

**FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
REGULAR MEETING**

January 04, 2023

10:00 AM



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



MINUTES-RATIFIED

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

Ratification Date: February 1, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Robert L. Pitts

10:04 a.m.

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

Robert L. Pitts, Chairman (At-Large)

PRESENT

Bridget Thorne, Commissioner (District 1)

PRESENT

Bob Ellis, Vice-Chairman (District 2)

PRESENT

Dana Barrett, Commissioner (District 3)

PRESENT

Natalie Hall, Commissioner (District 4)

PRESENT

Marvin S. Arrington, Jr., Commissioner (District 5)

PRESENT

Khadijah Abdur-Rahman, Commissioner (District 6)

PRESENT

INVOCATION: Reverend Clifton Dawkins, Jr., County Chaplain

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recite in unison

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

CONSENT AGENDA**23-0001 Board of Commissioners**

Adoption of the Consent Agenda - All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine by the County Commission and will be enacted by one motion. No separate discussion will take place on these items. If discussion of any Consent Agenda item is desired, the item will be moved to the Regular Meeting Agenda for separate consideration. **(ADOPTED)**

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

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

23-0002 Board of Commissioners

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

Proclamation recognizing "Terrence R. Dortch Remembrance Day."

(Abdur-Rahman)

December 23, 2022

Commissioners' District Board Appointments**23-0003 Board of Commissioners**

FULTON-DEKALB HOSPITAL AUTHORITY D/B/A GRADY HEALTH SYSTEM
(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

Consists of ten (10) trustees (members). The Board of Commissioners of Fulton County appoints seven (7) trustees (members) and the Board of Commissioners of DeKalb County appoints three (3). (See Fulton County Code § 13-2-11). The Fulton County Code does not prescribe the method of appointment; however, historically, each Commissioner has appointed one person to serve.

Term = 4 years

Terms below expire: 12/31/2022

Bernie Tokarz **(Hausmann)**

Kathryn Flowers **(Pitts)**

Chairman Pitts nominated Kathryn Flowers for a District reappointment to a term ending December 31, 2026.

23-0004 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

Terms below expire: 12/31/2022

Onaje Henderson (**Hall**)

Jan Collins (**Ellis**)

Joan Compton (**Hausmann**)

Marie Willsey (**Hausmann**)

Catherine Fox (**Morris**)

Sadie Talmadge (**Morris**)

Sandra De Shields Hightower (**Abdur-Rahman**)

Brandon A. Tonge (**Abdur-Rahman**)

Melissa Mitchell (**Pitts**)

Commissioner Ellis nominated Linda Bain to replace Jan Collins for a District appointment to a term ending December 31, 2024.

23-0005 Board of Commissioners
FULTON COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE
CONSENT AGENDA)

Term = 2 years

Terms below expire: 12/31/2022

Onaje Henderson (**Hall**)

Jan Collins (**Ellis**)

Joan Compton (**Hausmann**)

Marie Willsey (**Hausmann**)

Catherine Fox (**Morris**)

Sadie Talmadge (**Morris**)

Sandra De Shields Hightower (**Abdur-Rahman**)

Brandon A. Tonge (**Abdur-Rahman**)

Melissa Mitchell (**Pitts**)

Chairman Pitts nominated Nikki Davis Crump to replace Melissa Mitchell for a District appointment to a term ending December 31, 2024.

23-0006 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.

Terms below expire: 12/31/2022

Joseph Piontek (**Hausmann**)

Nina Radkovich (**Morris**)

Linda Jordan (**Pitts**)

Chairman Pitts nominated Linda Jordan for a District reappointment to a term ending December 31, 2026.

Arts and Libraries**23-0007 Library**

Request approval to accept the Mellon Foundation Grant in an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000.00. The use of this grant is for a 48-month period to support the Auburn Ave. Research Library with a concentration in collection processing, digitization and outreach engagement activities. First payment of 1 million will be sent upon signed signature from the BOC. The second payment will be sent in December of 2023. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

23-0008 Library

Request approval to accept the GPLS PRIME TIME Family Reading Time LSTA mini-grant in an amount not to exceed \$6,125.00 at the Southeast library branch and an amount not to exceed \$8,125.00 at the Mechanicsville branch for a total amount not to exceed \$14,250.00. The grant period for PRIME TIME is December 1, 2022, to May 12, 2023. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Health and Human Services**23-0009 Department for HIV Elimination**

Request approval to amend existing contracts to increase the spending authority of "Ending the HIV Epidemic" grant subrecipients pursuant to the Health Resources and Services Administration award UT8HA3393 in the amount of \$510,000.00 per year, in fiscal years 2022 through 2024, subject to Federal funding. Contracts are 100% grant funded with no Fulton County match. Request authorization for the Chairman to execute contracts with selected subrecipients. To protect the interest of the County, the County Attorney is authorized to approve the contracts as to form and substance and make any necessary modifications thereto prior to execution by the Chair. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**23-0010 Board of Commissioners**

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Commissioner Barrett, to approve the Regular meeting Agenda as amended by moving up items #22-1003 and #23-0021 as requested by Vice-Chairman Ellis; and adding item #23-0023 with a super majority vote. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

23-0011 Board of Commissioners

Appointment of the Vice-Chairman.

Appointment of the Vice-Chairman of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners for a one-year term, in accordance to the current Fulton County Code § 101-36 (b), amended by the Board on October 20, 2021 (Item #21-0839). **(APPROVED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Arrington and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to nominate Commissioner Ellis as Vice-Chairman of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners.. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

23-0012 Clerk to the Commission

Ratification of Minutes. **(RATIFIED)**

Regular Meeting Minutes, December 7, 2022

Recess Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, December 21, 2022

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

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

Did Not Vote: Pitts

23-0013 Board of Commissioners

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

Proclamation recognizing "Medical Examiner's Accreditation Appreciation Day."
(Hall)

Proclamation recognizing "Human Trafficking Awareness Month."
(Abdur-Rahman)

PUBLIC HEARINGS**23-0014 Board of Commissioners**

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

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

11 Speakers: Malik Hakeem (Funding/Sadie G. Mays); Jason Frazier (Elections); Lucia Frazier (Item #23-0015); Charmaine Minniefield (Funding/Praise House); Donna Watts-Nunn (Arts Funding/Hammonds House Museum); Ravi Windom (Arts Funding); Dr. Alon Holliday (Arts/Youth Funding); Leatrice Ellzy (Arts Funding/Hammonds House Museum); Michele Taylor-Willis (Arts Funding); Robert Thompson (Arts Funding/Hammonds House Museum) and Lydia Kimbrough (Arts Funding/Hammonds House Museum)

7 Zoom Speakers: Ben Howard (Senior Services); Susan Ross (Arts Funding/Hammonds House Museum); Masud Olufani (Arts Funding/Hammonds House Museum); W. Imara Canady (Arts Funding/Hammonds House Museum); Radhika Tulpule (Animal Shelter/Lifeline); Robbie Canban (Animal Shelter/Lifeline) and Lydia Meredith (Department of Family & Children Services)

COUNTY MANAGER'S ITEMS**Open & Responsible Government****23-0015 Finance**

Review and approval of the FY2023 Final Adopted Budget and FY2023 Budget Resolution. **(DISCUSSED)**

Health and Human Services**23-0016 Public Works**

Request approval of the lowest responsible bidder - Department of Public Works, 22ITBC077A-KM, Landscaping Restoration Services in an amount not to exceed \$131,923.00 with Ed Castro Landscaping, Inc. (Roswell, GA), to provide landscaping restoration services effective January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023 with two renewal options. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

23-0017 Public Works

Request approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between Fulton County and the City of Johns Creek, GA for water main relocations associated with the road improvements to Haynes Bridge Road Widening Project in the City of Johns Creek, GA, in an estimated amount of \$1,235,675.00. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

COMMISSIONERS' ACTION ITEMS**23-0018 Board of Commissioners**

Request approval of a Resolution by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners in Observance of the 94th Birthday of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. **(Abdur-Rahman) (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, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

23-0019 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution approving a Memorandum of Understanding between Fulton County, Georgia and Core Community Organized Relief Effort ("CORE"), a non-profit, for the use of County warehouse and office space in exchange for in-kind services to Fulton County; authorizing the Chairman to execute the Memorandum of Understanding; authorizing the County Attorney to approve the Memorandum of Understanding as to form and to make necessary changes thereto prior to execution; and for other purposes. **(Pitts) (APPROVED)**

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

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

23-0020 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of an Ordinance to amend Chapter 101 (General provisions and County Governing Authority), Division 2 (Rules of Order and Procedure), Section 101-72 (Executive Session) of the Fulton County Code of Ordinances to further safeguard and prevent the disclosure of confidential Executive Session discussions and to provide penalties for any violation; and for other purposes. **(Pitts) (APPROVED AS AMENDED)**

Commissioner Barrett requested to remove the language "but not limited to". Chairman Pitts accepted the request as a friendly amendment.

Chairman Pitts made a request to remove the language "up to" a \$1,000 fine.

Vice-Chairman Ellis made a friendly amendment to remove the monetary penalty from the language. Chairman Pitts did not accept the friendly amendment.

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

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

Nay: Ellis, and Arrington

COUNTY MANAGER'S PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**Justice and Safety****23-0021 Sheriff**

Discussion: Fulton County Sheriff Labat - FY2023 proposed budget
(DISCUSSED)

COMMISSIONERS' PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**22-1003 Board of Commissioners**

Discussion: Magistrate Court Clerk and Staff Positions **(Pitts) (HELD ON 12/21/22) (DISCUSSED)**

22-1004 Board of Commissioners

Discussion: Boards, Authorities, Commissions and Task Forces **(Pitts) (HELD ON 12/21/22) (DISCUSSED)**

EXECUTIVE SESSION**23-0022 Board of Commissioners**

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

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

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

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Vice-Chairman Ellis, to approve the request for representation in item #1 as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

ADDED TO THE MEETING**Items Added to the Agenda****23-0023 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Discussion: County Facility Update **(DISCUSSED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, to approve adding item #23-0023 to the Regular Meeting Agenda. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S
REGULAR MEETING
JANUARY 4, 2023
10:00 A.M.

Alexander Solutions, LLC

(Whereupon, the meeting was called to order at 10:12 a.m.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Good morning, everyone and welcome once again to **this** the first of 92 Regular Meetings of the Board of Commissioner's. It is 12 -- strike that -- 10:12 a.m. Madam Clerk, please call the roll."

CLERK GRIER: "Chairman Robb Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Bridget Thorne. Commissioner Bob Ellis."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Dana Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Natalie Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Marvin Arrington, Jr."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Khadijah Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Present."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Please rise for the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Before we get to the Pledge of Allegiance, I'm often asked why I rush through the Pledge of Allegiance; I really don't, but I'm a stickler for grammar. And if you noticed there's no comma after Under God; that's why."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. You may be seated. Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 2, Consent Agenda, **23-0001**, Adoption of the Consent Agenda - All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine by the County Commission and will be enacted by one motion. No separate discussion will take place on these items. If discussion of any Consent Agenda item is desired, the item will be moved to the Regular Meeting Agenda for separate consideration."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Anything, Madam Clerk? Commissioners, any items on the Consent Agenda to be removed?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "If not, I'll entertain a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Cast your vote, please."

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

CLERK GRIER: "Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we have a item requested to be added to today's Regular Meeting Agenda, 23-0023, D.R.E.A.M county facility update."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. For items to be -- for the benefit of the two new Commissioners -- for items to be added to the Agenda after the official Agenda has been published -- made public, it requires what's called a supermajority. It means five affirmative votes if there's an emergency. Now, the question here: What's the emergency?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, sir, Mr. Chairman. What we would like to do is, since we had 16 facilities impacted by the winter weather and four still remaining closed, we'd like to give the Board an update on those four, as well as the public, in terms of their projected reopening."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. We have a motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Please, vote. I'm sorry, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, you want to be heard?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "That's, okay, Chair."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "Bottom of page 5, Regular Meeting Agenda, **23-0010**, Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda with the added item."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. You have a motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Commissioner Ellis, do you want to be heard?"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Yes, Mr. Chair. I don't know why our first item is a budgetary discussion, and I know we've got two items that may be somewhat related that might be useful to hear before we have the budget discussion. And that would be Item 0021, for Marshal and Sheriff Labat, and potentially Item -- I'll defer to you, Mr. Chair, since you brought this forward, item 1003 may have budgetary implications. We might want to hear those before item 0015 at the top of page 7."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Any objections to moving those up before the budget discussion?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Hearing none, we will take those -- we'll take 1003 first; that'll be short and sweet followed by the -- we'll hear from Fulton County Sheriff Labat. All right. Motion to approve by as -- to approve the Agenda as amended by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Please, vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open to approve as amended. And the motion passes unanimously."

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0011**, Appointment of the Vice Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. I'll entertain a motion."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Mr. Chair, I make a motion to appoint Commissioner Ellis as Vice Chair."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to appoint Commissioner Ellis as Vice Chair, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Any other nominations?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Hearing none, let's vote, please."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Congratulations, sir. Continue, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 6, **23-0012**, Ratification of Minutes. Regular Meeting Minutes, December 7th. Recess Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, December 21st, 2022."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0013**. Presentation of Proclamations and Certificates. The first proclamation is recognizing 'Medical Examiner's Accreditation Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Hall."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. And I'll ask in the interest of time although -- in the interest of time, if you can limit your acceptance speeches to two minutes, we'd greatly appreciate it. Thank you."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Good morning. Come on over. Good morning. Come on in. All right. Well, Dick -- Dick, you're the reason why we have this proclamation, so I'm expecting that you would be over here most definitely. When the County Manager -- well, behind-the-scenes, the County Manager sent us an e-mail telling us about this wonderful accreditation and we've just watched our new medical examiner come in and just -- she's done an excellent job. And so, when I was asked to sponsor this proclamation, I said, absolutely I would. And so, the proclamation reads: WHEREAS accreditation by the National Association of Medical Examiners is an endorsement indicating that the office or system provides an adequate environment for a medical examiner in which to practice his or her profession; and provides reasonable assurances that the office or system well serves its jurisdiction. And WHEREAS, the objective of the National Association of Medical Examiners is to ensure that the application of these standards will aid materially in developing and maintain a high caliber of medical, legal investigation of death for the communities and jurisdictions in which they operate. And WHEREAS, the NAME accreditation program is a peer review system whose goal is to improve office and system performance through objective evaluation and constructive criticism; And WHEREAS, achieving NAME accreditation benefits the entire community, served by providing citizens and visitors with high-caliber forensic and medical, legal death investigations. And WHEREAS, the Fulton County Medical Examiner's Office attained full accreditation according to the accredited standards of the National Association of Medical Examiners on December 14th, 2022, effective through January 4th, 2026. NOW, THEREFORE -- yes, that is -- that is very worthy of -- yes, applause. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton

County Board of Commissioners recognizes the Fulton County Medical Examiner's Office for their commitment to excellence and their efforts to make full accreditation possible, and does hereby proclaim Wednesday, January 4th, 2023, as 'Medical Examiner's Accreditation Appreciation Day in Fulton County, Georgia. Congratulations."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Now, I'll just say a brief word and I'll let Alton to say, thank y'all. I'm really honored to be here with you to see this progress; to do what you've done on a day-to-day basis. Even when we visit, it's a challenge; you do it every day. But then to accomplish this on top of everything else is truly phenomenal; in a world where the intensity of your work is incredible. Your work is scrutinized. The challenges are immense in terms of recruiting, but just your quiet leadership; your team have done a phenomenal job. And Alton, I will give you a chance, too, because you've helped shepherd this along the way, so, please, come up."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Good morning and thank you, Dick. Well, I just want to make one comment. The accreditation is a -- is a big deal for us, but I don't want it to be lost at when we asked Dr. Sullivan to become the medical examiner, it was -- we were two weeks into COVID; we had -- we had lost our accreditation six months before. We had some challenges in getting people to come work in our office. And then she raised her hand and said I'll do it, right? And she came in; we were able to recruit new doctors. We're now fully staffed for the first time in a decade; and she did this -- she did this during COVID; and at a time, quite frankly, where violent crime had produced more volume in the Medical Examiner's Office than we had probably seen in some time. So, really thank you not only for the accreditation, but for everything that you've done to turn this in to one of the finest facilities in the state, if not the country."

DR. KAREN SULLIVAN, FC CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER: "Thank you. Thank you. Good morning. I'd just like to say thank you to Commissioner Hall. Big thanks to Mr. Anderson and Mr. Adams for the support that they have given to our office through our challenges. I'd also like to recognize our Deputy Director, Ms. Marion Green, our Division Manager, Paul Dezamore, and our Executive Assistant Carneshia Bentley. Without these folks' help and hard work, and the hard work of everybody who's still back at the office doing work, none of this would -- would be possible. And I definitely appreciate all of you, and we'll continue to do good work for the county. Thank you."

CLERK GRIER: "The last proclamation is recognizing 'Human Trafficking Awareness Month' sponsored by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Could I get the individuals from Wellspring? But while they're coming down, Chairman if you will indulge me: Any and all law enforcement that are able to join us, as well as the Sheriff, would you, please join us? Human trafficking has been found to be in all 159 counties. Most of us don't know that. First Lady Marty Kemp, that's a passion of hers, Grace as well as others to stop human trafficking. It is an epidemic. I thank the Sheriff and all the law enforcement here that teaches their staff to see the signs of human trafficking. These two individuals that are

standing next to me are phenomenal individuals and I want to say, before I go **into** the proclamation, that Fulton County has taken the lead with the State of Georgia in fighting human trafficking. Other organizations that are trying to actually stop human trafficking look at these two members for their leadership and guidance to help stop it. So today, it is with honor and pride that I give this proclamation on behalf -- this is a Full Board proclamation; all of the Commissioners, as well as the Chairman have signed on. WHEREAS, human trafficking, whether in the form of forced labor, sex trafficking, or other offenses, is a horrible abuse of power and a profoundly immoral crime that threatens the safety, health, and dignity of millions of people worldwide. And WHEREAS, during Human Trafficking Awareness Month, Fulton County reaffirms our commitment to protect and empower survivors of all forms of human trafficking to counter injustice and fortify our commitment to pursue dignity and freedom for all people. And WHEREAS, Fulton County efforts to fight human trafficking are exemplified by the work of numerous county agencies and their employees that are assisting survivors and their families, And WHEREAS, the Board of Supervisors recognizes and appreciates the outstanding work of the region's dedicated not-for-profit organizations that serve survivors and their communities. And WHEREAS, Wellspring Living has launched their 'Welcome Home' campaign and has been at the forefront of this work for the last two decades and provides wraparound services, exceptional standards of care, and trauma informed therapeutic intervention specifically designed for trafficking survivors. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners joins with all Fulton County citizens to support survivors of human trafficking and does hereby proclaim January 2023 as 'Human Trafficking Awareness Month' in Fulton County, Georgia. Please, come forward."

MARY FRANCES BOWLEY, RECIPIENT: "Thank you so much, Commissioner. You have been such a great support as well as all of the Commissioners. It's true; Fulton County is a big deal, because Fulton County has taken the lead to support the efforts to build capacity in Fulton County for more survivors to receive care. And the beauty is that the belief in the individual dignity, the belief, and the need for mental health services. You are doing the things that will change the trajectory of so many lives. Lives like girls who are 12, 13 years old that are tricked into this terrible crime, this terrible situation. Women who've never received an intervention and have been not given access to care are able to see live -- their lives transformed and their children. Christian Murphy and I are here to just say, thank you. We are so grateful for your support. We want to invite you -- January 24th is going to be a big day for the medical examiners and also for Wellspring Living in Fulton County. We're sponsoring an event, an awareness event, at the Central Library from 5:00 to 7:00 on January 24th. We invite all of you to join us. And just remember, there is no limit to what can happen for a person's life when we together as a community come and work together, so that we can see our community transformed by compassionate care. So, thank you, Chairman Pitts and all of you for the work that you've done. We are so gratefully appreciative of it."

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 6, Public Hearings, **23-0014**, Public Comment - Citizens wishing to participate in public comment will be allowed to appear in person or may choose to participate virtually via Zoom videoconferencing or by submitting their comments in writing online by registering on the County website at www.fultoncountytga.gov. Priority to public comment will be given to Fulton County citizens and those individuals representing businesses or organizations located within Fulton County. Speakers will be granted up to two minutes each. The public will not be allowed to yield or donate time to other speakers. The public comment portion of the meeting will not exceed 30 minutes. In the event the 30-minute time limit is reached prior to public comments being completed, public comment will be suspended, and the business portion of the BOC meeting will commence. Public comment will resume at the end of the meeting. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we'll start with the speakers here in Assembly Hall. We have received 12 speaker cards --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 12?"

CLERK GRIER: "--12. Will the first six speakers, please, come down. Malik Hakeem, Jason Frazier, Lucia Frazier, Charmaine Minniefield, Donna Watts-Nunn, and Ravi Windom."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Speakers, when you have 15 seconds left of your two minutes, I'll simply say, 15 seconds and that's your clue to begin to conclude your remarks."

