

**FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING**

September 01, 2021  
10:00 AM



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



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## **MINUTES-RATIFIED**

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

**Ratification Date: October 6, 2021**

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**CALL TO ORDER:** Chairman Robert L. Pitts

**10:04 a.m.**

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

Robert L. Pitts, Chairman (At-Large)

**PRESENT**

Liz Hausmann, Commissioner (District 1)

**PRESENT**

Bob Ellis, Commissioner (District 2)

**PRESENT**

Lee Morris, Commissioner (District 3)

**PRESENT**

Natalie Hall, Vice Chair (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****21-0628 Board of Commissioners**

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

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

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

**Did Not Vote:** Arrington

**21-0629 Board of Commissioners**

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

Proclamation recognizing "General Larry Platt Appreciation Day." **(Abdur-Rahman)**  
August 27, 2021

Proclamation recognizing "Bonita Wheat Houston Appreciation Day."  
**(Abdur-Rahman)**  
August 28, 2021

Proclamation recognizing "Community Day at Oak Hill Appreciation Day."  
**(Arrington)**  
August 28, 2021

Proclamation recognizing "John Edward Leidelmeijer Appreciation Day."  
**(Hausmann)**  
August 31, 2021

Proclamation recognizing "Jack P. Longino Remembrance Day." **(Arrington/BOC)**  
September 1, 2021

**Commissioners' District Board Appointments****21-0630 Board of Commissioners**

FULTON COUNTY VETERANS EMPOWERMENT COMMISSION, INC.  
**(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Term = 3 Years

**Commissioner Arrington nominated Anthony Merritt for a District appointment to a term ending December 31, 2024.**

**21-0631 Board of Commissioners**  
FULTON COUNTY HOMELESS CONTINUUM OF CARE (CoC)  
**(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Term = 2 years

Term below expires: 12/31/2022  
Bruce Gunning **(Ellis/BOC-2) (Resigned)**

**Commissioner Ellis nominated Manfred L. Michel for a District appointment to an unexpired term ending December 31, 2022.**

**21-0632 Board of Commissioners**  
THE FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ELECTIONS TASK  
FORCE **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

Term = Until task force sunsets on December 31, 2021.

Terms below expire: 12/31/21 (Reduced from three (3) to two (2) District  
Appointments)  
Christine Lloyd **(Carn)**  
Nia Williams **(Carn)**

**Commissioner Abdur-Rahman nominated Mitchell Shelby to replace Christine Lloyd and Nia Williams.**

**Open & Responsible Government**

**21-0633 Registration & Elections**  
Requesting the Board of Commissioners' approval of the Intergovernmental  
Agreements (IGAs) to conduct the General Municipal Election for the listed  
municipalities on November 2, 2021 and the General Municipal Runoff Election on  
November 30, 2021.

Cities: Alpharetta, Atlanta, Chattahoochee Hills, College Park, East Point,  
Fairburn, Hapeville, Johns Creek, Milton, Roswell, Sandy Springs, South Fulton,  
and Union City **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

**21-0634 Registration & Elections**  
Requesting approval from the Board of Commissioners for the Board of  
Registration and Elections' proposals: 11.21, 12.21, and 13.21. The proposals  
referenced are for boundary line changes in the City of South Fulton, in accordance  
with House Bill 445 as amended. To amend an Act to incorporate the City of South  
Fulton in Fulton County, Georgia, approved April 26, 2016 (Ga. L. 2016, p. 3726),  
as amended, so as to change the corporate boundaries of the municipality; to  
provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.  
**(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

**21-0635 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval of a change order less than 10% - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, Bid#20ITB127421K-JAJ, Demolition Services for the Airway Motel in the amount of \$4,924.75 with Tristar America, LLC (Norcross, GA) to provide additional equipment and laborers for the removal and disposing of asbestos piping, demolition and removal of an existing billboard and complete foundation; and hiring of an expeditor to facilitate the completion of construction demolition debris work for the Airway Motel located at 720 Fulton Industrial Blvd, Atlanta, GA 30336. Effective for a period of 30 calendar days upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

**21-0636 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval of a Sewer Easement Dedication of 4,271 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from MCM Benson Properties, LLC for the purpose of constructing the 875 Mayfield LLC Project at 875 Mayfield Road, Milton, Georgia 30009. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

**21-0637 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval of a Water Vault Easement Dedication of 220 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from MCM Benson Properties, LLC, for the purpose of constructing the 875 Mayfield LLC Project at 875 Mayfield Road, Milton, Georgia 30009. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

**Justice and Safety****21-0638 District Attorney**

Request approval of the Fulton County District Attorney's Equitable Sharing Agreement and Certification. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

**21-0639 Emergency Management**

Request Board of Commissioners approval of the Atlanta Region Commission's Metro Atlanta Urban Area Security Initiative Memorandum of Understanding regarding Department of Homeland Security grant funding awarded to the Atlanta-Fulton County Emergency Management Agency - AFCEMA (Grant Years 2018 & 2019). **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)**

**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA****21-0640 Board of Commissioners**

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

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Morris and seconded by Commissioner Ellis, to adopt the Regular Meeting Agenda as amended by removing item #21-0662 as requested by the County Manager; revising items #21-0646, #21-0647, #21-0649, and #21-0663 as requested by the County Manager. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

**Did Not Vote:** Arrington

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Ellis and seconded by Vice Chair Hall, to reconsider the Regular Meeting Agenda, moving up items #21-0657 and #21-0658. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

c. A motion was made by Commissioner Ellis and seconded by Vice Chair Hall, to reconsider the Regular Meeting Agenda, moving up item #21-0663. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

**21-0641 Clerk to the Commission**

Ratification of Minutes. **(RATIFIED)**

Regular Meeting minutes, August 4, 2021

Special Called Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, August 11, 2021

Recess Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, August 18, 2021

A motion was made by Vice Chair Hall and seconded by Commissioner Hausmann, to ratify the meeting minutes. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

**Did Not Vote:** Arrington

**21-0642 Board of Commissioners**

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

Proclamation recognizing "GMA President Mayor Vince Williams Appreciation Day."  
**(Hausmann/BOC)**

Proclamation recognizing "Reverend Dr. Herman "SKIP" Mason Appreciation Day."  
**(Hall/BOC)**

Proclamation recognizing "Black Business Month." **(Pitts/Arrington)**

Proclamation recognizing "National Recovery Month." **(Ellis/BOC)**

Proclamation recognizing "Mays High School 40th Anniversary Appreciation Day."  
**(Abdur-Rahman)**

The National Black Arts Festival presentation to the Board of Commissioners.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS****21-0643 Board of Commissioners**

Public Comment - Citizens are allowed to voice County-related opinions, concerns, requests, etc. during the Public Comment portion of the Commission meeting. Speakers will be granted up to two minutes each. **Members of the public will not be allowed to yield or donate time to other speakers. The Public Comment portion of the meeting will not exceed 30 minutes at the Regular Meeting, nor will this portion exceed thirty minutes at the Recess Meeting.** In the event the 30 minute time limit is reached prior to public comments being completed, public comment will be suspended and the business portion of the BOC meeting will commence. Public comment will resume at the end of the meeting. Similarly, written comments (that were timely submitted) not previously read, may be read at the end of the meeting. For more information or to arrange a speaking date, contact the Clerk's Office. **(CONDUCTED)**

**12 Speakers:** Mai-Li Dong (Elections); Dr. Janice Johnston (Elections); Sandra Burchardt (Elections); Julie Adams (Item #21-0673); Lucia Frazier (Elections); Jason Frazier (Elections); Bridget Thorne (Elections); Kevin Muldowney (Elections); Michele Sarkisian (Elections); Nia Corsten (Elections); Aimee Uphues (Elections) and Sheila Hamilton (Voting).

**ZONING, USE PERMITS, AND ZONING MODIFICATION APPLICATIONS****Zoning Public Hearing****21-0644 Public Works**

2021Z -0003 SFC, 4090 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive (SR 139) **(APPROVED CONDITIONAL)**

Public Works Dept. Recommendation: Approval Conditional  
CZB Recommendation: Approval Conditional  
CLUP: Consistent

Application by Bhupendra M. Patel and Radha B. Patel seeking a rezoning from M-2 (Heavy Industrial) to C-1 (Commercial) to develop a 2,928 square foot restaurant with a drive-through window.

The subject 0.605-acre site has 124.94 feet of frontage along the southwest side of Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. The site is in Land Lot 23, District 14F, Fulton County, Georgia.

**PUBLIC HEARING CONDUCTED****1 SPEAKER: Mr. Patel (Representative for the Applicant)**

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

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

**PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD****Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority****21-0645 Board of Commissioners**

MARTA Quarterly Briefing **(PRESENTED)**

**COUNTY MANAGER'S RENEWAL ITEMS****Open & Responsible Government****21-0646 Finance**

Request approval to renew existing contracts - Finance Department, 19-RFP060519C-MH, Employee Healthcare Benefit Plan - Medicare Advantage in the amount of \$229.19 for each Basic Medicare Advantage eligible enrollee (2) eligible enrollees will have the option to buy-up and pay the cost difference to enroll in the Enhanced Medicare Advantage Plan at the rate \$267.77 per enrollee per month with Aetna Life Insurance Company (Atlanta, GA) to provide Medical and Pharmacy benefits as a fully insured option for Medicare eligible retired employees/beneficiaries and dependents. This action exercises the second of four renewal options. Two renewal options remain. Effective January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. Request approval to renew existing contracts - Finance Department, 19-RFP060519C-MH, Employee Healthcare Benefit Plan - Dental on a fully-insured basis with Aetna Life Insurance Company (Atlanta, GA) to administer: [1] Dental PPO (DPPO) Plan on a self-insured basis and [2] Dental HMO (DMO) Plan to eligible employees, retirees, beneficiaries and their covered dependents. This action exercises the second of four renewal options. Two renewal options remain. Effective date: January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022.

**(APPROVED)**

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

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

**21-0647 Finance**

Request approval to renew existing contracts - Finance Department, 19-RFP060519C-MH, Employee Healthcare Benefit Plan - Dental on a fully-insured basis with Aetna Life Insurance Company (Atlanta, GA) to administer: [1] Dental PPO (DPPO) Plan on a self-insured basis and [2] Dental HMO (DMO) Plan to eligible employees, retirees, beneficiaries and their covered dependents. This action exercises the second of four renewal options. Two renewal options remain. Effective date: January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. **(APPROVED)**

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

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



**21-0648 Finance**

Request approval to renew existing contracts - Finance Department, 19-RFP060519C-MH, Employee Health Benefit Plan - Vision Benefits on a self-insured basis at the rate of \$0.55 per enrollee per month with Eye Med Vision Care (Atlanta, GA) to administer vision benefit coverage to eligible active employees, retirees and beneficiaries. This action exercises the second of four renewal options. Two renewal options remain. Effective dates: January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

**21-0649 Finance**

Request approval to renew existing contracts - Finance Department, 19-RFP060519C-MH, for Employee Healthcare Benefit Plan for fully self-insured HMO Plan with: (A) Anthem (BCBS) of Georgia to administer the Health Maintenance Organization (HMO), Point of Service (POS) Plan and CDHP with Health Savings Account (HSA) Plan on a self-insured basis to active employees and Pre-65 (Non-Medicare) retirees/beneficiaries as well as the HMO Medicare, Medicare Indemnity PPO and PPO Plus (Closed) Plans to Medicare eligible retirees/beneficiaries; and, (B) for Kaiser Permanente (Atlanta, GA) to administer to active employees and Pre-65 (Non-Medicare) retirees/beneficiaries and the Senior Advantage Plan to Medicare retirees/beneficiaries. This action exercises the second of four renewal options. Two renewal options remain. Effective date: January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

**Did Not Vote:** Arrington

**21-0650 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval to renew an existing contract - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, 20ITB125327C-CG, Portable Moving and Storage Unit Rental, in an amount not to exceed \$22,000.00 with Units Atlanta, LLC d/b/a CLR Solutions (Austell, GA) to provide portable moving and storage unit rental. This action excises the second of two renewal options. No renewal options remain. Effective dates: January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

**21-0651 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval to renew an existing contract - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, 20ITB125973C-CG, Electronic Equipment Recycling Services, with NOVUS Solutions, LLC (Marietta, GA) to provide electronic equipment recycling services for Fulton County. This is a revenue generating contract. This action exercises the first of two renewal options. One renewal option remains. Effective dates: January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

**21-0652 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval to renew existing contracts - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, Bid#19ITBC119850C-GS, Ballasts, Lamps, Light Fixtures and Related Supplies, in the total amount of \$98,312.00 with (A) Regency Lighting (Los Angeles, CA) in the amount of \$48,250.00; (B) Voss Electric Co. d/b/a Voss Lighting, Inc. (Marietta, GA) in the amount of \$39,462.00; (D) Summit Lighting Solutions(Lawrenceville, GA) in the amount of \$5,600.00; and (E) E. Sam Jones Distributor, Inc.(Atlanta, GA) in the amount of \$5,000.00, to provide ballasts, lamps, light fixtures and related items for Fulton County facilities and parking lots. This action exercises the second of two renewal options. No renewal options remain. Effective dates: January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

**Infrastructure and Economic Development****21-0653 Public Works**

Request approval to renew existing contracts - Department of Public Works, 20RFP124470K-DB, TSPLOST Program Management Services in an amount not to exceed \$114,600.00 with Goodwyn, Mills and Cawood, Inc. (GMC), to provide program management consulting services for the remainder of the TSPLOST Program. This action exercises the first of two renewal options. One renewal option remains. Effective August 28, 2021 through August 29, 2022. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

**Did Not Vote:** Arrington

**COUNTY MANAGER'S ITEMS****Open & Responsible Government****21-0654 County Manager**

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

**21-0655 Purchasing and Contract Compliance**

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

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

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

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

**21-0656 Finance**

Presentation, review and approval of the September 1, 2021 Budget Soundings **(APPROVED)**

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

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

**Did Not Vote:** Morris

**21-0657 Finance**

Request approval of 2022 premium rates for the Medical and Pharmacy, Dental and Vision Plans effective January 1, 2022. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

**21-0658 Finance**

Request approval of recommended proposals - Finance Department, 21RFP071321C-MH, Voluntary Worksite Benefits with (A) Continental American Insurance Company, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Aflac Incorporated to provide Accident Insurance, Critical Illness Insurance, Hospital Indemnity Insurance, Whole Life with Long Term Care Rider and Flexible Spending Accounts (Ameriflex Administrator); (B) Pre-Paid Legal Services, Inc. dba LegalShield to provide Identity Theft Protection; and, (C) Metropolitan Life Insurance Company to provide Short-term Disability Insurance & MetLife Legal Plans, Inc. to provide Legal Insurance. Voluntary Benefit Plan Premiums/Contributions 100% employee paid. Transition of services to begin upon Board approval through December 31, 2021; Plans will be effective January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022 with four renewal options. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

**21-0659 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval of a statewide contract - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, SWC #99999-SPD-S2021412-001, Expedited Mail & Package Delivery Services, in the total amount of \$40,000.00 with United Parcel Service, Inc. (UPS) to provide expedited mail & package delivery services for Fulton County agencies. Effective upon BOC approval through December 31, 2021. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

**Did Not Vote:** Morris

**21-0660 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval to increase spending authority - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, National Cooperative Contract #192163, Master Agreement Contract for Maintenance, Repair, Operating (MRO) Supplies, Industrial Supplies and Related Products and Services in the amount of \$24,999.00 with WW Grainger (Norcross, GA), to cover the cost to purchase additional MRO supplies and related products in support of DREAM Building Construction and Facilities Maintenance Divisions due to increase in maintenance repairs and construction projects throughout the County. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

**Did Not Vote:** Morris

**21-0661 Real Estate and Asset Management**

Request approval of a recommended proposal - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, Bid#20RFP125803K-JAJ, Design/Build Services for the Replacement/Refurbishment of Air Handling Units and Replacement of Associated Fans - Phase II for Fulton County Judicial Center, in the amount of \$2,281,308.00 with Mallory & Evans Service, Inc. (Scottdale, GA) for the replacement/refurbishment of a select number of air handling units (AHUs) and associated fans; UV lighting for germicidal benefits; and MERV 13 filters for all replacement AHUs within the Fulton County Judicial Center Complex. Effective upon issuance of Notice to Proceed and will terminate after 365 consecutive calendar days. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

**Did Not Vote:** Morris

**21-0662 Human Resources Management**

Request approval of GovHR as the recommended vendor for the Department of Human Resources Management, Project No. 20RFP125481B-CJC, Job Search Services, for various departments of Fulton County Government. The cost of this project will not exceed \$22,500.00 per request on an as needed basis.  
**(REMOVED)**

**ITEM REMOVED FROM THE REGULAR MEETING AGENDA AS REQUESTED BY THE COUNTY MANAGER**

**21-0663 Human Resources Management**

Request approval of a Resolution adopting a COVID-19 Vaccination & Testing Personnel Policy. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

**21-0664 Human Resources Management**

Request approval of a recommended proposal - Department of Human Resources Management, 20RFP0810B-EC, Family and Medical Leave (FMLA) Act Administration Services, in the amount of \$24,000.00 with Sedgwick Claims Management, Inc. (Dublin, OH) to provide comprehensive FMLA administration for the Fulton County workforce effective upon BOC approval through December 31, 2021, with two renewal options. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

**Did Not Vote:** Arrington

**Arts and Libraries****21-0665 Arts and Culture**

Request approval of a recommended proposal - Department of Arts and Culture, 21RFP063021B-YJ, Performing Arts and Disability Study: An Organizational Feasibility Study for Artists, Audiences and Non-Performing Arts Staff with Disabilities in the amount of \$39,520.00 with Sizemore Group, LLC (Atlanta, GA) to provide opportunities for individuals with disabilities to fully utilize arts facilities in Fulton County as members of the audience, employees and performers. Effective upon BOC approval through December 31, 2021 with two renewal options. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

**Health and Human Services****21-0666 Public Works**

Request approval of a service account agreement letter - Department of Public Works, Drinking Water Laboratory and Related Services account agreement letter in the amount of \$17,600.00 with the State of Georgia / DNR - Environmental Protection Division (EPD) (Atlanta, GA), to provide drinking water laboratory and related services for the contract period effective from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

**21-0667 Public Works**

Request approval of a statewide contract - Department of Public Works, SWC 99999-SPD-S20190913B-0002, Equipment Rental in an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000.00 with Sunbelt Rentals, Inc. (Fort Mill, SC), to provide equipment rental services. Effective upon BOC approval for one year. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

**Did Not Vote:** Ellis

**Infrastructure and Economic Development****21-0668 Public Works**

Request approval of a Water Utility Easement Dedication of approximately 95,400 square feet to the City of Atlanta, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia from Fulton County, Georgia, for the purpose maintaining a water line and installing water meters along Sandy Creek Road to serve the Fulton County Executive Airport hangar tenants, authorize the Chairman or County Manager to execute all associated documents; and authorize the County Attorney to approve the associated documents as to form and make necessary changes thereto prior to execution. **(APPROVED)**

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

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

**Did Not Vote:** Arrington

**Justice and Safety****21-0669 County Manager**

Request approval to amend an existing contract - Office of the County Manager, 20RFP111320-EC, Technical Consulting Services in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.00 with CHEckrein Consulting, LLC (Atlanta, GA) to provide professional services to assist County management with the design and implementation of the Court Backlog Project ("Project ORCA"). Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)**

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

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



**COMMISSIONERS' ACTION ITEMS****21-0579 Board of Commissioners**

Request approval of a Resolution establishing a set payment of \$250.00 per day for members of Fulton County Boards, Committees, Authorities, and Commissions where Commissioners make appointments, establishing exceptions for those entities where payments are established by State statute, law or regulation; and for other purposes. **(Arrington) (HELD ON 8/4/21 AND 8/18/21) (HELD)**

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

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

**21-0580 Board of Commissioners**

Request approval of a Resolution requiring that beginning with Fiscal year 2022, the Operating Budget of revenues and expenditures for Fulton County be submitted to the Board of Commissioners prior to approval of the proposed millage rate, and requiring the proposed millage rate be based upon the budget requests of the County Departments; and for other purposes. **(Arrington) (HELD ON 8/4/21 AND 8/18/21) (FAILED)**

A motion was made by Commissioner Arrington to approve. The motion failed for a lack of a second.

**21-0582 Board of Commissioners**

Request approval of a Resolution to amend the Fulton County Code of Ordinances to make certain provisions therein regarding decorum mandatory and to provide penalties for any violation; and for other purposes. **(Hausmann/Hall/Ellis/Morris) (MOTION TO APPROVE FAILED ON 8/4/21) (HELD ON 8/18/21) (APPROVED)**

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

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

**Nay:** Arrington



**21-0618 Board of Commissioners**

Request approval of a Resolution for the development and execution of a feasibility study for the location and construction of a new Fulton County Jail.

**(Abdur-Rahman/Arrington) (HELD ON 8/18/21) (MOTION TO APPROVE FAILED)**

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

**Yea:** Morris, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

**Abstain:** Pitts, and Hall

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

b. A motion was made by Vice Chair Hall and seconded by Chairman Pitts, to call the question. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

**21-0670 Board of Commissioners**

Request approval of a Resolution to identify positions to be used for appointment of Fulton County's representatives to the Region 3 Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council; and for other purposes. **(Pitts) (HELD)**

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

b. A substitute motion was made by Commissioner Arrington and seconded by Vice Chair Hall, to hold. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

**Absent:** Hausmann

**21-0671 Board of Commissioners**

Request approval of a Resolution by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners in observance of Patriot Day and National Day of Service in remembrance of souls lost in the 2001 9/11 terrorist attacks on America; and for other purposes.

**(Abdur-Rahman/Hall/Hausmann/Arrington) (APPROVED)**

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

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

**Absent:** Hausmann

**21-0672 Board of Commissioners**

Request approval of a Resolution by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners in support of the John Robert Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, and stopping voter suppression; and for other purposes. **(Abdur-Rahman/Hall) (APPROVED)**

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

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

**Nay:** Ellis, and Morris

**Absent:** Hausmann

**Commissioners' Full Board Appointments****21-0673 Board of Commissioners**

BOARD OF REGISTRATION AND ELECTIONS **(MOTION TO APPROVE FAILED)**

Term = 2 Years

Term below expires: 6/30/2023

Alex Wan **(Chair/BOC/Pitts) (Resigned)**

**Commissioner Abdur-Rahman has nominated Alicia M. Ivey for a Full Board appointment to serve as Chairperson filling the unexpired term of Alex Wan to a term ending June 30, 2023.**

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

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

**Nay:** Ellis

**Absent:** Hausmann

**Did Not Vote:** Pitts, and Morris

**EXECUTIVE SESSION****21-0674 Board of Commissioners**

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

**PRESENT IN THE EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING LITIGATION, REAL ESTATE AND PERSONNEL:** Chairman Pitts, Vice Chair Hall Commissioners: Hausmann, Ellis, Morris, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman; County Manager Dick Anderson; Interim County Attorney Kaye Burwell; Chief Operating Officer Anna Roach; Deputy Directory DREAM Timothy Dimond and Clerk to the Commission Tonya R. Grier.

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

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

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Morris and seconded by Vice Chair Hall, to approve representation requests in item #1 and #2 as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

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

c. A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Vice Chair Hall, to approve settlement authority in item #3 as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

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

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

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

**Did Not Vote:** Morris, and Arrington

e. A motion was made by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and seconded by Commissioner Morris, to approve settlement in the matter of Kevin Harris v. Theodore Jackson CAFN 1:20-cv-02348 in the amount of \$20,000.00 authorizing the Chairman to execute the settlement document. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

**Did Not Vote:** Arrington

## **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S  
REGULAR MEETING

September 1, 2021

10:00 A.M.

Verbatim Record by:

Alexander Solutions, LLC

(Whereupon the meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m.)

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Good morning, this is the regular meeting of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners, September 1, 2021. It’s approximately 10:04 a.m. Madam Clerk, please call the roll. Madam Clerk?”

**CLERK GRIER:** “Chairman Robb Pitts.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Present.”

**CLERK GRIER:** “Commissioner Liz Hausmann.”

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** “Present.”

