

**FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
RECESS MEETING**

April 19, 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: May 17, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Robert L. Pitts

10:01 a.m.

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

Robert L. Pitts, Chairman (At-Large)

PRESENT

Bridget Thorne, Commissioner (District 1)

PRESENT

Bob Ellis, Vice-Chairman (District 2)

ABSENT

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**23-0260 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 Recess Meeting Agenda for separate consideration. **(ADOPTED)**

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

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

Absent: Ellis

Did Not Vote: Arrington

23-0261 Board of Commissioners

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

Proclamation recognizing "IMAN Atlanta Appreciation Day." **(Abdur-Rahman)**
April 12, 2023

Proclamation recognizing "Deshon Lee DuBose Remembrance Day."
(Abdur-Rahman)
April 13, 2023

Commissioners' District Board Appointments**23-0262 Board of Commissioners**

FULTON COUNTY REPARATIONS TASK FORCE **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

The Reparations Task Force shall have the following members: Each Commissioner shall appoint two (2) members, for a total of 14 members. Each member shall be a resident of Fulton County at the time of the appointment. A member shall serve for a two-year term and subject to removal by the appointing Commissioner for cause. No member's term shall exceed that of the appointing Commissioner but shall remain as a voting member until replaced or reappointed by the successive Commissioner.

Term = 2 Years

Commissioner Hall nominated Dr. Bernice King for a District Appointment to a vacant term ending December 31, 2023.

Open & Responsible Government**23-0263 Finance**

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

Justice and Safety**23-0264 District Attorney**

Request approval of an award without competition - District Attorney, Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) BJA National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) Grant, Grant Award No. 15PBJA-21-GG-04323-SAKI, with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation named as a sub-awardee in the Grant in an amount not to exceed \$705,630.00. Effective upon BOC approval through the term of the Grant. 100% grant funded. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Health and Human Services**23-0265 Public Works**

Request approval to accept a name change and authorize the Department of Purchasing & Contract Compliance to reflect the name change of NaturChem Inc., to Opterra Solutions, Inc. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

23-0266 County Manager

Request approval of a contract between Fulton County and the Atlanta Association for Convalescent Aged Persons, Inc., a Georgia non-profit corporation, to provide funding of \$1,200,000.00 as non-recurring for FY2023 for the operation of Sadie G. Mays Health and Rehabilitation Center. Effective upon BOC approval with automatic renewals subject to the appropriation of future funding. The County Attorney is authorized to approve the contract as to form and to make modifications thereto prior to execution. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

23-0267 Department for HIV Elimination

Request approval to accept a name change and authorizing the Department of Purchasing & Contract Compliance to reflect the name change of NAESM Men's Health and Wellness Center, Inc. to Carl Bean Men's Health and Wellness Center, Inc. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Infrastructure and Economic Development**23-0268 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval of a Sewer Easement Dedication of 327 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia from Mike Douglas Tye and Donna L. Tye, individuals, for the purpose of constructing the Marigold at Mayfield Project at 1255 Sherry Drive, Alpharetta, Georgia 30009. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

RECESS MEETING AGENDA**23-0269 Board of Commissioners**

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to adopt the Recess Meeting Agenda as amended removing item #23-0158 as requested by the County Manager; revising items #23-0271 as requested by Commissioners Barrett and Abdur-Rahman, item #23-0287 as requested by Chairman Pitts; and with a super majority vote adding items #23-0288 and #23-0289. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Absent: Ellis

23-0270 Clerk to the Commission

Ratification of Minutes. **(RATIFIED)**

Regular Meeting Minutes, March 15, 2023

Recess Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, April 12, 2023

Special Called Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, April 12, 2023

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

Absent: Ellis

23-0271 Board of Commissioners

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

Proclamation recognizing "Chandra Currelley Appreciation Day." **(Abdur-Rahman)**

*Proclamation recognizing "Sister Annie Wright Appreciation Day."
(Abdur-Rahman)

*Proclamation recognizing "Crime Victims' Rights Week." **(Barrett)**

**added during the meeting*

PUBLIC HEARINGS**23-0272 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)**

19 Speakers: Kristen Toliver (Item #23-0284); Rev. Lydia Meredith (Item #23-0284); Audrey Malone (Grady Health Care System); Michael Collins (Fulton County Jail/Item #23-0288); Cameron Jackson (Item #23-0284); Kenyon Brown (Item #23-0284); Rebecca Knon (Eviction/Rental Assistance); Tachen Tutdeal (Eviction/Rental Assistance); Lillian Reid (Item #23-0284); Evelyn Sterling (Item #23-0284); Tamara Jackson (Item #23-0284); Denise Young (Item #23-0284); Valerie Watson (Item #23-0284); Tiari Cluke (Item #23-0284); James Davenport (MARTA); Mara Gaudio (Decorum); Micah Herskind (Fulton County Jail/Item #23-0288); Ron Shakir (MARTA) and Neil Butara (Item #23-0276)

4 Zoom Speakers: Ben Howard (Senior Services); Adrian Coleman (Item #23-0288); Robby Caban (Lifeline/Fulton County Animal Services) and Mirlande Dina Michel-Wiggins (Eviction/Rental Assistance)

3 Emailed Comments: Shelia Louder (Homelessness); Emerald Alexis (Lifeline/Fulton County Animal Services) and Dana K. (Lifeline/Fulton County Animal Services)

COUNTY MANAGER'S ITEMS**Open & Responsible Government****23-0158 Human Resources Management**

Request approval of the proposed plan design to extend a childcare/elder care benefit to eligible employees as part of Fulton County's benefits package. **(HELD ON 3/1/23)**

ITEM REMOVED FROM THE RECESS MEETING AGENDA**23-0273 Information Technology**

Request approval to utilize cooperative purchasing, Information Technology, Atlanta Regional Commission, ARC Contract UA2206, Fūsus Software Management System in an amount not to exceed \$625,000.00 with Fūsus, Inc. (Peachtree Corners , GA) to provide a software management system for the Fulton County Police Department. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Absent: Ellis

Did Not Vote: Pitts

23-0274 Information Technology

Request approval of a recommended proposal - Information Technology, 22RFP315692K-BKJ, Design, Development and Implementation for Phase I, Public Facing Website in an amount not to exceed \$355,250.00 with Svanaco Inc., DBA Americaneagle.com (Des Plaines, IL), to assess and implement critical platform enhancements for the County's public-facing website (fultoncountyga.gov). The contract will commence as of the date indicated in the Notice to Proceed (NTP) and shall continue until the sooner of (a) a period of 18 months; (b) Final Acceptance; or (c) the Agreement is terminated as provided herein. **(APPROVED)**

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

Yea: Pitts, Thorne, Barrett, Hall, and Arrington

Absent: Ellis

Did Not Vote: Abdur-Rahman

23-0275 Purchasing and Contract Compliance

Request approval to renew an existing contract - Purchasing & Contract Compliance, 21ITB000001A-CJC, Countywide Armored Car Services in the amount of \$150,000.00 with Brinks, Incorporated (Coppell, TX) to provide Countywide armored services as needed for various County departments/agencies. This action exercises the second of two renewal options. No renewal options remain. Effective upon BOC approval through December 31, 2023. **(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, Barrett, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Ellis

Did Not Vote: Hall

23-0276 Purchasing and Contract Compliance

Request approval of a termination of contract - Board of Tax Assessors, 21SS031121C-MH, Audit and Discovery of Unreported Aircraft with Specialized Tax Recovery (Mayfield Heights, OH) to identify unreported aircraft for valuation for ad valorem tax purposes. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Absent: Ellis

Justice and Safety**23-0277 County Manager**

Request approval to amend an existing contract - Office of the County Manager, 21RFP206340K-BKJ, Jail Feasibility Study in an amount not to exceed \$869,893.00 with a joint venture of STV Architects, Inc., and TreanorHL, Inc. (STV/TreanorHL) (Atlanta, GA), to provide the Phase II of the feasibility study. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Nay: Pitts

Absent: Ellis

Did Not Vote: Arrington

Arts and Libraries**23-0197 Arts and Culture**

Request approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) between Fulton County and the Chattahoochee Nature Center, Inc. for the purpose of providing funding in the total amount of \$700,000.00 (\$200,000.00 recurring for environmental education programming, \$500,000.00 non-recurring for capital improvements). The term of the MOU is effective upon execution through December 31, 2023. **(HELD ON 3/15/23) (APPROVED)**

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

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

Absent: Ellis

Did Not Vote: Pitts

23-0198 Arts and Culture

Request approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) between Fulton County and the Bear Creek Nature Center, Inc. for the purpose of providing funding in the total amount of \$700,000.00 (\$200,000.00 ~~non-recurring~~ **recurring** for environmental education programming and \$500,000.00 non-recurring for capital improvements). The term of the MOU is effective upon execution through December 31, 2023. **(HELD ON 3/15/23) (APPROVED AS AMENDED)**

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

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

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

Absent: Ellis

Did Not Vote: Pitts

23-0278 Arts and Culture

Request approval of a contract between Fulton County, Georgia and The National Black Arts Festival, Inc., a Georgia non-profit corporation, for the purpose of providing funding in the amount of \$200,000.00 to provide expanded operational resources as well as educational and arts-related services to the citizens of Fulton County. The term of the contract is effective upon execution through December 31, 2023. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Absent: Ellis

Did Not Vote: Pitts

23-0279 Arts and Culture

Request approval of a contract between Fulton County, Georgia and the Johns Creek Arts Center, Inc., a Georgia non-profit corporation, for the purpose of providing funding in the amount of \$200,000.00 for the operation and management of the current arts and culture programs based at 6290 Abbotts Bridge Road, Johns Creek, Georgia 30097 as well as to provide a Multicultural Performing Arts Center feasibility study and expanded operational programming. The term of the contract is effective upon execution through December 31, 2023. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Absent: Ellis

Did Not Vote: Pitts

23-0280 Arts and Culture

Request approval of a contract between Fulton County, Georgia and Hammonds House, Inc., a Georgia non-profit corporation for the purpose of providing funding in the amount of \$200,000.00 for artistic services. The term of this contract is effective upon execution through December 31, 2023. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

Absent: Ellis

Did Not Vote: Pitts

23-0281 Arts and Culture

Request approval to close out a contract - SWC# 99999-SPD-0000136-0008, Professional Temporary Staffing in the amount of \$20,841.62 with Corporate Temps Inc. (Norcross, Georgia) to provide temporary staffing services for the Arts & Culture Department. Effective upon BOC approval. **(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, Barrett, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Ellis

Health and Human Services**23-0282 Behavioral Health and Development Disabilities**

Request approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between Fulton County, the Fulton County Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (BHDD) and the Atlanta/Fulton County Policing Alternatives and Diversion Initiative, Inc. (PAD) to ~~resume~~ **continuing** financial support for delivery of pre-arrest diversion services in the amount of \$400,000.00 for the period January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023. **(APPROVED AS AMENDED)**

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

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

Absent: Ellis

Did Not Vote: Pitts

23-0283 Public Works

Request approval of lowest responsible bidder - Department of Public Works, 23ITB137357A-JWT, Soft Dig Services in an amount not to exceed \$175,000.00 with A&K Services, LLC (Dawsonville, GA), to provide soft dig services. Effective dates: April 12, 2023, through December 31, 2023, with two renewal options. **(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, Barrett, Hall, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Ellis

COMMISSIONERS' ACTION ITEMS**23-0209 Board of Commissioners**

Request approval of a Resolution urging the consolidation of certain Fulton County Clerk of Court operations under the Fulton County Superior Court Clerk; directing the County Manager to assist with facilitating such consolidation; and for other purposes. **(Pitts) (HELD ON 3/15/23 AND 4/12/23) (APPROVED AS AMENDED)**

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

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, to approve. **(NO VOTE TAKEN)**

Commissioner Barrett made a friendly amendment to include administrative functions.

c. A substitute motion was made by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Commissioner Arrington, to hold. **(NO VOTE TAKEN)**

Chairman Pitts called for a Recess of the meeting.

d. A substitute motion was made by Commissioner Barrett and seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, to approve as amended by only consolidating the administrative functions. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Nay: Pitts

Absent: Ellis

23-0284 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution amending Resolution No.18-0840 to remove the limitation that the amount dedicated to salary supplements for employees of the Fulton County Department of Family and Children Services be no more than thirteen percent (13%) of the total approved budget for the Fulton County Department of Family and Children Services in any given year; and for other purposes. **(Hall/Barrett/Arrington/Abdur-Rahman) (APPROVED)**

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

Commissioner Thorne made a friendly amendment to increase the cap to 40%. Commissioner Hall did not accept the friendly amendment.

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

Absent: Ellis

Did Not Vote: Pitts

23-0287 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution authorizing an agreement between Fulton County and Morehouse School of Medicine for the provision of health care services for Central and South Fulton County. **(Pitts/Barrett/Hall/Arrington/Abdur-Rahman) (APPROVED)**

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Arrington and seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, to approve as amended. **(NO VOTE TAKEN)**

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

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

Absent: Ellis

Did Not Vote: Thorne

c. A substitute motion was made by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, to approve a Resolution authorizing an agreement between Fulton County and Morehouse School of Medicine for the provision of health care services for Central and South Fulton County. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Absent: Ellis

Did Not Vote: Thorne

Commissioners' Full Board Appointments**23-0254 Board of Commissioners**
HOSPITAL AUTHORITY OF FULTON COUNTY (NORTHSIDE) (HELD ON 4/12/23) (HELD)

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

Term = 4 years, staggered

Term below expires: 4/1/2024

Dr. Thomas W. Gable (**BOC Position #2**) (**Deceased**)

The Board of Trustees of the Hospital Authority of Fulton County (Northside) submitted the following slate of names for the Board of Commissioners' consideration to fill the unexpired term of Dr. Thomas Gable (Position #2) ending April 1, 2024. (Ellis)

Position #2

Kenneth Kupke, M.D.

Marc Soneshine, M.D.

Jennifer Amerson, M.D.

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

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

Absent: Ellis

COMMISSIONERS' DISCUSSION ITEMS**23-0285 Board of Commissioners**
Discussion: Transparency (Thorne) (DISCUSSED)

EXECUTIVE SESSION**23-0286 Board of Commissioners**

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

PRESENT IN THE EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING LITIGATION, REAL ESTATE AND PERSONNEL: Chairman Pitts, Commissioners: Thorne, Barrett, Hall, Arrington and Abdur-Rahman; County Manager Dick Anderson; County Attorney Y. Soo Jo; External Affairs Director Jessica Corbitt; Sheriff Pat Labat; Sheriff Chief of Staff Michael Shoates, Chief Counsel to the Sheriff Amelia Joiner, and Clerk to the Commission Tonya R. Grier. Vice-Chairman Ellis was absent.

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

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

Absent: Ellis

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Thorne, to deny the settlement demand in item #1 as discussed in Executive Session, and approving the alternative request for settlement authority. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Absent: Ellis

ADDED TO THE MEETING**Items Added to the Agenda****23-0288 Sheriff**

Discussion: Emergent issues at the jail. **(DISCUSSED/APPROVED)**

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to approve adding Item #23-0288 to the Recess Meeting Agenda. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Absent: Ellis

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to approve \$5.3 million in investments to support this emergency response and improve Jail conditions:

- \$2.1 million for devices to provide real-time tracking of detainee heart rate and blood pressure in the Medical and Psychiatric Units;
- \$485,000.00 for Sanitizing and Clinical-grade sanitizing and decontamination of all medical Decontamination and psychiatric observation units;
- \$630,000.00 for 4D imaging of mail contents to detect narcotics and other contraband in mail sent to inmates;
- \$1.1 million for 91 additional Jail Surveillance Cameras
- \$1 million for additional emergency management support

The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Absent: Ellis

Did Not Vote: Pitts

23-0289 Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of recommended proposal - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, 22RFP10111K-DB, Program Management Services for the Affordable Tiny Homes initiative, in the amount of \$330,399.00 with MircoLife Institute, Inc. (Clarkston, GA), to provide a project manager **team with a dedicated project manager** needed to facilitate Fulton County's Affordable Tiny Home project. Effective upon execution of contract through December 31, 2025, with one-year renewal option. **(APPROVED AS AMENDED)**

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to approve adding item #23-0289 to the Recess Meeting Agenda. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Absent: Ellis

A motion was made by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, to approve with a friendly amendment by Commissioner Arrington to specify a project management team with a dedicated project manager. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Absent: Ellis

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S RECESS MEETING

APRIL 19, 2023

10:00 A.M.

Alexander Solution, LLC

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, good morning everyone, and welcome to the -- this meeting of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners. Today is April 19th. It is exactly 10:01 a.m. Madam Clerk, please call the roll for purposes of a quorum."

CLERK GRIER: "Chairman Robb Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Bridget Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Vice Chairman Bob Ellis. 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."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 2, Consent Agenda, **23-0260**, 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 Recess Meeting Agenda for separate consideration."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, any changes to the Consent Agenda, Madam Clerk."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioners?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, I'll entertain a motion regarding the Consent Agenda. Motion to adopt by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman; it is seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Cast your vote, please."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; five yeas, zero nays. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we have two items to be added to today's Recess Meeting Agenda. First item, 23-0288, Sheriff, Discussion: Emergent issues at the jail."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. That will require a supermajority. I'll entertain a motion? All right, is there a motion to approve? Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman; it's seconded by Commissioner Hall. Let's vote, please."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "Second item --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- actually that item -- that's the Sheriff's item. What's the next one?"

CLERK GRIER: "The next item is Real Estate and Asset Management; tiny homes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay, on the Sheriff's item colleagues, the Sheriff is taking care of some personal business and we will take that item up. That'll be the last item that we will take up today. So at the end of the agenda."

CLERK GRIER: "Second item added, Item 23-0289, Real Estate and Asset Management: Request approval of a recommended proposal in the amount of \$330,399, to provide project manager needed to facilitate Fulton County's affordable Tiny Home Project."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, we have a motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman; it is seconded by Commissioner Hall. Please vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "Bottom of page 3, Recess Meeting Agenda, 23-0269, Adoption of the Recess Meeting Agenda. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we have amendments to today's Recess Meeting Agenda: On page 4, Presentation of Proclamations and Certificates. We need to include two proclamations: 'Crime Victims Rights Week' sponsored by Commissioner Barrett. And 'Sister Annie Wright Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

CLERK GRIER: "Next item to be revised on page 8, 23-0287. This item is revised to amend the requested action. It's a Resolution authorizing the County Manager and the

County Attorney to negotiate a medical contract for services agreement between Fulton County and Morehouse School of Medicine to provide healthcare services and --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- wait a minute. Just a minute here. Repeat that."

CLERK GRIER: "The item -- requested action was amended from what's on the printed agenda."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So what's the change?"

CLERK GRIER: "It's authorizing the County Manager and County Attorney to negotiate the medical contract for services agreement."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Mr. Manager, what is --"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, sir. As I explained yesterday, we don't have all of the details vetted yet in terms of the cost, patient volumes, and the like of the proposed clinic that Morehouse would run with support from Fulton County. So, what we would like to do is present the information that we have today and realize that it got to you late this morning. And then finalize those details and bringing back a Memorandum of Understanding in the next meeting for your approval."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Let's discuss that one further when it comes up. What else?"

CLERK GRIER: "And on page 5, we're removing an item: 23-0158 --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- page 5?"

CLERK GRIER: "Page 5, Human Resources Management: Request approval of the proposed plan designed to extend a childcare, elder care benefit. This item will be moved to a later meeting."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Mr. Chairman, could I ask you a question?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "On the Morehouse presentation, it's at the back of the agenda, I think the external parties are here from Morehouse if it could be moved forward we would appreciate that consideration."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Take that earlier in the agenda?"

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No problem. No objections."

CLERK GRIER: "Those are all the amendments I have."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, anything, Commissioners?"

COMMISSIONERS: "(No response.)"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, we have a motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman; it is seconded by Commissioner Hall. Please vote on the agenda as amended."

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

CLERK GRIER: "Page 4, **23-0270**, Ratification of Minutes. Regular Meeting Minutes, March 15th. Recess Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, April 12th, and Special Called Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, April 12, 2023."

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: "**23-0271**, Presentation of Proclamations and Certificates. First proclamation is recognizing 'Chandra Curelley Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay, Mr. Manager, we'll take up the Morehouse matter after Public Comment."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Thank you, sir."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Will all the family members and supporters of the great Chandra Currelley, please join me and my colleagues at the podium. We'll give my colleagues an opportunity to get up here. WHEREAS, Chandra Currelley is the former lead singer of the SOS Band which produce a string of Top 20 Billboard hits with the albums, 'Diamonds in the Raw'; and one of many nights where she wrote several songs including the single, 'Broken Promises'. And WHEREAS, Chandra's first solo album, 'Love Songs' was No. 1 on CD Baby; and her single, 'You're Just Right', skyrocketing to No.3 on the UK Soul Chart. She has also released two other albums, 'Relationships and The Real Me.' And WHEREAS, Chandra has performed at the Long Beach Jazz Festival, the Berkeley Jazz Festival, The J-Fly Music Festival, the Tom Joyner Fantastic Voyage, Praise 102.5 FM Gospel/Jazz Live, the Holland Juneteenth Music Festival, and the Atlanta Jazz Festival. And WHEREAS, Chandra is also an accomplished actress; and can now be seen on the BET+ original series, 'Tyler Perry's 'Bruh'. Her other credits include 'Tyler Perry's 'Madea's Big Happy Family', and 'For Better or Worse' on the Oprah Winfrey Network. And WHEREAS, Chandra is the recipient of the Best Black Female Performer and Theater and Film Award, and the Lady Soul of Jazz Award. She is also a Helen Hayes Award Nominee for Lead Actress in the musical 'SLAM'; and was lead actress in the unforgettable portrayal of Dinah Washington in 'Dinah Was' at the Alliance Theater in Atlanta.' NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes the great Chandra Currelley for her outstanding body of work, and for her tremendous contribution to the arts. And does hereby proclaim not only Friday, April 7th, 2023, but today, April 19th as 'Chandra Currelley Appreciation Day' in Fulton County, Georgia. Please put your hands together for a talented, talented individual that represents Atlanta, Georgia and the world so well. Thank you."

CHANDRA CURRELLEY, RECIPIENT: "First of all, I just want to thank God. I want to thank my friends and family for coming out. I just want to thank you guys because my skills were developed here in this county. I mean from Campbellton Road to the Alliance Theater; Jomandi Productions to Horizon; The Atlanta Jazz Festival to the SOS Band; from the SOS Band to Tyler Perry. I got all my gold here; and I take it all over the world. And I am an example of what is poured in this city and this county. So I really do appreciate this. Thank you so much, it means so much to me."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Can I get my staff to take the pictures? Can y'all, please, staff, take the pictures and let these individuals -- give your cameras to my staff, anybody that's -- okay. We want to make sure we get it right. All right. Can we get the podium moved, Douglas? Thank you."

CLERK GRIER: "The next proclamation is recognizing 'Sister Annie Wright Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Elizabeth Baptist Church, please join me and all my colleagues, please, on both sides, thank you. And while they're making their way, these are our pioneers. These are my mentors. These are the people that have made Fulton County great and I appreciate you all coming out this morning. Listen, do we need any more on this side? Okay. You come right here, sweetie. We got everybody? Okay, wonderful. WHEREAS, Sister Annie Wright joined Elizabeth Baptist Church on March 29th, 1972, and was officially installed as a charter member of the Golden Years Ministry on July 23rd -- I'm sorry July 25th, 1996. She met with Pastor, Craig L. Oliver, Sr. and convinced him to make the Golden Years Ministry the very first ministry he established upon becoming pastor. And WHEREAS, Golden Years Ministry is an extension of the church's Christian ministry for the provision of services, Fellowship, and education to members of the church who are 55 years young or older and operates under the slogan 'Never Too Old to Grow'. And WHEREAS, Sister Wright currently serves as co-coordinator of Golden Years Ministry; serving as advisor and liaison between the pastor, the church, and the ministry. She believes that elders have a desire to pursue a life filled with promise, happiness, pleasure, and respect; and she cares deeply for the well-being of seniors. And WHEREAS, Sister Wright also recruits young people to volunteer in the ministry, and organizes numerous opportunities for members to work as a team and be self sufficient for as long as possible; and encourages members to enjoy time together by attending special events, sharing meals, and traveling. And WHEREAS, Sister Wright was born to lead and destined to serve others, working with every committee in the ministry including the Senior of the Month Committee, the Bereavement Outings Committee, the Caring Collars Committee, and the Special Events Committee. She is also a member of the Council on Aging, Concerned Citizens of Atlanta and Rosa. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Sister Annie Wright for 27 devoted years of dedicated service to Elizabeth Baptist Church Golden Years Ministry and for her selfless commitment to the care and comfort of our seniors. And does hereby proclaim Thursday, April 20th -- that's tomorrow, but we gone talk about it today -- as 'Sister Annie Wright Appreciation Day' in Fulton County, Georgia. Would you please put your hands together. Wonderful, wonderful. So we're going to get it right this time. Can we get the podium moved -- well, not yet, not yet. I'm sorry. Let's do the remarks first."