MALIK HAKEEM, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Thank you, Commissioners. Good morning. Happy New Year. Congratulations again to Commissioner Thorne and Commissioner Barrett. My name is Malik Hakeem. I'm with Sadie G. Mays Health and Rehabilitation Center. We are a two hundred and six bed skilled nursing facility here in the county of Fulton. We provide services such as physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech therapy for those indigent residents in this -- in the county that need care. We have been in business for about 75 years. It's a nonprofit organization started by Sadie G. Mays. We have been partnered with Fulton County since 1968. We have been fortunate enough to receive a grant from Fulton County, and that grant has helped us over the years provide different services for the residents of the County. That grant has not been increased in several years. We are here advocating for an increase in that grant. We provide services on a daily basis that have been -- we are in a deficit on a daily basis of the funds that we need, and we are approximately \$1.2 million shortfall. And what we get currently right now for the services that we provide. Our primary source of funding is through Medicaid. With Medicaid, it only provides certain services, but allowing us to have additional funds for the grant will allow us to provide other services for those who cannot afford it themselves. Again, we are Sadie Mays, an organization -- a nonprofit organization in Fulton County providing services for residents of the county, employing residents of the county. Thank you."

JASON FRAZIER, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hello. My name is Jason Frazier from Roswell. The last time I was down here, I detailed 17,000 voter challenges that I had submitted so far. That numbers grown to 25,000. And today, I would like to talk a little more in detail on some of these findings that I have found. The largest category of those are people that are registered more than once. And today I would like to show you five people that were registered twice; each of them. So that's five people; the same first name, last name, date of birth, and residents. Each of them were registered twice, so that's ten unique voter IDs. In the same election, each of these people were given credit for voting, so that's five people, ten registrations, ten votes in the same election. I turned these people in as I suspected they were the same person. The Elections Department confirmed they were the same people and they merged them; so, they admit they are the same people. Where Fulton County failed is they didn't look in to why they had overlapping voting history. You can easily see this just by looking at the voter history file and looking up their voter IDs. It shows they each voted in the same election. You've all taken an oath. It is against the law to vote in the same election twice. Now, I can't tell you if these people voted once, twice, or didn't vote at all; but somebody voted their IDs for them, or they voted themselves. I don't know. It takes an investigation to figure that out. Again, I've got five here. I'd like to -- I've got a copy for each of you and if anybody here cares about election integrity and you want to actually dive into these five, I have more. If you want five more, I can give you five more. If you want ten more, I can give you ten more. If you want a hundred, if you want a thousand -- there are plenty of these. I've turned in 20,000 duplicate registrations to Fulton County, and most of those have been merged. But not all of them yet as I just gave them 7,000 a couple of weeks ago. There are plenty on the rolls. They're adding more every day."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

JASON FRAZIER, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "I hope somebody here believes in integrity -- election integrity and will do something about this. Thank you."

LUCIA FRAZIER, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name is Lucia Frazier, Roswell resident. I just wanted to welcome the new Commissioners; and then I also wanted to address you have a \$1.3 billion budget this year. And as you spend that money, I would love for you to consider these principles: Take a snapshot of the current state of whatever program you're supporting and use metrics that actually matter, so that you can compare it in the future state. And show us through some sort of, you know, summary for the people to see how their money is being spent and if it's working. Fund programs that go after root cause; not just Band-Aids to pad the bleeding. And then, please do not promote anything that reduces personal freedom. Thank you very much."

CHARMAINE MINNIEFIELD, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning and Happy New Year everyone. My name is Charmaine Minniefield, I'm a visual artist. I'm the founder of the Praise House Project. We place the Praise House of site-specific public art

installation in spaces that have erasure of black history. Our first Praise House was placed at Oakland Cemetery in honor of the 879 unmarked graves there. Our next Praise House is funded through a grant through the National Diamond for the Arts Our Town grant and will sit at Southview Cemetery in the South Atlanta community to honor the victims of the 1906 race massacre; and to lift up the rich history of South Atlanta. We are grateful for the support of Fulton County through matching funds. Our partners include the City of Atlanta, DeKalb County, and Fulton County as our municipal partners. We are here today to advocate for the arts in community to uplift history and narratives, as well as cultural identity in those communities; to sustain communities by creating opportunities for the creative entrepreneurs of those communities; the network that exists and the ecosystem of the arts in our metro area has maintained our visibility worldwide in this county. One of our main exports is art. Out of this area, out of this region, and it is one of our main employers. Many of our Commissioners have arts backgrounds, I've heard, and I want to celebrate the investment that Fulton County has made in the arts; and encourage an increase in that investment as much as we possibly can. Thank you so much. Happy New Year, everyone."

DONNA WATTS-NUNN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning and Happy New Year. I'm Donna Watts Nunn, and I'm the new Managing Director at the Hammonds House Museum. As the new Managing Director, I am thrilled to say that every piece of past the challenges of 2022, we had to make decisions as to how to reopen, when to reopen, what our hours will be; whether or not we would have mask mandates: to mask or not to mask; timed admissions. We really had to redo our operations. Once we got through that, we really had a pretty good season. And we were able to produce three exhibitions which showcased ten artists, and each exhibition was eight to ten weeks long. We hosted more than 99 public programs for the residents of Fulton County, we welcomed more than 5,500 patrons through our doors, and hired three part-time teammates to increase our capacity so we can go ahead and add more services to the community. I've worked at the Hammonds House for seven and half years; and what I know for sure is that we would have had an entirely different post-COVID recovery experience had we not been a part of the Legacy Program, so I thank you. I thank you and I thank you. I want to applaud you so very much for coming to a meeting of the minds in creating that program and for letting us participate in it. It has allowed us to breathe during 2022 as opposed to holding our breath. We're now able to plan and get ready for this year because we are 35 years old this year, and we would be celebrating our 35th anniversary in which we will begin planning invitations, so we're putting your chief of staff on that list. I want to say thank you again and to say that we are working very hard to increase our reach into the community and we're striving to be excellence as always and, of course, we appreciate your support -- continued support, and just have a good day." Thank you.

RAVI WINDOM, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name is Ravi Windom, and I am the education -- education of programs consultant at Hammonds House Museum. It is my honor to stand before you in this New Year and a day after my 40th birthday to speak to the wonderful effects of funding that we've received from Fulton County. With

your generous support and funding, we have been able to create, provide, and sustain programs related to the history of the Hammonds House Museum, our permanent collection, which is very important, as well as many programs that we have been able to do with our exhibitions that we have. We've been able to present wonderful programs and educational tours as well with the Hammonds House Museum and we've been able to provide this for all ages, races, and creeds. Just a few weeks ago at our closing of our artist, Tracy Morell's exhibition, which I saw some of you at -- thank you so much for attending -- I watched two complete strangers interact with each other. It was an energetic five-year-old, and she was speaking to a soon-to-be actual grandmother, and they instantly became BFFs just sitting there coloring with each other in our historic permanent collection green room. And after just kind of watching that interaction, I knew that was validation of the work that we are doing and constantly creating within Hammonds House Museum. So, with that, we invite you, as Donna said, to definitely come and celebrate our 35th anniversary and we hope that you continue to --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen Seconds."

RAVI WINDOM, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- we appreciate your continued support with the Hammonds House Museum. Thank you."

CLERK GRIER: Next six speakers, please come down: AR Cooper, Dr. Alon Holliday, Leatrice Ellzy, Michele Taylor-Willis, Robert Thompson, and Lydia Kimbrough.

DR. ALON HOLLIDAY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "How are you doing? Good morning. My name is Dr. Alon Holliday. I have a company called Magnanimous Worldwide. We provide workforce development, music entertainment, but also mentoring. Today, you were able to hear Jaala sing. She's one of my artists that I've brought here -- I've brought her to a couple of events here in Fulton County. I'm also a resident here in Fulton County, very proud of it. I want to step up here and just say thank you so much for your continued support in the arts. It's been huge. We definitely need you to continue to push and put money into the arts. One of the things, that I focus primarily on is my passion is the youth, young at-risk African American males. So, one of the things I love is that they love music. And one of the things that we utilize is the arts. So, primarily not just being in front of the mic, but sometimes just behind the mic; the engineering, the directing, just getting an opportunity to be exposed to different people like yourselves, Commissioners, who made and done well themselves important. So, I just ask that you continue to do it, pour money into the arts. Atlanta's the hub; Fulton County's the hub right now. It's done phenomenal things, so we just continue to ask for more support there. Thank you."

LEATRICE ELLZY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. Today was a good day to be at Fulton County. I am Leatrice Ellzy. I'm a resident of South Fulton, and the Senior Director of Programing at the Apollo Theater. Prior to that, I was the Executive Director of Hammonds House Museum, and before that, I was the National Black Arts Festival's artistic director. I began my arts career in what seems like a lifetime ago at the Woodruff

Arts Center. So, I'm sharing all of that with you because I need you to understand that I don't take arts and culture nor its impact lightly. I'm clear about the transformative power of the work I'm engaged in and why its existence is necessary. It is ministry, meditation, and purpose. I'm glad that Fulton County doesn't take the arts lightly either. You have been the largest funder of arts and culture in our state for over four decades, and certainly the most significant funding for the Hammonds House Museum and the National Black Arts Festival in the history of both of these organizations who turn 35 this year. My voice is but one of many who will thank you for your ongoing commitment to these legacy institutions that were gathered by this Body and started in 1988 in partnership with Fulton County. In a recent conversation with writer and Macarthur Award fellow, Tamahasi Coates. He said something that was profound in its simplicity. He said that black led institutions always have to punch above their weight. Because of the legacy of systemic discrimination, black colleges, universities, hospitals, and cultural organizations have been under resourced since their inception and forced to do more with less. However, we do appreciate the additional funding that you have allocated for Hammonds House Museum; it was game changing. It enabled the organization the space to develop the capacity building plan which moved the needle that much closer to its goals and objectives, because sometimes it is the little things that are profound in their simplicity. It's the extra funding that expands capacity and makes space for the work."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

LEATRICE ELLZY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "I ask that you continue funding Hammonds House Museum and National Black Arts Festival at the current levels; because both organizations have served the Fulton County Community well have been a gateway to the world on your behalf. Thank you for your service and thank you for your time."

MICHELE TAYLOR-WILLIS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hi. I'm Michelle Taylor-Willis. This is Sheila Metz, and we're representing the -- all of North -- all of Fulton County, but really, the arts community in South Fulton County, and I'm just am here to ask for money, basically. What we know is that, first of all, let me champion the efforts of Commissioner Rahman, Commissioner Hall, and Commissioner Arrington who have been very -- it's funny, I'm in front of the cameras all the time, and I'm nervous talking to y'all. I don't know why that is. But we know that it takes an intentional effort in the arts to be a prestigious community. If you take the Bellevues of the world, the Portlands, the New York City's; all of them have a very intentional focus on the arts. And in South Fulton, we haven't traditionally had that. Thanks to David Manuel, who in a short tenure has done a really great job of putting Fulton County as the center of that; but in order for us to continue that trajectory, we need more money specifically dedicated to the kids, the citizens, the residents of South Fulton County which, as you know, I'd like to call soul food. I think we're excited about 2023, and I think that we're excited about the transition that has been made. We can see the difference. I can see the differences. As an owner of a media company, arts is my thing, and I know that we did not have that focus five years ago, and we have it now, but the only way we can make sure that we

champion our children and we set them up for prestige in 20 years is if we give them the funding they need so that we can have arts programs, we can have arts communities, and we can truly be the heart of art. Fulton County and Atlanta right now is deemed the heart, but we can't continue that without South Fulton County, and South Fulton County really is --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

MICHELE TAYLOR-WILLIS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- where it is at. So, if you would, please give us some of that budget, so that we can take care of the kids. All right, thank you."

ROBERT THOMPSON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name is Robert Thompson. I am a citizen of Fulton County and a small businessman. I want to talk about the intersection of arts and culture and business. My company would not be possible without the support of the Hammonds House Museum and the funding that you give them. In 2017, we received a grant from the Beltline partnership and the Hammonds House Museum, it was the fifth physical sponsor, and they helped launch my company. And now it helped us go through the pandemic. As you know, the hospitality and tourism business took a severe hit, but because we had the Hammonds House to lean on, we were able to survive, and will be part of the resurgence of the hospitality and tourism business in Atlanta. I also am a member of the community and we -- excuse me -- believe in a process called asset-based community development. And the West End part of Atlanta is very rich in cultural sites; the Hammonds House, West End Performing Arts Center at the libraries, and they bring in tourism and tourism dollars to a community that's in desperate need of those dollars. And now that with the help of the facilities that are already there, they help the business stay afloat, and we hope that you will continue that funding, so that these businesses --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

ROBERT THOMPSON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- tourism is a business and the support that the county gives it helps those businesses contribute to the economic development of the community. Thank you for your support."

LYDIA KIMBROUGH, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hello, I'm Lydia Kimbrough. I would like to welcome the new Commissioners. As a new staff member at the Hammonds House, I want to thank you for supporting the museum. After I returned to Atlanta during COVID due to the closure of my own gallery, the Hammonds House was there to support me and gave me a chance to restart my career. The funding that you provide for the Hammonds House and all our agencies is critical to making Metro Atlanta a place of people and fun and people my age can create a future with that. So, I would like to thank you very, very much for your support, and we hope to see you at some of our events."

CLERK GRIER: "Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we have eight speakers on Zoom and three e-mailed in comments."

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

BEN HOWARD, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Greetings one and all. Ben Howard, Senior Advocate, Public Policy Analyst. Thank you for causing the involvement of the County Auditor and the County Attorneys in the matter of Council on Aging Representation on the Commission on Elder Affairs. Their involvement helps to keep the situation in-house. As some of you may have diagnosed by now, the quote, 'elephant in the room', unquote is how to keep Senior Advocate, Ben Howard, from becoming a member of the Fulton County Commission on Elder Affairs. During the course of this year, I would cause to be amassed via open records requests and other media a compilation of documents that before the Commission on Elder Affairs takes another vacation in December, it would not take a rocket scientist nor a Perry Mason to see clearly what is now only opaque. The episodic barriers which have been preventing Ben Howard's full enjoyment of civic engagement rights, guaranteed through the citizens of his age group by denying him membership on the Commission on Elder Affairs. Stay tuned."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The next person to speak is Susan Ross."

SUSAN ROSS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good afternoon. This is Susan Ross and I'm a resident of Fulton County and a resident in the Mighty 6th District. I'm speaking on behalf of -- thank you for your support of the arts over the last 40 years. I think that Fulton County has been a tremendous benefit to the entire state and metro area. We particularly like to thank you for the leadership of David Manuel with the Fulton County Arts Commission, and for your establishment of the legacy programs for Hammonds House and National Black Arts Festival; both of which are institutions created in a public-private partnership with the county and which continue to serve the county today. In particular, I'm advocating on behalf of Hammonds House to thank you for the plan which has enabled us to develop into a full-service institution again. And congratulations to the Commissioners who were inaugurated today and thank you all for your service."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The next person to speak is Masud Olufani."

MASUD OLUFANI, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. Good morning. I just wanted to -- my name is Masud Olufani. I am a multidisciplinary art (inaudible) Georgia. I'm really happy to have the opportunity to celebrate the work that Fulton County has done in supporting of the arts; the continued ongoing investment in places like Hammonds House, which is so critical, has been invaluable for members and students at Morehouse College back in the 90s when I was -- I was an art student, and having the opportunity to go to Hammonds House and view the incredible artwork on the wall was the ongoing source of inspiration to me. And I just want to acknowledge and celebrate the commitment that you made to that institution to maintain it as a critical part of the

arts ecosystem, and just to celebrate that and to encourage you to continue to support the institution. Because as it stands it's the only institution in the city of Atlanta that focuses on the visual arts contribution of the African Diaspora. And we need to keep that going as well as the great institutions in every state in the country, and I look forward to the ongoing support of the programs that will come out as a result, so thank you so much. Congratulations to all of you and Happy New Year. Thank you."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The next person to speak is W. Imara Canady."

W. IMARA CANADY, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners. It is so good to be with you again, and particularly as this New Year as come together to celebrate the phenomenal contributions of Fulton County from every corner and corridor of the county around art and culture. I serve as the Chair of the Hammonds House Museum, as well as I serve on the boards of many other arts and cultural organizations all across the county. And I just simply come to say thank you for all that you've done and what we know you will continue to do. As you know, when you fund art and culture, you also fund economic development all across the county. You've helped to create thriving communities all across the county. You enhance the quality of life all across the county and you've helped to support an entity that addresses issues around mental health, youth violence, and crime. So, it's not just about an opportunity to bring people together for entertainment, but you've really touched on so many critical issues that I know that you are charged to deal with each and every day. And so, we in the arts community, whether we are business supporters that support the arts, individuals that support the arts, artist that have made a commitment to do their craft in Fulton County, or arts organizations, we say thank you. And specifically on behalf of the Hammonds House Museum, the National Black Arts Festival, and I would also say The John's Creek Arts Center, which are all now legacy organizations, we want to say thank you for creating that legacy program. Commissioners Barrett and Thorne, we welcome you to the Fulton County Family. And as arts supporters and business owners and artists, we welcome your support as you join this family and this community that is thriving from every corridor because of the support of Fulton County for the arts. Thank you. Happy New Year, and we look forward to seeing you and supporting you. Have a blessed day."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The next person to speak is Radhika Tulpule."

RADHIKA TULPULE, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hi. Good morning. Thank you for your time. And first, congratulations, on any certification. It is huge, and I congratulate you, you all again, for the tremendous effort that went into it. Today, I'm here to request that Fulton County Administrators contracted to Lifeline, that the Fulton County look into it, that they are operated efficiently and openly; and ensure that the public funds are used appropriately. My specifically asks are three: One, the first one being an independent audit of Fulton County Animal Shelters and have an independent audit and release the audit's findings within 60 days. The second is the FCAS have live stream cameras installed at the shelter, provide this to the public, and it should be pretty easy for our

Fulton County animal shelter to have a public -- to have a live stream camera installed within the shelters, too. And third, is review of Fulton County animal control contract and enter a penalty for nonperformance and publish quarterly (inaudible). From what I am told that there is nothing -- there's no audits of animal control being performed at any given time; there is no record of what's happening, and there is nothing to trace how the shelters are operating. So, if an audit is performed and included in the recommendations for a penalty for nonperformance, and the list is published, the shelter will operate in an efficient manner, making wise use of taxpayers' money. My last two request is to make the shelter operations open. Currently, the animal shelter operations are --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

RADHIKA TULPULE, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- are shrouded in secrecy and posted several times from the lifeline, and whenever I've requested that to give me the rescue group that they have been taken to, I have never been given any information nor have I been given any lead. Thank you."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The next person to speak is Robbie Canban."

ROBBIE CANBAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Greetings. I'm calling about Fulton County Animal Services as well, not only the shelter but the actual operation. As you know, on the December 7th meeting, Fulton County Commissioners referenced six whistleblower statements. You were all advised by the CEO of Lifeline, our vendor, contractual vendor for animal control, that those whistleblower statements were old. That is simply erroneous and false. Four of those whistleblower statements are from 2022. One person still works at the facility. Two were wrongfully terminated for coming forward with dangerous conditions. One worked there for three years. The other two, which if any of you had done the least amount of due diligence, we would have been happy to have this communication. We are sickened, literally sickened of what is happening, not only in our facility, but in the actual animal control operation, the field services. And you are all aware of it. All of you. All of you are aware of it. We went from 3.6 million to one -- to another million to a vendor that is Lifeline that has never had an audit. Lifeline is claiming no-kill marketing. They are not operating a no-kill model. They are using programs housed that other shelters have removed due to the same horrific conditions that are happening to our animals in communities in Fulton County. We need an independent audit. Our animals are dying on the sides of the roads, they are dying in our shelter; they are being mauled. This has all been documented in other shelters. You have seen unsanitary conditions over and over and over in retaliation and now our shelter isn't picking up animals and have influenza as a result of the horrific --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

ROBBIE CANBAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- unsanitary conditions that you are all allowing. Our employees are under the gun. You all are aware. Please, we need an independent audit and a reform task force now."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The last to speak is Lydia Meredith."

LYDIA MEREDITH, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. Can you hear me?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

LYDIA MEREDITH, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Happy New Year, Commissioners, and thank you. To clarify, first of all, my greeting to Commissioner Hall is not intended to implicate her office as responsible for the issues presented to this Board. I greet, Commissioner Hall, out of respect for her leadership in the district where I live and because the office is always responsive and has done outstanding work for the citizens of this county. Adding the 13 percent ceiling to the agenda on Wednesday, January 18th is being led by Commissioner Hall, even though this is a District, countywide, and statewide issue. The issues I've read to the Board of Commissioners are issues that affect every District. Commissioner Hall stands out as a beacon of hope for poor children, youth, and families residing in all Districts. Her leadership continues to go beyond the call of duty, on this matter and other matters affecting Fulton County citizens. It grieves me that after decades, this issue is still a countywide and district statewide problem. I advocate for every poor child in the county and state and the DCFS staff tasked to serve these poor children. I have appeared before the County Board several times requesting an increase in the 13 percent ceiling so that we can more adequately and fairly compensate DCFS staff overseeing these children. I implore you to imagine what it's like for these children to live in poverty, and then imagine their plight being left in the care of overwhelmed, overworked, and underpaid DCFS staff workers without even a thank you or acknowledgment from this Board especially, since the local news televised coverage of the DCFS staff walkout --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

LYDIA MEREDITH, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- that would have been forwarded -- have been forwarded to the Board so this matter becomes an Agenda item recognized as urgent and child safety as we know is -- and to protect the atmosphere where they are safe is an urgent matter in the community. Inaction and delayed action is -- it will cause harm and death. Thank you so much for your consideration. Happy New Year."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "And that is the last of the Zoom public comments."

