about two years now, we do see a bit of a lag. So especially the clearance rate, that monthly clearance rate, even though we did see a significant decrease, if we can go to slide 5 just for reference. Even though there was a 49 percent decrease, just for that month, we have seen one off months where there has been a significant drop, and

then the very next month they could be back up to that, you know, 80 to 90, up to a hundred percent, so that one varies pretty significantly month over month. Looking at the two other, more long-term measures, a hundred eighty days and 365 days, yes, we are seeing numbers well below what the targets are. Although this was specifically discussed with our Superior Court judge partners last week. That has always been around the range for the 180 days, kind of that 25-30 percent is kind of always where they've been, and then same with 365 days. They've never been anywhere close to the 90 or 98 percent target. So not saying that's acceptable or making excuses, but we've kind of always been in this area."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, I understand that, and I, you know, I think, it would be maybe better for us to have some goals that they find that are realistic to work towards, so maybe that's something that can be done down the road. I know it's been talked about in a variety of ways over the time that I've been here certainly. I just also had a question on the automotive process you mentioned to do some of the data analysis. Is that with systems we already have, or is there something new?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "It would still be using Odyssey. It's just how to properly query the data. We've had significant -- we've had Trump challenges, and we've been working with our internal staff, with Tyler's team. There's so many variables, so many different conditions that have to be considered. The only way we had a foolproof way of reporting these exact numbers, we're to look at every single individual and put them into the respective bucket. At this point, it just doesn't make sense to have that investment to get that level of specificity. And so now we're may be broadening the way we do this analysis, so that we can still get that rough order of magnitude, but it might not be to the individual level. But still giving enough insight as to how the performance is going."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Is there a longer-term strategy from a technology perspective? Because I know sometimes that's just about another, you know, field of data that tags people a particular way or something so that you can get the query results you need?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "That's exactly what we're looking at right now, with our Tyler partners and with our own internal staff."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay, and for the shorter term, do you have an estimated date of when you'll have some version of this data back to us?"

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "I would hate to overpromise and under deliver. We would like to have this full summary report, including these additional reporting measures around backlog, if there is one, these additional case management strategies, before the midpoint of this year. So that by midpoint of this year, we have the full report."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. I had just a couple other things. On the -- sorry. On the timeline for the capitalization program that you walked through a little bit, you mentioned findings in June, the recommendations in August: I'm just wondering if there is an alignment with those states and the requirements of the Consent Decree in terms of what dates we owe things on that front."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "I would probably want to defer to the County Attorney on anything specific with meeting requirements of the Consent Decree. I can say though we, independent of the Consent Decree, we are moving as quickly as possible to conduct the assessment, prepare that report, analyze the findings, come up with recommendations. So independent of the consent report, we are moving as quickly as possible working Mr. Davis and the D.R.E.A.M. team. But in terms of reconciling that with requirements in the Consent Decree, I would probably want to first defer to the County Attorney."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "At this point, in the Consent Decree timeline, we are working with the Department of Justice and the Sheriff's Department to set certain intermediate deadlines. So it's a little early to see if our business timeline and that consent timeline will exactly sync, but we are going to attempt to keep them as synced as possible for efficiency sake. And our office is working very closely with Mr. Nawrocki to keep those efforts as coordinated as possible. And we're utilizing the same tool for tracking Consent Decree progress as well as operational progress."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. Thank you. I have one other thing just on the number that you show as available beds at Rice Street. It's a 500 additional number I believe -- or off-line rather, is a 500 additional number, I think. And I'm just wondering what the issues are, or the conditions in One North because my understanding from speaking with the Sheriff's Office is that while those beds have been blitzed and are sort of available, there's been such regular flooding in One North that those beds really aren't available, so I'm just wondering. There seems to be -- like they're sort of saying one number, I believe their number of unavailable beds is about 744, and yours is 504 -- 540 rather, I think. And so, you know, this kind of goes to the comments we heard in public comment about having all these available beds, well, they're not really as available as they might seem so."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "I will defer to Mr. Davis who's focused more on those off-line beds versus ones filled."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, and Mr. Davis, if you want to wait and talk about this when we get to your plan, you're part of the jail blitz plan, that's totally fine."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "That actually might be more appropriate or easily understood."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. We can do it then. Thank you, that's all I had."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Continue."

STEVE NAWROCKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Thank you, Chairman. Thank you, Commissioners."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Thank you, Steve. Mr. Chairman, Joe's going to walk us through the jail blitz update now."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "Good morning, Commissioners; Joseph Davis, Director, Real Estate and Asset Management. This is our update on jail blitz as well as overall maintenance at the jail. To date, we have completed seven of 11 housing units. As you're aware, we were reporting at six for quite some time. That leaves us a 64 percent completion rate. Last month, we reported that there was a delay with the reopening of Housing Unit Five South due to a delay with one contractor performing jail zone door retrofits. That work was completed on February the 6th. The overall housing unit Five South has been completed as of February the 10th. We also have another housing unit offline Seven North in which we were working simultaneously with the work in Five South. We are now 99 percent complete there. We had some delays as it relates to getting certain critical parts for the locking control system in. That work has been completed. We have a little bit of concrete work around light switches and things of that nature where we want to make sure there's no penetration whereby inmates are able to access behind the plates and get into the wiring and things of that nature. The projection of March 1st is actually very conservative. We will most likely come in under that time frame to complete Seven North. The next blitz unit that we are discussing with the Sheriff's office is going to be Seven South, which puts us at a May/June timeframe for the completion of the overall first round of the blitz. Next slide, please. So we have a slide here regarding bed availability. And as you can see, we're showing that there are 540 beds currently unavailable. We added One North back to this list due to the very concerns that you referenced, Commissioner Barrett, as relates to floods and leaks on One North. However, I think it's extremely important to note that what we have experienced over the last several weeks in One North is not what we have historically experienced, which is backups coming from the outside that cause flooding, meaning coming up through the floor drains into the zone. What we actually have now is the typical leaks that are associated with inmate floods from above where they flood their toilets or clog their toilets and water comes down through penetrations in the concrete. The Sheriff's Office has indicated that because of that flooding, it presents them with the unique challenge as it relates to being able to move inmates in a timely fashion in order to have us address whatever the issue is that caused the flooding and then have them come back and move inmates back around. So we're reflecting in our number, One North. The number had been at 744 as you know for some time, but now due to the completion of Five South, that particular floor is now fully available to the Sheriff's office which shows our overall bed availability -- unavailability at 540."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "That answers my earlier question. Thank you."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "You're quite welcome. So as I mentioned, the active jail blitz zone at Seven North, we're projecting at the latest March 1st for the completion of that. The other zones that are listed in this table will be addressed in upcoming blitz areas. Next slide, please. This is our overall jail maintenance performance overview. As you can see for the month of January 25, we completed work orders that were issued in the month of January and completed within the month of January at the rate of 77.9 percent. In the month of February through February the 12th, 107 work orders that were left over from the month of January were completed. That number is continuing to rise as we progress through the month of February. We saw significant increase in our overall productivity as it relates to preventative maintenance where we completed 98 percent of all preventive maintenance. In case anyone is wondering why that number all of a sudden spiked, it's because of that slowdown in the jail blitz process allowed us to move the labor that would have been applied to blitz work over back to our normal maintenance operation. We've also saw a somewhat of a little bit of decrease in the overall number of backlogged work orders. That number reported last month was 1794. We're now at 1661. Seven hundred and twenty-five of that 1661 work orders are in upcoming blitz areas and the work in those areas require detainee movement in order for us to facilitate the needed repairs. The bar chart below gives you a graphical depiction of our overall work order performance over a three-month period. As you can see, we routinely get, as you saw on the first set of bars, anywhere from 1276 to 1700 almost 50 work orders each month. The second set of bars indicates the number of the work orders in the first set that were actually completed in the month in which they were submitted. The final set of bars shows how many work orders in the current month were completed that were issued in the previous month. If you put those numbers together, you see that we're probably anywhere completed between 1200 to 1500 work orders each month. Next slide, please. As you are aware, the Board approved \$3.2 million for several critical repairs and upgrades. This table reflects a status report of where we are in those. We held our project kickoff meeting for the jail's fire alarm upgrade on January 17th. We are projecting completion by May 12th of 2025. We also provide biweekly updates to the State Office of Fire Safety to give them an idea of where we are in overall progress towards addressing various deficiencies. We also had an allocation for padded cells at the South Annex in Union City. That project was completed on 1/17. We have an item on today's agenda for kitchen equipment replacement. We anticipate anywhere from four to six weeks upon approval and issuance of PO for those items to be delivered and installed. The next category is for laundry equipment replacement. We've continually pushed this particular item forward for a couple of reasons. Number one, all current laundry equipment at the jail is functional. We have a subcontractor that comes in each week to service all jail washers and dryers, so that equipment is functional. So we didn't see that there was a need to rush into that item. But the other part of it is, as we progress over time with inflation due to maintenance and labor costs, parts and material costs, we decided that we may have a slight increase in the costs of the last item, which is the elevator modernization, which would require us in operating within the overall \$3.2 million allocation to shift some dollars. But once we have a better or a clearer picture of that, we will come back to the Board as is necessary. In speaking of that elevator modernization, we have completed the assessment. I've actually had an opportunity to

review it with the third-party consultant that completed the assessment. They are now writing the actual specifications on behalf of the County that will be submitted to Purchasing for advertisement for an elevator modernization. Next slide. I think that should be it. Any questions?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I have a couple of questions. On the slide where you talk about the three months of your sort of bar chart of the completion of the various work orders."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "Yes, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I think it would be helpful -- I feel like there's a little bit of a piece of data that might also be helpful, which is like sort of more of an overall aging. So this kind of gives us a three-month snapshot, but it doesn't really show if there are some that are just hanging out there longer term. So in other words, you know, if something comes in and it isn't solved, are there some that are over 90 days, you know, over a hundred and twenty days, that kind of thing that are still outstanding that might, you know, be worth alerting us to. Just because, you know, it would be good to know what the reasons are if something -- you know, if there's a piece of equipment that is on backorder and can't be fixed, and how -- if it's causing real pain for the facility, do you know what I'm saying?"