SISTER ANNIE WRIGHT, RECIPIENT: "Thank you all so very, very much for this honor. I thank all of my Golden Years members and the church and whomever and it's just indeed an honor for me to do for others as my mother would want me to do. Thank

you all very, very much and may God bless everybody. And I do want to say I did work for Fulton County Office of Aging for 12 years, so I've been doing senior work since 1970. So, I thank y'all very much."

CLERK GRIER: "The last proclamation is recognizing 'Crime Victim Rights Week' sponsored by Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "If I can get the -- Madame District Attorney and her team to come on down and join us. So next week is National Crime Victims Rights Week. It's April 23rd through the 29th; and I am honored to, along with Full Board support, recognize Madame District Attorney, Fani Willis, and her team for their outstanding work with victims and their families with this proclamation and it reads: WHEREAS the term victim is more than just a label and has legal standing and protections that go along with it. And WHEREAS, the Georgia Crime Victims Bill of Rights and the National Crime Victims' Rights Act guarantee victims the right to meaningfully participate and use their voices in the criminal justice process. And WHEREAS, victims' advocates, law enforcement officers, attorneys, and others can help survivors find justice by enforcing these rights. And WHEREAS, the right to provide an impact statement ensures victims' voices are considered in court during sentencing. And WHEREAS the Fulton County District Attorney's Office provides a victim/witness assistance program which offers quality and compassionate assistance to victims and witnesses of crime in Fulton County. And WHEREAS the Fulton County DA's Victim/Witness Assistant Program is staffed by professional advocates, counselors, and social workers who assist thousands of victims every year. And WHEREAS, National Crime Victims Rights Week provides an opportunity to recommit to advocating for victims in Fulton County. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County recognizes the Fulton County District Attorney's Office for their commitment to victim's rights throughout the year; and does hereby proclaim the week of April 23rd to the 29th, 2023 as 'Crime Victims' Rights Week' in Fulton County, Georgia."

FANI WILLIS, FC DA, RECIPIENT: "First of all, I just want to thank Commissioner Barrett and all of the Commissioners for recognizing us. This is a very, very thankless job. And I would just be remiss; there are a couple of ladies that really lead and make us lawyers do what we're supposed to do to make sure these victims are serviced. And so there's a team of them and I just want to introduce some of their leaders. Here is Chief Deputy District Attorney Reva Collier; our director of Victim/Witness Services, Shandrica Derrico, Misty Botu which was in our major case unit, but has been recently promoted and she supervises the trial division and touches more victims than anyone in the office; along with Priscilla Williams who does the noncomplex defendants and then

Dilma Dosraise, who deals with our specials victims, those that suffer from rapes and child molestations, and all of those things we do not want to talk about in polite company. And then Ms. Alona Roleck, and I don't know if I saw her, but she is in trial right now because we're trying to get another murder case, and she deals with the families of the deceased. They make sure every day that us lawyers don't lose sight of this is not just a practice of law, but that we really service victims and there's a team of advocates here; so the proclamation is really for them and for all of us at the DA's office. So we just thank you all. You all already know how much I love you, the mighty Commissioner from the District 6, and Commissioner Hall, and Commissioner Arrington; we just thank you so much for recognizing us for our work. We are humbled by it. We're glad that we have people that support us and we know that you all support us. Thank you every day. Also to Commissioner Ellis, and thank you, thank you for recognizing us today. If my advocates can just take the front. If we could just get one picture with the advocates in the front, lawyers to the back."

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

CLERK GRIER: "Continuing on page 4, Public Hearings, **23-0272**, 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 at www.fultoncountyga.gov. Priority for public comment will be given to Fulton County citizens and those individuals representing businesses or organizations located within Fulton County. Speakers will be granted up to two minutes each. The public will not be allowed to yield or donate time to other speakers. The public comment portion of the meeting will not exceed 30 minutes. In the event the 30-minute time limit is reached, prior to public comments being completed, public comment will be suspended and the business portion of the BOC meeting will commence. Public comment will resume at the end of the meeting. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board we have received 20 speaker cards here in Assembly Hall."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Did you say 20?"

CLERK GRIER: "Twenty. Will the first five speakers, please come forward. Kristen Tolliver, Lydia Meredith, Audrey Malone, Michael Collins, Cameron Jackson."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, speakers when you have 15 seconds remaining on the two minutes that you're allotted, I'll simply say 15 seconds, and that's your clue to terminate your remarks. Given the fact that we have 20 speakers, if you can say what you plan to say in less than two minutes, it will be greatly appreciated. It is 10:30. Let's say, 10:32 now, so we'll continue until 11:02. First speaker."

KRISTEN TOLLIVER, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning Board of Commissioners. I first want to thank you to allowing me time on your agenda. My name is Kristen Tolliver and I'm the Regional 14 DFCS Director and I'm also Interim Fulton County Director. I'm here today to request the 13 percent ceiling that is capped for Fulton County to be lifted. I'm requesting this because at current, Fulton County staff that is standing all behind me. You see case managers, supervisors, administrators that work effortlessly to ensure that the children of Fulton County remain safe in their homes. And if they cannot remain safe in their homes, then we try to make sure that they are in foster care safe until they can go to a forever home. At this time, Fulton County receives a supplement. The case manager level receives \$250, one in July, one December. Our counter County, such as DeKalb, for instance, they receive every year \$2,000 in supplements compared to Fulton County's \$500. Fulton County is your largest county. For example CPS receives over 32 intakes. That's as if one of you call and says there's a danger to a child, the case managers behind me have to go out and ensure that those children are safe. What I'm asking -- I'm not asking for any more money. We have money in our budget. It is just that we have a 13 percent cap, and I am asking that cap to be lifted, to give me the opportunity to increase their supplement to show them that we respect and we honor the work that they do for our Fulton County residents and for our Fulton County children."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

CHRISTIAN TOLLIVER, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Thank you, Commissioner Pitts. So again, I am asking that you all be gracious in lifting that ceiling. I am very diligent with my budget. I have a \$1.6 million budget last year. I spent that down and have \$500,000 left. I can transfer that money to the supplement"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Thank you. Next speaker."

LYDIA MEREDITH, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners. I'm here advocating for leadership and resources to end hoteling for DFCS foster care children and youth and especially today the removal of the 13 percent ceiling for supplemental compensations for DFCS workers. The request to remove the 13 percent ceiling to increase DFCS staff compensation is on the voting agenda today. Because of the stellar leadership of my Commissioner, Natalie Hall and her team, thank you, Commissioner Hall. As you know, DFCS workers staged a walkout because of working conditions and low staff pay earlier this year. This event was televised on local news. Fulton County has the highest caseload in the state and the lowest pay in the state. Our DFCS staff are underpaid and overworked. Daily our staff toils with stressful issues of children and families with complex needs from drug addiction to child abuse and neglect; exacerbating issues of safety and care for DFCS children and their families in

Fulton County. I appeal today for the support of all Commissioners to pass this initiative. I am begging you today to provide the leadership and resource needed to fix this problem. Child safety, doing all we can to protect and promote an atmosphere when children are safe and thrive developmentally in every light domain is an urgent matter. Inaction and delayed action cause children to be hurt and harmed. This cannot be our response to such an urgent matter. Please vote in favor of this matter and your constituents will remember your status."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

LYDIA MEREDITH, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- protect children and families in Fulton County. Thank you for your consideration."

AUDREY MALONE, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hello and thank you for hearing me. My name is Audrey Malone. I'm coming before the Board today to ask you to exercise your authority over the Fulton DeKalb Hospital Board to ensure that Grady Memorial Hospital comes in compliance with this liability insurance; as of now, it is unlawful. There was strong opposition to the proposed 2008 lease of Grady Memorial Hospital to the private corporation because the private corporation was noncompliant with statutory requirements. At the Board meeting in 2008, a DeKalb County Commissioner stated, we must protect our patients. A Fulton County Commissioner stated our doctors will take care of the patients. They will do the right thing. They were wrong. I was seen at Grady Memorial Hospital an estimated 70 times. During that time, 18 doctors and a mob administration intentionally concealed a terminal medical condition for me. They left me to die a cruel death. During that situation as I approached them to discuss the remedy for what they had done to me, that is when I learned that the business insurance was unlawful and deficient. Business insurance is a fundamental financial policy falling under the governance of the authority. Grady is not self-insured, they are not a governmental entity, they are in violation of law, and they must be brought into compliance. This governing body has a duty to ensure by the Board Resolution of 1941 that was again administered in 2008 that every black, every brown, every indigent person that goes to Grady is receiving proper care --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

AUDREY MALONE, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- and when that does not happen, they are -- they have a right to the available remedies and for Grady to be insured just like every other corporation. Thank you for hearing me today."

MICHAEL COLLINS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "My name is Michael Collins, and I'm from Color of Change. Like, Lashawn Thompson, countless individuals are currently enduring inhumane conditions at the severely overcrowded Fulton County Jail often languishing months at a time for frequently minor offenses and small amounts of cash bail. Despite years of scrutiny from the community, the neglect and inhumane conditions within the jail have persisted, as has the inhumane treatment by a Sheriff's office that has seen its employees and vandals arrested for drug smuggling and assaulting those detainees. Politicians have responded to these problems by throwing more money at the issue and approving more jail space. Just last year, the Atlanta City Council decided to repurpose a diversion center and turn it into a jail. Yet the local Sheriff has barely used this new facility. Does this Body even know how many people are being transferred to the Diversion Center? Does this Body know why Fulton County puts its residents behind bars at a rate nearly three times that of other urban counties? Does this -- has his Body scrutinized what DA Willis has done with the \$5 million allocated 18 months ago to clear a backlog of cases, a back log that still exists? Does this Body know if the Sheriff has been requesting repairs on the current facility or is he letting it deteriorate so he can get a fancy new jail? Instead of asking these questions, this Body is yet again going back to their same playbook; throw more money at the problem and hope it goes away. This time it's a two billion-dollar jail, an astronomical waste of money at a time when the county will have to pay out for countless lawsuits like that of Mr. Thompson. The solution is never more jails and more incarceration --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

MICHAEL COLLINS, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- it is smarter more humane justice policies that will reduce the jail population. Thank you."

CAMERON JACKSON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name is Cameron Jackson. I'm from Fulton County DFCS and Child Protective Services. I am here in support of the increase of the supplement and the removal of the cap for our workers, for our team, those that have not only been able to support the families that live in Fulton County, but have an obligation to their own families as well. So we are -- I am standing here in agreement with that for my team, for our citizens because this is how we support you all, and we are looking for that same support from you all. We thank you for the time that you have given us to come up here and speak. We thank you for everything that you do as a Body, and we're in support of you and just praying that you are in support of us. Thank you."

CLERK GRIER: "Will the next five speakers come down. Kenyon Brown, Tachen Tutdeal, Rebecca Knon, Lillian Reid, Evelyn Sterling."

KENYON BROWN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning and thank you for your time. My name is Kenyon Brown; I am the deputy director of DFCS in Fulton County. I'm here because my team is here. We work countless hours to ensure that we support the families and the children; to keep them safe, their well-being, and to ensure that we achieve permanency. We're in full support and we're asking for your support to not only increase the supplement, but to go ahead and remove the ceiling. Countless hours, countless days my team stands committed. Restless hours, we stay committed. We continue to fight for the children and families of Georgia. Not only do we ensure that we achieve permanency, but we ensure that we provide services to ensure that families feel supported, that they get what they need. So once again, I want you to take a look at our team and understand the support that we're asking from you today, because we're going to stay committed and we're going to ensure that we not only achieve permanency, but we keep the children of Georgia safe. Thank you for your time."

REBECCA KNON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Amen. Good morning. My name is (inaudible.). I am a citizen of the United States. I'm a migrant from South Sudan (inaudible) and Ethiopia. Today. My friends, I come to you today -- I'm happy because I find this home a Christian home. I'm very happy today for the first thing was pray. Thank you, Jesus, for that. I got an eviction from my apartment -- well, not only -- I was hospitalized -- my both eye. I had an injection and had to move one eye for cataract. On January 2022, I paid my rent and then I went to the hospital and probably -- and one of my friends told me that you need help. Can you apply to Fulton County Emergency Assistance? I said yes. When I did, they told me that we approve you for one month you owe, for the three months ahead of you. I filled out all of those paperwork, me and the landlord, they told me that we have -- we will send the check, the landlord --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds, ma'am."

REBECCA KNON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- amen. And then after we learn they delayed me, five months later, they told me that you deny and I moved myself in. They give me -- they give me --(Speaker still speaking; mic disabled.)"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Thank you. Thank you. Next speaker."

TACHEN TUTDEAL, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, sir. My name is Tachen Tutdeal. That was my mother speaking and today, we're here today to speak on --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- will you speak up a little bit please, sir?"

TACHEN TUTDEAL, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Today, we're here today to speak on English efficient, basically the rights that we are also, you know, should have access to the Georgia rental assistance program as well as Fulton County rental assistance"

program, being that it is not accessible because we don't know English that well or computer literate as that well. There should be resources that we could use to not have this sort of thing happen, you know. We came here for the American dream. Why can't we get a piece of it as well too, you know? And the thing is, Fulton County, is that we are -- we're been good citizens. Before, we were citizens of Africa, we were citizens here first, you know? And we just feel like the way it was -- you know, we came here just like the Pledge of Allegiance, you know, justice for all, no matter where we're from, you know. Thank you so much. That's my little spiel. That's my mother, and we were given -- due to COVID-19, we were given a certain amount of time for the Georgia rental assistance program as well, too. So, but that was very hard to navigate and, after a while, it was just unbearable. My hard-working mother right there, she had suffered from, you know, cataracts in both eyes. And as we try to do that then we get an eviction notice which I deem not fair at all. You know, during hard times, it shouldn't be the last thing that we should be talking about. I'm here for you today just -- just take it upon your hearts to -- if we were here, came out to talk to you guys live in the flesh, how many people are suffering in silence?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

TACHEN TUTDEAL, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- thank you very much."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Next speaker."

LILLIAN REID, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hello. My name is Lillian Reid. I'm a CPS case manager with Fulton County DFCS, and I'm here with my coworkers. A lot of us work over 40 to 50 hours a week to make sure the children of Fulton County are safe, and I will greatly appreciate it if you will give us the supplemental increase. Thank you."

EVELYN STERLING, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name is Evelyn Sterling. I am with the Fulton County CPS facility. I stand before you all asking you all to please lift the 13 cap. I work hard every day to support our kids and families to make sure they are safe, to be supportive of my leaders, and for my coworkers. So I would greatly appreciate it if you could lift the 13 cap. The Word says we have not because we asked not, so I'm asking you all too please lift the 13 cap. Thank you."

CLERK GRIER: "Next five speakers; Tamara Jackson, Denise Young, Valerie Watson, Tiari Cluke, and James Davenport."

TAMARA JACKSON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name is Tamara Jackson and I work for Fulton County DFCS as a support worker for our staff. And I

appreciate you for hearing me today, and we're asking that y'all lift the 13 percent cap so we can support not only the families of Fulton County; our families. Thank you."

DENISE YOUNG, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name is Denise Young. Thank you so much for hearing me and also my staff and my leadership today. I am an employee of the Department of Family and Children Services, and today we are pleading for you to release the 13 percent cap for the supplement increase. I have been working with DFCS for over six years, and I've seen the ups and downs. And what I can say is, these individuals that you see before you, they work extremely hard, day and night. Sometimes we work over, and we work really hard to ensure the safety of the children in Fulton County. Thank you so much for your time."

VALERIA WATSON, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name is Valerie Watson and I work with Fulton County CPS, Child Protective Services. I've been with the county for 20 plus years, yes. It's a hard job, but we enjoy it, but we work hard for it. I'm here with my coworkers and supervisors, and all of us, we just would like for you to please release the cap -- the 13 percent cap. Thank you."

TIARI CLUKE, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. My name is Tiari Cluke. I'm a CPS case manager for Fulton County DFCS, and I'm just here with my coworkers today to advocate for the 13 percent supplemental pay increase. And I just hope you hear everybody and give us what we're asking for. Thank you."

JAMES DAVENPORT, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. Thank you for allowing me a moment of your time. My name is James Davenport. I am the president and founder of the Hit and Run Help Foundation. I also am a member of Protect the Vote Georgia. You all should recognize that. You've seen us out there at Liberty Plaza for the past three years. My apartment was breached over a month ago. Someone's out to kill me. I did -- I have asked you all several times to not only provide one dollar Lyft rides for seniors, but to do it for free. I'm a living witness as far as why we need that. Commissioner Rahman, I left a message on your phone last night. We have a serious problem, and it's MARTA. I was here a couple months ago when Collie Greenwood sit up here with this beautiful presentation. I want to ask each of you, when was the last time you visited a MARTA train, a MARTA train station. I doubt if any of you have. The late great Hosea Williams told us not to vote for MARTA. We will suffer in the end. It is up to you all to tell MARTA -- excuse my French, hell, no. Do not eliminate those bus stops in Southwest Atlanta. You got people like me who need transportation. My car is in being repaired right now. We have people who need these bus routes. All you have to do is tell MARTA, no. MARTA gets over \$500 million of our tax dollars. Why do we keep allowing them to mistreat the public? They did this during the pandemic --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds.

JAMES DAVENPORT, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- I was the person who stood up and protested, speaking to Collie Greenwood. How many of you know that that man was only imported from Canada from a bus driver? Now he is CEO of MARTA. Something in the milk ain't clean. Thank you."

CLERK GRIER: "Last five speakers in the Assembly Hall: Maria Gaudio, Micah Herskind, Tara Kaganze, Ron Shakir, and Neil Butara."

MARIA GAUDIO, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hey, Maria Gaudio, Fulton County resident. I did not get to finish my comments last week, and I'm glad Marvin Arrington is here, because I am still very dismayed at the verbal abuse that Commissioner Thorne took from Marvin Arrington and Commissioner Rahman. If you are going to verbally abuse one of your own, then you need to make a formal -- a formal apology out in public. I'm still -- I've looked at the Fulton County website again and Commissioner Rahman, you have not removed your lying remarks. You were never enrolled in law school. You never had a business. You cannot call yourself the owner of a business when it belongs to a family member and add it to your resume. Yes, you have to say it; you have to hear the music. You know, you can't call yourself a job creator when you've never made out W-2s. You need a DOL number for that, and you can't get that without being registered with the Secretary of State's office. You cannot make these claims to yourself when you hold these positions. They're people here in this room, I'm hearing terrible stories about DFCS and the jails, and last time the stories about the dogs killing children because everybody on the team has to do their part and has to have the proper qualifications and skillset to make these decisions. And by lying about who you are --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

MARIA GAUDIO, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- it doesn't help anybody. That's it. Thank you."

MICAH HERSKIND, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Commissioners. My name is Micah Herskind. I'm a policy associate at the Southern Center for Human Rights. It's nice to see our new Commissioners here. We were repeatedly here last fall as the Fulton County Jail was in crisis, and the solution proposed by Sheriff Labat was to lease 700 beds from the City of Atlanta. We told you then that the lease would not solve the problem. Some of you told us that we didn't care about people inside. Now, as the jail is once more in the news for the violence that it inflicts on the people held there, as more people have died in 2023 after the lease was passed, and as the lease has not solve the problems, we're here again to tell you that the solution is not to build a new jail, but to do what we told you in the fall, which is to depopulate the jail. What we told

you in the fall was that from the time the Rice Street Jail was built, it was under lawsuit including -- by our organization. Over the past decade, Fulton County has repeatedly looked for new places to put its problems: contracting with counties with South Fulton, now with the City, and now with other counties. We told you that more bed space would not solve the problem, and that the Sheriff wouldn't even have the staff to feel AC/DC. And that has played out, it's now months later, only 61 people have actually been transferred to AC/DC, as we told you. We're about to tell you that the same solutions we shared this past fall remain the real solutions, which is depopulating the jail. To the extent that the problems have to do with the physical state of the current jail, you all should be asking questions about how it has fallen into such disrepair. That is your responsibility; how did it become this way? The answer is not to reward the Sheriff who allowed a person to be eaten alive by insects with a new to two billion-dollar jail. The Fulton County Jail was once a new jail and quickly became an old jail that was immediately under lawsuit. A new jail is not going to solve these problems. The problems with the Fulton County jail are problems of neglect and abuse. That is the culture of this Sheriff's office."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

MICAH HERSKIND, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "No one should be eaten alive by insects, by mistake, or by oversight. These are management problems. These are overcrowding problems. We share with you data in the fall showing that there were over 700 people who could be quickly released from the jail, that remains true, and we're here to work with you to depopulate the jail. So please lean on us, contact us. Maybe we'll reach out too."

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

RON SHAKIR, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning. Ron Shakir, Southwest Atlanta. Boy, these comments are so powerful and that's why the people's voices should be heard. The fact that Fulton County, Mr. Pitts, I have to say that cutting back public engagement hurts the service that goes to the public, because the citizens have a right and you can hear what are some of the concerns, and that should be an inviting thing. And to take it away to -- and I could directly connect with your leadership, that we cut the times down, the ability to -- the young lady come from a different culture. There's a need to hear what people have to say. And if she could find some help that she'd like to do, we should encourage that, and not restrict it. Let me say this right here, I came down here because of the concern of MARTA. The fact that Fulton County, the City of Atlanta have been the hand in the resources that have spread MARTA. But for MARTA to consider a streetcar going to Buckhead, or to consider this other type of streetcar; what the other thing they have? Beltline to align itself with a parking lot for the Beltline."

This flies in the face of the needs of the citizens who's been impacted by gentrification. The fact is I had a lady address me one time, what does gentrification mean? And she just heard me say it. And when I explained it to her, do you know what she said? That's what happened to me. I'm being displaced. The fact is, when we have citizens come up here and come from neighborhoods that now the services are being cut back because they voted for it, it was a need for it, and the other side voted against it, because they didn't see it, but they're not -- the new people that's coming in is not going to even use it, but my real big concern now --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

RON SHAKIR, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- the fact that the DFCS concern have citizens, and I think we need to look at it. But we see the despair that DeKalb is spending and the resources that Atlanta is spending, is terrible. I want to thank you, Ms. Rahman, for your voice, because for somebody to attack you for using your voice is shameful, and we continue to support you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Thank you."

NEIL BUTARA, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Good morning, Fulton County Commissioners. My name is Neil Butara, Vice President for Specialized Tax Recovery. Our staff, over the last three years, has been working with Fulton County to discover aircraft that omitted aircraft accounts and have chosen not to pay their fair share of taxes. Starting in 2019, we developed a program with Fulton County Assessor's office to utilize our technology and our aviation experience to help address non-filing accounts and ultimately create a more uniform taxation process to collect the money owed to the schools and communities of Fulton County. After all, everyone in this room pays their fair share of taxes, why shouldn't the aircraft owners? The program was approved unanimously by many members of this Board in 2021, and again in 2022 on an amendment that we also helped you guys procure. Over the last two years it has been a huge success. STR has added multiple dozen aircraft accounts worth just over a billion dollars' worth of untaxed fair market values. That fair market values would generate roughly \$15.7 million to everyone in this room. Tax dollars that without STR, your county would not have. Even with all that success we've been rewarded with habitual and a consistent late payments and now a termination letter for our work stating nothing but a lack of funding for the program. Somewhere between 2019 and today was a missed internal step that unfairly shifted the burden of fundings on a single entity instead of spreading it out over the entire district. It has been proposed that a simple solution would be put in place a multiparty agreement or an IGA to address that issue,

solving the only issue standing in the way of this completing our continued to be successful and productive for your county. I ask today that the Board vote no; do not terminate our contract --

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- 15 seconds."

NEIL BUTATA, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- as terminating now will not forgive already incurred fees of our work as we have already completed all the way up to '22; '23 and '24 are going to continue to cost you money, and you will not be able to collect with our efforts. We would like to continue to find a solution to work with you to solve this and address it. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you." "How many more?"

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. So it is 11:02. The 30 minutes have expired. We'll take those up at the end of the meeting. Continue, Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Are we going to the Morehouse item?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Correct."

