FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



**REGULAR MEETING** May 04, 2022 10:00 AM

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



# **MINUTES-RATIFIED**

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

# Ratification Date: June 1, 2022.

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Robert L. Pitts ROLL CALL: Tonya R. Grier, Clerk to the Commission	10:02 a.m.	
Robert L. Pitts, Chairman (At-Large) Liz Hausmann, Vice-Chairman (District 1) Bob Ellis, Commissioner (District 2) Lee Morris, Commissioner (District 3) Natalie Hall, Commissioner (District 4) Marvin S. Arrington, Jr., Commissioner (District 5) Khadijah Abdur-Rahman, Commissioner (District 6)	PRESENT PRESENT PRESENT PRESENT PRESENT PRESENT 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

#### <u>22-0303</u> 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 AS AMENDED)

A motion was made by Commissioner Morris and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to adopt the Consent Agenda as amended by removing items #22-0305 through #22-0308 for separate discussion as requested by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman . The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Nay: Hausmann

#### **<u>22-0304</u>** Board of Commissioners

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

Proclamation recognizing "Dr. Thomas W. Cole, Jr. Remembrance Day." (Arrington) April 25, 2022

Proclamation recognizing "Darrell D. Anderson Appreciation Day." (Pitts) April 26, 2022

Proclamation recognizing "Archie Eversole Remembrance Day." (Abdur-Rahman) April 30, 2022

Proclamation recognizing "Bishop Dr. William Harris Remembrance Day." (Arrington) April 30, 2022

Proclamation recognizing "Eagle Scout Ethan Cheang Loy Appreciation Day." (Hausmann) April 30, 2022

Proclamation recognizing "Eagle Scout Evan Yicheng Le Appreciation Day." (Hausmann) April 30, 2022

Proclamation recognizing "Eagle Scout Raul Sankhe Appreciation Day." (Hausmann) April 30, 2022

Proclamation recognizing "National Therapy Animal Appreciation Day." (Pitts) April 30, 2022

# **Open & Responsible Government**

#### **<u>22-0305</u>** Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a Water Vault Easement Dedication of 345 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from Worthing Northwinds, LLC, for the purpose of constructing the Northwinds Summit Project at 0 Haynes Bridge Road, Alpharetta, Georgia 30009. **(APPROVED)** 

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

Yea:	Pitts, Ellis, Morris, and Hall
Absent:	Hausmann
Abstain:	Abdur-Rahman
Did Not Vote:	Arrington

# Health and Human Services

# **<u>22-0306</u>** Department for HIV Elimination

The Department for HIV Elimination requests approval of Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program HIV Emergency Relief Project Grants pursuant to Health Resources and Services Administration grant H89HA00007 to be provided in Fiscal Year 2022 for a total of \$23,427,174.00 in Part A funds and \$2,598,570.00 in Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) for a total of \$26,025,744.00 subject to Federal funding; in Fiscal Year 2023 Funds for a total of \$25,852,174.00 in Part A funds and \$2,723,570.00 in MAI funds for a total of \$28,575,744.00 subject to Federal funding; and, in FY2024 for a total of \$26,652,174.00 in Part a funding and \$2,773,570.00 in MAI funding for a total of \$29,425,744.00 subject to Federal funding. Contracts are 100% grant funded with no Fulton County match. Request authorization for the Chairman to execute contracts with selected subrecipients. To protect the interest of the County, the County Attorney is authorized to approve the contracts as to form and substance and make any necessary modifications thereto prior to execution by the Chair. **(APPROVED)** 

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

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

Absent: Hausmann

Did Not Vote: Arrington

#### Infrastructure and Economic Development

#### **<u>22-0307</u>** Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of an Indemnification, Maintenance, and Land Use Agreement for Private Improvement (Indemnification Agreement) between Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia and Worthing Northwinds, LLC for the purpose of granting conditional approval to allow storm drainage within the County's existing water vault easement at 0 Haynes Bridge Road, Alpharetta, Georgia 30009. **(APPROVED)** 

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

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

Did Not Vote: Arrington

# **<u>22-0308</u>** Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a Water Vault Easement Dedication of 174 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from Ivy Real Estate Holdings, LLC, for the purpose of constructing the Ivy Kids Early Learning Center at 9970 Medlock Bridge Road, Johns Creek, Georgia 30097. (APPROVED)

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

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

Absent: Hausmann

Did Not Vote: Arrington

#### 22-0309 Select Fulton

Request approval for use of Westside Tax Allocation District (TAD) Funds - 201 Joseph E. Lowery Blvd, SAC Welch Holdings, LLC redevelopment services in the amount of \$660,000.00 for commercial redevelopment. Effective upon BOC approval. (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

# **REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**

#### <u>22-0310</u> Board of Commissioners

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Morris and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to adopt the Regular Meeting Agenda as amended by revising items #22-0312 as requested by Commissioner Hall, #22-0325, #22-0327, #22-0329 as requested by the County Manager; moving up items #22-0325 as requested by Commissioner Hall, #22-0326 as requested by Chairman Pitts, #22-0328 as requested by Commissioner Arrington; and hearing all action items before the COVID Update (item #22-0315) as requested by Commissioner Ellis. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

#### 22-0311 Clerk to the Commission

Ratification of Minutes. (RATIFIED)

Regular Meeting Minutes, April 13, 2022 Regular Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, April 20, 2022

A motion was made by Commissioner Ellis and seconded by Commissioner Arrington, to ratify the meeting minutes. The motion passed by the following vote:

#### **<u>22-0312</u>** Board of Commissioners

Presentation of Proclamations and Certificates. (PRESENTED)

Proclamation recognizing "Mayor Khalid Kamau Appreciation Day." (Abdur-Rahman)

Proclamation recognizing "Small Business Week." (Pitts/Hausmann/Hall/Arrington)

Proclamation recognizing "Drinking Water Week." (Hausmann/BOC)

\*Proclamation recognizing "Inman Park Neighborhood Association Appreciation-Day." (Hall)

Proclamation recognizing "Mental Health Month." (Hall)

\*Proclamation recognizing "Morris Brown College Appreciation Day." (Hall)

Proclamation recognizing "Older Americans Month." (Hall)

\*Proclamation recognizing "Slush Restaurant Appreciation Day." (Hall)

Proclamation recognizing "Brother Stone Ramsey Appreciation Day." (Abdur-Rahman)

\*removed during the meeting

#### PUBLIC HEARINGS

#### **22-0313** 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)

7 Speakers: Solicitor Keith E. Gammage (Thank You for Salary Increases); Mayor Jim Gilvin (Item #22-0314); Sandra Burchardt (Elections); Ruth Walker (Fair Housing); Jewel Johnson (Retention Ponds); Connie Robinson (Retention Ponds) and L.A. Pink Ramsey (Item #22-0331)

4 Zoom Speakers: Matt Rowenczak (Elections); Ben Howard (Senior Services); Lisa Brown (Retention Ponds) and Myrtle Bolden (Retention Ponds)

3 Emailed Comments: Yvonne Barber (Senior Home Repair); James R. Beatty (Item #22-0208) and Rodney James Littles (Item #22-0208)

#### PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD

#### 22-0314 Board of Commissioners

Presentation: Alpharetta Jail Renovation - Authorize the County Attorney to develop an Intergovernmental Agreement with Alpharetta and approve funding in the amount of \$517,000.00. (Hausmann) (PRESENTED/APPROVED)

a. A motion was made by Vice-Chairman Hausmann and seconded by Commissioner Ellis, to approve. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Nay: Pitts

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

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

Nay: Pitts

# COUNTY MANAGER'S ITEMS

#### **Open & Responsible Government**

#### 22-0315 County Manager

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

#### **<u>22-0316</u>** 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 Commissioner Morris, to approve ratification. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

#### 22-0317 Finance

Presentation, review and approval of May 4, 2022 Budget Soundings (APPROVED)

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

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

#### **22-0318** Registration & Elections

Request approval of a statewide contract - Department of Registration and Elections, #47800-SOS0000037, Master Solution Purchase and Services Agreement in the amount of \$99,500.00 with KNOWiNK, LLC (St. Louis, MO) to provide poll pad technicians for the May 2022 General Primary and June 2022 Runoff Elections. Effective upon BOC approval. (APPROVED)

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

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

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

#### **22-0319** Registration & Elections

Request approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement to conduct Special Elections for the cities of Atlanta, East Point, College Park, and Hapeville on May 24, 2022. **(APPROVED)** 

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

#### 22-0320 Finance

Request approval of a recommended proposal - Finance Department, 21RFP10251C-MH, Life and Disability Broker Services in the amount of \$95,000.00 with Benalytics Consulting Group, LLC (Marietta, GA) to provide life and disability broker services effective upon BOC approval through December 31, 2022 with two renewal options. (APPROVED)