**CLERK GRIER:** “Commissioner Bob Ellis.”

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** “Present.”

**CLERK GRIER:** “Commissioner Lee Morris.”

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** “Present.”

**CLERK GRIER:** “Vice Chair Natalie Hall.”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “Present.”

**CLERK GRIER:** “Commissioner Marvin Arrington, Jr., Commissioner Khadijah Abdur-Rahman.”

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** “Present.”

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

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “All right. 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:** “Okay. Madam Clerk.”

**CLERK GRIER:** “On page 2, Consent Agenda, **21-0628**, Adoption of the Consent Agenda. All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine by the County Commission and will be enacted by one motion. No separate discussion will

take place on these items. If discussion of any Consent Agenda item is desired, the item will be moved to the Regular Meeting Agenda for separate consideration.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “All right. Any items on the Consent Agenda? You have anything Madam Clerk.”

**CLERK GRIER:** “I do not.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “All right, I’ll entertain a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. All right, motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Morris. Cast your vote, please.”

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** “Bottom of page 4, Regular Meeting Agenda, **21-0640**, Adoption of the Regular Meeting Agenda. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we have some amendments to today’s Regular Meeting Agenda. On page 10, item to be removed and brought back at a later meeting, 21-0662, Human Resources Management. Request approval of GovHR as the recommended vendor for a management project. Items to be revised on page 6, 21-0464. And on page 7, 21-0647, and 0649, all Finance. Renewal request for health insurance. These items were revised to update the contract compliance information. And also on page 10, 21-0663, Human Resource Management. This item requested action was revised.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Repeat that. What did you say?”

**CLERK GRIER:** “On page 10, 21-0663. It’s not a Resolution.

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Okay.”

**CLERK GRIER:** “It should read request approval of a COVID-19 vaccination and testing personnel policy. And those are all the amendments I have today.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “All right. Any other items, Commissioners on the Agenda? If not, I’ll make a motion to approve as amended. Motion to approve by Commissioner Morris, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Cast your vote, please.”

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**CLERK GRIER:** "21-0641, Ratification of Minutes, Regular Meeting minutes, August 4, 2021. Special Called Meeting Post Agenda August 11<sup>th</sup>, and Recess Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, August 18th, 2021."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Vice Chair Hall, seconded by Commissioner Hausmann. Let's vote."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 5, 21-0642, Presentation of Proclamations and Certificates. The first proclamation is recognizing GMA President, Mayor Vince Williams Appreciation Day sponsored by Commissioner Hausmann with Full Board support."

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** "Good morning. I know you've got a lot of friends here. Does anybody else want to come down and participate in this? Come on down."

**MAYOR VINCE WILLIAMS, HONOREE:** Union City, come on down. Y'all worked too hard for this."

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** "We'll let everybody get on down here, and then we'll get started. It's a great day in Fulton County. You've made us proud Mr. Mayor. I saw some. Come on down. Come on down. You got any other cities represented? All righty then. It's my honor to recognize our good friend of Fulton County. A great Mayor of Union City. And I'm so pleased that this proclamation that has the support of the Full Board of Commissioners. We love you, Mr. Mayor. If I can, I'd like to read this into the record. Whereas, Union City Mayor, Vince Williams was elected the 88th President of the Georgia Municipal Association, GMA, at the Association's annual convention on July 2nd, 2020, and just completed his successful one-year term; and whereas, Mayor Williams was elected to the Union City Council in 2007; and was elected to the city's 20th Mayor in 2013. In his first year as Mayor, he turned a multi- year financial deficit to an 81 percent increase and ushered in the greatest increase – RECORDING IN PROGRESS -- in the city's history; and whereas, Mayor Williams spearheaded the redevelopment of the city's central business district and has worked to increase educational offerings, implement transportation improvements, heighten public safety and trust building, encourage governmental transparency, and combat homelessness and hunger across the community; and whereas Mayor Williams spearheaded many efforts that have benefited Union City and Fulton County including the redevelopment of Shannon Mall in to the current movie and television production studio that has become a 24-hour operation, and his collaboration with city Mayors and County Commissioners on the Fulton County TSPLOST program and the Fulton County transit master plan;



and whereas, Mayor Williams has been a member of the GMA Executive Committee, and Board of Directors, he has also served as Chair of the federal policy council, the legislative policy council, and the membership council. And in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, he was selected as a member of the COVID-19 advisory committee; and whereas, Mayor Williams continues to make a lasting impact on cities across the nation through his leadership role with the National Leagues of Cities where he currently serves as the second vice president; he was recently elected President of the National League of Cities for a one-year term to begin this November of 2021 through November of 2022. So now therefore be it resolved that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners commends Mayor Vince Williams for an exemplary year as President of the Georgia Municipal Association, and does hereby proclaim Wednesday, September 1st, 2021, as GMA President, Mayor Vince Williams Appreciation Day in Fulton County, Georgia. Congratulations." (APPLAUSE.)

**MAYOR VINCE WILLIAMS, UNION CITY, HONOREE:** "I just want to say thank you because what we do as servants, we do it for him. Being a servant is not trying to identify what can you get out of what you do for someone else. Serving is something that is instilled in you from on high or whoever you believe in. But I do want to say thank you to each and every member of this Board of Commissioners. I call each and every one of you friends because I mean that. No matter what, you are my friend. And I just can't begin to think of doing what I do without either of you because it takes all of us to do what we do for our County, for our individual cities, and also for all of those folks that are looking at us to do better as leaders. When we wake up each and every morning, what we do is to make sure that we make someone else's life better than it was the day before. Because we have many folks who are wondering where will my next meal come from? Can I get gasoline for my vehicle to get my kids to and fro? How do I get better health care? It is incumbent upon us as leaders, called leaders. There are many leaders, but they weren't called. But I do want to share with you one of the things that I do know; and this is so apropos for right now. It's one of my most favorite quotes and it's by Winston Churchill. He says, whenever you're going through hell, keep going. And never, never, never give up. Fulton County, my Union City team, I can't thank you enough. And in absence of my wife Sharon, we thank God, The Most High. And some of you know what I'm talking about. But anyway, we thank God. My daughter, Nia, whose name is on the Agenda today; I got chuckled about that, but that's another story. But certainly, my family means the world to me, and you are part of my family. And Union City, my city manager, my Assistant city manager -- I'm not going to call everybody, but Commissioner Arrington it's good to see you, I was afraid you were in court. It's good to see you, Sir, I want to thank you for allowing this to take place. I don't equate myself to Jesus Christ -- never and never would. But Jesus wasn't recognized in his homeland. When you are recognized in your homeland that says a

whole lot about what you do as serving. And I thank God for allowing me the opportunity to get up each and every day to serve somebody because my reward is coming when he calls me home. That's when it is finished. So, we have to remember, leaders just because you get up every day and you're figuring out some kind of scheme, God hasn't called you home yet, and your work is not finished. So, remember who you're serving, why you're serving, and why we do what we do each and every day. So, to all of you who don't know me and some who do, y'all know I don't care about people hating on me, because I'm serving him. But let me say this to all of you who may be listening, and who may want to take a nugget somewhere out there on next-door, on social media wherever you go because I don't do next-door, but I hear about you. Let me say this -- let me say this right now, the people of Union City have spoken. I will be walking back into office to work as I have been doing over these many years. We just passed and adopted our 2022 budget last night. When I started as Mayor, we had to start our city in 2014 less than a million dollars. We're operating this year out of an \$86.7 million dollar budget with a \$23 million dollar fund bank balance. That's hard work people. Say what you want to say. That's hard work, but God is a rewarder of the faithful. I love you. There ain't nothing you can do about it. Thank you so much Fulton County." APPLAUSE

**CLERK GRIER:** "The next proclamation is recognizing Reverend Dr. Herman Skip Mason Appreciation Day sponsored by Vice Chair Hall with full Board support."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "Did they sound it? All right. Is that everybody for you Reverend? Is there anyone else coming? Watch it live. All right. Well, it is an honor to present this to you here at the Board of Commissioners meeting. Thank you for joining us. As you know, when you first came back to Atlanta, I came to that first service at your church and we have been connected at the hip every since. So, it's an honor to present this proclamation to you. And it reads: Whereas, Reverend Doctor Skip Mason Junior is a native Atlantan; and is the Senior Pastor of historic West Mitchell Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in Atlanta since 2019; and has pastored at the following churches: St. James CME Church in Washington, Georgia from 1996 to 1998; Greater Hopewell Christian Methodist Episcopal Church in Atlanta from 1998 to 2013; and Trinity CME Church in Augusta, Georgia from 2013 to 2019; and whereas Reverend Dr. Mason earned his bachelor's degree from Morris Brown College followed by his master's degree in Library and Information Science from Atlanta University. And he earned both his Masters of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from the Interdenominational Theological Center; and whereas Reverend Dr. Mason was named pastor of the year for the sixth Episcopal District of the CME churches in recognition of his work in being a good neighbor in our communities; and he was named the Atlanta Beltline Board representing the Clergy and the voices of the West Side of Atlanta; and whereas

Reverend Dr. Mason currently serves as Director of library services and assistant professor of African-American history and religion at Voorhees College in Denmark, South Carolina where he is overseeing the opening of its museum documenting the college's history; and whereas Reverend Dr. Mason is also a member of many fraternal, social, and civic organizations including Sigma Pi Phi fraternity, The Boule, Prince Hall Masons, and the Shriners; and he is also the proud father of two: Jewel and Jodari. Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners commends the work of Reverend Doctor Skip Mason commemorating the history of Atlanta and Fulton County, and celebrates with him and his church congregation on the occasion of his 25th anniversary as a pastor, and does hereby proclaim Sunday, July 18th, 2021, as Reverend Dr. Herman Skip Mason Appreciation Day in Fulton County, Georgia. Congratulations." (APPLAUSE.)

**REVEREND DR. HERMAN SKIP MASON, HONOREE:** "Well, one thing you won't get is a sermon; you've already had that from Mayor Williams. But let me say thank you Commissioner Hall, Commission Chair Pitts, these distinguished Commissioners and to you my brothers and sisters. I am so appreciative and humbled by this honor. This is the third attempt -- the first time I was sick, the second time the weather was challenged, and so I told my people and family to stay home and watch it on TV. But I'm so glad to see my long time, dear friend and sister, Tonya Alston who's doing such wonderful work with the Atlanta Police Department archives. I'm grateful for this recognition and for this honor. I love Atlanta. I love Atlanta. And every day, I get to be a part of a rambunctious Facebook group called Vanishing Black Atlanta where there are 53,000 other people who love Atlanta as well. And what we do, we reminisce, we reflect; we challenge each other's memory, but we do this because we love the city and we only want what's best for the city. We also say that if anybody is running for office, they need to stop by Vanishing Black Atlanta, so that we can hear from you, and know where you're taking our city. This is indeed an honor. I hope that I can live up to it. I pastor a church in the heart of the downtown community, West Mitchell Street. It has been on that corner since 1882. It has seen a lot of changes in the community, and we are here to stay. I'm excited about the opportunities that are ahead of us as we watch our city grow all around us, in the Vine City, and the Atlanta University Center neighborhood. So, Commissioner Hall, thank you. I'm the Pastor of the late Emma Darnell's church. Every now and then, she comes. Every now and then she comes to me. Am I frightened; yes. Am I encouraged; yes, because I know that Emma only wanted what was best for the church and what was best for the community. I thank God for this honor. May God bless you. May God keep you. Stay covered up. Get your vaccinations and let's live this life that God has so ordered for us to live. God bless you. Good to see you David as will. Amen. Thank you." APPLAUSE

**CLERK GRIER:** "The next proclamation is recognizing Black Business Month sponsored by Chairman Pitts and Commissioner Arrington."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Morning. Welcome. Welcome. Welcome. Whereas, John Williams Templeton a historian, and Frederick A. Jordan, Sr. a civil engineer founded Black Business Month in 2004 to drive the policy affecting African-American businesses. An initiative to recognize Black-owned businesses and highlight their importance to the community and national economy; and whereas, according to the US Census Bureau, Black business owners account for 10 percent of US businesses and nearly 30 percent of all minority owned businesses, which amounts to approximately 2 million companies owned by African-Americans; and whereas, nearly 40 percent of Black-owned businesses are in healthcare and social services, repair and maintenance, laundry services, advertising firms, auto dealerships, consulting services, restaurants, barbershops, beauty salons and more; and whereas, Black Philanthropy Month also observed in August of each year, is a global celebration and concerted campaign created by Dr. Jackie Bouvier Copeland and the Pan African Women's Philanthropy Network in 2011 to illuminate the ingenuity and transformative impact of Black generosity and promote increased investment in Black communities; and Whereas, in 2021, National Black Business Month is particularly important given the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on Black communities who already face challenges in starting, running, and growing their companies; and whereas, the Atlanta Black Chamber in conjunction with the Georgia Coalition of Black Chambers will host events, spotlight companies, and provide resources to small businesses owners and entrepreneurs encouraging the community to join the celebration supporting Black-owned businesses and other entrepreneurs; Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Black-owned businesses across the country and in Fulton County, and joins in recognizing the importance of Black businesses in our local community; and does hereby proclaim the month of August 2021 as Black Business Month in Fulton County Georgia. Let's hear it for them." (APPLAUSE.)

**MARKEE TATE, HONOREE:** "Thank you, Commissioner Arrington. Thank you, Chairman Pitts and the entire Commission and Staff. My name is Markee Tate, President and CEO of the Atlanta Black Chambers. And on behalf of our Board of Governors, our executive committee and our members, I have today with me, Melvin Coleman, our executive director, Michael Hill, our President Emeritus and founder of our Chamber, and Joyce Rhodes, our President and Board member, President of our Atlanta Black Chamber's Foundation. The Chambers' mission is to serve as an advocate for the creation and growth of competitive, sustainable, profitable, Black-owned institutes. We are committed to providing quality education and training

programs emphasizing economic development, ownership, and wealth building practices. Creating opportunities for our members have been --what we continue to do that's our No. 1 priority. Our goals are to ensure members and businesses all across the state as we mentioned the Georgia Coalition of Black Chambers, but especially in Fulton County that are relevant to the marketplace remain relevant competitive, sustainable for future generations. The pandemic, we're still in right now. There have been more than 24,000 plus Black businesses in this County that have been affected by this pandemic. During the beginning part of the pandemic, over 41 percent of Black businesses closed -- 41 percent of Black businesses closed. Many -- a higher percentage than any other ethnic group. There's been a great need for our businesses to survive and thrive. The success of Black businesses make a stronger Fulton County economy which creates an outstanding future for Fulton County. We are a family of organizations just to mention. I mentioned Joyce Rhodes as the president of our foundation, Atlanta Black Chambers Foundation. We have an advanced Black business pack that we most recently started in January to build a strong relationship with governments, and local elected officials; and we're definitely looking forward to working closely with Chairman Pitts and the Fulton County Commission, and Fulton County government and all governments across the state, as we move forward in actually announcing our initiatives for this coming year. So, thank you Chairman Pitts, Commissioner Arrington, and the rest of the County Commission of Fulton County government. We really thank you. Thanks a lot." (APPLAUSE.)

**CLERK GRIER:** "The next proclamation is recognizing National Recovery Month sponsored by Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "This proclamation is actually sponsored by the Full Board, but probably be the lead sponsor on this. Yesterday, we recognized and honored those who have died of overdose; many of which found themselves in that situation as a result of addiction. Probably fair to say that everyone in this room either individually has dealt with an addiction personally, or have someone that we're very close to who has. And we know the ravages that that takes on the individual, their family, their loved ones. But this month, we're celebrating recovery. And while oftentimes the pathway to addiction doesn't lead to a great place, for many there is a pathway forward in recovery. And it's in this month we celebrate recovery and wrap our arms around those folks that are going through that in support of their recovery; Whereas National Recovery Month is a national observance held every September to inform Americans that substance use treatment and mental health services can enable those with mental and/or substance use disorders to live a healthy and rewarding life; and Whereas, according to the US Surgeon General, an American dies every 19 minutes from an opioid or heroin overdose with the economic impact of drug and alcohol misuse and addiction



amounting to 442 billion each year. And 2020 deaths from drug overdoses in the US increased almost 30 percent to more than 93,000, the highest ever recorded; and Whereas, the 2021 Recovery Month theme, Recovery is for everyone, every person, every family, every community reminds people in recovery and those who support them, that no one is alone on the journey through recovery, and everyone's journey is different. But we're all in this together; and Whereas, mental and substance use disorders affect all communities nationwide, but by seeking help and with commitment and support, people with these disorders can embark on a new path toward improved health, and achieve overall wellness and lead rewarding lives in recovery. Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County joins the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration in efforts to help more people achieve and sustain long-term recovery and does hereby proclaim September 21 as National Recovery Month in Fulton County, Georgia. I'm going to recognize our head of Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, Latrina Foster, to say a few words."

**LATRINA FOSTER, DEPARTMENT OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND**

**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES:** "Thank you Commissioner Ellis. Thank you to all of the Board of Commissioners for your ongoing support for the Fulton County Department of Behavioral Health. Together, we will continue to strive to ensure that the citizens of Fulton County have access to behavior health services that are barrier free; and I want to thank the Board of Commissioners for their ongoing commitment to our department. During this month, we want to ensure that people recognize that recovery is possible. So, we invite all of you to participate in our activities throughout the month of September, so that you can hear from people that are actually taking that journey. And if you haven't begun your journey, please know that it's okay to not be okay; however, please don't sit idle. Ensure that you access services and you begin your journey to recovery; and we are all here to support you. And as citizens that are not in need of behavior health services, please be equipped with resources if someone approaches you, you know where to send them. Thank you so much. And on behalf of our department, thank all of you for your ongoing support." (APPLAUSE.)

**CLERK GRIER:** "The next proclamation is recognizing Mays High School 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Appreciation Day sponsored by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Good morning will -- there you go -- any and all Mays alumni that are in the building. I know that Tanya is here -- Tanya Alston, Gregg Clay, and my buddy back there, Joanna Potts, and my Director of Operations, Pamela Lyons; you are to come down here and stand with us and give that to the Chief of Staff because you are a product of Benjamin Elijah Mays; so, you get to stand with us and all

the others. Just want to let you all know, sometimes God puts stuff on my heart like Mayor Vince Williams said, it's what we do for God and not man. And today is especially hard day for me. On my way here today, I got a call that my Aunt succumbed to COVID; and so, I would ask that -- please get vaccinated, and if not please, please, please social distance. Please mask up. That was a call that I did not expect to get; and it almost floored me, but I know that she would want me to carry on. And so, I just wanted to make that announcement. Now, whereas, this proclamation -- whereas Benjamin Elijah Mays High School welcomed students into an institution of learning on September 2<sup>nd</sup>, 1981, with Mr. Thomas E. Woods Junior serving as the inaugural Principal; and Whereas the school is named in honor of Dr. Benjamin Elijah Mays, an educator, author, scholar, faith and community leader that influenced Atlanta and the world and often times would stop me and my classmates and ask us, right in the lobby of the school, what are your plans? Where are you going? What are you going to do? And I thank him for that because he molded a mode of excellence that permeates the entire United States. It passes the borders of Fulton County. I just wanted to put that out there. The school is named in honor of Dr. Benjamin Elijah Mays, an educator, author, scholar, faith and community leader that influenced Atlanta and the world; and whereas Benjamin Elijah Mays High School is a legacy high school serving families in Southwest Atlanta continuing in the legacy of Southwest High School as an institution of academic achievement, providing a foundation of learning for students to be lifelong learners, accomplish goals, and be contributors to society; and Whereas, alumni of Benjamin Elijah Mays High School have made historic and impactful contributions to society as educators, elected officials, political advisors, judges, mixed-media artist, recording industry professionals, professional athletes, law enforcement professionals, and fire safety professionals, corporate leaders, successful entrepreneurs, coaches, , published authors, creative artists, medical and dental professionals, public information officials, and many other areas; and whereas, the alumni of Benjamin Elijah Mays High School continues in the model of a legacy to keep, and an image to uphold. As volunteers and supporters of the school through the Benjamin Elijah Mays High School Alumni Association providing scholarships for students and resources for teachers and administrators. Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Benjamin Elijah Mays High School as an esteemed institution of learning in the Atlanta community and celebrates with its graduates on the occasion of the school's 40th anniversary, a milestone; And does hereby proclaim Wednesday, September 1st, 2021, as Benjamin Elijah Mays High School Appreciation Day in Fulton County. And so, I want to take privilege here and ask two people to speak. First, Gregg Clay, which is a hard-working member of our Alumni Association and a servant in our community, and also my classmate, an asset to the city of Atlanta

with a stellar career with the Atlanta Police Department. I would ask that you speak first please."

**GREGG CLAY:** "Well Commissioner, if it's one thing that I've learned, and that is to let ladies speak first.

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "—all right—"

**GREGG CLAY:** "—The gentleman in me I'll let you go first."

**UNKNOWN SPEAKER:** "Thank you so much Commissioner Khadijah. And to the Commission Board, thank you so very much for having us here today. Thank you, Gregg Clay, who is the current President of the Mays Alumni Association. I am honored to stand here as a graduate of the first graduating class of Mays High School, and I take honor with that that Khadijah was in my class. I also wanted to just emphasize the importance of the service that Dr. Mays gave to everyone. What would Atlanta look like without a Benjamin Elijah Mays who was President of Morehouse College for 27 years, and mentored thousands upon thousands of young people? He focused on uplifting this community and I am honored to have known him who walked the halls when we opened the school. And I'm just thankful that we have this day and the leadership at Mays High School now, and we want to continue in the great legacy. Thank you so much again for having us and to all who joined us today. Thank you."

**GREGG CLAY:** "First and foremost I want to make sure condolences to your family Commissioner because I know that this is a full circle moment for you as well. To my understanding, your mother was a part of the Commission to have conversations about transitioning from Southwest High School to Mays High School. So, I know that this is a very special moment for you and your family. Thank you for those folks that have not just walked the halls of Mays, but those stakeholders that have recognized the importance of the past, present, and the future of institutions like Mays High School. While in Atlanta, we talk about our institutions of higher learning often times it is the high schools like Mays those legacy schools that have created this foundation for learning and excellence that we all have been a part of and not just recognizing the man who Dr. Mays was and is, but recognizing all of those great alumni that have been able to walk the halls and represent Mays High School. This is the first of many. Opportunities to recognize Mays High School as an institution and it is so fitting for this to be the first of a weeklong series of activities. Tomorrow is actually the actual day September the 2nd, where Mays High School opened its doors to not just be an institution, but a safe haven for education and leaders that stand before you today and represent a future of future leaders coming forward. So, I want to make sure that folks know and are watching that the Alumni Association, it is a privilege to serve with folks like Joanna Potts as well as



Tonya and the rest of our Board members that couldn't necessarily be here with us today, but the work in order for us to hold true to the legacy should be made true every day. Not just in the principle that serves a community, I'm honored to serve as the Vice Chair of the Go team at Mays High School, but the work to raise funds, the work to talk about the legacy of Dr. Mays and the alumni; it speaks to the success of our current and future students as well. And so, we're leaning in and committed to doing the work with all of the alumni and the stakeholders that love schools like Mays. So, thank y'all so much for this recognition." APPLAUSE

**CLERK GRIER:** "The last presentation by the National Black Arts Festival in recognition of Fulton County's 40th year of continued support of African-American artists."

**STEPHANIE OWENS, NATIONAL BLACK ARTS FESTIVAL:** "Good morning everyone. My name is Stephanie Owens and I serve as the Executive Director for NBAF and today, on behalf of NBAF's Board of Directors and Staff who are standing here with me, we would like to thank the Fulton County Board of Commissioners for over three decades of support as a legacy organization. NBAF was founded in 1987 by the Fulton County Arts Council and under the guidance of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners; and we hosted our very first festival in 1988. And so today, we would like to present this beautiful piece by renowned visual artists Elizabeth Catlett. It is entitled 'Fiesta' and was signed and dated in 1988 to commemorate that festival; and we would like to present this to the Board of Commissioners today as a small token of our appreciation for the unwavering support and partnership and for your commitment to the arts in the community. So, thank you very much."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Madam Clerk, we ran over a little bit on that portion of the agenda; so, we've got to make that up. Let's go."