CLERK GRIER: "Okay, on page 8, **23-0287**: Request approval of a Resolution authorizing the County Manager and the County Attorney to negotiate a medical contract for services agreement between Fulton County and Morehouse School of Medicine to provide healthcare resource services."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, Dr. Roshell."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WRKS: "Good morning, Commissioners. I am Pamela Roshell, Chief Operating Officer for Health and Human Services and Public Works here in Fulton County. On April 12th, Fulton County, Morehouse School of Medicine, and Ernst & Young presented to you the findings of our study regarding the impact of the closure of the WellStar hospitals in Central and South Fulton. We concluded that the closure of these hospitals exacerbated longstanding issues within the communities; specifically the exit of WellStar hospitals in Central and South Fulton along with the withdrawal of an extensive primary care network, further exacerbated the medically underserved communities in this area, and widened the

healthcare access gap. In response, Fulton County, Morehouse School of Medicine, and Ernst & Young created a five-part solution set to improve healthcare access and add healthcare services. Today, we are here to continue the conversation with a presentation on the first in a series of solutions, specifically a solution to improve healthcare access and add additional capacity. Next slide. The solution that we are presenting today is a partnership between Fulton County and Morehouse Healthcare System with a plan to open a new primary care facility focused in East Point to offset the capacity loss due to the closure of WellStar AMC South. Fulton County and Morehouse Healthcare, which is a clinical arm of Morehouse School of Medicine, seeks to open this clinic in East Point to address the capacity lost within a 90-day period from approval of an agreement. The proposed location is Buggy Works Office Park, which is very close to the AMC South closure, and Morehouse Healthcare has a history of delivering healthcare services in this community. The proposed care site can conceivably provide access to over 150,000 constituents in these underserved ZIP Codes. Specifically, Morehouse will draw on their legacy of healthcare provision and community engagement with a lens toward cultural competence; and Fulton County will offer resource allocation as well as an extensive network of social determinants of health assets. Joining me today is Dr. Tyndall, Dean and Executive Vice President for Health Affairs with Morehouse School of Medicine who will provide more detail about this proposed primary care access point."

DR. JOSEPH TYNDALL, MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MED: "Thank you very much, Dr. Roshell. Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, thank you again. And I want to start by letting you all know what a privilege it is to actually be here in partnership, and I deeply believe that these kinds of engagements with academic and healthcare organizations and partnership, and I stress partnership, with local county government is in fact important to the solutions that we want to bring today. If you can draw to the next slide, please. And I think as Dr. Roshell has said to you, quickly moving from our conversation last week, we wanted to now present you with the solution set that we envision as partnership that will be important in moving the needle when we look at the healthcare inequities that we really talked about last week. And the importance of the primary care site that we are now proposing is really for two purposes: one is that that site was previously occupied by Morehouse School of Medicine as a clinic. Two, it really is well-positioned because of where the assets of the previously removed. So this is about a mile away from WellStar South. And three, as Dr. Roshell mentioned, within that 30-mile radius in that South Fulton County, there is access to approximately 189,000 citizens within South Fulton County that can't have access to the primary care services. And as I presented to you last time, the importance of the racetrack in the continuum of care, we really want to think about how that clinic setting could really impact community-based programs, but also have an additional offering in terms of the

ambulatory and the primary care network which I think is so important in the solution. If you could move to the next slide. And what I want to, again, focus on -- and I think it's important to emphasize this: that we know that the healthcare infrastructure in Fulton County especially, is really relatively stressed. We know that a lot of that stress has resulted from the removal of healthcare assets when WellStar closed their two facilities, but we also knew, if you do recall, that there have been in existence, pre-existing conditions that I think has exacerbated this problem. And what we hope to do with this clinic is to open up, not just primary care access, but also to implement other assets within that clinic setting that we hope -- that we know actually, will reduce the burden of care to these other facilities. Also, we'll improve the health care outcomes for our population and we'll actually argue will also reduce costs, because of the potential to reduce unnecessary hospitalizations, and also potentially emergency department visits. So that is really the focus of what we are attempting to do here. Next slide, please. And so, what is important here is thinking about the populations that are addressable and what we want to illustrate here is that we defined the addressable populations as populations that are within a 30-mile radius -- a drive time radius of that facility. And when we actually look at that 30-mile drive time radius within South Fulton County, we can actually see that about a 189,000 individuals will be able to access that facility just based upon that drive time radius. So that's what we actually call the addressable population. And so, the idea here is that Clinic Now can be an additional asset in that area that will allow for the citizens of Fulton County to be able to access services, which is what we are really wanting to ensure that we do in this very first step. And again, we believe that adding not just the primary care assets, but the importance of adding other resources are going to be important in helping to move the needle when we actually look at the disparities that we actually examined in our previous conversation last week. Next slide, please. So the purpose of this: We want to really affect a few things. One, is we want to ensure that there is seamless access to care. And so, this is an emphasis of extended hours, this is an emphasis on ensuring the facility has hours on nights and weekends typically at times that are more convenient for our citizens who work during the day; who may not be able to access primary care resources during the time that they actually work. We want to ensure that we infuse technology, too. Tele-health is a very important part of what we do. And we want to make sure that we can actually use every asset that we're working on right now at Morehouse School of Medicine to impact this population. I also want to point out that there is proximity to public transportation, so there's a MARTA station nearby, which also obviously improves and eases the access. With regards to the care that's actually been delivered there, the one thing that I will actually emphasize is that while primary care and clinicians and providers are obviously central to this process, what is really critical we all believe is the wraparound services that are necessary; the addition of behavioral health specialists. Other

individuals who will assist and support the primary care providers, but also an emphasis in the community health workers ,and their impact in being able to actually change the healthcare outcomes. And this is going to be, I think, critical to our model. We want to ensure that community health workers are not only present in the clinic setting but are present throughout our community to help our citizens navigate the healthcare infrastructure, wayfinding, access to appropriate services, supporting moving some of our citizens to funded status even when we think about the care provision that we're doing. And that we believe that this is going to be critical to how we actually impact, not just the care, but the healthcare outcomes in that facility. Next slide, please. And I wanted to concentrate a little bit on the community health worker issue, because for us again, as I said, the emphasis here is going to be critical. We've always believed perhaps in the past that care delivery in terms of just direct care would be important. But we also know that our healthcare workers and our community health workers could impact social and community program navigation. They can actually impact the financial navigation literacy. They can help with technology adoption. They can help with care plan implementation and navigation. They can help with coordination and navigation of healthcare services. They can better assess social needs of the population, which is what we want to do; and over time we will be training and deploying more than a hundred community health workers and assets across our space to support the care that's actually being delivered here and we want Buggy Works site, our clinical site, to be that first important site that will actually utilize these resources. Next slide, please. So, in doing this work over the last six to seven weeks, we have been sprinting. We have focused very carefully on the model that we want to actually provide. We have had our finance assets look very carefully, the pro forma, in terms of the needs, the population of the volume of patients we will likely see. The cost of the wraparound services associated with that, the likely revenue that will actually occur, but also most importantly, the subsidy and the cost will actually be incurred in this model. Now, in any other type of clinic like this, especially because of the needs, we know that there's going to be a subsidy. And after actually looking at this for good four, five or, six weeks, we now have come to a sense with a high degree of confidence, in terms of what those numbers would look like. We know that in order to establish the clinic, both in terms of Cap Ex and other assets for that first year, it will cost approximately \$5 million. We do know that in ongoing years, we would actually need a subsidy to support the clinic operations of about two and one half million dollars per year. Now in saying that, I want to be very clear that when we look at the pro forma and we look at what is going to be going on in the out years, we have an intention and a strategy to reduce that subsidy over time. If we are able to focus on important, let's say value-based contracts, that's actually get impacted, I dare say that Medicaid expansion will also obviously help with this, but I will say also that when we think about taking patients from being nonfunded to

funded, when we think about how we actually embrace values-based contracts or look at other models as we actually begin to develop this clinic model and our volume grows, we are going to have a key interest and focus in reducing the subsidy over time. Now, I will also say to you that this is the first step in what we hope are going to be a series of steps to help to focus on how we can actually deliver better care in the Fulton County area. We also know very specifically that in this situation and circumstance, what we are hoping to do is to add assets. This is an add. We know that there are other assets in location, but we also know that that cannot be done alone and there's not enough access in location to be able to impact the care that we desire and the outcomes that we desire. So this is the first in a series of steps that we will take to do this. But the importance of the Buggy Worksite on the clinical side is that this is the now. This is how we can actually create a solution now that will work quickly, that we can set up expeditiously within 90 days of go. We can get this clinic up and running to be able to service the citizens of South Fulton County, especially. Next slide, please. And so, let me end my part of this by simply saying that this kind of collaboration is so important. This kind of support and I would say this relationship that we have with Fulton County in helping to create solutions for healthcare for our citizens, I think is key. It is a model for how we should actually be doing business in healthcare I think in the future, and it's really been a privilege to be in this six- or seven-week spread with Fulton County. Thank you."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WRKS: "I thank you, Dean Tyndall. So, in conclusion as we both shared Fulton County, Morehouse School of Medicine, and EY created a five-part solution set to close the gap related to healthcare access in the impacted communities. Today this is the first of many initiatives, and the next steps are to work with Morehouse School of Medicine and Morehouse Healthcare to confirm our assumption and theirs on expenses, patient volumes, subsidies, and to really establish performance metrics. We also will complete a partnership agreement, and we will present a final agreement for Board consideration at an upcoming meeting. We will also have stakeholder engagements, stakeholder briefings, and an extensive plan to communicate our efforts to the public. So, Mr. Chairman that concludes our presentation on the first initiative to improve healthcare access; close the healthcare access gap, and add additional services to the community."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, thank you for the presentation. On our screen it says request approval, but I thought that you read that this would be to authorize negotiations, so which is it?"

CLERK GRIER: "That was the revision."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So, what's before us?"

CLERK GRIER: "Before you is to request the authorization."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So what's on the screen is not correct, so we're not approving this today. It's to authorize negotiations; is that correct?"

CLERK GRIER: "Yes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Is that your understanding, Dr. Roshell?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WRKS: "Yes, sir. That is correct, Mr. Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. But from the point of view of the numbers, Dr. Tyndall, I'm going to quote you now. You said there's a -- you have a high degree of confidence in the numbers, which means from my interpretation of that; the numbers are what they are. And then I guess during this next two weeks, because I want to resolve this matter once and for all at our next meeting, if that's the will of the Board. But their numbers are their numbers, so we're going to massage them and maybe shave something off in the meantime, but we have, what I think, seems to be a solid range here, and again, a high degree of confidence in your numbers. Those are your words, not my words."

DR. JOSEPH TYNDALL, MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MED: "That it is correct, Chairman Pitts. We have a very sophisticated model that has looked at this. We have looked at this for the last six weeks with experts in the area of finance -- in healthcare finance. We know these numbers backwards and forwards. We know what it takes to do this and these numbers I stand by."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. So there's a motion to approve by Commissioner Arrington, seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, and the lineup for speakers is as follows: Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, Commissioner Barrett, Commissioner Hall. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. And I just want to say, I also stand by your leadership in wanting to resolve this as quick as possible. This is a serious issue for my district as well as several of my colleagues; and I think it should be treated as a serious issue that needs a resolve, at least a start. And so, thank you for putting that out there. Dean, not that you have to do it, but for our listening audience, could you just please give some of your credentials? This information is very good information. It's information that I already knew, but some of it you did, especially with how the role of the CHW MHC Buggy Works Care model. I do appreciate that. But can you just give me some of your credentials as to why this report is not only a very good

report, but it's the one that answers the needs of the constituents that I represent. Can you just -- we don't have all day, but just a few of your credentials, please, sir."

DR. JOSEPH TYNDALL, MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MED: "I will assure you it will not take all day. So let me start by first saying that I'm a frontline physician and clinician. I'm an emergency physician. I practiced during the pandemic. And for 27 years I've been in the emergency department setting, not only teaching but doing also clinical work and really understanding the needs of the population from the perspective of when things do not go right, they end up in the emergency department. I have a Masters of Public Health from Columbia University in Health Policy Management. And this has really been for me and for many years, for decades, I would say, a passion regarding public health. Don't hold it against me, but I spent 15 years at the University of Florida where I chaired academic emergency medicine. I was also the Dean of the School of Medicine there for about three years, and there we had the largest multispecialty group practice actually in the State of Florida that I oversaw for the last three years before coming here to the Morehouse School of Medicine. But I will say to you that my passion is about healthcare outcomes. Because for 27 years, I've seen what needs to happen from the perspective of a clinician in the emergency department. There's nothing I think more potent to understand what you can do differently, okay, and how you can perhaps change some of what we actually, I know we can impact by these kinds of really incredibly important initiatives. So I hope that is sufficient for you."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "It is. I'm well aware of your credentials. I'm well aware of your passion, but I think it's important for the listening audience to know when you all bring this information forward; this is real information from my community. Just like WellStar saw a need to put \$12 million in North Fulton County for their oncology, they were meeting the needs of the community, I would say, for somebody who doesn't live in North Fulton, don't get services in North Fulton, but I will make the assumption that when you put \$12 million for a cancer center to improve the services, I would think that would be a resource that is well needed. Now, I say that to you because this report and what I know as the sitting Commissioner of District 6, there is a healthcare desert in my district. One of the highest ZIP Codes that has zero, and that's critical, is 30311. Would you not agree with that statement? 30311 for those that would like to know more information about my life, 30311 is the ZIP code in which I reside. And so this affects me, it affects my neighbors, it affects my constituents, it affects quite a few of people that look like me. And so, what I say to you is I take this report very seriously because I've lived it. And I appreciate the leadership of the Chairman and on my colleagues and the County Manager in making sure that the public know that Fulton

County is trying to resolve this issue. And this is where we start with it. In closing, for those of you that don't know this, I think it would apropos at this time for me to say this, Chairman: With all due respect, the definition of white privilege is this set of social and economic advantages that white people have by virtue of their race. In a culture they may not necessarily ask for it, it does not negate their struggle or invalidate any other hardship; but there are individual circumstances that are subtle or direct that by virtue of your skin, you are privileged to get it. So, white privilege is in the dictionary. So I will say to you here again, if you are offended by me saying white privilege, you may need to talk to all of the authors of the dictionaries. And on that ending note, you have a better chance of voting for me as the swimsuit model for 2023 than getting an apology for me being passionate for my community. I'm going to always fight for those whether they live in my district or outside of my district whether they are marginalized and they are the less of these. Thank you, Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. All right. All right. Just a minute. Commissioner Barrett, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. And thank you guys for a really informative presentation after all of the work that you've been doing leading up to this. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for your urgency on this. I agree with you that we need to get it done as quickly as possible, and my buddy, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, you know, I stand with you and the people in District 6, I truly believe that any healthcare inequity in any part of the county is an issue for all of us as Commissioners. That we should not really be satisfied until everyone in the county is getting the healthcare that they need, and this is a big step in the right direction toward that. I have a couple of quick questions: First of all, just to confirm, you talked about the radius around Buggy Works, and I think I heard 30 miles and 30 minutes. It's a 30-minute drive time, correct?"

DR. JOSEPH TYNDALL, MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MED: "Yes, a 30-minute drive time, yes."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I just wanted to confirm, because 30 miles is far. In Atlanta traffic that's like a three-hour drive. I also wanted to just ask about how the community will be made aware of the Buggy Works facility and of the services there. Ninety days is a really quick turnaround, and I know there are a lot of people in the district and in that 30-minute drive radius that just feels like there is nowhere to go right now, maybe don't read the paper every day. So I'm just wondering, and I hate to use the word marketing, because it sounds fluffy; but I'm just wondering what the plan is to so of get the word out to the community that this will be happening and when the opening date is and what services will be there?"

DR. JOSEPH TYNDALL, MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MED: "So I will do two things. One is, I will obviously look at my partner, Dr. Roshell, on this, because we will do this together. You know, it is important obviously to let the community know about the assets that will be available, and when those assets will be available. I appreciate, Mr. Chairman's sense of urgency around it, because every day that passes, we continue to sort of kick the can down the road. And so, I think that, in the interest of time and the sense of urgency is extraordinarily important. But I will say this, that once we have the green light to move there will be series of steps that will be kicked in, including the communication marketing plan that will have to happen I think in concert with the county to ensure that the citizens understand not just where we will be located, but the assets and what to expect. So I think all of that is certainly must be part of the operational plan and, Dr. Roshell?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS: "Yes. Thank you. So, Commissioner Barrett, throughout this process, we have brought along a community engagement strategy. It started with outreach to residents to get their input and to hear their voice as we work through these several weeks. And so, we will continue to work with our own stellar External Affairs team and the Morehouse School of Medicine and Morehouse healthcare assets to leverage our Fulton County assets as well as those in partnership with Morehouse. So we will be sharing a series of graphics and other messaging that we certainly would appreciate and know that the Board will support us in communicating this message."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you for that. On the healthcare outcomes side, what is the plan to sort of measure the success of the Buggy Works facility?"

DR. JOSEPH TYNDALL, MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MED: "I think that's an excellent question. And one of the things that I wanted to mention, as we think about evidence-based medicine, I want to perhaps have you think about accountable medicine. Because from my perspective, this is how we account for performance and not just to the county and the Commissioners, but also to the public. Now, in primary care, there is usually a standard set of measures and outcomes; HEDIS measures, CMS also have a lot of other performance metrics that focus on very specific, you know, areas of outcomes in primary care, whether it's monitoring blood pressure or hemoglobin A1c or any one of those individuals; we have a standard set of metrics we will actually look at. But in measuring the health and the health outcomes of our population, one is that those are quality measures that every primary clinic is supposed to look at. But also, I daresay that we want to also understand the patient reported outcomes. We want to engage with our community to understand their needs and to also understand whether

their needs are being impacted or being met. The other really important asset at Morehouse School of Medicine I would say is our Prevention research Center. We have probably one the most mature such centers anywhere across the United States. And we're going to use those assets to better understand the healthcare outcomes and how those healthcare outcomes are changing by directly engaging with our community. And so those patient reported outcomes are going to be very critical in understanding how we're doing and what we're doing, and what we need to adjust in the process of not just developing but expanding this enterprise."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "And I think another important component here for the metrics, is really overlaying the community health rankings that we have specifically for Fulton County and customizing the performance metrics to really address what we see in those healthcare rankings to make a move there."

DR. JOSEPH TYNDALL, MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MED: "And I would say that the questions that have been asked of me are, you know, life expectancy takes a long time to change, right? But obviously, there's going to be subcomponents to that when we look at mortality rate, some components to that will be looking very specific clinical indicators of outcomes that we're going to be tracking all along this process. And our prevention research center and our researchers, and our center for primary care at Morehouse School of Medicine will all be engaged in ensuring that we monitor outcomes that are just what we need to do for the needs of the community."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "On the last page when you talk about next step and when you talk about confirming assumptions on the various things, one of them is patient volumes. And so I'm just wondering what the assumption on patient volume actually is, going into this."

DR. JOSEPH TYNDALL, MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MED: "So I just want to suggest to you that this is scalable and at any model like this, in the present model we're looking at, we are assuming that we will be able to see up to 17,000 patients at an annual basis. But as I said, this is the first step. This is the first step in a series of steps that we hope to actually move towards, that will actually have a greater and broader impact. But the model is scalable. Because if we find that the demand is there, we add more practitioners, we open more rooms, we have the space at Buggy Works in order to be able to scale as needed. And so, we want to be responsive to the community. But the model, to answer your question, is based upon that volume approximately."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah, I was asking that in particular, because I know this is Phase One. You've already mentioned that we're looking at potentially doing additional things as part of this partnership with Morehouse. And so, I was just sort of interested in, you know, sort of Phase One, how many do we think we're going to be able to serve them. And when you come back to us, obviously, hopefully, as we pass this and move on down the road, that we will see a decrease in wait times in the surrounding ERs and things like that in the metrics because of the number of people we're able to serve. And I think to your point, doctor, too, you know, get -- meet people where they live with primary care and maybe just reduce visits to the ER. And again, I know that's a long-term thing that we start to address that. I just want to say I'm really excited, Chairman. You and I spoke about this, about this partnership with Morehouse. I think having a university like Morehouse who lives in the community be the partner with us and be the provider is just brilliant. I just think it's the perfect solution as we start to move forward. The idea of having someone come in from the outside, while maybe they could provide, just would not have the same understanding of the community. So I'm so glad that Morehouse, you know, wants to partner with us on this. I look forward to moving this forward. And, lastly, when it comes to the four to \$5 million initial investment, I just want to point out, and Dr. Roshell, you and I talked about this a couple months ago, that when I asked for a \$5 million reserve -- a healthcare reserve in the 2023 budget, which was approved by the Board, that this is exactly what I was reserving it for. I didn't know that this was the shape it was going to take, but I am thrilled that it's a partnership with Morehouse and that it could be done, at least this first step in 90 days. So thank you all for your efforts on this and that's all I've got."

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

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm loving this right now. Upon WellStar closing, of course, you know I received many calls because both WellStars are located in my district and one of the most important calls that I've received was from Dr. Bernice King. And she urged me to meet with Morehouse School of Medicine because she knew back then that this was a school that could step up and do the work that the community needed. And upon her urging, I did just that in speaking to Morehouse School of Medicine. But what I did not know is that my district lines would be changed, and as I look at this, I see that Buggy Works is actually in my new district as of January 2023, and I'm so proud of that. And Morehouse School of Medicine has always been in my district and it remains in my district even with the new district lines being redrawn. So all of the surrounding neighborhoods that need this type of care will finally get what they need. And, Mr. Chair, I would like to ask you if would add me as a cosponsor to

this, because I feel like we have both worked in concert to make this happen. But even bigger than that, Mr. Chair, I'm ready to vote on this right now to get it going, to open the center. Forget all of this planning -- and what are we doing? What is this thing we're doing? Recommending. Let's do it. You know, we are blessed to be a blessing to others. And I believe we don't have to fight because God blessed us to have these positions as Commissioners right here with the power and the authority of the pen and our approval to make things happen. So all we need to do is make it happen. Do what we need to do and today is exactly that. We are doing what we need to do to address a long-term issue. And the community access to healthcare has been an issue for years, and I have to -- I always think about my late boss, Joan Gardner, because when she first found out that she had cancer, she also found out personally how so many people do not have access that they need to keep them alive. And she began her fight at that very moment when she realized she was getting special treatment getting into her doctor's appointments and to getting her chemo, her radiation, while others sat by the wayside and couldn't even get a call back. So this is near and dear to my heart. And, Mr. Chair, I'm definitely in favor of this and anything else we can do to get this going quickly. And I just want to let you know, as a Commissioner, I always take information into the community. This community that I've been added to as of January is not new to me. I served as Chief of Staff when I was working with the late Commissioner, Joan Gardner. And so, they are all saying welcome home to me, and I'm saying, yeah, I'm coming home. And so, I will share information and help you ensure that the constituents know about what we're doing here, and I appreciate it. Thank you so much."

DR. JOSEPH TYNDALL, MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MED: "Thank you."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Mr. Chair, you're going to add me as cosponsor? All right, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I believe we have another one here."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yes, please add me as well."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Okay. I was prepared to move forward today because it is important and the numbers are what they are. That being said though, their numbers aren't going to change substantially, but the Manager and others wanted an opportunity to look at it one more time, as I understand it. But that look though, we going to take action. If we do not do it today, when's our next meeting, on the 3rd?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, sir. But I think if the will is to move forward -- I mean, generally we're on the opposite side of this equation. We're trying to get you to do something that we think we've fully vetted and you have more questions. This may just be the polar opposite, which I don't think is problematic. In fact, I think in the spirit --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "-- well, I'll make the motion."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Second."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "-- certainly prepared to do so."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Substitute motion -- the motion on the floor is to authorize further negotiations with the Morehouse School of Medicine. Now, there's a substitute motion by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman which will be to approve the Resolution authorizing an agreement between Fulton County and Morehouse School of Medicine for the provision of healthcare services for Central and South Fulton County. So that will be the substitute motion on the floor. Commissioner Thorne, Commissioner Arrington, and back to Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Thank you, Chair. And thank you, both of you, for working on this, because I mean, it is, it's a serious problem. I've had some communications with people in your districts, in the south trying to have communication but, you know, we just got this presented at our desk as we sit down here. So I feel a bit unprepared, and a lot of it was presented to us in Executive Session, so we couldn't talk about it with others. And I thank you, Dr. Roshell, for all the conversations that we've had this week. But we didn't know what we were going to be presented with today. So I feel completely unprepared, because I have a lot of questions and the fact that I'm not a healthcare expert in any way shape or form. And I would love to have sit-down conversations and understand some things better with people that do have that experience like you, Dr. Tyndall. Gosh, you've got quite a resume. It's so impressive. Some of the things that I'm just kind of in little need to get answers on, is are we're addressing the health desert or the health disparities. Because Buggy Works does not - - you haven't included in this presentation, but in our last presentation, that we had last time, Buggy Works doesn't fall within the health desert. And so -- but I understand that this is hoping -- it's falling in the health disparity area to help get access there. And then we're going to expand these -- or can you talk about the second steps and how we're going to go about it, because some people called me and said oh, we're getting a hospital. I heard we're getting a hospital, and I'm like well no, not quite yet, there's multiple steps involved."