CLERK GRIER: "Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, the three e-mailed in comments were also Zoom speakers, so no further speakers."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Thank you. Now, Commissioners, I will be polling you to first, to make a decision on how we're going to continue to receive comments from the public whether in-house, Zoom, and the e-mails, because I've gotten comments back from you that we need to revise that. So, I'll be talking with you to get a consensus on how we should continue to hear from the public. Continue, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: On page 8, the items that were moved up at the beginning of the meeting, Commissioners Item **22-1003**, Discussion, Magistrate Court Clerk and staff positions sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Just a quick update on that: I had said that I would meet with Magistrate Judge Kirk and Ms. Tina Robison, which I did in my office, and I'm not sure if we made any progress, but we've done some research. And I, along with Alton Adams -- Mr. Alton Adams and the County Attorney met with them. The County Attorney is going to have a subsequent meeting with the two of them to try to come to some agreement, but I've been doing some research myself, and what it appears to me, what is working nationally and even right here in the metropolitan area, and the classic example would be how they handle that situation in Gwinnett County, is their sum consolidated effort. So, I just ask you. Mr. Adams, would you sort of summarize quickly what our next steps are, because it's my intent to have legislation before us regarding this matter at our January 18th meeting. Mr. Adams?"

ALTON ADAMS. COO, FC PSS: "Yes, sir. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and County Attorney Soo Jo can weigh in because she was there at the meeting as well. In terms of next steps, I think there are three next steps: One is specifically, as it pertains to the existing open positions in the Magistrate Court, they have six or seven open positions that have been funded by ORCA, but have not been filled, that we believe can help fill some of the gap in terms of support that Judge Kirk had asked for. I don't think she was aware at the time that those positions have been extended to September of 2024. Therefore, taking some of the pressure off of her being able to recruit and keep those resources. So that's the first thing that we can do immediately that doesn't require any additional action or funding. The second thing that you requested is that the County Attorney and I take a look at the Gwinnett model where there, in fact, has been a very successful consolidation of the administrative functions and so on that appear to be working very well and come back to you with an analysis, and to come back to you and the Board with a recommendation analysis of how that could potentially work and what would be needed, if you wanted to do some or all of that here at Fulton County. And then the third thing was that, as a result of that meeting, Judge Kirk provided a few days ago, a very detailed list of the resources that she required. Some of those are a bit redundant with the resources we already have and provide, but we haven't had an opportunity to look in detail and be able to see how we might meet that need. So, I think, in terms of summary, the next steps are for me and the County Attorney to work on specifically what the Gwinnett model might look like, or something like that. It's a

consolidated model, and as you know, that's something that's been recommended over the last few years by a number of organizations that we've had -- came in and looked at our justice system. And secondly, to work very quickly to make sure that we help Judge Kirk get the resources that already been funded and approved as part of the ORCA program."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Mr. Adams. Madam County Attorney, do you want to add anything."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Yes, Chairman Pitts. I just wanted to add that Clerk Robinson and Chief Judge Kirk and I anticipate meeting next week and hope to identify some facts that will assist Mr. Adams in his efforts, and we'll report back to the Board."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. I'd like to have to legislation ready for our January 18th meeting. All right, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman then followed by Commissioner Ellis."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. Is the Gwinnett model considered the national model, Alton? Is that -- I just want to be clear when you mentioned the Gwinnett -- are they following the national model that most of the similarly suited are doing? Is that --"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Commissioner, that's the trend in terms of where our organizations are moving. It's also very consistent with recommendations that we've had from Accenture and others who have come in and looked at our system. That's our resources; for example, IT and HR and some of those others are just spread across the system, so that none of our court systems have the critical mass really to be able to provide the support that we should have. And so, to your question, Gwinnett appears to have taken a big step in embracing that model. They're others around the country, but if you said what -- what's the trend now in terms of large forward-looking counties that have a similar skill that we do, they are all, in fact, looking at consolidation rather than dispersing the resources."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay. Chairman, I want to applaud your leadership in this, in trying to get this resolved. I just want to go on record saying I have had a conversation with both individuals. I will ask both individuals to work in a spirit of cooperating to get this resolved. I understand this has been an ongoing issue. I am -- I would be remiss if I didn't say I was upset about how this came to be. But I know at the end of the day, sausage tastes good. We don't like the way that sausage is made and what it looks like; but at the end of the day, it's very tasty. I have a distaste for what happened, but I applaud the leadership here with Alton, the County Manager's office, and the Chairman, and I look forward to a resolve. Because in both of y'all's capacity, you all are revered in the community, you both are. And I think this is something, maybe the lack of communication. I'm not sure what happened, because I wasn't there. But moving forward, please always come to the elected officials and let us know what's

going on. We're here to serve and help and make sure that the Fulton County citizens are the ones that don't end up being the casualty, but that we're using their tax dollars prudently to make sure they're getting every bit of it. So, thank you, Chairman, for your leadership on this."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So, as an attorney, I actually used both of these offices on a day-to-day basis. So, I think that we -- you know, we got where we are because we -- because of consolidation. That's what got us where we are right now. So, I think both of these individuals are in charge of their own shops, and they should be empowered to do whatever they need to do in their own shop. And they will be held accountable by the residents of Fulton County. I think consolidation would be good, but I think we've seen an eight-year track record that these two people are not able to work well together. And so, they need to be empowered to run their own shops and we need to move forward, and, you know, let the chips fall where they may. I don't understand how -- I don't understand the talk of consolidation in this Gwinnett model, so I'd love to hear more about it because we're already got consolidation. That's what led us to where we are now, because we consolidated. And so, I have no faith that more consolidation between these two offices and these two people will be productive or efficient. And so, I think they need to have a clean cut, and each go their way. You go over there -- one is in -- you walk in on the first floor; the Superior Court Clerk's office is right there. You go down the stairs to TG100, and that's the Magistrate Court. They're already divided. They were originally divided, we put them together; it hasn't worked well. There's been backlog, and they need to be separated, as far as I'm concerned. Now, you know, I'm most certainly open to hearing what other options are available. But as far as those two people continuing to work together, if anybody is proposing that, they are not thinking wisely. Those two people have proven that they cannot work well together, period."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "I just want to echo some of the concerns that Commissioner Arrington raised. And I think if you're going to, not knowing exactly kind of what the Gwinnett model is, I think that certainly it would appear, from based upon everywhere else we've looked at, that a consolidation should work. But if whatever design we have can't work, and it's not working because of -- why is it not working? Is it -- are they -- is it not working because there's personality conflicts? Is it not working because there aren't any inherent accountability measures built into the system for accountability back from the administrative functions to the magistrate judge and the other judges? So, I think for us to move forward like Commissioner Arrington had suggested for me in something that's consolidated, those two things have to be addressed and both parties need to demonstrate how they're going to -- how they're going to make this work. I mean, I'm not really quite sure why it broke down in the first place since this is what, you know, we were requested to do. But nonetheless it occurred. So, I think as you present this, those to me, those two questions have to be answered, right? You know, what is the

commitment of the two parties to the model? What are the accountability measures that are going to be in place to ensure that, you know, one party is accountable to the other? And that the folks that are, quote unquote, you know, designated for those roles are actually doing the work. I mean, can we -- can we look at it in terms of just specific job tasks, performance measures whatever it is. That's the stuff that I've -- that I've got to understand in terms of, you know, moving forward with this. But, I mean, at the end of the day to me does not seem -- while there might be some element of resourcing here, this -- well, it seems to be less of resourcing issue and more of a structural issue. And it just sort of needs to be put to rest. I mean, we can't continue to have, you know, parties, you know, engaging in litigation and mediation and that sort of stuff. That needs to kind of come to a close."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I'm probably going to ask this a few times during today's meeting as the newbie. But, Mr. Adams, if you could maybe give a little background on this issue. I'm sort of picking up what's going on from the conversation, but I'd love to really have a better understanding of what the problem is."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "I will -- well, how much time do you have? If I can, though, it's a pretty complex and so it's hard to -- I'll try to break it down as simply as I can. But I'm happy to spend more time, if you'd like, giving you more background. The magistrate -- the clerk function and administrative function for Magistrate Court was never in Magistrate Court in our county. It was part of our state court function. State court provided the support, the clerk support for magistrate -- administrative support for Magistrate Court. Six or seven years ago, Judge Kirk requested that it be moved to Superior Court. It was moved at that time, at her request. She asked the clerk to take that on as part of the responsibility, because she wanted an elected clerk to take on that responsibility. Subsequent to that, Judge Kirk has said she's changed her mind, right, her words; and would like to take that back. But it's never been in Magistrate Court, right? Like I said, it's never been there. So, what it requires is the creation of a separate structure within Magistrate Court that you don't have a model for. Nobody seems to -- if you look around the state, there is no superstructure in Magistrate Court that mirrors what you have in Superior Court or State Court. So, it's a new thing. And the funding and the process and everything else is not in consequential; it's a couple million dollars a year ongoing, if it actually works. And so, the question about -- and when Commissioner Arrington says it was a result of consolidation, it really was moving it from State Court to Superior Court, but it was never in my district court. So, we're talking about setting up a stand-alone function in Magistrate Court which I said is not necessarily a model that we see anywhere else certainly in the state, if not the country. And not saying that we shouldn't have that, right? I'm not saying -- but it has some implications. However, in terms of being able to have a -- here again, critical mass support for the various functions. The way we do it today in terms of the way we're spread out in terms of these administrative functions, not necessarily clerk, but administration functions, is inherently inefficient and it doesn't allow us to provide the

highest level of resources and support across the various functions in the court system. And that's what's been found over and over again. And so, this is less about a structural issue. It's even less about a funding issue, and it has more to do with the fact that our clerk and our Magistrate Court judge have differences of opinion about how things should be run. And that's just simply and is probably as diplomatic as I can put it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Now, we're not going to debate this today. This is an update today with Judge Kirk. Okay, Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. Okay, so my first question is, what model are they currently operating under?"

ALTON ADAMS. COO, FC PSS: "The current model is that the Clerk of Superior and Magistrate Court, Tina Robinson, provides clerk services to Magistrate Court and to Superior Court. That's the model. And then the state -- our state court has their own clerk as does the -- as does the juvenile court."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "And how is that different from the Gwinnett model? Because I'm not familiar with the Gwinnett model at all."

ALTON ADAMS. COO, FC PSS: "Gwinnett has one clerk that provides support to all of those -- to everything except Juvenile Court. I think they're looking at it. So, they have one clerk that provides -- so they have a -- they have a clerk of superior, state, and magistrate court providing clerk services across -- across those various courts. And I do believe, Commissioner Hall that they also have an administrative function that provides support across those as well."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay. So have both parties agreed to move toward the Gwinnett model since there was a meeting?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No. The follow-up meeting as the County Attorney said a follow-up meeting is scheduled for next week with the County Attorney and the two of them in a private meeting. I won't even be involved in; just the two of them to try to work something out. If we can't work something out, I'll be bringing some options back including a full explanation of how a consolidated function could -- I want to say, could work."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Could work. Okay, but what happens if both parties decide that that's not what they want? It's going to come down to a vote of this Board?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's correct."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Speaker Pelosi, count to four."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay. Okay. Well, that answers all my questions. Thank you."

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

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. I won't belabor the point, but I think, out a sense of fairness, we do have two new Commissioners, Commissioner -- the Commissioner did ask how did we get here? And since we do have Judge Kirk here, I would ask an abbreviated, if we could, you know, if you could just give an abbreviation of what -- what you are asking for or what's working or not working, so the new Commissioners can be brought up to date."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner -- just a minute, Judge Kirk. Just a minute. All due respect, Commissioner. I understand what you're saying, but this is just an update today, and I would ask Judge Kirk that you take the time to meet with the two new Commissioners, from your perspective."

JUDGE KIRK: "That was going to be my request, but what you're hearing is incorrect. I want to put it on record. I want to put it on record, Chairman Pitts, that what you are hearing from the individual that has not been to my shop to figure out --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Judge Kirk. Judge Kirk."

JUDGE KIRK: "To figure out what's going on, does not know."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Judge Kirk, please."

JUDGE KIRK: "We are operating under the Gwinnett model now and I apologize, Chairman, but this is unfair."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Judge Kirk, please. I would ask that you two schedule time to meet with Judge Kirk, and then at the same time though meet with Ms. Robinson, the Clerk."

JUDGE KIRK: "I appreciate that. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, I'm sorry."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "That's okay. That's okay, Chairman. At the end of the day, I don't have a dog in this fight, but I just want -- I want transparency; I want the new Commissioners to be afforded the opportunity to know what's going on. This is convoluted, I will say that. And you will not come to any understanding over a few minutes of having a conversation with the executive staff. And so, that's why I wanted to make sure that those -- that our stakeholder who's ultimately are the citizens of Fulton

County. That they know what's going on, our new Commissioners are brought up to speed. Thank you, Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Commissioner. All right, next item."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 8, under Justice and Safety, **23-0021**, Sheriff. Discussion: Fulton County Sheriff Labat, Fiscal Year 2023 proposed budget."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "All right, here we go. Good morning. I promise you I will be a little more swift than I was the last three times as well as I promise you, Mr. Chair, I won't be at the other 91 meetings this year. However, I do want to start by saying welcome to our new Commissioners. Happy New Year to each of you and really want to express a debt of gratitude to each of you for the calls, the texts, the e-mails concerning the loss of our Deputy Thomas -- tragic loss of Deputy Thomas. And to that end, I start with three quick stories; if I may and that will lead into a question asked by Commissioner Ellis, and then I'll be continue to move pretty swiftly. One, the question was asked about our tactical teams, our support teams, our team's that -- how many and, et cetera, on each team, what do they do, what does it look like, and how do we support that, and what does that mean as we get ready to move forward? Story number one: Each of you have in your e-mails a horrific story of a young lady that threw some chemical on a young lady in New York, and then decided she was coming to South Fulton County to hide. It was my SWAT team and Scorpion Unit that went in and held her accountable. A couple of weeks ago, our SWAT team again, in conjunction with the FBI, went out and apprehended an individual that was wanted out of New York for posing as an FBI agent and as well, going in and robbing people out of New York, decided South Fulton was the place he wanted to hide; again, not working. And as recently as this weekend, while a lot of us were enjoying the New Year, we just recognize the young ladies for their human trafficking efforts. One of the things that we were very intentional about doing was adding to the force or creating that force multiplying for human trafficking, and just last week, we had a young lady that was 20 years old that was arrested by East Point. As it turns out, she was not 20, she was 15. She was being human trafficked, and we were able to get her back to her parents, and this is what the Fulton County Sheriff's Office and these specialized units continue to do. I'd be remiss with our new Commissioners not to skim over the fact that we have, as the Sheriff's office and me specifically, have three constitutional responsibilities. And they're not just responsibilities and duties, they're not niceties, they are duties. Number one, being the chief law enforcement in Fulton County period. Full stop. And that includes all the resources and all of the wherewithal that goes with that. What I did afford each Commissioner in that collaborative space that we were discussing a few moments ago, is each new Commissioner got a hold or has the midterm or midyear review that you all were privy to, the Oscar award-winning piece that the Chairman referred to. Number two, running the jail, and number three, protecting the courts. The interesting piece here is what you all have been used to minus our two new Commissioners, for years is a

sheriff's office in focus on the latter two and did not focus on being in our community as a whole. And those are the things that we have been able to do. So, Commissioner Ellis asked specifically about the Scorpion Unit, the Motors Unit. Those specialized operations and one of the things I wanted to do certainly being respectful, is being able to answer our public and give people an understanding of what we do. So, our Scorpion Unit, for instance, and each of you have the slide presentation. Again, it's shorter than normal, but you'll see right here on the Scorpion Unit: There's 14 members that have affected 339 arrest warrants, 402 warrants, and 155 persons located, 75 guns seized. But in effect, they've also done jail operations. So, what you'll see across-the-board, and I'll go back down to the Motors Units now, with 188 citations/slash warnings, right? I don't believe everybody should get a ticket just because, so we focus on warnings where they are applicable. And those six individuals -- that's how many people we have on our Motors Units, have done a little over 3,000 hours of special details. Our K-9 Unit, which is one of the best in the country, actually services each of you every day and you probably don't even know it. We sweep our government center every day that you -- prior to you coming in, and then you see the details there. Now, what's importing here is we're able to drop those units into the jail. So specifically, for instance, we have one gentleman sergeant on the Motors Unit who goes into the jail every Tuesday and Thursday and focuses on mental health. He, along with each person from each one of those specialized teams. But look, if you'll move on that first slide, if you look to jail operations, you'll look where on average; our traffic team goes in and does ten shakedowns. These are things that we're not able to do without these units. So, in and of themselves, you'll see, not just the justification, but them being good partners, we want to make sure we had that conversation. Commissioner Ellis, I wanted to make sure you respectfully -- you asked the question, we want to make sure you get the answers to it. Now, in the spirit of collaboration, which is where we want to live and taking into consideration some of the comments we had previously, with respect to our salaries, with respect to triple time, with respect to 480 versus 240 and what that looks like. So again, and I will run the risk of repeating this for our new Commissioners, because when I said it the first time, some of our Commissioners didn't even know we did this; so to our new Commissioners and other Commissioners have heard this ad nauseum: When we hire someone new, a deputy or a detention officer, we require them to volunteer and give 480 hours, almost half a year of service time, before they can actually make overtime. It is absolutely unheard of for civilians or in our case, we call them professional staff, we require 240. So now in that spirit, one of the things that we wanted to talk about really quickly, if you look at the next page, is we talked about the salaries and really how do we become competitive and the ask, and I want to make sure each of you had it as a reminder, the ask for detention officers was 63,000; 70,000 for Deputy Sheriff; but we thought in terms of -- and again, please, please know that part of our conversation was germane to what our County Manager had to offer doing the budget discussion, so this doesn't preempt anything, but these numbers in this conversation is based on our working together to try and figure out how we take monies at whether it be the \$7 million that Commissioner Hall outlined in terms of outsourcing, what that looks like, where it can be spent. And so, part of that was how do we, instead of doing 40 percent increase, how to, based on the comments between Commissioner

Ellis and Arrington, how do we get a piece of this pie, continue to encourage our employees and continue to move forward. So that is the chart there with -- for your consideration there. So, at this point, the plan would be to have you have the facts in your hand as you continue to work with or as the administration continues to do the work to figure out how we -- how we get there. So, the next page, the comp time. I mentioned the 480 and 240 in lieu -- in lieu of payment. One of the things there is we're working with Mr. Hermon and his team, projection overtime there, projected overtime will be \$5 million there. And then the last page, in terms of triple overtime, there are a couple of things that we actually learned as we took a step back with respect to that. Part of that and that \$15 million looks like a large number, but part of that is already baked in. If in using the same methodology that Mr. Hermon and his team used, if we're already paying a projected \$5.2 million in overtime to achieve triple time, we would simply double that, right? Because we pay at time and a half. And then, of course, Mr. Hermon and his team can correct any of the math as we get ready to move forward. But part of that is already baked in. So, if you take the part that's baked in, there is an assumption -- and I say assumption -- the proposed budget, if you recall, reduced our budget from 129, a hundred and 29 million to a hundred and 24 million, and that was the vacancies there, the conversations we had with -- I had specifically with our County Manager would replace that, all right? And then there's some opportunity baked into the budget, and he will -- he can certainly -- again, this is kind of out of order, right? And I certainly appreciate the opportunity to move this conversation along. But as he gets ready to go through his budget presentation, there's some additional funding that will help us if we tweak this as you -- the give and take piece -- this give-and-take side over here, between Commissioner Ellis and Commissioner Arrington had that conversation just two weeks ago. We can actually accomplish four of the six things that we wanted, at smaller rates, but then give people an opportunity -- our staff an opportunity to feel appreciated to come to work. I -- again, you will see in your e-mails a couple -- the story about New York, the wonderful team that went in there and extricated that young lady, et cetera. So, we will continue in the spirit of collaboration to make sure we communicate and where we -- if there's something else, we need to do there, we want to make sure that we do a good job there. And lastly, I'll leave you with this, with going back to the salaries and the 480, you'll see on the chart that has the original ask of 63 and 70 on it, you will see right below the title -- you'll see an active sheriff's office of key classification planning allowing adjustment of positions without impacting other county departments. If we can take into consideration, as the County Manager proceeds to move forward with the budget, the money is there, based on our soft calculations, for us to accomplish those four items and it would set us apart from many of our counterparts across the country. So, if there are any questions, I certainly would take those, but as promised short and sweet."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Sheriff. Any questions of the Sheriff at this point? All right, thank you, sir."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "Thank you, I appreciate it. Mr. Chair, if I can thank you and the Commission, the memorial is here tomorrow for Deputy Thomas at 6:30 should you all have time to attend, but again, we appreciate it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Hold on, sheriff, Commissioner Barrett has a question."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Again, apologies because new person. But can you just, with these numbers you're presenting here, where does that line up with the proposed budget that we have in front of us for today?"