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**CLERK GRIER:** "Okay, on page 5, Public Hearings, **21-0643**, Public Comments. Citizens wishing to participate in public comment will be allowed to appear in person or may choose to participate virtually via Zoom videoconferencing or by submitting their comments in writing online by registering on the County website [www.fultoncountyGA.gov](http://www.fultoncountyGA.gov). Speakers will be granted up to two minutes each. The public will not be allowed to yield or donate time to other speakers. The public comment portion of the meeting will not exceed 30 minutes. In the event 30-minute time limit is reached, public comments will be suspended and will resume at the end of the meeting. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we'll start with the speakers here in Assembly Hall. We have received 11 speaker cards. Will the first six speakers please come

down: Mae Lee Dong, Dr. Janice Johnston, Sandra Burchardt, Julie Adams, Lucia Frazier, and Jason Frazier."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Come on down please and when you have 15-seconds left, I'll say 15 seconds-- that will be your key to sum up. Thank you. Yes, Ma'am."

**MAE LEE DONG, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "I'm Mae Lee Dong, and I live in Alpharetta. This is my first time here. I'm going to speak about -- thank you -- I'm going to speak about the contract for the elections group LLC that you're considering to ratify or approve \$570,000. I want to express that what I have found about the group is that the leaders are highly biased on their Twitter feeds they do repeated Twitters on the their opinion that there are no stolen elections here, that there is no problem with the elections here. And so, to reward them with a contract that will basically not change much of anything, perhaps reinforce the events that have happened to make it even more so for repeat. So, the extreme bias that I found in their public comments, and also with The Elections Group tweets as well is very disturbing. So, I request that you do not reward them with our money of \$570,000. That's all I have to say for now. I'll let the others have their say."

**DR. JANICE JOHNSTON, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Chairman Pitts, I'm Dr. Johnston. Chairman Pitts and other council members, thank you for the opportunity for public comment. Thank you for your commitment to Fulton County and all of its residents. Mayor Williams and Rev. Mason, AMEN. There is unfinished business though, the Fulton County elections department, Fulton BRE. I applaud your decision to postpone approving a contract with The Elections Group, a purported nonpartisan group with very partisan connections. We the people of Fulton County do not need The Elections Group involved in any part of our Fulton County elections now, next year, or ever. We need a competent, capable, and conscientious Executive as Director of Fulton County elections to serve 1 million Fulton County voters. Mr. Barron's poor performance has been described by Carter Jones, state elections monitor, has been reported by Fulton County auditor in the recent County audit and has been declared by the Secretary of State in statements to the public. It is not appropriate to excuse Barron's poor performance by citing other department shortcomings. Failure to oversee and failure to perform is just that -- failure. Please take action now before the state election board review panel takes its own action and removes the conduct of elections completely out of Fulton County's hands. Thank you."

**SANDRA BURCHARDT, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "My name is Sandra Burchardt. Chairman Pitts and other council members, I thank you for this opportunity to have public comment. Thank you for your commitment to Fulton County and all of its residents. I must oppose the above agenda item according to the organizational chart,

Fulton County Commissioners. You answer to the people of Fulton County. Unless you have taken a vote of all the people of Fulton County, please refrain from supporting proposed congressional legislation. John Lewis was our own civil rights hero and a Georgia statesman, and if the Board of Commissioners wants to honor him and his remarkable life, please make a proclamation and do so. I have reviewed and opposed all 66 pages of HR 4. Justice Department control of elections, removal of photo ID requirements to vote, Justice Department control of election laws, nation-wide voting control, and federal approval of redistricting maps is just a --I just have a reminder to the Board of Commissioners. The last time Georgia was required to let to get Justice Department approval for redistricting gerrymandering was then the Democrats were in control of the Georgia General assembly. I oppose House Bill 4. The people of Fulton County oppose House Bill 4. I do not oppose John Robert Lewis. Thank you for your time."

**JULIE ADAMS, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Hi, my name is Julie Adams. Commissioners, thank you for the opportunity for this public comment. Thank you for your commitment to Fulton County and all of its residents. At the last BOC meeting, Vice Chair Hall delivered the late-breaking news that Alex Wan was stepping down as the Chair of the Fulton County election board. I would hope that you would consider, Vice Chair, Dr. Kathleen Ruth as the next Chair of Fulton elections. She is experienced. She is knowledgeable, and she is fair. Her qualifications and professionalism is just what the board of elections needs. Because of all the current controversy, pending ballot inspection lawsuits, the state election board review panel for Fulton County elections it may be unfair to thrust Alicia Ivey in such a difficult position. Although she is a remarkably successful businesswoman, a faithfully committed community supporter, and a talented entrepreneur. She has not served on an election board or has experience in election law or processes. Please consider Dr. Kathleen Ruth for the position of Chairman of registrations and elections board. Thank you."

**LUCIA FRAZIER, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Good morning my name is Lucia Frazier. Board of commissioners some people think that --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "—come closer to the mic Ma'am."

**LUCIA FRAZIER, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "--sorry, some people think that they may know voters and they think its okay to take power from the people. I saw a lot of really cool things this morning; those people supporting their Mayor, you know their leaders, their voices are going to be silenced if we allow certain actions to pass through us -- us being you and me. You guys are us; we are you. So, when you see things come down the line that put holes in our election process, stop it. Do things that secure the election. It didn't look good before so let's make some changes to make it better. It looks like

Swiss cheese actually; so, there just so many holes in it right now from where I put my vote in or you put your vote in -- until the final count anybody can stick their hand in -- tamper. Let's stop that, okay? There's so many things. So, I strongly oppose the approval of The Elections Group LLC, any other group that you might want to bring in or anybody wants to bring in. Let's keep it local. All election locations. Let's have local workers; there's plenty of volunteers. You don't even have to pay us. It's fine. I'm sure there's plenty of us if you're worried about the money, if you're worried about Staff; just ask, we'll be there. And those people of Union City, they worked hard to get their leader elected. Imagine if somebody tampered with their vote and their voice wasn't heard. Somebody else from another state to come in—"

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

**LUCIA FRAZIER, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "— and do that. I also strongly oppose the firing of Richard Barron. He has shown himself to be against the people so if you're doing that too, it doesn't help us. Thank you."

**JASON FRAZIER, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Hello, my name is Jason Frazier and today, I'm here to voice my concern about this Novembers' election and all future elections. Similar to some of the other folks, my biggest concern is the outsourcing of the elections staffing and management. We all saw the videos of some of the things that happened in the last election and although those videos could be debated, I mean I watched them several times and I've got questions. But I think one thing that we could all agree upon is the fact that our elections could be run better. I believe the better way to run them is to have them locally staffed in each precinct, our registered voters who are both Democrats and Republican, a good mix of folks, but making sure that they do live in those precincts so they represent the people that are voting. And I think if we're able to do that that will go a very long way in bringing back the confidence in our elections system. Thank you."

**CLERK GRIER:** "The last five speakers in Assembly Hall, will you please come down: Bridget Thorne, Kevin Muldowney, Michele Sarkisian, Nia Corsten, and Aimee Uphuee."

**BRIDGET THRONE, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Hello. Greetings. I'm Bridget Thorne as you know. Most of you know. We the citizens of Fulton County are paying for a communications department with a full-time elections communications person. According to the communications director, they're battling misinformation. Their motto is to empower the people with information. Don't you think the citizens of Fulton County should know that Happy Faces temp employees work virtually every part of Fulton County elections and that Happy Faces has a purse string connection to Stacey Abrams. Don't you think the citizens of Fulton County should know that two weeks prior

to the election, Dominion along with Happy Faces temp employees and The Elections Group was running the warehouse while the normal Fulton County employees were quarantined with COVID. They had access to all early voting ballots, CompactFlash cards, equipment and the ability to print ballots and not to mention the 2 million-dollar bill that came with it. These groups were given keys to the warehouse and they were pretty much unsupervised except for an occasional meeting with Barron. There were no poll watchers. So, my repeated question to the Fulton County communications department has been did you obey the law by notifying the public? The location, the dates, the time of the LNA testing by this Dominion run warehouse. After all Barron told you they were working around-the-clock. They are pretty much unsupervised, and no poll watchers. Did the communications department obey or break the law? Fulton County manager tells me that the communications department cannot give me a satisfactory answer --"

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

**BRIDGET THRONE, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "--how about a truthful answer that you can't answer therefore Fulton County Commissioners motto should be empower the people with only satisfactory information. Is that correct? Is that what we're paying for? Thank you."

**KEVIN MULDOWNEY, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Hi, my name is Kevin Muldowney, a Fulton County resident. I'm here to comment on election integrity and I think it centers around the Executive Director, Richard Barron. I feel the firing in February was the correct course of action; his ineptitude is obvious. An internal audit of the elections department has revealed wasteful spending levels of more than four times the original procurement amount and a lack of internal controls. The election directors continued reliance on Happy Faces staffing is another glaring example of his ineptitude. Approximately, three months prior to the scheduled election, as a result of the director's procrastination, they realized they did not have enough time to staff, vet, and train the necessary amount of seasonal employees. In comes Happy Faces to provide these employees. The same agency that is currently named as a defendant in election interference lawsuit, and responsible for the hiring of the infamous Rudy Freeman. Recently there has been consideration of awarding a consulting contract to the Chicago-based firm The Election Group to provide election support and guidance. Isn't that the election director's job as well? From the Fulton County website, it states the election director is responsible for among other things budget monitoring, recruitment and employment, screening, hiring, and training. Richard Barron is under the impression that his job is to outsource his duties to questionable staffing agencies and highly paid out-of-state consultants. We clearly have the wrong person in this role. We

need to either find an elections director who can actually perform his duties or outsource the entire Fulton County election process to the state of Georgia. Thank you."

**MICHELE SARKISIAN, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Good morning. My name is Michele Sarkisian. Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comments. When any adult with budget and performance accountability makes a purchase decision for a home or a car repair, for a business vendor, for a service contract, they have a set of qualifications outlined correct? And the more important the purchase, the more scrutiny the qualification process, correct? In fact, in business, you earn your way to larger procurement opportunities and budget authority with experience. Scorecards are used. Price, performance, verified references, escalation procedures, executive sponsors, turnaround times, background checks on team members, maintenance, performance clauses, legal challenges, and much more as contract importance and budget increases. Often more than one layer of approval is required. Assuming we have professional adults in the Happy Faces and The Elections Group decision-making process, the public would like to see those detailed scorecards from before. Don't make them up and backdate them. And now including all competitive RFPs. How would we get those immediately? If they don't exist, there were no responsible adults in this, and Mr. Barron and others must be released. Thank you."

**NIA CORSTEN, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Good morning my name is Nia Corsten. Thank you for the opportunity to be here today. I am not here for selfish reasons or for partisan purposes. If we learned one thing during the last election cycle, it is we have room for improvement. Some of us felt like victors and some of us felt like victims, and regardless of our political affiliations, we all can find common ground in one goal. Our goals are counted in a fair and factual election process. Our collective goal as outlined in SB 202 is to ensure that the state of Georgia assumes control of our County elections and to eliminate the participation and influence of the organization known as Happy Faces. It's highlighted last week in a thorough internal audit conducted by the office of the County auditor, the arguments in favor of SB 202 and against Happy Faces are as follows: Lack of department standard operating procedures that led to uncertainty and doubt about the outcomes, inconsistent procurement procedures leading to invoices that were paid before a received purchase orders, untimely payment of invoices, lack of supporting documentation which leads to a nearly \$2 million price tag against the allocated budget of \$450,000. This represents over 200 percent over-expenditure, improper payment services, inadequate safeguard of assets, failure to comply with grant requirements, and inadequate departmental accountability and oversight of financial transactions. For these reasons, and to secure the confidence of our voters, we must allow the state to run our Fulton County elections. Doing so will remove the need for an



outside the County Happy Faces and allow the members of the local Fulton communities, the stakeholders in these elections to—”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “15-seconds.”

**NIA CORTSEN, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** “—to run a smoother and less expensive election resulting in a higher degree of transparency and trusted results. On behalf of everyone in Fulton County bound together by this common goal, I respectfully request that this Board of Commissioners consider these irrefutable facts and come together in support of your citizens. Thank you for your time.”

**AIMEE UPHUEE, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "My name is Aimee, and I would like to voice my strong opposition to The Elections Group contract and HR 4. Each one of you has taken an oath to uphold both the US and state of Georgia Constitution. And you're bound by that oath. However, you've acted contrary to that oath. You've overturned the firing of Richard Barron who was not fit or qualified to hold his position and then boasted about it. You've openly and publicly called both constituents and fellow members slanderous names; now you want to spend an additional \$570,000 on The Elections Group that has ties to George Soros. You're actively working against voter integrity with HR 4. HR 4, the John Lewis voting rights Act, would do away with voter ID. 74 percent of Americans support voter ID. You need an ID to go to the bank, to go to the doctor, to get on a plane, and now you need an ID and a VAX pass to eat at certain restaurants or attend concerts here in Atlanta. Who does that discriminate against? Who is actually supporting or evening promoting Jim Crow with these kinds of mandates? You need to take a long look in the mirror and perhaps reread your oath and maybe even the Constitution because we the people of Fulton County are demanding a full forensic audit, an investigation and accountability into the irregularities and fraud in our elections. You serve us the citizens of Fulton County. When will you act accordingly? The question is how many of you will do what is right and what you've been sworn to do? Anyone who supports HR 4 does not support election integrity and using the good name of John Lewis doesn't make it so." APPLAUSE

**CLERK GRIER:** "The next set of speakers will be through Zoom."

**RICO DOLLAR, IT:** “Good morning commissioners. The next person to speak is Benjamin Howard. Benjamin Howard, you're now able to speak. Okay, while we're waiting on Benjamin Howard, the next person is Sheila Hamilton."

**SHEILA HAMILTON, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Hello."

**RICO DOLLAR, IT:** “Yes.”

**SHEILA HAMILTON, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Can you hear me?"

**RICO DOLLAR, IT:** "Yes we can."

**SHEILA HAMILTON, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Hi this is Sheila Hamilton from the Mighty 6th. Thank you, Commissioners for this opportunity to speak. I wanted to just speak about the last commission meeting where the constituents were disadvantaged during the public comment Section. And I -- because of technical difficulties -- and I was very disturbed that the sound was awful. And to add insult to injury, the Commission Chair Pitts put five public comments at the end of the agenda stating that time was up for public comments. And those five public comments totaled about ten minutes of the Agenda time. This was unacceptable. And I am respectfully requesting that this does not happen again. Out of respect for your constituents, our comments matter and effect the decisions made by you Commissioners when voting on Agenda item. To the citizens from North Fulton who suffer from restless, affluent restlessness. I don't believe there was voter fraud, but perhaps voter irregularities. And I am asking that you all let the big lie of voter fraud go. Last, I support 21-0618, the resolution for a new County jail. And resolution 21-0672, the John Lewis voting rights acts. I, as a citizen of Fulton County, count on this board to make good decisions. And even though we're allowed to speak publicly, I count on you to do the right things. Thank you."

**RICO DOLLAR, IT:** "All right, the next one, again, is Benjamin Howard. Ben Howard, you may now speak. Benjamin Howard, you're unmuted; you're able to speak now. Okay. We're waiting on Benjamin Howard."

**DARREN SMITH, IT:** "Mr. Chairman, Madam Clerk, we'll try to communicate with Mr. Howard and notify you if he can speak later on in the program."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** All right. Are there other speakers?

**DARREN SMITH, IT:** "That ends all of the speakers at this time Sir."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "Okay. On page 6, Zoning Use Permits and Zoning Modification Applications, Zoning Public Hearing, **21-0644**, 2021Z-0003, 4090 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive."

**ANGELA PARKER, CONSULTANT, PUBLIC WORKS:** "This is the rezoning from a C-1 commercial for property located 4090 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. The applicant is seeking to use the 2900 square-foot building for a restaurant. The building was formerly



a Dairy Queen, but it is vacant for almost ten years -- a little over ten years. Prior 2007, the Board of Commissioners allowed or the zoning ordinance allowed commercial uses located within the industrial districts; however, in 2007, the zoning ordinance was amended to prohibit commercial uses within industrial districts. The properties located on the southwest side of Martin Luther King Jr. Drive. The third lot from the corner just down from the convenience store that the Board of Commissioners approved in the August Board meeting. The applicant is looking to lease the property for a restaurant. The Staffs' recommended conditions include a number of improvements to the property including the removal of the vacant signpost and the vacant signs would cause for the signs upon the property to be a monument site complying with the zoning ordinance. Additionally, landscaping along Martin Luther King Jr. Drive as well as within the parking lot islands. These enhancements and site improvements will contribute to the beautification plans for the Fulton industrial corridor. Staff recommends approval."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right, it's a public hearing. All right, I'll open the public hearing. Anyone from the public care to speak on this matter? Come on down, Sir."

**RUPESH PATEL, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Thank you so much. Yes, I am the representative of Mr. Bhupendra M. Patel and Mrs. Radha B. Patel, they are my parents. My name is Rupesh Patel and, yes, it's like Ms. Parker just said, we are seeking a rezoning of our property from M2 to C1. It has been a restaurant property for the past 40 plus years, and we will be beautifying the property. We already have a leased tenant that wants to do a restaurant there for the community and so that's it. Yep. We just need to get our C1 rezoned -- zoning for the property."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right, you're representing the applicant?"

**RUPESH PATEL, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Yes. That's correct. I'm a minority partner in the property."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "I understand. All right anyone else from the public here to speak? And does the applicant accept the conditions?"

**RUPESH PATEL, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Yes."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay. All right, anyone else for the public here to speak? Now, we'll close the public hearing. Ms. Parker what's your recommendation? Approval conditional?"

**ANGELA PARKER, CONSULTANT, PUBLIC WORKS:** "Yes, approval conditional."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “All right, and the applicant accepts the condition. So, what’s your pleasure, Commissioners? All right, motion to approve by Vice Chair Hall, seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Any questions or comments? Cast your vote, please.”

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** “Mr. Chair—”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “-- I’m sorry --”

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** “-- point of order. Is this - do we have to -- can we approve this today, or is this just a public hearing per se?”

**ANGELA PARKER, CONSULTANT, PUBLIC WORKS:** “This is a rezoning case and it’s a public hearing, and the Board can take action to --”

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** “-- we can take action today?”

**ANGELA PARKER, CONSULTANT, PUBLIC WORKS:** “(Nods affirmatively.)”

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** “Okay. Thank you.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “All right. Motion before us is to approve with certain conditions that are accepted by the applicant -- strike that. The representative of the applicant on behalf of the applicant. The motion is to approve. Cast your vote.”

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

**RUPESH PATEL, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** “All right. Thank you.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Thank you. Continue Madam Clerk.”

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**CLERK GRIER:** “**21-0645**, MARTA quarterly report briefing.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Is Mr. Parker here? Come on down Mr. Parker and while Mr. Parker is coming down, let me just take a second to report that you’ll recall that we were -- we approved unanimously the resolution that allowed the County to invest part of our ARP funds with minority and female owned businesses that are domiciled in Fulton County or have branches in Fulton County and the great news is that MARTA followed our lead and they voted to do likewise. So, I want to congratulate you publicly for that and we’ve also spoken with the state of Georgia asking them to do so. We’re also in communication with Senators Warnock and Ossoff asking them to make this a national effort, so that the country will once again follow Fulton County’s lead. So, thank you Mr. Parker.”

**JEFFERY PARKER, MARTA, CEO:** "Yes, thank you for those comments, and I'll mention that in my presentation. But I do want to recognize both our Board Chair as well as the members of the Fulton delegation. We just got our Board Chair, Freda Hardage Alpine, and Stacey Blakely, who are listening remotely. And thank them for our support. And next slide, please. We have a relatively quick agenda. You can see it here and I'll ask to move to the next slide. I want to give a quick update on important federal updates as it relates to transit. Next slide, please. The Senate has voted on a bill that we are all very, very excited about. One of the two big items that will directly affect MARTA and this region is 1. is an increase in our formula funds by 30 percent in the Senate version of the bill as well as a very important change to the small starts program that increases the eligibility by a hundred million dollars to \$400 million dollars, and we do have a lot of projects including within Fulton County, projects that would be eligible for this, and we would be able to have slightly a larger projects entering into the small starts program which is a much simpler process than the full starts program. We do recognize that while the senate has voted the bill version of the bill from the house has not passed yet, and they have committed to vote by November 27th so we have a lot of excitement and anticipation for a new authorization bill that will really help to move in advance transit here and I think we've got great support from our delegation as well as you can see Secretary Buttigieg was here in Fulton County visiting several weeks ago. Next slide, please. Talk about our update on our expansion plan -- next slide, please -- as I was talking about before we continue to evaluate funding avenues and see that the federal program will be positioned very well to support expansion of both within Fulton County as well as the MARTA jurisdictions. We are exploring other non-sales tax potential revenue sources to help fund these projects, and these are a few of the ones that we are talking to cities around Fulton County as well as the MARTA jurisdiction to provide additional funding. I think we all recognize the difficulty of passing sales tax -- additional sales taxes. So, we want to make sure that we're considering those projects. Next slide. You know we have several important projects that are all based in the Fulton County transit master plan. We have done an awful lot of work over the past several months advancing the concept in South Fulton Parkway. We heard loud and clear from mayors -- including Mayor Williams who you all recognized as well as other mayors in South Fulton as well as Commissioners, how important not only South Fulton Parkway is, but Roosevelt Highway. So, we have been doing a variety of work to develop the plans to make some improvements along both South Fulton Parkway and Roosevelt Highway. We will be working with our Board of Directors over the next year to see how we can work to fund and make sure that we have allocated money as local matches to fund these projects and we will continue our outreach with the Fulton County Commissioners as well as the mayors and the citizens in South Fulton to make sure that we are focusing on this very important project and just want to

point out once again how important Roosevelt Highway is in the ridership down in that corridor that is to MARTA. Next slide. The other projects that we continue to advance are leveraging the GDOT investment on 400 which is you know a project that GDOT is trying to bring to move into the next phase to construction I think you are aware of the slow-down that they have. In the procurement process as well as the investment that GDOT is making or will be making along 285 with their managed lanes. We continue to develop the details of the stations; we're beginning to advance the concepts of 285, so that we can make sure that as GDOT advances that project in the future, that they completely have all the details of what the transit corridor would look like. I think it's very positive GDOT's approach on 285, with a full P3, that will give us some more opportunities to help fund that project. So, we want to make sure that MARTA is working well with the ATL. We clearly need to work with the ATL because this project does span outside of the MARTA jurisdictions into Cobb County and touches Gwinnett County; so we want to make sure that we're coordinating that well with the region. Next slide, please. Small things matter. We all know that. And one of these small things is bus shelters that we've been advancing wholeheartedly and I think we've provided a detailed update on where before and after pictures of what we've installed. We're making tremendous progress, by the end of this fiscal year, which is the end of June of 2022; we will have installed 133 bus stops, amenity shelters and benches within Fulton County even more across the MARTA jurisdiction. We have, as you can see, we have 17 in permitting, and 44 in design; so, we're making tremendous advancements to make sure the small things that affect our customers, getting them out of the rain and making sure that they can, you know, in a way that's respectful access the bus system. So, we're happy to advance this and to have a lot more work to do as we install a thousand amenities over a five-year period throughout the MARTA jurisdiction. Next slide. I do want to give an update on a very important project although this falls under the more MARTA city of Atlanta program I think it's important to share this with Fulton County; one, because it's within Fulton County, and two, because it's literally steps away from this Fulton County building that we're in today. We are advancing a full rehabilitation of the Five-Points Station. You can see renderings of what the station will look like. We've hired a national firm that's done a lot of work both in New York City and Chicago, and Boston around transit stations. We're really excited about the dramatic improvements that we will make. We will be making to the stations both inside and outside of the station. One thing that we are clear about is making sure that we maintain the façade within the station. It's important historical landmark for both MARTA and the city; and so that will be maintained, and improved, and updated throughout this process. Next slide, please. Do want to give some quick updates on some of the key partnerships that we have within Fulton County. One of them is the Chairman Pitts did mention but first I want, next slide, we'll talk about what we're doing in East Point. I had the pleasure of

meeting with the mayor. We had a great discussion with Secretary Buttigieg who was there about her provision. My Staff and myself spent some time with her a couple weeks ago and looked at the parking lots, and talked about some great opportunities that we share around TOD investments on the property that we own. We've also made sure that we've provided some overflow parking during some important community events. The Wind-Down-Wednesday event that they have and we'll continue to support that. The next slide is recognizing the important work that Fulton County is, if you could move to the next slide -- that Fulton County has done Chairman Pitts referenced it. We were honored to have him at our recent committee meeting talk about the to our business managing committee talk about the resolution and the actions that Fulton County has already taken. Our MARTA Board was very, very supportive of this and like Fulton County, we had a unanimous action of our Board, and it will go to our full Board next month and we will be following your lead in terms of making sure that minority owned financial institutions are being invested in as part of the MARTA programs ongoing. One of the things we do, and I just want to mention is that while this action is about investing the MARTA funds, we also currently work with all of our contractors to make sure they're well aware of minority banks within the MARTA jurisdiction. So, that companies that we do business are also strongly considering working with minority banks. Next slide. I do want to give an update on the next slide around our Hope Atlanta program. Some statistics, this is a program that is a joint venture between the MARTA Police Department, our non-sworn protective specialists are working with social workers from Hope Atlanta to do significant outreach to our the un-housed and homeless population you can see some of the statistics here about engagements and how effective the group has been in terms of placement. The Board has -- we started about a year ago -- the Board has recently approved an extension of the contract and we intend to continue to invest in it and actually expand the program. We want to recognize that we need to move outside of just our subway stations, and have more teams working particularly in some of the areas particularly some of our bus shelters are being used as sites of refuge, and we want to make sure we're giving outreach to the unsheltered in areas outside of our physical stations. Next slide, please. Real exciting opportunity we had it at Five Points -- Commissioner Hall joined us and a local artist who is happens to also be a social worker, who started his career actually went to UGA. In his career was doing sketches of some of his patients; we were able to get a grant through the federal government and commissioned this individual to actually do some sketches of the individuals that we've been giving outreach to, and we have placed these throughout Five Points and I think the important thing is not just the artwork, but recognizing and bringing awareness to that the un-housed, the homeless population are people. We're recognizing them as people. We're displaying them in a proud way in our station, so that our customers can really think about the human interactions that we

have with people who are less fortunate and how the outreach can really help them. So, we were glad to have Vice Chair Hall at the event that we recognized the artist. And with that, you can go to the next slide. I want to thank the Commission and Chairman Pitts for the opportunity to present, and I'll turn it back to you Chairman."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Questions Commissioners, Commissioner Hall?"