DR. JOSEPH TYNDALL, MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MED: "Well, let me just, if I may comment on this. First of all, the importance of Buggy Works for us was the sense of urgency. We know that this is an asset that's already in place that we can actually bring up quickly and efficiently, and we could move very quickly within 90 days. That will not be the case if we were to look at other assets that we'll have to build or pull together. And so, from my perspective, it really was responding to the sense of urgency of what's really needed now. And I think that's really the critical point. The second point I want to make, is that, you know, the issue around the 30-minute radius, and the addressable populations, and the issue of adjacency to public transportation really is important. And we want to make sure that while we cannot address all of the desert all at once we can't boil the ocean. We need to take one very important and definitive step in getting to that place, and that's really what Buggy Works is about. And so, it's responding to that sense of urgency; it's knowing what the addressable population is, and it is really in some ways addressing the healthcare desert, but also addressing the health disparities that are there that need to be addressed, okay. To answer the second part of your question I will say that this is -- this is one step. We know that there are already assets on location that are seeing patients and they have primary care outcomes. We want to be the end. We want to add to those assets and we want to continue to build. This is an important opportunity to think about how we are able to build from the contexts of what our community needs, and this is really, I think, been the driving force of my passion behind all of this -- and I'll say our passion, collective passion behind this. This is a unique opportunity to simply say we know what the disparities and the outcomes are today. We have a sense speaking to our own citizens through our community engagement what their needs are, and we could build what our community needs now. So this is step one. We can't boil the ocean. We can't take care of all of these issues in one step. So very clearly, there are going to have to be future steps in the coming weeks to months as we begin to plan out what this looks like. So that's what I will probably make a statement about. It is important, and we really having looked at the entire health landscape, have a sense of what probably needs to come next. But I think the focus for me right now is to execute on the now, because of the sense of emergency."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "And let me just add: as we talked about the location, we all completely aligned on the fact that this gives us an opportunity to be responsive immediately. We've had extensive conversations about accessibility to the access. And so, accessibility to the access comes into play with the public transportation, with a 30-minute drive time. So we most certainly are aware of the location and how it plays into that circle of the healthcare desert that we presented."

But we believe that this solution will provide access to not only the healthcare desert, which is federally designated as medically underserved as well as East Point, which is federally designated as medically underserved. So we are really confident that this is the right next step."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So, thank you for that. That was -- I love the fact that it was close to a MARTA station. One thing I -- you guys partner with Morehouse, currently partners with Grady, correct?"

DR. JOSEPH TYNDALL, MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MED: "Of course."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "And working with Grady, are you able to fulfill all of your obligations, you're staffing with Grady as it is right now?"

DR. JOSEPH TYNDALL, MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MED: "Well, let me be very clear that first of all, our partnership with Grady is important. It's historical. And they're really very important, our Grady Hospital/Morehouse School of Medicine, for purposes of providing our inpatient care services, and for our teaching education mission. There is no more important partnership to Morehouse School of Medicine than Grady, given where we are right now. But I want really -- I would say make a distinction here, because this focus is really on the ambulatory care assets. And this, all along with the initial clinic that was the Buggy Works before it was a Morehouse Healthcare initiative. So we have a strong partnership with Grady, we'll continue to do so. But that focus is really for inpatient care and inpatient assets. We continue to grow and develop this. This is distinct. This does really focus on the primary care network, which is a very distinct vision and operation that we actually have with Morehouse Healthcare and Morehouse School of Medicine."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "But are you able to fulfill your current obligations that you have with Grady?"

DR. JOSEPH TYNDALL, MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MED: "We are. And so, let me just say it this way. We're constantly looking to recruit, you know, folks. I am right now in the middle of recruiting a chair of surgery for Morehouse School of Medicine, just like our partners, Emory. We both are working towards fulfilling those needs in partnership. We both, as institutions, have work to do with Grady Hospital. We both engage in fulfilling those needs. And so, we are working lockstep in partnership to fulfill those needs at Grady Hospital together."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So you're trying to recruit more?"

DR. JOSEPH TYNDALL, MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MED: "Oh, we continue do that. We continue to do that with WellStar closures. As an example, both Emory and Morehouse School of Medicine were able to recruit surgeons and others individuals who really had nowhere else to go and wanted to stay and maintain their work in Atlanta; and so, we're both involved in that. So I want to make sure that you understand -- and I know you do, that Grady is an important partner. They're an important partner for both Morehouse School of Medicine and also for Emory; and we continue to focus in fulfilling the needs at Grady Hospital. This implementation and this plan and this partnership we have is an add to that. It is the additional resources that we believe is needed in order to improve healthcare in South Fulton County."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "And let me just add, one of the other strengths of our partnership with Morehouse School of Medicine is their extensive network of physicians that they have personally -- or their institution has trained. And so, they have access to this vast network of physicians who want to come back to communities of color and provide healthcare. So that is a unique component of this partnership, that was very compelling, and intriguing, and it's definitely a strength that they bring."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So Grady is opening two to four clinics. Do you know the locations of those clinics? Are they right next to Buggy Works?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS: "So, we have had conversations with Grady about their proposed clinics. We -- prior to this meeting today, we did reach out to them about what we could disclose about them and they asked us not to share any details."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "But we are aware of them."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Because I -- I know two of the clinics are going to be in South Fulton, which is great. But I was thinking why doesn't Morehouse put their name on the clinic -- those two clinics and then put by Grady underneath or something. Why don't we keep that partnership going, because for me, I got to look at the cost. Not -- we have it budgeted right now. We have the cost. That's great. But going in the future, if we're looking at 15 million in five years for this one clinic and expanding to multiple clinics, we're then -- we're looking at 45 to 50 million. And that's just the step process. So for me, we got a jail that Sheriff Labat's going to be down here later today asking for 8 plus more million. So for me as being responsive to the taxpayers, I look at it, my kids, I have four kids that right now are young professionals. And my daughter looked at buying a house in your district, Commissioner Hall. And she's like, mom, the taxes

are going to be like \$800. So she chose to buy a house in another -- another state in another city, because the taxes on the same house would only be \$200 a month. So I look at -- we look at our millage rate right now, at 8.8, and we're talking about raising it up to 12 to 15 to accommodate the jail and the spending we have going on now. So to increase and develop a new program, just seems like a lot right now that I need time to kind of look at -- what's the benefit going to be? Because right now, we have three -- we spent \$3.7 million on services we're required to have. This is a service that we're not required to have. We spent 5.22 million on unmandated services. So for me, I've got to look out for the best of all of Fulton County, the entire Fulton County, and I got to look at the taxpayer that might get priced out of their home because we're going to be raising their taxes so high, they're not going to be able to afford a \$1,000 a month, \$1,500 a month in taxes."

DR. JOSEPH TYNDALL, MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MED: "So let me, I think address this just head on, which I think is really important. What the data has shown is that we don't have enough of the right assets in place to create the health care outcomes that we actually need. I want to make sure, too that we understand that I've not said or suggested that all that the addition of clinics will result in a multiplier in terms of the actual subsidy that's needed. As matter of fact, I want to emphasize that we'll be focused over time upon on smartly reducing the subsidy that's needed. But let me emphasize this, which is really important: It's not only about improving healthcare outcomes that the population that need, it's also about reducing costs in the system, because when patients have timely and effective access to care which also includes cultural humility at a level of engagement that we believe we have. It will result in several things: One is the reduction of potentially avoidable emergency department visits and hospitalizations. One of the things we don't always think in the calculus is when we actually implement these kinds of solutions, what is the downstream impact in terms of cost reduction when we think about the reduction of hospitalizations and unneeded visits in acute care setting. And I think that's really the key here to understand. It is very clear from the data that we do not have enough assets, so this is an add. We want to be part of the solution. The partnership here, I think, is an important part of the solution. But also, our citizens should have choice in terms of where to go and how they should receive their care. And we believe that we are presenting an important asset, an important opportunity to do something different than simply putting our primary care clinic and clinical providers in place. We understand that in order to achieve the healthcare outcomes that we seek, we have to do much more than that: why are putting into place the community health workers; why we're putting into place all the assets of Morehouse School of Medicine, our Prevention Research Center, our National Center for Primary Care that does work all across the nation that we should be focusing here in South Fulton County. This is the kind of

opportunity that anyone will come to Georgia to be a part of, and that's what we need to do. But the calculus here is twofold: One is, in the operations of this clinic, our focus on reducing the subsidy, but also remember that we want to reduce the need for acute care, admissions to hospitalizations, ultimately reducing costs. This is not necessary the calculus that we actually think about in these conversations, I want to emphasize that."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yeah, I appreciate that. And I understand also, plus with this clinic, that it's going to be 24 hours a day operations, seven days a week, correct?"

DR. JOSEPH TYNDALL, MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MED: "No, we didn't say 24 hours a day, seven days a week. That's more like an emergency department. There will be extended hours and there will be evening hours for sure. And we will flex that as needed by the demand, but what we do know we need to do is to make sure that there is absolute access to care beyond what we typically see in a 9 to 5 p.m. operation and we intend to do that during the week and also on weekends."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yeah, I would just -- I appreciate and thank you for all this work. Because I was just getting a thing that the Grady East Point Clinic is directly across the street from the new Morehouse site; is that correct?"

DR. JOSEPH TYNDALL, MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MED: "Yes. And it has been there and, again, as I said, it's an add. We recognize that even with the clinic presence there, we still have outcomes that we do not want to see. And so, our intent again is to add to the infrastructure in the community that will open up the opportunity; improve outcomes and, from my perspective as an emergency department physician, not seeing patients unnecessarily come to the emergency department for care they do not need there, and preventing unneeded hospitalizations, that is the key. We do not have enough of these kinds of infrastructures in our community that provide the kind of timely, efficient, and culturally humility, in the care, I think is really important; and the care that I think that the citizens of South Fulton County actually deserve."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Thank you. I appreciate it. I appreciate it all. Because, you know, we're really ushering in a socialized medicine type system down here, and I need to kind of be able to talk as to why we're raising our taxes to accommodate the spending, or can we make cuts. Are we going to look at making possible cuts in other areas? I just ask -- there's just a lot of questions I still have. And the fact that I just get this, as I'm sitting down for the meeting, I haven't even had really time to digest it."

DR. JOSEPH TYNDALL, MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MED: "Mr. Chairman, if I may respond very quickly."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just a minute. Just a minute, Commissioner Arrington, please. Commissioner Arrington, order, order. Dean, you have the floor."

DR. JOSEPH TYNDALL, MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MED: "Thank you, sir. I want to be very clear that the work that we are doing is to impact outcomes. This is work that's actually -- that the people are trying to do in other states across the country; it's important to improve the health of our citizens, and I think that's the key point, and this is something that's going to be --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- Commissioner Arrington. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "No, no I can't -- I'm just saying --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Arrington. Commissioner Arrington. Commissioner Arrington. Order. Commissioner Arrington, please. Commissioner Thorne, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I'm just saying, I haven't had time to really study, and I haven't had time to really even talk to people, to Grady Hospital, too. And I'm not -- I'm not knowledgeable in anything. So, I love -- I appreciate this discussion here. And I just need to learn more. And that's --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "She has the floor. Just a minute. Just a minute. Commissioner Thorne has the floor."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I just need to learn more because I learned a lot in Executive Session, but then I couldn't talk to anybody except for you guys, and I appreciate it now that we're having this discussion. A lot more is open now. We can get the public to chime in and talk about it as well. And so, I'm thankful that we aren't having the vote right away on this. But I appreciate you coming down here and I appreciate all the work that you're doing, and I really hope that we can find a solution. And if that works well for you and as well as Grady, our great partners, Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Point of order, Mr. Chair. I'm trying to understand the distinction between the underlying motion and the substitute motion. We got an agenda item that said Resolution approval of a Resolution authorizing an agreement between Fulton County and Morehouse School of Medicine for the provision of healthcare services for Central and South Fulton."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Correct."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "That was amended via this paper that we got today that says the Resolution by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners authorizing the County Manager and the County Attorney to negotiate a medical contract for services agreement between Fulton County, Georgia and Morehouse School of Medicine to provide healthcare services through this clinical line. Morehouse Healthcare and Central and South Fulton County, directed the County Manager to present the agreement to the Board of Commissioners for consideration at the next available meeting; and for other purposes. And so, now there's a substitute motion? Help me understand the difference between the substitute motion and what's on the agenda."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Well, the substitute motion -- well, the original motion that came out with the agenda was requesting approval, which is what we had hoped, that I had hoped rather, that we would do today."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "The approval of what, sir?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "The agreement between Fulton County and Morehouse School of Medicine."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "There's an agreement?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We're working on that agreement."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Wait, wait, wait, wait, wait. You can't approve the agreement until it exists, which is why it was amended to say the negotiation, right? So we can't approve an agreement until the agreement exists. So I don't understand. What is the substitute motion and what are the differences between the amended item and the substitute motion."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "The substitute motion goes back to the original, which was requesting to request approval of the Resolution which authorizes the agreement. Is that not correct, Madam County Attorney?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY MANAGER: "That is correct. The substitute motion was to revert to the original language that was published with the agenda."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "What is the difference? So we're going to enter into an agreement without any negotiations? I don't understand? What is the difference? What are y'all talking about? Is this bizarro world? You can't enter into an agreement without doing negotiations. So what is the difference between the agenda items? Someone, anyone? Buehler."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Negotiations have been going on for the last couple of weeks, two or three days; is that not correct, Mr. Manager?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "For the last two or three days?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "On the specifics including the pro forma."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Well, let me think about how to answer that. We have been not negotiating, but rather conferring with one another about this proposal. What's on the screen are the next steps, Commissioner Arrington, to answer your question, as to what was proposed as next steps today. So you can look through that, it says confirmed the assumption, completed agreement. Present an MOU at the next Board meeting and then hold the stakeholder and public communication meetings. What I think the difference then was that there was during the conversation was, why not go ahead and advance this and move forward in advance of completing those steps. So that's the difference, if you will, between what was on the agenda originally which did not contemplate these steps, where we came to yesterday as a group, both Morehouse and Fulton County; and then the substitute agenda that got prepared and presented. Now, there's a substitute agenda item, or a different motion going effectively back to the original assumption that an action would be taken today."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So, basically you will be removing the first point -- no longer confirming assumptions on patient values, expenses and subsidies, and establishing performance metrics. That would be -- because you still got to complete a partnership agreement, right?"

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

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "We still have to present a memorandum of understanding and execution plan to the Board of Commissioners, correct?"

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

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Still have to hold the stakeholder briefings and communicate a plan to the public?"

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

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So basically, the substituted motion is to remove the first line of confirming assumptions on patient volumes, expenses, and subsidies and establishing performance metrics."

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

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you for articulating that in a matter that is consumable. I frankly don't see much of a difference, but I'm glad that we are having this discussion. I'm glad that we have the people here that have made this presentation. Adequate capacity. Adequate capacity. The idea that someone would not want us to have more than one health facility in South Fulton is befuddling to me. Oh, there's one across the street, you can't have two. You can't have two healthcare facilities in South Fulton. No, that doesn't make any sense. What I would suggest is though, however, as we continue with the plan, and I don't know if we're just completely removing number one or if number one will still be done just in a different order. But I think we need to also involve the Fulton DeKalb Hospital authority in these talks as far as communicating our plan to the public, as far as holding stakeholder briefings. I think we also need to talk to the City of East Point that we don't need to be relying on solely on our External Affairs team. Certainly, we're going to need to rely on External Affairs teams. But there are other cities that have external affairs team like East Point, College Park, Hapeville that can also communicate this to their constituents. And so, we need to make sure that we have that as part of the plan. We do not need to spend any time trying to pander to someone is going to vote against this, that doesn't want healthcare in South Fulton. We don't want -- we should not spend not one second wasting anytime for an obstructionist that doesn't have adequate capacity. Not one second --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "-- point of order."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Not one second."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, what's your point of order, Commissioner Thorne?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Commissioner Arrington is out of order by the rules of decorum."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Madam, I will always be out of order whenever you come in with that foolishness. I will always be out of order."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioners, please. Commissioners, please."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I will always be out of order."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioners, please. All right. Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Sorry, I have the floor."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I had a point of order."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What is your point of order?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "That the Commissioner is violating the rules of decorum by making --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Do something about it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner, please."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Do something about it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington, please. What's your point of order, Commissioner Thorne?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "He's in violation of Section 101-68.2. If a Commissioner believes another member has violated a particular rule of decorum, he or she upon recognition by the Chair may raise a point of order. And I believe that he is making defamatory statements about me in the public."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. I don't believe that the statement was defamatory, so I'll rule that point of order out of order. Commissioner Barrett, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to ask if I could be a cosponsor on the Resolution? Thank you. Also, I want to make a note for the public that, in fact, this particular project at Buggy Works will not cause us to raise taxes. We have a five million-dollar healthcare reserve that we set aside in the 2023 budget exactly for this purpose and the additional 2 to 2.5 million that's been discussed to support this on an ongoing basis is less than .2 percent of our annual 1.3-ish billion-dollar budget, so that .2 percent is not going to cause us to raise taxes. We will be able to move things around such that we can support this project going forward without raising taxes. So I just want to be really, really clear about that. As it relates to the motions and the substitute motions, I'm also a little bit confused, I have to say, because I spoke with our County Manager yesterday, and my understanding, and I think my feeling at the time was, I am 100 percent down with moving forward on this. That said, without seeing the actual agreement having it finalized, I'm not quite sure how we approve either a Resolution that we haven't read yet or an agreement that we haven't read it yet. So, I guess what my question is to you all is, if we don't -- if you are waiting until the next meeting, which I believe is May 3rd, 4th, I don't know. It's soon; it's in a couple weeks. Will that slow down the process of getting this clinic open?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "So thank you, Commissioner Barrett, for that question. We have full intent to continue moving forward as if we are preparing to open this clinic together in partnership. So it will not slow down

the work of this group. We will bring back in a complete agreement form all of the information about the financial assumptions, patient volumes, and metrics; but no, it will not hinder the progress that we will continue to make as we move this initiative forward."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So I'm not 100 percent sure how we move forward with the two motions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just a minute. There's only one motion on the floor, which is to request to approve the Resolution authorizing the agreement between Fulton County and Morehouse. That's what --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "The Resolution authorizing the agreement?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's correct."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "But not the agreement itself. Okay, just making sure I understand. All right, thank you."

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

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Point of order before I begin my comments. I'd like to be a cosponsor as well."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "And I just want to call the question."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Second."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to call the question by Commissioner Arrington, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Let's vote on the call of the question."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open on the call to question. And the motion passes, five yeas, zero nays."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Now, on the motion before us: which is to approve the Resolution authorizing the agreement between Fulton County and the Morehouse School of Medicine. Let's vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "Back on page 5 --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "-- Mr. Chair, if I may. We need to move **23-0284** up on the agenda from page --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Page 7?"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes, page 7, so that the DFCS workers can get back to work. They're still waiting on that agenda item. So I'd like for us to go ahead and move that up right now."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. In the absence of any objection, we will take on page number 7, 23-0284 at this time. Sound that. Commissioners, any objections? All right, Commissioners -- strike that. Madam Clerk, would you sound that, please?"

CLERK GRIER: "Request approval of a Resolution amending resolution 18-840 to remove the limitation that the amount dedicated to salary supplements for employees of the Fulton County Department of Family and Children Services be more than 13 percent of the total approved budget for the Fulton County Department of Family and Children Services in any given year; and for other purposes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Hall followed by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Well, Mr. Chair, first of all, I want to say that it is my honor to sponsor this Resolution, but I must give recognition to the person who really made this happen, and I'm hoping that she's still here. Her name is Lydia Meredith, and she is my appointee to that DFCS Board. She brought this to my attention. And what she did, she never stopped fighting. She never stopped working behind-the-scenes with me and my Chief of Staff, Anita Harris, and the County Attorney's office; and she saw this all the way through to it being on this agenda today. And I just want to thank her. She keeps thanking me, but I wouldn't know about it, if she didn't bring it to me. So, I hope that we can get a favorable vote, because as Dr. Tolliver said when she spoke earlier today, these are some hard-working people. And when I looked at the report on how much they make, they classify as the working poor. That's not a living wage. I'm surprised that many of you are not on some of the government assistance that the people you serve are on."

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

COMMISSIONER HALL: "So I'm hoping that my colleagues and I just -- I just know in my heart of hearts that my colleagues support removing this ceiling. Like it was said earlier, it would not cost us anything in addition. Dr. Tolliver explained that for everyone to understand. So, thank you in advance for your favorable vote."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, the motion on the floor is to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Madam CFO, is that a correct statement that the money for this is included in their current budget? Is that accurate?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: That's what I understood was stated at the podium that they plan to use resources from another line item within their budget to allow them to increase the size of the budget."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So the answer is it's in their budget?"

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "That's the answer."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, Commissioner Thorne, and Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Commissioner Hall, I would like to cosponsor this; and also I would like to speak to your leadership on this because better late than never. Because this should have already been done. At the end of the day, you all are always thrown up under the bus. Whenever we see something on the news, you, the hard work, the endless hours, and just the dedication because it's in your heart. It's surely not for the pay. And so, what I say to you is kudos to all of you all and better late than never. But, yes, Commissioner Hall is correct, you all are some of the working poor, and you work with some of our most vulnerable, most vulnerable parts of society. And so, I commend this. It's about time. I'm in full support of it. I hope all my colleagues are. And at some point, we do need to revisit the salary scale at some point. Thank you."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "The next in queue is Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Thank you, Commissioner Hall. I do admire the work that you guys do. In 2018, I looked at trying to just start my own nonprofit with a friend, a forever home. It was called Dwell 3:16. And so I met with a lot of people in the DFCS systems and homes across the state. And so, the work you guys do do, and I understand the whole retention issue, too because we got to be competitive with the current counties. The one thing that I'm trying to understand is why did we put a cap in the first place? I was wondering if Hakeem or somebody could speak to that that was why we put one in the first place."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "I can tell you that. Is it the highlighted part? Commissioner Hausmann said, during a meeting -- let's see -- this is Commissioner's Actions on 18-084 --0840, Commissioner Hausmann said, yes, briefly the Resolution is before you and, first of all, I'd like to thank my staff member, Denise Fraser, for her diligence on this item. She has been working on this for months. It was brought to our attention as well as Commissioner Ellis office. I believe that there was a disparity in payment for these staff members. Some were given a supplement years ago, but it was identified by name, not position. So there were some staff members that received it and others did not. This will bring equity to that situation, have the money go to that position, and not the person in essence, so I ask for your consideration. So the ceiling began before we were even in office. This was 2018 through a Resolution that was approved at that time. That's how this ceiling started. And the funding for the ceiling was supposed to go to, I think, it was some services, programming. They were reprogramming and providing some services -- Madam County Attorney -- oh, you weren't here. That's right.

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Hakeem was here."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Hakeem."

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "Good afternoon, Commissioners. The cap came out of, you know, what you just described, Commissioner Hall. The issue is, at that time, you know, we looked at the budget and the Board of Commissioners decided to cap the amount based on what was available at that time that job, you know, could be reprogrammed. So that's why, you know, it was capped at that 13 percent. In other words, that budget is really for several programs including salary supplement. So the amount that, you know, could be reprogrammed not affecting those other programs that are provided by then was used, you know, to determine, you know, what cap amount to be then."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So then -- so the reason was basically so that all of our funding that we give them can't be used for salary increases; is that correct? Just to have some bit of control?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "Yes, Commissioner. We have several programs, you know, that DFCS I believe administer for the county. This includes various services, client benefits, and they don't cost much along with salary supplements that the county provides to them."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I was wondering, can I make a friendly amendment that maybe we just quadruple the cap, like go up to 40 percent? Or does it need to be 100 percent, because you have all of these other programs that we supplement --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "I'm sorry, are you making a motion or something? What are you asking?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I was just asking about possibly making a friendly amendment where we extend it like quadruple, like do 40 percent."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "I have no problem with that whatsoever. Is that a -- are you talking about keeping the cap? Okay, then you need to say keeping the cap, and I'm not with that at all. No. I won't accept that. Okay. The next person in queue is Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Commissioner Hall, thank you for bringing this forward. And I would also like to cosponsor this Resolution."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Absolutely."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "And I just wanted to chime in with my thanks to the hard work that you all do for so little pay for such an incredibly vulnerable part of our population. So thank y'all for the work and for coming down here. And I know one of the speakers said, I think it was the gentleman right there that said you support us and you hope that we'll support you. I appreciate that on both ends, and you have my support."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "All right. Next in queue is Marvin, Commissioner Arrington, Jr."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you to the workers. Thank you for the work that you do. We are grateful for the work that you do, and I certainly intend to do what I can to move this forward, so thank you. Thank you and thank you again. And I would like to be a cosponsor also."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "And I thought I heard Lydia Meredith's voice. Thank you, Lydia, for this because it started with you. So I'm glad you came back so that I can thank you personally. And DFCS -- and I have the permission of my team member Jonathan Harris to say that DFCS raised him, and he's happy to see you all get this, because -- well, we will vote on it, but he is happy to see this happen because you literally was raised him and you see where he is right now. I see no more speakers in the queue. So Madam Clerk, please open the vote."

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

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you. I'm not supposed to allow you to clap because it's against the rules, but thank you. Yes. Yes. All right. Madam Clerk, next item, please."

CLERK GRIER: "Back on page 5, under Open and Responsible Government, **23-0273** Information Technology: Request approval to utilize corporative purchasing in an amount not to exceed \$625,000 to provide a software management system for the Fulton County Police Department."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Is there a motion? Motion to approve by Commissioner Thorne. Is there a second? Is there a second?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Is this time sensitive? Is there someone here to tell this was this is for?"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Is there someone here that can answer Commissioner Arrington's question?"