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "So, again, because I have not seen what our County Manager's going to present, I would be hopeful that with these numbers and you all's direction, all right, that we will get to at least beyond the 129, which is our original budget, taking these things into account somewhere around 143, 145. I will have to depend on our County Manager in that presentation to be able to -- to articulate that."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "But with you all's direction, I believe we can certainly get there."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Thank you, Sheriff."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Back on page 7 under Open and Responsible Government, **23-0015**, Finance: Review, and approval of the Fiscal Year 2023 Final Adopted Budget and Budget Resolution."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. And for the record here, Commissioners, we all know this, but just to re-say this, we're required to approve a budget no later than the second meeting in January, which means that we have until our next meeting on the 18th, and from my perspective, there's a lot that we need to talk about. So, I don't anticipate us being able to approve a final budget here today. Mr. Manager?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, sir, I want to make just a couple of comments and then turn it over to Ms. Whitmore. For the benefit of the two new Commissioners, but a reminder to everyone, when the decision was made by the Board of Commissioners to reduce the millage rate from 9.33 to 8.87, we began the budget development process using more of what I would term a rules-based approach. In other words, not considering all enhancements because there was over 250 million in enhancements from internal as well as external parties; and the going in view with that

millage rate was about a 90 million-dollar gap. So, it's a rules-based meaning we were going to do the things necessary to keep employees that are here today employed and keep programs that are underway today going, but no new programs, no expansions, no significant increases. The Board of Commissioners all along the way support that approach to get to a balanced budget. So, we are at a balanced budget today. The second thing I'd like to say is, as we close out 2022, the good news is -- is that we underrun -- we underran our expense projections. And you'll see that in the information that Hakeem just passed out. And again, we recognize that we got this to you late yesterday and apologize for that with the closeout as well as the days removed for holidays that became the necessity. So, I do think there's another two weeks of discussion, input from you on how -- on changes that need to be made in our final presentation. We also though, as a consequence of finishing better in 2022, did propose today an unallocated reserve of 22.5 million. So, what that means is that's monies that you could allocate in the budget, you would have to re-advertise once you make final decisions on, if you kept those for later in the year or conversely as you consider the final budget for approval you could allocate part of that, all of that 22.5 million. Our thought was and come in the spirit of keeping our powder dry, there's at least four or five things, maybe two, as a call against that reserve. One is just an uncertain economic outlook. I think everybody can identify that the recession is likely that will impact potentially our revenue, so that is one reason to keep something additional in reserve. The second is what the Sheriff brought up. There are ongoing issues at the Sheriff's Department, some of which we have attempted to address, but the ones that he was discussing today have not been explicitly addressed in the budget that's before you. The third item is employee pay: We still struggle with retention, and I think well, as long as inflation remains at the level that it's at. And as you recall, using the approach that we outlined earlier in the process, we do not have an employee performance payment in 2023 anticipated. And that's about \$15 million. Last, we do have facility construction cost pressures as we complete some of these major programs that are already in the final stages, the warehouse, the animal shelter, Public Safety training center. And I do anticipate that there will be some pressure there with today the inability to quantify what that is. And then lastly, there are always some items that are specific to a District or a Commissioner that you would want to add at this point in the process. So, for all those reasons, this seemed like the best approach for us to take. And then again, I would just remind you as you're thinking about this, there were 250 million in additional ask that were not included in this presentation that you're about to see. So certainly, if you were to go far down that path, then you really need to think about that millage rate assumption that you would tell us to include as part of this budget development, because of course now, we're using the millage rate approved in the last session where the Board considered the millage rate. So, with that, I think Ms. Whitmore will give you the overview of this and answer any questions obviously today, take any guidance, and then we anticipate more work to be done prior to the next board meeting, Mr. Chairman."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Thank you, Mr. -- thank you, Mr. Anderson. Commissioners, I will walk us through the update of the presentation that

we have, which is really an update on our actual 2022 results as well, as the recommendations for modifications to the 2023 proposed budget. Next slide, please. To the point that the County Manager made in his opening remarks, we did end 2022 with less in expenditures than we had originally projected. At midyear, we had projected that we would end the year with about 832 million in expenditures; we actually ended at 786 million. That's a 46 million-dollar difference. On the revenue side, we had projected revenues of 764 million. We ended the year with 760 million. That's a negative variance of \$4 million. So, the net difference between our midyear projection and our end-of-year results is a 42 million-dollar increase to our end-of-year fund, fund balance, increasing it from 182 million at the midyear projection to a final ending fund balance of 224 million, which shows that we did pull about 26 million of our fund balance that we started the year with. Next slide, please. These next couple of slides are simply sharing with you the underlying reasons for these variances that you see on the revenue side, the \$4 million variance is driven really kind of by two different categories of items. One, is where revenues just didn't play out as we expected them to from a projections perspective. So, in some cases we had higher revenues, in particular in courts and law enforcement, state grant, revenue, motor vehicle commissions, real estate transfer tax. But then we also had lower revenues in the commission on taxes that the Tax Commissioner collects for others municipalities, penalties and interest on tax collections, and tangible taxes that are tied to real estate transactions and then some other miscellaneous revenue sources. One of the bigger adjustments that we had is in the timing difference on current year real property tax collections and current year public utility property tax collections. So, in the real property tax category, we had projected a 96 percent collection rate. What was collected and remitted by the Tax Commissioner to the finance department by the end of the year was a little bit less than the 96 percent. So, we saw about a 5.6 million-dollar reduction from what we had projected at that 96 percent collection mark. With the public utility property taxes, we had projected based on the billing timeframe and the expected due date on those, we had -- we had projected slightly less in public utility taxes than what actually came in. So, we collected about 3.6 million more than what we have projected. And so, both of those are timing differences and have an impact on the 2023 budget. So, what we didn't collect in real property taxes in 2022, we carried forward and make an adjustment in -- into next year's prior year real property tax revenue anticipation. On the public utility side, we have to also make an adjustment because we had included a higher prior year number for public utility taxes, and we'll have to reduce that amount. All of these adjustments together net down to a \$4 million reduction from our projection in 2022 to our actual results with the bottom two having a carry forward effect in 2023. Next slide, please. On the expenditure side, we did have a \$46 million underrun. The majority of that coming from vacancies that were not filled. As part of the midyear projection, we projected that, at the point and time at the midyear mark, we projected that we would fill 85 percent of the vacancies remaining through the end of the year. That did not occur, and as a result of that, we had personnel salary savings that ended up dropping down to fund balance. In addition to that, departments did not spend a hundred percent of what they had been provided in their operational budgets. Most notably, the Elections Department. They dropped a significant amount of what was budgeted for the Election cycle in 2022 to

fund balance. A portion of which we know we still have invoices on that we need to pay, so we will be -- you'll see a little bit later that we're recommending that we roll forward some of that, so we have those resources to pay those invoices next year. Next slide, please. So, with the effect of having now the actual numbers for 2022, we have gone through each of our appropriated budgets, and we've made changes where necessary. So, in the general fund, we have modified our proposed budget recommendation from 850 million to 879.9; and we'll review the recommendations specifically in a later slide. Traveling on down the list, the next fund that we have a change in is the county's risk fund, and that was a hundred thousand dollar adjustment. And then in the special appropriation funds, these are a number of different special revenue funds that we package together as the special appropriation funds and present them. So, we balanced those out based on their actual activities in 2022, and then made modifications to what we expect, how we expect those same special revenue funds to perform in 2023. The result of that was a \$2.7 million increase in the appropriation for those funds. All combined, that increases our total budget from 1.2 billion to the 1.3 billion that the Chairman mentioned in his remarks during the ceremony earlier today. Next slide, please. So, the revisions to the budget for 2023: On the revenue side, we are proposing a total reduction in revenue of 7.73 million, and we'll cover the reasons for that here in another slide. And then an increase to the expenditure budget of 29.87; that is primarily -- that increase on the expenditure side is primarily being supported by the additional fund balance that we carry forward from 2022. So, at the end of the year with an 802 million-dollar revenue appropriation and 880 million-dollar expenditure appropriation, and a beginning fund balance of 224 million, we would project to end the year with 147 million, which is the required 16.67 percent fund balance reserve. Next slide, please. So why do we need to reduce our revenue appropriation by \$7 million? As we look at the 2022 actual revenue receipts and we see those areas where we missed our projection, and we do not believe that it's a timing difference, we've made a recommendation to adjust the 2023 revenue for that. In this case, we have a recommendation to decrease commission on tax collections for other municipalities, penalties and interest on tax collections, current year intangible tax, and communication center revenue. For those items that are timing differences, where we do -- I believe that the revenue will come in. It was just a matter of it not coming in when we projected it would come in, we have made a recommendation to modify our prior year real property tax collections in 2023 and increase that by 5.6 million. That's effectively the effect of the one percent that we did not collect in 2022 that we had expected to collect. Conversely, we need to decrease the appropriation for prior year public utility property tax collections because that 3.6 million was actually collected in 2022. And so, we need to reduce what we had originally thought would be carried forward into 2023 as a prior year tax. So together, that all is a \$7 million reduction in the revenue appropriation. Next slide, please. From an expenditure perspective, we have recommendation to increase the proposed budget by \$29.8 million and it's broken out into a couple of different categories, the first of which is carry-forward expenses for obligations that were not paid in 2022. The top item is for the Department of Registration and Elections. They have provided us with the expected invoicing from several of their providers that are related to the November and December Election cycles that they have not fully invoiced the

county, so we expect those invoices to come forward in the month of January. And they asked for about 2.6 million to cover those. We also had an item that the Board had acted on last year to provide funding to the Atlanta Technical College of \$500,000, and the request to pay those resources out to the technical college was not brought forward during 2022. So, we wanted to make sure that we re-appropriated those funds and have them available in 2023 to make that payment to the technical college. The second item are there were a couple of contracts that the Board approved towards the end of the year that required some additional funding, notably in senior services. One is the aging services contract that required an additional 896,000; and the second is the transportation contract with Transdev, where we needed to ensure that we fully covered the cost of the fuel that county will be paying directly. And that was an additional 400,000 over what was already contemplated in the budget for that. Next slide, please. This next section, it's really a -- an adjustment in a transfer of resources between departments within the existing budget did not result in any incremental change to the budget as a total, but we are recommending that we transfer the FGTV and Fulton Films functions from the Department of External Affairs to the Department of Arts and Culture, and that's a \$1.2 million adjustment. In both ways, a reduction for External Affairs and an increase for Arts and Culture. And the second item is based off of the previous Board meeting and the Sheriff's presentation and discussion around restoring the attrition factor that was applied to the Sheriff's budget. We did reduce his budget in 2023 by the same 33 percent attrition factor that we applied to every department with vacancies. That amount for the Sheriff was 5.1 million. So, we are proposing to restore that to the Sheriff's budget and to reduce the funds that have been set aside for inmate outsourcing, or the inmate housing contracts that we had with Cobb County and the Atlanta Detention Center. Most notably, what the recommendation would be is to reduce the funded beds at Cobb County from the contracted level of 500 down to what we have, I believe, seen in actual utilization of around 300 beds per month. And we would move the funds, the \$5.1 million into the Sheriff's budget and leave the remaining funds in non-agency to support the inmate housing with Cobb County and Atlanta Detention Center. And then this next item is -- these are some additional items that came to our attention after we finalized and submitted the proposed budget. And it felt like they were items that we definitely needed to make a provision for. The first is some incremental professional services dollars for the information technology department, so that they can use some contracted staffing in some key areas where they still have had high turnover and have not been able to fill or refill positions quickly enough in an effort to ensure that we are able to maintain the counties' infrastructure and IT operations at an appropriate level while we continue the improvement process, and finish filling out all of the positions in the IT department. And then the second item is associated with the opening of the consolidated warehouse, which we expect to start housing operations towards the end of the first quarter. We needed to make sure we covered the utilities and that has been estimated about \$1.4 million. Next slide, please. This next slide is -- are all of the increases that were identified that are related to the Commission District budgets themselves. We've identified the amounts per District, and they are related to ensuring that we fund the states COLA that was approved last year, as well as cover any final paychecks or compensated absence payouts to the staff of former Commissioners, as

well as ensuring that the incoming Commissioners are able to fund and fill the number of positions that they are allowed per current Board Resolution. So, the amounts vary by Commissioner based on the needs for each office. Next slide, please. That totaled about \$323,000. Then lastly, the Manager did cover this in his opening remarks. We have set aside \$22.2 million in an appropriated reserve and non-agency to be used to address, you know, the things that we -- we just don't know. Certainly, we don't know what's going to happen from an economics perspectives, but we may -- we may need these resources for something that we couldn't fathom during the budget process. We also, I think, spoke about the employee compensation, perhaps restoring pay-for-performance or providing the Sheriff additional resources, and then lastly facility capital costs. And with that, if we go to the next slide, this slide sort of just summarizes it all in a number -- in a numbers schedule. On the left-hand side, it shows your final 2022 performance of what we're currently recommending in the proposed budget with the changes that we're recommending. It shows you the net effect in each area on the revenues and on the expenditure side. So again, my recommendation is to make a reduction in our anticipated revenues of 7.7 million, while increasing the recommended expenditure budget by 29.8 to cover the items that -- that have come to our attention since the proposed budget was approved. Next slide, please. We have just a few more slides and wanted to cover changes in the other funds that I mentioned. In our risk management fund, we had a need to look at increasing revenues based on what we are currently earning in interest in that fund for the balance that we're holding, as well as balancing out the transfers in from all of the other fund -- all the other funds. Our risk management fund receives revenue from all of our operating funds in the form of premiums; and so, this is to balance out the premiums being charged to those funds, and make sure that the amount we're charging in each of the operating funds equal what we're showing as the transfer in or the revenue to the risk management fund. And so, we needed to make an adjustment of 1.6 million to ensure that balanced out. And on the expenditure side, we recognized that we had not explicitly identified the need of a new case management system for the County Attorney's office, and so we wanted to make sure that we had that covered in the risk management fund as well. Next slide, please. Special appropriations fund, I believe I covered this in our -- in my remarks earlier, but we increased revenues by 2.7 million and associated expenditures by 2.7 million, and these are self-balancing funds. So, they --they're balanced either through the revenues that are generated and the fund balance available in each of the funds. And so, that -- this is just a true -- to true all of that up. Next slide, please. And then lastly, we shared this with the Board at each budget update just sort of, and Chairman commented on this earlier, letting you know where we are at in the process. We presented the proposed budget in November. We held the official public hearing that's required by statute in the first meeting of December. Holding that public hearing then, set the Board up to be able to approve the budget in its final form at either today's meeting or the second meeting in January. And with that, Mr. Chairman, we're ready to take any questions that the Board may have."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Good job, Madam CFO. Commissioner Ellis followed by Commissioner Hall."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "First off, thanks for getting all the stuff together on a short week. And, Hakeem, I know you were up late, so we appreciate you getting all the stuff packaged together. I told our Clerk walking down this morning, I said, we're going to make a mental note that any time we have a year that starts on Monday with a holiday, we need to -- we need to move our meeting back a week right then, particularly to give our finance staff some time, since we had to close the books and get all this stuff together. So, I appreciate you doing that. Just a few questions: On the top line revenue and I saw the adjustments and all that that sort of stuff that went through there --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- what page, Commissioner, you on?"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "It's just really kind of a question about sort of the top, the revenue estimates and any assumptions behind those. I know Ms. Whitmore went through kind of some changes in terms of reductions, and I don't really have a question on that. But really, my fundamental question is: When did we sort of build the revenue assumption from a -- we added some revenue into the assumption that was sort of it could be loosely higher than I guess sort of a neutral millage rate. Did we leave that in there? I mean what sort of millage rate assumption are we -- is this built upon? Basically, is it still a flat plus, maybe a slight -- slight bump?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yeah, it is, Commissioner. We built in the \$16 million into the revenue appropriation as part of the proposed budget. We left that in, so that -- we left that in. But we did make adjustments where we saw --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- for the timing stuff."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yeah, for the timing stuff. And where we saw that perhaps what we have had in the budget is not what we're actually generating in revenue in certain areas."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Right. And other revenue --"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "-- yes."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So in terms as we're thinking about it right now, the way this budget's built when we are sitting here in July, August whenever that may be, setting the millage rate. This is loosely built upon something that would be a -- and is probably, you know, it would be high -- it could be slightly higher than our existing millage rate, if -- if the growth assumptions played out the way they are here?"

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

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. So, I think that's important for us all to kind of have that as sort of the level set, right? You know, that -- you know, the revenue assumption

here is -- it's banking on, you potentially a slightly higher millage rate, not significant, but it's, I don't know what sort of magnitude, but whatever -- whatever amount 16 million would amount to, that's fractional millage rate bump. On -- another thing I guess that's sort of for us to just note is -- and just really this has been -- this has played out for the past several years, but if you look at our revenues, right? And even though where they were in a proposed -- in an amended budget in 2022 of 750.4 million and an expenditure budget of 857.1 million, there appear to be, you know, upside down. I think it's just something for us all to understand, you know. As it plays out, you know, the expenditures were significantly less than that and our revenues were slightly higher than that. But still, you know higher expenditures than what we had in revenues. So, we've had a pattern and I just want to highlight this really for all of us and particularly have some discussion with our two new Commissioners coming on. We structurally had this thing going on with our budget where we've really been balancing our budget out of a significant level of surplus, which there is nothing wrong with, and that significant amount of surplus has been generated many times by, you know, good expense management and personnel roles that are unfunded. Now, going into this year, we anticipated -- we knew -- we knew that we were not going to have as much sort of play in our budget, right? So, you all, in your planning for this, and correct me if I'm wrong with that so that I understand it, you sort of built in some attrition rate into the individual departmental budgets; is that correct? So, I'm not going to be a prognosticator, but the potential likelihood that we would flash forward next year, personnel savings that we have historically seen may not play out to be like what they have been going forward?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "That's right. They may not be at the same level."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Right. So, you know, again, in our budget again is sort of built structurally a little bit upside down, not as upside down as it was last year, but 802 million in revenue and 879 -- 808 million as is proposed. But, you know, at some point, you know, in time, you know, optimally we would have these to balance out in terms of their presentation. But if those underruns don't play forth like they are, like we've seen them here, when we get to next year's budget discussion, we will be having a discussion about a significant shortfall again and how to solve for that, correct?"

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

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So, I mean -- so I just think as we go through this whole exercise, I think it's just something that we all need to, you know, keep in mind, I mean, every year it does sort of stand on its own, and we set whatever millage rate we set to fund that particular year. But the actions do have, you know, an impact on future years. So, I just sort of point those two things out. On the -- getting down to some maybe a few more granular points. I personally like the idea of -- I mean, we have a significant sort of facilities expenditures that are coming up, you know, in the future, right? Some of these we know about and some of these we've funded for, we've got funding mechanisms for. Some other things we don't -- we don't know the scope of obviously of

what we're going to have to do in terms of the jail facilities in particular. I like the idea that at a minimum we need to put some sort of, you know, reserve you know, a general fund budget to start to begin to build some sort of a down payment on whatever that looks like, you know. If our amount is 22-1/2, you know, minimally, I feel like we need, you know, a \$10 million sort of down payment whether 10 or 15, somewhere in that range. On the Sheriff's components, I mean, I think, that the -- I appreciate it, if you'd go back to the slide with, as I understand it, you know, you've moved the Sheriff's budget up 5.1 million and the tradeoff was to reduce the amount of non-agency associated with inmate outsourcing, that number is 28 million? And so that comes down to --"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "-- it was, yes, sir. Twenty-three million."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So that amount is 23 or something or 24.9?" Or 22.9? So, I mean, hopefully, that will -- that amount, if I looked at the Sheriff's presentation in terms of his desire to move to this -- which he has the authority to do -- the comp time, the 480/240 deal, that should match up, you know, with giving them the flexibility to take action on that within his -- within his budget; is that a fair way to look at that?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Based on the document that the Sheriff provided which indicated a cost of 5.2 million if the overtime had all been paid in 2022, yes, sir."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Okay. And then continue with the -- with the Sheriff's component. I might have said this at the last meeting, you know, since I've been here. The one area that we have had continuous highest vacancy rates being associated with folks, you know, doing detention work at the jail. And that's been persistent, and obviously, it's persistent today. So, I mean, I think the overtime components are important, and I don't want to diminish those. But I think, you know, structurally trying to do something to currently change the narrative on that and deal with, you know kind of this persistence vacancy rate we have is important. And I think we talked about it at the last meeting, and the Sheriff's again brought this forward again, and I think the highlight of this was sort of his most important thing he felt like that needed to be done was to do something with pay for the detention officers and deputies that are working in the jail. So, I mean, I know the slide he had shown, you know, some different options. I mean, is sort of like something and what other people think about. I'm interested in listening to the remarks on that. But something, you know, in the allocating something in the range of, you know, 10 million or so rather than 22-1/2 to -- for compensation related to this particular topic for the detention officers and working through what that will exactly look like. So that's my remarks on the Sheriff's component. And the last sort of a question: The Election's -- two questions sort of on the Election's budget. One, I want to just sort of highlight really for as we get into the Election's discussion next year, and I noted this, you know, when we were starting to have earlier discussions on this that we needed a crisp elections budget, and I'll talk about it again. I know next year, you know, the way -- the budget is built right now, as I understand it, is really more just -- it's a nonelection

year, so this is more just existing staff and operational cost plus the over -- the overrun or the invoices haven't been paid from the prior Election. Is that generally speaking what's in the Registration and Election's budget right now?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yes. And then we have a separate reserve for the cost of a one Special Call Election that's a non-agency."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So that's a non-agency." What is -- what is that amount?