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "I just want to thank you for everything that you're doing in Fulton County to advance us in transportation, public transportation because it's very important to the economic development of Fulton County. And the work that you and your Team are doing is absolutely outstanding. I've seen some of the things that I've requested in the past like more trash cans and pickup and lighting and so many things that you've actually delivered on, and you delivered very swiftly too. And I personally can appreciate page 10, Five Points, you said, well it's in Atlanta, but I represent a District that's uniquely positioned entirely inside of Atlanta, so it's important to me. And the artwork for those individuals that are experiencing homelessness that was displayed at that Five Points station is truly just an honor and a pleasure to have them on those walls representing. And thank you."

**JEFFERY PARKER, MARTA, CEO:** "Thank you."

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

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "It's heartening to see the federal government sort of moving in the right direction on transit. I'm curious whether the new proposals might have any impact on the transit issues with respect to the Beltline and the funding that's still going to be necessary there."

**JEFFERY PARKER, MARTA, CEO:** "Yeah, you know, we absolutely see the projects on the Beltline as you know a key component to our portfolio projects that we want to deliver, and you know the biggest impact that we will have around the Beltline projects is not that the programs or design of programs have changed, but the pool of money available across the nation will be bigger we know it will be bigger. And so, the competitiveness, these are projects that we have to compete against transit agencies around the country so a bigger pool of money will make us more competitive."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "And yeah, as someone who was on the city Council when the Beltline proposal came to us you know transit was the primary driver of that project and we've done great with the trails, we've done great with parks and even affordable housing. We've really picked up on the affordable housing aspects, and the development around the Beltline, but that transit is sort of dropped a little bit in the priority it seems. So, if the federal money produces something that will hasten that



along, that will be terrific. Again, with the spokes of the streetcar, that's the goal that people don't sometimes realize they're not going to just ride around in a circle; they'll be able to get to the MARTA station, they'll be able to get to the streetcar, and everything else. So, good luck with all that. Thank you."

**JEFFERY PARKER, MARTA, CEO:** "Thank you."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Chair. I am a staunch supporter of MARTA. You already know that. But I would be remiss if I did not bring to your attention that I received about 50 calls about an incident with MARTA mobility. I don't know if you are aware of it; but I did, between me and my Staff that I did feel this was a isolated incident. We had a senior citizen that was picked up for an event; went to an event, and when the event was over, she waited for the driver and was told there were no drivers and it was short staffed. And so, something that should have taken maybe 45 minutes for a pickup spanned into three hours. Now the good thing about it is that when it happened -- I was able to you know have a conversation with the local police and even though they could not transport her, they did sit there with her until about two hours, MARTA mobility did send someone out there. I wanted to bring it to your attention because I know you would want me to bring it to your attention --"

**JEFFERY PARKER, MARTA, CEO:** "--yes --"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "--and I wanted to openly bring it to your attention because anytime -- any of our community whether it's disabled, or the seniors but when you have seniors that are out, that are in a wheelchair that's primarily how they get around. Like the constituent told me she said had she known she didn't have a ride back she would not have went --"

**JEFFERY PARKER, MARTA, CEO:** "-- right --"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "-- and so, I'm not sure if your office is aware of it, but I'll have my Chief of Staff reach out to you and make sure you get that information."

**JEFFERY PARKER, MARTA, CEO:** "-- yeah, I am aware of the incident. I have had conversations with the subcontractor who manages that program—"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "-- okay --"

**JEFFERY PARKER, MARTA, CEO:** "-- you know, on one hand, we do have requirements of the contract transit which they were not able to deliver on; although that



doesn't solve the problem for the individual. But, you know, I can assure you it was an isolated incident, something that we take serious and something that the contractor takes serious as well. You know and we, I suspect like Fulton County and our contractors are struggling with hiring—”

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** “—exactly—”

**JEFFERY PARKER, MARTA, CEO:** “— it is really what’s driving that kind of anomaly and they’ve assured me that they’re working to increase their staffing and really be able to meet the requirements of our contract, so thank you for bringing-- that .”

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** “Well, I appreciate that.”

**JEFFERY PARKER, MARTA, CEO:** “—up again, I think its worthwhile talking in the light of public, because it’s important.”

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** “-- it is important because sometimes things happen and they grow legs --“

**JEFFERY PARKER, MARTA, CEO:** “-- right --”

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** “-- and we don’t want it to grow legs. I am a supporter of MARTA. And I've had a conversation with you and I know it was an isolated incident and I did tell the constituent -- I apologized on behalf of MARTA. It was something that happened. It was unfortunate, but the good thing is the action plan that went into place was very quick. And so, thank you for addressing it. I appreciate that.”

**JEFFERY PARKER, MARTA, CEO:** “Thank you.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Commissioner Hausmann.”

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** “Hello Mr. Parker.”

**JEFFERY PARKER, MARTA, CEO:** “Hello.”

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** “-- good to see you. Thank you for being here. I would just like to say, I think all of us up on this Commission are supporters of MARTA. We appreciate what you’re doing. We recognize the difficulties you've had during COVID to keep operations running. So, thank you for that --“

**JEFFERY PARKER, MARTA, CEO:** “Thank you.”

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** “-- great news on the horizon with potential new funding from the Feds. We're all happy about that. But you know none of that will come

without local matched dollars and so we're still struggling with how to accomplish that piece as you know. We've talked about that a good bit here. You know we've got a T-SPLOST referendum coming up in November. Obviously closely watching that to make sure that that is done before we move into how would we come up with local matched dollars. So, you and I had a brief conversation this week about this and what exactly that would look like. You know we've got these North and South end projects that we all want to accomplish that are the first phase of our transit master plan. We've got an entire county to serve—"

**JEFFERY PARKER, MARTA, CEO:** "-- right --"

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** "-- so, you know 285 and all those components. So, I hope that our Staff is working with you to come up with some options for us to consider you know whether that's bonding or whatever type of loans are best suited for you to do or us to do whatever that looks like. So, I just hope that the next time that we have a quarterly briefing that that would be part of our conversation is what those options might be before us."

**JEFFERY PARKER, MARTA, CEO:** "Great, we can talk through that, you know it's just worth saying -- you know Dick and his staff; we've worked really well together; although we haven't solved all of our funding issues, I think we recognize we are in a great position with the federal government. We're going to work hard to close those gaps collectively to make sure that these important projects both in South and North Fulton are delivered."

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** "And in follow-up to that you know while we're disappointed to hear that the Georgia 400 project is delayed somewhat you know the timing of doing the managed lanes and then following up with BRT would mean you know ten-years of construction basically, so if there's you know a silver lining here, maybe it's that those can be condensed a little bit so that maybe the projects can be done simultaneously."

**JEFFERY PARKER, MARTA, CEO:** "We're going to explore those opportunities with GDOT."

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** "All right, thank you very much."

**JEFFERY PARKER, MARTA, CEO:** "Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right, other comments or questions for Mr. Parker? If not, thank you so much Sir, great to see you again."

**JEFFERY PARKER, MARTA, CEO:** "Thank you, take care."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Madam Clerk, continue. Madam Clerk."

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**CLERK GRIER:** "Bottom of page 6, County Manager's renewal items, Open and Responsible Government, **21-0646**, Finance. Request approval to renew existing contracts to provide medical and pharmacy benefits for Medicare eligible retired employees."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Ms. Whitmore, you're going to handle this? Quickly."

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "I was going to differ to Mr. Oshikoya or the employee benefits manager if she's here."

**HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE:** "Good morning Commissioners—"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Good morning, what do we have?"

**HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE:** "Well, this item is just requesting your authorization for us to renew the existing contracts with Aetna to provide basic Medicare Advantage and also enhance Medicare advantage plans for our retirees and the beneficiaries and also other dependents."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Thank you, Sir. Questions? There is a motion to approve by Vice Chair Hall, seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Cast your vote please."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 7, **21-0647**, Finance. Request approval to renew existing contract, employee health benefit plan dental."

**HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE:** "This is a contract, a renewal contract for Aetna, and they'll be administering the dental PPO and HMO plans to our eligible active employees along with retirees and their beneficiaries and dependents."

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

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "21-0648, Finance. Request approval to renew existing contracts employee health benefit plan vision."

**HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE:** "This is Eye Med renewal contract. This will be effective just with the other two that I read or I discussed with you earlier. This will be effective from January 1st through the end of December 2022. And Eye Med will be administering the vision benefit coverage to our eligible, active employees, retirees, beneficiaries, and their dependents."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Thank you, Sir. Motion is to approve by Commissioner Vice Chair Hall, seconded by Commissioner Hausmann. Let's vote."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "21-0649, Finance. Request approval to renew existing contracts for employee health benefits to administer to active employees and pre-65 retirees."

**HAKEEM OSHIKOYA, DIRECTOR, FINANCE:** "Two contracts, we're requesting approval for here: one is for Anthem to administer self-insured HMO, POS, and HSA plans for our active employees, retirees, and beneficiaries along with dependents. And then the other one is for Kaiser to administer fully insured HMO for active employees, non-Medicare plans for pre-65, and in the senior advantage plan for Medicare retirees and beneficiaries."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Vice Chair Hall, seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, and a question from Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Yes. Not directly on this question but on this particular item, but can we -- I'd like for us to reconsider the Agenda after this. We hear the remaining two items that are related 0657 and 0658. I'm not really sure why they aren't following this anyway --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "-- what page Commissioner?"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "On page -- bottom of page 8; this is approve the rates for the stuff we're just approving. And then 0658 which is another related benefits item -- while we have them before us."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. So the motion is to approve here. Let's vote on this one, please."

**CLERK GRIER:** "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; 6 yeas, zero nays."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "-- and repeat your motion--"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "-- the motion to reconsider the Agenda to move up items 0657 and 0658 to be heard next."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "-- all right, properly moved and seconded to revise the Agenda to move up those two items we heard now. Is there a -- properly moved and seconded motion by who is it, Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Ellis is that accurate? Not accurate --"

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "-- no --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "-- okay, by Commissioner Ellis seconded by Morris; this is incorrect here. But what I just said is correct. All right. Let's -- on the motion to revise the Agenda, for those two changes. Let's vote."

**CLERK GRIER:** "The motion to reconsider the Agenda passes unanimously."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay, now, this is 0657, Madam Clerk."

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**CLERK GRIER:** "Bottom of page 8, **21-0657**, Finance. Request approval of the 2022 premium rates for the medical and pharmacy dental and vision plans."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Is there a motion? Motion to approve by Commissioner Morris, seconded by Vice Chair Hall. Let's vote, please."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 9, **21-0658**, Finance. Request approval recommended proposal to provide legal insurance."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Vice Chair Hall. Let's vote, please."

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

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Thank you, and when we were preparing the Agenda, that should have been picked up."

**CLERK GRIER:** "I think they put the renewals on one side and that's how they got separated."

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

**CLERK GRIER:** "And that motion passes unanimously."

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**CLERK GRIER:** "Back on page 7, bottom of page 7, **21-0650**. Request approval to renew an existing contract to provide portable moving and storage unit rental."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Morris, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Any questions? Vote, please."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 8, **21-0651**, Real Estate and Asset Management. Request approval to renew an existing contract to provide electronic equipment recycling services."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Vice Chair Hall. Any questions? Let's vote."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "**21-0652**, Real Estate and Asset Management. Request approval to renew existing contracts to provide lamps, light fixtures, and related items for Fulton County facilities and parking lots."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Morris, seconded by Vice Chair Hall. Let's vote."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "Under Infrastructure and Economic Development, **21-0653**, Public Works. Request approval to renew existing contracts provide program management consulting services for the remainder of the TSPLOST program."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Hausmann, seconded by Vice Chair Hall. Are there questions? None? Cast your vote."

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

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "County Manager's item under open and responsible government, **21-0654**, presentation of COVID-19 operational response update."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Two minutes Mr. Manager."

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "Well, I won't have any opening remarks then. I do think we can move through this very rapidly, and we do plan to just have a brief summary up front of the material you've been provided, and then Matt and Doug are here to answer any questions along with Dr. Paxton on the trends; Anna and Pamela on reopening and ERAP; and then Ken Hermon and Sharon on the VAX or test program. The trends really show no prospect at this point of abating 7-day average now above 400; hospitalizations at 680 which is up 20 percent from the last report and a daily death rate at 1.6 and of course, hearing the report from Commissioner Abdur-Rahman really brings it home this morning. So, it's obviously a very serious situation. The bed availability is down to 11 or 12 percent; that's below what we thought the minimum was and that's after adding to bed inventory, so that is a primary concern near-term concern. The focus remains on obviously vaccines, but mobile in particular we're pleased to report that our weekly rate of vaccinations is up about three times from what it was just two to three months ago. And 80 percent of those being vaccinated are people of color in our mobile locations so I do think we're in the right locations offering vaccinations. We did close to 225 at 32 Atlanta public school locations last week, and that's also a primary emphasis for us. The VAX up concert was a success. We had close to 1700 passes distributed and approximately a thousand attending each night. I think it brought great attention to the importance of vaccinations as well as we saw a spike at the Stonewall Tell vaccination center that I visited the week before the concert. So, hopefully that brought again more attention to the importance of this as well as where folks can be vaccinated. We are planning, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, the incentives; these will be \$50 dollar incentives at select APS and Fulton County schools so they're targeted in Districts where under-vaccinations are most prevalent. We have done the math on the hundred-dollar incentives that DeKalb has run, and by the way they're running it for all shots, whether it's first, second, or not, and if you did that and you were trying to reach the level of immunity that we're trying to reach, that would be 5



to 6 million dollars to give a hundred dollars per shot. So, we're not sure that that's the sustainable thing to do. But, we're still looking at all options so again taking the incentives very seriously as a way to stimulate demand. Speaking of that, we've strengthened our VAX and test program which based on your feedback I think is much better and we're prepared for a roll out of that starting this Friday with our first set of drawings for \$500 gift cards for everyone who has been previously vaccinated. As well the Fulton County Sheriff office has reported their first inmate death from COVID-19. So, that just happened this week. ERAP continues to make great progress. I'm pleased to report that Anna and Pamela deserve a huge amount of credit for this, but they also joined the U.S. Treasury Deputy Secretary on a call this past week recognizing us as one of just a few counties in the entire United States that we're really being able to administer this program effectively. As you know we've also removed all caps on awards to further strengthen this support for our citizens so I think there's nothing, but good news in this arena, but we also want to update you on that progress. ORCA, the project name for reduction in cases in our court system is also showing great progress. We had our first collective steering committee meeting this week. I think all of the participants were very much leaning into this 64 people out of the 318 have been hired so that is good news. It also represents the difficulty in hiring so we got to continue to remain focused on that and take specific actions in areas where most of the challenges exist. And Alton certainly can speak to that. We will have to look at space needs if we can't utilize remote worker strategies. We're still pushing that. And as you know remote workers have worked very well for us over the course of this pandemic. There may be some particular needs in this area where there's not as appropriate, but we're hopeful that a combination of the two, will minimize the amount of space needs that perhaps we'll have to pursue. But what we do know is that this has a longer duration, so we're very committed to maintaining our pace. We have successfully filed our first quarterly RPA report with the federal government that has both financials and operations so encourage you and the public to look at that and we successfully did it. There are a lot of counties that are struggling just to file this report. We've also made adjustments now in terms of budget for anticipating a third shot, or the booster shot as it's known and that's about you know three and a half to maybe four to four and a half million dollars through the end of the year. The good news is, it appears now that the FEMA reimbursements are available through the end-of-the-year so, of course that gives us more resources assuming and this is a big assumption that our plan, our FEMA reimbursements, are honored and result in cash coming back in. In the middle of this chaos, we've depended really on key leaders. I just want to make note of two: Felicia Strong Whitaker was awarded with her department achievement of excellence in procurement -- that's one of 42 counties in the United States, so not only has she done a great job throughout her career here at Fulton County, but doing it during COVID, I

think is like doing a triple gainer. So, thanks to Felicia. (APPLAUSE.) And then also Glenn Melendez, who we all know the technology has been key to us in terms of being able to carry on and deliver service to citizens as well as support our workforce is one of the finalists for CIO of The Year in The Public Sector. So, congratulations to Glenn, who's right over here. And again, I think that's just two great examples, but two really central ones of how individuals have made a difference during this pandemic. I hope, again, you applaud them as you just did along with the rest of us. So, Doug and Matt are here, and we'll start Mr. Chairman, if you would with questions on basically the trends along with Dr. Paxton, then we'll move to ERAP and anything on reopening, and then we'll finalize with the VAX or test program for final approval."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay gentlemen, you're on."

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "Pretty much here to answer any questions or concerns. We do just want to go ahead to slide 3. There has been an update to that number for the 7-day case rate for Fulton County. When we put this together with 408, it subsequently went up to 428. Last meeting when we rejoined you, it was 349. So, a substantial increase from the last time I got to you well there's another increase as well. If there's another slide, I could just ask you to draw your attention to would be slide 9. You'll see three bullet points at the bottom of slide nine –well vaccinations are up 298 percent; the mobile units have vaccinated about 80 percent people of color since June 27<sup>th</sup>, and we've deployed 85 percent of our mobile units in under vaccinated areas in our community. So, it's just a couple places to go ahead and highlight. You'll always know where our scorecard is to go-ahead and see additional information; and we'll go ahead and stand here. Dr. Paxton should be joining us online to answer any questions or concerns. Mr. Chairman, I just want to take one moment to go ahead and express my condolences to you Ma'am. I'm sorry to hear about the loss of your family member. I wish there was something else I could say. I do want to go ahead and pass my condolences on to you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Thank you. All right, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman followed by Commissioner Hausmann. Great report gentlemen. Short and sweet."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you for the condolences. It's very hard to be a proponent of vaccinations only to have members of your family to succumb to it. Because of misinformation, I'm just being candid. You know in the communities of color you know what's in it. You know, and I often say we don't know what's in a McDonald's hamburger, but we eat it. So, I just want to take this time to say this is very serious. It has hit me – I've had people close to me, but this is the first relative and I just talked to her a couple days ago; she was fine. So, I would be remiss if I did not say I personally want to commend you all. Stonewall Tell people have been telling me that they have

been moving fast, they have been getting the reports timely. County Manager, thank you. I would have been happy with the \$25, but since it's \$50, I appreciate that as well because I think if we truly are going to attack this, it has to take a village effort, and we have to do it, any and everything, as well as I believe all my colleagues are committed to this, but a lot of times I get the calls, you know sometimes late at night sometimes early in the morning what happened at the vaccination center or I need to get it done, where can I go, this-that-and the other, and some of the calls I have been getting have been singing your praises. And I just wanted to openly tell you I do hear the difference. I do see the difference and I'm hoping we will continue this and we'll see the numbers to go even higher. So, I appreciate that thank you."

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "Yes Ma'am, thank you."

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

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** "Good morning -- well afternoon. So here we are at September 1st, and we were predicting this will be the peak. What do you think about that at this point as far as what we should expect in the next month or so?"

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "Doug will field that. It's not looking good. we're seeing that the peak may go higher, and also have a longer plateau, but Doug will give you more statistics there."

**DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI:** "I don't have the forecast models in here; but the forecast models have been pushed to now September 14<sup>th</sup>, in the latest modeling I will say if you look at some of the heat maps that we see Fulton County while in its high state of transmission is actually better than the rest of the state. So our peaks have been pushed to approximately the 14th for hospitalizations, and in the next couple day's for cases, but the duration of the peak is going to be much longer as the Delta variant affects younger and younger people that are unvaccinated. So, you know instead of a sharp turn at the top, it's going to be kind of a delayed going down is now the projection. So, really, we're going to be at levels at this probably through the middle of October is this the new projection."

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** "So, you think the same rate is going to last six weeks?"

**DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI:** "Well, this or higher for the next six weeks. It'll start going down, but it's still unsustainable right now. Matt can talk a little bit about what's going on at the hospitals."

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** “-- no, I just want to --slide four is the one that graphically shows a little bit of what the state map looks like and what Doug was referencing. If you look at Fulton County, you see some of the metro area is not that deep blood red color that you see in southeast Georgia and what’s going on down there. And a lot of that is contributed to the fact that what we’ve done with vaccinations and the people in our community that have taken those vaccinations seriously, we’ve still gone ahead and working to go ahead and get more individuals vaccinated but anyone that looked at today’s Atlanta-Journal and Constitution, the top fold of that paper, if you read those articles, I don’t know of any other way to create a dire show the dire state of the community. Hospitals are at the brink when it comes to Staff they’re working taking on patient loads that they do not normally deal with; and there is at some places in our state where the Governor had to go ahead and make a declaration to allow a transportation of air gas especially oxygen to these hospitals in nontraditional type of fashions, because they’re running out of room in rural parts of Georgia with oxygen. So, our healthcare system is at a very tenuous point right now. There’s a lot of stress going on it, and sometimes we don’t always think about that because we’re going along everything’s going healthy in our life and then something happens. We’re driving to and from work and we get in a car accident on the interstate and it takes longer for an ambulance to respond, because the ambulance are sitting at the emergency room trying to go ahead and off-load their patients for an extended period of time. That causes a delay, when you get to the hospital there are no ICU beds to go ahead and put someone in; that’s another problem as well. They’re turning med surge places; they’re turning pre-operation places, post operation places, in hospitals into ICUs. They’re trying to find Staff. But the Staff members that they deal with that are traveling nurses and respiratory therapists are going to other states that are offering just a little bit more when it comes to hourly rates and bonuses. So, it’s very difficult. The state is putting the National Guard folks to go ahead and help where they can. Piedmont hospital in Henry County had a huge surge of patients a couple nights ago, that went ahead and caused them to actually stop receiving patients for a period of time. And to be able to go ahead and decompress, I think that’s what you’ll see with other hospitals in our area as time goes along. There’s just such a burden on them, and we need to go ahead and do something to stop that; and the one thing is making sure people are vaccinated, putting your mask on and trying to go ahead and limit the social interaction as much as at all possible.”