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: "Good afternoon, Commissioner Arrington. Kevin Kerrigan, CIO Fulton County. So, we do not have an agreement in place now; so this will be establishing an agreement with Fusus so that we can start deploying this technology to bring about and improve situational awareness for our justice building and other county facilities. So while it's not time sensitive in a sense we need to approve something today, any delay it would not allow us to move forward with the project."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Commissioner Arrington, this is -- and you may have been out when we covered security issues in Executive Session. But this is a consistent video platform for both the Sheriff's office and the Police Department giving us -- and by the way, it also integrates with the City of Atlanta in their video surveillance."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "All right. Thank you. And the motion is on the floor to approve by Commissioner Thorne, seconded by Commissioner Barrett. Madam Clerk, please open the vote."

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

COMMISSIONER HALL: "All right, next item."

CLERK GRIER: "23-0274: Request approval of a recommended proposal in an amount not to exceed 355,250 to assess and implement critical platform enhancements for the county's public facing website."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Is there motion? I'll second. Wait, I have a question. It was some questions in the queue. Okay, so we have Commissioner Barrett in the queue. Go ahead, Commissioner."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I just had a quick question. I'm sorry, I can't see over there, but I didn't see the actual contract here so I was just wondering why the contract wasn't provided?"

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: "So, good morning or good afternoon, Commissioner Barrett. This is to -- we'll do contract negotiations. This is to award and then we'll negotiate the agreement."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Say that again? It's hard to hear you."

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: "This is for us to enter contract negotiations. We have a proposal. But then once we've received approval we'll then go through contract negotiations."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So we're approving the amount not to exceed."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, FC PCC: "Commissioner Barrett, good afternoon. Felicia Strong-Whitaker. We did conduct negotiations. We always bring to the Board to get approval and then we prepared the contract for execution once the Board approves the recommendation of the vendor."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "And so, this is the -- this is all for the public facing website, correct?"

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: "That's correct."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Sorry. I feel like I'm talking to the side of her head. Sorry. No, that's fine. You have every right to be sitting exactly where you're sitting. My apologies. I just had some questions about what this is going to include. Is this going to change the public's experience with the website at all or is this all underlying technology?"

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: "It's a bit of both. There's underlying technology needs, but there's also capabilities that will be brought to the website. I'm happy to share the proposal with you that has the detail and the breakdown of what will be included as far

as enhancements, what the audit process will entail as far as the outcomes. So we have that detail."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. I would love to see that. I mean, I'm certainly in support of improving this site, both from, you know, the supporting underlying platform, but also the user experience. And you and I have talked about this a little bit when we first met, but there was also some language in here and I don't have that specific thing right in front of me in the scope of work and an explanation somewhere that talked about the -- I believe it was the useful life of the current, yeah. Was that in the --"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, FC PCC: "Commissioner Barrett, what that is, is the county has an annual maintenance and software licensing list that we are required to -- once we get a system, we are required to keep the license and the maintenance and those kind of things current. And so, when we add it to the annual maintenance and licensing list, once the county competitively procures a system, it's added to that list until we no longer use or utilize that system."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So I guess my question was, are we expecting to keep the site essentially as it is for a certain number of years and just make, maintain it, or, you know, because it felt like this was sort of -- and this is going to be it for the next period of time. So I'm just making sure that that was or was not the case."

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: "So our website sits on a Site Core platform. It's a hosted solution and they're routinely upgrading, and then we have the option to take that upgrade. We can't fall any more than three years behind, which I would say we stay as current as we can to go through proper testing before we deploy the new version. But basically every time Site Core offers a new version, we have to then test it based on our capabilities and components in the platform and then go through an upgrade. So this would just allow us professional services to make sure we have the expertise with them to make sure we continue to upgrade. One of the major components of this agreement is to move us forward on a version as we're behind today."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Got you. Okay. That works. That's all I had, thanks."

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'm glad to see this come forward, because it will help to develop critical applications, enhancements, and implement best practices; but I do just want to just say that we need to do a better job on our website because it is public facing. Oftentimes, I have had people call and say that links are

broken and information is outdated and pages aren't there that should be there. And so, I just want to encourage it and ask that our External Affairs department, our IT department, and our Customer Service division work a little more on going through the entire website and checking all the links, and checking the information that we are providing to our constituents. That may take a little bit of effort, because we do have a lot of departments and officers and agencies on our website; and you will probably have to contact them to make sure that telephone numbers are right, that people are still employed who are on the page, and that people are not calling phone numbers where they're not getting anyone. And these are things that have come across my office, so just a little more assistance in making this overall project even better for our residents."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I'm a little -- well, I wonder how much of this includes other websites operated by the county? We say our website, I think we have several. I think there are certain departments and divisions that have websites. And so, I think we need to be very specific, perhaps reference the domain name that we are talking about, and the website that is hosted there. For example, we should have the ability to reserve senior facilities and arts facilities via our website. That is something that you should be able to do online via our website. Now, which domain that website is housed at might be a separate question. But there is no reason that I should not be able -- that a Fulton County citizen should not be able to reserve a senior center for a funeral or a wake, or a library, or arts center by going to our website and clicking on it and paying whatever the necessary fee is. So, I need to understand or have a better understanding of what our website is because I know that we have several."

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: "Commissioner Arrington, so this work is specifically related to the fultoncountyga.gov domain. You are correct; we have other websites that I've actually been talking with Ms. Corbitt about so we can get our arms around all of the domains that are out there, to track things like broken links, to have consistent branding, that's a larger conversation that I think we do need to have as an organization. I think you're absolutely right that it should be very easy for citizens and constituents in the community to reserve county assets, and to do that in a seamless process from a central location, and we can definitely take that back and come back with a plan to do that. And that -- really the fultoncountyga.gov should be that portal, right? So it could pop over to a scheduling solution, right, as our same branding. But it's one front door into receiving those services or booking those assets."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "And frankly, it probably would be better if our other websites were actually subdomains. And so, maybe we need a policy that requires or suggests that those all be subdomains."

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: "Commissioner, I think that's a great idea. I think where we can do that I would have to better understand what may be in play, if we're talking about other elected officials. But for, I think, sites that would roll up to the Board, there's definitely an opportunity there."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you."

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

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I agree with your comments and your comments about there needs to be some work, and I'm glad you're new. Welcome to Fulton County and welcome to the problems that we have before you. I know you (inaudible) person, so I have lots of suggestions, but I also understand the need for security. And if we open up subdomains for all these entities and people who have backdoor access to our website, that could be a problem, couldn't it, if we -- if our senior centers if we have it all integrated into one could be a security issue."

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: "Those could still be pointers in a sense. Our website is hosted at a separated data center today. Right, and we can point to other solutions. And you can have any name that we would need to do that. So that doesn't necessarily mean we have to live with the data center. There's ways to approach that, to meet that need."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "But my understanding for this particular item, it's a budgeted item, and the American Rescue Act is funding it, correct? The funding is coming from that or am I wrong?"

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: "I'd have to find out the details there for this, that's correct."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "It is? Okay."

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: "That's correct."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So, Mr. Kerrigan, I'm kind of chuckling because I've been over here like, you know, vehemently nodding my head when all of my colleagues talked about some of the shortcomings of the current site. So I thought I should just verbally nod my head that I agree with everything they've said, but I -- and you know, not to pile on, but I think the search needs to be looked at as well, because I find that,

even as a Commissioner looking for information about the county, I have to go outside and search Google to find information on the county website; the actual search inside the site does not function well enough. So I just want to go on a little bit there."

KEVIN KERRIGAN, CIO, IT: "Thank you for the feedback. We can look into that as well."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, the motion of the floor is to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Please vote. Madam Clerk."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0275**, Purchasing and Contract Compliance: Request approval to renew an existing contract in the amount of \$150,000 to provide countywide armed services as needed."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Favorable motion by Commissioner Thorne, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0276**: Request approval of a termination of contract to identify unreported aircraft for violation for ad valorem tax purposes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, motion to approve by Commissioner Barrett. Is there a second? All right, seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Commissioner Hall and Commissioner Arrington, Commissioner Thorne, Commissioner Barrett. Commissioner Hall"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "The motion on the floor is approve the cancellation."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. We heard from a gentleman from this STR Company, but I want to hear from the county staff who are a part of this."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Ms. Whitmore."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "And tell us exactly why this is coming before us for termination because he made a whole entire speech about why it should not be terminated."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Thank you, Commissioner Hall. Essentially, when the contract was originally approved by the Board, it was approved as a contingency based revenue-generating contract where the fees would be paid out of the revenue generated. It was brought back and subsequently changed to a more of a fee-based contract which means that we need to be prepared to pay for that out of our expenditure budget. What we did not know at the time is that we would be billed for the revenues that were identified, billed and collected for the Board of Education as well as Fulton County. So we've had some issues around that. We've also reached out to the Board of Education to ask if they would participate in the contract with us, and we have been advised that County Attorney's office handled that aspect of it, and we have been advised that their attorney declined to take it to their Board for consideration. So, given that the revenue that's being generated for the county's general fund, which is where we have to pay this fee from, is not sufficient to support the whole fee. That is essentially the basis for our recommendation at this point, but we did reach out to the Board of Education, and they did decline to participate."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you, Madam CFO."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Well, that really may have answered my question. I was trying to understand the same reason. So it was only Fulton County Board of Education, not APS? Has APS agreed to pay for their portion?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "They're not included because of the location of the aircraft is in unincorporated Fulton County."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Sir, y'all are trying to bill us for money we're not getting? Please."

NEIL BUTATA, STR COMPANY: "Well, originally when we set up the contract, it was mentioned good -- originally we set up the contract, it was based off a percentage of whatever we collected. So we bring in a hundred dollars, we'll charge our fees based off of the hundred dollars. That fee structure was changed still on a performance basis. So again, you're still bringing a hundred dollars add ten aircraft, you're paying on those ten aircraft that are brought into Fulton County. I think what the issue was, is that the agreement wasn't put in place to understand that the percentage was based off of the

entire hundred dollars instead of just the county's portion of what was going to be collected. Does that make sense? So ultimately short answer is, no. We're not charging for money we didn't get. We're only charging for aircraft that are actually taxed and paying and collecting in Fulton County."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes, but now you understand that we only get a portion of that and the other portion goes to the Board of Education."

NEIL BUTATA, STR COMPANY: "Correct."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Right. So, okay."

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

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So my understanding is that we can maybe get the Fulton Board of Education on board if we renegotiate a new contract that is not fee-based or contingency basis; is that correct."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "The information that was shared with me from the County Attorney's office was that the concern was that it still appeared to be a contingency-based contract. I would have to defer to the County Attorney's office if they also implied in their communications with the County Attorney's office that they would consider it if it were not a contingency based contract. That piece, I don't know, Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY MANAGER: "It's my understanding that the school board declined to participate in this contract because they had remaining concerns about the validity of it as a contingency contract. There is case law that prohibits this type of contract by the Board of Assessors of a county to collect on a contingency basis; therefore, this contract was modified -- previously modified from its original form to include fees. The practical issue is that if we do not share -- if the Fulton County Board of Education does not share in the fees, the net proceeds to the county don't really make it worthwhile for the county. There's also apparently a practical concern with the Board of Tax Assessors not having a line item for which to pay these types of fees and, therefore, when the invoices are not paid promptly, the company has threatened to sue the county for those unpaid invoices. So due to the Board of Education's lack of participation with us, although I believe they are still receiving some of the proceeds, the department has recommended that we terminate this contract based on its limited value to the county because of those historical events. I don't know that the Board of Education will choose to participate in paying the fees given their expressed or their

attorneys expressed concern that the current fee structure still behaves like a contingency contract, which is prohibited."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "But we do need the service. I mean it generated \$17 million in tax revenues from the service, and we would come out with another contract, try to get another -- if we come out with another contract, I mean we would have to go through the purchasing again or?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY MANAGER: "I'm not aware of the net proceeds under the current configuration; and I believe the current item is simply asking for the termination, which is what is before the Board, whether the Board chooses to enter into a modified subsequent contract would not be encompassed in this item."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Do we have the ability -- or does anybody know, can we - do we have a value -- I know we have a new Tax Assessor. Do we have the ability to do evaluations of aircraft? Or will we have to hire an outside vendor?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "I believe issue has been in not valuing, but identifying whether or not that an aircraft hangar at the airport for the prescribed amount of time to be considered taxable within the jurisdiction. So I would have to defer to the Assessor if he feels comfortable that his staff will be able to handle that independently."

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER, BOARD OF ASSESSORS: "Good morning. I think to answer your question, we do still value aircraft; however, these are aircraft that we were not able to discover. Unfortunately, there are times where taxpayers simply don't return as they are --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- excuse me. Sir, would you identify yourself."

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER, BOARD OF ASSESSORS: "I apologize. My name is Roderick Conley. I'm the Chief Appraiser for Fulton County. Hopefully, I answered your question, but the staff does currently value aircraft. Unfortunately, there are times where taxpayers do not return and so we have a difficulty discovering those aircraft. And so, it's audits like this or reviews like this that allow us to help discover those."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Can you tell me how much the current companies helped, or do you know?"

RODERICK CONLEY, CHIEF APPRAISER, BOARD OF ASSESSORS: "I do not have those numbers in front of me."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "I believe we got a spreadsheet from Hakeem, and I believe the number was 3 million, not 17 million; is that correct?"

HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE: "That is what we received to date, Commissioner Barrett. There might be some additional revenue coming down the road, you know, what we received to date is \$3 million. And then now we have paid out 1.1 or roughly \$1.2 million of which Fulton County paid -- our general fund paid over \$1 million and, of course, nothing from the school board. So we paid pretty much now the total cost."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Right. So just to be clear: The idea behind this makes financial sense, right? As a group, assuming the schools were going to be involved -- we spent a million we net three. Wonderful. That's great for all of the taxing bodies impacted, right? On the other hand, because the schools are not participating, we are bearing the brunt and, therefore, actually in the red on this, where the schools are not paying, and they are getting the benefit. So, while I think it is a worthwhile endeavor to consider, it does not appear from what the County Attorney is saying and what Madam CFO is saying and from my conversation with the County Manager about this yesterday that this contract should be continued. That said, I would like to sort of add to this conversation of potential direction for the executive team, if my colleagues agree, to look at potentially getting into a new contract with all parties, such that we can do that one to three return and collect taxes from these particular owners of airplanes who, I think if I understand the process correctly, predominantly don't live here but house their planes here for at least -- enough of the year that they should be taxed. In the same way that I think we need to do a better job on our commercial property tax appraisals, we need to do a better job of this. So I would love to see us pursue with the schools a new contract for this service. The only other question I have, I think really is to -- and I'm looking at you, Mr. County Manager because if you're not the right person, I'm sure you can tell me who is the right person to ask this question to. But the Tax Assessor said that, you know, they don't have the ability to be aware of these aircraft because individuals don't report. And I guess I'm just wondering is there a way for the airport to provide some kind of report of what planes are there on an ongoing basis to assist with this, so that we're not, you know, paying consultants for years to come."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: I don't know the answer to that. I'd have to ask David Clark, the Public Works Director. The tricky part of that would be they are also tenants of ours. So it would be are we serving them as tenants or are we looking

for aircraft that have landed there and are in need of being taxed. So I don't know. I'll ask him the question, which I don't have an answer today, but I think the logical path that you laid out of setting aside this agreement, attempting to get a new multiparty agreement that does conform with whatever legal requirements there are and also makes financial sense for all three parties is the best path to move forward."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you."

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

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Mr. Neil, can you please return to the podium. First of all, thank you for calling my office. I know that you did not have an opportunity to speak with me personally, but I knew everything that was going on, and then I was speaking to the County Manager behind-the-scenes and the County Attorney. The reason that I am comfortable with this being terminated is because based on what I found there's no other way. The school system, for whatever reason, and it's not to cast any dispersions on them or anything; but if they're not going to be a part of the process, but they're getting the funding, then that funding, in my opinion, needs to be removed until they decide to become a part of the process. I talked to the County Manager, and I think there's an inclination that it can be done optimally that I saw from your office. And so, I just want to go on record saying that in my conversations with everyone on this, it looks like there's no way of getting this to the optimal point without it being terminated. Now, having said that, I'm hoping that unfortunately we have to terminate it, that the, you know, the Fulton County School Board will come back to the table. That's what I'm hoping. And I'm hoping what I've been told from our County Manager's office is that if we can get that multi that it would not be a problem. Because we made something off of it, but all of the burden was on us. And I would be remised if I didn't say that that was just something that just did not sit right with me once all of the parties, you know, that I spoke to, you know, gave their say on it. It just did not make sense to keep the contract in place when we could not get those other individuals. And so, I want you to please stay in contact with my office, and I want you to also, if your organization has had work or have done work with getting people to the table that need to get to the table, I would really like for that to happen, because I think the tax needs to be done. I don't know that we can do it, or can't do it, I'm not going to get into that part of the conversation, but I do want you to know that I had no other choice once given all of the facts. But I did have very positive conversations that there would be an idea if it would be optimal that would come back to the table, okay?"

NEIL BUTATA, STR COMPANY: "Guys, can I speak?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Quickly."

NEIL BUTATA, STR COMPANY: "And, you know, the ultimate goal that we anticipated that we work through since 2019 was we were operating on the assumption that all of those checkmarks by the county were already taking place. We went through years of, you know, development and negotiations with the Assessors, Mr. Dwight Robinson, when he was in; Duane and now Mr. Conley, and we were always operating on the assumption that all of the backend financials was taken care of. So when this came up at the 11th hour, you know, showed up sometime last year, you know, from our end, it's always serving and kind of shocking to understand that we might not have funding for work that we've already done. So we've already completed all of the work for '16 to '22. You guys have our data, you have our information. And we just want to, you know, operate under that contract that it will be respected going forward. So we want to make sure that that's applicable all the way though and want to find the right solution for you guys and operate on that the same agreement that we've, you know, kind have been working for since 2019. So we do want to find a solution and look forward to communicating that."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 6, under Justice and Safety, 23-02 --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- all right. Let's hold this one as well until the Sheriff gets here later on."

CLERK GRIER: "Okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Hold this until the Sheriff gets here."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

CLERK GRIER: "Under Arts and --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Continue."

CLERK GRIER: "Arts and Libraries, **23-0197**, Arts and Culture request approval of a MOU with the Chattahoochee Nature Center for purpose of providing funding in the amount of \$700,000."

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

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0198**, Request approval of a MOU with Fulton County and Bear Creek Nature Center for the purpose of providing funding in a total amount of \$700,000."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Commissioner Arrington, seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Commissioner Arrington, you want to speak?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes. I'm glad to see this back on the agenda, and I'm hoping that what -- what -- I hope that -- I'm hoping that my lying eyes don't show me that there's still a distinction between North Fulton and South Fulton. Last item said 200,000 recurring for Chattahoochee Nature Center. But somehow y'all want to make the money for South Fulton nonrecurring. So I'm going to make a motion to amend this item to make it recurring. And I don't understand why that always happens in South Fulton. It doesn't make sense. Why do we always get the short end of the stick?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "By accident?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Dr. --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "When you have the same accident over and over and over again, it seems intentional."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Dr. Roshell, Madam CFO, somebody."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "Commissioner Arrington, thank you for pointing that out. We certainly can and will make the adjustment. The reason that it appeared that way is because Chattahoochee was previously a legacy partner, and so the language was already set. But we will make that adjustment. Thank you for bringing that to our attention."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion on the floor is to approve as amended by Commissioner Arrington, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Let's vote, please."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0278**, Request approval of a contract between Fulton County at the National Black Arts Festival for the purpose of providing funding in the amount of \$200,000."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0279**, Request approval of a contract with Johns Creek Arts Center for the purpose of providing funding in the amount of \$200,000."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Commissioner Thorne, it's seconded by Commissioner Hall. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "On page 7, **23-0280**, Request approval of a contract with Hammonds House for the purpose of providing funding in the amount of \$200,000."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Have a favorable motion by Commissioner Hall, it's seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0281**, Request approval to close out a contract in the amount of \$20,841.62 to provide temporary staffing for the Arts and Culture Department."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Thorne, it's seconded by Commissioner Hall. Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "I have a question. Hello, Mr. Manual."

DAVID MANUEL, ARTS & CULTURE DIRECTOR: "Hello, Commissioner."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Hello. So I was reading this, and it said, this is to reconcile an increase over the spending authority. And I just -- I was trying to look through and see, does it speak to, do we have any way of ensuring that we do not spend beyond the approved spending authority? But I couldn't find anything."

DAVID MANUEL, ARTS & CULTURE DIRECTOR: "Yeah. So what happened was with Corporate Temps, we received their final invoice past the December 31st deadline. And so it spilled over to 2023. And those invoices were for our Art Instructors for West End Performing Arts Center, as well as the Emma Darnell Center."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "So they -- they sent their invoice late?"

DAVID MANUEL, ARTS & CULTURE DIRECTOR: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Oh, wow. Do we have any measures in place to ensure that our contractors are sending their invoices in a timely fashion, Madam CFO, or who -- or our wonderful Purchasing and Contract Compliance Director?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "Yes, Commissioner. We do have a closeout contract, a closeout purchasing ordinance in place. So we're going to work with Arts and Culture. He does have a lot of new employees on his staff. But I think they were unaware of all of the closeout procedures. So we will be working with them to assist them so this doesn't occur again."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you. And just making note that, Mr. Manuel is also new as well."

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

COMMISSIONER HALL: "So just want to make sure that they're successful moving forward."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "We will."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "And also just to make sure that if there is a need for additional funding in that area that we just go ahead and put it in on the front end, right?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "That is correct."

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

DAVID MANUEL, ARTS & CULTURE DIRECTOR: "Thank you."

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

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Where you going, Mr. Manuel?"

DAVID MANUEL, ARTS & CULTURE DIRECTOR: "Oh, I apologize."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "What color is that tie you got on?"

DAVID MANUEL, ARTS & CULTURE DIRECTOR: "It's blue with some speckle of red."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay. I thought it was purple. Have a good day."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. The motion on floor is to approve. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "Under Health and Human Services, **23-0282**, Request approval of a MOU between Fulton County and the Fulton County Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities and Atlanta-Fulton County Policing Alternatives and Diversion Initiative to resume financial support in the amount of \$400,000."

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

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I'm sorry, I had -- I do have one question."

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

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yeah. The word 'resume' financial support. When did we stop?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "Thank you for raising that, Commissioner Arrington. We never discontinued funding. That is a typo. It should say continue funding."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay, thank you. So, friendly amendment."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Second."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Commissioner Thorne, would you accept the friendly amendment?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. On the item as amended by Commissioner Arrington, please vote. Take one more."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "**23-0283**, Public Works requests approval of the lowest responsible bidder in an amount not to exceed \$175,000 to provide Soft Dig Services."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Favorable motion by Commissioner Thorne, it's seconded by Commissioner Hall. Please vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. It's 1:02, Colleagues, I'll entertain a motion we recess for lunch, Executive Session, items of real estate, litigation, and personnel. Properly moved and seconded. Please vote."

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

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "Yes, Mr. Chairman, do we have any items from Executive Session?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Executive Session?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Yes, we do have just one item."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Speak up, Madam County Attorney."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "We have just one action item coming out of Executive Session. Is there a motion to deny the settlement demand set forth in item number 1 of the Executive Session agenda, and to authorize alternative -- the alternative request for settlement authority?"