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

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I think that would be another piece of data to have, because some of the things we hear from time to time are that something's been, you know, broken for a long time and out of service, and it's because we're waiting on, you know, all legitimate things, but waiting on purchasing or that kind of thing. I think it would be just good to have an eye on that -- on the quantity of those types of requests. The other question I have was I was told that there was an issue with one of the two hot water tanks at the jail as of the last couple of days. Can you give us an update on that or speak to that at all?"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "Yes, ma'am. We have two PDI hot water tanks that provide our water for the entire facility. One of those tanks has an interior leak and a part, so what has happened is, it's rendered that one tank inoperable. It's not heating at the proper level which means it's not delivering its share of the overall hot water supply to the jail. I was actually advised last night that the part needed will arrive on Friday, and the subcontractor has committed -- they initially stated that they will be in on Monday to do the install. We said unacceptable, we need you to work over the weekend and we'll pay whatever the overtime cost to get that done. To give you an idea of what the actual impact is, when you have a facility that from moment-to-moment, day-to-day that has varying demand; today Four North is asking for a ton of hot water. Tomorrow, it's Seven South, the next day it's One North. So what happens when you

have an overall lack of production, the demand, based on usage, shifts and so different pockets of the jail from day-to-day will experience a shortage of hot water. And when I say shortage, instead of waiting three to five seconds for hot water to arrive at the point of use, it may take a minute for the water to get there. Only because we don't have two tanks pushing water into the system; right now, we have one."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So that all makes sense. I'm glad to hear the part is coming in. I think -- I was under the impression that the temperatures were lower in certain locations in the jail as well, is that not accurate?"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "So water temperature is a function of multiple factors. One being the distance the water has to travel in order to get to the point of use; the condition of the pipes, things of that nature. One of the things that we monitor is the actual discharge temperature of the tank. We know that we need that tank pushing out hot water between 135 and 140 degrees to get it to that 104 by the time it gets to the point of use. This demand issue is actually what affects the hot water temperature. When the demand is just like your home, when you have more people taking showers, that unfortunate last person has to suffer through a lukewarm shower versus the first person who had a scalding hot shower. I hope that explains it."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Well, it does, and I just think my concern is that there are potentially some folks that are, you know, housed at Rice Street who are, you know, forced to be you know -- you know without hot water or without hot enough water to be reasonable. So I just want to make sure that we're doing everything we can to minimize any time that exists like that, you know, or try to address it with temporary measures. But again, the fact that the part is coming in, it should be resolved I think is great. Is there a better way to have -- longer term to have some sort of a backup system, because we're down to one right now; what if the second one happens to fail while this one is down; then we're in a really bad situation. So is there a better way to have a more sure-fire way to continue hot water sort of no matter what?"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "So we discussed this, this week in terms of what could potentially be a backup plan. A lot of times it's easily thought that, okay, I can bring in a tank or something of that nature. The issue is that a backup plan would require significant reengineering of the plant in order to allow that backup source to actually provide hot water. The long-term plan, this is one of our priority items for the jail refurbishment or capital improvement program. These particular units are actually only about five and a half years old, but what we have found in our research comparing ourselves to other entities that purchase this actual exact same model of tank, our sub mechanical subcontractors have indicated wherever this model has been installed, they're spending a lot of time removing them. So from time to time you get a product that is a piece of capital equipment, that's not what it was cracked to be when they sold it to you. So we recognize that this is an issue, it's a part of the capital improvement program. We will be evaluating the absolute best overall design to not only ensure that we're getting more hot water consistently, but we're also going to be building in redundancy into the program to the greatest extent that the footprint of the plant allows."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. I have like a million other questions that I can ask at another time on that one. But I has another question just because I know the EMSI group was doing a lot of the data collection on sort of how things are going from a maintenance perspective I think, is that still happening?"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "That is still happening. The EMSI group actually -- we've incorporated them into pretty much every aspect of our jail physical operation from maintenance items to other things that may be more in the purview of the Sheriff's office each week. They inspect three housing units from an operational readiness perspective. Each week they provide a detailed report of their findings. Those findings are then forwarded to our jail maintenance contractor who then inputs each individual item into our maintenance management system to have the work order created, the appropriate priority established. Certain things have priority one; some have priority two or lower based upon the criticality of the issue. And so, they -- we literally meet with EMSI, I guess, three times a week or more."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. So you would say that's like a critical part of sort of the, you know, information sharing and ability to track these issues and all of that?"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "The more eyes the better in any given situation; yes, I would agree."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So if they went away, it would be -- you'd still be able to function without them there, but what would be the downside of not having them?"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "If they went away, we could certainly -- we would have to in concert with the Sheriff's office determine the best way for the Sheriff's office and D.R.E.A.M. to jointly do the work that EMSI, as a third party, is currently doing. Not impossible; however, in the current environment, it's very good for us to have that third-party view to keep everyone unbiased and on an even hill."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, and to be clear, I'm not suggesting they go away. I have more of a question for, I think, Madam CFO on this, because I was told that there was a shift in how they were being paid this year or budgeted for, that they were -- and I don't know if this is accurate, I'm just asking, that it was budgeted under, you know, under D.R.E.A.M.'s budget or under -- on our side, on the County Manager's side, up until this year and now it's in the Sheriff's budget; is that true?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yes, the funding for EMSI was not continued out of non-agency -- excuse me -- so the Sheriff is currently funding."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "And it's about how much per year?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "I believe last year's total contract value, I'll have to go back and double check. This was somewhere in that \$800,000 range."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "And was the Sheriff's budget increased at \$800,000 in order to cover that cost?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "It was not."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. So that's supposed to come out of his budget without having that increase? He's supposed to be cutting something else out in order to pay for EMSI?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "If he chooses to continue the services of EMSI, then he would need to fund it out of his budget."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. But that does seem a little problematic to me just in the sense that it did -- it's clearly something that both D.R.E.A.M. and the Sheriff's office benefit from. It just seems a little strange that it would be shifted to them and not without any sort of accommodation for that, what it's supposed to give in that regard. That's why I was asking too, if it goes away, what's the effect? Because if it goes away because they can't spare the 800,000, then, you know, what happens? I just want to make sure we're prepared if that is the inevitable result. So again, we can talk more about it online if you like. Thank you for the update, I appreciate it."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "How you doing?"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "I'm good, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yeah, you like cold showers?"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "No, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay, I don't either. But you know what sometimes I have to take them. I hadn't heard of any deaths over at the jail based on people taking cold showers. So let's keep the thing the thing. We're trying to work through something, and I appreciate everything that D.R.E.A.M. is doing; but the reality of the situation is we all have to take cold showers sometime. So I'm not asking for you to make comment on it, but my phone is blowing up over here with constituents because we don't, for whatever reason, make the thing the thing. I trust that D.R.E.A.M. is doing everything that they can in their power. Let me just on record say thank you and thank you to the County Manager's staff of what y'all are doing especially with the blitz. But this Commissioner, I take cold showers. I'm single too, so I may take them even more now. But that's neither here nor there. I think we need to keep the thing the thing. And so, if I've got choose between someone's safety and making sure that they

live the next day so they can take a warmer shower as opposed to a cold shower, I'd rather do that. And so, thank you for all that y'all do."

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

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

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Yeah, I was going to comment, I think, about the past ten years and three months or whatever I've been down here, this is the most we've ever talked about hot water on record. But apparently the cold showers also were good for muscle recovery, too; just in case anybody wants to try that out. But that's not what I wanted to ask you about and talk to you about. Going up to the front end when you were referencing the piece about, you know, the recurring flood. I just wanted to make sure I heard you right. I was interpreting what you were saying to be that effectively your inmates that, you know are -- can create their own floods by, you know, jamming up the system, whatever. So if there's poor supervision et cetera or whatever, you can have effective vandalism of the units which can not only damage things like locks if doors are left open, they have an opportunity to jam, but also can create flooding as well, right?"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "Yes, sir."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. So a lot of stuff, when you sort of heard that, it's sort of harder, I guess, at some point to get so much volume, it's hard to quantify. But a lot of the activity can certainly be driven by maintenance activity that we have can certainly be driven by damage created by inmates which may or may not be the result of supervisory issues; is that a fair statement?"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "Yes, sir."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "All right. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Anything else from the Sheriff? Nothing else? All right, thank you."