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

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

Absent: Hausmann

Did Not Vote: Arrington

#### **<u>22-0321</u>** Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval to amend the existing contract - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, 17RFP107111K-EC, Project Management Team Services in an amount not to exceed \$584,310.00 with The Joint Venture of Heery International, Inc. and McAfee3 Architects (Heery/McAfee3 - a joint venture) to provide project management services during the design and construction phases of the new Animal Services Facility. Effective upon issuance of the Notice to Proceed. (APPROVED)

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

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

Absent: Hausmann

# Health and Human Services

#### 22-0322 Senior Services

Request approval of an amendment to a Memorandum of Understanding -Department of Senior Services between Fulton County and Quality Living Services, Inc., for the provision of financial support in the amount of \$100,000.00 to support senior services provided within the County owned facility located at 4001 Danforth Street, Atlanta, GA by Quality Living Services, Inc., as the Lessee of the building. Effective Upon approval. (APPROVED)

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

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

Absent: Hausmann

Board of Commissioners	Minutes	May 4, 20	22

#### **<u>22-0323</u>** Behavioral Health and Development Disabilities

Request approval of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Fulton County, on behalf of the Fulton County Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities (BHDD) and the Atlanta/Fulton County Policing Alternatives and Diversion Initiative, Inc. (PAD), to resume financial support for delivery of pre-arrest diversion services in the amount of \$400,000.00 for the period January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022. The County Attorney is authorized to approve the MOU as to form and to make modifications thereto prior to execution. (APPROVED)

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

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

Absent: Hausmann

# 22-0324 Public Works

Request approval of a Contract Item Agreement (CIA) between Fulton County, Georgia and the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) for the Widening, Milling and Resurfacing Project (PI-0016443) of Birmingham Hwy (SR372) at Birmingham Road and Hickory Flat Road Improvements in North Fulton. The project involves an adjustment of existing water valves, installing/relocating fire hydrants and the installation of insertion valves with appurtenances within Fulton County, at an estimated cost to the County of \$57,500.00. (APPROVED)

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

- Yea: Pitts, Ellis, Morris, and Hall
- Absent: Hausmann

Abstain: Abdur-Rahman

Did Not Vote: Arrington

# Justice and Safety

# 22-0325 Sheriff

Request approval for continued funding of an Intergovernmental agreement between the Cobb County Sheriff's Office represented by Sheriff Craig Owens in his Official Capacity and the Fulton County Sheriff's Office represented by Sheriff Patrick Labat in his Official Capacity for the housing of up to five hundred (500) Fulton County inmates at the Cobb County Jail located at 1825 County Services Parkway Marietta, Georgia. Inmates will continued to be housed at a rate of \$80.00 per inmate in an amount not to exceed \$7,360,000.00 to be paid to the Cobb County Sheriff's Office. The term of the agreement shall be for six months beginning on March 7, 2022. This request does not include any new funding, but isfor the continued use of funding already allocated and will include any other agencythe Sheriff will enter into agreement with to alleviate overcrowding at the Fulton County Jail. (APPROVED AS AMENDED)

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

# COMMISSIONERS' ACTION ITEMS

# 22-0208 Board of Commissioners DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF FULTON COUNTY (HELD ON 4/13/22) (MOTION TO APPROVE FAILED ON 4/20/22) ) (MOTION TO APPROVE FAILED)

Term = 4 Years

<u>Term below expires</u>: 5/31/2025 Jo Anna Potts **(Abdur-Rahman) (Resigned)** 

#### Commissioner Abdur-Rahman nominated Rodney Littles to replace Jo Anna Potts for a District appointment to an unexpired term ending May 31, 2025.

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

Yea:	Pitts, and Abdur-Rahman
Nay:	Ellis
Absent:	Hausmann
Abstain:	Hall
Did Not Vote:	Morris, and Arrington

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

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

# **22-0326** Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution approving a lease agreement between Fulton County, Georgia and the City of South Fulton, Georgia for use of the Wolf Creek Amphitheater; authorizing the Chairman or County Manager to execute a lease and related documents; authorizing the County Attorney to approve the lease and related documents as to form prior to execution; and for other purposes. (Pitts) (APPROVED)

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

#### <u>22-0327</u> Board of Commissioners

Request approval of an Ordinance to amend Chapter 101 (General Provisions and County Governing Authority), Article II (County Governing Authority), Division 1 (Generally) of the Fulton County Code of Ordinances Relating to Budgetary Controls for Members of the Board of Commissioners to create a new Fulton County Code Subsection 101-38(f) on uses of Commissioners' Budgets; and for other purposes. **(Ellis) (APPROVED)** 

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

Yea: Pitts, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Arrington

Absent: Hausmann

Abstain: Abdur-Rahman

#### 22-0328 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution creating and establishing The Fulton County Summer Teen Job Training Program for the purpose of providing Fulton County teens with professional skills and hands-on work experience and for other purposes. (Arrington) (APPROVED)

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

#### <u>22-0329</u> Board of Commissioners

Request approval of an Ordinance to amend Chapter 101 (General Provisions and County Governing Authority) Article II (County Governing Authority), Division 2 (Rules of Order and Procedure), Section 101 68 (Decorum) of the Fulton County Code of Ordinances to make defamation of other Commissioners expressly prohibited and to provide penalties for any violation; and for other purposes. (Arrington) (APPROVED)

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

Yea: Elli	s, Morris, Hall, and Arrington
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Absent: Pitts, and Hausmann

Abstain: Abdur-Rahman

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

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

#### 22-0330 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution to amend the Procedural Rules of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners to authorize the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners to remove items from the Agenda that have been determined by the Board to be reserved for Executive Session; and for other purposes. (Arrington) (APPROVED)

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

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

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

Yea:	Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Arringt	on
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- Absent: Pitts, and Hausmann
- Abstain: Abdur-Rahman

#### <u>22-0331</u> Board of Commissioners

Request approval of an Ordinance to amend Chapter 101 (General Provisions and County Governing Authority), Article II (County Governing Authority), Division 2 (Rules of Order and Procedure) of the Fulton County Code of Ordinances to modify Code Section 101-66(b)(3) to prioritize Public Comments to Fulton County Residents; and for other purposes. **(Arrington) (HELD)** 

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

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

Absent: Pitts, and Hausmann

Did Not Vote: Arrington

# **Commissioners' Full Board Appointments**

# **22-0332** Board of Commissioners HOSPITAL AUTHORITY OF FULTON COUNTY (NORTHSIDE) (APPROVED)

Term = 4 Years

<u>Terms below expired 4/1/2022</u> Barbara Pare' (**BOC 7**) Dr. K. Douglas Smith (**BOC 8**) Dr. Stephen J. Wells. (**BOC 9**)

The Board of Trustees of the Hospital Authority of Fulton County (Northside) re-elected Barbara Pare' (Position #7), elected Steven G. Moss, M.D. (Position #8) and re-elected Stephen J. Wells, M.D. (Position #9) for terms ending April 1, 2026, in accordance with a slate of names submitted by the Board of Commissioners at its April 13, 2022, Regular Meeting.

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

Yea: Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Arrington

Absent: Pitts, and Hausmann

Did Not Vote: Abdur-Rahman

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### <u>22-0333</u> Board of Commissioners

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

PRESENT IN THE EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING LITIGATION, REAL ESTATE AND PERSONNEL: Chairman Pitts, Commissioners: Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington and Abdur-Rahman; County Manager Dick Anderson; County Attorney Y. Soo Jo; Interim Registration and Elections Director Nadine Williams; and Clerk to the Commission Tonya R. Grier. Vice-Chairman Hausmann was absent.

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

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

Absent: Hausmann

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Morris and seconded by Chairman Pitts, to approve the requests for representation in items #1, #2, #3, #4, #5, #6, and #7 as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

Yea:	Pitts, Ellis, Morris, Hall, and Abdur-Rahman
Absent:	Hausmann
Did Not Vote:	Arrington

c. A motion was made by Commissioner Morris and seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, to approve the settlement in the case of Georgia Advocacy Office vs Patrick Labat in the amount of \$1.2 million in item #8 as discussed in Executive Session. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Absent: Hausmann

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

# ADDED TO THE MEETING

# Items added to the Agenda

# 22-0336 Purchasing and Contract Compliance

Request approval to extend Emergency Purchasing Authority of the Chairman and County Manager for Covid-19 related purchases, and for other purposes. **(APPROVED)** 

a. A motion was made by Commissioner Morris and seconded by Commissioner Ellis, to approve adding item #22-0336 to the Regular Meeting Agenda. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Ellis and seconded by Commissioner Hall, to approve item #22-0336. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Absent: Hausmann

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

# FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S REGULAR MEETING

May 4, 2022

10:00 A.M.

Alexander Solutions, LLC

(Whereupon the meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m.)

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Good morning, everyone and welcome to the Regular Meeting of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners. Today is May 4th; it is 10:02 a.m. Madam Clerk, please call the roll for purposes of a quorum."

CLERK GRIER: "Chairman Robb Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Vice Chairman Liz Hausmann."

VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Bob Ellis."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Lee Morris."

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Natalie Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Marvin Arrington, Jr."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Khadijah Abdur-Rahman."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Present."

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

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

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam Clerk."

**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 2, Consent Agenda, **22-0303**. Adoption of the Consent Agenda. All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine by the County Commission and will be enacted in 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. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we have items requested to be removed for separate consideration by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. On page 3, 22-0305: Request approval of a Water Vault Easement for the purpose of constructing the Northwinds Summit Project. 22-0306, Department of HIV Elimination: Request approval of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program HIV Emergency Relief Project Grants. 22-0307: Request approval of an Indemnification, Maintenance, and Land Use Agreement for the purpose of granting conditional approval to allow storm drainage. And 22-0308, Real Estate and Asset Management: Request approval of a Water Vault Easement Dedication for the purpose of constructing the Ivy Kids Early Learning Center."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Any other items?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "No further items."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Commissioner's any other items? Why is this? Sure. All right. Vice Chair Hausmann."

VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN: "Yes. I'm kind of unsure as to why these routine water related -- water rate funded construction projects would be pulled for separate consideration. And I don't agree that that's necessary. Those are, you know, separate - from a separate fund; they're tied to T-Splost projects. I just see no reason to have a separate conversation on each one of those items."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Well, a Commissioner has the right to remove an item for separate discussion if he or she chooses. Madam---"

VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN: "I don't know what our policies are, but, again these are routine."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I understand that they're routine, but again -- "

VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN: "--not in her district at all."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Madam Vice-Chair, I understand, but a Commissioner has a right to remove items--"

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "--well, I would just say then in the future if there's a question about an item that's routine, that is not in a certain district, that perhaps a question or two from the Commissioner's in that are in that district would be helpful in order to facilitate a more condensed meeting."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. So noted for the record. Madam Hall -- Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I just wanted to ask that we move item 325 to be heard with item 314 on page 5 because they're both about, you know, the jails."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Repeat those Madam --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Is it on there? I didn't see it on the --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- it's on the Regular Agenda."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "It's on the Regular Agenda."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Oh, sorry about that, yes, I asked for it -- you got it? Thank you, thank you, thank you."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Chairman. I have a couple of questions whether it's support or nonsupport it's not relevant at this time; but as a sitting Commissioner, I agree with you. I do have the right to remove those items for separate consideration, so I would appreciate when it comes to me that the rules are still followed. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Hausmann."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Yes, I just want to note that the Sheriff is attending an event this morning. He says, he'll be here by 11 o'clock. And I know that one of the first items is the very next thing after public comment. But should the Sheriff not be here by that point, I would just ask that we go through the Agenda until he arrives."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We can accommodate that."

VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Any other items on the Consent Agenda?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. We will -- motion to approve the Consent Agenda as amended -- motion to approve by Commissioner Morris, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Please vote."

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

**CLERK GRIER:** "Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, I received an Add-On item this morning for the Board's consideration to add. It's a Resolution to extend emergency purchasing authority of the Chairman and County Manager for COVID related purchases and for other purposes."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What's the emergency?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Mr. Chairman, the authority actually ends today. This item was missed during the Agenda preparation."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. I'll entertain a motion to add that. We need five affirmative votes. Please vote. Motion to approve to add by Commissioner Morris, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Please vote."

**CLERK GRIER:** "And the vote is open. And the motion is approved seven -- unanimously."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Continue."

**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 4, Regular Meeting Agenda, Adoption of the Regular Meeting, **22-0310**. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we have amendments to today's Regular Meeting Agenda. Items to be revised, Commissioner Hall has requested to remove three Proclamations from today's Regular Meeting Agenda. Proclamations recognizing Inman Park Neighborhood Association, Morris Brown College, and Slush Restaurant. On page 7, 22-0325, the Sheriff. The requested action was amended to request approval for funding of an IGA with Cobb County Sheriff's office for the housing of up to 500 Fulton County inmates at Cobb County Jail."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What's -- that's to be amended?"

**CLERK GRIER:** "To be amended, yes. The requested item -- requested action was amended."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right."

**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 7, 22-0327: This item is just a clerical error to correct a typo on page 4, as well as on page 8, 22-0329, those were clerical errors."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

**CLERK GRIER:** "And we're moving up items as requested by Commissioner Hall, 22-0325, to be heard with the Alpharetta Jail item, 22-0314, to be heard after that item. And we're also moving up item on page 7, 22-0326 -- move that item up to also be heard after item 0325. Request approval of a Resolution approving a lease agreement between Fulton County and City of South Fulton for the use of Wolf Creek sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Anything else?"

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Yeah, Mr. Chair. I'd like to request that the COVID update be heard after all the Action Items have been heard; and that the items that were moved from the Consent Agenda, which are Action Items be heard before the Commissioner's Action Items."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. No objections. All right. Commissioner Arrington."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Excuse me, sir. Are you able to follow all of this, Madam Clerk?

CLERK GRIER: (Answer not on microphone.)

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes, okay. Thank you"

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "I would like to move up item 0328 to be heard after the Sheriff's items. That's on page 8 -- the top of page 8."

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

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. I will entertain a motion to approve the Agenda as amended. The motion is to approve by Commissioner Morris, and seconded by Commissioner Hall. Please vote."

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

CLERK GRIER: "22-0311 --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "-- just one moment. Now, I'm going to ask us that when we get to the Regular Agenda, that we be as concise as possible and try to limit our conversation because at least two, probably three of us will have to leave to catch flights to the Link trip. So let's be mindful so that we won't lose a quorum. Let's take care all of the Action Items before we -- there's a possibility of losing a quorum. Continue Madam Clerk."

**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0311, Ratification of Minutes. Regular Meeting Minutes, April 13th. Recess Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, April 20th, 2022."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Arrington. Please vote."

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

**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0312, Presentations of Proclamations and Certificates. The first Proclamation is recognizing 'Mayor Khalid Kamau Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "One, two, three, four, five -- we have six. All right. It's 10:14. We have 30 minutes."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Good morning. **WHEREAS**, Mayor Khalid Kamau was elected the second Mayor of the City of South Fulton Georgia where a population that is more or right at 92 percent African-American. And, **WHEREAS** Mayor Kamau is a native Atlantean and grew up on Old National Highway with his mother, Elsie, who managed Grady's Bankhead clinic; and his father, Steve, who was an Accountant for the City of Atlanta. And **WHEREAS**, Mayor Khalid first became involved in city government through Atlanta Mayor Maynard Jackson's Neighborhood Planning Unit system; and in 2005, he organized renters in Atlanta's rapidly gentrifying Mechanicsville neighborhood. And **WHEREAS**, Mayor Khalid was elected to the South Fulton City Council, District Six in 2017, and during this tenure he fought to increase funding for the City's Parks and Cultural Affairs Department, authored legislation to create a one million-dollar pedestrian safety fund to install speed bumps in workingclass neighborhoods and authorized legislation to create a paid election day holiday making the City of South Fulton the first city in the South, and one of the first in the nation to do so as well as several other Resolutions and legislations. And as of yesterday I found out that he was able to do the online challenge of a dance that -- I don't know many people could do successfully and he successfully did it with the students of Tri-City High as well. And so, I wanted to add that there as well; so, **NOW**, **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Mayor Khalid Kamau for his tireless work to improve the lives of Fulton County citizens and celebrates the occasion of his inauguration as the second Mayor of the City of South Fulton and **DOES HEREBY PROCLAIM** Wednesday, May 4th, 2022, as Mayor Khalid Kamau Appreciation Day in Fulton County, Georgia."

**KHALID KAMAU, MAYOR, CITY OF SOUTH FULTON**: "I won't take too long. There's a story during Abraham Lincoln's short time in office. There was a General that came and they were talking about the -- the war -- the Civil War; and the General said, would you pray with me that God is on our side. And Abraham Lincoln replied, I never worry about that -- I worry if we are on God's side. And I still believe the things that I was taught in Sunday school. I still want to be a servant and do for the least of these as I was raised to -- as I was raised to do so. That is all I try to do here in Atlanta's new Twin City South Fulton, Georgia. So, thank you all so much for recognizing that. South Fulton forever."

**CLERK GRIER:** "The next proclamation is recognizing 'Small Business Week' sponsored by Chairman Pitts, Vice-Chair Hausmann, and Commissioner Arrington."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "I know we have a lot of people here to help us celebrate Small Business Week, so y'all come on down. Madam Clerk, will you add Commissioner Hall to this proclamation, please."