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** “Thank you for that update. So, are you hearing any talk about setting up the temporary hospitals like they’ve done before? Is that a staffing issue as well?”

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** “So region D coordinating hospital is Grady and they work with the Governor's office as well as the other hospitals in our footprint, at this time what they're reporting back to us as the Governor as well as the other hospitals, feel it the best thing to do is to surge within the walls of the healthcare organizations so they have unstaffed beds in these hospitals and what they're doing is trying to work to bring in nurses and respiratory therapist to staff these beds. So, there is still capacity within the walls, it comes to the staffing; to people that are properly trained to work in the critical care type of environment. So, we're dealing with trying to get those individuals. I believe three of the hospitals that I'm aware of in our footprint have requested additional staff members we've worked with the state to go ahead and put that request through, and the state Department of Public Health is trying to staff those positions at this particular time. So, Grady did receive some. Grady also received some National Guard team members as well, soldiers to help them in their facility where there be medics or just nonclinical folks to go ahead and help in the emergency room.”

**DOUG SCHUSTER, EMSI:** “We've received 300 beds in the last three weeks; extra within the County, but it really hasn't made a dent. Our bed availability is still low, even with that 300 extra capacity.”

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** “Wow. Well, here we are on the verge of another holiday weekend where people like to congregate, gather, and celebrate. I heard a story on the way in this morning about a recommendation that if you're not vaccinated, don't be around people. Stay home, you know. Stay a safe distance; and I don't know if we're going to try and spread that message and I know you don't really do that, but I see our communications folks over here. I would think that that might be part of what we start talking about as well if that is the recommendation, that we really get that out there for people to be extra careful during this upcoming holiday weekend.”

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** “You're spot on, Commissioner Hausmann. The CDC did release something today saying that if you're not vaccinated they're recommending that you do not travel. Dr. Paxton I know you're on the line, would you like to go ahead and add a little color commentary to that point?”

**DR. LYNN PAXTON, DIRECTOR, FC BOH:** “And certainly, I mean, honestly, the thing that we still need to continue to emphasize is that people should get vaccinated. That is going to always be our goal. If you're unvaccinated, then yes, you absolutely do need to take special precautions. And so, I think to not travel is just one of them. I mean, if you're unvaccinated, please reconsider and if you're unvaccinated then you should be wearing a mask, social distancing, all the things you've heard me say a million times in this setting. But as Doug pointed out that the CDC has the best recommendation

around travel because we know that the around holidays, that will put them at more risk."

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** "Thank you, Dr. Paxton. I just think we should be spreading that word as well. Thanks again for all you're doing."

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "Thank you, Ma'am."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Vice Chair Hall."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "Thank you, Chair. There seems to be some confusion about the steps that should be taken after being directly exposed to someone that tests positive for COVID. We just had a retirement party just last night where the caterer tested positive this morning for COVID. And there were a lot of people that attended that event and so everyone basically has been directly exposed. What should they do in relation to that because some people are saying just go get tested and keep you know moving about – what should they do?"

**DR. LYNN PAXTON, DIRECTOR, FC BOH:** "Happy to go over that—"

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "-- please."

**DR. LYNN PAXTON, DIRECTOR, FC BOH:** "--yeah, the recommendations do vary depending on whether you are vaccinated or not. If you are vaccinated and you are in contact with someone it is recommended -- you can still continue to work. You do not have to self-isolate if you don't have any symptoms. And we recommend that you get tested within three to five days after your last contact with the infected person. And then if you test negative that you continue to mask up, social distance and to monitor your symptoms until you've completed that full like 14 days after your exposure. That is for people who are vaccinated. Now, if you are unvaccinated, then you need to do just the normal isolation. If you are contacted, you need to remove yourself from the environment and you need to isolate yourself. We also again recommend testing and self-monitoring of symptoms."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Yeah, thanks. Just sort of two things: One small request. I do want to applaud the Board of Health team for getting the data out there. And let them know that a lot of people looked for that data. And just a small request associated with that I know as we've gone to reporting the stuff twice a week now. I've had a few folks just voice a little bit of frustration about I guess the report is not coming out sort of



consistently on time on the Tuesdays and Fridays I believe so just you know just then ask if we could I guess if we were consistent with because as citizens, we definitely are looking forward and asking about it. The piece I had a question about really related to testing. You not I think it's sort of two things, it's fairly evident, right, you know besides the you know the validity of vaccines and the importance of that; the second thing, you know this clearly evident is that all kinds of employer's and groups and that sort of stuff are beginning to ask you know before you appear, whether often sometimes whether or not you've been vaccinated or not -- proof of a negative test. And you know we had sort of altered what we're doing in testing. You know we have different folks there you know than we had before. But clearly, the demand is up, and then I'm hearing a lot of cases you know whether it's our side or you know pharmacy where you know a lot of people are trying to go because they have the rapid test and quick turnaround that those appointments you know go really quickly. So could you speak to testing and what we're seeing and whether or not we're planning on making any changes to our testing availability."

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "-- yes Sir --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "-- and may I add to that question --"

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "-- yes Sir --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "-- that's a great question. Dr. Looney from Fulton County schools, called me about seven o'clock this morning inquiring about testing and the focus right now is on vaccinations, but he's concerned about testing. So, I was going to ask. So, thank you for the question, Commissioner Ellis, about what are we doing? We should not forget about testing."

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "We have not Sir. We've never forgotten about testing--"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "—what does he need to do from a Fulton County schools' point of view in particular with respect to testing —"

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "-- and I would not be able to go ahead and comment on Superintendent Looney's piece statement there. Normally, we have a liaison that we work with, the Chief Nursing Officer who passes those type of things on to us. We'll reach out to her after this meeting to go ahead and understand what their needs are. At this time, we do offer three locations so the state Department of Public Health has a vendor called MAKO that we provide space for them to go ahead and get testing. One at the North, one at our central location which is right next to Atlanta Medical Center, and the South locations of the South Annex excuse me the



north one is at 4700. We've identified two other locations that we're going to go and request to have a testing partner there as well. So, State Department of public health has found a secondary agency that can go ahead and provide testing so we'd like to do is find something a little bit above the city of Atlanta, something around the College Park areas, so something in Sand Springs, College Park, we believe we have located those. The state Department of Public Health will be working with Dr. Paxton's team. We'll pass those addresses on to them. We got that solidified this morning actually, so we'll get that pushed over. We also have located a partner as well. We're working with our C-Suite Team to make sure that we can finalize to be able to offer testing inside 141, and some other locations and they do have capacity to ramp up. So, if there's a need between our school partners or anyone else, we'll go ahead and try to address those as they are presented to us."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "So, just a follow-up. The testing that we have available, it's not this -- the rapid test right? That's not going to change."

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "It's a PCR, it's the gold standard."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "-- all right"

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "[Inaudible.] period of time, even if you do have a rapid test, it is always recommended to go ahead and follow the PCR; if you do get a positive on a rapid test, it's an automatic; you have to go ahead and get a PCR for confirmation."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay, so, our test is a PCR and the typical turnaround time on that versus—"

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "-- their contract with the state which is 48 to 72 hours."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "—right, so—"

**DR. LYNN PAXTON, DIRECTOR, FCBOH:** "-- can I make a slight, a slight correction? I'm sorry to -- Matt. But, what we [Inaudible.] do is, we actually do trust a positive rapid test. If somebody is positive, we will treat them based on that. It is what we do recommend that somebody has a negative rapid test, that the recommendation is that they should get a PCR test in that eventuality. So, just a slight clarification on that."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "I guess the point I really want to emphasize is that you know this is becoming very proliferated, right? You know, and employers are often asking people -- and a lot of times it's kinda like 'hey, we're having something on Monday and that's you know and we send a note out to our employees on a Friday, you know

practically not really feasible, right, in many cases? And I think they're quickly learning that. But, the PCR testing is going to have --it's going to be a 2-to-3 day turnaround on your results and I think the people just need to understand that; that that's what we're offering, that's what's available; and you're going to have to work your you know requirements if you will around that. You know there are other options at pharmacies you know you can choose you know -- if people are going to have to make themselves that available to them then that's going to be on their own. But we're going to stick with the PCR model, and that's the turnaround to expect. I think we're just -- we need to be sort of out front with that you know as much as possible."

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "—and another comment to add to that Sir, too; so, the safest thing to do is to go ahead and perform these tests, in the outdoor typically, in the environment like we're doing and the drive up model I kneed for people to go ahead and understand the safety of the individuals that are working these outdoor environments; If we have a severe thunderstorm warning, if we have a thunderstorm that's coming through with lightning within eight miles of that location, we're going to ask those individuals to go and to seek shelter. We had a situation this week where some individuals in our community got pretty upset, got out of their car, use of profanity almost got to the point of touching of some of those individuals, because of how frustrated they are. We have to have some patience here. These folks need to be safe. The last thing we need to do is have them in one of these steel tent structures out in the middle of a field and then we have a lightning strike. We have a whole different problem we have to contend with. So, pack some patience if it's a bad weather day."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Thank you for mentioning that. I think it's definitely important. And I think that the patience piece for all of us you know is really critical you know, and we all recognize it you know. It's running thin you know, but we're all in this thing together and we're not going to get out of it you know together yelling and screaming at each other. So, thanks for mentioning that."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "--thank you Commissioner, back to Vice Chair Hall."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "Thank you Commissioner Ellis, and thank you Chair. So, a question just came to me from a constituent asking are we going to do the drive-through locations like we did before out at the Aviation center and other places? Are we going to bring that back?"

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "For vaccination or for testing?"

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "—yes, for testing."

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** “Testing at this time, probably will not be leveraging the Aviation Arts and Cultural Center. We’re looking at as a possible location for our third dose vaccination effort as either a drive-up or walk-up type of a model; but at this time not looking at that for testing.”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “—all right—”

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** “—but we’re looking at, once again, we have something in the South. We finally found a sweet spot in College Park. We have a central spot, and we’re looking for that sweet spot in Sandy Springs that can go ahead and cover that; and then we have our northern location that covers our northern cities. So, that will probably be the model that we will be keeping; more central on the lines straight up and down through our jurisdiction as opposed to something more on that western side.”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “And I understand that there's quite a few organizations that are doing the same type of policy that we are. Where they're saying their employees if not vaccinated should be tested on a weekly basis. So, people are trying to find the easiest way to get to the testing and that's one of the reasons why the question came across—”

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** “—our south location, our north location, are both drive-through—”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “--drive-through? Okay. Thank you.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Other questions or comments? If not. Thank you, gentlemen. Don't forget the testing issue.”

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** “Yes, Sir.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Madam COO.”

**ANNA ROACH, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER:** “Thank you, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, good morning. If you could go to slide 24. Commissioners while they're pulling that up, I could go ahead in the interest of time and walk through -- we are slightly delayed in receiving information from our provider on the status of our ERAP adjudication and that's because we are working with a company that's based out of New Orleans, so, it's been severely impacted by the hurricane. So, we ask for your patience. This information is only as of the 23rd of August and so it's not as up to date as we're typically used to providing to you. So as soon as we do get in touch with them and are able to update and reconcile our systems, we will provide in a separate e-mail the updated numbers on applications and adjudications. But it does show as of last week – and as we share this information with our stakeholders that we are on a good

pace in terms of adjudication, and do plan to continue on an expedited basis to expend the funds for ERA. Next slide, please. The Manager alluded to the changes that we put in place. This was a recommendation that Pamela Roshell brought to our attention because we found out that the state had opened their portal to Fulton County residents and it didn't make sense if our constituents had access to the state portal for emergency rental assistance that we had different thresholds for funding. And so, what we did was adjusted -- the Fulton County threshold to be consistent with the state's threshold and so a constituent can go to either website, and either program and get the same or identical benefits and that was the purpose for making the adjustment. If you recall, our original thresholds was set as a result of our limited funding, and the Board wanted to make sure that we could assist as many people as possible. So, we set those thresholds based on the data analysis of our average rent in our jurisdiction, but now we do believe it is prudent for us to be more consistent or be consistent with the state's threshold. And, you'll see the changes there basically provides that we will not impose a cap for the amount of assistance provided on a monthly basis and the total assistance has no cap as well. The cap that you have for the max number of months is consistent with what's in the treasury guidelines and that's now at 18, 18-months. Next slide. I just wanted to on this last slide before I turn it over to Dr. Roshell, highlight some of the program happenings since the last time that we reported to the Board of Commissioners significantly and I'm sure you all are aware by now the United States Supreme Court struck down the CDC's eviction moratorium which does have an impact on our operating mode for emergency rental assistance. We no longer have that protection. Of course, as previously reported, we do have a strong, working relationship with our magistrate court, thanks to the recommendation of Commissioner Morris, and Abdur-Rahman, and so leveraging that relationship we're going to continue to press on to ensure that we try within our program limitations to avoid eviction of Fulton County residents who are participants in our emergency rental assistance program. So, I wanted to highlight that development of the Supreme Court decision and make sure that you are aware of our partnership with the court to mitigate that. The second highlight is that we did have a pretty intimate phone call with US Deputy Treasury Secretary Wally Adeyemo. It was a good phone call, and the fact that we were one of eight jurisdictions represented across the nation was good for us to hear from our peers other learning's as well; and successes that they're implementing in their jurisdictions. One of the things we heard from him that was significant to our progress is that treasury is finalizing the process for drawing down the second tranche of ERA2, which we don't yet have. And so that was good to know because if we are moving on an expedited case to expend those funds, given our investments, then we will need to have access to the second tranche of those funds as soon as we can. So, it was good to hear that direction from him. We continue to communicate with both Senator Ossoff and Senator Warnock's

office. And they have become good allies now in advocating with treasury that not only do we need a loosening of the restrictions on the expenditures of the ERA funds, but more importantly we do need access to that second tranche; and we were able to communicate that to both of their offices on that call organized by Senator Ossoff. Finally, under the Chairman's assistance and leadership, we did organize a summit with the Atlanta Apartment Association, where we had over 125 attendees which constituted property managers or owners of property outside of the city of Atlanta that were in our ERAP jurisdiction. It was great to have a communication with them and we were surprised how many of them weren't aware of the process to access the funds that we have, and so we've tied them with someone. If they have any questions or need assistance accessing the portal as a landlord, that they could have access to that individual in our Community Development Department. We were able to present the instructions on how to access those funds as well as to answer any questions. Mr. Chairman, before I take questions, I would like to have an opportunity to have Dr. Roshell talk about the impact of the hurricane on our operations here in the last couple of days."

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, HHS:** "Thank you Anna. The hurricane Ida did impact our operation for two days specifically the call center, and our ability to process our daily payment cadence. I'm pleased to report that as of today, we are back on track for our daily processing of our payments. We have in queue \$1.9 million dollars of payments to adjudicate this week, and we expect to exhaust all ERAP funding from ERAP1 next week to the tune of \$540,000. So PNN has done an amazing job in adjusting operations in spite of the disaster that they are experiencing."

**ANNA ROACH, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER:** "We can accept questions now, Mr. Chairman. Any questions Sir?"

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Chair. First of all, I want to commend you all. And the reason -- I know because I get the calls, 'cause I get the e-mails you know, and when they feel like you're not moving fast enough. But more importantly I always try to be fair because part of my District is inside the city of Atlanta, and unfortunately, I have so many that I cannot help -- I try to give them outside resources because they are having to call United Way. And I liken it to how they were trying to get through with unemployment -- you try early in the morning, and you try all day and hope that you can get in. And unfortunately, I have so many constituents that I just feel so badly for them, because they are in the city of Atlanta, and they're not accessible to our funds and that's not our fault, it's just the way that it's set up. But I just

want to go on record that you know our funding is for out-side of city of Atlanta. The funding for city of Atlanta is through that 211, and anybody that can hear my voice just continue to call until, you know, they make some other arrangements, or adjustments because I know that you all had a very daunting undertaking just to get the ones resolved that were in back long, and I've seen you all work hard and you know and bring in the additional individuals. So, I wanted to take this time to openly commend -- even though it's not perfect, I know we have hiccups, but based on what I know across the state, Fulton County is-- we are dealing and doing the rental and the utilities by far. I want to say best -- I guess my colleagues in DeKalb County would tell me maybe we're tied for first place, but at any rate, I would be remiss if I didn't because I know sometimes, I can be critical, but I also want to say when you are doing it a good job. Would like to know if there's anything at the state level dealing with the mortgages? Have we heard anything at all?"

**ANNA ROACH, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER:** "Quite candidly Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, I have not followed up with them recently yet on it. They have not proactively provided us any information. But your question does give me a reminder that I do need to follow-up with them on mortgage assistance and when that portal will become available. I don't have any updated information."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. All righty. So, I guess what I'm asking now given the situation in New Orleans, is it -- how impactful -- will it slow down the process, the application process? I just want to be on one accord because I do get the calls."

**ANNA ROACH, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER:** "I would like to give Pamela an opportunity to answer that question. She's done a fantastic job of administering the program day-to-day. She's closer to this than I am."

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, HHS:**

"Commissioner, the two days of impact were Monday and Tuesday. The team in New Orleans -- I have been keeping close to hourly contact with them. We have recovered our operations. We've had to pivot some of the operations to Houston, but all of that is done. The constituent on the end will not be able to tell whether they're speaking with someone in Houston or New Orleans. But, our call center is up and operating and we have resumed payments as of last night."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay, let me ask you -- in reference to what we've allocated now versus what we have because I know nationally even the Biden administration had said they were a little concerned with the amount of money across the board that has been given out. Where are we because I know versus other counties



I would venture to say that we are at the top of answering the need, but where are we in reference to trying to get the money out -- the amount of money we've got out versus the amount of money that we have or have been allotted."

**ANNA ROACH, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER:** "Okay, Sharon, I don't know if you want to help with answering this but, we are leading the state, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, in terms of our expenditures for emergency rental assistance. And if you recall we have the funding in two tranches: ERA1 where we received \$18 million as well as ERA2 which was broken up into two components: our Regular ERA and then high need. The Regular ERA was 14 million. The high need was 10 million. To date, and again our reporting is slightly behind because we didn't have the update from PNN for the last seven days or so. But at the time of their last report on 8/23, the funds dispersed overall was 13.25 million of the original 18 million. And then in phase two, we had 2.9 million for the first that looks like two weeks of operation from 8/6 to 8/23. Did you want to add anything to that Sharon?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Thank you Anna. I was just going to say that we have from a actual disbursements perspective; we have not yet begun to disburse the ERAP2 funds. So, we have about 10 million on hand. If PNN is able to produce at the level that they were producing prior to the hurricane, we should see those resources that we have on hand expended fairly quickly probably within two to three weeks -- yeah, two to three weeks. And then we'll be in the position of needing access to those resources that we've been allocated but have not yet been distributed to the County for the County in turn to distribute to recipients."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you. And my final question, only because I want to be on the same accord as your office: the individuals who were approved in the beginning before the relaxation so to speak of the added funding, is there an opportunity to reapply or are they just not going to be eligible for that? Can you just for not only my education but for the public's education because we are getting a lot of those calls -- just spend a few moments with that, please?"

**ANNA ROACH, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER:** "That's a great question Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Pamela, do you want to speak."

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, HHS:** "Sure, Commissioner, we are proactively reaching out to all constituents who received funding already. So, to answer your question directly they do not need to reapply. There's no action that they need to take. We are going to reach out to every one of them because we have both phone numbers and e-mail contact to make them aware of the additional funding -- the additional funding process and they will have an opportunity to take



advantage of additional funding through that mechanism. So, we will reach out to each of them proactively."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "You know you're my favorite, right? Well, really, thank you for that information. Because I was told by my Chief of Staff, that he thought that, but I wasn't sure. So, they don't have to apply again or do any of that—"

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, HHS:** "—no Ma'am."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "--you all will reach out. Thank you I appreciate that."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Vice Chair Hall."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "Thank you Mr. Chair. I just want to thank Mr. County Manager, our COO, CFO, and then Dr. Roshell and team for all the great work that you've been doing. Fulton County is the best and always will be the best. We have the best employees, the best executives and you guys have really been doing an awesome job. And everyone I know across Georgia have said that they're modeling after us in almost everything we do. So, keep up the good work. And I was looking at page 26, the program highlights, and the only thing that I could not find was are you literally collaborating with the city of Atlanta because you know because they do have their own program, but they are located inside Fulton County as we heard MARTA CEO say you know, there are things happening inside of Atlanta that he still wants to report because they are in Fulton County. So, I think that collaboration is important; and I'm so happy to see Atlanta Apartment Association on here."

**ANNA ROACH, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER:** "Yes, Ma'am, that's a good question; and we're really proud of the way that we have collaborated before to the extent possible. One of the things that we did in ERAP1 was we batched -- we batch located or collated the names of any city of Atlanta resident that applied to our emergency rental assistance system, and we provided that to them so that they haven't started their program at that time; but at the beginning of the program, they had access to over 6,000 applicants that had come through our system that we weren't able to fund. They had their names, their addresses, and the amounts that they requested, et cetera; so, those were immediately actionable for them. In addition, I participated in our regional call with the city of Atlanta every Friday at 2:00 and so, we are able to have conversations with them about where we are in our process and how we all can help each other if there are any needs. So, there is a lot of collaboration. Again, we just are limited in being able to expend our funds there."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "Thank you. That's awesome. Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right, other questions? Commissioner Arrington."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "No, Commissioner Khadijah asked a question. I was going to ask about the mortgage."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay. All right. Where are we? Madam CFO."

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think that the Manager wanted us to cover the vaccinate or test program quickly with you. If we could go back to slide 23. At the last meeting we did preview what the plan and policy would look like with the Board. We received your feedback. Mr. Hermon took your feedback and has clarified the plan and policy; and we communicated that to you on Monday of this week; and we do have a separate Agenda item to actually approve the policy recommendation. I did want to allow Mr. Hermon to go through the plan with you and share with you the clarifications that were made from our last discussion."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER:** "Thank you, Sharon. Good afternoon, Commissioners. Ken Hermon, Chief HR Officer. Sharon indicated we heard your concerns and we've incorporated those concerns into the plan. What has remained exactly the same is the incentives to the workforce and the enhanced incentives relative to the \$150 and our partnership with Fulton County employee Association. We continue and I appreciate the conversation about the PCR test and how difficult it could be for the employees to get testing and that's what we wanted to give them a glide-path to start putting that into their weekly schedule of requiring these tests because that's what we're requiring. We're not accepting the rapid test it's the PCR, or the NAAT test that will be required weekly. What we've clarified within the policy, the procedure based on your commentary is the failure to comply if you remember I think last time our ten, it was ten opportunities to be in violation; we've now reduced that down to four. The first time, it will be a one-day suspension; the second time will be a five-day suspension; the third violation for failure to providing proof of a negative tests will be a ten-day suspension; the fourth one will be a dismissal. It's not a potential; they will be dismissed on the fourth instance. We've also clarified in the procedure that new employees will be treated identical to our current workforce. New employees will be required to either provide proof of vaccination before submitting their offer letters. And also, three days if they're not vaccinated three days before they report to work be required to provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test before they can start work with us on Wednesdays. We've had further conversations with the elected officials and all of them have indicated that they will now be opting in to the program and

potentially developing a little bit more stringent policies within their own respective work units. And I think Commissioner those were all of the items that I had from my notes from last week that you had asked us to go back to the drawing board, and incorporate; and as Sharon has indicated later on in the Agenda is the actual policy that we need you to approve. That once that's approved, we can then start the communication plan with our partners external affairs we have meetings scheduled for tomorrow with the HR liaisons. So I have direct conversations with them about how this will work. We also in the final implementation stages of a software tool that will allow for easy communication between the workforce and HR and the respective supervisors so that as I think as Commissioner Rahman said last Board meeting that we do no harm to those employees and make sure that we get the communication right that we're not impacting employees unnecessarily. I'll stop here and take any questions that you may have Commissioners."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Chair. Will we have testing here at 141 Pryor?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER:** "That was one thing that we're working on, I think. Sharon and Matt has been working on a vendor to have testing on site."