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

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "I'll turn it over to the County Manager, if he wants to take it from here."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "All right. Well, thank you. I'll have to get used to this, it's time. We're finished almost, but I apologize for being delayed, coming back from the GRETA Board meeting; and thank you for listening to our operations report. This next section is an important one, based on ambulance services, and a few of the incidents that had been well reported. We did a deeper dive into determining exactly how those services are governed, which Mike has done a yeoman's job with the

help of Joe Barasoain, Chris Sweigart who runs E-911 and others of putting together, I think, a great summary of, again, exactly how it's governed, what potential solutions there are to improve service and some of which are in our own backyard with performance contracting has been entered into by the North Fulton cities. And, I think, as we walk this, as we shared it with others including city council people that they've really become much more understanding and grounded in this. We've also gotten some good input from the Commissioners who are most directly interested. So Mike walk through this and, again, we're prepared to answer any questions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

MIKE ROWICKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "I'm Mike Rowicki, Strategy and Performance/Management Office. Today, what we're here to do is just give you a brief update on some of the kind of rules and regulation or guidance on how ambulance services actually administered throughout the County and the South Fulton area. Next slide, please."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Would you sort of dumb this down so that even some of the Commissioners could understand how this works. I'm surprised that some of us do not know, but for our sake and for the public."

MIKE ROWICKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Yes, sir. I will try my best. So basically what we want to start out with is, there is a Georgia code related to ambulance services across the County. So basic three points that we want to make is that code actually states that each of the regions within the state have to actually have a regional ambulance zoning plan, that is required, and in each of those zones, there is a counsel that actually is advisory council to the state. For our region, it is the Region Three Council and that is the Region Three Emergency Management Service Advisory Council or REMSAC. That counsel has the responsibility for providing oversight and supervision to the operations and we'll kind of go over later on who is part of that counsel. For this, the implementation of that zoning plan is actually under that REMSAC. They actually have the ability to review all the data, see what the performance is actually looking like, and can review that at any point in time during their meetings. Next slide, please. So one of the big things we want to say is that Region Three Council actually consists of: Clayton County, Cobb County, DeKalb, Douglas, Fulton, Gwinnett, Newton, and Rockdale Counties. So again, this is bigger than Fulton County with this council. What we've done here is actually given you a list of all of the current members, and we've highlighted the ones that are the Fulton County appointees for you to review. Next slide. So under that zone, we actually have five zones within Fulton County as to how it's broken up. That is South Fulton, city of Hapeville, Atlanta International Airport, City of Atlanta, and the North Fulton County Area. So with each of those ambulance zones, those actually have to be approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Public Health with a recommendation of that local counsel. So again, the local counsel is the coordinating entity on this. They're the one that are making the decisions and the recommendation to the state, and we are just part of that counsel. With that, there are specific -- if there are any modifications to that zone, there are

specific procedures, and we kind of list some of those procedures here as to how that would go about making those modifications. But one of the key things here on this slide is that actually would require a written request for detailed examination by one of either the councilmembers or by the public as to review what's happening in the zone and that is based off of certain criteria that is set under the code. That deals with economy, efficiency, or benefit to the public welfare. Next slide, please. One thing we want to be clear is that Fulton County does not have any direct contracts with ambulance service providers. Again, we do not have any contracts for those services."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Repeat that one more time."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "One more time."

MIKE ROWICKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Fulton County does not have any direct contract with ambulance service providers. We are not responsible for that service. I think there was some misunderstanding out there; in public. Fulton County does have contracts to provide 911 services for dispatching, but that does not include any transporting of people that are in medical need, okay. Fulton County does -- again, as we went through that list, have six appointees on the Region Three Council. Those appointees could petition the council or the Department of Public Health to review any applications or any proposals that are out there from service providers, but again, that is at that council level outside of our direct control. Next slide, please. So part of what we actually do with the E911 services is there are monthly meetings and reports that are provided to the fire chiefs and to the council and to Grady. So, monthly meetings are held with the fire chiefs of the South Fulton cities by E911. They get copies of those reports. There are e-mails showing that those reports have gone out. There are regular meetings with Grady, which happen on a monthly basis that go over the response times and review that data with them. There are reports that are e-mailed to the city again monthly, so those are sent out monthly. One of the things in order to help eliminate some of that confusion if somebody misses an e-mail or anything, we're actually looking at how can we do a similar automation of that report, pulling the data directly out of the systems to create an online account for those cities; therefore then, they could login at any point in time, any day, and see actually what that data is either for that day or for that week or month, depending on how we want that report to actually run or be automated at. Next slide. So again, these are only considerations for this council or for the cities to look at. We are -- some of the ideas we came up with are the South Fulton City fire chiefs and Grady should meet and reset expectations and discuss performance issues, and they do have an option for a contract based on performance. There is an example in your packet as to what was done with the cities in the north. That is an example. Again, this is only an option for them to consider. They can establish regular meetings to review the performance with the provider and the council if they wish to. At the regular meetings again the council can do that on their own. Consider changes in dispatch process and enter into that performance management contract with Grady. That is an option that is out there. Again, decision of the council and the South Fulton cities. Allow the cities to utilize fire department transport vehicles to augment response times. The cities have that availability that if they want to provide that and do that

service directly in case of emergencies or life safety issues, that is an option that they have to do that transport if needed. We are actually constructing the new emergency department in South Fulton, which we're aware of at which the Board has supported and is funding part of, which will help to speed up some of those times and look at options for the service delivery. They're also could be a restructuring of the Fulton County appointees. Fulton County does again have six appointees; you as the Board could restructure that in any way that you deem those appointees being made. There was a suggestion that we look at, at a minimum having two Fulton representatives from the fire chiefs from the north and two from the south, that was only two appointees which could either be central or how it is that the Board were to appoint those. The last one is that we would recommend that the Region Three Council have yearly reviews, look at those service levels of the providers and routinely go through an application for providers just to see what type of response times they could get and make that a little bit more competitive in nature. Next slide. And we're open to any questions, and we have Joe Barasoain and Chris Sweigart here to help us answer specifics."

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

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. I see that you had an option that we could, as a Board, modify the appointments. The appointment that we have now is a Full Board Appointment; it's not a district appointment. I understand a city councilwoman questioned as to why certain Commissioners didn't have an appointee, but it's not set up that way. It's a Full Board Appointment, so I just want to be crystal clear about that on record. Secondly, as one that's representing the south area, I took it upon myself to go to the governing body to see if any complaints have been filed, whether it came to the service, whether it came to the trip times, or anything. Not one complaint has been filed with the individuals that do the oversight, which I thought was very interesting given some of the rhetoric that's out here. Let me be crystal clear, Chairman, I support any attempts for the municipalities to increase whatever enhancements they need in order to control their situation, but I think it's unfair when we have elected officials giving incorrect information in my district, and it's incorrect. Fulton County does not control the ambulance. We have nothing to do with the contract. We have the 911 service, like you said, so thank you for clearing that up. I am open. I want everybody to know on record if we want to do the appointments differently, I don't have a problem with that. But let's be crystal clear, this Board as a Board do several appointments, Chairman. That is not abnormal, that's not an anomaly. So as a Board, we can continue to do appointments, but I want to be crystal clear that in my own investigation, the oversight, and the ones that you would make a complaint to, as of today has not received one complaint. And so, I just want to go on record saying that. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Commissioner Ivory."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Good morning. Thank you so much for this explanation. This came about because one of our concerned constituents who felt it was a long wait time and resulted in lack of care and being able to get to the hospital in a quick time. So

I understand that, because as a parent of six, I would be concerned if I had an emergency and I was waiting a long time. And so, thank you for all this information. I do think it's so important for clear information to come from the elected officials. And so, I just want to ask a very straightforward question, a very layman question that our constituents could listen to, if a constituent anywhere in Fulton County is having a hard time or feels that there is a delay in the ambulance service, who do they call?"

MIKE ROWICKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "They can contact their actual fire chief or the city council person. Those people would have the process mapped out through their fire chief, who are the representatives; they're to go through those council and meetings."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay. So we are County; we do not have any direct contracts for ambulance services. We have 15 cities in our County, and they should go to their city to log this complaint or try to get help."

MIKE ROWICKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "Correct. We're one of the representatives of the council."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "We're one of the representatives of the council. And where can they find that council information?"

MIKE ROWICKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "We can provide that through our website."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay."