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

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "Bottom of page 7, Commissioners' Action Items, **23-0209**: Request approval of a resolution urging the consolidation of certain Fulton County Clerk of Court operations under the Fulton County Superior Court Clerk, directing the County Manager to assist with facilitating such consolidation and for other purposes, sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. This was held at the last meeting. I'm going to make a motion to approve. Can I get a second, please? All right. Seconded by Commissioner Barrett. And this is a urging resolution. It simply urges the parties to get together, it's not binding, to ask them to look at and consider a consolidated Clerk system. I think Mr. Adams made a compelling argument at the last meeting about the financial considerations to this. So I don't want to belabor the point. It's pretty self-explanatory, as far as I'm concerned. It's simply an urging resolution to move in the direction that the nation is moving in, as well as one of our sister counties. And I think it's the right thing

to do. It's the right time to do it, regardless of the personalities. So that's my motion to approve, seconded by -- no, motion to approve by Commissioner -- what did I -- Barrett? Seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Commissioner Rahman, Commissioner Barrett, Commissioner Arrington, Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Now Chairman, I -- I want to support this. I just need to ask the County Manager a question. I did have a lot of calls, especially from the State Court about this. And so I need to know the model we're looking at. Are we looking at just administrative functions? Are we looking at -- exactly what are we looking at? Because I want to be comfortable, if I'm going to support this, I want to be open and honest with those who I have been talking to since the last -- well, really even before the last Board of Commissioners meeting. And so County Manager, if you can speak to this, or Alton, if you can kind of -- kind of break it down for me, somewhat? You understand the question I'm asking?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, ma'am. I'm going to ask Mr. Adams to describe to the Board the current thinking."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay, thank you."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC, PSS: "Commissioner, good afternoon. The -- what we're looking at and what we're recommending is that we focus our efforts on the administrative functions of State Court and Superior Court, specifically, not the Clerk function, because the Clerk function has a number of other issues. And we do have task agreement from Judge Tailor and from Judge Glanville that they're willing to have discussions around the administrative functions. Those would include, specifically, HR, IT, the HR, IT, Finance functions and things like, Court Reporters and Interpreters. So basically, the administrative-type functions, not the Clerk functions. We think that's the area, quite frankly, in the short term, has the -- the best promise for us, and is also least controversial."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay. So it sounds to me, let me make sure, because I want to make sure that everybody knows what I'm saying. So when it's being reported, the administrative functions is what we're consolidating?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC, PSS: "That would be our recommendation. That this what --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "And that would be the recommendation --"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC, PSS: "-- focusing on; that's correct."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "-- and as far as the Clerk functions, we're not touching that. If at some times, you feel like, you know, we will do that, will you come back and bring it in front of this Board?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC, PSS: "Yes, we would. But we do think that in the immediate term, the administrative functions gets us the biggest benefit with the least amount of controversy."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Well, I've actually talked to some of the state stakeholders. And they had agreed with me that if that it was just administrative that they would be open to it. So I just want to go on record that that's what's going on. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "You answered some of my questions already with your response, Mr. Adams. But Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, I think, just to help with the clarity here that this particular resolution specifically talks about the consolidation of the Clerk function. And it does not actually talk about the consolidation of the administrative function. So it's possible we might need to do a substitute motion here, or at least a friendly -- to your point, at least a friendly amendment to -- to include the administrative functions. And I will just say this, on the one hand, I don't have a problem with this passing as -- as a resolution that doesn't instruct, but rather makes a request, because

we can't tell them to do this. We would only be asking them to consider doing this, correct? Yes? Okay. Like, I don't know who to direct that to. Thank you, Madam County Attorney. So this would not be, whether we pass this or not, they -- they will do what they will do. And so I think, you know, I like the idea of the administrative functions because I think it's not fraught with any kind of issues that -- like the ones we've seen here in this Assembly Hall, and that you all have been dealing with for years before I got here. And I think if we were living in a perfect world, then I would like the idea of the Clerk functions potentially being consolidated as well. But as we all know, we do not live in a perfect world. So I'm, you know, I'm okay with it passing again because it's not, I mean, it's not forcing them into anything. But I'd like to just get this off our agenda to be honest."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you, Commissioner Barrett, for pointing out that this resolution talks about urging the consolidation of the Clerk functions and not of the administrative functions. Thank you, Mr. Adams, for saying that you all are looking at consolidation of administrative functions. So, Mr. Adams, this resolution doesn't address the consolidation of the administration functions that you were just talking about, does it?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC, PSS: "Not as I read it, Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I'm sorry, what did you say?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC, PSS: "I said, not as I read it. Based on my reading, it does talk specifically to the -- to the Clerk functions --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Point of order, Mr. Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Hold on, everybody."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Just point of order, quickly. I didn't, maybe, say it strongly enough. But friendly amendment to add the administrative functions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I accepted."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "(Off-mic comments.)"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So, I'm not going to be able to accept anything that talks about consolidation of the Clerk function. If it is -- if we are removing and replacing Clerk functions with the administrative functions, I'd be happy to support it. But I'm not going to support anything that has that. I want to remind you all of the Georgia Constitution, the separation of powers. There should be three branches, the legislative, judicial, and executive powers shall forever -- shall forever remain separate and distinct. This legislation is inappropriate. It doesn't make any sense. We asked -- I asked at the last meeting for them to work on the plan of the administration and come back to us with a plan that does make sense. This does not make sense. It does not make sense to try to force people to work together that don't want to work together. It does not make sense to try to put a square peg into a round hole. I'm going to force this in, I'm going to make this fit even though I know it doesn't fit. Why in the world would we do that? No, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "I'm not going to remind you of the Georgia Constitution. But what I am going to remind you of is that we had the Chief Judge of State Court stand right before us at one of our last BOC meetings and say, emphatically, no, do not do this, do not include them, they don't want it. And since we have had our Clerk to Superior Court and Magistrate Court -- I won't say resign, retire, and that creates an entirely different situation. She is literally elected to be the Clerk of Superior Court. She has appointed Che Alexander to take her position when she leaves on the last day of her retirement. That will put Che Alexander squarely in the seat of Clerk of Superior

Court. Now, Madam County Attorney, what happens to the piece that is related to Magistrate Court once she has retired?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "So, barring any objection by the incoming Superior Court Clerk --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Speak up, Madam County Attorney."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Barring objection by the incoming Superior Court Clerk, my initial reading of the statute is that the appointment for the Magistrate Clerk function runs with the office. I will say that we have been requested, as an office, to research that further and provide a formal opinion, and that is what we're working on now."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "So, you're working on finding out if the piece that addresses the Clerk to Magistrate Court --"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Whether it runs with --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "-- if that --"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "-- the office as opposed to the individual appointee."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "What does the resolution that this Board of Commissioners - well, I wasn't here -- but the Board of Commissioners approved, what does that say?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "It includes -- it says the Clerk of the Superior Court, Tina Robinson. So it necessarily includes the individual who happened to occupy the office at the time. Because the mechanism whereby the Board placed that function in Superior Court Clerk's office, requires the consent of the individual who happens to occupy that office, and at that time that was Tina Robinson."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "So, the resolution is very clear that it's -- it is specifically related to Tina Robinson, the individual who was in the position at that time?"

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

COMMISSIONER HALL: "That's what you just said?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "She is named in the resolution because she happened to occupy the position at the time. But as I --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "That's your opinion, that's not a fact."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Well, as I --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington, please, order. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "That's not a fact."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just a minute."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Commissioner --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "That's her opinion."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Commissioner, you're in there. We see you in the queue, Commissioner Arrington. But the fact of the matter is that the two ladies got together and made a decision that Tina Robinson would be the Clerk of Magistrate Court. It was between those two ladies and it was brought forward to the Board of Commissioners. That -- there was nobody else named because those two ladies made that decision together."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "They -- you mean, the Chief Judge Kirk and Tina Robinson, who was --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "-- the Clerk of the Court. Yes. It's my understanding that historically, it was prompted by Judge Kirk speaking with Tina Robinson and who is amenable to accepting. But the action of placing that function with

the Superior Court was not an act of the Chief Magistrate Judge. It was an act of the Board or Commissioners --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Right."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "-- which had the authority to do so."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Right. But it's all in writing what was asked for. And it was specifically, Tina Robinson, it wasn't Che Alexander or anyone else. The person was named because that's who the agreement was between. So I'm not going to force anybody to do anything that they don't want to do. The Chief Judge has already spoken. This is -- we're at a point where we can finally address this in a better manner and direction because of the fact that the Clerk of Superior Court has ultimately retired. So it opens up an entirely new way of us approaching this situation. And so, this is premature at this point. We need to allow you to finish your research and get us an opinion back. And then we can make a better decision on how we move forward. This is absolutely premature at this point with the current situation. And I actually will make a motion to hold it so we can all you that time."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. We have a substitute motion on the floor to hold. I'd ask you to not support the motion to hold. Let's vote on the motion to hold, please."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Well, we still got a discussion."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Discussion now should be -- just a minute. The discussion should be limited to the motion to hold, which is on the floor."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. I'm in the queue. I don't know which order you going to call people, but I'm in the queue."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "The motion on the floor is to hold. Let's limit the discussion to the motion to hold. Commissioner Hall, you want to say anything else on the motion to hold."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "No, I think I've said it all."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. All right. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, on the motion to hold."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "My comments are not for the motion to hold."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Commissioner Arrington, on the motion to hold."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chair. I'd like to read for you and everyone else here, a copy of the letter dated December 29, 2015, addressed to the Honorable Cathelene Tina Robinson, Clerk of Superior Court. Dear Mrs. Robinson, please confirm that effective January 1, 2016, you will accept appointment as Clerk of the Magistrate Court in addition to your duties with the Superior Court. Letter dated December 29th, 2015 from the Honorable Cathelene Tina Robinson, addressed to Judge Cassandra Kirk, Chief Magistrate. This letter serves as confirmation that effective January 1, 2016, I accept the appointment. I accept the appointment, signed Cathelene Tina Robinson. Now, for someone to sit here and say and -- and -- and to -- to make a recommendation without getting the information and reviewing the documents and have an opinion about something without doing their homework and looking at the documents, the appointment was for the individual, Tina Robinson, the Chief Magistrate Judge according OCGA 1510-105, has the authority to appoint a Clerk, the Chief Magistrate, who has the authority to appoint the Clerk of the Magistrate Court as Tina Robinson to be the Clerk of the Magistrate Court by letter dated, December 29, 2015. By letter dated December 29th, 2015, Tina Robinson, Clerk of the Superior Court, accepted. This letter confirms that I, the I is Tina Robinson. Now, why would someone else suggest anything other the plain common-sense meaning of something? Why would someone attempt to offer an opinion without doing their homework or taking the time to review the letters? Now, I'm just getting to the resolution. Let's get to the resolution. That's what you wanted know, right, Commissioner Hall, what does the resolution say?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "The motion before us --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Madam Attorney, do you know what resolution says?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Just a minute. Just a minute. The motion on the floor is to hold."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes. I'm telling you the reasons why you should hold. I'm telling you and everybody else up here and anybody listening and watching why this matter should be held. And I'm going to the resolution. I'm citing the letters. Do you want to see it? Can y'all put it on the screen? Let's put it on the screen. Tonya, let me email it to you so we can put it on screen so the world can see it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I think we understand what you're saying --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "No, we not going to understand, we going to see it. This my time, this my time. We going to see it. We got let everybody see it. We going to let the world see it."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Can you put it on the screen at the -- at the --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I just sent it to you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "How long will this take?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yeah, we going to let the world see it. Since people want to make stuff up."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam County Attorney, listen, you don't have to respond, please. I beg you not to."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Now, the resolution, line 18."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You have it?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I'll just read it while we waiting for it to come up. And when it comes up, I'll read it again. Whereas, Cathelene Tina Robinson, the Clerk

of the Superior Court of Fulton County, has consented to appointment as Clerk of the Magistrate Court. Now, why in the world would somebody say it's not for Tina Robinson, who was the Clerk? Why would somebody say that? What -- what motivation would someone have to say that? Why would someone make it an opinion --

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

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- without reading the resolution?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "How could someone what calls themselves a professional --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "How can someone that calls themselves a --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington, stop it."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- professional make a recommendation --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- or offer an opinion without reading the word from the resolution."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington, you're out of order."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I'm not out of order."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You're out of order."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "You are out of order."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You're out of order."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "You are out of order."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You're out of order, Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "You are out of order --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You're out of order. Now, the motion on --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- and anyone that says otherwise."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Do you have anything else?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Anyone that says something different, they are out of order."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You're out of order, Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "That's all right. That's okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "It's a whole bunch of people out of order. The County Attorney's out of order. You're out of order."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commission -- Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "It's a whole bunch of people out of order. So we're going to all be out --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- of order together."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Please, Commissioner --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Whereas, Cathelene Tina --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- Robinson."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Let's take a recess, please."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "No. We pulling it up on the screen. I'm waiting for it to come up on the screen. Yeah, I pressed send. Pull it off the agenda. Don't put something on there that's crazy if you know it's crazy. Make something up without reviewing the documents, a professional."

(Meeting Recessed at 3:49 p.m. until 3:54 p.m.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Do you have it up there, Madam Clerk? All right. All right."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "All right. Let's review it. Let's go back, now that we got it up on the screen. Page 1, December 29th, 2015, letter addressed to the Honorable Cathelene Tina Robinson. Dear Mrs. Robinson, please confirm that you, you, y-o-u, Ms. Robinson, please confirm that you will accept appointment as Clerk of the Magistrate Court. Signed, Cassandra Kirk, Chief Magistrate, Fulton County Magistrate Court. Let's go to the next page. Letter from the Honorable Cathelene Tina Robinson. Dear Chief Judge Kirk, this letter serves as confirmation that I accept the appointment as the Clerk of Magistrate Court. Signed, Cathelene Tina Robinson. Let's go to the next page, line 18, Whereas, Cathelene Tina Robinson, the Clerk of the Superior Court of Fulton County has consented to the appointment as Clerk of Magistrate Court. Now, how in the world could somebody say that that appointment was not personal to the person that was in the seat? How in the world can someone say, and they haven't even reviewed it, they admit that they haven't reviewed it. They haven't reviewed the resolution. They haven't reviewed the letters. And yet, they can form an opinion? Come on, people. This matter absolutely has to be held. And for someone to sit there, someone that calls themselves a professional and form an opinion and try to influence votes without reviewing the materials. Are you kidding me? I'm done, Mr. Chair."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Madam County Attorney."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Yes. May I respond?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Please."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "I just wanted to make --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Now, the motion on the floor is to hold."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Yes. I just want to make a couple of points, briefly."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Speak up, Madam County Attorney."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "I would just like to make a couple of points, briefly. First, I'd like to remind the Commissioners that I began by saying that while my initial reading of the statute was such that we were in the process of researching and preparing a formal opinion that has been requested by Commissioner Arrington. So that was my initial impression that I shared with the Board. Secondly, the portion of the code that Commissioner Arrington is citing for the proposition that the Clerk of the Magistrate Court can select her own Clerk of Court, is in a subsection that begins, if there is no Clerk of the Magistrate Court. During Judge Kirk's tenure, there has never been a time when that precondition existed. There has always been a Clerk of the Magistrate Court. There used to be one that was also the State Court Clerk. And then it was subsequently moved by the Board to the Superior Court Clerk's office pursuant to another subsection of this code that actually applied. Which is, in the absence of local law and with the consent of the Clerk of the Superior Court, the County governing authority may place that function with the County's Superior Court Clerk, which is exactly what happened. The Board placed it there pursuant to their own authority. The fact that Judge Kirk happened to send the letter, and that Tina Robinson happened to be the recipient of the letter, was a function of the occupants of those offices, which are referenced in the statute. But as promised, I will be researching and preparing and providing a formal opinion that -- that considers it in line with all of the documents as quickly as possible. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Now, the motion on the floor is to hold. Let's vote, please."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "I'm in the queue."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. You want to heard on the motion to hold?"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "I want to actually hear from the Chief Judge of State Court because I see them sitting right over there. And I want to know --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "-- has he changed his mind about what he said to us when he was here before --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Come on down, Chief Judge."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "-- concerning this item. Because I heard him say a strong, no. And I want to know has he changed his mind on that."

WESLEY TAILOR, STATE COURT CHIEF JUDGE: "Thank you, Commissioner Hall. I'm on red, does that -- is that the way it should be? I just want to make sure everybody can hear me. Okay, thank you. If I can, I do want to briefly address this. I'll answer your question first of -- the best way to answer this is that there's no information that says that we should or that says that this is a good idea. So I said at the outset that theoretically, consolidation of similar functions makes sense, theoretically. But you've got to look at reality. And right now reality says, no that we shouldn't. And if I can, I just want to get just a couple of things that I prepared for y'all just to think about. One, whether y'all have heard any issues with the State Court Clerk's office. Okay. Two, have you heard that it's inefficient. Have you heard that it's too expensive for the taxpayers? Have you heard that the State Court Clerk's office is not meeting constituent demands? Because that's where this kind of resolution should come from, not from just out of the blue because other divisions or other departments are having issues. But this should come from, there's an issue with the State Court Clerk. And we've heard that. But I don't think any of y'all have, because if you had, I'm sure somebody would have come to me with it, and nobody has. And there is nothing to suggest that consolidation in the Clerk functions would result in more efficiency or less

cost to the County or the taxpayers. And in fact, the evidence is to the contrary. And I just want to give you a couple of things to think about. I want to talk about the State Court Civil Docket. 2018, we saw the highest new civil case filings since 2012. So 2012, we had a pretty -- a high case filings, they went down a little bit. They went up in 2018 to the highest we had seen in a decade. In 2019, that grew by 10 percent. In 2020, during a pandemic, it grew by more than another 10 percent. Now, what we have had in '22, and we're on track for in '23 and in '21, we have 25 percent more new civil case filings than we had back in 2018, which was the highest number in a decade. So we have all these new case filings. But our current open/pending caseload on the Civil Docket is the same as it was in 2019. And so what that tells you or should tell you is, the State Court Clerk's office and the State Court Judges are efficient, and we're dealing with our cases efficiently, and we're getting it done. Looking at the criminal side, in 2023, or -- yes, this year, the first three months, the State Court is at a clearance rate -- that means how many cases come in versus how many cases are resolved, we're at 144 percent. 144 percent. That tells you that the Clerk is doing its job, the Clerk's office of State Court is doing its job to get those cases to us, and then we are resolving them. So, the question I have is, if you have that information on the civil side, why would you want to vote to suggest that we change that on the criminal side? If we're at 144 percent clearance rate, why would you want to vote to suggest that we change that? I understand this is a suggestion, but you're suggesting that we do something without any facts that say it's the right thing to do. There's no outcry that I have heard from any court services users that the State Court Clerk's office isn't doing its job. And I will tell you this, there is nobody who says that I have heard, and I have asked, that the Superior Court Clerk's office, regardless of how much I like the Superior Court Clerk, but that the office functions better than the State Court Clerk's office, and that there's a better experience, that they are doing better for the taxpayers or for the constituents. There is not that information. And again, this -- I will say this, the resolution, I don't -- I don't -- I don't know whether this is the case, but I can tell you, I don't know if the resolution is introduced because anybody thinks that one elected Clerk is going to result in better service or savings to the taxpayer. And if that is, I can tell you that having one

elected Clerk for the State Court, Superior Court, and Magistrate Court is not the norm in Georgia. It is not. There's one other county, but that is not the norm, it's an aberration. This doesn't solve the issue that it was intended to introduce. And I'm going to say one other thing about this. This doesn't even consolidate all of the Clerk functions for the various courts in Fulton County. There are other courts that have their own Clerk functions. So why is it that this is somehow directed to State Court without any information that there's something wrong with how State Court is doing business? What it does is it creates more issues and it creates more problems by asking the State Court to appoint an elected Clerk who's answerable, not to the Judges or the folks who use the -- these services, but only to the electorate. And it's not bad that we're answerable to the electorate, I am. But I am telling you, from a ministerial situation or ministerial perspective that does not guarantee, nor does it even suggest that you're going to get a better result. As I said last time, and I'm going to say it one more time, the State Court Judges and the State Court Clerk steadfastly and quietly fulfill our roles in the justice system. We do it efficiently and at relatively minimal cost to the County and the taxpayers. We work well with others to address issues, even when those issues aren't our issues. So given that those are the facts that I've talked about, the question is why would you vote to suggest that we change that? Thank you very much, Commissioners."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Anything else, Commissioner Hall? Motion on the floor is to hold. You still have the floor."

WESLEY TAILOR, STATE COURT CHIEF JUDGE: "I'm sorry. I'm here for any questions too. I didn't know --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I just wanted --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "That's all right."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, hold on. Commissioner --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I just wanted to ask you a question."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, hold on."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Hall still has the floor."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Oh, I'm sorry."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "All right. Now, I just wanted to say, thank you for that input. And I completely agree. For me, it's about the facts. And like you said, this is not something that is normally done anywhere in Georgia. And this consolidation is not even exactly the same as the county that is doing a consolidation. There's a piece missing out of that process, and it's because it doesn't work. And we are sympathetic with -- well, at least I am, I'm sympathetic with the fact that of having an elected come over and you have to deal with that. Because we -- we are in the same situation because we have our elected, who we have to approve budgets for. And then sometimes there's a little bit of a tug of war about the money. So I'm very, very cognizant of how that can be -- how it can put you in situation that you don't want to be in. So, thank you for your comments."

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

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. Judge, I get it. You don't want to be lumped in something that you didn't create. I get it, and I hear what you're saying. But for me, I'm asking this question of you, the administrative functions, are you open to the consolidation of the administration, administrative functions only?"

WESLEY TAILOR, STATE COURT CHIEF JUDGE: "Thank you so much for asking that, Commissioner. I'll go back years ago, I think it was -- I was appointed in 2010, elected in 2012. I think in 2012 the Superior Court and the State Court established a joint working committee to where we could look at different functions that we did and to see what might work together. Back then, we consolidated the jury services at that point, which was -- has been a big win, it really has. It's resulted in fewer folks having to

come down because before, we would bring folks into Superior and State Court. And so fewer folks have to come down and it's save the taxpayers money. And it's more efficient for all the Judges. So that's been a big win. I will tell you since then, we have looked at bringing together the administrative functions of the two courts. And what I would -- the answer, short answer is, yes. Because I think that's where things make sense. What we -- what I would ask -- and I know in part of the resolution that you had, it was urging the County Manager's office to assist us in that. And I think that would be helpful, because internally, it's really hard to judge and figure out, here's how things should happen for everybody, especially when you have things that are -- there's a lot of moving parts there. But it might be very helpful to have an outside resource who could assist us in saying, okay, let's bring these, let's figure out what you have here, what you have here, and figure out what makes sense to bring together. And the answer is, Superior Court, the judicious -- the Judges on Superior Court have been in favor of that. The Judges on State Court have been in favor of that. And we just haven't figured out a way to bring it all together yet. So the answer is, yes, but we're not necessarily, as Judges, in the best position to be able to figure that out. And it would be really helpful if we did have some outside resources on that."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "So, Judge, I just want to make sure that I just understand your answer. What I got from you was that you would be open to administrative functions being consolidated with the help of the County Manager's office."

WESLEY TAILOR, STATE COURT CHIEF JUDGE: "Yes, ma'am."

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

WESLEY TAILOR, STATE COURT CHIEF JUDGE: "I'm sorry for that long explanation."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "That's okay, I just want to make sure. Listen, sometimes I'm big on communication. So thank you, I appreciate that. And I'm sorry. I apologize if anyone has not been open in and allow you to be part of the process. Not

saying that they have. But I just think it's important that our judicial partners know that we, as a Body, fully respect you, okay?"

WESLEY TAILOR, STATE COURT CHIEF JUDGE: "Thank you."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne. Motion on the floor is to hold."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I'm just trying to make sure I understand the resolution that we were originally -- the one that we want to hold is for administration functions, not for Clerk -"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No. It is the Clerk and there was a -- just a minute, just a minute. The resolution involves urging them to consider a consolidated function. And I accepted the friendly amendment to include the administration as well. So that's what's before us, includes the Clerk and administration."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "And the motion on the floor is to hold."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Okay. I just wanted to clarify what the --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "-- amendment was."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Hall, you want to be heard again? Motion on --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Just a question."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- the floor is to hold."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Just a question. Because the Judge said, outside resources. And now I heard him when he spoke about not having an elected person

over the consolidation of functions. So I just wanted to ask you, when you say, outside resources coming into the administrative consolidation, what did -- who did you mean?"

WESLEY TAILOR, STATE COURT CHIEF JUDGE: "Well, and that's the -- that's where I'm hoping the County Manager's office can help us. So, I guess this goes back to, we as a group, the Superior Court and the State Court, have looked at this administrative consolidation in whatever form that is, for now, going on ten years. And we haven't been able to really make that happen. And what I think would be helpful is, if we had some, I don't know whether -- again, the County Manager would be in a best position of whether that means a project manager or a consultant to come in and look at the functions and say, you know, here's where this can work. And that's where I'm talking about with the administrative side. With the Clerk function, the issue with this resolution is, nobody's even talked about that for years, or done any study or look. At least what we have done -- what we know is with Superior Court and State Court, we have -- we have been looking at that for years and thinking, yes, there's something that we can do better here. With the Clerk -- Clerk's office, that's -- there's never been a look at that. And there's never been any indication that that should happen."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "All right. I'm new at the procedures, Chairman. But can I make a substitute motion right now?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What's your --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So, I'd like to make a substitute motion to urge the courts to consider consolidating just the administrative function."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I am going to rule that out of order. That is too similar to the motion that's on the floor."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Not if she's removing the Clerk functions --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Oh, no, she can't -- no, no, no, no, no."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "It's a substitute motion --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You want to -- Madam Parliamentarian."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "It's a substitute motion --"

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

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "-- just to be clear."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I am not the Parliamentarian. But my ruling is, Madam Parliamentarian."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "I'm so sorry. Have you had a vote on the substitute motion, whether to --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So there was a substitute motion to hold. And then I just made another substitute motion to urge the courts to consider consolidating only the Clerk -- I'm sorry -- only the administrative function, not the clerking function. That's my substitute motion. And it was seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "The original -- original motion was to approve. I accepted a friendly amendment to include the administration of it. Then Commissioner Barrett wants to make a substitute motion to the substitutes on -- that's on the floor. And my statement was that it's too similar to the motion that's on the floor."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "No, it's not."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "But I defer to you as Parliamentarian."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "I think it is the -- the motion that's on the floor is to hold --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "And this -- I think it has been the practice of this Board to allow subsequent substitute motions. And this one appears to have been duly made and seconded."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Then there's a substitute to the substitute that's on the floor to remove the --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Clerk."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- the Clerk and only the administration."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Only the administration."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Only administration. It's properly moved and seconded. All right. Anybody want to comment on that before we vote? Let's vote."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you, Madam Parliamentarian for your ruling."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes, thank you so much."