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "So, it sounds like we found a solution; and I'll brief the Board as soon as we nail it down. That's our intention."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "—that's the goal, okay. So, I wanted to make sure you know since we you know their jobs their livelihood is on it; so, if we can have testing here, that will be great. Second, do we have a sunset to this policy which means when we reevaluate it 6, 12, 18 months--"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER:** "We've talked about that, and that's what we said. We have a glide-path of six months. Six months at some point, we will come back to the Board of Commissioners and have further dialogue as to you know do we want to continue with this posture, or draw a line in the sand that says no, we want a vaccination. We'll have a conversation with you within a six month timeframe. Hopefully by that time, we will already have achieved a hundred percent vaccination rate among our workforce that will just sunset out by itself."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. I appreciate what you all are doing. Once again, I've had so many employees reach out to me. Here again I'll tell you what I

shared with them: I respect anyone for their personal preference. I will never tell anybody that what my opinion is or what I think to be very strongly because I am for vaccinations; however, we must have policies that serve everyone as opposed to serving the few. And I appreciate you all going back and incorporating this. I'm hoping and praying at some point, we won't have to have this conversation, but if you for whatever reason choose not to vaccinate, I wish you would. But if you choose not to, then understand that the choice could have a effect -- it affected my household. And so, I just wanted to say, please do not forfeit your right to employment with getting fake cards. I still see that on social media. Every chance that I get, I'm going to continue to tell our employees, and that's not to say that our employees will do that. But we know sometimes people in desperate situations -- please do not because we do have the capability to know whether it is a valid card or not. So please do not submit a fraudulent card. And please comply with all of the requirements and hopefully we can get through this together. Thank you."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "Thank you, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Commissioner Arrington."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Mr. Hermon, Mr. Hermon I heard you say 'no' to rapid tests, but I believe that there is a rapid PCR test. So, I want to make sure that we're clear in our communications to our employees."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER:** "Commissioner, in our conversation in our review of what we saw on the CDC website, they highly recommended not to utilize the rapid test. The ones that you might find like in your local CVS store because of a myriad of different things not only are they unreliable in their results, but you know if they are the ones from the CVS store for example, you know I don't know that the test is actually your result from someone else's results; so, that's where we are insisting that we use the PCR test or the NAAT tests that you have to go to a various lab or a Walgreens, or PCS to get that test result because those are the more consistent ones that are more reliable."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Thank you."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "Thank you Commissioner Arrington. Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Yes, so basically, it has to be verified by the provider [Inaudible] right. I don't really have any questions on this. It just makes sense after we're done with this conversation Madam Vice Chair, I think we ought to take up and vote on the policy versus come back and talk about it an hour later, so. Just when we get to the end of it, wouldn't want to reconsider to take that up."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “Okay. And thank you Commissioner Ellis. Commissioner Hausmann.”

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** “Yes. You mentioned that you’ve been going to the CDC to formulate a lot of this. Are you working with our Department of Health as well?”

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER:** “Yes, Dr. Paxton and Dr. Holland were very instrumental in helping us craft this mandate.”

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** “Well, I recognize that the rapid test is not as reliable as the PCR tests, but the Department of Health is actually giving the same rapid test that you can buy in the CVS. So, I hope you’re coordinating that with them, so that you’re all on the same page. I wouldn’t think that they would be administering it if they didn’t think it had some validity.”

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER:** “I will circle back with them Commissioner.”

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** “Okay. And then secondarily: This issue about bad cards -- fake cards. Is there anything in our policy that addresses if an employee does produce a bad card and what the consequences to that would be?”

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER:** “Yes, it’s clear in the procedure that anyone discovered to produce a fraudulent card will be dismissed. And I would also say to the workforce, as Commissioner Rahman said, I would strongly recommend against it because the HR -- we have hired someone specifically for this job to review these documents on a weekly basis. They have a strong auditing background and once we become familiar with the various tests from the various testing providers, we will know and be able to quickly identify a fraudulent card, fraudulent test results, and we’ll take swift action against those employees like we typically do when we find misleading information in the applications for example.”

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** “Okay. Well, communication is the key here. So, I hope that is being clearly communicated to the employees.”

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER:** “Yes, Ma’am.”

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** “Thank you.”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “Thank you, Commissioner Hausmann. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman.”

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** “Thank you, Vice Chair. Just on the backs of what Commissioner Arrington said, if you all could revisit the testing that individuals pickup out of the CVS, and the only reason why I’m going to tell you why I think it’s very important not only in my family, but a lot of the constituents I had out in that Wolf Creek area in that South Fulton corridor when their children were exposed, and they were not getting that PCR test back in a timely manner, my suggestion to them was to pick-up the one out of CVS. They picked up the one out of CVS. They immediately got a positive and they immediately quarantined themselves with their kids. And so, I can understand, Mr. Hermon, where you’re coming from with that premise, but I think given the level of where we are, that at some point there may need to be a little tweaking in the ability to accept that. I understand your concern, and I recognize it. But I also understand the validity of not getting that test back in a prudent time. And if my child has been around someone at the school, and comes home and the school may have a delay or not in letting me know if I pick-up the test for me and my son and the test is positive that I picked up from CVS, and I get that information before I get the PCR, then I’m just saying I know personally of situations like that. And we may need to revisit that.”

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER:** “Thank you very much Commissioner. We will have further conversations with our Board of Health officials about how could we incorporate the PCR, I’m sorry the rapid test at home and also what Commissioner Hausmann has eluded to that the Board of Health are also using a rapid test and incorporate those potential changes in the procedures before they are rolled out to the workforce.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Commissioner Morris.”

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** “A couple of things. First of all, thanks. I think this is much improved and thank you for listening to all the feedback. I want a couple of clarifications. One is you’ve indicated that a fraudulent card will result in dismissal. If we adopt Commissioner Ellis’ suggestion that we vote on this policy today which I support, is that part of this policy even though it’s not in the bullet points here?”

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER:** “The disciplinary actions are incorporated in the current procedures as drafted right now.”

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** “Okay. And then, I thought I heard you say that after the third strike, the fourth time the employee would be dismissed, but up here it says subject to dismissal as if that’s optional.”

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** “—which is it?”

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER:** “– the subject to dismissal is not optional, they will be dismissed.”

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** “—they will be dismissed. All right. So, okay. I'm not sure subject to means that; but if that's the clarification and what we'd be voting on, then thanks for those clarifications.”

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** “Reconsider the Agenda to take out the policy that's you know been described here before us and that's item 210663, the second item on page 10—”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “—on page 10—”

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** “--yes.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “All right there's a motion to amend the Agenda, again. Is there a second? Seconded by Vice Chair Hall. All right. Let's sound the motion to amend. Let's vote, please.”

**CLERK GRIER:** "And the motion to reconsider the Agenda passes unanimously.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Sound the item, please.”

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**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 10 **21-0663**, Human Resources Management. Request approval of a COVID-19 vaccination and testing personnel policy.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “All right. Motion to approve by Vice Chair Hall, seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Questions or comments? If not, cast your vote.”

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

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Continue Madam Clerk.”

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**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** “Mr. Chairman that was it for the presentation.”

**CLERK GRIER:** "Okay, continuing on the bottom of page 8 --”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "-- hold on one second. Ms. Thomas – it's there-- okay, let's take about five more minutes ten more minutes, then we can break for recess for lunch. Is that okay. We can get to the Commissioners items next.”



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**CLERK GRIER:** "Okay. Bottom of page 8, **21-0655**, Purchasing and Contract Compliance. Request ratification of countywide emergency procurements."

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

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "Yes, thank you, Mr. Chair. I just had a question about the items that total a little over \$6 million dollars for I think it's Postletwaite and Netterville , and it simply says for professional services related to program administration, adjudication, and processing of rental assistance applications for the emergency rental assistance program phase two as part of COVID-19 response; there is one on the -- well, there's one on the 12th for a little over \$568,000, one on the 12th for a little over \$429,000, another one on the 12th for a little over \$5.9 million. And so, my question is: Did we hire a lot of contractors or what did we do to spend over \$6.4 million?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right, Madam COO."

**ANNA ROACH, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER:** "Thank you for the question, Commissioner Hall. This is -- is what we often refer to as PNN. That is our provider. That is the company that we out-source our administration of ERA2. So that's why you see the large amount attributed to them and the separation of the items is simply indicating that the source of funds is separate. How we're paying them are from separate sources of funds. One is from our ARP funds and one is from two, the other two are from the ERA."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "So, it's safe to say that they are literally running the entire emergency rental assistance program solely?"

**ANNA ROACH, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER:** "Yes, certainly Phase2. Phase1 if you recall, we had used them to enhance our staff augmentation. We had about 100 call takers, as well for the call center as well as adjudicators, but this round; we are using them to outsource pretty much the entire program except for the application management system component."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "Okay. And my last question is on the item for Dillion's Catering for over \$12,000. It says to support the delivery of essential services relating to food insecurities and other economic assistance to Fulton County residents. Were we literally passing out free food to constituents at some point?"

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS:** "Commissioner Hall, this contract, pardon me, was to provide meal service to students living in hotels in South Fulton."

And so those homeless students – who some experienced food insecurity even though there was a lunch program. Many of them did not have access to get to that program. And so, this caterer provided weekend meals for students to support their food insecurity."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "That is great work that should be, just you know, we need to tell these stories. Thank you so much."

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, DEPUTY COO, HHS:** "You're welcome."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Chairman. And Vice Chair, thank you for recognizing that was a great collaboration with the County Manager's office. And I commend you all. I was able to ride out to the hotels, and to see the parents and the students. And I would suggest any of my colleagues if they have that issue going on in their area it's very sobering to see how not only grateful the parents were, but the students as well. And so, thank you again, County Manager, and thank you, Dr. Roshell in all that you all do. But, yes, that is a great program. I hope at some point, we can bring it back should we need it. But when you have students who are already challenged with living conditions in hotels and then food insecurity, I commend Fulton County for recognizing that, and it did go very well. So, I just wanted to say, thank you for recognizing that Vice Chair. And thank you to the County Manager and Dr. Roshell for collaborating with my office to make sure it got done."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Motion is to approve. Let's vote, please."

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

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Continue."

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**CLERK GRIER:** "**21-0656**, Finance presentation, review, and approval of September first 2021 budget soundings."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Vice Chair Hall. Let's vote."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 9, **21-0659**, Real Estate and Asset Management. Request approval of a statewide contract to provide expedited mail and package delivery services."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Motion to approve by Vice Chair Hall, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Cast your vote."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "**21-0660**, Real Estate and Asset Management. Request approval to increase spending authority to cover the cost to purchase additional maintenance repair operating supplies."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Vice Chair Hall. No questions, cast your vote, please."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "**21-0661**, Real Estate and Asset Management. Request approval of a recommended proposal for replacement, refurbishment of air handling units for Fulton County Judicial Center."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Vice Chair Hall, and a question by Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "One quick question. Are we using -- for funding for this, is this general fund money or are we using funds from the rescue plan for this money for this?"

**UNKNOWN SPEAKER:** This is urban redevelopment bond program funds."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "—urban redevelopment funds, okay."

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

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 10, **21-0664**, Human Resource Management. Request approval of a recommended proposal to provide comprehensive FMLA administration."

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

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "Under Arts and Libraries, **21-0665**, Arts and Culture. Request approval of a recommended proposal to provide opportunities for individuals with disabilities to fully utilize arts facilities."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Motion to approve by Vice Chair Hall, seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Cast your vote."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "Under Health and Human Services, **21-0666**, Public Works. Request approval of a service account agreement letter to provide drinking water laboratory and related services."

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

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "**21-0667**, Public Works. Request approval of a statewide contract to provide equipment rental services."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Vice Chair Hall. Let's vote, please."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 11, under Infrastructure and Economic development, **21-0668**, Public Works. Request approval of a water utility easement for the purpose of maintaining a water line and installing water meters along Sandy Creek Road."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Motion to approve by Commissioner Hausmann, seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Let's vote."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "Under Justice and Safety, **21-0669**, County Manager. Request approval to amend an existing contract to provide professional services to assist County management with the design and implementation of the court backlog project."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Motion to approve by Commissioner Morris, seconded by Vice Chair Hall. Question from Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Just a request, and maybe a question too. I know, Mr. County Manager, you've been really good about you know, kind of shooting us, you know kind of notes with updates on kind of where things are going. Do you anticipate you're going to begin some sort of regular reporting to us on that? You do? Okay, all right, I see Alton shaking his head back there. Most likely you know when would you --"

**ALTON ADAMS, DEPUTY COO, PSS:** "-- we're trying to give you a detailed report at the next BOC meeting, Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. Thanks."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion before us is to approve. No further questions? Cast your vote, please."

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

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**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. It's 1:11. I'll entertain a motion to recess for lunch. Executive session we'll consider items of litigation, real estate, personnel. Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Hall -- Vice Chair Hall."

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

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right, let's shoot for resuming by no later than 2:00 p.m. Thank you."

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(Executive session begins at 1:11 p.m.)

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Without objection, we will resume the regular order of business Items from executive session. Well, actually call the roll for quorum first. Madam Clerk."

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

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Present."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Commissioner Liz Hausmann."

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** "Present."

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

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Present."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Vice Chair Natalie Hall."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "Present."

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

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "We have a quorum. Correct?"

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

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Madam County Attorney."

**KAYE BURWELL, INTERIM COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Is there a motion to approve the request for representation that's set forth in items one and two on the Executive Session Agenda?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** MIC OFF "—she said [Inaudible.] it's the representation—"

**KAYE BURWELL, INTERIM COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "-- what did I say?"

(RESPONDER NOT ON MIC)

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. The first one's representation – she's okay with that? All right, the first couple – the first one's representation—"

**KAYE BURWELL, INTERIM COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "—yes, okay—you can do them one at a time. There were two requests for representation. They were items one and two on the Executive Session Agenda."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay. All right. Motion is to approve by Commissioner Morris, seconded by Vice Chair Hall. Let's vote, please."

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

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**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Hold on a minute --"

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "In the absence of a quorum, we're going to hold for a moment, please."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Yes Ma'am."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "-- all right, continue Madam County Attorney, speak up, speak up, we can't hear you."

**KAYE BURWELL, INTERIM COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Is there a motion to approve settlement authority in the matter set forth in item three on the Executive Session Agenda?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Vice Chair Hall. Let's vote, please."

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

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**KAYE BURWELL, INTERIM COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Is there a motion to approve the request for settlement authority set forth in item four on the Executive Session Agenda?"

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

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

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**KAYE BURWELL, INTERIM COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Is there a motion to approve settlement in the matter of Kevin Harris v Theodore Jackson which is pending in United States District Court northern district of Georgia Civil Action file number 120CV02348 in the amount of \$20,000 with authority of the Chairman to execute the settlement documents?"



**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Lee Morris. Let's vote."

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

**KAYE BURWELL, INTERIM COUNTY ATTORNEY:** I have nothing further. Thank you."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 11, Commissioners Action Item, **21-0579**. Request approval of a Resolution establishing a set payment of \$250 per day for members of Fulton County boards, committees, authorities, and commissions, where commissioners make appointments, establishing exceptions for those entities where payments are established by state statute, law, or regulation; and for other purposes, sponsored by Commissioner Arrington."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. What's your pleasure?"

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** (MIC IS OFF) "I don't know who got the comment ... make some calls but, again I don't know how we can value -- MIC IS ON "I don't know how we can value one persons' time over another when people are volunteering or offering their time. So, I think that it is essential that we do it -- I don't know if 250 is the right number, but somehow, we need to apply some uniformity to these boards, and I believe Commissioner Morris had said he'd be willing to work with me on that. So, again, whether we adopt this or not, we need to be looking at uniformity as we compensate our boards." A blind man couldn't read that. What are the numbers Sharon?"

**SPEAKER:** (MIC IS OFF)

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Okay, so it looks like its 912,000 if it were 150 per board. It looks like maybe 1.2, 1.3 at 250 per board. But we really need to -- again at least I am of the belief that we need to have some uniformity as to compensation, and if someone does not believe that we should have that uniformity, I would love to hear why we do not need that uniformity."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Vice Chair Hall."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "I just -- thank you, Mr. Chair. I just wanted to address -- okay, so, I don't remember where this came from, but this schedule of boards and authorities has

all of the boards and authorities listed on here, and all of the these per day amounts, and per diems and everything and; so, my question is there's a reason why they are all different. So how in the world can we set one number for all of them because I just need to understand why are they all different to begin with? Was there something about -- specifically about the boards, some of these boards that cause, because they have a different cost? Is there history to this? Madam DA or anyone? I'm sorry Madam County Attorney I made you the District Attorney."

**KAYE BURWELL, INTERIM COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Well, some are set by state law and those you can't change. Some of these are started by municipality and those you can't change. The others that are Fulton County related you can change, and so if you wanted to--"

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "—and so, what was the measure that was used to determine what those per diems were for the various Fulton County ones? Was there some kind of rule or how were they set?"

**KAYE BURWELL, INTERIM COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "They would have been set by the Board of Commissioners."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "—just throwing out a number."

**KAYE BURWELL, INTERIM COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "—we could, I don't know if – I mean, we could go back and see if we could find meeting minutes to determine what kind of discussions were had."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "Oh, okay. All right--"

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "-- and most of them were set 20 years ago so; but for me, the boards are different Commissioner Hall, but the people serving them on them are not. And so, if you got a person serving on a board and they spend two hours at one meeting and another person spends two hours at another meeting, the fact that the boards are different doesn't matter. The time spent by those individuals is the same. And so, if we're going to compensate one of those individuals, we should compensate all of those individuals, or we should compensate none."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "And so, are we taking into consideration – I believe it was -- it might have been Kyle Lamont from the Development Authority of Fulton County who stated that some of their meetings they literally have to travel across Fulton County to locations to actually have a discussion about properties, and that they incur costs doing that. So, I can -- I can see where that contributes to you know their out-of-pocket costs

because they may not be the type of board that's literally just sitting in their normal meeting space--:

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** “—right—”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “--so how do we compensate for the extra out-of-pocket costs that are incurred on certain boards.”

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** “So, I think on this list that was prepared -- I think this was prepared by finance – “

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “—you have the same one?”

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** “—yes—

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “—okay—”

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** “--it gives you the frequency of the meetings so whether they meet once a year, or 12 times a year, I believe it is the sixth column across this writing is so small—”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “—it is—”

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** “--that it's hard for me to distinguish—“

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “—yeah--”

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** “--but some boards meet four times a year, some meet one time a year, some meet 12 times a year. But again, I just don't know how we can value or devalue someone, all right? Because, I mean if people are doing things -- some people are being paid and others are not; then that means we're devaluing those people that haven't been paid. And even on this Board, I mean you know someone said something about expertise; well, we've got lawyers on this Board of Commissioners, but they get paid the same amount as everybody else on the Board of Commissioners—

MULTIPLE SPEAKERS OFF MIC

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** “--well, all I'm saying is that you know we can't use expertise. We can't use someone's expertise, or someone's you know collegiate level, or masters' level to say 'oh well this person should be compensated more than that person, you know. And I don't know -- what was the number that we did for a development authority; maybe we can just use that number. But 150, I think – 150; so I mean at 150 the total cost is 900,000, but you know—”

SPEAKER OFF MIC

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** “—yeah, and even for like development authority, that doesn’t even come out of our budget, right. That comes out of their own money. So, I don’t know we may have to supplement some of these departments or just provide money for payment, but I know you know we said we adopted the \$15 an hour minimum wage a few years back that obviously was for employees, but I mean, I’d just love to hear colleagues, you know, why we shouldn’t make some form of payment uniformed, or why we shouldn’t eliminate all payment.”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “Well can I offer a friendly amendment that if we make it uniformed, we do still address those boards where people literally have to use their personal vehicle to travel across town and you know pay for their own gas and everything.”

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** “I don’t have a problem that. I would accept it. I think the way that it is drafted, it’s only for certain boards that are County originated—”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “—yes, none of those boards travel, ‘cause I know even the Arts Council has adopted moving from place to place to have their meetings. They are literally go from one Arts center location to another because they’ve invited me to a couple of their meetings over the past four years, and they were at different locations around Fulton County.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Commissioners, let me help us out here. First of all, there is no motion before us, but it seems like it, I mean we’re all on the board on this and maybe it’s not ready for any action, one way or the other. My position is going to be totally different than all of the--”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “Okay, can we hold it?”

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** “I guess we can hold – I think it’s been held a couple times already so you know--”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “--I don’t think we’ve taken a vote. I think we held it the last time that, you never came up for a vote.”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “—yea, no vote.”

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** “--I mean, you know, I’m fine with whatever the will of the board is. I just think we need to address this, and I think we ought to do it sooner than later. So, if you know again, if anyone has comments or discussion, it

would be good so that we – when we do bring it back it will you know include everyone's opinion.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “All right—“

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “—I’m finished.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “—you’re finished. All right. Commissioner, this we could kind of sum up everybody. Commissioner Morris followed by Commissioner Hausmann—”

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** “—yeah, I’ll try to be quick. You know, I think, I think to the question of why their all different, it reminds me when I got into the Homestead exemptions questions when one Homestead exemption for the elderly was based on federal taxable income, and another was based on Georgia taxable income, and another one was based on federal adjusted gross income and one amount was \$30,000 and one amount was \$40,000. It was because different general assembly members at different times wrote the thing, so different commissioners, different boards of commissions did these at different times. And I’m sorry Commissioner Arrington, I haven’t had a chance to really look at that schedule and study it, but because I am supportive of trying to do something that is as uniformed as we can do given the exceptions that the County Attorney has mentioned, and the fact that some of these are per diems. Some of them are per meeting. Some of them are per month. And so, we’ll have to figure out how to resolve all of that. If we do all of them per diems, then I think that number could potentially go higher because somebody who was getting \$200 a meeting may do some other work and expect a per diem for that other work outside of a meeting. So, we’ll have to resolve all of that, but conceptually I don’t have a problem with trying to make it as uniformed as we can, given all of those different issues and I think you’re right; lawyers should probably get less than everybody else, but at least, the same amount.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Alright Commissioner Hausmann.”

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** “I’ll support that Commissioner Morris. I think it might be helpful if we actually engage these board members and find out the time commitment that they’re having to make to serve. If we’re going to work towards something that is more uniformed, I mean they don’t look like they all meet on the same schedule either; I think that has some bearing on it. And I know that right now they’re paid, I think based on the actual meeting, and I happened to see some e-mails in the last few weeks, going back-and-forth from a member of the board of registrations and elections that missed a meeting but pours hours of time in to it, but he was sick the day of the meeting. And so, I don’t know that it’s fair that he’s not getting anything for that

month. You know, I know he worked a lot, but he just happened to miss the meeting. And so, to me there's a lot of moving parts here. I'm not in disagreement that it needs to be cleaned up, because I think it does. But maybe we should survey these people that are serving and giving their time to Fulton County, and just have an idea of what the commitment level is because it may be different especially if they're meeting quarterly versus monthly."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Or \$15 an hour, it might be good."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. So, what's your pleasure? There's still no motion. You want to hold it and work on it."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Yeah, I guess; who's going to survey them -- I mean, I like Commissioner Hausmann's idea, but who's going to take on that responsibility?"

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** "Madam Clerk, could you handle something like that--"

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "-- isn't it the Clerk's office; they handle boards and authorities—"

**CLERK GRIER:** "Yes, we can -- we can get that surveyed for you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right --"

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** "Could you perhaps provide a list of potential questions to us, and then if we think that something else should be added before you send it out rather than having to do it more than once? Maybe we could come to some consensus on what to ask."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Yes."

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** "Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right, Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "—Board of Equalization meets like 247 times."