MIKE ROWICKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "And we'll make that available."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay, great. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. It's my understanding Commissioner Arrington, who is not here, but on Zoom wants to speak. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm participating today via Zoom. I guess the question that I have, and I think there was some miscommunication regarding this, because when I initially asked the County Manager, I believe he indicated that there was a contract, but that's neither here nor there. My understanding is that there are two -- that two of the Fulton County appointees work for Grady; is that correct?"

MIKE ROWICKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "I believe that is correct."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. And then is it also correct that the council has had some challenges with those two people recusing themselves every time that there is a vote on Grady?"

MIKE ROWICKI, STRATEGY & PERFORMANCE: "I'm going to ask Joe Barasoain to actually answer that for me specifically."

JOE BARASOAIN, DIRECTOR, EMERGENCY SERVICES: "Good morning, Commissioners. I believe that they have in the past recused themselves, yes."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "They have in the past or they do it on every occasion that there is a vote on Grady?"

JOE BARASOAIN, DIRECTOR, EMERGENCY SERVICES: "I'm not sure how often they do it. I just know that they have done it in the past when there's a Grady topic. Before that, there was a previous ambulance provider that had somebody on the board at one point, and they recused themselves on those topics."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So has the council expressed that they would like to have different representatives that can actually vote or that will actually vote and not recuse themselves?"

JOE BARASOAIN, DIRECTOR, EMERGENCY SERVICES: "So there's only two of them on the council. There's still four others on the council that are appointed by the County Commission -- all of the positions are appointed by the County Commission. So even if -- there's still a vote that can happen and the majority of the vote is still there, so they still have four of the six positions that are there. I have not heard from -- as a matter of fact --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- point of order, Mr. Chair. I don't think this is an appropriate question for our staff to try to get into the governing structure of an outside Body that's from the state. I mean, I think we can be responsive to the factual questions, but not -- I just don't think that's an appropriate question to ask Mr. Barasoain."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Well, I had a meeting with the County Manager and his team, and this is the information that they gave me, so I'm confused as to why they are not saying it today. Mr. Manager, can you tell -- did we have a meeting, Mr. Manager, and did someone say at that meeting that there was a problem because they always recuse themselves?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "We definitely had a meeting. I'm not sure I recall exactly that, but I think as a practical matter whether they do or they don't in all cases, I'm not sure we got complete knowledge. I think your suggestion was still valid, which is why not as opposed to having two Grady representatives that should be recusing themselves, if there's a Grady issue, why not move to two fire chiefs in the south, two in the north, one from Atlanta, and then one from our staff. That would be the recommended structure, if you will, for our recommended background for our appointees."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "An inherent conflict of interest in Grady people serving on this board and having to vote on the service and having to vote on Grady service?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Was that a question, Mr. Commissioner?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes. Is there an inherent conflict of interest in having these two representatives having to vote on items about Grady?"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Point of order, this is not a valid question for our staff to be conjecturing on."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Let's do this, Commissioners. Let's discuss this. I think we're getting too far afield here, and I think a suggestion has been made as to how to correct this problem. I had a conversation this morning with one of the council members from the city of South Fulton who seems to support this, so let us move to correct whatever issues there may be with Grady being on here. And I think, Mr. Manager, what you've suggested is consistent with what at least two members from this is all -- I'm talking about let's call it what it is, city of South Fulton. They seem to support that, so I would take that upon myself as Chair to move to bring forth legislation to bring about that. We'll resolve this issue of Grady and the conflict. So continue."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So, Mr. Chair, I don't know that we necessarily need legislation. One of the terms expires in June of this year. The other term expires in June, I believe, of '26 or '27. So we might just have to ask them to resign."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We can do that. Whatever is the most expedient way to do it, we can do that, okay?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Because I think that would certainly give the North Fulton cities and the South Fulton cities more involvement in this process."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I concur. Okay. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, you want to be heard?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yes, Chairman. I'm going to have to respectfully disagree. Because now you're saying, and I want the County Attorney, do you not have to weigh in on this today; but if someone has experience with Grady from Grady retired from Grady with the emergency services, with first responders, they have all of that knowledge. We're going to penalize them and tell them that they cannot sit on that board? I don't think that's fair. So County Attorney, if you can -- you don't have to answer now, because I know this is a question that's going to require some more looking into. However, one, I want to know legally -- because if that's the case, we've got people sitting up here that have contracts that they vote on that people benefit from. And they recused themselves to thinking okay I recuse myself, and that's good enough."

So if we're not going to require that of this Body to not work here when you are representing somebody in the entertainment field, then let's not do those individuals that will have subject matter expertise that is needed on that council. And so, I would ask respectfully to the County Attorney to look into this and see what requirements we already have or we may need. But I think it is unfair to say that if someone has experience, works at Grady, retired from Grady, or whatever, and they bring a wealth of knowledge to that council, that they can't be on it and they need to resign. That is unfair. So County Attorney, if you can get that information for me, I would appreciate it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. We'll take that into consideration, Madam County Attorney, and I'll work with you and the Manager. We'll have a Resolution that I will present to you at the next meeting."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Anything else? That's it. Continue."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes, I raised my hand again."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. You have the floor, sir."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes, Mr. Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You have the floor, sir."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON: "Yeah, so I was originally supportive of having Grady on there. I think the issue that has arisen or having representatives from Grady on board. I think the issue that has arisen, is that they wind recusing themselves every time there is a vote. And so, I'd be happy to look at the issue. Thank you, Colleagues."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Commissioner Arrington. Commissioner Thorne, do you want to be heard?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yes. I was going to wait, because in our packet here, we have the contract for the North Fulton cities, so I guess you're going to go over that? So the reason for having it here in comparison with the contract for the South Fulton cities, do you want to comment just briefly on what the difference might be?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "If I can answer that question. I think it was more as a reference for the South Fulton cities potentially if they wanted to enter into a performance contracting, and I'm sure as you know, this contract took quite a while to negotiate, and the city managers were very involved. I've talked to several of them, which they're more than willing to set down with their counterparts in South Fulton and talk about the pros and the cons and the biggest of what obviously is that there are performance metrics. There is a dollar amount put in there that's incremental compensation; and importantly, there are liquid liquidated damages if those

performance metrics are not met. So it cuts both ways with the provider, and I think they're only about six to seven months in to it, but at least from the reports that I got, they are satisfied that this did help improve performance in the North Fulton cities. So it's really just -- in this document has a reference if South Fulton cities wanted to pursue that. "

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Thank you."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, ma'am."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Anything else?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Continue."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "I think we have only the financial section. There were no emergency procurements this month, so there are none of those listed. The ARPA reporting continues as we have consistently reported it, and of course we're only now one and a half months into the year. The only other thing, Mr. Chairman, I again apologize for being here or being delayed this morning: But the only other thing I wanted to bring to your attention, which I have kept all of you informed over the weekend is we did have an equipment malfunction at the Big Creek water treatment facility. It's one of these cases where it's a single component, but then it raised a set of back stream issues resulting in us having to close the Riverside pump station which then created a backup in our system. As we work through that, two or three things are noteworthy. One is we did not see any disruption to public activities. The Chattahoochee was at an all-time high, or at a very high level, eliminating any public participation there in terms of recreation. We also, because of the rain on that Saturday, did not see anybody in Riverside Park where this was disruptive. We did about ten to 11 hours' worth of work on this. All of the remediation was completed by noon that Saturday; it is a reportable incident to the EPD as well as River Keepers and the city of Roswell, which I want to compliment the city of Roswell with everything that they were going through, they were still very responsive to this as we contacted them. Lastly, we have had a after-action meeting, and I'm going to have a report done for your review that will probably come in next week or so with Archer Western who is the design team and then our operations team in Viola. I think what we will find is there are some design changes that could be done eliminating this single point of failure that occurred, which had all this back stream affect. There is some redundancy that we also could build in that if this thing of thing were to occur again, it could be brought online much faster, and then I think there are some operational steps that again, if something like this occurred, we could take action. So while, you know, in retrospect, division is 20/20, it is disturbing that this occurred at our brand new facility. So we're not sure if it's a consequence of the low temperatures, the high water, which are two independent weather events, or just one single piece of equipment that when it malfunctioned, there was no way to isolate that piece of equipment without disrupting the entire plant and the pump station at that

plant. So again, David Clark, if you have any questions, is certainly here today to answer those, and then I'll forward this report when we have completed it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Any questions? All right, Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I just want to thank you for the updates through the weekend and everything; they were very helpful. But we had no constituents concerns, so I don't -- I think it was a minimal impact in the Roswell area."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Thank you. And that concludes our report, Mr. Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Continue."