# CLERK GRIER: "Yes. So noted."

VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN: "All right. Well, while they're gathering, I just want to say that we know that small businesses are the backbone of our county, our state, and our country. Y'all make everything happen and I certainly appreciate y'all coming down. Happy to recognize you and all the good work that you do for our community. And it's my honor to read this proclamation into the record: WHEREAS, the United States Small Business Administration created National Small Business Week in order to celebrate the resiliency and tenacity of America's entrepreneurs who are doing their part to power our nation's historic economic comeback. And WHEREAS, Fulton County is

committed to fostering a business-friendly climate that will attract entrepreneurs, enable the County to remain competitive and generate jobs and opportunities for our citizens. And **WHEREAS**, Select Fulton, is the economic development arm for Fulton County, and provides a comprehensive suite of services for residents and small businesses. And WHEREAS, Select Fulton, worked with access to capital for entrepreneurs, a local community development financial institution to respond to small business needs by deploying \$6.9 million in loans resulting in an additional 14.9 million in loans to support 370 small businesses throughout Fulton County. And WHEREAS, Select Fulton in partnership with the South Fulton Chamber of Commerce was one of 52 communities nationally to receive a one-million-dollar small business administration community navigator pilot program grant to provide technical assistance, and counseling to our most disadvantaged small businesses. Also, the first SBA grant the County has ever received. WHEREAS, Select Fulton provides free tools and resources for small businesses on its website like Size-Up, a small business intelligence portal; Zoom Prospector, a site selection platform; and our empowering entrepreneurs webinar series with free online business coaching sessions. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County encourages all citizens to recognize the contributions of our entrepreneurs and small businesses, and to celebrate the impact of Fulton County and its partners have had in supporting our small business community; and **DOES HEREBY PROCLAIM** May 2 - 5, 2022, as 'Small Business Week' in Fulton County, Georgia. Congratulations."

**SAMIR ABDULLAHI, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, SELECT FULTON:** "I'll be brief in my remarks. I'm Samir Abdullahi, Deputy Director for Select Fulton. Today is definitely a celebration for small businesses; but I want to thank the many partners that are on the stage here with us today. It's not just Fulton County working in a silo, but leveraging our outside partners. I'm going to do like the Oscars and just maybe name names. Marty Turpeau at the Development Authority, Tracy at the Department of Community Affairs; we got Fred in Workforce Development, Aisha at Creating Mischief; we've got our Small Business Administration Partners here even though the Secretary's in the city of Sandy Springs, Mekka [Inaudible.], who else, city of Roswell, [Inaudible.] over there in East Point. Again, the Development Authority of North Fulton and South Fulton Chamber of Commerce. A lot of communities and partners come together to make this stuff work. So, thank you for coming today, and thank you for celebrating our efforts. Thank you."

**CLERK GRIER:** "The next proclamation is recognizing 'Drinking Water Week' sponsored by Vice-Chair Hausmann."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Do we have our water professionals to come down; the ones that make our community -- Madam Clerk, would you please add

Commissioner Hall to this one as well. In fact, this one should be a Full-Board, I would think."

CLERK GRIER: "Yes, so noted, Full-Board."

VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN: "Thank you. Thank you. All right. This is another really important area that Fulton County excels in is providing great, clean, drinking water to our residents. And so we're really pleased to have all y'all come down today and be able to celebrate your continued great work you do for our community. Come on down now. All right. All right. I'm going to get started. WHEREAS, water is one of our most valuable natural resources and only tap water delivers public health protection, fire protection, and support for our economy and the quality of life that we enjoy. And **WHEREAS**, Drinking Water Week is a weeklong celebration where in the American Water Works Association (AWWA), and Fulton County Department of Public Works joined together to recognize the vital role water plays in our daily lives. And **WHEREAS**, any measure of success, of a successful society low mortality rates, economic growth, and diversity, productivity, and Public Safety are in some way related to the access of safe water. And **WHEREAS** this year's theme, 'There When You Need It', calls upon each citizen of Fulton County to help protect our source waters from pollution, to practice water conservation, and to get involved in local water issues by getting to know their water. And **WHEREAS**, the Fulton County Department of Public Works provide safe drinking water to over 75,000 retail and wholesale customers in North Fulton and maintains over 1200 miles of pipes, ranging from 12 to 54-inch in diameter, 12 water storage tanks totaling 17 million gallons, five operational pump stations, 75,000 water meters, and 21,000 fire hydrants, and over 20,500 valves and apprentices, and to commemorate this occasion, Fulton County will celebrate Drinking Water Week through school events, tours, community presentations, where the focus is placed on ways in which our customers can get to know and value their water supply during this very special week. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County recognizes and commends the Department of Public Works for their continued dedication and public service and **DOES HEREBY PROCLAIM** the week of May 1 - 7, 2022, as 'Drinking Water Week' in Fulton County, Georgia. Congratulations."

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "Thank you, Commissioner. I'm David Clark, I'm the Director of Public Works. It's my honor to be able to lead such a great organization that's mostly represented here on both my right and left. As the Commissioner said, this weeks or this week's theme is 'There When You Need It', and that's something we pride ourselves into as an organization. If we're doing our job right, you're not thinking about what we're doing, the water just gets turned on when you're at

the faucet, or when you're at the shower or where ever you're at. Unfortunately, with these guys and gals, we be able to meet that need every single day. As the Commissioner said, we provide about 30 million gallons of drinking water a day through our Tom Lowe plants which is a partnership with the city of Atlanta that is run on a daily basis by Kathy Cruse, and the violia copper Team, and with their help and assistance, we can do our job. So, with that, I'd like to just thank everybody and remember to conserve water, but to celebrate the fact that we have water. Thank you."

**CLERK GRIER:** "The next proclamation is recognizing 'Mental Health Month' sponsored by Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "All right. Could everyone come down for the 'Mental Health Month' proclamation. Hello. Hello. Hello. Hello. Good to see you. Come on over here. All right. Good to see you all. We got a signal for some people on this side to move over to this side. And, sir, I am waiting for you. Good to see you. All right. All right. WHEREAS, mental health conditions are real and prevalent in our communities and throughout our nation. And many people face challenges in life that can impact their mental health especially during a pandemic. And WHEREAS, mental health is essential to overall health and well-being, and prevention is an effective way to reduce the burden of mental health conditions. And WHEREAS, one in five people will experience a mental illness during their lifetime and there are practical tools that all people can use to improve their mental health and increase resiliency. And WHEREAS this year's theme 'Back to Basics' provides a foundational knowledge about mental health conditions and information about what people can do if their mental health is a cause for concern. And WHEREAS, recovery is a unique and personal journey that requires trial and error to determine that works best for each individual. And each business, school, government agency, healthcare provider, organization, and citizen shares the burden of mental health problems and has a responsibility to promote mental wellness and prevention efforts. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners calls upon the citizens, governmental entities public and private institutions, businesses and schools in Fulton County to commit our community to increasing awareness and understanding of mental health. The steps our citizens can take to protect their mental health and the need to provide appropriate and accessible services for all people with mental health conditions and DOES HEREBY **PROCLAIM** the month of May 2022, as Mental Health Month in Fulton County, Georgia. Congratulations."

**LATRINA FOSTER, DIRECTOR, FC BHDD:** "Good morning. I'm LaTrina Foster, the Director for Fulton County Department of Behavioral Health. I want to thank the Board of Commissioners for recognizing Mental Health Awareness Month. I also want to

thank my staff who do the hard work day in and day out to ensure that our citizens have access to behavioral health services. I definitely have to recognize our partners who make this happen for us to ensure that we are able to increase access to care. We have Chris 180 who is a great partner with us. We have River Edge Behavioral Health. We have Summit Counseling Center. We have Odyssey Family Counseling Center. We have the policing alternative and diversion program, Grady -- I mean, we have so many partners and I'm just thankful that I'm able to stand up here today and say that we have partnerships where we're able to increase access to care. And we look to continue to expand our partnerships throughout this County so that we can become a village and help individuals that are in need of behavioral health services. Thank you so much."

**CLERK GRIER:** "The next proclamation is recognizing 'Older Americans Month' sponsored by Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Okay. It is an honor to present this with Full-Board approval. To our Department of Senior Services and to honor Health and Human Services across Fulton County. And the proclamation reads: WHEREAS, Fulton County adopted the Health and Human Services strategic priority areas of supporting vulnerable residents in our social services and preventing health disparities by educating residents and connecting them to available resources. And WHEREAS, the Department of Senior Services supports independence, health, and delay cognitive decline through programs for seniors, caregivers, and the community by providing programs in group and individual settings through preventive intervention and supportive services. And **WHEREAS** these critical services support independence impacts social isolation, removes physical or cognitive abilities and includes transportation, in-home services, minor home repairs, home delivered meals, direct and virtual life programs in the areas of life enrichment, health and fitness, and we recognize the value of the Older Americans Act, the Administration on Aging, Older Americans and our continued need for them to inspire, influence, and enrich individuals of all ages and future generations. And WHEREAS this year's theme 'Age My Way' provides an opportunity for all of us to explore the many ways older adults can remain in and be involved with their communities. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners urges every resident to take time in May to engage in the aging in place framework through participation, discussions on planning, accessibility, and make connections which results in emphasizing what each person needs and prefers is unique and **DOES HEREBY PROCLAIM** May 2022, as Older Americans Month in Fulton County, Georgia. Congratulations Senior Services. And we will have Ladisa, the Director of the Department of Senior Services, Gregory, and Ms. Maxine Davis speak in that order."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES: "Thank you, so much Commissioner Hall. Good morning, everyone and to the best team in Fulton County, I love you. I'm so grateful for you and the work. And to the Commissioners, we can't thank you enough for continuing to fund our department that supports the staff and our operations that allows us to support the most important population in Fulton County, older Americans. Andre Gregory, our Program Managers' going to come up and introduce our senior who's going to accept this year's proclamation."