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** "Exactly so they're different and I think that's set by state, probably isn't it."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "—I'm not sure."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** “Yeah, I’ll be brief too. I mean, just a personal view, I think there’s certain of these that – board of equalization, board of registrations and elections, board of tax assessors I think as well as the different authorities, they really all stand on their own. I think, you know, I don’t think we should monkey around with them, and I also don’t think for task forces, and advisory Councils, that those should be types of things that stipends and meetings compensation should be provided I think those should be voluntary. If we’re going to consider something, it should be for you know boards which are you know mandatory that we’ve either created by statute or that are required by statute to have so, that’s my personal view.”

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** “—there’s no task force on this sheet that we have here. This is just all boards and authorities—

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** “-- whether advisory boards, then I would put that in the same vein as a task force.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “All right, I’ll entertain a motion--”

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** “—and there are task forces on here.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “--I’ll entertain a motion to hold.”

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** “--so moved—”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “—all right, properly moved and seconded. Let’s vote, please. And the Clerk, you’re going to, he asked to hold--”

**CLERK GRIER:** “—okay, a week from Monday--”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** MIC IS OFF

**CLERK GRIER:** “—okay—”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “--this isn’t complicated now. The motion is to hold. Let’s vote.”

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** “—my screen is dead on my machine—”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “—is the machine working--”

**CLERK GRIER:** “—okay, there it is.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “—all right, all in favor say aye. Oppose, no. It’s approved. It’s held. Next item.”

**CLERK GRIER:** “Okay, the vote is open on the motion to hold.”



**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “What?”

**CLERK GRIER:** “The vote is open on the motion to hold.”

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** “I think the motion to hold has messed up the system.”

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

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** “—well, put a yes for me.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Continue Madam Clerk. Okay, Commissioner Arrington. It passes unanimously.”

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**CLERK GRIER:** “**21-0580**, Request approval of a Resolution requiring the beginning with the fiscal year 2022, the operating budget of revenues and expenditures for Fulton County be submitted to the Board of Commissioner’s prior to approval of the proposed millage rate and requiring the proposed millage rate be based upon the budget requests of the County departments and for other purposes sponsored by Commissioner Arrington.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Commissioner.”

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** “Move approval; my machine is still down.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “All right motion is to approve by Commissioner Arrington. Is there a second? Is there a second? All right. Fails for lack of a second. Continue Madam Clerk.”

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**CLERK GRIER:** “**21-0582**. Request approval of a Resolution to amend the Fulton County Code of Ordinances to make certain provisions therein regarding decorum mandatory and to provide penalties for any violation and for other purposes sponsored by Commissioners Hausmann, Hall, Ellis, and Morris.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “All right. Motion is to approve by Commissioner Hausmann, it is seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Commissioner Hausmann followed by Vice Chair Hall.”

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** “Yes. Thank you. As you know we have discussed this. This will now be the third time. From the comments at the last meeting, a few changes have been made. One being that any Item that should be included in this

potential hearing or any sort of penalty would require a supermajority which would be a similar to how we operate on getting something added to the Agenda. So, it would be five votes. We also clarified the penalties and the structure for that which is a graduated scale, and it also includes a provision that addresses behavior of staff at our meetings. Everything would be only applicable to conduct during a Board of Commission meeting; not outside of the meeting. And with that, I hope that this now will get your favorable consideration.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “All right. Vice Chair Hall followed by Commissioner Arrington.”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “I just want to make sure that we did put in here the supermajority because as of yesterday when I looked at it, it did not have it in there, Madam County Attorney. I think it had said unanimously.”

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** “Yeah, that draft did say that, but it was changed.”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “Okay. I just wanted to make sure that was on page 5. Okay, great, yeah, it’s there.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “—you’re okay—”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “—yep, that’s it. Thank you.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “—all right. Commissioner Arrington.”

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** “I’m not going to support this. Again, I believe it’s too subjective. What may be offensive to one may not be offensive to another. Again, there’s no opportunity for self-correction or for self -- or it doesn’t allow for someone to self-correct or it doesn’t give credit if someone does self-correct. I said that before, but that wasn’t added. So, you know, I believe I’m the target of this one, so y’all can do what you want. The people sent me down here and the people will let me know when it’s time for me to go.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Vice Chair Hall.”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “Can we address that, please because at the last BOC meeting, we had an entire discussion about this. And I know I was one of the main ones that raised that issue. And I thought we actually did address it in here about allowing anyone who may have been identified as breaking this policy the opportunity to rectify the situation. Didn’t we include something in here?”

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** “Well, I can be happy to weigh in on that. That’s what the purpose of the hearing would be, and there would be no action taken unless you

had convinced five people on this board that there was a violation. So, if whatever the incident is can be explained, or apologized, or whatever is acceptable to the group, there would be no penalty. That's the reason for putting in a supermajority; it takes hopefully the politics out of it."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Yeah that doesn't -- again, that doesn't do anything for self-correction. It doesn't address it at all, it just establishes a hearing. It does not give any credit for self-correction. So, hey."

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

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "I think as I said before most legislative bodies that I'm aware of have something like this, and of course they don't use it unless -- unless there's you know a large majority. I think it's appropriate; so, I think the supermajority is a great idea. I think the point of any kind of apology, again, would go to the question of whether the supermajority believes that any kind of punishment is warranted, and the penalties are up to an amount. And so, if I threw myself on the mercy of the colleagues, and to their opinion sincerely regretful about whatever it is that I did, I would think that they would take that into consideration in setting the penalty or even you know finding any penalty at all. So, I think it is appropriate. I think it's a good job Commissioner Hausmann. I'll be supportive of it obviously as a sponsor."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right, back to Commissioner Hausmann."

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** "Yes, my final comment is that it is my sincere hope that we would never have to deal with this. I don't relish having this conversation. I don't relish having this proposal in front of us, but I think you know it is warranted. And we've had a decorum policy on the books for a very long time, but it had no teeth, and I think that's necessary unfortunately and again I hope that we never have to use it."

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

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "I am who I am. I'm not going to change, and what you might have found offensive at past meetings, I get applause for every day in my neighborhood."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. The motion before us is to approve. Let's vote, please."

**CLERK GRIER:** "And the vote is open. And the motion passes; six yeas, 1 nay."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Continue Madam Clerk."

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**CLERK GRIER:** “Bottom of page 11, **21-0618**. Request approval of a Resolution for the development and execution of a feasibility study for the location and construction of a new Fulton County jail sponsored by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman and Commissioner Arrington.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Okay. What's your pleasure here? We have a motion to approve. Now, Mr. Manager, Madam COO, y'all have said you are already doing this, right? So, is it necessary? Do you want an official vote on it or what? There is a motion to approve. You want to comment on it?”

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** “No, Sir. Other than -- yes we are working with the Sheriff now in a preliminary fashion. We would bring back to the board an RFP to secure the professional services to design a feasibility study.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “All right. The motion before us is to approve. Vice Chair Hall followed by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman.”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “Thank you. I'm sorry I'm trying to get to the page. So, my only question is, the Sheriff is an elected official. He's actually a constitutional officer. And if you look at line 30 to 34, it says that the Board of Commissioners hereby directs the County Manager, which that is part of the job, and the appropriate county Staff that's part of the job, to work in concert with the Sheriff's office to execute the best possible feasibility study that meets the aims and goals and full intent of this resolution. And that the County Manager and the Sheriff shall report back with recommendations for action by the Commission within 30 days. I don't want anyone to think that the Board of Commissioner's has authority over the Sheriff's department, so I just want to make sure that that is clear that he is his own elected official and constitutional officer. We can't direct him to report back to us or to do anything.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “All right. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman.”

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** “Thank you, Chair. County Manger, should this pass today, does that tie your hands for anything that you're already doing or your office?”

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** “No, Ma'am.”

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** “Okay. So, this is purely procedure. This is purely policy. I know that may be some of my colleagues feel like this is not needed, but just like we put in legislation that said that we were going to do small business loans that we were going to do mortgages -- we didn't. And so, not to be adversarial 'cause County Manager, it really isn't and Alton, it really isn't. I appreciate the work that you

already have done. But I think given my conversation with Commissioner Arrington, what we went through with the city of Atlanta, with the jail, some of the rhetoric that's out in the community, I think it would be good as a Body that puts in policy that we let our citizens of Fulton County know as a Body that we have authored a resolution only – and Vice Chair Hall if there's something you'd like to take out, I don't have no problem. I think it's imperative that we let those know that regardless of what another government entity may be doing, that Fulton County is taking our over-crowding situation very seriously; that our policymakers here have decided to put policy in place that's being backed up by the County Manager, and the office. And so, this is purely from a policy standpoint that we're on one accord, that we're asking for not going above the constitutional officer or not implementation; we're asking go ahead with the jail feasibility study, we're ready to move on. Because I would be remiss if I didn't say I know our Chairman in good faith tried to do something with the city of Atlanta detention center and it didn't work out. And so, now some of this conversations that I'm hearing is Fulton County didn't want to allow Keisha to do something, or Keisha didn't allow Fulton -- you know it's a lot of rhetoric that's going on. So here once again, as a Body of policymakers, I just think it would be in our best interest at this juncture to have a policy in place that can be reported that as a Body, we are saying we're going on with the feasibility study. And so, it's not about implementation, it's not about me trying to tell someone to do something that they're already doing; it's about us setting ourselves from other entities in making sure that the policy that we put in place as policymakers is getting sent out correctly and on one accord."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Commissioner Arrington followed by Commissioner Morris."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "My comment really is in reference to the appointments that we made and maybe asking the Clerk to follow up with the City of Atlanta and schedule this meeting. The City of Atlanta appointed some people, and we appointed people, and, you know, I knew this was going to happen back in March and April when it came up. And that's why I was mad we didn't go ahead and do it then, but here we are 90, 120 days later; people still been sleeping on the floor. But we need to have a meeting ASAP with the city of Atlanta on this task force that Commissioner Khadijah, Commissioner Hall and I were appointed to. And I believe that the Sheriff was also supposed to be in on that meeting. We need to have that meeting ASAP."

**CLERK GRIER:** "So noted, Commissioner."

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

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Yeah. One question: In the first resolve clause, it says that the County Manager and the Sheriff shall report back with recommendations for

action by the Commission within 30 days. Is your intent to have the feasibility study done in 30 days and reported back? Because I don't think that's possible—"

**ALTON ADAMS, DEPUTY CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, PSS:** "No, Commissioner if I can; we're going to come back and present the actual RFP that we're going to be letting to the marketplace basically and I'll give you a sense of the scope and get your feedback on making sure that it includes the scope we'd like to have in there. And then we're going to send it out. We expected that process would take somewhere in the neighborhood of 2-to-3 months so we wouldn't be making a recommendation on an actual provider of that —of those services until at the end of this year; and then typically a feasibility study particularly one of this size and scope take somewhere between seven to nine months to complete."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "And I was going to say at least six months. But, so, in that phrase — also that clause also says that the County Manager and the appropriate county Staff will work in concert with the Sheriff's office to execute the best possible feasibility study. So again, really, I'm not sure what the right words ought to be, but it probably ought not to be to execute the feasibility study, but--"

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.** "-- recommend --"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "-- yeah, maybe recommend instead of execute and delete -- delete that may be just delete within 30 days so they can report back with recommendations for action—"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "-- okay --"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "-- would that be the friendly amendments --"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "-- I accept it --"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "—okay—"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "—all right—"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "--and then one more -- I'm sorry. Just the lawyer in me, Mr. Arrington. The — that's why we shouldn't be paid as much. But, in the 5th whereas clause, the Board of Commissioners recognizes the need for a new facility. Quite frankly I'm not sure I'm there yet—"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "—me either—"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "-- I may be after the feasibility study, I may be with some more studied, but I'm not sure -- how about 'recognizes the possible need for a new facility', will that be okay--"

**MULTIPLE SPEAKERS:** "—that's fine—"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "—Commissioner Arrington, are you're good with that?"

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

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Okay."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "--I'm not. That's fine. That's accepted—"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** MIC IS OFF

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "-- yeah. Okay. Vice Chair Hall."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you, Commissioner Morris those are some great edits. I just want to make sure that our constituents do know that we did meet with city of Atlanta Council members, the Mayor's office Staff and others, as it relates to the County and the will of this Body to want the jail and as Commissioner Arrington said, we have literally appointed three members of this board to be a part of the city of Atlanta's jail board which we have not been – nothing has been communicated to us about whether or not we're going to meet anytime soon, and we've had letters that were sent to the mayor expressing our concern and need and the emergent need for the AC/DC, and the Sheriff just sent a letter over to all of us that was handed out earlier during this meeting, where he sent a letter to the mayor expressing that on June 2nd this Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to pass a resolution that authorized him to negotiate with the city of Atlanta on behalf of Fulton County to temporarily use the Atlanta City Detention Center. So, we're all doing everything that we can on this Board of Commissioners, to try to utilize the Atlanta City Detention Center. And we're just being met with roadblocks."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Chairman, I do see our Sheriff here, so I wanted to see did you -- if you wanted to come to the podium, and just make a quick brief statement. If you could just weigh-in just for the listening audience because we do want our constituents to know that we do take this very seriously, and we are trying to move forward. So, if you can come up Sheriff, I really would appreciate it."



**PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF:** “First of all, good afternoon; and I certainly thank everybody for weighing in, and – did you cut it on--I apologize. Certainly, thank each one of you Commissioners, for weighing-in on this process. I have repeatedly attempted to have a conversation with the mayor surrounding our desperate need; we’re in the middle of a crisis. I remind everyone - I take everybody back just a step further before we got elected Commissioner. There was even conversations around COVID cells and the needs that are happening this variant – we would have found ourselves on the right side of building additional COVID cells -- I've actually reached out to the Governor, so that we're clear, we are in crisis mode, and we need to figure something out. I did have an opportunity to hear briefly some questioning around the feasibility study -- we don't know what we don't know. It's an opportunity for us to get it right this time. Had we gotten it right several months ago instead of having someone potentially lose their life to COVID; we have had our first death as it relates to COVID; a gentleman being on a ventilator for quite some time and the numbers are arising. And so, had we been on the right-side at that time, we may be able to -- might have been able to prevent some of the things that we're looking at. This is serious. It is absolutely an opportune time for us. If we wait nine months to do a feasibility study that means we're nine months behind the 8-ball. It's an opportunity for us to find out what we need to know. That's where I am. If there are any specific questions, certainly I'm here and welcome any questions.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “All right. Are there questions for the Sheriff? Any questions? No. Thank you, Sheriff.”

**PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF:** “Thank you.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “All right. The motion before us is to approve. I've heard two or three things. First of all, Commissioner Morris addressed – what, if you look at the caption talking about the feasibility study for the location and construction; nowhere in there is need. So, it presupposes need, and I'm like Commissioner Morris and we got a lot of hurdles to cross or jump over before we get to -- to where this resolution seems to be taking us. But nobody addresses the issue of the city Council and the Mayor once again and I've said this before, I've served over there. Morris, you have as well; and I've heard many of the city councilmembers say they want to sell or lease that facility to us. But that's real simple. We're complicating something that's simple. If Atlanta city Council wants to lease some of those beds whatever the number is, all they have to do is pass an ordinance. It'll go to the mayor. The mayor is not inclined to sign it, she can veto it. She vetoes it, it comes back to the Council, the Council simply overrides that veto, and it is done. It only takes 15 of those votes. And I've heard at least 15 of them say that they want to sell or lease that facility to us. So, we just marking time and we're

months away from a new mayor coming in. I certainly respect what the current mayor, her position is and quite frankly agree with some of what she wants to do. But this issue of another committee looking at it to me is just a waste of time. And I'm not sure where we are couple months ago -- a couple weeks ago rather we authorized the Sheriff to lease beds from Cobb County. Commissioner Arrington you say that there are still folk's sleeping in boats over there. I'm not sure what the status of the Cobb unless it's hung up in Legal, I'm not really sure what the status is, but we authorized that. Now I started with my third point which is the need for a new jail. This resolution presupposes need when you talk about the feasibility of the location -- the location means site, construction means building, I want to hear need. So, the motion before us is to approve. Cast your vote, please --"

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "-- was that --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "-- do you have a question --.Commissioner Hausmann?"

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** "Yes. I'd like to hear a little more about what's happening now. I know you just stated that you're working on an RFP. I assume that means you're developing a scope of work and what your plans are at this point, and when would we see something?"

**ALTON ADAMS, DEPUTY CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, PSS:** "The plan is to—"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "-- is that, who's speaking—"

**ALTON ADAMS, DEPUTY CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, PSS:** "--I'm sorry—"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "-- I thought you were speaking; or the Sheriff --"

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** "-- I'm sorry, either one--"

**ALTON ADAMS, DEPUTY CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, PSS:** "-- well, the Sheriff and I are working together on this."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Mr. Sheriff, come on back up, please, sir."

**ALTON ADAMS, DEPUTY CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, PSS:** "-- but that you asked the question about the RFP --"

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** "-- yeah, I'm just curious where we are, when you expect to bring us something back, what your scope is, is that still in your development, are y'all working together; just a little update of where we are right now."

**PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF:** "So, I'll let Alton—"

**ALTON ADAMS, DEPUTY CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, PSS:** “-- so where we are is we have we’ve gathered a number of RFP samples, so to speak, of previous feasibility studies that were done for jails. We’re in the process of putting together a scope that we would use as our starting point for that RFP; that scope though at a high level includes and to the Chairman Pitts’ point -- do we need a jail? What types of services would that jail have beyond just incarceration? What’s the skill of the jail that we would require based on the demographic trends and the criminal justice trends? What are the options for a jail i.e., what’s the pros and cons associated with expanding the current facility, using the Atlanta City Detention Center, using the federal prison that's just getting ready to close down; all of the above or parts of the above. And so, a feasibility study if done right that's why it takes this long. Not only looks at some of the data that's required to answer those questions, we also have the opportunity to have public comment, the interviews with each one of the Commissioners, the Sheriff and his Team are part of developing this overall scope. So the plan is, Commissioner Hausmann, to come back to the Board of Commissioners with a document that says this is the scope of the RFP, and the expected expense, and we’re prepared to go ahead and let it out in the marketplace based on your feedback.”

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** “Thank you. And y’all are working together to develop that?”

**PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF:** “Yes, Ma’am.”

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** “When should we expect to see that?”

**PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF:** “That's part of this whole process, all right.”

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** “Well, I mean, if we’re talking about a resolution, so I’m just curious if you know --”

**ALTON ADAMS, DEPUTY CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, PSS:** “-- well, we can have it done for you within 30 days.”

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** “So that's happening regardless of what happens right now with this particular vote, correct --”

**ALTON ADAMS, DEPUTY CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, PSS:** “-- yeah, I mean, we -  
- this is the third meeting that I thought we get direction to move ahead and work on the RFP and then come back to you and get your feedback and input on the scope of it so that we can then go out and start to get bids.”

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** “So that is what we should expect within a month or so.”

**ALTON ADAMS, DEPUTY CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, PSS:** “That is correct.”

**COMMISSIONER HAUSMANN:** “Okay. Thank you.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Commissioner Abdur-Rahman.”

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** “And the beauty of that my colleague is that we have something on the table today that we can vote on. So, Commissioner Morris your amendments, Commissioner Arrington and I agree those amendments need to be in there. I think this warrants a vote. I think that we are past the point of determining whether there is a need with all due respect Chairman, I’m not trying to be adversarial, but there is a need. And so, I think what we need to do as here again as legislators because there’s been a little muddling, so to speak, like Commissioner Arrington, Vice Chair Hall said, we were appointed to something where is that? You know its one think to put a blue-ribbon task force somewhere, but it’s another thing to actually make movement. And thank you County Manager and Alton, you all for moving on this. But here again we’ve got a motion, we got the friendly amendment, I think it’s time for us to vote.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Commissioner Vice Chair Hall.”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “Okay. So, thank you, Mr. Chair. Alton, Mr. County Manager and team after what you just said Alton, you literally took this Board of Commissioners’ directive and you expanded on it because the detail that you have just provided on what you’re working on as far as a feasibility study and a RFP is tremendously greater than this resolution. And I’m afraid that because this language is very limited – and what you just said, expands what we asked you to do and covers so much more that if we pass this resolution, we’re missing the opportunity of everything that you just said because it’s so much more detailed. We would literally be doing a disservice to the Sheriff because you’re already working in tandem with each other to address his issue. And you’re getting the information you need from him on exactly what he needs and you’re going to bring that before us in an RFP which is going to literally create a purchase toward us moving forward with this effort. And so, I think that -- I want to make sure that we do what is right and good for the Sheriff; and no offense to anyone, you know, I’m just a process-oriented person like I’ve said, and I like to do things based on the facts. And so, with everything that’s been said thus far everything is in motion already. And you’re already working toward an even bigger and better opportunity to address your situation. Now, the other things that we’re dealing with as far as the Board -- the city of Atlanta jail board that three of us has been appointed to and those other matters – those are just things we’ll have to deal with offline. But this jail feasibility study and RFP is well on its way. And much more detailed than we have before us. So.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Commissioner -- I'm sorry you want to speak --"

**ALTON ADAMS, DEPUTY CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, PSS:** "-- yes, Vice chair Hall to your point: When I was giving you is what you typically have in a what I call a comprehensive feasibility study right because it takes into account all the questions that you mentioned and the Chairman mentioned and so on, so, that's how we have been proceeding because that's quite frankly that's what you expect given the size and scale of what we're talking about."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "Well, I'm very happy to see you captured everything we asked for and everything we questioned and you're already moving in that direction. Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Thanks, Mr. Chair. Thanks, Madam Vice Chair, some good comments there. I'm glad you just raised a procedural thing and I just have a procedural question for our County Attorneys. I know in terms of the non-Commissioners items that all this work is prepared and reviewed by your offices before it reaches up here for us to be voted on. Are all of the Commissioners action items that we see -- and the reason I ask this is because I see some have -- they look different in terms of their format and layouts. Have you prepared all of and reviewed all of these particular Commissioners resolutions that come before us or do some of these come forth without your full review?"

**KAYE BURWELL, INTERIM COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Well, our office doesn't draft all of them. They are sent to be put in the proper form, but we don't review substantively those that are prepared by a Commissioner's office because it's a policy document. And so, Commissioners get to decide what they want their policy piece to be. And so, we would never review it in terms of --"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "-- in terms of the -- right, I understand that generally speaking, but in terms of a review -- in terms of does it precisely sort of fit you know, kind of -- is it legislation or whatever that would potentially fall with outside the balance of things that we can do and so forth. I mean if you reviewed all of these or some of these basically just sent to the Clerk and ask to be placed on the Agenda."

**KAYE BURWELL, INTERIM COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Well, I think most things are sent to us to make sure it's in the proper form and it's on the proper that it's got a heading, that it's got you know the numbers on the side, those things. But in terms of again the substance, we don't review the substance."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** “Okay. I’m asked this sort about I brought something you all have reviewed the substance of it and you’ve advised me about, you know, language and our code et cetera; so, anyway. And I think there's a purpose for that procedurally, so that you know we avoid unintended consequences. So anyway, that was my procedural question I think you’ve answered that question about as adequately as you probably can without putting you in any more awkward of a situation. And then you know the other thing I think I think we obviously we had a very good discussion on this at our work session. I think everybody was sort of in line with direction moving forward to our management team and obviously they’re down that path so I am a little bit confused about why we're having this conversation again and trying to put words onto something we’ve already put words around so that's my opinion.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “All right. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman.”

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** “Got a couple of quick questions. I don’t want to belabor the point; because this is policy. If you want to know why we’re putting it in place because it’s policy. And I would also say and add to you that I just asked the County Manager does this go against anything? Is there a problem with it in which – it’s not. We're policymakers. And so, this is the purpose of it because we are legislators. We are policymakers. This was sent to the County Attorney. Sheriff, I’m going to ask you a question, do you support this Resolution?”