CLERK GRIER: "Continuing on page 8, **25-0134**, Finance: Request approval of a Resolution to equalize the 2025 Cost-of-Living adjustments among all pensioners."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0135**, Discussion of estimated rollback rate to be provided to the Tax Commissioner as required in the provisions of the new state law HB 581."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. How do you want to proceed here? We need everybody's attention on this, so Madam CFO, you want to take the lead on this?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I do have a document that was circulated last night to use as sort of a primer for the discussion. Hopefully, the Clerk's office received it for presentation, so I'll wait just a second. Essentially, this -- House Bill 581, which, you know, we presented to you in early January, had a number of components in it. One, of course, was whether we were going to act to opt out for the state's floating homestead exemption. The Board did not, so we stayed in. The other was it required some procedural changes. What's before you today is one of those procedural -- procedural changes, and it requires that we certify to the Tax Commissioner an estimated rollback rate. And we can go to the next slide, please. That legislation defines what an estimated rollback rate is, and it defines it as the current year's estimated millage rate minus the millage equivalent of the total net assessed value added by reassessments. It further requires that as calculated and

certified to the Tax Commissioner by the levying authority for County and educational purposes; and as calculated and certified to the collecting officer of the municipality of the levying authority for municipal tax purposes. So that is straight from the legislation, and it defines what its estimated rollback rate is."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay, so what does that mean in English?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "It means that the state is asking the Board, every leveling authority, to estimate what they believe their rollback rate will be. Typically --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- that's the first key: estimate the rollback --"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "-- to estimate what the rollback rate will be."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Point number one."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Typically, we receive the actual rollback rate from the Board of Assessors and the Tax Commissioner once they have completed the digest valuation process and they certify that information to all of the taxing jurisdictions and that comes much later in the year. So now we are being asked and required to calculate an estimated rollback rate."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "At this point in time?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "At this point in time, in advance of receiving any information about what the actual change in value due to reassessment is for the current levy year."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I'm just asking. I want that to sink in. We've talked about it, but everybody really needs to understand this."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yes, sir. The statutory -- the new statute also requires that that estimated rollback rate will be included on the assessment notices that the Tax Assessor's office will send to all property owners in 2025. And the inclusion of that estimated rollback rate will be in lieu of the estimated tax amount that has been included on the notices for a while now. So instead of having an estimated tax figure, there will be an estimated rollback rate now listed for each taxing jurisdiction. So in order for us to comply with that portion of the statute, the Tax Commissioner's office has requested each taxing jurisdiction to submit to him their certification by March 1st, which is why we're here today to have a discussion with you about what we're going to certify over to the Tax Commissioner. The last piece of this statute that's important to understand is that if the final millage rate that the Board adopts, once we do receive our valuation data and we do go through the normal millage rate setting process, if that amount exceeds this estimated rollback rate, then the tax bill

will now reflect a statement that will be posted on the tax bill for every taxing authority if their final millage rate exceeds the estimated rollback rate. And that statement is that: the adopted millage rate exceeds the estimated rollback rate as stated in the annual notice of assessment that you previously received for this taxable year, which will result in an increase in the amount of property tax that you will owe. So that is a new requirement that is being placed on every Tax Commissioner in the state to include this statement for every taxing authority who's final millage rate exceeds their estimated rollback rate, not the actual rollback rate, but the estimated rollback rate. And then the last bullet point on here is really not part of the statutory requirement, but I wanted to make sure that you understood that even after we establish this estimated rollback rate, we will still go through our normal millage rate setting process. We will receive our digest at estimate that will include a calculated statutory rollback rate. If we plan to adopt a millage rate that is greater than that calculated statutory rollback rate, then that's when we have to advertise a property tax increase and hold three public hearings before adopting our millage rate in its final form, so that's the requirement. If we can go to the next slide, please. So we wanted to share with you some of the complications and practical considerations around being able to comply with this requirement. One, is that we have not received an estimation of the total net assessed value added by reassessments, and cannot complete the calculation without making an estimate of what that amount would be. So we would have to estimate the change in value due to reassessment. Our 2025 revenue budget, adopted budget, assumed that we would maintain at least a flat millage rate. We built in three percent growth into the digest, but it assumed that we would, you know, have at least a flat millage rate. And the way that this statute is written, even if the County were to adopt the actual rollback rate, once the digest values are set, which would not require us to advertise a property tax increase and hold three public hearings. If that rate ends up being higher than what we estimate as a rollback rate, that lengthy statement from the previous page still gets placed on the bill. So we wanted to break it down as best as we possibly could and then have a conversation and get some directions with you on what rate we should certify to the Tax Commissioner. We have no information with which to make a calculation. We know we have based our budget on a flat millage rate, so the question really today is should we consider certifying the current millage rate 8.87 as the estimated rollback rate for compliance with House Bill 581."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. That's a lot to digest and to understand; and it will certainly be so for the overwhelming majority of our citizens. So I'm hoping that the State will, you know, take whatever corrective actions necessary, but we do need to talk about this today. Vice Chair Ellis followed by Commissioner Thorne followed by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman; and then we have, I say, the Dream Team up here waiting to chime in if need be."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "The Dream Team?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "The Tax Commissioner, Tax Assessor, and who's the other one? I can't see the other one. I don't recognize the other, put it that way."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "That's all right. I'll hold off any editorial comments with that. Well first off, there's been a lot of discussion around this particular provision in the State with a lot of jurisdictions, and I just want to applaud us for stepping up and opting in while lot of, you know, our fellow governments, particularly some of the larger ones nearby, Atlanta Public Schools, Fulton County Board of Education, and the city of Atlanta, three big ones to name a few who've at least indicated their intent that they're going to ignore the will of the voters in the constitutional amendment that we're all asked to vote on, and 62 percent of the folks said, yes. I'm glad that we chose not to do that, and instead we'll deal with these 20 questions that we have right here. But to me, I mean, this is somewhat relatively -- it's complex, but it's somewhat relatively simple in terms of a decision for us today in that, you know, at the end of all of this process, nothing changes in terms of what we have done over the course of the past, you know, decade or whatever, right? I mean we still calculate what will be the true rollback rate and if the rate that we're adopting is going to be higher than that rollback rate. We're going to have to advertise that as a tax increase, correct?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yes, Mr. Vice Chair."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So nothing is different about that process. So voters at the end of the day -- I mean, our taxpayers at the end of the day are going to have transparency, have the opportunity to come down here and speak their mind to us about what that final rate is going to be, with transparency, is it a flat, is it a rollback, is it an increase? Right?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yes, sir."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So nothing changes with that. The other fact of this is we have no digest information whatsoever right now. We have a lot of stuff to do. Your job is not to be the Tax Commissioner or the Tax Assessor, right? You're our CFO. That's not what your role is. That's what their role is. They don't even have the data compiled to even give us a suggested rate and it will behoove us to be, you know, pretty conservative to what we put out to not only, you know, we don't want to be in a situation where we're not only confusing the taxpayers with the whole process around the rollback rate and all that that we normally go through, but also some statement, you know, because we missed the other by, you know, trying to come up with some number out of the air, projected stuff based on the data that we don't even have. So to me, this is a bill that has a lot of complexities to it because it is in the sausage making of tax, you know, property tax which is overly complex in the state, you know, but we're not in control of that. We're dealing with the hand that we're dealt by, by kind of the state and the construct that we got to live within. So it would be my motion that we adopt the rate for certification that would be necessary to supply to the Tax Commissioner at this time of our current rate which is 8.87, correct?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yes, sir."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah. It's just the motion on the floor is to adopt at 8.87, which I support. Commissioner Thorne, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, Commissioner Ivory."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I concur with my fellow Commissioners' sentiments that he just expressed. But it seems like with the public, the estimated taxes is confusing to them now, so I can't imagine this rollback rate estimation is going to be much more confusing. I'm trying to understand the overall goal of doing this. Can you speak to that? What our legislators were trying to achieve? Is it just to point out when our taxes go up that people know they're going up?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Commissioner Thorne, I'm not sure that I could possibly answer that question. Perhaps they were attempting to provide clarity."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay. Okay. I'll just leave it there. We just have to be ready to answer a lot of questions."

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

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. On the surface, I don't really have a problem with this, but I would like to ask our Tax Commissioner if he would come forward because I do have a question that I want to ask. Tax Commissioner Denzel, can you join us -- Ferdinand."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Good morning, Commissioners."