**ANDRE GREGORY, PROGRAM MANAGER, FC SS:** "Good morning, everyone. All right. Maxine Davis, she's a strong supporter of our Bowden facility located in East Point. She's taken many of our classes. But not only that, she's also contributed to the community at the Bowden facility because she has sponsored events. In the midst of the COVID period she's also elevated her skills and abilities and took our events online and virtually. And also at this time, helping us with our virtual classes, and teaching virtual classes to our seniors; not just here in Fulton County but to whoever the seniors are who would like to be involved. Ms. Maxine Davis has also become the Friends of Bowden president recently; so, we think she's an excellent example of what our seniors are like in our four multipurpose facilities. So, at this time, she'll be accepting the proclamation on our departments' behalf. And now I'll bring her to the mic."

**MAXINE DAVIS, RECIPIENT:** "This is not long. I speak quickly. I didn't know he was going to tell you a few things about me, so I may repeat it in here. Okay. You know my name Maxine Davis here is how much I have enjoyed participating in the Fulton County senior facilities. On the very day of my 55th birthday, I returned to the HJC Bowden multipurpose. Senior multipurpose facility after waiting five -- five years to be old enough to become a participant. Still working on my job, I arranged my days off so I could attend line dancing, swimming, computer training, choir and let's not forget breakfast, and lunch, and so much more. With the onset of COVID, it has been the online classes and senior support check-ins that have been a lifeline for many of us seniors. This being Older Americans Month, as the president of Friends of Bowden, and the Friends of Bowden website administrator, we have all the activities for all four multipurpose facilities listed on our website www.friendsofbowden.org with direct links to the events. We have sent and we'll continue to send e-mail blast to subscribers letting seniors know about the Older Americans Month events. Thank you, Board for recognizing May as the month to celebrate the lives of senior adults in Fulton County. I issue this additional request and challenge: Help us celebrate the life of one senior, HJC Bowden, or father Bowden, as he is affectionately called. By supporting the Bowden that legacy of service campaign to erect a bust of HJC Bowden in front of the HJC Bowden multipurpose facility. It is largely due to his selfless tireless and tenacious work that senior facilities even exist in Fulton County. The Bowden facility, being the very first one. That older

Americans month exist is also – it can also be attributed to his foundational work. Again, thank you, Board for this proclamation and we look forward to you supporting the Bowden legacy of service campaign when you visit our website www.friendsofbowden.org. Have a wonderful day."

**CLERK GRIER:** "The last proclamation is recognizing 'Brother Stone Ramsey Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Can I get all of the individual community members that are supporting -- can you please come down. And just move in equally to both sides, please. You know, we were all raised to believe these words of -- when I was naked, you clothed me; when I was hungry, you fed me. Sometimes as elected officials, we get caught up in the power of the suites and we forget the power of the streets. I come today humbly -- humbly recognizing this person because I have personally watched him go into communities that even the police did not want to go into. I've watched him feed individuals that others walked over. I watched him give the word of God to someone who had no reason to believe that the Word of God even exist. So today I take this very personal. Today **WHEREAS**, Philip Angelo Ramsey, known throughout Atlanta as Stone was born in Detroit, Michigan and raised in San Diego, California and enjoyed the benefits of a strong familial upbringing and graduated from a Christian high school. And WHEREAS, Stone met Brother Haroun Shahid Wakil and they founded Street Groomers with the objective of creating and providing programs and projects for community youth creating economic opportunities, advocating for transitional and affordable housing, patrolling and cleaning up areas in the street where often times no others would ever venture. Designated as high crime areas and also obtaining economic support for Street Groomers while creating partnerships with community organizations like Fountain of Hope, and Community Boutique which mirrors their goals. And WHEREAS, cultural tribes entered into the Peace Covenant Agreement honoring their commitment to dismantle the framework of gang violence. Now, I'm going to repeat this again: I was able to stand as a witness as these former gang members stood before their community humbly and asked the gangs to stop the violence. To dismantle the framework of gang violence and Street Groomers in partnership with the community-based organizations, they are literally taking back the streets from crime, violence, and police brutality. And Brother Stone knows that the streets belong to the community and it's only through the community involvement that any meaningful change can and will occur when love goes before those that are considered the least of these. WHEREAS, the communities of Atlanta has a strong ally and Brother Stone and Street Groomers called our African-American politician, Al Bartell to run for Governor as well as Brother Stone saw him as a proponent of community involvement in government and realized that such a person would afford

community leaders a seat at the table and along with special interest Corporations and lobbyists. And WHEREAS in his efforts brother Stone has partnered with several community partners including President and First Lady Of Street Groomers, CEO of the Community Boutique with LA Pink, myself, Commissioner Khadijah Abdur-Rahman, Commissioner Larry Johnson of DeKalb County, Georgia State Representative Mesha Mainor, city Councilman Mark Baker, Rashard Richie of the Rashard Richie Morning Show, Chief Magistrate Judge Cassandra Kirk, Reflections of Trinity, Juneteenth Atlanta parade and music festival, and veterans empowerment organizations which caters to 75 homeless veterans every first and third Sunday of each month. It is with immense pride and humility that I, as a part of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners -- NOW, **THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Brother Stone Ramsey and the Tribe Resurrection and Unity Peace Covenant for their commitment to the local community and DOES HEREBY **PROCLAIM** Saturday, April 16th, 2022, as 'Brother Stone Ramsey Appreciation Day' in Fulton County, Georgia. He's a man of few words. But I'm going to see if I can get him to say something."

**BROTHER STONE RAMSEY, RECIPIENT:** "First, I want to thank God because it's through God who called us to do our work that we do. I move according to God. It's his will. I'd like to thank my lovely wife who stands at my side through all -- through all, you know, my Street Groomers, every, every Street Groomer. I forgot they didn't add Mayor Khalid because we do a lot with him as well, you know. What it is, it's about us standing for our communities. It's about us making a change for our future. It's about us looking at the young ones that we have coming up today. As leaders in the community, that goes for all our politicians as well. We don't have the time to stand away from one another. We have to come together to actually make this work, so that these kids can have a future. So, along with all my Street Groomer family, We The People who Demand Equal Justice -- I want to thank my sons; they young. Here goes the greatest part about my kids. Being young men, they don't run the streets. They help me help the streets daily. I don't want to take up too much time, but what I would like to do is have a representative Of Street Groomers, Mr. Al Bartell, speak for me for a second."

**MR. AL BARTELL, SPEAKER:** "And Mr. Commissioner, I understand the time; so, I'll only take a second. We're clear that peace covenants are a model and a mechanism to decrease and dismantle gang violence an Atlanta, the state of Georgia, and the United States of America. So, it would be useful for us to offer a Declaration of Peace Covenant. So today **WHEREAS** the Cultural Tribes Peace Network is constituted. The Cultural Tribes Peace Network has a committed vision to dismantle the framework of gang violence. And **WHEREAS**, the Cultural Tribes Peace Network has invoked a comprehensive peace covenant strategy. And **WHEREAS**, the Cultural Tribes Peace

Network shall offer a Declaration known as the Peace Covenant Partnership. **THEREFORE**, this Declaration of Peace Covenant Partnership is hereby established between the Cultural Tribes Peace Network, and Fulton County Mighty Six Commissioner, Khadijah Abdur-Rahman, and upon your signature, it has you be the first Peace Covenant Partner."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "You surprised me with that."

**BROTHER STONE RAMSEY, RECIPIENT:** "Commissioner I want to turn this over to you, but I want to say this to you, I have a strong, very, very strong voice within our communities -- very strong and powerful. And I want you know, anytime you need that voice in the community, it's yours."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right Commissioners, it is 10:56. Continue Madam Clerk."

**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 5, Public Hearings, **22-0313**, Public Comment. Citizens wishing to participate in Public Comment will be allowed to appear in person or may choose to participate virtually via zoom videoconferencing or by submitting their comments in writing online by registering on the County website www.FultonCounty GA.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 the 30-minute time limit is reached prior to Public Comments being completed, the Public Comment will be suspended and business portion of the BOC meeting will commence. Public Comment will resume at the end of the meeting. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we'll start with speakers here in Assembly Hall. We have received six speaker cards --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--six--"

CLERK GRIER: "Six"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Will all six speakers please come down. Keith Gammage, Sandra Burchardt, Ruth Walker, Jewel Johnson, Connie Robinson, and LA Pink Ramsey."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right as always, when you have two -- strike that -- when you have 15 seconds remaining in your two minutes, I'll simply say 15 seconds and that will be your clue to finish your remarks. And that applies to everyone except elected, former, current, and former elected officials."

# VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN: "Ms. Chairman, point of order."

# CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "We also have another elected official here, Mayor of Alpharetta. You plan to speak, Mayor Gilvin?

MAYOR GILVIN: "Only, if necessary."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Well, you came all the way down here. So, I just want to make sure that they were aware you were here."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Thirty minutes. It's 10:58."

**KEITH GAMMAGE, SOLICITOR GENERAL, PUBLIC COMMENT:** "Good morning, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board of Commissioners, colleagues, friends; I'm so appreciative of the efforts that you provided with regards to increasing pay throughout the County, but I stand to speak on behalf of the lawyers in the County particularly our prosecutors. I was happy to work with the County Manager, Mr. Adams, J. Alexander, the County Attorney, Finance and HR and each of you who voted in favor of market rate for talented attorneys as we're the busiest court system in the southeastern jurisdiction. I'll be brief. I want you to hear for about 15 seconds from one of our very experienced attorneys and I want the public to know how you all value us and how we appreciate it. My Deputy Assistant Prosecutor, Ms. Michelle McCutchen."

# MICHELLE MCCUTCHEN, DEPUTY ASST. PROSECUTOR, PUBLIC COMMENT:

"Good morning, ladies and gentlemen Commissioner of the Commission. Thank you so much for giving us this opportunity to speak with you. My name is Michelle McCutchen. I have been an attorney, a prosecuting attorney for 27 years. I've been an attorney for 29 years. I decided ten years after law school that I wanted – after undergraduate school, that I wanted to attend law school and become an attorney. I went to our then recently established Georgia State University College of Law. I had the privilege of interning with our former justice Charles Weltner, may he rest in peace, with the Georgia Supreme Court. I have worked as an assistant district attorney in the Fulton County District Attorney's Office, the Stone Mountain/DeKalb district attorney's office, and the Griffin judicial circuit. I have worked as a prosecutor in the Major Felony Unit in the Fulton County District Attorney's Office for eight years, the Crimes against Women and Children unit for two years, I would say I've probably as a veteran trial lawyer of 27 years tried about 150 or more cases. Probably close to a hundred of those have been murders. I was the Lead Attorney in the East Point serial murder cases that occurred in early 2000 here in Fulton County. I was also one of five attorneys appointed assigned to the Brian Nichols courthouse shooting cases. Four years ago, Solicitor General

Gammage persuaded me, as he is a zealous and persuasive advocate, to leave my employment as an Assistant District Attorney and join his office. I was motivated and encouraged by his vision of restorative, rehabilitated justice for both victims and rehabilitation and restorative access for persons accused of crimes. After having been a decades long prosecuting attorney of felonies, I understand that once you're in Superior Court and you are a convicted felon, and you are a recidivist offender, the state is very limited in what it can do. I am very grateful to the Commission for recognizing the need to increase the salaries for our attorneys. I am very, very enthralled by the opportunities for our young prosecutors to remain committed to become, to remain prosecutors and now that they have these salary increases, I am assured and confident that they will do so. So, on behalf of all of the attorneys, the Assistant Solicitor Generals in Fulton County, and thank you very much. And thank you for your generosity and making certain that our office has been able to thrive during the pandemic and continue to serve the citizens of Fulton County. Thank you."

**KEITH GAMMAGE, SOLICITOR GENERAL, PUBLIC COMMENT:** "Ms. McCutchen represents a very seasoned attorney in our Office, and it's a talent we need to keep. Mr. Patrick is a young lawyer and left about a year ago, our office, to go into a civil firm where he was paid about 30 percent more. He's now returned and is going to be under our tutelage. Thank you for letting me take a little more time just to say thank you and to thank my Team for hanging in there. I know that the DA, the judges, our courts and the public defender all say thank you as well. Thank you."

SANDRA BURCHARDT, PUBLIC COMMENT: "My name is Sandra Burchardt. I live in Fulton County. I've been coming to these meetings for months. I am back because I'm wired to do the things that please God. We are all designed to do the things that please God and other people. People who use their power to divide us are disgusting. They use gender politics and color as effective weapons to divide us. Truth should unite us. Facts should unite us, but some are more focused on delivering their candidates of their choice. I am, Commissioner, I am curious Commissioner Chairman Rob Pitts in a press conference after Warnock was elected, we heard you say we delivered President Biden, we delivered Senator Ossoff, we delivered Senator Warnock and we're going to deliver Senator Warnock again in 2022. Is your reflection -- is your reelection one of them to be delivered? Are we required - what are the required pieces to deliver a candidate? Are they in place? Who are the 'we' that deliver candidates? Will the appointment of Cathy Woolard as Chairman of Fulton County Board of Registration and Elections be helpful to the plan? How about the replacement of Richard Barron? Are they onboard? In this upcoming election, does Fulton County have to wait until other counties have turned in their counts before Fulton County turns in their counts? Many people with honesty and integrity want fair and transparent

elections. So does God. So does God and so do I. He is watching all of us and my trust is in him. Thank you."

**RUTH WALKER, PUBLIC COMMENT:** "Greetings council. My name is Ruth Walker. And I am here because there has been a systematic issue with our housing, and it is in the historical books. And I love to educate people and to let them know of what's going on because ignorance of the law is no excuse. But what is going on in the city of Atlanta in the state of Georgia is unacceptable when this committee is about the welfare of our constituents. There are people that are being evicted. There are elders – no one is answering the phones at DCA, and this is unacceptable, especially when they received nearly a billion dollars for this issue. And so, I can see, I can go back to history, 1935-1975, the Reconstruction era -- all of that. If we don't do nothing, and we keep perpetuating the cycle, it will continue to go on. And I will not stand for it because it's not right. And we keep saying God and I though we wasn't even supposed to mix church and state, but guess what I feel like God to the government means gold, oil and drugs, because if it was really about God, you would not let the least of these be treated the way they are. And it's unacceptable and at the same time I love you Ms. Khadijah you've got a fire, you are awesome, but we are not going to use the word humble no more because it means low estimate of ones' worth; and I know you don't believe that. And you Mr. Bob, last time when you're here, you said something that kind of like struck me weird. You said, we police ourselves. That, no-no, that didn't like what, y'all police yourselves? I can't believe that, but what I do know is that we need to have a real issue -- I mean a real conversation of what's going on in the city of Atlanta and all of these people that have been evicted--"

# CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--fifteen seconds--"

**RUTH WALKER, PUBLIC COMMENT:** "--once they have finished their applications with DCA. I have reached out to Tanya Curry and down, and nobody is taking this serious. Daphne Walker, all of them; so, it's unacceptable and our constituents are being put out on the streets."

**JEWEL JOHNSON, PUBLIC COMMENT:** "Good morning. My name is Jewel Johnson and I'm a south Fulton County resident of the city of South Fulton. I have several concerns about recent activities of this Commission. At the last meeting of this Commission on April 13, 2022, our elected officials moved from the Agenda an Items of discussion approving emergency maintenance detention ponds cleanup in city of South Fulton to address growing safety and health concerns. That same day, this Body approved the following for north Fulton County for John's Creek, Alpharetta, and Milton. These were all infrastructure projects that totaled \$1.5 million. There is something very wrong with this picture from a Chairman and a Commission that is responsible for all Fulton County residents to spend 1.5 million for North Fulton projects and nothing from South Fulton at the same April 13, 2022 meeting, the Commission did not approve handing over Wolf Creek Amphitheatre to the residents of the City of South Fulton that was promised when the city of South Fulton became its' own city. However, in a recent press release, Fulton County agreed to lease Wolf Creek Amphitheater to the city of South Fulton. What are the terms of the lease? How much is city of South Fulton paying for the lease? And how long? Since Fulton County retains ownership of Wolf Creek Amphitheater, Fulton County is responsible to cleanup and maintain the facilities surrounding the area. I understand it. Wolf Creek Amphitheater is a superfund site which means an environmental program established to address abandoned hazardous waste sites--"

### CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--fifteen seconds--"

**JEWEL JOHNSON, PUBLIC COMMENT:** "--as such, Fulton County is responsible to provide the funds to cleanup that site. So, create a better quality of life for South Fulton residents. The inequities between North Fulton and South Fulton must end as of today. You are responsible."