WESLEY TAILOR, STATE COURT CHIEF JUDGE: "I didn't want to leave without -- thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just minute, Judge. Before you leave, yeah."

WESLEY TAILOR, STATE COURT CHIEF JUDGE: "Oh, yes."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Passes, five yeas, one nay. Just for the info -- that's -- that's approved as amended. It would deal only with the administration. But for your

information, five of your Judges called me and they support the consolidated effort, just for your information. Next item, Madam Clerk."

WESLEY TAILOR, STATE COURT CHIEF JUDGE: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, sir."

WESLEY TAILOR, STATE COURT CHIEF JUDGE: "Appreciate that."

CLERK GRIER: "On page 8, Commissioner's Full-Board Appointment, **23-0254**, Hospital Authority of Fulton County, Northside, the Board of Trustees of the Hospital Authority submitted the following slate of names for the Board of Commissioners to consider -- consideration to fill the unexpired term of Dr. Thomas Gable, ending April 1st, 2024, Dr. Kenneth Kupke, Dr. Mark Soneshine, and Dr. Jennifer Amerson."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. I've asked the County Attorney to review that info -- that authority. There are two issues here, number one, we've asked for records, minutes of their meetings, which we have not yet received. We've asked for information regarding the lawsuit and their basically refusal to allow under an open records request, and the issue of the way the Board is appointed. Even though this Board may have done it incorrectly in the past, we're trying to correct that. And the process is pretty straightforward. We, this Board, is to submit three names to that authority, and they choose from the three names that we submit. In this case, the cart -- we got it backwards, they have been submitting names to us. And we're choosing one of the names that, say, they're submitting to us. So that's pretty much where we are. So while we're waiting for information to come from the County Attorney, I'd like for us to hold it until we get -- until we can get the -- all of the facts in front of us. All right. There's a second. Any further discussion? All right. You want to be heard, Commissioner Thorne?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "Yeah. Is it time sensitive?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "It is not. Well, it was a statement made at the last meeting -- yeah -- there was a statement made at the last meeting that it was time sensitive because they needed a quorum to have a meeting. This is a nine-member board. They have -- say, what? This is a nine-member board. They have eight members, so you only need five members so -- for a quorum. So that was inaccurate. So from that point of view, it is not time sensitive for the reason that was stated at the last meeting. So the motion on the floor is to hold. All right. Let's vote, please, on the motion to hold."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "23-0285, Discussion: Transparency, sponsored by Commissioner Thorne."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "I'll be brief, because I think we -- by holding the Hospital Morehouse thing that was much appreciated because as a new Commissioner, as I expressed, it's just very difficult --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Speak up a little bit, Commissioner Thorne."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "It's just very difficult to research and get up to speed on things when you don't know what you're going to be talking on, and it's coming literally, to you when you sit down here at the meeting and you're having to read multiple pages. So I appreciate holding -- holding that for the, you know, until -- not having the official agreement so that we can get input from other people. And just to let the public know what we're doing and be able to come down to speak on it as well and get their input."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Are you speaking to the previous --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "To the --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- item or to your item?"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "No, to -- well, I'm just speaking, my item was in regards to the Morehouse resolution that we were going to vote on today. But we didn't get until we got down here this morning."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "So your discussion --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So what --"

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "So on tran- -- being transparent with the public, having -- having that put on the agenda, letting the public be able to look at it to see what we're going to be voting on before the meeting, you know, at least a day before, two day. I remember back in October there was a discussion item on the poll worker data being breached by the temp agency, Happy Faces Temp Agency. And the information wasn't there, and you guys held it for two weeks because it wasn't there. So that's what I was just -- I'm just trying to say, what is -- what is our protocol going to be moving forward to help inform the public before we here in the meeting and being presented the resolutions on time?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Commissioner Thorne, the agenda is posted on Friday by noon by the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners. And that immediately makes every single item on our agenda public facing. They then have access to all of the documents that go with every single agenda item that we're going to vote on. They have an opportunity at that point to review everything from Friday up until Wednesday, the day of the BOC meeting, and we do as well. And so that just makes me want to commend my Chief of Staff, Anita Harris, on always making sure that I get the agenda on Friday with all the documents and we actually go over it. So we have -- we have all that time to go over it, and the public do too. So I start getting questions and calls and emails and

everything right after the agenda is posted on Friday. That's how we make it available to the public. Yeah. No, I'm done."

COMMISSIONER THORNE: "What I'm saying is, you know, the stack, the Morehouse Study, the supporting documents did not come until we got here with -- in an add-on folder with that documentation. And the same with the Health Disparity Study that we had at the last meeting. That documentation was sitting here at our desk that we didn't get from Friday until Wednesday to review that and to look at that. So that's all I'm saying, are -- these are pretty fairly, hefty multiple-page studies that it'd be great if we had on the Friday, not on the Wednesday morning. I'm literally getting a call from my Chief of Staff, saying, okay, it came through at 8:00 a.m. and I'm in the car trying to sift through what was just sent. So -- and that doesn't give the public time to either weigh in on it too if it concerns them. So I just didn't know if I'm just going to have to learn to live with it, expect it, or if we can do something to make sure that all the documentations with all the agenda items are with them on Friday."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Well, I think the Manager and his people are pretty diligent in trying to get as much information as they believe we would need on Fridays. Occasionally that does not happen because they don't have everything in place. But I think they hear your concern, and they will take, you know, take it under consideration. All right. Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, back on page 6 under Justice and Safety. **23-0277**, Request approval to amend an existing contract in an amount not to exceed \$869,893 to provide a phase two of the feasibility study."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. We have a motion to approve by Commissioner Barrett, it is second -- seconded by Commissioner Thorne. Any questions? All right, let's vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

CLERK GRIER: "Add-on item, **23-0288**, Sheriff Discussion: Emergent issues at the jail."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Did they send us something? Is this it? Sheriff?"

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "Thank you. First of all, thank you for your time. Thank you for your patience as we've motored through a lot of the things that --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Speak up, Sheriff."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "Thank you for your time. Thank you for your patience as we've motored through a lot of information over the last couple of days. I think it important -- first thing, I want to take an opportunity and let the public know that my heart goes out to the Thompson family. Many of you have seen in the media what has transpired. But one, if there are any questions around that, I certainly want to be able to answer what I am -- I can answer, given the litigation and limited -- given that the actual investigation is still open, right, so if there are anything around that piece. But I want to take just a couple of seconds to debunk a few myths, one of which is ACDC, which is up and running, right. So that you all have the actual numbers, we have a total of 369 individuals over there. We have 291 females, 78 males. And then we have more males being transported in the next seven to ten days. So that's important to make sure we get that piece right. I do want to take an opportunity to express my appreciation for each of you as we have journeyed the last couple years of trying to figure out how to create a better Sheriff's office, how to provide additional resources, whether it be pay, those things matter. And to that point, I have begun to see the attrition slow down a little bit in terms of the number of people trying to leave. At one point, it was ten and 20 people a week. So certainly, appreciate you all's support as we go through those processes. I think it's also important to know that -- or note that the things that you hear around sanitation and those -- those kinds of things, have not been put on hold. We started that, literally, in September going into October with week-long sanitation opportunities, some costing as much as four or \$500,000. I do want to take

an opportunity thank Mr. Davis and his team, as we continue to go down that road. Here's equally as important and things that I would like you to consider, so you have before you, a memo that I wrote with respect to what we need from an emergent standpoint. One of the things that we talked about with a new jail is trying to create a new way of thinking, what that looks like in terms of incarceration. The current jail represents an old way of thinking, simply warehousing people, getting them to and from court, and going from there. This process allows us to start changing the culture before we get a new jail. Before we get to that point, using -- utilizing what we have right now. So what you have on the screen is a company called Talitrix. And I simplify that by saying, the ITW is inside the walls. And one of things that we have been consistently battling is notification when an individual is sick. Many of you may have heard this, and I know I -- my new Board Members may not have heard this. Two weeks after I became Sheriff, one of my really, really close friend's son committed suicide in the jail. And so that was heart wrenching. And one of the things that I began trying to look for and invest in at that point, is a collaborative technological, not answer, but opportunity for us to do better. So in this case, if you can imagine, if you have an Apple watch or if your kids have an Apple watch, that being a biometric opportunity to show us what a person's blood pressure is in terms of, if their blood pressure drops, it'll give us a signal. If it spikes, you know, a person may be involved in having a heart attack, whatever that looks like. One of the things that I want to do with a medical unit specifically, especially our mental health population, as well as those that are receiving chronic medical care is, be able to put these bands on the individuals. Let the technology guide us, and then three, six months down the line, you all had a conversation around Fusus, right, the integration of the cameras. Can you imagine if somebody is having a heart attack, the watch lets us know, let's the cameras know, and then in the spirit of transparency, all the footage we have is available to complete these investigations. And so one thing about investigations, especially jail investigations, and I've talked to some of you individually, is they take a long time, and in the spirit of trying to be transparent, getting people to understand the steps involved. What that means is, we open an investigation, it makes its way up the chain. In each case, we will either call -- in a jail-death

investigation, I think it's important to note, we will either call APD or the GBI. Whoever has the resources to get there first, will take on a part of that investigation. When they close their investigation, we'll close ours. And in many cases and as most recently, we will turn them over to, either Madam DA or turn them over to the Attorney General or the GBI, depending on each case and what that looks like. So this, pivoting back to the technology, leveraging the cameras and the system itself will help us respond better, help us provide better data, and help us be in a space that we can provide medical care even more rapidly. So if there's any question -- not any questions around that, I will continue, because I know you want me to continue. Talking about sanitation, I mentioned earlier that we spent \$500,000 on one tranche and that, meaning that we have almost 400 detainees that are either on our mental health floor or our medical floor. And so this clinical cleansing, if you will, we work with Mr. Davis. His team provides someone that can do a deep cleaning that is just beyond wiping down or goes beyond wiping down the surfaces, et cetera. So at that point, what we want to propose and do, I think, is a more unified message of, we need to do this more often. And so we asked Mr. Davis and his team to bring in contractors who would give us a quote on what this looks like. And so the proposal here is to, every two weeks, be able to do that. You know, we don't specialize in cleaning, but to have a company that can come in, sanitize every two weeks, our medical floor, specifically, I think that goes along the way in terms of our overall goal of providing sanitation, et cetera. Now, I know some people say, well, why can't they clean up themselves? Well, in many instances, mental health patients don't have the fortitude to be able to clean up behind themselves. And so we have to do that until we can get our psychiatrists in place so that we can provide better services from that perspective. The surveillance cameras on this list, goes hand-in-hand. One of the things that the overall project last year that did not include, there are blind spots still in the facility. But being able to tie this into and leverage technology is a way we move from there. Here's the other -- I won't say disappointing fact, but our medical care provider has chosen to terminate. Again, there is a lot of back-and-forth with that. We'll certainly rely on the Law department to help navigate that piece. One of the things that has been prevalent and will continue to be prevalent is the rising costs in

nursing, rising costs in medication, et cetera. And we have not traditionally done a good job over the last few years or dealing with that. And I'll close with this, especially to my - my new Board Members and those that came in with me. This, a decade-plus long problem, right. This is -- and I've said this to one of my Board Members earlier, this is a previous administration not being transparent and letting you all know for years on top of years, of what is needed. And so, when I -- 1/1/21, when I became Sheriff, one of the things that I have -- I pride myself on is communication, making sure you all know. And that way, you can make educated decisions in terms of helping us, informed decisions in terms of helping us get better in where we are. And so I will continue to, you know, move along that space, understanding that we need to be able to be center focused on that. And Mike just reminded me, because I got the best Chief of Staff in the world, I stole him from over here on y'all's side of the street. Well, larceny is in my heart. And so, you know, but RaySecur, which is another part of this, one of the things that has been happening in jail and it's been happening across the country to the point that -- I won't say lawyers, but people that pretend to be lawyers, will send legal mail in, it's been indoctrinated or spread -- sprayed with roach spray, LSD, fentanyl, you name it. They let it dry out, cure it, then send it as a legal mail, which we cannot technically search. Well, they then take it, it's called strips in the jail, they'll take it, and then ultimately smoke it. And what you end up, if you've not seen it on the internet, you end up with five, ten, 15, 20 people massively high at one -- in one tranche. And it becomes a medical emergency more than anything else. And so this technology, albeit it new and very expensive and we've gotten to four machines now, can -- think of it as an electronic canine. You remember -- now, I'm a little older than most, so you remember the old machines that you used to lay down the -- on top of the glass and it would mirror up and project onto the wall? I don't even know what you call it. But looked like a copy machine, but it wasn't. Think of it in that matter, but it actually senses if there is a chemical agent of some sort on the paper. So at that point, we can make a decision. It has already proven to be successful. And here's a -- here's the best part about it. When you make that determination, we immediately contact the lawyer. Most lawyers say, well, I didn't send that, right. So we can -- it becomes contraband at that point. But

now we're eliminating the level of contraband that comes into the facility. It has -- it has been so successful in two weeks, the Commissioner of the Department of Corrections has come down to view it because it is a statewide, a countywide, countrywide problem. So that said, those -- that's my ask for the week. I do want to take an opportunity to thank Mr. Anderson and Mr. Adams, and the entire team, and Ms. Whitmore, for being patient with us as we delve through this week. Because I've taken up a lot of you all's time and their time. But it is that emergent need that brings me before you now. Because if we don't do something, people will continue to die at the Fulton County Jail, and I need your help curtailing that."

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

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Sheriff, thank you for coming down. I want to echo the sentiments; my heart really goes out for the family of that loss. I think anytime there's loss, that loss of life that is -- that is something that we always need to be mindful of and do whatever we can in our power to keep it from happening again. Sheriff, I support you. But I do -- I'm not playing devil's advocate. But I think this is the time here for those that you -- for some people, you can't never do anything right, you know, but they -- they have -- will not spend five seconds in that jail, you know. But what do you say to the public that are saying that the jail is plagued with -- with -- with incidents of employees bringing in contraband, you know, employees having inappropriate contact as well as other things that you're plagued with? Because my office has -- has taken quite a few calls. And, you know, there's one thing to be said about transparency. And some of the things I have said to constituents is, I would rather know about a problem than to not know about problem. Because a problem half recognized is half solved. But I just want you, because I do support you and I do want you to say your words and not Commissioner Khadijah's. What do you say to those who -- we seem to have had problems plagued, seem almost back to back, seems like. What would you say to those individuals, at this moment in front of us, if you don't mind?"

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "Yes, ma'am. And you're absolutely right. I receive some of the same calls, some of the same text message, some of the same emails. I would tell you; we're getting right. And what I mean is, we're holding our personnel accountable. I promised our community as a whole, when we came in, we would focus on making sure the jail is safer, right. We -- it's a lot to be said about the -- the deterioration of the building and the age of the building and the manufacturing of shanks or manufacturing of weapons. There's another thing to be said about those individuals, many of whom were working for Fulton County before I became Sheriff, is that, it's not just that we're holding them accountable, these individuals are being arrested. And so my job as Chief Law Enforcement across the county is quite simple. If you commit a crime outside the jail, we're going to arrest you. If you commit a crime inside the jail, we're going to arrest you. But that's also -- and it's such a good point because it's also why we're becoming more stringent on our team members, right. You can't -- you can no longer bring food inside the jail because someone brought in food, but underneath the food was a couple ounces, several ounces of marijuana. And we have done -- again, when you say what we ask -- ask the citizens, ask them to be patient, right, because we've not just took that case, we took the case -- we tracked it all the way back down to the restaurant it came from, who picked it up, who prepared the marijuana, et cetera and the contraband, and who delivered it. So we made two arrests inside and two arrests outside. And so, trust the process, right. And here's a unique thing about it, and it's a really great point is that, you have certainly, as Commission, right, past, and present, have -- have suffered me, right. And I say that because when I came and asked for \$211 million to run the facility and run the Sheriff's office the way it needed to be, right, we negotiated down, right? I have to be sensitive to other needs around the County, I get it. But I laid the foundation and the vision to be able to say, this is how a properly run Sheriff's office is run, right, or is handled. This is -- and this is across the state. Across the nation, you can look at where we fall on that list. And comparatively, you'll see no other like Fulton County. I would also encourage our public to continue to communicate with you all, email you, our love ones, ever -- and so, I have a new mantra, right, if I get an email, y'all will get an email too, right. I'll send it to you,

because they're mothers and fathers and aunts and uncles that continue to talk about their loved ones. A lot of times, the general public doesn't understand because a person may be locked up for a very heinous crime, but we take a oath. And that oath is to be humane. And so when those individuals -- and now we've even stressed that further. You got to sign twice when you -- when you take your oath, right. We take that to another level of simply saying, integrity matters. And we have to do a better job. So to the voting public, to those that don't, to those that we are responsible for care, custody, and control over, in terms of the jail itself, just know that we're holding people accountable. And I'll tell you this, and I'll tell you this very honestly. When I became Sheriff, I was astounded to find out, like many other Sheriff's across the state that I did not have the autonomy to bring in my own command staff because of civil service protections that Boards prior to you all, put in place. Now, I'm -- you know, I'm pro-union, you know I am, just anti-nonsense. And so, in some instances, I had to deal with the cards I was dealt. But I flew in from out of town and had a staff meeting at 10:00 o'clock at night on a Saturday. I don't know where else they do that. And I asked for, received, and accepted three resignations of the top tier, the top Commanders that run the facility. And I say that because one of those Commanders was my mentor when I started out in 1986. And so what I also say is, if I'm willing to hold him and them accountable, it doesn't matter where you come from, what your background is, when you work for the Fulton County Sheriff's Office, whether you're just starting or you been there, we're going to hold you accountable. And so that's the piece, right. The buck stops with me. Let me be absolutely clear. But you hire a Chief Jailer to be a Chief Jailer. You hire Assistant Chief Jailers to be Assistant Chief Jailers. You hire a Commander, a Night Commander, a Day Commander for a field division to go out and execute warrants. And so again, that's what I would say, is we're not are running from any of the issues. But I would hope and trust at this point, and I know -- I know you do - that when I say, this is what we need that it's not fluff. I don't build fluff into it. And as my mama would say, look, if I tell you a duck can pull a truck, just hook that sucker up. Don't worry about it. Don't worry about everything else. You just hook it up and understand that we're going to move forward. So the future is bright, right. Have we

made some mistakes? Absolutely, absolutely. Have we worked hard to correct those mistakes? Every single day. And in that space, you know, again, I got to give Mr. Davis a lot of credit because doesn't matter what time, day or night, whether the elevators go down, whether the water pump stop working and we don't have hot water, he's going to answer the phone. And he's going to try and help us get the resolve that we need. And so, again, a lot of this starts and stop and how the -- changing the culture. So my -- my plea to you is, as we move, as we continue to look for -- nobody thought we'd get through a Jail Feasibility Study, right? That was a huge success. And to be able to move the needle forward. But that's only because of you all having the vision to do that. Mr. Alton and his team, Alton Adams, and his team, really forcing the conversations. Because when your 70 percent of having to rebuild anything, right, it's time to just build new and out the ground. And I think we can do that in a sensitive way that would allow for mental health to be improved immensely, reentry programs to be improved immensely, and it's a good play. We are where we are right now, and we have to move forward. So that's a long explanation, I hope that's -- you know."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I thank you for that, Sheriff. I just want to close with this that, you inherited a mess."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "Amen."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I mean, you inherited a mess, okay? And the mark of a true leader is a leader that can take criticism and advice. That I know many of times, you and I have talked, sometimes spirited. We have not always been on the same side. But we were respectful of each other."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "Amen."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "And so, I would say in this time of adversity, to stand strong, and let's work for the citizens of Fulton County. Thank you."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Amen."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Barrett."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Sheriff, well, first of all, I want to echo Commissioner Abdur-Rahman's and your, you know, thoughts and prayers and condolences to the family of Lashawn Thompson. Let this incident and his death be a catalyst for moving forward, which I know you are, and I know we all are. And, you know, and you've mentioned several times that a couple of us are new and that, you know, we all, you, yourself, and many of us came into a situation with this jail that was not of any of our personal making, certainly. But we are here now, and we're here to try to make it better. And so, you know, I feel the burden of that in my heart. But I want to just get some clarity on a couple of things and some just real simple details. On the RaySecur machines, the 630,000 is for one, or for how many machines?"

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "That's a good question. I apologize. Four."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "For four new machines, okay."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "Four machines, yes, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "And with these various projects, what's the timeline you need to be -- are you already moving on acquiring some of these things?"

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "Absolutely."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "Yes. Yes, ma'am. Yes, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. So you're not -- we're not holding you up right now, sitting here talking?"

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "No, ma'am. I've --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "No. It might make -- and have to depend on Ms. Whitmore -- might make my math a little fuzzy at the end of the year, but we're moving forward. So, it's an emergency, and we need that."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "And I would offer -- also like to offer, as we continue to go down this road, I would suggest, because of how well the machine works, the RaySecur, I would suggest that all the mail coming into the County facility be scanned in this manner as well. Because whether it be anthrax, or any other foreign substance, you would want to know before any mail is delivered to each one of you as well, so."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you for that. I want to connect the dots or I'd like to ask you, really, to connect the dots a little bit, from September when Lashawn Thompson died to now, in terms of your -- the actions you've taken. Because, you know, I know you talked about having a late meeting and asking for the resignations of the top three folks. But I -- you know, from the conversations we've had outside of this room, I am aware that you've been taking action right from the jump. And so I just want to make that clear and kind of give you an opportunity to walk us through that timeline of the investigation and the discipline that's taken place from that and that will continue to as you learn more of the salient details."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "Okay. Really great, great point, and thank you. So, let me start here with, the investigation is still open. And many people did not understand that. So, again, when a death in the jail or in custody, is what it's called, happens, we call two people. We call APD. We call a third party, APD and the GBI. Whatever resources they have available, whichever one gets in first, takes the lead. We open our own investigation. We include that investigation, to which, in my last conversation with the Chief of Atlanta, that investigation is still open. At that point, we fold that into our investigation, then we will ask, in many instances, we don't have to, but in many instances just for transparency, have the GBI take a file review, take a look at it, take -- do a file review. At that point, the GBI can either refer that case to the DA or the Attorney General's office. How -- if there's any foul play to be had. Now, going back to some of the circumstances and steps that we took, it is very -- it's left out of the conversation that we actually did two decontaminations, or attempted to, right. And we name them, right, the -- Operation Decon and Operation Clean as a Daisy. Those two

did not work as intended. And at that moment, now we're talking, latter part of September, going into October, I approved \$500,000 for a complete decontamination and clinical cleaning that took a week to do. Now, the unique thing about it and the opportunity that we had is, if we're going to spend that kind of money, we needed to have that company come back, already paid for or built in or baked in from that perspective. So they came back in December, right, so these things continue to happen. But here's the important part to note, as long as we have two, three, four, 500 people sleeping on the floor in a confined space, it is a breeding ground for communicable diseases, for lice, et cetera. And so, then let me take it a step further -- and so it's -- it's we're throwing good money after bad as long as we have people on the floor, right. So taking that same connotation, understanding that piece, we employed -- once we found out -- see a lot, to your very point, one of the pieces that is left out of the conversation from a managerial standpoint, from an accountability standpoint, we have to avoid -- have to afford individual's due process. And so as we go through the investigation and each piece closes, then as the Sheriff, I don't get in the middle of the investigation. Because more importantly, when I do, I stand the chance of influencing part of the investigation. And so at that point when the investigations close, again, in this case, it is not, I can then make decisions. Now, along the way, when one of my Jail Commanders sought that some of the command staff did not do as they were ordered, they were disciplined, period. So we're not -- so, none of this is because somebody had a press conference. This is, we are very intentional about each of these steps. And so as we, again, we go back to the fact that we -- we -- the case is still open. And as it gets to me, I can then make those decisions. Now, like you all, getting those emails, getting those text messages, when I saw some of the pictures that came from the Medical Examiner's Office, which we've only found out Monday, right, had never seen this before. And so in that case, you look at it, it's unconscionable, right. So at that point, I assigned an Investigator. There's a process to all of this, Investigator to go over to -- actually, my Commander, to go over to the Medical Examiner's Office, after I had a chance to speak with her over the weekend and sit there until they were able to file the right forms, have the right conversations to get all of the pictures, right. So this was the

first time we had seen them this week. And so to that extent, we were able, from a preliminary standpoint, some things you -- everybody's afforded due process, or should be. I would hope, you know, I -- I feel in my heart, right, that I wish we could have given Mr. Thompson his due process. And so we've had months and months of conversation around, even churning through the court system. So when you look at the court system and the fact that this gentleman's case was reset upwards of eight or nine times, that's something that will come out at some point. But it's also, you know, whether he chose or chose not to, right, had the capacity to or not to interact, we still have an innate responsibility. And so we have processes in place. But we will not know what failed or did not fail until the complete investigation. And so that's our goal from that perspective. So, I -- first, I appreciate the question. And if give me a second, I'd just like to thank you as well, as well as the other Commissioners. Because as you know, and I did not want to leave this out, we had an Officer attacked and part of her ear bitten off. And she is a shero, I make no bones about it. We've talked to her several times. I would ask, I would like for her to come to address you all at some point. But I did not want to leave that out. And I thank you all for the calls and being able to respond. So you were one of the first to be there. I want say, thank you."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Of course. A couple of additional questions. You brought up a lot of different --"

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "I apologize."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "-- part -- things in that answer. So just to be clear, and you may have said some of this already. But just to be clear, the sanitizing and decontamination efforts that you've got listed in the memo at 485,000, is for a year for biweekly, correct?"