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Fifteen million."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Okay. And it's probably worth it coming back and having some level of conversation around that. But that's -- if we've got 15 million that is sort of sitting there, you know, as a contingency for that. But, you know, it's one thing to just really point out, and we had this -- you know, had this conversation when we started -- when we did the budget last year for Registrations and Elections and it was 37.4. And there was a lot of comments from Election's that that wasn't enough. So that's number one. And then number two, as it was built, it was built assuming -- it was built without a two Runoff occurring, right?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Sorry, I -- as I recall we funded three of the four --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- three of the four."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "-- of the potential cycles, yes."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So we funded -- we budged to fund three of the four. There were some comments from Election's that maybe the budget wasn't enough, but flash forward it through, and we ran all of the Election's at what looks to be, you know, the cost of, well, you know, some include their -- their ongoing operational costs of where that 20 --28.1 million?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "There about, yes."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Right. So, 9 million or so less than what the budget was plus whatever we had had set aside -- well, we didn't have to set aside, we said we were going to find it right, if we needed to, and we didn't need, too. So, my point being with this, it's a discussion really for next year, you know, but since we are here at this point in time, I think, doing the work to try to look at what is a real budget? Because, I mean, this is not -- and I'm not -- this is not a criticism of their performance with an Election. It's really just about a budget, and we can't have that significant of a -- of a gap. I mean, we all know this -- you know, the running of Elections has been a huge moving target with COVID, SB 202 and all that sort of stuff. So, maybe that there were some assumptions in here that were, you know, we didn't know how they were going to play out. But, you

know, we can't have that kind of miss, if you will, which brings me to, you know, kind of it's not within, you know, I guess sort of we do our municipal elections, but we IGA those out, and those costs will be shared. So, the assumption really is on the municipal elections as we'll pass on to costs and there's not really a factor that would, you know, cost for municipals or not -- you know, are not factored into our general fund budget because those will be passed on, correct?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "That's correct."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "But then we'll have sort of a -- we should see some sort of general budget from them about what that would look like and what the IGA structures will be and all that." We'll have -- they'll have to bring that forward to us to approve that, correct?"

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

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. All right. I think those are all my remarks and terms of the budget but thank y'all for your work."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Commissioner. Vice Chair -- Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "You mean, Vice Chair Bob Ellis. That almost sounds like you were calling me Vice Chair. Thank you, Mr. Chair. And I just want to commend our Madam CFO, Sharon Whitmore, our Finance Director, Hakeem, and the County Manager and all the County Executives on pulling this together. That was quite a feat, coming off of the holiday. And I can tell you that my Chief of Staff and I were watching the e-mails like crazy, and we know how hard it probably was for you to just even get it to us last night, so I commend you on this. But, you know, I never wavered in my confidence of you balancing the budget and finding additional funding, because one of the things that I recall is, over the years, even as the Chief of Staff to the late Commissioner Joan P. Gardner, Commissioner Gardner and Commissioner Darnell used to always say that if anybody can find some money, it was definitely going to be our CFO, Sharon Whitmore. And that you don't have to worry about the budget, because that's why Sharon has been here so long. She knows exactly how to balance this budget and where to find funding. And one of the other things that I learned early on from the Tax Commissioner is that during the first quarter of each year, there is always additional funding that comes in that we don't account for in our previous budget when we're looking at the coming year. And so, there is always an opportunity for more funding to show up in the first quarter. And so, I'm glad to see that you have put this together and found this additional funding, and I'm so happy to see the increase -- let me see, what page was that? On page 15 of 5.1 plus million dollars to the Sheriff's budget to increase it to the amount that he was asking for and that is an absolute plus. Thank you for that. I'm glad to see that in the book. And also, I want to just say that it is very important to me that we give our CFO and our Finance Director the opportunity to do the work because I do recall and, Hakeem, you may remember this -- coming in as a

new Commissioner, Commissioner Darnell called a meeting and she pulled you and your staff into the conference room on the tenth floor just to meet with me because she had that much confidence in the finance department, and you and Sharon, and we sat down and literally went over the entire budget; and I remember that. And Commissioner Garner, after Commissioner Garner's passing, Commissioner Darnell always met with me several times every month. But what was most important to me were those meetings before the BOC meetings, and she always spoke highly of finance. I want to go back to page 9 in the presentation. The portion about the decrease of \$1.2 million to External Affairs due to the transfer of FGTV and Fulton Films personnel and operations effective February 1st, 2023. And I just want to say, congratulations to David Manual and Jessica Corbitt because this will give David the opportunity to move toward national trends of focusing on creative industries, and it gives Jessica an opportunity to focus on external affairs and inter-governmental affairs and communications countywide since the census 2020 have shown that we've had a significant growth in our residents. And so, congratulations to both of you, and also to FGTV and Fulton Films and Shaunya Chavis. I think this is an opportunity for the County to continue to be the best that it already is and just showing that we are always ahead of the curve. I want to go down to the IT operations contractual staff -- oh, and I'm sorry -- and thank you to our COO, Dr. Pamela Roshell as well, because you worked so hard on these transitions. I want to go to the IT department line on page 9 of the presentation and just ask: Are we keeping track of the contractors and how long we are keeping them on board. Because I do -- I've heard you say something about personnel and that they're trying to fill vacant positions in IT. And I have to always keep track of the audit that happened. The IT audit revealed a lot of things in IT that are still some issues that we need to, you know, just make sure that we're keeping track of, and the contractors was one of them. Contractors being on board too long beyond the implementation of new systems and programs, and the need for transfer of knowledge and training of the IT employees on those new systems and programs. And then making sure that if there is a need for us to have full-time employees to manage those systems and applications, that we move toward that and do a transfer of knowledge from the contractors to our full-time county employees. And so, are we keeping -- are we doing that? I see you shaking your head, Alton."

ALTON ADAMS. COO, FC PSS: "No. Those are all great questions, Commissioner. And just to provide a little more information on this particular request, we have some very specific -- we've had turnover in a couple of really important areas. Networking, for example, our manager of networks has left, and so we were trying -- we were recruiting for that role, but it is a role that we really need to have. And so, what we're looking for is short-term interim staffing to help us -- to support us there. We've had some losses in the share points -- share points support area as well, that specifically supports a lot of work we do in the Tax Commissioner's office. So, what we're looking for is to having individuals come in on a short-term basis, no more than a year, and ideally less than that as we continue to search and hire individuals in those areas. But because they are so critical to our day-to-day function, we've felt the need to enhance and bring in some short-term resources. And to your point about transfer, in some ways we're going to

accomplish that when we -- when we do, in fact, hire the full-time staff. So, our goal is not to turn them into full-term staff, concurrent with the short-term solve here, we're going to be recruiting to bring individuals in on a full-time basis."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "That's great. Sorry to hear that we've lost people. Is this due to salaries or --"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "-- technology -- just a lot of turnovers, right? There's a lot of demand. A lot of it started with COVID, right? And individuals staying at home. But as you -- as you're probably aware, virtually every technology company has decided that Atlanta is going to be their southeastern hub. And so, individuals are moving from one technology firm to another. So, we're not unlike a number of other organizations that had gaps and have had losses in this area. I think we're making up some ground, but IT in particular, as you know when we came forward at the beginning of the year to request additional salary increases, it was because we've seen turnover and the inability to attract resources at the level that we need them."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Great. So, we have been using those things that we instituted to ensure that we're attracting the talent and like the bonuses, and the salary adjustments, and those sort of things?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Yes, absolutely. They've been very helpful. We've gotten -- we've gotten close to what I could consider to be market rates for a number of these functions, and they have been very helpful in terms of being able to improve the staffing."

DICK ANDERSON, COUTNY MANAGER: "And I might just add to your question: We review every other week as a senior team IT and, specifically, the staffing, the hiring, any of the gaps that exist, in addition to major project updates. So, every other week, collective, we are looking at that."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay. That's good, that's good. And so, let me see. That's it. Thank you so much."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Thanks, Commissioner Hall. Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you. I have some follow-on questions really to what Vice Chair Ellis was asking about, specifically on the millage rate. Vice Chair Ellis asked approximately what is it based on, and approximately what it would need to be. I'm just wondering can we get more granular on that? Specifically, what is this budget based on millage rate wise and what does it need to be midyear when we vote on it, specifically?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "We can do the best that we can to give you a specific number. But the millage rate is based on the values that are

set as of January 1. We won't have that information until next June. So, I -- we can tell you what we're basing off of right now."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Well that's what I -- that's what I'm saying."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "So it's based off of what this year's millage rate produced with a three percent growth and billable value for next year. So, as this the \$16 million, which is a little more than two tenths of a millage estimate."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I apologize for interrupting. So, it's based on no increase in the millage rate, this current budget? Millage rate specifically, not the other revenue based on that."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "No, I wouldn't say it's based on no increase in the millage rate, because we built in \$16 million of additional revenue that will have to be covered next year. And that is a little more than two tenths of a mil."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "But we won't know what the exact millage rate will need to be, until we get the valuation data, which we get typically in June."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. And I think my next question is the connection of the two subjects that Vice Chair Ellis brought up. Because he talked about the millage rate first, and then you talked about the fact that we continually budget, and I don't know if I have the accounting terminology right; but, at a deficit, where our revenues are lower than our expenses. And so, if you're putting those two topics together, what -- what is it going to take for us to start running our operation so that we're not upside down in that way. And, by the way, I'm also thinking about the fact that our County Manager started his comments off by saying there are \$250 million in additional requests that we haven't even considered. So, we're already spending more than we're bringing in, and we're not addressing all the needs that we need to address. I'm just sort of puzzled about how this is sustainable in the long term."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "So in -- I guess in absolute values, if you look at the difference between revenue and expenditures and you assume that everything in the expenditure budget is a recurring expense, then we're about \$77 million off between revenue being able to support the recurring expense. That's a little more than a one mil adjustment. If you're -- if you're talking about, what do you have to do to make your revenues match your planned expenditures, so that would be a little more than a one mill adjustment. So, we currently get about 62 or 63 million from a mil. So, we would need about a one mil adjustment to correct that. But not everything that's proposed is proposed to be a recurring expense. So, there are some items in the budget that are not intended to be a recurring expense. But just in pure numbers, if you

made the assumption that the 879.9 million is a hundred percent recurring, then we would need a little more than a mil to -- a mil adjustment in order to balance out recurring revenue to that number."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I'm not sure about the recurring part, why that's relevant, because the numbers are for the year."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Right. For the year, yes. But I interpreted your question to be the law, like a long-term."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Well, yeah, yeah. But the budget is going to change; the requirements are going to change every year if we have more Elections in a given year or whatever the case may be. I have concerns about this budget going forward with these assumptions, because we have some huge problems in the county. Listen, we have a great county, don't get me wrong; but we have issues around public health, and we have -- with the hospital closures, and we have issues around public safety with the jail. And we're not -- we don't appear to be addressing those things with this current budget. So, are we just kicking the can down the field another year? I'm just sort of puzzled by how we start to address these things."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "So one thing that might be helpful, it's a great question, is we do produce a long-term view multiyear of generally five or so in the process for producing this budget, we constructed that same view inclusive of everything that we knew to be on the horizon, not necessarily endorsed by the Board at this point time. That millage rate would climb even with the assumptions that we use on the base growth to 12 to 13 from what was then 9.33. The Board made a decision not speaking for them, that in light of the economics for the economy and the pressure on citizens to reduce the millage rate. So, you're right, it doesn't really address long-term needs. It did address short-term pressures that citizens were feeling. And therein is the sometimes, often, the conundrum. One other thing, the one of the good pieces of financial discipline news that we have is for three years running, not this year, but three years previous, our revenues have exceeded our expenses. Not because they were budgeted in that way, but the financial management of expenses during the course of the year has produced revenues being in excessive expenses. Each year though, when we go to this budget process, there's a huge amount of pressure to use whatever is in the reserve that's not required to be in the reserve to augment the budget. And therein is how we get into the discussion of revenues being less than expenses. Because we could construct a budget where the two are in balance, or better in balance, than they normally are and generally, except for this last year where we did a lot of employee compensation enhancements to address attrition and inflation, it has worked out that way, but not necessarily planned for in that way. So, I think your questions are right on point."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I want to get a little bit more granular on the Sheriff's presentation and the numbers there. Because I know we've talked about this a couple

times now, but I just want to make sure I'm clear. So, I understand that there's that 5.1 million that's being sort of put back into his budget from the staff attrition number, but where are we on this chart here that he presented with the current budget? Are we at the 20 percent proposed pay increase? Are we at the current? Where are we? I'm a little bit lost on that. I'm just -- this that he presented."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "His budget would be based on the current pay."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. So, we have the option because we have a little - either by increasing the millage rate or by using the reserve that we did not expect to have to sort of potentially pick one of these levels he's presented before we finalize this budget, correct?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "And it sounded like Vice Chair Ellis was recommending the sort of middle grounds or not even sort of you know, kind of two up from the bottom there at the \$10 million mark? I'm just wondering if anybody else has any thoughts about that, about where we should land. But I would like to see us at least at the 10 million mark in addition for him. If not, the next -- I mean, I would like to see him get the whole thing, to be honest. But I'm just not sure what other priorities we need to fit in. I did tour the jail before I took office and I did see the lack of staffing there, and I, you know, I did speak to some of the folks there and it seems like a very, very desperate need. So, I'd like to see that, you know, adjust it before -- before we sign off on this budget."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We'll have an opportunity to go -- dig a little deeper into that, and I do not anticipate us approving the budget today, but at the next meeting, certainly. It's my intention and we'll improve it at the next meeting. And there will be a lot of discussion about what the Sheriff -- another award-winning presentation he has made today."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Great questions. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you Mr. Chair. Thank you, Sharon and Dick, and your teams for your thoughtful consideration of the budget. I would just like to suggest that we, you know, assume -- and I understand that you're saying, I guess, maybe there's an additional 16 million that would be added. I would like to suggest that we assume that there would be an increase in the millage rate for purposes of this budget. And then, you know, I guess, time will tell whether -- whether we actually do that increase or not. I wished that we had done it this year, but we didn't. But I think for

purposes of the budget, for purposes of planning, particularly Mr. Manager, when you say hey, we've exceeded revenue -- revenue has exceeded expenses over the last three years, you know, let's anticipate that there will be an increase. And I understand that typically, you overestimate expenses and underestimate revenue. But I think Commissioner Barrett's point is important, you know. There's an additional 250 million in request, right? And so, there's a delicate balance between fulfilling all of those requests and making sure that we are using the money that we have as efficiently as possible and not wastefully. So, I would just like to -- for you all to assume that there would be a millage rate increase, you know, even if it's at the amount -- millage rate that you all recommended that we adopt this year, right? And so, then I think that gives -- hopefully that makes Sharon's and Hakeem's job a little easier."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner Thorne?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I'll be quick. The 250 million in additional request, do we have a list of what was not in the budget?"

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

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "We do. And we'll send that to you to -- to both of you. I thought that we had included it in your binder, but if we did not, then I would make sure that we -- we get it to you. We have a full list of everything that was requested, what was funded, and what was not."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "And then how does it work with the risk management fund, the revenue, at 2 million increase? I don't quite understand how that projection could --"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "So the risk management fund is funded through premiums that we charged to all the other operating funds; and in reconciling what amount we're charging for support of the County Attorney's office. The County Attorney's actual operating budget is in the risk management fund. So when we reconciled what we were charging for support of the County Attorney's office versus what was actually shown as a revenue source within the risk management fund, we saw that it was lower and we needed to raise it up to balance out with what we have already programmed into the expenditure budgets everywhere else, to make sure that the funding that her office needs or support is fully provided to the risk management fund from all of the other funds."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay. Thank you."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "You're welcome."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: All right. Other comments at this time? So, Madam CFO, if you would make yourself available to the Board between now and the 18th, I would

appreciate it because we need to approve it. I think y'all have done a great job. It's balanced, and I'm pleased with where we are. Continue, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Continuing on page 7 on the Health and Human Services **23-0016**, Public Works: Request approval of the lowest responsible bidder in an amount not to exceed \$131,923 to provide landscaping and restoration services."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0017**: Request approval of an IGA between Fulton County and City of Johns Creek for water main relocations associated with the road improvements to Haynes Bridge Road in an estimated amount of \$1,235,675."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion on the floor is to approve by Commissioner Thorne, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Cast your vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner's Action Items, **23-0018**: Request approval of the Resolution in observance of the 94th birthday of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. sponsored by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0019**: Request approval of a Memorandum Of Understanding between Fulton County, Georgia and CORE Community organized relief effort, a nonprofit for the use of county warehouse and office space in exchange for in-kind services sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. I have a motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Mr. Kallmyer, come on up, please, sir."

Let's put this into context, and Commissioner Hall has a question. Just summarize what we're doing."

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL: "Yes, sir. Good afternoon, everyone. What we have in front of us is a MOU with CORE. Pretty much what you're looking for is you look on page 6 of it breaking down to the brass tacks is really what is offering CORE space in exchange for their personnel and resources during times of emergency. As you know, CORE has been an incredible partner to us for the last couple of years getting into those pockets of our community that we've had a difficult time of vaccinating. And as we continue this relationship with them, it's just having something that we could go ahead and hold accountable. Both parties to be able to say you're in our space; you're leveraging our warehouse space, but at the same time allowing us the opportunity to leverage their staff as well as their resources for future emergencies whether it be manmade or natural. So, they would like to use this as kind of a hub for other responses in our community, and we look to partner with them in that regard. I think it would be a mutually beneficial type of relationship that enhances Fulton County's ability to be able to respond to the citizens that we serve."

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

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. So, this is free use of County warehouse office space in exchange for in-kind services, but I couldn't find what the services currently are."