CONNIE ROBINSON, PUBLIC COMMENT: "Okay. Good morning my name is Connie Robinson and I'm a resident of Fulton County. I actually live in the city of South Fulton. I have several concerns, but I want to address what happened on the April 13th meeting by the Commission in which an Agenda Item 22-0259 was removed from the Agenda and that particular item was to approve emergency maintenance detention pond cleanup in the city of South Fulton to address growing safety and health concerns. The city of South Fulton has been neglected and I'm here to stand before you to say please show fairness and equity as it relates across the County not just to more of the north County or even Atlanta for that matter. I know in that same meeting on April the 13<sup>th</sup>, \$1.5 million was granted for infrastructure as it relates to North Fulton County, but what are you doing for South Fulton County? You all are to represent the County as a whole -- I understand that you all have different districts that you represent, but we are one body as it relates to the county. And I think that you all should be able to address the different needs as it relates to the county, and put them in some type of priority order not just remove South Fulton off the Agenda item as it relates to the things that pertain to them. So again, I'm asking for fairness and equity; that you please look at what's happening in the city of South Fulton Avenue, and address those concerns -- especially those detention ponds that have been neglected for so long. Thank you."

**LA PINK RAMSEY, PUBLIC COMMENT:** "Good morning. So, once again, I didn't think that I was going to have to stand up here. I thought my husband would get his proclamation, we would go on about our way; but I got whiff that there is an agenda

trying to take off for community leaders or other people that do things inside of the community to be taken off of Public Comments. I don't understand except the fact of those that's being challenged that to have a problem with us speaking. No, I don't live inside of the area. I'm not supposed to, but I service your area and you had no problem standing with me while I was servicing it, while I was always helping you with your campaign and doing all the other things inside of the community. So now all of a sudden we have a problem with people that doesn't live inside of the area, but service the area, you have a problem with us coming up here speaking. Speaking the truth. Get up on your job. Do what you're supposed to do; the things that is being spoken about each and every last one of you is spoke because you're not doing what you're supposed to be doing. You're going against the grain. And now you're being challenged on it, now you have a problem. Well, trust me. Even if you keep me out of here, you can't keep me out your community and I'll knock on every door until I get you out of office."

JIM GILVIN, MAYOR, CITY OF ALPHARETTA, PUBLIC COMMENT: "Good morning. I am Jim Gilvin, Mayor of Alpharetta. I wanted to just say thank you for taking up this critical issue for the North Fulton area. I agree with an earlier speaker. Fulton is an extraordinary County that stretches almost 90 miles covering a lot of different geographic and demographic areas and there are different needs within the community, but we are one community and we appreciate this Commission addressing that manner appropriately for every area. I want to thank County administrator Dick Anderson and Sheriff Labat and his Team over the last few months that we've worked closely with the Staff to try to make sure that we could reopen the jail that the Sheriff previously operated, not Sheriff Labat, pre-COVID this was already in operation for nearly 20 years. And so, it's just a matter how do we get it back open to continue to serving the 400,000 people North of the Chattahoochee. So, I just wanted to thank you for that. I will be here if y'all have any questions once you take up the matter. I wanted to express my congratulations on bringing the item forward and hopes it goes well. Thank you."

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

**RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Good morning, Commissioners. We actually just received an additional one; so, we're up to five speakers. The first person to speak is Matt Rowenzcak."

**MATT ROWENZCAK, ZOOM SPEAKER:** "Good morning, Commissioners; can you hear me?"

### CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

MATT ROWENZCAK, ZOOM SPEAKER: "Thank you. My question to you today is would you recommend getting rid of your audit department or your auditor in the County? Because if you were to, that recommendation wouldn't surprise me because we seem to have a pattern now of doing audits and doing nothing about them. Today, Agenda Item 22-0318, on page 5 relates to poll pad tech support for this primary election which we all know we are now in the middle of. So, here we have another example of not following or implementing any of the recommendations from the audit of last year. Finding number 3 was untimely payment of invoices, this fits squarely in that area. So, my question to you is are we going to make any changes? And I would direct this to you, Mr. Chairman; you're the Chair of this Board. It's time we have some leadership and some transparency, and some action if not I would suggest you change your campaign signs to Pitts for Fulton chairman where we find issues and we do nothing about it. You could add some clowns, some beach balls, maybe some confetti and really make it look like a circus that this is. So, it's time to take action. We've talked about this way too long. Let's do something about it and be responsible with taxpayer dollars in the process. Thank you."

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

**BEN HOWARD, ZOOM SPEAKER:** "Greetings, Commissioners and Staff. And greetings to you citizens of Fulton County. Ben Howard, Senior Advocate, Public Policy Analyst. When members of the Commission on Elder Affairs voted to not meet in December, the Office of Aging and Youth Management failed to inform those members of the history and tradition of the Commission on Elder Affairs under Helene S. Mills, and Dorothy "Dot" Benson, and Lathanga Robinson and Earnestine Mitchell and Joan Lee, they talked in December about taking busloads of seniors down to Commissioners meetings in January. They talked in December about the plight of the underserved seniors in the northern part of our county. They talked in December about taking better care of those in adult daycare. They talked in December about food in the multipurpose facilities and in the many senior centers. So, why did they vote to not meet in December 2022? Could it be a lack of understanding? A lack of caring? A lack of foresight and a lack of oversight? I submit, when it comes to the cares and concerns of senior citizens, there should be no lack. Just meet in December and attack."

**RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "The next person to speak is Lisa Brown. Lisa Brown."

LISA BROWN, ZOOM SPEAKER: "Hello, good morning. Can you hear me."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yes."

**LISA BROWN, ZOOM SPEAKER:** "Good morning. Once again as a resident of Enon Pines for the last 19 years, the past 19 years, I've observed our retention ponds and I say ponds meaning more than one in our community. Which brings cause for some EPA concerns due to the overgrowth, the environment, the health hazards, the safety issues these ponds have become an eyesore. There is no drainage; therefore, water is stagnant causing rodents. Beavers have also invaded. Snakes and mosquitoes have become a great concern. As I've spoken with several neighbors, I've literally been told that snakes have come up to their back door; some have even been bitten by beavers. As a longtime resident, I plead with Fulton County to take ownership, responsibility, and service what has become an eyesore, a distraction, a turnoff, a safety issue and that is the retention ponds of Enon Pines community. Thank you so much."

**RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "The next person to speak is Myrtle by Bolden."

**MYRTLE BOLDEN, ZOOM SPEAKER:** "Good morning. I, too, would like to speak regarding the retention ponds in Enon Pines subdivision as well as the other 30 retention ponds in the city of South Fulton that is the responsibility of Fulton County to maintain. The Resolution has been presented twice and removed from the Agenda. I am asking now that you do not renege on your responsibility to maintain the retention ponds in the city of South Fulton that were grandfathered-in in the early 1990s. I'm asking you to simply do the right thing. Put aside your personal agendas and your petty dislikes and do the right thing for the citizens that you represent, for the taxpayers, and the voters, and the ones that actually pay your salary."

**RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "The next person to speak is Rudy Carne. Rudy Carne."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Continue."

**RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Okay. With that being said, that concludes the Zoom portion of the Public Comments."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "You have two e-mails?"

CLERK GRIER: "Yes, we have next the three e-mailed comments."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, quickly."

**REGINA WALLER, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "The first commenter is Yvonne Barber. Question: Please, when will my senior home be repaired, rebuilt in Union City Georgia 30291, Fulton County. Have been on housing rehab waitlist with Fulton County 15 years. When will my senior citizen residential home be repaired, rebuilt, when?" **REGINA WALLER, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:**" Public comment by James R. Beatty: I'm writing to share my knowledge and offer my perspective of Mr. Rodney Littles. I have had the pleasure of knowing Mr. Littles for about 25 years, and have worked with him in various capacities relative to business and economic development. I am an economic development and corporate site selection consultant and have been recognized as a top 50 consultant in America. I can attest to Mr. Littles business judgment, knowledge, ethics, and integrity. I highly respect his perspective and approach and would like to look forward to working with him and the Board to recruit business and industry to Fulton County. I am available to answer any questions you may have at your convenience. Thank you for the opportunity to share my comments."

**REGINA WALLER, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "The next comment is from Mr. Rodney James Little: Good morning, Chairman Pitts and Members of the Fulton County Commission. My name is Rodney James Littles a resident of the new city of South Fulton. I am the President of RJ Littles and Associates, a management and financial consulting firm. I have over 30 years of real estate and business development consulting experience across the United States and internationally. I am a graduate of the Martin J. Whitman School of Management at Syracuse University. I am the valedictorian of the 2018 Fulton County citizens University class. I am the son of a descendent of the Greenwood Tulsa Massacre of 100 years ago on my father's side. My mother's family is from Anderson, South Carolina. I am a lost son of the South returning. I am submitting this statement for the record to clear my name from the attack on my character by Commissioner Bob Ellis at the last Commission Meeting. To be clear, I was interviewed this year by Attorney Henry Washington of Anderson Tate and Carr about a four-day golf industry luncheon that I helped to organize for business opportunities in the multibillion-dollar golf industry for minority entrepreneurs. I recruited this event to the Atlanta area that attracted over 600 attendees during the summer of 2021 to the Marietta Hotel and Conference Center. My firm was hired by James Beatty CEO of NCIS and Beatty Golf Ventures of Omaha, Nebraska as project manager for the four-day Golf Industry Business Conference and Expo. Ms. Joanne Potts and Ms. Judith Richards, one of the ethics -- one of the complaint filers against Ms. Potts both attended. Attorney Washington interviewed me this winter about that luncheon discussion with Ms. Judith Richards -- ".