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "So, it is for the rest of this year."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "The rest of this year."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "Right."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "So I was trying to be sensitive. Because I learned from Commissioner Khadijah, you know, we can't just ask for all of it right now. I just want to be -- I want to get through --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "-- as Commissioner Hall says, let's get through this year, right?"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. I got."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "So, I didn't want over --"

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "No, no, no, I got you. I just wanted --"

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "Yes, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "-- to make sure I was clear."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "Yes, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "And that everybody was clear that this was not another one-time cleaning."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "No, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "That you were, in fact, going to be --"

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "This is -- no, ma'am. This is ongoing. We'll be able to show the results. And our goal is to make it a part of our 2024 budget."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Okay. You also mentioned a lot of issues going on at the jail. And sort of as context for what you were describing, the people sleeping on the floor, the overcrowding, the condition of the building, and I think we all know that the condition of the building has led to a difficulty in hiring and retaining staff. And so I

would say, and I think, you know, we've all talked about this, the County Manager and I have talked about this offline, as have you and I that, you know, the jail is a crisis, it's in a crisis situation. And that, you know, Lashawn Thompson died, in part, because of the overall crisis that the jail is in. A problem that you've described and Commissioner Abdur-Rahman has described as something many of us inherited. But it is in crisis. And so I'm going to sort of direct this a little bit to you, Mr. County Manager, because I know that you guys have been in talks. And I just want to know, you know, I know we're talking very specifically now, with this, about cleanliness and security issues and -- and specifically, checking in on patients, both behavioral health and just medical patients. But what -- what are you planning, and what have you all been discussing as it relates to operations and just, you know, doing the best we can to improve our operations in this crisis mode? Because though we did just today approve 879,000 for -- to move the jail, the new jail project along through its next year of analysis and study and design and such, that you still have to operate in this building with these crisis-level conditions until, and if, we get a new jail built. So, again, directing that to both of you."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "Let me start here, and certainly, love for you to pick up. Two things, right, it's a great question. One of things that the County Manager has offered is, if you remember during COVID, and he can certainly expound upon that, nobody knew what was going on. You didn't if -- we didn't know if we were coming and going, right, as a community, as a nation. And they brought in a crisis team, which he can explain or and have more explanation around that piece. So we've talked about potentially joining forces there, figuring out what that looks like. The second thing I would like to do, very publicly, is and we've talked about this, Commissioner Khadijah, and Commissioner Hall, we've talked about this, is formulate an Advisory Board, right. That Advisory Board would be part of what a jail improvement looks like, right, and maybe have two Commissioners on there, as well as, obviously, I'd love to have the administration on there as well, and then our team and ultimately somebody from the community. Now, what we also are able to do when we do this, and Commissioner Hall and I talked about this, is NIC, the National Institute of Corrections, also offers a new jail building class and process. So we, as a team, would be able to go to wherever the

latest jail build is, right, focusing on mental health, focusing on reentry, whatever that looks like. Then it becomes a collaborative effort between the community, us, and -- and we've talked about this in the past from the perspective of, even having NIC have the actual class wherever the latest jail build is. So National Institute of Corrections has been very instrumental in helping us guide -- or guiding us through that piece. And then the other piece that -- that you didn't ask about, but I'll tell you, we have brought on and have a Grants Manager. And so we have right now, three, \$4 million in grants that we will help, hopefully ease the burden, not supplant the budget. But help for -- help doing these things around that to include these jail educational, collaborative pieces. So I'll defer to the County Manager on the -- on the second part."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, sir, Mr. Sheriff. So Commissioner, in response to your question, the conversation that the Sheriff and I have been having is about employing the same firm that we've used during the pandemic, Emergency Management Services, Inc., EMSI. They've been around since 2000. They have experience with very high-profile emergency incidents like the deep-water horizon spill, California wildfires, the bombing of the New York Trade Center. So, what more importantly, I think is, we've developed a great deal of confidence in working with them. And as the Sheriff mentioned, at the beginning of the pandemic, we really did not know what we were confronting, much less, how to organize a response. And I'd say, with just a few people, three to four, they were indispensable in helping us create a, what I think was a very holistic approach, a full government, not including just our folks, but also people from the State, as well as from FEMA. We had, I think, one of the most innovative and successful programs at both testing and vaccination, of course, including running the largest vaccination center at Mercedes-Benz. So the idea would be, basically, take that same approach and the same firm, employing three to four people, the Sheriff is still responsible, accountable, and the decision maker. But as I was to the Board during the pandemic, they were in the background, but nonetheless, extremely helpful, in that they've done this many times before. Not in, necessarily in a jail or in a pandemic, but in an environment where there are multiple issues to deal with, and it is a life-and-death situation. So I think the Sheriff is in agreement with that, I know I would

be supportive. Our staff, of course, are available to support the Sheriff as well, and we've reached out to the firm and they are available."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Yeah. Sheriff, go ahead."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "And let me add one more thing if I may. And that is quite simply, when you asked what we've done, right? I want to make sure -- and that's a fair question. Earlier this year, there are 150 -- I don't have to tell y'all, 159 counties in the state of Georgia, second only to Texas, with 254. I wrote -- I penned the letter to all 158 other Sheriffs, saying that because we have such a crisis, such an emergent need, if you got one bed or ten bed, 1,000 beds or 300 beds, let me know what those are so that we can lease these beds. We have to get people off the floor. So we have, right now, 18 individuals at Oconee County, with another 20 -- 13 going next week. We have people in Fayetteville, Cobb County, as you all know. We've gone through that piece. And that -- that is something we've done since 2021. But the emergent need has really -- it allows us to not have those individuals on the floor. And let me give you one more fact about ACDC, which I think is more telling, right, having the vision to go through, do the contracting with ACDC, not just gets those -- remember we moved the ladies first, right, did not just get them off the floor, not just to get them out of inhumane conditions out in our -- I won't say Union City -- out in the South Annex, right. But every time somebody comes a jail -- comes to jail, it keeps them off the floor, it keeps them in that environment. And so as our turnover continues, those numbers are actually higher, in terms of services at ACDC. And so you look at four, five, 600 people that have not either had to sleep on the floor or had to sleep in inhumane conditions, simply because we made the right choice, so."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "Thank you for that. I really don't have anything else except to say that, you know, I'm, you know, with you on working towards and through this crisis towards better results, towards no more deaths like Lashawn Thompson's happening again. And I think that your -- everything you're talking about does seem like very much, a multipronged approach, which I appreciate. And, you know, I certainly appreciate your willingness to share as much as you have with us privately and here."

And, you know, I do -- I do think the idea of -- I'm glad we had this relationship with, what is it, EMSI? And if that ends up being beneficial to you, then all the better."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "Thank you."

COMMISSIONER BARRETT: "So, thank you again, Sheriff."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you Mr. Chairman. First, I want to say my sincere condolences and prayers to the family of Lashawn Thompson and his passing. But I want to go directly into what you have been experiencing as a Sheriff because it started long before you became Sheriff. But I recall the night that you realized you won the election, and your words were, I have to get to work. You are already prepared for the situation that you knew was at hand. And you were already thinking about how you could tackle it. Because soon after that Election Day, you contacted me and you started talking about the things that you knew and the things that you needed to do to discover even more of what needed to take place. And so I want everybody to know that this is not something that you created, it is something you inherited. You've not been able to be proactive because you've been reactive. And if you could just let everybody know, because everybody doesn't understand. I've had constituents call me, text me, DM me on Instagram, Facebook, Twitter, saying, you know, why have you allowed this to happen? When were you elected Sheriff?"

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "So, I took office 1/1/21. So, January --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "January 1st, 2021."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "-- 1st, 2021."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "And it was told to me that when this jail was built and open, it was already overcrowded. So the overcrowding issue is something that has just been an ongoing issue from the beginning. It's deplorable, it's inhumane. But it is -- it is

something that we have all been trying to deal with. It costs money and now after the pandemic, everything has doubled in price. We all know that now. We see that in every budget item, every purchasing item that comes before us, is double the amount. So I will not sit here and criticize you because you inherited a situation that you have been trying to deal with since the day you came on board. And I want to make sure that I'm understanding where we're at right now. And I want to make sure that the public understands where we are right now. Because I've also heard comments about, well, why haven't the Commissioners done anything? And we have done plenty and thank you for that acknowledgment of a positive nod. Because I know I sat, the -- during the recess meeting in January and asked for an additional 11-point something million dollars for your budget as a budget enhancement to try to address issues that you have. But we all have approved the Jail Feasibility Study. We've all said that we want a jail that addresses reentry programs, mental health, pre-arrest diversion, inclusion of the community partners and wraparound services. So this is a time for us to do our part. And it makes me think about poet laureate Emmy award-winning author, and a lot of us know him, Hank Stewart. He always says, if we don't do our part, then it is our fault. So today is the day for us to do our part. And I just want to ask you, Mr. Sheriff and Mr. County Manager and Chairman, what can we do today to move forward to address the situation at hand? Is there anything that we need to approve today to do something instead of just a discussion? I keep looking at this screen, and it says discussion. And I'm like, why are we not voting on something to move forward to do something? And I see you nodding your head."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I was going to ask --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman has said -- has a motion that she wants to make at some point regarding some action today."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay. I would love to second that motion, because we need to do something today. And so -- are you in the queue? Oh, you're not in the queue yet though."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I'm waiting --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you, Mr. Chair. Absolutely have to start out by sending prayers and condolences to the family of Mr. Thompson. It's a tragic situation. But right now is not the time, at least for us, at least for me to point fingers. Right now, I want to move -- I want to know how we stop this from ever happening again. I want to make sure we have a plan in place. And I know that you do have a plan. And I want to make sure that we support the plan to make sure that there is not ever an opportunity for anything like this to happen again in Fulton County. And I know you're supportive that. And so, I like the idea of putting metrics, or putting GPS metrics that'll allow ability to monitor the health conditions. I guess, we'll know who's going to be responsible for monitoring that, and what's going to be the -- who's going to monitor the monitor, right? What are the double and triple redundancies that we put in place to make sure that nothing ever falls through the crack like this again? So I concur with Commissioner Hall that we need action. I know that there were four security items that you wanted. I don't know that we'll be able to address all of the items that you wanted today. But certainly, the items that we'll help make sure that nothing like this ever happens again, I think we have to address those today. And so, I'm thankful for your spirit of cooperativeness, thankful for you saying the buck stops with you, thankful for the corrective actions that you've already taken. And look forward to working with you to develop a longer list of corrective actions to make sure that we're not only supporting you, but we're making sure that those people who that we are charged with housing, or that you're charged with housing, are safe and are treated fairly and humanely. And I know you're committed to that as well. So, I'll stop there and wait to hear the motion."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Chairman. We always want to be transparent. I always want to be transparent. And so I'm going to put a motion forth that includes a total of 5.3 million in investments to support this emergency response. It breaks -- it breaks down as follows: 2.1 million for the devices, providing real-time tracking of detainees' heart rate and blood pressure in the medical unit; 485,000 for sanitizing and clinical-grade sanitizing of all medical decontamination and psychiatric observation units; 630,000 for 4-D imaging of mail contents. I'm sorry -- okay -- of mail contents to detect narcotics and other contraband in mailed to inmates; 1.1 million for 91 additional jail surveillance cameras; 1 million, up to 1 million for additional emergency management support. And I'm going to ask the County Manager to keep me honest. I want to make sure that I didn't leave any amount out. Because I want to speak for myself, I'm hoping I'm speaking for this Body, because I think we need to do what we need to do in this emergency situation. And so, County Manager, I would ask, is that the right amount for what we need to do today?"

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

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay. Chairman, I make a motion that we approve this amount that I have just said."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Comments, questions? Commissioner, anything else?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "That's pretty much it. I just want, Chairman, if you don't mind, a point here. I want the taxpaying citizens of Fulton County to know two things today. That we, as a Body, take this very seriously. And we, as a Body, hearts go out to this family. And we, as a Body, support our Sheriff. And we want you to do what you need to do and have the resources that you need to make sure that this never happens again. Thank you, Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Anything else, Commissioners? All right. Madam CFO, the 5.3 million, what's the source of funds for that?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Mr. Chairman, we have a \$16 million that we originally set aside in the budget for special purpose, Special-Call Elections. We can repurpose a portion of those funds, otherwise we will need to go through and identify the specific places that we have some resources that we think we can use for these items. We were working on that last night a little bit. We do have a few other places that we can pull the resources from. But the most readily available source of funds would be the reserve for the Special-Call Elections."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So that's your recommendation that it comes from the 16-plus million that's reserved for a Special Election, which we will not need; is that correct?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "At this point, there's only been the one election that's been called. So, I can't answer whether we will need any more or not, that's just the most readily available source. We can, again, scour the budget to look for, you know, other sources to -- to fill in. But as far as a single source, that's the best place to go at the moment. And we can continue looking. I mean, I think we do have some other places that we can pull from. We just -- we just did not finalize the sourcing solution for this last night."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. And Ms. Strong-Whitaker, now, how long will it take for these four items to come through purchasing?"

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "The request, we'll work with Sheriff's office."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I can't hear you."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "We will work with the Sheriff's office to get those requests."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I still can't hear you."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "You still can't hear me?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Get closer to the mic."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "I'm sorry. We will work with the Sheriff's office to get those requests expedited as soon as possible."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Chairman, can I ask that that be expedited as – as-"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. And what does expedited mean?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Well, what I'm saying is --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I'm asking her."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay, thank you. That's what I'm asking."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "You can -- it was just deemed an emergency. So we'll work on it --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Ms. Whitaker."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "-- as an emergency."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "It is an emergency."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "Yes, yes."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Other comments, questions? If not, let's vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF: "Thank you, all."

CLERK GRIER: "Next add-on item, **23-0289**, Real Estate and Asset Management request approval of a recommended proposal in the amount of \$330,399 to provide a Project Manager needed to facilitate Fulton County's Affordable Tiny Home Project."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes. Yes. Dr. Roshell, I know you mentioned something about, I guess, land not being available or something needed to still be approved by College Park."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "Thank you for the question, Commissioner Arrington. We have been told by the College Park leadership that the transfer of the deed for the parcels of land located at Princeton Avenue and Jefferson Street will be on the May 1st agenda. The leadership has had conversations about this land and the purpose of the Tiny Home Project and being supportive of that. But the actual deed transfer is now scheduled for May 1st. And then we would bring this item back to the Board to accept the land."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. And so, \$330,000 for a Project Manager?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "Yes, sir. So, the purpose of that is the fact that tiny homes and the development of tiny homes is really a niche market, as far as what we need in a developer ensuring that all of the specifications, regulations, permitting, are on point. While we have a stellar department in our Real Estate and Asset Management group, they did not have tiny homes expertise. And so we feel that bringing on board a project manager to ensure that we follow all of the right steps and protocols, especially since the funding for this is from the American Rescue Plan, that that is a prudent step to ensure our project is in compliance."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Oh, I'm -- you know, I think it's certainly prudent to get a Project Manager, I'm just questioning the amount. That's sound like the -- one of the highest paid Project Managers in the country."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "It is a group. And I believe Mr. Davis can talk about this -- the credentials of this group that have stood up this similar project in DeKalb County."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "Good afternoon, Commissioner Arrington. Dr. Roshell is absolutely correct. The MicroLife Institute is actually a group. So not only are you going to get that individual Project Manager with specific tiny homes initiative expertise, but also the back-office support of their company as well that's going to assist in the development of solicitations for massive developer. It's also going to also help us do site surveys, ensure that every aspect of this initiative not only gets the construction done, but also ensures that we have a viable program model to follow for years to come and not just through this pilot."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So is it safe to say -- so, I think what I heard you say is that there will be project management, not just a Project Manager, and that that project management will include a dedicated Project Manager."

JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.: "That is correct."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "That's accurate, yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. So, Commissioner Hall, will you accept that as a friendly amendment to this motion? I was asking if you would accept a friendly amendment. Right now, it says to provide Project Manager. And I think that what Mr. Davis described is that there will be a project management team with a dedicated Project Manager."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS/PUBLIC WORKS: "Yes, sir."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Which is different than the way it's worded now. Because it's like, one person is going -- is this the best Project Manager in the history of the world. We need him on our jail."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "I accept that."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Other questions or comments? Let's vote, please. The motion on the floor is to approve."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam Clerk, continue. There's some items, I think -- there are no more action items, correct?"

CLERK GRIER: "No further action items. We do have --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "There were from public comments?"

CLERK GRIER: "Yes. Four speakers on Zoom."

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

BEN HOWARD, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Greetings, all, Ben Howard, Senior Advocate, Public Policy Analyst. That Older Americans Month theme promoting action and engagement has sent something into the ether that has caused, some say, the voice of the turtle to again, be heard in our land. To wit, at the non-denominational meeting of the Concerned Black Clergy, Monday, the Vanguard confronted the old guards. The vibrancy of the Fulton County Commission on Elder Affairs, which met last Thursday, will result in greater transparency regarding the various and many senior citizens waiting lists that have been allowed to accumulate. And also will result in greater transparency regarding that home repairs hot potato divestment. And expect more fireworks at tomorrow's meeting of the Fulton County Housing Authority, as pontificating

pressure mounts on that new rogue Housing Commissioner, who dares to publicly ask questions about agendas, about dole outs, and about federal investigations. A hot summer in the forecast, I think so."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The next person to speak is Adrian Coleman."

ADRIAN COLEMAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Yes. Thank you, Commissioners. My name is Adrian Coleman, and come today to urge you to use your powers to ensure the care, safety, dignity, and civil rights of all persons incarcerated in Fulton County Jails. Lashawn Thompson is not a one-off, he's not an outlier. He is one of 14 inmates who died in Fulton County jails in 2022. Two weeks after Lashawn's death, Geno Walker was stabbed to death in the Rice Street jail. Three weeks after Lashawn died, Jamal McLeroy was found stabbed to death in his cell with his hands and feet bound. I urge you to take immediate actions, including number one, to request the GBI and Attorney General to look into all investigations to investigate all deaths in Fulton County Jail in the last two years. Number two, I urge you to authorize or establish a Commission of in -- an independent team of lawyers, journalists, physicians, and civil rights -- civil liberties organizations to inspect the Rice Street Jail, and report findings and recommendations to the Commissioners. I further ask that you make available providers, medical providers, that can go in and provide urgent care to any incarcerated inmate that may need it. I'm disappointed to hear the conversation today, where you pretty much coddled our Sheriff. He said the buck stops with him. All of these incidents started after Pat Labat became Sheriff. This is not something -- the jail does not clean itself. The building does not clean itself. There's questions to be asked. For example, how was a person on the mental health ward not supervised on a regular basis? There many outstanding questions that I hope that if you won't ask that possibly our Attorney General or the GBI will give an independent, objective consideration and review. I thank you."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The next person to speak is Robby Caban."

ROBBY CABAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "Hi. I've been waiting since 10:30 a.m. this morning, when Commissioner Chairman Pitts said that the remaining speakers would go at the end of the meeting. Your agenda has no time frames. And I have been sitting here waiting all day. By the grace of God, I work from home and I'm able to do so. But many of my fellow residents were not able to. And I'm quite positive that you'll ignore your emailed-in comments way better (indiscernible). Instead, I've listened to a Commissioner claim that another Commissioner doesn't have the capacity, which he's no doctor to claim, which was highly inappropriate, and Chairman Pitts supported this, in public, this type of decorum on our Fulton County Board. Further, another Commissioner asked, stopped someone, an elected official, to ask them what color tie they had and wanted a podium removed for (indiscernible), followed by an outburst from said Commissioner to the point that there had to be a recess. This is what I've been waiting for, for hours and hours and hours for free, on my county dollar, while you are all paid part-time positions that the majority of my residents don't make on their full-time jobs. I'm sitting here watching all of this, hearing you all claim that you've inherited a problem. Commissioner Hall, you were worked under Joan Garner. You got a paycheck under Joan Garner. Commissioner Pitts has been the Chair for how long? This isn't an inheritance at all. This all happened under your watch. This man died, eaten to death of insects, and he's certainly not the only one. And you don't care unless you're tagged in it, unless the photo makes the news. Because -- (indiscernible) --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

ROBBY CABAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER: "-- lots of people on social media, you and Commissioner Arrington (indiscernible). If this is the way our people are treated in our facilities. And you throw money at it, just imagine what is happening to our animals. And you're throwing money at it --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Next, next speaker."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "The next person to speak is my Mirlande Dina Michel-Wiggins. Mirlande Dina Michel-Wiggins."

MIRLANDE DINA MICHEL-WIGGINS, PUBLIC COMMENT: "Can you hear me?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

MIRLANDE DINA MICHEL-WIGGINS, PUBLIC COMMENT: "Okay. I am here to ask the Fulton County Board of Commissioners to right a terrible wrong. You have a family of three disabled adults that are about to be evicted. The mother, a 63-year-old, she spoke this morning, she's Sudanese. She tried to convey a comment that you would understand. But that's been the problem, she is limited English proficient. When she began her question, trying to get help with her rent through the Fulton County Government Emergency Rental Assistance Program, because of the language insufficiency or barrier, she completed the forms incorrectly, did not get a denial letter. Was told six months later by Fulton County that she did not qualify because she did not complete the information correctly, and told to go to the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. She did that. When she went there, because, again, of limited English proficiency, she was not able to complete that application. When a -- a -- when state received federal dollars under Title IV of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, it is a requirement that the state provide language services so that all people may be able to access those federal funds. So it began at Fulton County, it's going to take less than \$20,000 to right this wrong. They have to leave their home by today. The mother's disabled, the son has --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

MIRLANDE DINA MICHEL-WIGGINS, PUBLIC COMMENT: "-- one --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Fifteen seconds."

MIRLANDE DINA MICHEL-WIGGINS, PUBLIC COMMENT: "-- only one fully developed leg. The adult daughter is disabled, and they have a 5-year-old. Please make this wrong, right. You care about your people. I've been sitting here all day waiting to comment. And it's not even right for that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next speaker."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "And that concludes the Zoom public comments."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Anything else?"

CLERK GRIER: "Mr. Chairman, we have three public comments emailed in, would you like those read or sent to --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just read them."

CLERK GRIER: "First comment is Sheila Lowder. Greetings, Commissioner, I am Sheila Lowder, Vice President the South Fulton Human Services Coalition. This comment is sent to thank Dawn Butler and Stanley Wilson for their excellence with handling issues addressing the homeless in Fulton County. The South Fulton Human Services Coalition held a symposium March 29th, 2023, to discuss the critical issues in our community. Dawn Butler led a count to call point in time of the homeless in the County in our community. January 2023, it was revealed that homelessness is very prevalent in Fulton County, North and South Fulton. The police have attended the symposium, revealed that families and individuals are living in the woods in their cars, under bridges, and on the streets. My concern is the understanding of Ms. Butler and Ms. Wilson's department to handle to this population. My concern is also funding to house and provide resources for three persons, mental, emotional, and financial. We must do better for these un-housed citizens. Whether we admit or not, many citizens are just a paycheck away from being homeless. Last, I would like to thank Commissioner Arrington and Abdur-Rahman for what they do to address the issue. And I would like to also thank Commissioner Dana Barrett for replying to the invitation, although she was unable to attend. Next speaker, next email comment,

Emerald Alexis: There is an endless list of things wrong with this county. However, I am here today to talk about that particular issue, Fulton County Animal Services control has been allowed to operate shelters in some of the most vile conditions imaginable. The smell of death and sickness saturates every inch of the building. The haunting eyes of innocent dogs and cats left to will or grieve and abuses is unbearable. It is not

acceptable, and it is not acceptable that there is no accountability for officials who have sworn to help the community. I fear you don't even understand what the word community means. I must ask you to reflect on your work on yourself and ask yourself, how do you feel immense remorse or allowing this type of violence to proceed? What have we become as a society that we allow so much suffering to become commonplace? Do we have any mortality or consciousness left under these suits? I thought I must appeal to your humanity today by seeing as that you may not have any. I am going to say this, whether you do or not -- whether you do out of obligation or to look good or to common decency, going to say this."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Is that it?"

CLERK GRIER: "The next speaker is --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "How many more do you have?"

CLERK GRIER: "One more."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right."

CLERK GRIER: "Dana Kay. As a taxpaying citizen, I'm extremely saddened by the conditions I have seen Fulton County's Animal Services. That was the -- she's also talking about the animal services."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Anything else?"

CLERK GRIER: "No further speakers."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Any other matters to come before us today?"

CLERK GRIER: "No."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. No other matters to come before us today, we are adjourned. Thank you very much."

(There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m.)