COMMISSIONER ADBUR-RAHMAN: "Good morning. I just wanted to know because I'm feeling based on some of the preliminary conversations that there's going to be unintended consequences. But I would like for you as much as you can in the layman's term, to tell us if there is going to be any effect? Will it makes us have to do things a little bit differently in our processes? Just if you can kind of, for the audience, I was at city of Atlanta on Monday nights, no less than about 20 people to stop me and ask me about it, because they voted on it on Monday differently. And so, I just wanted to get your input, if you didn't mind."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Okay. What specific question did these citizens ask?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Will it cause anything with what you're having to do? Will it make your processes harder or will it -- I guess, you can only tell me because you know your processes, so that's the concern that I have."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "The only difference that we see right now is that we have to significantly change the structure of the tax bill. It has to be totally redesigned, because we now have to add that big sentence, if somebody

exceeds the estimated rollback rate, that's a big change. Other than that, there's nothing different that we have to do. We have to do the same thing, getting all digest approved by the state and do the calculations, et cetera, et cetera. But we have to now redesign that tax bill in time for us to mail bills, and that's going to be significant; but we'll handle it."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Y'all will be able to do it?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "With our partners we will."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay. All right. Thank you. I don't know if any of my other colleagues have any questions for you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ivory. I can't help you."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "All right. Thank you so much. I thank you for that, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, talking about the unintended consequences. I do think just in the language alone, in the -- in the rollback rate language already creates a sort of a position that -- or a feel, accurate or not, that taxes are somehow going to be rolled back. So that language was, I'm sure, cleverly done in that way. My question, though, is that we have talked on this Board considering the consent decree, that there might be a time that when it comes time for us to actually set the millage for this year, that we might have to consider an increase because of the expenses of the consent decree, or whatever other expenses we have. So I wanted to ask, in your opinion, what are the pros and cons of either overestimating or underestimating the estimated rollback rate?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Overestimating the rollback rate would probably be an impact on Sharon, in terms of what they will anticipate in receiving versus what they're going to receive if you -- if you overestimate. And then you have a smaller millage rate that comes later in the process, then you may not have enough revenue to meet what you anticipated initially. Do I get -- am I getting that right, Sharon? Or something to that effect. If you underestimate it and you actual millage rate is over, then you have this obnoxious statement that goes on the bill, which gives the citizens the impression that you are overtaxing them, and that's not a good feeling. And I think that's the biggest downside --"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Because if you put -- if you leave it at the 8.87 flat rate right now, and then we decide as a Body that we do have to increase the millage rate for any number of reasons, then we are going to have to make that statement --"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "You'll have that statement on the tax bill."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay. If we overestimate it, even conservatively overestimate it, whatever that number that would be, and that could be something that we could discuss then. If we come under that, we do not have to put that, that obnoxious statement on our tax --"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "You would not --"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "-- bills."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "-- but then you'll have other consequences in terms of what you anticipated receiving versus what you're going to receive. And that --"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Well, we do that anyway, though, right?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "I wouldn't say that, no."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay. Well, this is all in the world of estimations anyway, correct?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Yes, yes."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay. Where again, would be estimating something that could possibly allow us the ability to not have to put that statement on if we actually come under it if we estimate the estimated rollback rate a bit higher. But if we do not and we keep it flat and then it is over, because of many reasons that we've discussed as a Body, then we would be forced to advertise that statement."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "That is correct."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay. And so you said that --"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "You wouldn't be forced. So I would just put it --"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Well, yeah, I'm going to come force you to do that. Okay, thank you so much. Those unintended consequences that you discussed, can somebody, County Manager or County CFO, tell us what those unintended consequences could be that are different than any unintended consequences we already have?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Well, you've already said, I thought there was potentially, when you have to restructure your bill. Have you determined yet that the paper stock and the size of the paper --"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Oh yeah. Well, yes, restructuring the bill. Our bill is preformatted at this time. And so we have to gut everything we have, and start anew. And so all the paper we have in stock would be trashed. And that, that's a cost, that's a cost. So when I say restructure the bill, I mean --"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "You just mean, administratively, like, paper and --"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Yeah."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "-- reprinting. Okay."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "And I think the -- Commissioner, the second item that we could think of is the increased calls coming in confused by what this new bill structure means, so that would either be temporary staffing or some -- well, permanent staffing in the Tax Commissioner's Office and/or Tax Assessor's Office. Although, I'm sure that that was intended, but will a clear natural result. And I think, you know, the third is just taxpayer dissatisfaction. No matter almost what you do, it's going to end up in -- if you try to pinpoint this since you have no data, it's a shot in the dark. And it will be over or under, hard to predict. And by the way, since we bill for multiple parties, and I don't know the answer to this, Dr. Ferdinand, it will, I assume differentiate by those parties with separate messages."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "That's correct."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "So think about someone we're billing on behalf of, and the city hid it, the county didn't, and the school system didn't even participate. I don't know, even know how that would be presented on a bill. I mean, Dr. Ferdinand is the master at, I think, making our bills understandable, but this creates a complication."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Yeah, in the case of, say, let's see, for example, somebody like Johns Creek, I collect for Johns Creek, which also has the Fulton School Board and the county. I could potentially have three of these statements on a bill. And so we have to be a little flexible in terms of how we construct this bill and design to give us that flexibility to have zero statements or a maximum of three statements. So we are still in the throes of trying to figure out -- figure that out. We started meeting with our paper people to find the lead time we need to have paper. Because if you have to have paper preformatted, then it has to be a curing time and those kind of complications in terms of building a new bill. But we'll get it done this year."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Anything else?"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "(Off-mic comments.) Very confusing."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "It is. Okay. All right, other questions or comments?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "The motion on the -- sir?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "I said, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Don't leave yet."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "One more question of Madam CFO. What are some other options. I see that you recommended on here the 8.87. But what are some other options? I feel like I still don't know enough about this to understand the opt out of the city, the opt out of APS, the opt outs that have happened, and then we are opting in. So what kind of impact does that have on our taxpayer if we go with this 8.87?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "So I will -- I will tell you what I think. But I think maybe Dr. Ferdinand and Soo should correct me if I'm wrong. But opting in or opting out of the floating homestead exemption was one action. I don't believe that the taxing jurisdictions that opted out of the floating homestead exemption also opted out of having to provide this estimated rollback rate. I think everyone still has to provide the estimated rollback rate. So the opting in versus opting out only was related to that new state floating homestead exemption. And as you recall, the county already has a CPI-based floating homestead exemption, so this added a second, and the system will be configured to choose the exemption that is best for the individual taxpayer. For Fulton County Schools, APS and the city of Atlanta, if they ultimately have opted out and stay out, then for the -- for the taxpayers paying that portion of their tax bill, they will not have that floating homestead exemption as an option for consideration. It will be whatever the current exemptions are. But when it comes to this estimated rollback rate, everyone who is subject to the requirements for rollback rate will have to estimate the rollback rate."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "That is correct. And I'll add that whether or not you opt in or opt out, if you exceed that estimated rollback rate, they'll still be that sentence on the tax bill. That is independent of opting in or opting out. So the city of Atlanta, for example, has a floating point exemption right now, which is pretty nice. But they still have to provide an estimated rollback rate. And if they exceed that,

then that statement will still be on the bill. So opting out doesn't relieve them of that particular responsibility."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay, all right. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Is this something that we have to vote on today? Because I'll be honest with you, I need a little bit more information. I mean, is it going to be time sensitive? Are we're going to make a mistake if we don't vote on it today? Oh, it's got to be in by March 1st? Okay, I'm ready."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Have you communicated this to the other taxing jurisdictions that you have?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "We have met with all the taxing jurisdictions physically in person. And we have been communicating them via letters and emails continuously during this process."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay, thank you. That's all."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Madam CFO and County Manager, can you just explain to me again, and I'm sorry if this is a redundant question, but why did you land at the 8.87 as making that the -- certifying the current millage as the estimated -- that as our estimated rollback rate?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "As I stated, the requirement is that we use the current year's estimated millage rate minus the millage equivalent of the total net assessed value added by reassessments. We don't have that piece of information."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Right, the second piece."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "The second piece of information. We know, we already know that we've premised our budget off of a flat millage rate. In 2024, the millage rate of 8.87 was higher than the rollback rate, so it's likely that the rollback rate for '25 will be lower than the 8.87. If we have better information by the time that we set the millage rate relative to the cost to comply with the federal consent order, to your point, we may, the Board may choose to consider doing something different with the millage rate altogether. And in that case, that would be potentially a true property tax increase, and that we would be potentially increasing the millage rate. Then you know, the same rules would apply as far as public hearings and notice of property tax and in this statement would be placed on the tax bill regardless. So I felt like based on the fact that we don't have any information to work

with, we already know that we're proposing, at minimum, a flat millage rate, that 8.87 is - is conservative. If we choose to use a higher millage rate when we set the final millage rate, we will be -- we will have to advertise a property tax increase and go through that process anyway. So to me, this was, you know, kind of the most logical place to land for an estimated rate without any of the information that we're supposed to be basing it off of."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Again, I'm only just concerned in that we based our, much of our budget conversations and much of our holding of resources and enhancements, all of it, to the consent decree and the expenses that might come with the consent decree. And this somehow, and I -- if I'm wrong, please tell me that I'm wrong, seems to feel like it's locking us more into not being able to have a full discussion of a possible millage rate increase in when if the time comes, because then we are locked into that advertisement language that then just confuses the taxpayer even more."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "So there's no advertising requirement associated with this estimated rollback rate. This, we just sort --"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "No, just that if it's low -- if it's not right --"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "We certify this to the Tax Commissioner. We will go through the same process to set our final millage rate as we would any other year. And so if the Board elects to maintain the 8.87 flat millage rate, we will likely still have to advertise a property tax increase, hold three public hearings, because that rate will likely be higher than the actual calculated rollback rate."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "So we will -- we will have to do -- the difference would be, there wouldn't be that additional statement on the tax bill."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "That is now required by the state."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "That is now required by the state because our final millage rate, if it's the flat millage rate, would not be higher than what we estimated the rollback rate to be. If the Board should elect to increase the millage rate to address the consent order, this estimated millage rate doesn't lock us in or prevent us from being able to do that. When we come back to you, I believe it's scheduled for early June on our digest prep calendar, when we come back to you to seek authorization to advertise a proposed millage rate, that is the rate -- that is the point in time that we will lock in the ceiling of the millage rate for this year. And there are, you know, a number of advertising requirements associated with establishing and setting your final millage rate. We typically come to the Board seeking authorization to