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL: "You'll see in the site there, ma'am, it would be based upon the fact that it will be the six staff as well as the 11,000 square feet worth of resources they bring to the table. A lot of things that they have are things that can be used after a tornado response or a flood that could happen in the community. So, what we'll be able to do is leverage those resources. We won't really have to procure those ourselves. They'll have those inside the warehouse that we can leverage for citizens tarps, rakes, shovels things along those lines. I think it would be a truly benefit in this regard."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "How much space is it, and what exactly are we leveraging right now?"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL: "Right now, its 11,000 square feet based upon the MOU. Currently what they have is a space at our warehouse of 4,700; they cohabitated with western operations of this response. They still have state in the contracts, at this time, to continue to do vaccination efforts. They're here doing vaccination efforts every Wednesday in our County facility over here in the government center. So, this partnership is one that's definitely mutually beneficial for both parties in that regard."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Well, I'm glad to see it because since the very beginning of my -- of me becoming a Commissioner, I have received consistently requests from our nonprofit partners who are actually doing the work with our residents constantly on a daily basis because that's what they do. And we fund them -- a lot of them through our grant programs. But I've consistently received requests from them to have some kind of co-working space or office space with the county so that they can be closer to the residents that they serve in the County. And I know at some point Dr. Roshell and our County Manager, Dick Anderson, were working toward that effort of trying to find space. So, I'd like to hear an update on that since we happen to find so much space for CORE and I'd like an update."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS: "Thank you for the question, Commissioner. We are working with D.R.E.A.M. to stand up an application process for the use of any existing space that we have. The process would identify specific needs that we have in the community. It would be outcomes based, and it would definitely be connected to the funding that we are providing to organizations. So that is the method that we are thinking through, which would be an application process so that it is a fair process that we would advertise. It would be an application and organizations could apply. Of course, this space would be limited; but again, it would be through an application process that would have identified outcomes in terms of the agreement as far as occupancy and the length of that occupancy."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Well, so that you don't have to reinvent the wheel, let me just tell you about a county that is already doing this, and they were featured during one of the National Association of Counties Conferences, the last one that was in Colorado and that would be Adams County Colorado. There is -- they literally set aside office space where their nonprofit partners actually come every day and assist the residents of their county. They literally do this in the same building with all of the other county resources. So, it makes it a lot easier to provide that constituent with the wraparound services that they need. So that they very well be a veteran and go up to the second floor of the Adams County building to the veterans office and then be sent downstairs to one of the veterans' nonprofit partners that's in the co-working space in the same building. So, you can -- they have the legislation, there is a Commissioner; his name slips my mind right now. But there is one commissioner that literally sponsored and pushed this forward through their Board of Commissioners, and they all said that it was the best thing that they could have ever done for their constituents."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS: "All right. Thank you for sharing that model, Commissioner Hall. I will certainly look into that. We certainly don't want to reinvent the wheel if there is a best practice out there that's working among our other counties, so thank you for that."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Great. And this is a good start. Now, you know, the governor declared a state of emergency prior to the freezing weather, so is CORE currently helping us while we're mitigating the disasters across the County from the freeze?"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL: "At this time, that actual declaration did expire last week Tuesday, so there is no continuing on that emergency declaration. When it comes to CORE in this particular response, there's been no requests that we have received from the public for additional support. Anything that we did hear about Red Cross did go ahead and work with those individuals to try to support them as well as the housing units and the apartment complexes that these individuals lived in. Those communities have to step up and support those individuals, but we have not had any specific that I'm aware of, calls for service for community-organized release effort."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "So, how will that look moving forward, since this is based on natural disasters and those types of -- those types of situations?"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL: "I think we'd have to look to see what they in their repertoire that could help in a freezing type of event. Right now, with the resources that I'm aware of that they have in their cache is more for straight-line winds, tornadoes, flooding; things along those lines, things that we have seen that happened in Kentucky and places along those lines, and Florida and Louisiana. So, they have taken the resources, responded to those communities, set up the grassroots effort like they have done in our community, to go ahead and start that recovery and response process there. And that's what we're looking for in this type of relationship. It would be within our space of the warehouse. It's not an additional space that's carved out for them. We're making space within our allocation of the warehouse. We have accomplished this. We're looking at it once again as a mutually beneficial relationship. We don't have to procure some of these items because they'll have them available for our use."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "I also want to make note that on several occasions or probably just about every BOC meeting, we've had a resident named Lydia Meredith come forward and ask for space for the DCFS children. And currently, if I'm not mistaken, it's working with the district attorney and our County executives, Joe Davis, and some others on how to get that space at the Fairborn Road location. And so, I would like for you to consider that. If we can do this, we can do these other things as well. Thank you very much."

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL: "Thank you, ma'am."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thanks, Matt. I've been having a little pause with this. Madam CFO, how much money did we pay to CORE over the last -- throughout this pandemic?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "I'd have to look that up, multiple millions."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "At five least million?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "I'd have to -- I'd have to go back and look, Commissioner Arrington. If you'd give me a minute, I'll do that."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. Thank you. I'm trying to understand. I feel like all that stuff they storing, I feel like we already paid for. I feel like it's ours. I don't under -- I don't understand how we've paid them millions and then we give them free space. So, I need a little help with that. And I trust your judgment, and I mean you're making the recommendation, so that gives me some comfort. But I'm trying to understand how do we pay them millions and give them free space? Help that make sense to me, because that doesn't make sense to me."

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL: "That's a valid question. It's absolutely a valid question. The resources that we have through the COVID response is actually on the Westside of the warehouse that we can leverage. So those type of things that have been procured throughout this response, Ms. Lisa and her team will make sure that remains with us in the future for any type of public health emergency response. The resources that they have, they're being brought to theirs from other philanthropic donations and other things that they have. So, there's never been a need for garbage cans, rakes, shovels, things along those lines; tarps during this type of COVID response. These are other things that they have brought in through their other avenues that they have done. So, we're leveraging those resources that we have never paid for, sir."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. All right. And then -- I had another question. So, do we -- so we're getting six people? Is that it? Is that the total number of people that they're donating?"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL: "It will be at least four cubicles worth of space, sir, and two offices. So, the individuals that are assigned there, we'll leverage those individuals right now. If we have a big delivery that comes in, those folks come over and support our teams in unloading the truck. When it came to the Vista Forge exercise that recently ran with our Department of Defense individuals, we took all of those six individuals to help our staff actively run that exercise. So, it's a nice symbolic relationship that we have. Sometimes if they have to go ahead and push some things out, we support them with loading the truck and so on and so forth. So, it's a good force multiplier without having to go out and hire additional staff just for those little blurbs that we need additional support."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: All right. I guess I can go along with your recommendation. I'm still somewhat hesitant. Like for me, I would want to know, okay,

what is the -- what is the value of -- what is that fair market rental value of the space versus the six people? Does that equal out? All right. You know, those are the type of questions that I have and, you know, certainly based on your track record and your history, I can maybe look the other way but, you know, I'm still having a little difficulty with this. I appreciate, I guess, that you're saying that they're also donating resources and getting other things, and you have more of a bird's eye view of that than I do. So that -- that's why I would give deference to your recommendation. But from my approach, I don't have that view. But you're --"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL: "Your concern is extremely valid, sir. Your concerns are extremely valid, and I would ask the same questions if I was sitting in your chair as well. I think that Ms. Lee has made an incredible investment in our community, and it's something that I would hate for us to go ahead and just lose as we start to see this response trail off. I feel like that it is imperative for us to figure out how to go ahead and continue this type of capability development in our community. The one thing that was so incredible about this is that they look for people within our organized city, our county, to be able to go ahead and pull us all up by the bootstraps. That was something that was really intoxicating when you got to see their model when we first saw it when they were at Mercedes Benz, Home depot backyard, and I think that's what helped this relationship grow. Am I perfect? No. But I think that this is something that could help us get stronger and right now, everything seems to go ahead and look like it's definitely headed in a positive direction from this type of relationship, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "I did share some of the concerns that Commissioner Arrington noted. I do think, you know, these types of agreements on -- on paper and that sort of -- not on paper, but in theory, a lot of times I do think, while they may sound good, but there are a lot of unintended consequences to doing a lot of facility-use agreements and becoming a landlord. So, I think we got to be really cautious about that. And we've got limitations on our own space. And which really brings me to my -- the core of my question, unintended is, where is this warehouse space going to be? I mean, we don't -- my understanding, we got a shortage of it as it is until this new facility opens up. And the space where it's at, is not intended to be a warehouse, but we've sort of made it into an ad hoc warehouse, where we've delayed building that out to expand, you know, services to citizens. So, kind of help me out with that component of it."

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL: "We feel very blessed that we had 4700 available at the time to do what we had to do for the community."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Right."

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL: "We know that ultimately it is going to be programmed for a different type of an operation. The beautiful thing right now is that it's very linear in the sense of how we're storing things there, we have minimal rack space. We tried to go up vertical in places we can, but there's a lot of places we can't because, once again, it was never built to hold that much weight per square foot."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Right."

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL: "So we're looking forward to having a very good vertical space in this new warehouse. I know DREAM has done a lot of work with the architects to be able to accomplish that. And we feel that we'll be able to go ahead and live together with them, allowing us to go vertical on our storage."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. So, this, you know, the space we're envisioning, sort of long term, any idea where it's slated to open up in, third quarter? When are we slating to open up?"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL: "I was told around second or third quarter in this year, sir."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "I think the plan is to start -- Joe, jump in -- but I think the plan is to start moving Registration and Elections in first --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Right."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "-- during the first quarter of this year with the balance of the agencies that are moving in being moved in towards the middle part or the end of -- end of the year."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. So, this -- the plan is just for it to be in the footprint of, not an additional space, but within the footprint that was originally programmed for --"

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL: "Emergency --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- Emergency Management?"

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

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. So, it's not new space, this is just within -- okay, that's helpful to understand. So, you're -- and I may -- I'm hearing you say this, but I don't want to put words in your mouth. But I'll ask you this question and you can kind of respond to it. What I also seem to be hearing is that this is a good way for you to gain staff, particularly during times of emergency response that you don't otherwise have."

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL: "It would be an easy way to have a quick force multiplication effort, so --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay."

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL: "-- if you're looking for a long-term need, they would not go ahead and fulfill planning efforts and community outreach efforts and exercise things on those lines. But when it comes to response --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Right."

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL: ""-- you wouldn't have to go ahead and do --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "The contract thing."

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL: "-- the quick little, temp workers to come in and help unload vehicles and be able to go ahead and re-push allocations of resources out to our cities."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. So, the agreement in exchange for that, they will be acting --"

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

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- in those -- in that type of effort?"

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

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Okay, all right. That's helpful, thanks."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. I agree with this. But I do want to ask the County Manager and maybe even the Chairman, when I look at this and I think about the canine -- the Canine Cellmates situation. We know that is a program that has been working, Chairman that I believe you were the one that brought it to fruition. And it's in kind with our jails. Right now, the moratorium is holding up the process. And I know that they have to move by January 8th. Can this similarity of this be add -- looked at for the situation with the Canine Cellmates? It seems to me to be similar, I'll of course, if anybody want to weigh in and educate me. But it seems to be a similar situation. So, I'm wondering if we can apply this same framework, so to speak, to that particular situation especially since -- I'm not mistaken, I could be wrong, but I

think January 8th, they are supposed to be out. And one of the reasons that we cannot move forward with them being over at Union City is because of the moratorium. So, I'm wondering if we can look at this and see how that situation can work. You all may be working on it. I know you all were working on it, but I'm just asking. In fact, when Commissioner Hall mentioned the situation for Fairburn Road, that's what made me think about it. Because we do have a lot of nonprofits that do stuff with us. But the fact that the -- they are doing it with our jails in-kind services. So, I'm just wondering if you all -- you can weigh in now or you can, you know, we can talk later about it. But I just wanted to see because it looks similar to me."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Commissioner, if I can, we've actually been in frequent contact with Susan at Canine Cellmates. In fact, she sent me a text a few minutes ago. And we're looking at two things, one, number one priority is finding a place for the 15 dogs that need to be relocated. And as you know, our shelter is overcrowded, but we're looking at some options. I think we found an option for that. Secondly, she does have some things that need some storage in the short term while we figure out how to, you know, kind of recreate and expand the program that she's managing, so both of those are underway. And Matt and his team and LifeLine and others have been involved in trying to make sure that we deal with her situation before she has to move out on January 8th."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "So we are intervening? That's what -- that's what I'm getting from you?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Absolutely. We're partnering, absolutely."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Absolutely."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay, all right. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Arrington. It's 1:06."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. I guess this question is really more for the County Attorney. I'm looking at this contract and I think it might need a little more flushing out. So, I heard Matt say the six people, but I don't see that in the contract, right. Section 1.4 and 1.5 kind of address CORE's responsibilities and the County's responsibilities. And basically, what it says is, CORE will provide disaster-relief assistance as it typically performs for those to which it renders aid. What does that mean? Who do -- what are the standards for which they normally render aid? What -- what -- I think that means to be flushed out, okay? The next paragraph 1.5, CORE will support the Fulton County Emergency Management Agency with CORE resources and staff during the response and recovery phases. Again, I hear you, Matt, saying that that's six people. But the contract doesn't require that. That could be one person. Are

they full time, are they part-time? What -- I mean, I just -- I think it needs to be flushed out a little bit more, at least the contract does perhaps. And, you know, maybe you have an understanding and verbal agreement, but now we're talking about the written agreement. And so, I would just ask Madam County Attorney, I'm -- you know, I'm willing to support this. But at the very least, 1.4 and 1.5 need to be flushed out so we know exactly what we're getting when, where, and how."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I'll be quick. I just -- I definitely support this. I just think it seems like there's a lot of questions about how much we're getting in return. And I recognized the notice when I was reading the memorandum that it's a 90-day out, I believe. And so, it seems to me, if we just get, maybe, a quarterly update on how it's going and how much we're actually getting in return and how much we're actually using their efforts that might be helpful going forward, so we can end it if it's not working for us and/or renew it if it is."

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL: "Yes, ma'am."

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

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "And Madam County Attorney, you could make the adjustments that Commissioner Arrington referenced."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "We would be happy to work with --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay, thank you."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "-- department to include more detail."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, let's vote. Appreciate your favorable vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion passes unanimously."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, thank you. It is 1:09; I'll entertain a motion to recess for lunch, Executive Session, where we'll discuss items of Real Estate, Litigation, and Personnel. Please vote."

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

(Recess for Executive Session at 1:10 p.m.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Without objection, we will resume the regular order of business. Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Bottom of page 7."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Excuse me, I'm so sorry, Chairman Pitts. But may I please address the action item from Executive Session?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Is there a motion to approve the request for representation set forth in Item Number 1 of the Executive Session Agenda?"

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "Bottom of page 7, **23-0020**: Request approval of an ordinance to amend Chapter 101, Division 2, Section 107 -- 101-72 of the Fulton County Code of Ordinances to further safeguard and prevent the disclosure of confidential Executive Session discussions and to provide penalties for any violation and for other purposes, sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. We have a motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Hall. And just a quick explanation, actually this is self-explanatory. But this seeks to put some teeth into the -- what's on our books already regarding disclosure of confidential info -- any confidential information that may be disclosed, disclosed or discussed within Executive Session. We've have incidents in the past where that has happened. I can recall at least one incidence in which we censured a member of this Body and fined that person \$1,000, which she did have -- never paid. So, with this legislation -- and there have been instances, recent ones, by the way, and I won't go into any detail on that. But we all know situations that have -- topics that we've discussed recently in Executive Session. And I used to tell a story that after Executive Session or after the conclusion of a meeting, my Chief of Staff would know everything that we talked about in Executive Session. So, this is a -- an attempt to strengthen that. I think it's satisfactory, although this will require a supermajority vote, which means five affirmative votes for anyone found to be in violation of this, assuming it passes. And the two sanctions -- well, one sanction would be a public reprimand through a censure resolution and a fine of \$1,000, which would be deducted from your comp -- Fulton County compensation. I don't think the thousand dollars is enough. I recommended \$10,000, but the County Attorney objected to that. So, what's before us is a censure, public censure and a fine of \$1,000. So, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, Commissioner Barrett, Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. I'm in full support of this. I just would like to make sure that our County Attorney adds the needed language in accordance with staff, as how we view staff, that's staff that's present in Executive Session. You know, what Commissioner Hall brought up as a valid point, I would really like to see that language in there as well."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Thank you, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. We would be happy to add language that clarifies that staff is specifically staff present for the Executive Session."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Anything else, Commissioner?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "No, thank you. Thank you, Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Chairman. I just have two quick things. One, the way this is worded, it's the Member of this Board that receives these penalties. Does this also hold for staff that are in the meetings, because it's worded like only Member."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Thank you, Commissioner. The staff who are in meetings are employees of the County in a more traditional sense. And therefore, they have a supervisory chain who can enforce disciplinary actions that are required for violations of policy. Because Commissioners sit on the governing authority, the governing authority itself acts as your own supervisory chain. And that's why it's specific to Commissioners because the Board itself is the only way for you to --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Got it."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "-- supervise those functions."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you. And then the other thing I have is on page 5, line 115, where it talks about the -- the penalty, it says sanctions against the violating Member to include 'but not limited to' a public reprimand and then the thousand dollars. And I'd like to have that, 'not limited to' taken out of there, it doesn't seem -- it seems pretty open-ended that it could be a thousand dollars and a public sanction. And I don't know, whatever else, you lose your office, and your committee is -- I mean, you know, it's sort of open-ended. I'd just like to have it tightened up."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "If the Board votes to approve that amended language, we would be happy to remove the, but not limited to. But that is -- that is not what is before the Board now."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What did you say, County -- Madam County Attorney?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "If it is the will of the Board to amend that language as well, we will be happy to --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Well, is it helpful to not to --"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "'But not limited to', so that the stated sanctions are the only possible sanctions --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "But, I mean, is that helpful, is what I'm asking you?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "I believe it may -- it may be --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. I'll accept that then as friendly -- friendly amendment, no objections to that. All right. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I didn't -- I guess I could support this. I don't really know how it's enforced. As you stated before, there was someone else that was fined, and they never paid their fine. And so, unless you're actually instructing Finance to deduct it from some --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's in there. It will be deducted from the Fulton County compensation."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Point that out, Madam County Attorney; where that is?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "And also it says, up to \$1,000. It doesn't say 1,000, it says up to 1,000."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Well, let's clarify that because I wanted 10,000. And she said, no. Why not? I mean, this is -- I mean, disclosing information is something --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I understand. I agree. You want to change it up to 10,000?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "But not -- so strike the 'up to' \$1,000 is per offense too, isn't it?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Yes. And Commissioner Arrington, the language about the automatic deduction is in Section D of the proposed --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. Well --"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "-- amendment."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Striking of the language 'up to' would probably make me not support it. But, you know, I just have one vote. I think, you know, the other thing that's missing is there are staff members that are in the meeting with us that don't report to anyone else, i.e., the County Manager, the County Attorney, and the Clerk. And so, like, to say that there are other -- I think your -- your response was probably applicable to most, but not applicable to those direct appointees from the Board."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "To clarify, what I meant was this amendment to the ordinance, the Code Section, is designed to address the Commissioners because the other direct appointees, the other employees all have someone who can enforce and whose duty it is to enforce adherence to County policies. So, for example, should a staff member of a Commissioner be present for some reason, the Commissioner could discipline them. Should I or the Clerk or the County Manager, or a direct report to the Board violate a County policy, the Board would take that up in whatever manner is appropriate depending on who the offending party is. This is --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So I guess I disagree with the statement that they all have someone, because the Board is not someone, it is something, right? And then you have to have a Board action, and so I think I disagree with the statement that all other employees have someone that they report to."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Perhaps it's more accurate to say there is a mechanism already in place for other employees to be -- to have violations of policy addressed when it is -- applies to other employees."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. I don't know if I'm ready to support this. But I'm -- thank you, I'm -- no more questions from me."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "The -- I mean, I supported the spirit of this because, you know, generally this is the way we're supposed to conduct ourselves anyway and the rules that we're governed under. I guess the piece that I struggle a little bit with -- and I think the censure part is fine. I don't know whether or not -- do we have the power to levy our -- levy fines against other elected officials?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "So to --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "I mean, what if that gets challenged? I mean it -- to me, I mean, I would -- I would almost strike the monetary portions of it because I just think it's

sort of Pandora's box, even though I know -- you say, what's the teeth, but you know, there are mechanisms, other mechanisms for that, the Ethics bodies and that kind of stuff. But anyway, I'll let you respond."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "The monetary sanction was designed to mirror the sanctions that are already contained in and have been previously approved by the Board in the Code of Ethics."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Yeah, but I guess sort of my question with that is, you know, if we were ever to get to a situation where it were to come forth and we sought to apply it, could you not get challenged on the fact that you didn't -- and say, hey, you really don't have those powers. Those powers really -- the fining portion rests with -- the mechanism for that rests with your ethics process you already established."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "So it is redundant, it has some overlap. But this Body has the power to adopt policy and each Commissioner is subject to and takes office subject to the policies, complying with the policies of the County. This is not something that we would think to place traditionally in the personnel policies because it specifically applies to Commissioners. And therefore, it is presented as an amendment to the code for that reason."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "I just -- anyway, again, I just want to go on record, I think it - - that component of it -- I mean, we censure somebody, I mean, that's within our confines to do, right, on any sort of matter. And would be, I guess for the traditional way to address, you know, that concern. But then you start levying, you know, monetary penalties, have you dealt over in making yourself sort of a true Ethics Commission I guess, if you will, and sort of getting beyond your scope? I don't know. I mean, I just -- I don't know if anybody else has got this kind of set up where one set of elected officials, you know, a set of elected officials would be levying a monetary fine against another elected official. I don't -- I don't know that that structure exists. I mean, that's sort of the purpose for having that ethics body to be -- that Ethics Commission or ethics structure to begin with."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "We haven't found any authority to prevent the Body from being able to --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "That's not really my question about an authority to prevent -
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Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "-- adopt this policy --"

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "-- but it's just -- you know, are there any sort of -- anybody else that's got this sort of structure in place?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "We also haven't found any precedent for it in another Body."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. Mr. Chair, would you accept a friendly amendment to remove the monetary penalty from this?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Respectfully, no, sir."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "Okay. All right."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I'm just curious about the proof part of this. If someone is accused of leaking information, what -- what's the process for proving that they actually did?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "So because the nature of the discussion would necessarily entail discussion of the matters that were discussed Executive Session, this process is designed to have the discussion of the alleged violation and any response to that allegation discussed in Executive Session, so as to maintain the confidentiality and avoid further disclosure."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "And so then, it's just up to the rest of Board Members to decide if they believe it or not?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Five."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, okay. So, five of --"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Yes, it would have to be --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "-- super majority?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "-- a supermajority of the Board."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "As I am new to Executive Sessions, so forgive me, but if the DA or another elected official is back there and they leak the dates -- what's been talked about, is there a penalty for an elected official or any type of penalty?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Under this ordinance, no, it is not designed to address other elected officials who may be present."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Other questions or comments? All right."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "As a practical matter, if I may, typically, what has happened in my limited experience is that the official will come and make a presentation, and then the candid discussion of the -- of the Commissioners can occur after they depart. So, it may not become an issue for that reason."