**PATRICK LABAT, FC SHERIFF:** “I absolutely do.”

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** “Okay, sir. So, I think we kind of get tied up in the politics of stuff sometimes. This is very from a policy standpoint just to support what the County Manager's office is doing. I don't know why the conversations are going all left, right, up, and down, because here again Commissioner Arrington and I -- our sole goal of this was: One, to support something that was in the process and; two, to let the constituents know ‘hey, we know you’re getting a lot of misinformation, we know that people may be telling you that city of Atlanta is doing something and Fulton County is not, and Fulton County is doing something and Atlanta is not. So that's why it’s good to have policy in place to show that we are supporting our County Manager and what his efforts are to bring the feasibility study. We are supporting our Sheriff who unfortunately has had to go back and forth, and even with Commissioner Morris and what he stated as an attorney what he felt like probably would be good to go in. And so, here again, it’s a big ado about nothing, because this is going to happen. And so, why would you have a problem as a legislator putting policy in that supports what’s going on? Now, I could if I wanted to say that we put policy in place before and did the exact opposite of the policy that we put in place. We've done that since I've been here. And so, a cautionary tale, not saying that I don't have confidence in our County Manager; not saying that I



don't have confidence in Mr. Adams; let's do what we have been elected to do which is to put policy in place. It was moved, it was second, and there was a friendly amendment. Let's vote."

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

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Thank you, Mr. Chair. You know, I would even do a friendly amendment to include all of the stuff that Alton said he's going to be doing and if they're planning, I mean, you know, we need to get it done. It's already being done. This is a way I believe to, you know, help put some structure around it, help put a deadline in. It does do us good to say to be able to say to the public you know that we have undertaken this step, have undertaken this move. So, colleagues I would ask you to support it and you know if we need to make changes, I don't have any problems making any changes to it. And County Manager has indicated it doesn't interfere with him, and you know we can include whatever else we need to include that Alton is doing, not doing, planning on doing, not planning on doing as it may be."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right, Vice Chair Hall."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "Call to question – question's on the floor--"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Second. All right. I'll second. Questions been called. Let's vote on calling the question."

SPEAKER OFF MIC/INAUDIBLE

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

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

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion before is to approve. Cast your vote, please."

**CLERK GRIER:** "And the vote is open. And the motion fails; three yeas, two abstentions."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 12, **21-0670**. Request approval of a Resolution to identify positions to be used for appointment of Fulton County's representatives to the Region Three Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council and for other purposes sponsored by Chairman Pitts."



**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay. Very quickly. I met with the Manager and the County Chief Operating Officer on this matter. And the idea here is to bring some structure to how appointments are made, and who is appointed to this particular advisory Council. And I was convinced that after reading what was proposed and listening to what was proposed, it made complete sense to me and therefore I agreed to sponsor it. And I hope that you will support it. Take up, strike that, Madam Chief Operating Officer, would you explain why this is before us."

**ANNA ROACH, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER:** "Yes, Mr. Chairman. So, the Resolution that is before you represents a course of action with respect to the appointments for the Region Three Council that's supported by the Staff that has a responsibility for monitoring the activities of the Council as well as presenting before the Council. And that includes our director for emergency management as well as our director for 911 services. The Region Three Council has 36 members' total. It comprised of eight counties of which Fulton is one, and Fulton based on population is the only one that has six seats on the council because we are the largest County with the highest amount of population. Clayton has two seats, Cobb and DeKalb have four, Douglas has one, Fulton has six, Gwinnett has five and Newton and Rockdale has one each. There are 12 additional at-large members that are appointed by the DPH Commissioner, and so the subject of your resolution is to establish a protocol by which we would appoint our nominees to the region three Council because there's not one in place now. The fire Chiefs that comprise what we call now the North Fulton Council I believe nominated the Fire Chief they wanted to represent North Fulton which was Commissioner Hausmann's nomination at the last meeting. The South Fulton Fire Chiefs have done the same, and then the remainder of the nominations reflect who we feel would represent the County's interests best on the council."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "You're done?"

**ANNA ROACH, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER:** "Yes. And I can answer any questions the Board has and I believe Matt is here as well and can answer any questions. He sits on the Council."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** I will move approval and – wait a minute, how do I do this—and seconded by Commissioner Morris. Now, Commissioner Vice Chair Hall followed by Commissioner Arrington, followed by Commissioner Morris."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "I just had a question because this is addressing the actual Board appointments to the EMS board, and I know the state, did the state make a change or something to the original bylaws, or –"

**ANNA ROACH, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER:** "--the most recent version of the bylaws was adopted by the Council on May 13th, 2021. That's the version I was reading.

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "—oh, that's the version you were reading? Okay, great, and then, so, this is a state board though, is that correct? It's a state created board?"

**ANNA ROACH, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER:** "-it's a state created board, but it is a Region Three Council comprised of the eight counties that I just —"

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "--and so when I look at this, I'm looking at number 4, it says the Board of Health, District Health Director who is now a state employee and the Board of Health is all under the state now. And so, my question is shouldn't that be someone that the state actually would appoint to this board and Fulton County appoint who they want to? It seems like we're wasting a seat by appointing a state employee to this state board through Fulton County when the state can do that themselves."

**ANNA ROACH, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER:** "So Matt, you can chime in on this as well, but we've talked with the Board of Health and the interest would be to have their emergency management designee represented on the board -- on the council sorry—"

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "—DeKalb has something similar where they've taken their preparedness lead and they placed them to look at the health perspective of the Council especially ESF8 emergency support function eight which is what public health takes on in our jurisdiction. So, DeKalb has a similar model that's what's being presented to you today to have a different look in a different approach of a neutral person or individual that looks at holistically all of the people of Fulton County that's being serviced."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "So, is No. 5 you?"

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "I don't know the numbers on it, Ma'am."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "It says the Director of the Atlanta-Fulton County Emergency Management Agency?"

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "That will be me, yes, Ma'am."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "Okay. So, you are our EMS representative."

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "I'm one of the voices on the Council."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “Right. So, I think that's enough because you represent us. The Board of Health represents the state. I mean, this Board voted to move them under the state. They belong to the state just has the Fulton County name on it. And so, that's my question remains just particularly about that one. I just think you're wasting a seat that the state can put that person in themselves because it belongs to them. And then, wasn't, was Grady ever apart of this board?”

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** “Three of the six seats are actually held by Grady individuals in the past—”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “—you said three?”

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** “—three of the six seats that Fulton County has literally are actually filled by Grady employees. And at times, it was actually a Fulton they didn't have full vote because whatever is being brought up was actually something that would be a conflict of interest if they actually could not weigh-in on that particular item; so, I believe what was presented to you now is something that will allow the people that are there to vote without having a conflict of interest on any issue because no one can actually in that group apply for a zone or be able to go ahead and be awarded a zone or actually have a zone. So, as it stands today there's three major zones in Fulton County; the North is provided ambulance service by American medical response; the central zone is by Grady EMS, and the Southern zone is by Grady EMS. And about two years ago, Grady was awarded the Southern zone. AMR had both the South and the North. AMR decided to no longer take that. It was actually put out for a review process and they had to take a vote. And our voices were did we were not able to excuse me vote in that because Grady was the one that actually had went ahead and put an application to get awarded that zone. So, we in essence lost three votes in that particular process.”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “So this eliminating Grady from the board has eliminated the conflict of them being able to vote?”

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** “I would have to let the Legal Counsel go ahead and speak on that—”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “—oh, County Attorney—”

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** “-- but it appears that you would remove that by not having someone that would have a conflict of interest by voting on a problem with the zone or if it'll say MR decides to no longer function in North Fulton and Grady would like to apply for that or another vendor. It would just take away any problems for the vote how that would go. Also, it allows the people to be able to have

representation. In the past, we've only had one Fire Chief from the North. It wasn't really someone that was put together from all the northern Chiefs and we didn't have someone from Atlanta on it. That was something a couple of years ago, I was able to get Dr. Toomey to allow us to do and Atlanta fire had someone represented, and the southern Chiefs we elected to get someone from their group represented as well. They have some very valid concerns."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "Oh, I agree with all of that. That we should open it up so that we have more representation, but I just don't understand taking three seats down to zero. And unless there's some major issue because they do have an expertise that they can provide and they've been providing services for decades. And so, I'm just trying to understand why it went from three seats to zero and there's not at least one. So, Madam County Attorney can you address what Matt was stating about the conflicts in the voting for Grady being on the board."

**KAYE BURWELL, INTERIM COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Well, to my understanding, it wasn't a legal conflict, it was sort of the idea that there may be a conflict of interest in terms of voting on something that affects you directly."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "Okay. All right. Thank you."

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "It's an awkward situation since AMR doesn't have representation as well."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "Yes. Thank you."

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

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "I'm trying to understand if the three Grady employees did not vote did Grady still approved?"

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "It's like Ms. Roach was saying, it's a very large Council. It's made up of multiple individuals from different jurisdictions. The whole Council votes on a particular matter. So, it just is something that was going on in Gwinnett. Fulton would have six votes to be able to go ahead and determine if something was going on in Gwinnett, DeKalb, so on and so for every zone that this represents. So, it was while you're right there were three votes say that would have to be -- recused themselves because of any want to make sure there's no possibility of conflict of interest if it was something that was near and dear to our hearts and we needed to go ahead and make sure that all of our voices were heard in that particular situation that one particular situation we would not have been able to accomplish that."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** “Yeah, we just had a crazy experience this past weekend. I don’t know if you’re familiar with it now, but I don’t trust any of the fire Chiefs any of the cities to do what’s in the best interest of Fulton County based on what just happened this past weekend because their counsel –”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “—what happened—”

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** “—can direct them to do something different right? The policymakers in those cities could direct them to make a decision that may not be in the best interest of the County. It might be in the best interest of their city. So, I’m not, I’m not you know, I’m not willing to -- I’m not going to be able to support this you know, and may be if y’all want to come back and sit down and talk with us and you know I don’t understand -- I don’t understand why this wasn’t put on as an EMA item. Why was the Chair, why was it given to the Chair to introduce as opposed to being on as a Staff item? If that’s in fact what it was and it’s your recommendation. Something is not right --”

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** “--If I may, it’s not really my recommendation, Sir, I’m just one voice on that council and Ms. Roach asked me to just go ahead and speak to my experiences with it as well. So, that’s what I’m here doing. It’s not something that I am advocating for from the Emergency Management Office. It’s just as one of the Fulton County voices, I’m trying to give you an idea of what happens. It was actually presented to the Chairman’s office from the Region Three EMS Director from the state Department of Public Health and that individual put a direct correspondence to actually the Clerk of Commission with the Chairman’s name on it to be able to go ahead and bring forth for action. Each jurisdiction is a little bit different of how they’re organized, but that’s how they start off the process when it comes to nomination is pushing it through the Clerk’s office to the Chairman’s seat or the Chairpersons’ excuse me. And then from there, it takes its normal practice within that particular government structure of how to go ahead and coe up with these voices. Ms. Roach also said the bylaws have completely changed. There is some current concern in the past it needed to be updated, some things need to be rectified also wanted to make sure there was proper representation for all parties that were interested in being represented, and I think what you’re seeing now is the state’s attempt to go ahead and address those concerns that were brought up by individuals throughout the state of Georgia.”

**ANNA ROACH, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER:** “Yes, and I think I support Matt’s statement about how it became a Commissioner’s item. I think the bottom line is that this is a resolution that is related to board appointments; not necessarily our operating model. Now, the both—”

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** “—but he doesn’t even recommend it. He just stated, he doesn’t even recommend this—”

**ANNA ROACH, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER:** “—so--”

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** “—it’s not my place to recommend this Sir —”

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** “--if you don't recommend it out of your office, then why would I vote for it?”

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** “—I can go ahead and tell you how I personally feel, but right now this is not brought forth by my office Sir. It is actually something that is a policy decision that I've been working with the chief operating officer and the County manager to go ahead and be able to present today and to help you guys by answering any specific questions that you have about the Region Three EMS Council which you’ll have to say is a very interesting organization and not everyone has the true awareness of it and I’m still learning even after 11 years here.”

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** “Y’all might want to hold this one.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Okay. Commissioner Morris.”

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** “Yeah. The Grady issue is an interesting one that they have three positions now. Are there other providers of EMS service that have positions on this 36-member board?”

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** “The only other private service that I'm aware of is Cobb County has two private providers: Puckett and Metro. Metro does have a seat in representation. Puckett does not. I'm not aware of any other private EMS provider besides Grady and Metro that are represented on this council. [Inaudible.] is none.”

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** “Are you aware of any other providers.”

**ANNA ROACH, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER:** “No, that's the only one; and Matt actually sits on the Council, so he would know. I mean the other thing to keep in mind is that the Council frequently reviews the performance data for the providers in region three. And so again it's really presenting the performance data to our provider who’s responsible for the performance. So, it does present some awkward instances. I do think that the Vice Chair makes a good point about the Board of Health. I don't think there's any harm in going back and looking at that one in particular, but I certainly have angst about having Grady represented as our providers -- as our provider for two of the

three zones in Fulton County. So, again it's the Chairman's item. It's his decision whether or not to hold, but I do think that the thought about the Board of Health representative is one we could take some time to think about but certainly again I do see and perceive an issue with Grady having a seat on there; particularly when our other provider does not have a seat on the Council and they review performance data that they're responsible for executing."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Yes, and obviously I've never attended one of their meetings, but I guess I could. But it talks about being a local coordinator entity for emergency response zones and a liaison between the department of public health emergency medical service systems, and so on. It seems on one end to be logical for a big provider like Grady to have some kind of role in that board if that's what they do. I can't imagine other folks having any more expertise than they, but anyway it's interesting. They've got three. This would cut it down to zero unless we made that position for the Grady CEO or his/her designee, which I would not be opposed to."

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

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "So just briefly, one of the people that I appointed in the past, was Michael Charles. MIC IS ON "who works at Grady, but I appointed him because of his non-profit, and the fact that he worked at Grady as an EMT is you know coincidental to his appointment I think Commissioner Ellis also appointed him at one time as well. And if my understanding Grady has been on this board for over 130 years. A hundred and thirty years --"

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "-- I would not be able to go ahead to neither confirm or deny that. It's a little bit longer than I've been on this planet --"

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "I'm going to do a motion to hold so we can get out of here."

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** "Second."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Substitute motion to hold by Commissioner Arrington, seconded by Vice Chair Hall. So, let's dispose of that motion before we hear of any other discussions. So, let's vote on the motion to -- substitute motion to hold and I have no prior authorship in this, I just want to get it right. And so, holding it is not a problem for me. Madam Clerk, 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."



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**CLERK GRIER:** “**21-0671**. Request approval of a Resolution by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners, in observance of Patriot Day, a National Day of Service in remembrance of souls lost in the 2011 911 attacks on America and for other purposes, sponsored by Commissioner Khadijah.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Arrington. Commissioner Vice Chair, you want to be heard.”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “Yes. I just noticed on the Agenda that it doesn't say as to I actually cosponsor because I think this is really good in recognition of the John Robert Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act; it actually passed the house and I just want to -- I did send word to Commissioner Abdur-Rahman through her Chief of Staff that the only thing that I would like is to have some of the language from HR 4 in the resolution because this language is very significant, and we can see that by what happened this morning when we had constituents who came here in opposition of this resolution and they stated negative language, but there is quite a bit of positive language in HR 4—

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “—are you speaking of —“

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “-- oh, my gosh, I'm sorry —“

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** “-- wrong Resolution --”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “-- look, I'm sorry y'all—”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “-- okay, you're on the wrong one, right.”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “-- yes, sir, I'm on the wrong one. I'll come back to it when we get to it.”

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** “She already used up her minutes.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, you want to be heard?”

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** “Yes, I'll make it quick in the reference of time. Yes, Clerk, the Vice Chair should be added to this is a cosponsor as well as Commissioner Liz Hausmann should be added and anyone else that would like to be added.”

**CLERK GRIER:** “So noted.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “All right, let's vote—”

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON:** MIC IS OFF “—I’d like to be added.”

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** “Commissioner Arrington, please add him as a cosponsor as well please.”

**CLECK GRIER:** “So noted.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Motion is to approve. Cast your vote.”

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

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Next item.”

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**CLERK GRIER:** “**21-0672**. Request approval of a Resolution by the Fulton County Board of Commissioners in support of the John Robert Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and stopping voter suppression and for other purposes sponsored by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “All right. Motion is to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Vice Chair Hall. Vice Chair Hall.”

**VICE CHAIR HALL:** “Okay. So now, here we go. It looks like Commissioner Abdur-Rahman’s Staff just passed out some language from the HR 4, but I don’t see exactly -- I actually printed a summary of HR 4, because there is significant language in here, and, you know, this morning there was someone who quoted what they said was language and it was negative, but this -- this is really about specifically what this says to assure that the right of citizens of the United States to vote is not denied or abridged on account of race, color, or membership in a language minority group as a result of the implementation of certain qualifications or prerequisites to voting or standard practices or procedures with respect to voting newly adopted in a state or political subdivision. Also, any change or series of changes within a year to the boundaries of a jurisdiction that reduces by three or more percentage points, the proportion of the jurisdictions voting age populations that is comprised of members of a single racial group or language minority group in a state or political subdivision. Also, any change to the boundaries of election districts in a state or political subdivision where any racial group or language minority group experiences a population increase over the preceding decade as calculated by the Bureau of the Census under the most recent decennial census of at least 20 percent of voting age population of the state or political subdivision. Any change to requirements for documentation or proof of identity to vote, such that the requirements will exceed or more than stringent than the requirements for voting that are described in Section 303 B of the Help America Vote Act of 2002, or any

changes to the requirements for documentation or proof of identity to register to vote that will exceed or be more stringent than such requirements under state law on the date of enactment of the voting rights advancement act of 2019. It also says any change that reduces multilingual voting materials or alters the manner in which such materials are provided or distributed where no similar reduction or alteration occurs in materials provided in English for such election and any changes that reduce, consolidates, or relocates voting locations including early absentee and election day voting locations or reduces days or hours of in-person voting on any Sunday during a period occurring prior to the date of an election during which voters may cast ballots in such election and there is more. And, this gives you the jest of what HR 4 is about. It is really protection of people's rights and that's all. Thank you."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Vice-Chair, you're asking for that to be added as a friendly amendment? I accept it."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. The motion is to approve any other question, discussion or comment? If not cast your vote, please."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "Commissioner's Full Board Appointments, **21-0673**, Board of Registration and Elections. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman has nominated Alicia M. Ivey for a Full Board Appointment to serve as chairperson filling the unexpired term of Alex Wan to a term ending June 30, 2023."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Arrington. Commissioner?"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I just want to speak to something quickly on this. This person, Alicia Ivey, is well respected across South and North Fulton. One of the reasons that I did want to actually put her forth is because right now the climate that we have in the elections department, the dealings with what's been said by the superintendent, I wish that the Chairs earlier person was there; however, that person has the right to run for office, but decided after two months that he would qualify to run for office without letting anybody know. And that is open, that seat is open. In my conversations with individuals, they want to support her, but some of the things that they say to me is, 'she has no formal elections experience'. Now, to put some clarity on that statement, practically no one in the past 20 years in that role has had formal election

experience before joining the election's board. That's because that Chairman's job is a ministerial duty -- this is why we hire a professional election superintendent. I want you to look at the last four chairpersons. Alex Wan had no formal elections experience. He sat on the city of Atlanta --he was a council person, but he worked at a nonprofit educational organization and had been the alumni affairs director at Emory University. Mary Carol Cooney had no formal election's experience. She was a lawyer who worked at City Hall. Leslie Smalls had no formal elections experience. He was a staff member on John Lewis Congressional Staff and was married to Nikema Williams. Rodrick Edmond had no formal election experiences. He's a physician who practices law. Among the most recent and current BRE members, Kathleen Ruth, has no formal election's experience. She's a behavioral scientist who has worked at the CDC working on the global AIDS and HIV prevention program. Mark Wingate has no formal elections experience. Worked at the bank--worked at VISA and also has experience working with EQUIFAX in the credit card servicing area. He has marketing experience. Aaron Johnson has run for office several times and was a lobbyist at the state Capitol. The reason I'm bringing this information to you -- Alicia Ivey is a well-respected woman of color that is well respected in the Democrat and Republican party. I put her forth because we need not only someone that I feel like has not only proven herself in the business community, but she is impartial and her leadership though it may be quiet will show that we don't have to be partisan all the time. We don't have to give political favors all the time. With all due respect this is not adversarial this is not trying to take the wind out of someone else sail, but when will we put individuals at the table that represent all the community and not special interest group. We said all we needed to say about Fulton County being the epicenter of fraud; or we don't know how to do elections and blasé blasé blasé, but when it's time for us to put a reputable member of our community, Alicia Ivey who has supported campaigns across the Board, who has supported so many communities of color and non-color communities then we want to say what experience she don't have? Well, let me know what -- I just let you know the experience the other ones don't have. Let's not make this political. Fulton County, let's do right by one of our good, good citizens that always has put what is right above party. So, I would ask my colleagues to please support her nomination."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Anyone else at this time? Let me just say this that Senate Bill 202 has changed a lot with respect to elections in the state of Georgia. But Fulton County, in particular and there's no doubt that there's an effort underway at the state level to conduct a hostile takeover of Fulton County's Board of Registration and Elections. That's just the fact. Now, while Ms. Ivey, I consider to be a friend, has many, many admirable traits, past experience on the MARTA board, city of South Fulton's development authority, and other organizations that she's such served very well. But this position, at this point in time is different than it ever has been historically. So going

forward, I think that the eyes and ears of not only the state of Georgia, but the United States of America and indeed the world is going to be focused on Georgia and specifically on Fulton County and the person who heads that organization is going to have to be one with considerable experience. I'm simply asking that we be deliberative in our approach, and to choose the best possible person who has been under fire, who has some legal training, who understands public policy, who may or may not be a political person or even an elected official but who can stand the scrutiny that is going to be coming because I can tell you beyond a shadow of doubt that the 2022 election is around the corner and whoever gets this position is going to be representing Fulton County and the voters of Fulton County and we need our best possible person. So, I'm asking you to allow us some time to put a short list of people together that we can bring back to this Body and choose the best possible person for this position. Thank you. The motion before us--"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Chair, can I please have the floor for a moment."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you. With all due respect Chair, a concessionaire, a minority-owned concessionaire who is in a field that is heavily dominated by men and does very well and would make history being our first Chair of color, that's female she is up to the task. She is up to the task. With all due respect, Chairman, this SB 202 was at hand when you nominated Alex Wan and he stayed there 60 days and he didn't give you the respect to even tell you he was running for office and stepped down. He left the seat open. So, if we're really talking about election reform, if we're really talking about making sure that Fulton County is doing what it needs to do, that seat needs to be occupied, it needs to be occupied by someone who has business acumen, but also knows how to work on both sides of the isle. She is a known North and South Fulton. She supports all over whether you're Republican, whether you're Democrat, whether you're white or black, she doesn't care as long as you're right. And so, I think, Sir, with all due respect, you do a disservice because you're painting her as weak. And no woman I know can be a concessionaire and come up under the Ivey's like I have seen them work toe-to-toe to get not only others elected, but you elected when people told them not to. And so, she was strong enough to help get you elected but she's not strong enough to sit on the board in a ministerial role? Let's stop playing politics. She deserve it. Fulton can make history today. Let's vote this impartial citizen of Fulton County, who will say a word to the right, she would do what is right for the County on both ends. Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Well, I’ll only respond to one part of what you just said and that is that Mr. Alex Wan did inform me in writing, I was aware I just chose not to publicize it at the time. Timing is important in politics.”

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** “—well, that means you didn’t tell me the truth Sir. Because when we were standing there, you said he/you didn’t know, because I didn’t know either.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “I understand.”

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** “--so, either you were not honest then, or you’re not honest now. With all due respect, let’s not politicize this. Let’s put this person who has done right by her County, who has stood with Republicans and stood with Democrats and have taken heat even when she supported you and people didn’t want you in office. She supported you. Let’s not make this political. Let’s do right Fulton County.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Motion before us is to approve. Cast your vote, please.”

**CLERK GRIER:** “And the vote is open. And the motion fails; three yeas, one nay.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “Next item.”

**CLERK GRIER:** “I have no further items Mr. Chairman.”

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** “No further items before us, we stand adjourned. Thank you.”

(Whereupon the meeting concluded at 4:18 p.m.)