advertise the proposed rate. We have to run that in what's the five-year levy ad. That ad includes the dates and times that we will hold any required public hearings associated with the millage rate, we'll set those dates. If it is higher than the current millage rate or the rollback rate, we have to advertise and hold the three public hearings. We do all of that, set the dates for all of that when we present the Board with the proposed millage rate. At that point that rate becomes the ceiling, and the Board can adopt that rate or any rate lower than that when we get through hearing process. So this estimated rollback rate, at this point, is what will go on the notice of assessment. And should we adopt a rate higher than this, ultimately, when we adopt our final millage rate, then that additional statement would be placed on the tax bill. But at this point, it does not lock us in to a specific rate."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "So there's really two -- there could really be two times where we would have to have an advertising and sort of notification. There could be the one time if the millage rate was increased regularly, that always happens during those conversations. And then there could be another time that this statutory requirement could kick in."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "The statutory requirement for advertising the millage rate is that you have to advertise your millage rate in the five-year levy ad and set a date for a public hearing."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Right."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "So if you're not going above the rollback rate and there isn't anything that's considered a property tax increase, then you're only required to advertise the five-year levy ad and set a single public hearing date. If the rate that you're ultimately proposing exceeds that statutorily calculated rollback rate, not this estimated rollback rate, but the statutory calculated rate, then you -- then you are required to, in addition to running the five-year levy ad, you're required to set three public hearings, one of which must be held after 6:00 p.m., and run additional ads in the paper that have language in it, specified language in it that this is a notice of property tax increase, place it on your county website. And I think that's it for the advertising requirements. So this, setting this estimated rollback rate today, doesn't affect our required publications for the final, the final millage rate. Those are all governed by a different statute, and they didn't -- they didn't cross over on the advertising requirements when putting this estimated rollback rate language together."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "And just what is the consequence if we don't adopt this today?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "If we don't adopt it today, we won't meet the Tax Commissioner's requested time frame, because our next meeting is after his deadline."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "And that means that the entire tax calendar shifts to the right."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "And is that -- is that some -- and what is your opinion on that? Is -- is it your recommendation here today, that this -- that we move this? And are you in favor of this?"

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "I'm in favor of this. It's an estimate."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "No the calculated."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Not the calculated, it's an estimate. And to me, it's just as effective as the estimated tax thing you had on the bill before. It doesn't hurt you except for the fact that you going to have this little statement out there."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Thank you."

DR. ARTHUR FERDINAND, TAX COMMISSIONER: "Very welcome."

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

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Oh, I'm sorry."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Mr. Chair, I have a comment."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes, sir, Commissioner Arrington, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I am actually glad to see this come up. I wish it had come up prior to the adoption of our budget. And I've been speaking about this for several years because, you know, this will give us an opportunity, I believe, you know, for those that -- I believe you, Mr. Chair, even stated that you thought we would likely have to raise the millage rate this year. And frankly, this would have -- had we done this prior to adopting our budget, we might have been able to include money for the Arts and for veterans. And so I'm not -- I'm not going to support the 8.87 rate because my estimate is that it's going to have to be higher. I mean, we're estimating, the Chair has already said he thinks it's going to be higher. We

know we've got these consent decree costs and other things that we need to deal with, so there's no way, in good conscience that I could support maintaining a flat rate knowing all the different expenses and things that we're going to have to incur. But I wish we had done this prior to adopting the budget, and hopefully in the future, we can estimate this rate prior to adopting our budget, because I think that gives us a better snapshot of our budget and what we will be working with."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Commissioner. All right, Commissioner Ivory, you want to be heard again?"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "No."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. The motion on the floor is to adopt. Cast your vote, please."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I voted, no."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0136**, Purchasing and Contract Compliance request approval of a termination of a contract for the office of the Tax Commissioner for electronic check payment and processing and credit-debit card payment transaction services."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to adopt by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Dana Barrett. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "**25-0137**, Real Estate and Asset Management request approval to utilize cooperative purchasing in an amount not to exceed \$241,001.15 for the purchase, delivery and installation of three 80-gallon gas kettles, one gas oven, and one gas fryer for the Fulton County Jail."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 9, Commissioners' Full-Board Appointments, **25-0138**, Board of Ethics. The Atlanta Airport Chamber of Commerce has recommended LaTonya Nix Wiley for a Full-Board reappointment to a term ending February 12th, 2028."

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

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "You know I'm going to object that --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I know what it is."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "The Ethics Board is unethical."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Point of order, Mr. Chair."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "They do not follow their rules."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "This is -- point of order. Point of order."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "The Ethics Board --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Point of order."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "The Ethics Board --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner, hold on --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Point of order."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "They do not follow their own rules."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Your comments are out of line. Your comments are out of line."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "My comments are not out of line. You are out of line."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "You're conflicted. You have issues with --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "No, you are out of line."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "You're out of line."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "My comments are not out of line."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Your comments are out of line. You're running stuff --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I have the opportunity to speak on this matter."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- that does not represent this Board."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I -- you don't -- I don't -- I never speak on your behalf. I speak on my behalf --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Your comments are out of line."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- and on behalf of the residents in my district. I speak on behalf of the residents in my district --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington, please --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- on my own behalf."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I have never said that I speak for you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I have never said that I speak for you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "These people are unethical. They do not follow their own rules."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington, please."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "They do not follow the ethics code."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "They are unethical. Yes, sir. Do I have the floor, again?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Do I still have the floor?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No, sir."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Why not?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Let's vote."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Why not? Why do I not still the floor? I will ask for a ruling from the County Attorney. I ask for a ruling from the County Attorney."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "The motion on the floor, and we will hear from you, Madam County --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I ask for a ruling from the County Attorney."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You're going to get it, Mr. Arrington. We have a call for breach of decorum. You want to rule, Madam County Attorney? But there's a motion and a second."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Chair, I get to have discussion on this item."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Go ahead."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "So during the discussion, there was a point of order called and a motion was made for a ruling on the breach of decorum on the decorum ordinance. And that is properly before the Board for a vote. The Chair can either make a decision or put it to the entire Body for a vote. And the Chairman has put it to the Body for a vote, so that is where we were in the preceding."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. All right --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Wait, Madam County Attorney. I was in the middle of discussion. I was in the middle of my discussion. I raised my hand, and was in the middle of discussion on the agenda item."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "That is what I'm asking you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- the County Attorney has ruled. There's a proper motion before us. All right. Let's vote on the decorum violation. The motion is that there was, in fact."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Continue."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I vote, no on that as well."

CLERK GRIER: "Three nays with Commissioner Arrington."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Back to the original one."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: Wait, that wasn't the agenda item. I still have discussion on the agenda item."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Go ahead, Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay, thank you. Yes, these people are unethical. They do not follow the code of ethics. They violate the ethics code."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Point of order, Mr. Chair."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "They continue to do that --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington, we've --"

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We've disposed of that. That's no longer before us. Now, thank you. Let's continue, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I thought y'all voted on the decorum violation, not on the actual matter, because I raised my hand for discussion on the matter."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Go ahead, Commissioner."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Well, I thought you said it was disposed of. I'm trying to understand what's going on. This doesn't make any sense. I raised my hand to speak about discussion on an item, on the agenda item."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You're free to discuss the item, but the item -- your position on the Ethics Board, that's what we ruled was out of order and against our rules of decorum, and that was approved. Now, if you have something else to say --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I'm just trying to understand. So I do not have the right to express my opinion about this agenda item? Is that what you're saying, Mr. Chair?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I'm -- that's not what I'm saying. You have the floor. Express your opinion."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Well, okay. I'm trying to understand what's going on, because this is the agenda item, I raised my hand to discuss about this. You all took a vote on a decorum violation. But as far as I understand, there has not been a vote on this item, yet you said that it had already been decided."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No, we voted --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "My point is, this Ethics Board, the members of this Ethics -- of this Ethics Board, they are unethical. They do not follow their own rules. They do not follow the Fulton County --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Decorum violation, Chairman."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- Code of Ethics."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington, we discussed that."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Excuse --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington, please."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Wait a minute, hold on. Well, how -- how was it discussed? Y'all had a vote on a decorum violation, not on this matter."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "The decorum violation, your comments about the Board of Ethics. Now, we heard this, we knew what you were going to say before you said it. We tried -- trying to give you the benefit of the doubt. Now, you have anything else to add?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes. They are all unethical, and they all need to go."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington. Commissioner Ivory."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "We are -- for clarity, Mr. Chairman, we are voting on LaTonya Nix Wiley and her Board appointment to the Board of Ethics; is that correct?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's correct."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "You would like comment on LaTonya Nix Wiley and her qualifications for this Board of Ethics."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's correct, they --"

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "All right. Is it correct that we are not deciding today whether the Board of Ethics is an ethical organization or if they should be abolished or if we should be change anything about the Board of Ethics?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's correct."