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

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "Page 8, **22-1004**: Discussion: Boards, Authorities, Commissions, and Task Forces, sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. So, I sent a notice to each of you, including Barrett and Thorne, regarding Boards and Commissions. And the reason this is so important is because we had an excess of some -- well, about a hundred and one point, then we narrowed that down to 67 Boards. And the problem that we're -- that we're facing now is that when we make appointments and people seek appointments on these various Boards for all kinds of reasons, in many instances the reasons that people want to be on these Boards is they have an ulterior motive, and sometimes that could be a financial motive. We've run across that in the past. So, what I'm asking is that we be really mindful and strategic about the people that we appoint, nominate rather, because the individual Commissioner nominates, the approval is by the entire Board. And it can be embarrassing, not only to the nominating Commissioner, but to the Board of Commissioners as well. So, I'd ask the Clerk to do some research on what we have and -- and because the problem -- one of the problems we have right now, we can't even get a quorum on some Boards because the people who are on the Boards simply do not attend. And it's becoming a real problem for us. Most recently, the Animal Control Board is one, there -- I can give you several other examples. But Madam Clerk, what have you --"

CLERK GRIER: "What -- okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Speak up, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "There are currently 67 Boards, Authorities, Commissions, Task Force in our County Board Management System. Out of the 67, not all of them are functioning. They don't actively meet; some only meet as needed. In August of last

year, our office sent out a survey twice to all contacts that we have on file requesting specific information including, date of their last meeting, how often they meet, and to please send us a copy of their minutes. Out of the -- I think we had about 40 to 50 current contacts, we received 24 responses. So that's one of our problems too. If we send out surveys or we contact the contact person and say, hey we need your minutes or does your record reflect what we have? And we all -- we don't always get those responses back. We depend on those officers of those Boards to communicate with us when there are changes in the Boards or if they members that are not attending the meetings, if they can't get a quorum. Because without that, I don't have any way of knowing what's going on with each Board."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "And this issue of the resignation, the resignation process came up recently with attempting to clarify that as well, where -- because the Clerk cannot do her job if the Clerk is not informed by the Board or Authority, et cetera or the person who is in charge i.e., the secretary. So, it's going to be incumbent upon us to make, what I say, strategic appointments to these Boards. So that's what this is all about. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, followed by Commissioner Arrington. That is becoming a real problem for us. And there are -- if you go through the recent list of the 67, which I had the Clerk forward to everybody, we all have vacancies, some as far back as 2020. And therefore, these entities cannot meet. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, followed by Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. I'm concerned about this as well. And the reason I'm concerned, I've been concerned about this a while. I'm thinking generally, I don't know, I can only speak for my office. The people that are on the Board, I try to have them give me some type of report of what's going on, the activities. I have one particular Board, I'm not going to mention the name, but they haven't met in about, I think my attendee -- my appointee said, in about six or seven months, they haven't met. And so, we've got Boards that are not meeting, Chairman, that's an issue. The resignation process needs to be defined as to what needs to happen. Because -- and I had a conversation with the Chairwoman Flowers. I said people need to have an opportunity or feel free enough to call a Commissioner and say, hey, your attendee is not showing up, or, hey, your attendee is doing this or that. I feel like the communication should be better. Because I would always want to have the best person in place. But how will I know if that person is showing up to the meetings, if they don't let me know, how will I know? Are they being productive, how will I know? Are they doing stuff that's unethical, how will I know? Some of the Boards, because of COVID, you know, stopped meeting. Did they start back, how will I know? I've had people, because they were up in age, a lot of my appointees were up in age. And they told me, Khadijah, Commissioner Khadijah, I'm sorry, I can't go any further, I've got to resign. They let me know that they resigned. But I didn't know if I needed to let anybody know that they resigned. I've had a couple of -- that have resigned. And so, we need a comprehensive, Chairman, overhaul because we've got people that are on Boards and the Boards are not meeting. We've got people that are on Boards that are not having conversations with the Commissioner. We have people that are on Boards

and a certain part of the Board is meeting and not the full Board meeting. And so, they're like, well -- and I know sometimes it's been brought to my attention that over there doing stuff in Executive Session. Everything is not an Executive Session. Every item that a Board has is not in Executive Session. And so, you've got some Members of the Boards that are not getting the information that they should be getting as well as being the appointee of all of the Boards, you know, Commission -- Commissioners. So, Chairman, yes, we need a comprehensive overhaul of it. Those that are active, we need to make sure that we have something in place to make sure that the Commissioners are getting the information. And the ones that are not active, they need to be dissolved. Because it doesn't make any sense for us to have a Board in place and we thinking it's a functioning Board, and they haven't met in almost a year. And so how do we -- maybe this will need more conversation. Maybe it will need some information between us and the Clerk's office of what may be the best practices or whatever. But I do feel there is a need, a comprehensive need to reevaluate these Boards. The ones that are not active, we need to dissolve them. The ones that are active, are they going by their bylaws, are they doing what they're supposed to be doing? Because there are some problems. And if our appointee is a representative of us, do you know everything that your appointee is doing? And I'm saying that even to myself. Are we actually keeping track of our appointees and if they're showing up or not, or if they're being productive for the Board. And so, we need something in place. I don't want to restrain any other Commissioner's opportunity to have an appointee. But I just think with some of these Boards, they get a little bit out of hand, and they don't follow their own bylaws or rules. And then the next thing you know, they're not meeting. And then the next thing you know, you've got an appointee that wants to resign because it's total chaos. So, whatever we can do as sitting elected officials to come up with some type of uniform policy, whether it's dealing with resignations, whether it's dealing with them following their bylaws and their rules, and whether it's dealing with a Board that has not had activity in quite a bit of time, we need a comprehensive overhaul and a look at these Boards. Thank you, Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Commissioner. And to that point, the County Attorney, I've asked her to begin to look at this in conjunction with Clerk. Commissioner Arrington, Vice Chair Ellis, Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. As you know, I have been talking about these Boards, Authorities, Commissions, Task Forces, and the need for some overhaul. The system is flawed. And the reason we don't have or received that information is because the system is flawed. I think that we need to likely, my recommendation since the Clerk is charged with keeping up with these Boards, Authorities, Commissions, and Task Forces, we probably need to add staff. And I don't know what the number is, but I would imagine if there are 67, you probably need five or ten people to manage the 67, the 67 Boards, right? I mean, you're talking about 67 Boards with, what, five to ten people each? I mean, that's all -- that's 300 to 600 people that need managing. And if -- so if the Clerk had someone in her office that was assigned and had to attend the meeting, she wouldn't have to wait to get the minutes

later. They be there, it'll be recorded. It'll be right there; it'll be recorded live. We'd get the information real hand. When I do my Town Halls, I invite Clerk. They come; they record the meetings. It's part of the record. So, you know -- and then you've got -- part of what you got to do is look and see if it's a Board or an Authority and -- and Task Force or Commission. You know, I don't know what the differences are, but I think Authorities are, from my understanding and it could be different, are more State-created entities. And so there might be something that -- a process or a policy that might need to be adopted for all Authorities versus Boards, Task Force, and Commissions, which might be completely under our purview, right. And so there might need to be a different process for those different entities based upon whether it is a State entity or some other entity that is out of our control. But still, I think we could have our Clerk there if we give her the staff and the resources in order to make sure that people are there. And then frankly, we just need to look at all 67 Boards and decide which ones, you know, make sense, right. You know, I -- you know, maybe that only 30 of them -- if only 24 of them responded and only 24 of them active, you know. So, we certainly need to look at all of that stuff. So, I'm open to continuing to have that discussion. But I think unless we were willing to commit resources -- the other thing is, you know why people don't show up? They not getting paid. They're not being compensated, right? So, you can't get a quorum because y'all paying -- so some people on some Boards get paid to go to meetings. And then other people that know that people are getting paid to go to those meetings, say, well look, if they getting paid to go to their Board meeting, why -- why would I go to mine, if I'm not getting paid? And so, we got to really do a comprehensive look at all of this stuff, you know, that's just one of the things that we need to look at comprehensively. But, you know, and I don't know, frankly, if we and our staff have the bandwidth to do it, or whether we are too close to it to take the actual look that needs to be taken. So, I'll stop there."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Vice Chair Ellis. And there are about 20 of those 67 that we could abolish today, just looking at them."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "So moved."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "But the -- I think really, that's what it comes down to first. Let's -- can we just take action to what we need to take action on? We had this discussion a lot and sometimes it's Groundhog Day type of discussion. Sometimes, you know, the components of this are a little more valid than others. But I mean, I think first we need to eliminate the things that aren't functional, right? And then also, you know, any time we add a new Task Force and that sort of stuff, these in particular, I think where it gets sort of a -- it becomes taxing somewhat on our staff to try to follow some of these Task Force, really, what's their purpose of them? Are they going to do anything? They obviously -- these Task Forces don't really have the same teeth that, you know, Authority is going to have, and then some of the other, you know, types of formal Boards we're going to have that are, you know, either set up by state law or have a really designated purpose. So, let's get rid of the stuff that we don't need. And then

another thing I think would be useful is to have, consider a policy for Board Members. And see whether this could extend also to -- to all of our Boards, whether it's an Authority that we nominate somebody onto, or something like the Board of Assessors and even the Board of Elections. If somebody doesn't show up for three meetings, you know, or pick a number, whatever it is that, you know, they will be deemed to be, you know, have resigned and need to be replaced and we get notice of it. Because I think that's something that we really should strongly consider and see whether or not, you know, because it can become a real problem if you got something like the Board of Elections, where you got five members or the Board of Assessors, where you got five members. And some -- I mean, fortunately I think all those have been showing up. Maybe one of them has had, you know, some members that haven't done that. But you got a member that doesn't show for that, this is pretty significant, right. So -- but you can't necessarily just revoke their role, right? I mean, I think once they're appointed, they're there unless we have some sort of, like, real special thing to be able to do it. So, I'd like to see us have some sort of attendance standards for the -- particularly for the folks that are on, you know, things like those Authorities and those Boards like Assessors, Elections, or whatever that really play a critical role. So, you know, and I think we need to minimize the amount of time that our staff is focused on these things and really have them focused on what we want them to focus on versus being scattered, sort of, all around on things that aren't really particularly meaningful to the function of our County Government."

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

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. So, whatever happened to the Boards and Authorities database that we used to have available -- I see you, Chad, shaking your head. Whatever happened to that database? Because it really was very functional and helpful to all of us because it kept track of, not only the appointees, but all the Boards and what was going on, the meeting minutes and, you know, it was very good at administration of all of this."

CLERK GRIER: "Yes, Commissioner, we still have that, it's CPMS. Unfortunately, we have to manually input that information. So, if we don't have it, we can't update it. So that's where we're having the problem."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "I recall at one point that you were trying to purchase a system that was more automated. Whatever happened to that?"

CLERK GRIER: "Well, we're still in the process. We're actually -- it's not going to work for us with the 67 Boards. And it will still be a manual process to get it started to enter in the correct information."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "So being a former IT manager for over 20 years, import/export of data is very simple. It's literally, like, click -- you know, select and click and so --"

CLERK GRIER: "But what we have now is not correct. So, we would just be importing wrong information."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Right, right. But you're in the process of correcting that information --"

CLERK GRIER: "We're trying."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "And so the best plan of action, when you talking about a business process is reengineering that business process in advance. So, if we're going to try to correct all of this and get it in order, we should also be looking at replacing that database with a more automated database that can help you guys manage this function. I think it was Commissioner Arrington who mentioned employees. That is very much in need, because all of these Boards need an administrative person assigned to them. And I've seen where we've done things like just call on Fran Calhoun or Jessica or you or, you know, someone to administer it, be like the administrative person. And that's just putting extra work on all of you when you already have enough work. So that is something that needs to be addressed. But also, I'm recalling Commissioner Ellis brought up one -- at one meeting, the investigations of appointees to the Boards. And have we addressed that as far as language is concerned? How do we handle if appointees are under investigation? Do they remain on the Board, do they have to come off the Board? What, you know, what kind of -- what do we have in writing as far as that's concerned? And the Chairman mentioned about people having their reasons for being appointed to the Board. We've seen where some people believe that being appointed to a Board is going to help them prepare to run for office. So, yeah, we do -- you need to actually get a bio and a resume for the appointees before. And I always interview people who want to be on these Boards before making a decision. But in all fairness, I think first of all, we need to make sure that our new Commissioners have had an opportunity to review all of these Boards and Authorities because there are lot. And, you know, it takes some time to actually find the people that you want to appoint to these Boards. And it's very -- it's not easy, you know, you come into public service thinking that everybody has a heart to serve, and you find out that that's not necessarily the truth. So, it may take time to even find the appointees. But I always have a positive outlook on everything in life, and perhaps your appointees will complete some of these Boards or make them more active. Because we never know who you might actually put on the Boards that we currently have. So, I'd like to, you know, allow them the time to go through them themselves as well."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "All right. I'm going to try not to repeat what anybody else has said. But I do think as somebody who's new, and I don't know how much Commissioner Thorne has experienced this as well. But I know the Clerk's office knows that I've asked several times for these lists in different ways. And it -- there is no self-

service here. There is nowhere for me to go and look this stuff up. And then when it is delivered, and they have done a great job, so thank you, guys, in delivering all that stuff to me. But when they do deliver it, it's very -- well, you don't get all of the information. So, some of them, for example, will say when the thing was formed and how many members and who gets to appoint them. But it doesn't say what it does, what it's for, how often it's supposed to meet. So, there's not really a summary about what these Boards and Commissions do. And then there doesn't seem to be really no consistency in the terms and, you know, some are over when the last Commissioner, you know, like, in this case, my predecessor, left. Others, they get to stay for another two years. And then I'm sort of stuck with, you know, whoever somebody else appointed, you know, those kinds of things. So, I bring all of that up because I agree with Commissioner Hall that we do need an IT solution, I believe. And I don't know that I necessarily think we need more employees to solve this problem if we had a really good IT solution that was more self-serve, not only for us as the BOC, but also for these various appointees and Chairs of their Boards and all of that. And I -- it does seem clear to me that we need to separate the ones that are not in our control that are regional or state versus the ones that are in our control. But I think until we can get a complete list of who they are, what they do, why they were formed, what -- you know, we can't really decide if one of them is not effective or whatever. It seems to me we need to systemize this all first. I don't think it needs to be a particularly expensive system. I mean, I think there are probably some options that a good web developer could put together. I, by the way, also have an IT background, so -- but it does seem to me, we're not -- we can have these discussions. And again, this is my first day, but from what I'm hearing, these discussions have happened before. It seems to me that unless we task the County Manager with -- or Alton with putting a system -- or putting some money towards putting a system in place, we're just going to continue to complain about it over and over again and not make any progress. So, you know, I don't -- I don't know what that looks like exactly. But it does seem to me that we're very behind on the eight ball here. And frankly, our constituents have a right to know about all these Boards and what they do and who's on them as well. And it's very hard to look up currently on the website and such. So, I think that is something we should look at doing this first. I don't know, again, what that might cost, but it might be worth talking to an in-house developer to see if there's something that can be done that would be pretty straightforward just to be able to start to look these things up. Okay, stop laughing, Chad. So, anyway, I just feel like maybe we could turn this into an actionable item, rather than just a discussion."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "It is. It already is. Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I'll piggyback on my other IT people. I don't believe in hiring more staff. I believe there should be some kind of cloud solution that can be implemented even if each Board, Task Force -- one, I'd like to know the definition, like, what's a Task Force, what's a committee, what's a Board; how are they defined? What's an Authority? That was a -- great information, Commissioner Arrington, that there may be state, a State Board. And then clean them up. If a Commission -- you guys, with all your experience, all the fellow -- my fellow Commissioners, they should

know which Boards they have to go back to for constituent questions and which Boards are active that actually are answering to us. Me and Commissioner Barrett, we -- we don't know at this point. So, we would be at the mercy of everyone else to maybe clean it up, streamline the number of Boards and appointments. Because for me, trying to meet with all these people that are appointed, and then trying to find appointments that - for people that are coming off or that I need to make, because I had no appointment. I mean, it will take me months to get through to fill all those positions. So, it would be helpful if we could get it cleaned up before we have to go through all of that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I guess, I really like what Commissioner Hall, Commissioner Barrett said, and you, Commissioner Thorne, as far as automating it. It might be as simple as putting them all on the website, on our website, right, and listing all of those different things and making it available and actually even making it so people could submit their resumes online while they're looking at the open Board seats, right. And so that, you know, that may be a solution. I still think at the end of the day, we'll need some type of staff to manage and oversee and implement this. I mean, you even need staff to go look it up and get it and find out where they all are. So, I don't -- I don't know how any of this gets done without staff. And then the ongoing management, supervision, and upkeep, certainly, I believe would need staff. But, you know, I have another question. And, you know, one of the other things we need to think about is the effect of redistricting on these Board appointments, and who was in what district and where are they now, and what -- I -- I mean, you know, I'll just leave it there. But I think, you know redistricting may have some impact on these Board seats and who's serving and who is -- gets to make this next appointment, and all of those different things. But, again, maybe it is better once we get it up on the website and have it in there. And then people's, you know, contact information, if you're on a Board, it's public information. And maybe we have to create email addresses for those people, right? Because we don't want, necessarily, those -- so we need someone to take a view, 50,000-foot view of this, I think. But maybe there's a way we get started with the website. We'll talk about the redistricting and again, I think we got to have -- we're going to have to -- there will have to be some type of staff. There's no way, even if you get it down to 20 Boards, 20 Boards of five to ten people, that's a lot for someone to manage. And, you know, I don't know -- I don't know what the number is. But in my mind, you know, I don't know, probably most someone could manage is, I don't know, five to ten Boards per person. So, if we got 20 Boards, you probably need at least two to four people. And maybe they're not doing that much work and maybe it's not that bad. But particularly, if we're asking someone to go to those meetings, and you -- if someone's got to go to all 20 of those meetings and record and take notes. You're going to have to have multiple people to do that. You're going to have overlapping meetings. You're going to have people that -- you can't be in two meetings at one time. But Elections and Reparations might be meeting at the same time. So, I think we need to definitely look at that. I don't want to beat a dead horse."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Oh, yeah, and then the question -- I'm sorry. Again, I guess we also need to know as far as requirements, is there is a requirement that the person live in the district that's on the Board? Depends on the Board, right? And so, we need to know which Boards that depends on, and which ones it doesn't. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Hall, followed by Vice Chair Ellis, followed by Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Just really quick, Mr. Chair. We need -- we definitely need employees for the Boards because of the administrative part of it. But also, it was always very cumbersome, and it was hard for the Clerk's office to keep track of all these Boards because they already have jobs to do. And we were already talking about them someone on their staff -- even when Chad was there before, Chad tried to help with the database that you currently had, but as you stated, it's manual, so it took a lot of work. So definitely, there's a need for employees. And as far as the system, the system can be connected to the website to feed the information directly to the website the same way we use the dashboard, the same way that the dashboard feeds the information into the website so that it's assessable to the public. So that's just -- that's a very simple thing to do. And this absolutely has to have employees who manage this project, because this will be a whole project for the Clerk's office. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Ellis."

VICE CHAIRMAN ELLIS: "I'm just going to request, if the County Attorney could prepare a resolution dissolving any -- any of these entities that's within our power to dissolve that hasn't met within the past 24 months and bring that -- and we can bring it forward to next meeting."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "We will prepare it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I don't think -- I just want to say, and I won't keep beating this up, because I know you want to move on. But I -- I just think, we don't -- it's not really our responsibility to go to the meeting to take notes in my opinion. If there's a Board, they can have a secretary, that person can take notes. If we appoint somebody, we should be responsible for the person we would appoint. But I think, I'll go to Commissioner Thorne's comments on this, you know, we're getting sort of some list with a person's name. And sometimes it's a first initial and a last name and no contact information. And that's all that we got. So, we don't even know how to get in touch with

these people. So, if there's some kind of self-service website, where even that Board itself can update and upload its minutes and update its contact information and note -- post its meetings. And then I think that -- that will help with what Commissioner Ellis is saying because if they're not doing that and we're requiring that of them, then they're not helpful. And we're -- you know, they're not active if they're not doing the job of letting us know their active, then they're not active. And, you know, I also think I want to sort of focus on what Commissioner -- sorry, Vice Chair Ellis said about whether or not they really are effective in our mandate. I mean, if we're just having a Task Force and Commission because it sounds good or somebody wants to be on it so they can, you know, have it on their resume, then why are we doing it? So, I think if you asked them to self-report that would be very helpful. I also want to state that I do know that these Boards and Commissioners are on the website, if anyone is going to point me there. But I will say that when you click on them, you pretty much just get a PDF. And that's what I was saying before about those PDFs are inconsistent with the data that's on them, so."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "And just one last thing, we have to remember, we assign other members of our County staff to these Boards, like Attorneys and everyone. So, there is a need for oversight from the County level with employees. And that's why we - we do it as -- that's why we need it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Any other comments on this matter? All right, again, County Attorney is already working on this. I'll continue to work with her and the Clerk. And I may ask two of you in particular to sort of being the unofficial working group with us to come back with some specific recommendations as well as support of the 67, some that we can eliminate. Next item, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Next item is the add-on item, **23-0023**: DREAM County Facility Update."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Mr. Chairman, as Joe is coming up, just a couple of comments. One, everybody knows that these freezing temperatures had a great deal of impact. At my own house I had a burst pipe, so I have good first-hand experience with this. But more importantly, we had 16 facilities impacted, four of which still require construction and a timeline to reopen. I wanted you to hear that. You should also know that we had two water mains that -- to burst in water system in North Fulton. But they were repaired in pretty short order. Also, a problem at JCEC, but none of that, I don't -- had material impact on water-service delivery, unlike some of the water pressure problems that you heard about in Atlanta and South Fulton. I want to give special kudos to Joe and David Clark as well as Mike Ross, Tim Diamond, our front-line employees, and our standby contractors, I think we under appreciate sometimes what these folks do. But when a crisis looms, they're as good as -- good as anybody. And from years of dealing with telephone restoration and seeing that done well, I can say our folks are equal to anything I've ever seen before. So, Joe, if you will brief the Board on

all the myriad of challenges that we faced. And then, of course, the four outstanding ones that still deserve a lot more work. And again, thank you, Joe, for your leadership."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "Thank you, Mr. Anderson and good afternoon, Commissioners. As everyone is aware, Friday, December the 23rd, we saw record-low temperatures in a pretty short time span here in Georgia, particularly Metropolitan Atlanta area. I know, personally, the morning of Friday, December the 23rd, it was 7 degrees to 8 degrees outside. As I was helping put salt out at the Fulton County Jail. But those quickly decreasing temperatures led to a myriad of problems throughout many of our facilities. This presentation is intended to give you a sense of the extent of the damage, what we've done to recover, what we still have yet to do. And with that, if we could go to the next slide, please. As the County Manager indicated, we had 16 facility overall impacted beginning with the Fulton County Jail, the North and South Service Centers, two -- actually, three Libraries, Ocee, Milton, South Fulton, four Senior Centers, the Medical Examiner's Office, the Joyner Bridge, the Assembly Hall building, which we're in currently; also, the Charles Carnes Courthouse building across the street, as well as two of our regional -- our health centers, College Park Regional Health and the Oak Hill Family Adolescent Child Center. Ultimately, the problems that we experienced in our builders were due to three different reasons all stemming from the low temperatures, but the first thing, fire sprinkler protection lines that burst due to being too close to exterior walls, and thereby, succumbing to the freezing temperatures. We've also had damage due to domestic waterlines that burst for the same reasons, as well as HVAC coils. Now, those are the things that were impacted by our systems impacted by cold weather. But some of the buildings on the list, as Mr. Anderson indicated, also were impacted by the low or no water pressure that we experienced pretty much across the southern half of the county. And in some cases, particularly the jail, that low water pressure actually led to subsequent damage where we were -- would have been able to prevent the cracking of our HVAC coils had we had the necessary water to -- warm water to send to the coils. It's a freeze protection that we have in place. So, it kind of exasperated the problem. We have approximately 20,000 square feet of facility place, as a whole, damage across the County. We are approximating our overall recovery costs to be between 1.8 and \$2.2 million. Those numbers are coming from our two standby contractors. Next slide, please. So as Mr. Anderson indicated, we have four facilities that are currently closed. Those are the Helene S. Mills Multipurpose Center, the Hapeville Neighborhood Center, Senior Center, the Milton Library, and the Ocee Library. And as you can see, it's a combination of burst domestic waterlines, sprinkler heads, as well as an HVAC coil. Next slide, please. So, here's the Helene S. Mills Multipurpose Center. The pictures that you see are somewhat post-recovery. For those that are familiar with the building, the first picture in the upper right -- left quadrant, that's our main lobby. The carpet has been removed. The picture just below that is the multipurpose hall; the wood flooring has been removed. Every picture that you see, all of those areas were literally under anywhere from three to 4 inches of water and for varying time frames. At this particular facility, we had three domestic waterlines that were all located on exterior walls that burst as a result of the low temperatures. So as of today, all the flooring has been removed in the affected areas.

The drying or dehumidification process of this facility has been completed. And we're actually starting drywall replacement in this facility as well as others to recover the building. One of the things that we're going to have to do moving forward particularly in this facility is, not only source the replacement carpet for the carpeted areas, but we now have an opportunity to make a decision as to whether or not we want to go back with a wood floor in the multipurpose hall. The reason we say that is because, of course, the recovery cost as well as timeframe is much more extensive with wood flooring versus some other flooring material. Whether it be what we commonly call LVP or luxury vinyl tile or vinyl plank rather, or whether we go with vinyl composite tile, whatever the case may be. We think there's a decision opportunity here to decide whether or not we want to mitigate the overall exposure down the road with the decision in that regard. The Helene S. Mills Multipurpose Center, just to give you a sense of the extent of the damage, the entire adult day side of the facility was underwater. There is no part of that portion of the building that, outside of the kitchen with the hard floor that still has flooring in place. Like I said before, it has been dried out thoroughly and we are now waiting on carpet selections and timeframes from our respective restoration contractors, subcontractors, or providers to give us a timeline. And before I go any further, let me state that in each and every case, it is our intent to be as aggressive as humanly possible with regards to the recovery of building being done properly and to the latest environmental standards. But most importantly as it relates to the service delivered to the citizens and the public. So, we are not quite sure at this point, this afternoon or this evening, I'll be hearing from the contractor responsible for this facility as it relates to timelines of flooring, which will give us a much better sense of where we stand with regards to reopening. At which point, we'll communicate that up through our normal channels so you all will kept abreast of what's going on. Next slide, please. The Hapeville Neighborhood Senior Center, if you see the first picture that says fitness room, and you can see the reflection of the water there in the floor as well as in the meeting-activity room to give you a sense of how much water was in the building. This was a result of two sprinkler heads blowing in that fitness room. In this particular case -- and unfortunately, I wasn't around when the building was built, but when you go into this fitness room, it looks like it was a post-general construction add-on to the building. And as result, it's not on the building's central air system, heating and air system. You see what's not pictured, is what looks to be a what we call a PTAC unit up on the wall that only activates when the room is in use. As a result, that did not go into operation during the time of holidays. We had these two lines burst and it sent an inordinate amount of water throughout the facility. What you'll see, again, as you can look at the meeting or activity room, the amount of water that's on the floor there. The two hallway pictures at the bottom, one, you can see where the water actually accumulated in the hallway. What you can't see in the other picture, which is the opposite direction, is the amount of water that goes all the way down to where the two pictures are in back -- two persons are in the background of that picture. But we're still in the process, similar to everything else, we've removed all the flooring, all the drying has been done. And I guess it's a -- take this opportunity to explain, this is a twofold process. You first, before you can move forward, have to dry out the facility. Once the facility is dried out, you can then begin the actual physical recovery of the building. And so, in all cases, our buildings are

now dry and we are actually beginning the replacement of drywall at this facility today, through our contractor. And we will have a little bit more information as to this evening, with their progress today, when we can expect to be reopened. But I don't anticipate that this particular facility will be open until probably Monday of next week at the earliest. But again, we'll keep you updated as we progress in our efforts. Next slide. Robert Fulton Library at Ocee, burst HVAC coil. You'll see here in these pictures that the amount of water that is on the floor, as well as the damage that occurred in the main lobby from ceiling tiles. The affected -- the unit that impacted this facility was on the second floor above, or mezzanine level. We've completed the drying and dehumidification process. The contractor that's servicing that building is actually going back out this afternoon. It is ultimately our goal, based upon what we have seen and done thus far, to open this building tomorrow. Working with many people, we've decided that there's an alternate path of travel in this facility that we enter from a side door, directing the public to that door and then being able to bypass the damaged areas. There's not a large portion of the collection section of the library impacted in this facility. So, we set an aggressive target of Thursday, however again, this is subject to field conditions, and we'll know more this afternoon. But it is our plan to try to open tomorrow. Next slide, please. The Milton Library, three sprinkler heads along the exterior wall exterior, which is an exterior glass wall, all burst affecting probably about 40 to 45 percent of the library. We have done a lot of work in this particular case to remove the water as well as the drying and dehumidification of the building. One of the things that's causing a little bit of a hiccup in our overall plan is, there's a lot of floor outlets in this particular library that as of yesterday we found a significant amount of water. We're trying to make sure that those are dry so that we don't have any electrical issues as we move forward. At this particular library, if you'll notice the two pictures on the left-hand side, those plastic tubes, that is connected to a huge truck-mounted dehumidification device outside the building to help speed up the drying out of the facility. But ultimately, as with regards to next steps, we've some inventory and packing to do with the collections area that was impacted so that we can move the racks, remove the flooring under the racks, restore drywall. But we are projecting Monday, January the 9th, subject to field conditions, to reopen the facility. Now, I want to give you guys an idea or understanding of what reopen the facility actually means in our terminology. It doesn't mean the facility is completely aesthetically recovered. It means that it has been recovered physical, mechanically, and that there still may be some carpet to reinstall. There still may be some other minor cosmetic things that we have to address. But the goal is to get the library back open in a safe manner for the public. Next slide, please. So, this is actually one that I'm rather proud of. This is the Assembly Hall building. This is -- we typically tend to think of the Assembly Hall as just this chamber here. But to my right here upstairs, where I see the Assembly Hall reception area, that was literally a picture of the water flowing like a waterfall out of the ceiling from a burst fire sprinkler line. The entire hallway or walkway right behind us here at the top, was underwater. The entire highway all around me here, underwater. As you can see the office that's destroyed, that's in my department, DREAM, in the basement. This water that's in this hallway is also on the far wall going into the Tax Commissioner's office. So, this was an extensive event. And with the exception of the

Tax Commissioner's area that's shown in this picture, everything -- oh, I'm sorry, the DREAM office, we've cleaned it up, but not fully repaired. But our focus was to get this room ready. You would not believe, from the day this occurred, all the carpet has been dried, all the carpet has been replaced with the focus of being -- having this chamber and the use of it for today's meeting to not be interrupted. So, we are continuing to do the work. All areas that were affected by this particular burst are open, available for use. As in all cases, still some cosmetic work to do in certain areas, but we're going to progress. We have a wonderful relationship with the contractors; there are two standby contractors that are doing the work. And they have taken our direction extremely well and have been committed to the overall job. Next slide. So additional facility issues are listed here. I won't take the time to go through them all. But it's a combination of the things that we've discussed as it relates to fire alarm lines, HVAC coils and domestic waterlines. I would like to say that in every facility that was impacted, all mechanical repairs that were necessitated have been made. We're just now in physical and aesthetic recovery mode. With the exception of the Fulton County Jail, we still have two HVAC coils that must be replaced; however, those are not going to impact our ability to provide environmental comfort to the facility. One thing that's not listed for the jail that I know is important to the Sheriff; we have three elevators currently down in housing, which limits them to one, the use of just one. As a result of a burst line, the control boards that are in the elevator picks got wet. The day this occurred, a vendor told us that over a hundred elevators were shut down in the city due for the same reason. We're waiting on an ETA for them to get us new electronic controllers. And in the meantime, the Sheriff is having to make some modifications. But other than that, these are all the facilities that were impacted during the overall winter event. Next slide, please. So where do we go from here? What can we do to prevent this from happening in the future? Number one, notification to end-users to leave faucets running. That's the number one thing that we all do in our homes. It's the same scenario here in the County. Another thing is to identify specific locations, meaning at the Mills Center, what is the best faucet to leave running so that we provide the greatest amount of protection with the least amount of effort, and identifying that on a facility-by-facility basis. Lastly, next -- next we have the fire sprinkler lines. Fire code prevents us from putting heat tape and things of that nature around fire sprinkler lines. So, what we're going to do is explore what they do in the north where they have to combat these problems all the time. Our systems are built and not designed the way they do in the north. And that is can we put, for lack of a better term, antifreeze in the line. What modifications do we need to make to our systems to allow us to add an anti-freezing agent to our fire sprinkler lines in the future? That is something our team is working on as well. And lastly, what can we do to improve our overall response time? That is, from the time the alarm goes off in E-911, and who gets called and when and so forth. Right now, what we experienced during this event was that the local fire departments in those expected jurisdictions were notified immediately. But no one in DREAM was notified, whereby we could have possibly stemmed some of the damage had our team been notified immediately. So, we're going to do a process review to make sure that we have the right hierarchy in place. We're going to pull all together, all stakeholders together and work on that and determine what our response plan and escalation protocol should be.

Next slide, please. Mr. Anderson alluded to it, but I would be remiss if I did not mention, out of all the people that worked, he mentioned front line staff. But there were two in particular, these are our Building Maintenance Supervisors for our Central Fulton area and our Greater Fulton area, Benjamin Wright for Central and Patrick Ent for our Greater Fulton area. Those two individuals literally sacrificed both holidays, both Christmas Eve, Christmas Day after, same for New Year's, to not only help in the response, but also to facilitate the speedy recovery. And I just wanted to call out and commend them for their efforts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, sir."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Got a lineup here. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, followed by Commissioner Thorne. And it is 3:16, Commissioners."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Chairman, I'll make my comments very quick. You know a lot of times we often come to you and tell you when you're doing stuff wrong. I want to take this time openly County Manager, as well as DREAM, you all did a wonderful job in your response in mitigating. I got calls from not only employees, but neighbors, individuals that saw what was going on and called the Fire Department or whatever, you know. And for you all to react so quickly and to mitigate what you could mitigate and to get open what you could, it was unprecedented in the temperatures. But this was not isolated, this happened all over Georgia. And we still have some jurisdictions that are really hurting from this because they were not prepared; they were not able to act. And more importantly, they were not able to reopen. And so, what I wanted to do was to thank you all because you all really did a top-notch job in jumping on all those things. It's not like they -- it's not like Milton did it and then Hapeville did it, you know, they didn't do it in succession -- in all that. They may have done it all at one time, they didn't wait to happen. And that takes some stellar teamwork, some very great leadership to get on top of that to control that, and more importantly, mitigate it. And I just wanted to openly tell you all; not only the ones that you mentioned, but everyone did a great job. And I, for one, appreciate what you all did. Thank you."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Thank you, Chair. I also want to thank you. I assume you had a very Merry Christmas holiday, probably need a holiday again. Maybe we can give you few days around Martin Luther King. You mentioned that in buildings like the Helene Mills Multipurpose that the domestic waterlines were put in exterior walls. When you repaired them, did you just repair them back in the walls where that might happen again? You said in the -- that fitness room that it only had motion-sensed heat, you know, has that problem been mitigated to keep maybe a baseline temperature in that

room to prevent freezing? And then you said, I think, in Milton Library that sprinkler heads were in a glass wall that is easily frozen. So, I was just wondering -- I imagine -- I'm from up north, Illinois, we have freezing temperatures all the time. I don't -- I've never known of someone to have a burst pipe. So, I just wonder if it's the builders down south that they just have different codes. And when we fix the problem, did we just fix the problem, but didn't fix it for a future freeze?"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "Those are all very good questions, Commissioner. Here in the south, we do build things to a different standard because we don't have the consistent average temperatures that you have in, say, Illinois and further north. But as it relates to those lines in the Mills Center that were domestic waterlines, we purposely intended when we facilitated, just simply the replacing of the pipe. Not only were we replacing the broken pipe or burst pipe, we're insulating those pipes, not only direct insulation around the water pipes, but also in the wall itself to provide a level of protection that we currently don't have. There's not too many things that we can do in the cases of the fire sprinkler lines. However, we do know that antifreeze or glycol is used in northern design. And we're now researching how we can add a device on our fire pump that would allow us to add these chemicals to our existing fire lines. I've been personally doing some research in that and now have a game plan for which I'm going to ask for our engineers to tell me what it's going to take from a mechanical perspective to do. And then figure out what that cost is going to look like so that we can have a discussion about capital funding for a project of that nature. Not much we can do about the design of the building where the lines are run because they're run where they need to be based on current code. However, how we run the water through the lines is another story. So, they're going to remain on the exterior wall, glass wall, because it's about 18 inches from this glass wall. Of course, glass doesn't necessarily provide the greatest level of insulation. But what we put through the pipe; we could potentially affect that. So, it's going to be a pretty enormous endeavor. But we're going to have to systematically go from building to building and identify what has to happen and what we can do and what that cost is. And we're already on top of that now."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "And then one more thing, I actually had people reach out to me wondering if this is going to be covered by taxpayer dollars or if we have insurance that covers these repairs."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "This is going to be, in every case, I'm not the one that makes the ultimate determination, but we are filing risk claim, as the County is self-insured. And the risk fund will be funding or paying for the damages to the best my knowledge. But Ms. Whitmore may have some more."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yeah, we do carry property insurance. So, to the extent that the carrier agrees to cover it, we'll submit claims for reimbursement. We'll probably incur the cost up front in order to complete the full

restoration, re-carpeting, and aesthetics aspect of it, and then seek reimbursement through the insurance carriers, less the deductibles for the breach of the facilities."

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

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. First, let me just say that D.R.E.A.M. has been a dream that has brought our dreams to light, because I had -- by the looks of -- you are cracking up laughing. Because by the looks of everything, there's no way that anyone could have ever told that all of this destruction happened. So, I want to commend you guys on what you've done, it's amazing work. And I'm so sorry that you missed your holidays because you really deserve them after this. And I agree Commissioner Thorne, maybe we can give you some extra time for a holiday. But the question comes to mind of, how does Emergency Management work in conjunction with D.R.E.A.M. in situations like this?"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "What I would tell you, it's going to sound like a very simple answer. But throughout this entire event, I was in constant contact with the Matthew Kallmyer, who reached out to determine was there any needs that we had, was there anything that they could do to assist us. We talked about what the overall recovery cost was going to be, trying to go after some federal dollars for it. So, from my perspective, as the facilities person, Emergency Management did what it was supposed to. It reached out, it extended a hand, and where we could, they would lend it."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "So I'm trying to understand if Emergency Management was in communication with DREAM, how does this last bullet point function -- the next to the last page that says assess existing notification system, evaluate current alarm notification technology to ensure all needs are met. Because it seems like D.R.E.A.M. would have been that -- part of that -- that emergency alarm notification process."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "So it's important to know --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "I mean, I'm sorry. Emergency Management would have been part of that."

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

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "It's important to note that Emergency Management does not house the alarm system, it's actually Emergency Services or E-911. And that is where we're going to take a look at the process, particularly as it

relates to our sprinkler lines. When they blow it sends an alarm signal, because it's the same signal that would be received in the event of a fire. At that point that signal goes to E-911, where they are then trained to call the Fire Department, who will be the first responder on the scene. What we need to focus on now is that there needs to be a dual action there. It's call the Fire Department and call DREAM as well so that we can get the ball rolling. So, what we've decided that we want to do is to bring these two entities together, DREAM, E-911 leadership --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "-- take a look at the overall functionality of that system and as well as the process and figure out where the process either fell short or where we had gaps."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "And then plug those."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you. Because, you know, if you've watched me over the years, my IT mind --"

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

COMMISSIONER HALL: "-- works like a flowchart. So, I'm already -- I've already started this flowchart of CORE addressing natural disasters. And to me this is a natural disaster with all this flooding and pipes bursting. And so now I'm like, okay, CORE, Emergency Management, E-911, D.R.E.A.M, that's a process that really needs to be solidified and put in place for these situations. So, I'm glad to hear that you're on that track. Also, the first bullet that speaks to notifications to end-users to leave faucets running inside and outside, and you kind of -- you kind of refer to that as that needs to happen in our County buildings the same way that residents are notified and need to do it."

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

COMMISSIONER HALL: "But it made me think about the fact that there was a time where we used to assign a person for every floor or every department for emergency evacuations. I don't know who that is anymore. But will there be a person who will be responsible to be notified to carry out the process of turning all the faucets on? Or will that person be dispatched from your team or CORE or Emergency Management? How will that work?"

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "What I will tell you is that the sheer volume of buildings that we have as well as the 70-mile geographical --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "It's a lot."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "-- just distance, is more than what just DREAM could cover in and of itself."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yeah."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "So the goal is, the County Manager and I had a discussion about this -- and so, similar to the issue with the computerized portion of this, we want to put together a team; it's going to evaluate what is the actual best way to accomplish this in mass. How do we do this? And it's going to inevitably be a partnership between D.R.E.A.M. and the Police Department and potentially the Sheriff's office as well as the various user departments so that we can figure out what is the best way to ensure complete coverage across the County. Again, that is something in progress --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "All right."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "-- that we have decided that we need to create, pardon the pun, our own Task Force to address."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "All right. Thank you so much. Great work. Very commendable."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, sir."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "No further items."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. No further items to come before us, we are adjourned. Thank you very much. 3:28 p.m."

(There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:28 p.m.)