COMMISSIONER IVORY: "Okay, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett. All right, nevermind. All right. On the motion to adopt, let's vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: Next item.

CLERK GRIER: "County Manager's Presentation and Discussion Items, **25-0139**, External Affairs Presentation, 2025 State Legislative Session Update."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Good Afternoon, Commissioners. Jessica Corbitt, Director of External Affairs. I'm just asking the team to please pull up the slides. Thank you. We have had another busy week during the General Assembly. They are proceeding rapidly toward Crossover Day, which is in two weeks now. So quickly, next slide. The House has passed the amended FY25 budget, that's now going to Senate Appropriations. And now they will begin review of the FY26 budget. Last Thursday, Georgia Commissioner for Behavioral Health presented to the Subcommittee and talked about the Fulton County Behavioral Health Crisis Center and some of our ongoing work with behavioral health, which is one of our priority areas. Next slide, please. Our Delegation -- go back one, please. Our Legislative Delegation has been continuing to meet. They met last Thursday and had our State and Magistrate Court representatives. They do have a meeting scheduled this Friday. We do not currently have a presenter scheduled. Next Friday, the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities is scheduled. I believe the Clerk of Superior and Magistrate Courts may also be joining that meeting. We have shared that meeting schedule, an updated meeting schedule with your offices. Next slide, please. This is just a recap that we have every meeting of our legislative priorities, and we'll go over some of these today. Next slide. So House Bill 482 has been introduced, and this has been assigned to Committee. It's been assigned to House Judiciary Committee. This Bill does create the opportunity for Judicial Officers in Superior Court to handle a very specific type of case. They are supporting the full-time Superior Court Judges. And we asked for this as part of our ongoing effort to increase efficiency within the Superior Court. So the Bill was in the hopper yesterday, it has been introduced, and today, it

was assigned to House Judiciary. That was a breaking news update since this was printed. So we will track that as it goes into Committee, and again, speak to the importance of this for our Superior Court process. Next slide, please. State Court Judges, the -- this is a local Bill. The previous Bill is a general Bill. With local Bills, there is a requirement for an -- a legal ad, and that ad is in today's Fulton County Neighbor paper. This allows us to move forward with the actual introduction of the legislation. The Bill has already been drafted. Representative Deborah Silcox has expressed that she will introduce this Bill, and we have several other members of our delegation who are very supportive. This would allow for the creation of two additional State Court Judgeships. Next slide. With Behavioral Health, as I just mentioned, they, our Department of Behavioral Health is scheduled to present to the Delegation next week. Commissioner Tanner has spoken with the appropriate committees that are on Appropriations about the importance of crisis services. And so we are also going to be providing an update to the delegation about our work to -- to begin a study for the center in North Fulton. And we received about \$500,000 in the FY25 budget to begin that work. And so that's the exciting step forward, and that is now -- we are now beginning that process, and that paves the way for that future center. And we will be advocating and having conversations about funding for that center as well. Next slide, please. One of the other legislative priorities that you all included in your package was looking at some narrowly defined tort reform. And so this has been one of the Governor's priorities. Senate Bill 68 has a comprehensive package. It has some specific language in here about -- about property owner liability and also business liability. I -- if you have questions about this one, I would probably want to get with you offline, because it is a long and complicated Bill, but want to make sure that you're aware of that. Next slide, please. One of the things in our adopted package is a priority that was brought forward by the Fulton County Youth Commission. And today, they are going to have a mock hearing with the Fulton County Board of Education Delegation. That will be this afternoon at 3:30. I want to give kudos to Jasmine, who's been working very closely with them on that, as well as Mr. Crossley, who staffs the Fulton County Youth Commission. So they will be -- there's also a resolution that talks about their position. It's a very -- Legislators had some feedback about how they could strengthen their position. And so it's been a very educational process for them. Next slide. Next Gen 911 is another one of our priorities. Fulton County's 911 system is already Next Gen compatible. But of the multiple 911 centers or public safety answering points within Fulton County, only two, I believe, are Next Gen compatible. And so this, there will be a hearing, first hearing today on this Bill, which provides some updates to the Georgia Emergency Communication Authority responsibilities. It has some standards in place for a new 911 system. So rather than mandating that all systems upgrade around the state at once, it would essentially phase that technology in. And then there's some other actions as well. So we will monitor that. We've also shared this with the

Emergency Services team so that they can participate in that process as well, and let us know if they have any concerns. House Bill 92, I know there's been a lot of discussion about House Bill 581, and I think local governments around the state are in agreement that there's a lot of need for a cleanup. There have been multiple Bills, I think it's fair to say, that seek to address this. So House Bill 92 is the most current, and this passed by substitute from the House. And one thing it does, we talked, I heard you all talking a few minutes ago about the opt-out provision, which is really only for the floating homestead, and that this would extend that date from the specifically for the homestead exemption about to March 31st. One of the other changes in the definition of a homestead exemption, this applies to a relatively small number of Fulton County residential parcels. But as you can imagine, in parts of Georgia where you have much larger acreage associated with homes, a homestead is typically defined as the 5 acres around the house. So if you have a very large tract of land, typically those additional acres are not considered part of the homestead and don't have that, that additional tax benefit. There are some other cleanup changes. I won't go through all of this. This would require the estimated rollback date, a slight extension to the 31st. Unfortunately, this Bill has not been enacted yet, so we can't use this as a guidance at this time, and then again, there's some other changes. This is one that ACCG has been working on; is that correct, Jasmine? And so they have been providing feedback and have been very engaged in the process, and have also met with Dr. Ferdinand and his team and with a 15 cities and taxing jurisdictions. So at this time, again, it's passed out of the House, now in the Senate. We will track that and provide updates. It would be effective upon the Governor's signature. So if it does pass out of the Senate quickly, we would then watch to see how quickly that would take effect. Along those lines, another one related to kind of the sequela of House Bill 581 is House Bill 370. This Bill has some very pointed requirements for our school boards. Both of the school boards in Fulton County have indicated that they plan to opt out of the floating homestead exemption requirement. Fulton County Schools already has a floating homestead exemption. Atlanta Public Schools does not. But this would really ask those school boards to -- or require that property tax bills include the total reserve funds of that school district on the tax bill. So it is a very interesting and very specific piece of legislation. So we are tracking this one, it's in House Ways and Means. It has not passed out of Committee yet. So it seems like it will be difficult to do for this tax year, but we will continue to monitor that. House -- Senate Bill, excuse me, 151, we've looked over this Bill. This would create an additional Joint Development Authority in Fulton County with participation from all of the cities north of Atlanta. It does not appear, it says in the Bill that it does not affect the existing development authorities in those cities. In reading it, it does not appear that it would also conflict with the Fulton County Development Authority. But we do want to look at that more carefully. It allows for the Directors to be appointed by those cities. And it would grant them all of the powers the development

authorities have, so we are monitoring that very carefully. It was introduced by the three, three Senators within our Delegation, Senators Beach, Albers, and Senator Still. Next slide, please. Senate Bill 7 did pass out of Senate Public Safety Committee. It has not been heard in Senate Rules yet, and we are continuing to track this Bill. Next slide, please. Senate -- so today is Legislative Day 19. We have a number of work days coming up. Crossover Day is March 6. Today we have our mock trial, tomorrow is Fulton County Day at the Capitol. I look forward to seeing all of you. We provided you some information on Friday about that. Also next week is ACCG's Capital Connection Conference. And so I know some of you may be attending that as well. And with that, we can take any questions. I want to ask Jasmine come up."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Any questions?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No questions. Thank you."

JESSICA CORBITT, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Wonderful. Have a great day."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Entertain a motion to recess for lunch, Executive Session, where we may discuss items of real estate, litigation, and personnel. Motion to do so by Commissioner Barrett, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Please vote."

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

Recessed for Executive Session at 12:41 p.m.

Resumed Regular Session at 1:48 p.m.,

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

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Is there a motion to approve the request for representation set forth in items 1 through 6 of the Executive Session agenda?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We have a motion to adopt by Commissioner Thorne, seconded by Commissioner Ivory. Please vote."

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 item 13 of the Executive Session agenda, which is a contract with Superion, LLC in the amount of

\$793,448.55 annually for a five-year term with annual renewals thereafter, contingent upon BOC budget approval each year?"

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

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

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Madam County Attorney. Madam Clerk, any other items to come before us?"

CLERK GRIER: "No further items."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No further items, we are adjourned. Thank you for your attendance and participation."

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:51 p.m.