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--fifteen seconds."

**REGINA WALLER, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "—Ms. Potts and Mr. Beatty. However, as long as you apologize for insinuating that I am not an ethical choice and state publicly that I am more than qualified to serve on the authority board, then I can forgive your

attack on my character. Thank you for your time and attention. I remain an advocate of the advancement of my community. This concludes the comments".

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No further speakers."

CLERK GRIER: "No further speakers."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 5, Presentations to the Board, **22-0314**, Alpharetta jail renovation. Authorize the county attorney to develop an IGA sponsored by Vice Chair Hausmann."

VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN: "Thank you, and I see the Sheriff is here. I don't know if you'd like to come on down, Mr. Sheriff. Also invite Mayor Gilvin to come down, if you'd like to offer any comment to this. Commissioners, as you know, the Alpharetta jail served as a North Fulton Annex for almost 20 years. It was closed in March of 2020 at the onset of the pandemic for staffing issues and other COVID related problems. Over the last 4 or 5 months, we have been talking about this extensively in North Fulton with the mayors of North Fulton, maybe even longer than that. It may have been back last fall that the conversation started. There's been conversations about how do we get it back open? Will the County assist? Would a North Fulton jail authority needs to be installed established. A host of different scenarios have been discussed with the North Fulton mayors. So, I'm here today to hear from the Sheriff, but to offer to you that I think we've come up with a plan to get it open and I would appreciate the Sheriff weighing in his comments. The cost to get the building in condition to open is been estimated to be \$517,000. That is what is before us today. I know Alpharetta has sent over a draft of an IGA at the end of March that we have not agreed upon at this point. But the goal is to get the facility open this summer tentatively the end of June. And in order to make that goal while we're working on the IGA, it's important to go ahead and get the renovations underway. So, Mr. Sheriff, if you'd like to come up and add anything further to that, I would appreciate it."

**PATRICK LABAT, FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF:** "First of all, good morning. Let me start by saying this, because if I didn't, I wouldn't be a Sheriff. This is National Correction Officer's Week, so, if you see a correction officer anywhere in your midst, preferably please say thank you for what they do. And this is actually a great transition into what we've been working on for months and this is an opportunity for really the underlining opportunity here is for us to get public safety and crime in a space that we can start to manage. Sheriff, what are you saying? I'm saying that having talked to

Chief Roberson in Alpharetta and other chiefs around our fair county, they have as many as 5000 individuals that would have been stopped over the last year or year and a half that ordinarily would have spent some time in someone's facility. And because we were not in a space to accommodate that at the time, hence they got a copy of chargers or they got a ride home or whatever that look like, right? And so, we're in a space to really redefine and lean in to make this happen. Personally, and from a budgetary standpoint, this \$517,000, I've got to give Mr. Davis, Director Davis and his Team a real shout out because from a DREAM perspective he and our County Manager certainly leaned in to make sure that we can be as efficient as possible to get this building up and running. And so, with that in mind, this is one of the things that we can do to really to lean into Public Safety and that's our goal that's where we want to be and we want to create an environment that we are across the County you know equitable. And this is a wonderful opportunity for us."

VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN: "Thank you for that, Sheriff. And also, I know you're looking at from a countywide perspective and there's some other things that you will bring to us at the appropriate time that you have identified that also should be reevaluated or enhanced in some way. I know you're not really prepared to do that today, but-"

PATRICK LABAT, FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF: "-well, we've been a little busy. First of all, thank you -- with this previous grand jury selection, I was in preparation for that. That said and done, I do want to take a quick second to give our County Manager and Chief Yates a shout out because it was one of the safest events that we've seen in the County or the city as a whole. And certainly, our Team, the women and men of the Fulton County Sheriff's office, really stepped in. The Government Center, the Justice Center as a whole, continued to run including early voting without a flaw. So, everyone deserves a round of applause there. But what Commissioners talk about, I've had an opportunity to talk to several of you individually -- one of the things that we have an opportunity to do because over the past decade, there has been less than transparent information that has flowed through the Sheriff's office to the Board. And so, we are building with the County Manager and his Team. We are building a robust public safety plan that will include the jail, the courts, law enforcement, and everything that we need, right? It's a living strategic plan that you all will be able to have in your hand and do it in phases. I believe this is the first-phase, the Alpharetta piece which will allow us to move in to you know a robust conversation around what really -- what Public Safety looks like? Whether it be street racing, or whether it be keeping people safely in jail. And so, those things -- I appreciate you all's' continued support, but I do want to make sure that we have time in the months to come, that we can be very thoughtful about that process

and we will engage each of you all's offices as we go through those steps so that everybody is knows where we are as the Sheriff's office."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "So, this potential agreement includes a daily rate for each city to pay for the detainees?"

**PATRICK LABAT, FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF:** "It does. It does. And an opportunity for each city's legislative body to put in public safety fines like they do in many other areas, right? And I use the city of Gaitan Georgia, for instance. They have a \$9 fee that goes with every traffic citation where \$3 goes to police, \$3 goes to the jail \$3 goes to fire and rescue as well. So, these kinds of opportunities will be afforded as well, but the important thing here is the cities have agreed -- in theory right now -- that 50 to \$60 a day processing fee will allow us as a County to recoup some of the actual -- whether it be staffing or maintenance fees or whatever that looks like, so we'll delve in to that deeply as we go through this process."

VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN: "All right. And then are you prepared to staff it up accordingly?"

**PATRICK LABAT, FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF:** "So we've already started selecting staff. Many of the staff, believe it or not, and we've had some Staff turnover, but again in roll call this week, many of the Staff that were there are prepared to go back. And with Mr. Hermon's effort and his Team leaning in, there are some incentives that we will -- are prepared to for our workforce to receive for working in Alpharetta."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "All right. I'm sure there'll be other questions. I did pass out to everyone a Resolution passed by the Johns' Creek city Council this week in support of this. I see we've got the police chief of Alpharetta, the city manager, City Councilmember Anna Mayor here prepared to also answer any questions, I'm sure. So, I ask for your favorable consideration to this item to get that jail back open and help our streets stay a little safer in North Fulton."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Chair. Sheriff, you and I have had conversations and contrary to belief, I think this is a good thing. I know that Vice Chair Hausmann has been advocating for this since day one -- since you came into office. It makes sense. I do support other Commissioners for things in their District, and I will support this because it makes since as opposed to bringing people all the way downtown. However, having said that, I do want to ask you a question, and I do support you -- you know that. Where are we with Union City? Are we still housing the female population out there? Can you just briefly let us know where we are with that? Is it

going good? Do we have any challenges? Because like Commissioner Hausmann, I want to advocate for my side of town too, and I also want those voices to be heard as well. So, if you could just weight-in on it for my constituents, I really would appreciate it."

**PATRICK LABAT, FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF:** "So, first of all thank you. Thank you, for your continued support, and at no point in any of these conversations has one side of the County had a louder voice than the other. And so, one of the things about the way, the approach is to make sure the technology matches because I like you and the Chiefs and whether it be Union City or the city of South Fulton don't like driving past a facility to come to 911 Rice Street if they have an opportunity to drop someone off there. So, that is also part of the consideration. Now, we did find out through this discovery piece that most of the cities in the South are using East Point. So there's an opportunity there. So, I don't want to decrease what East Point may be receiving as a result of that--"

## COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "--okay. "

**PATRICK LABAT, FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF:** "--as well, but we were certainly working on that and that is not a thought process that is lost on anyone. Now, the larger picture is we do have 260 females in the South Annex. We are doing yeomen's work with respect to programs. Don't know if you saw just on one of the TV stations here recently we had yoga programs, we had – we're getting ready to start a K-9 program again at the main facility. So we are doing programmatically the things that help get people especially in a mental space, right? When it comes to mental health even more resources. We're building a cool down room. Something's that's never been done in that space. We want to give ladies more opportunities to really recompose, get back on their feet, and we want to help do that. The other piece is ultimately, and I do give a shout out to our Chairman with respect to the city. There is some ongoing conversations there. My druthers would be to figure out how to move some of those ladies in town a little closer--"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "--yes, I understand that-"

**PATRICK LABAT, FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF:** "-- and be able to receive some additional resources. So, there are a couple of things that we're very intentional about when it comes to those ladies and we're not going to have anybody mistreated."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you, Sheriff. I appreciate that."

PATRICK LABAT, FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF: "Thank you."

### CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Morris."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Just a quick question. The question really is maybe to explain to the public why a city ought to be paying any kind of daily rate. I think I know the answer; but, I'd love to hear from you and perhaps the Mayor, or the Mayor. I understood that from some earlier discussions that when an Alpharetta police officer arrests someone, and has to drive them down to Rice Street that takes that police officer off the streets of the city for an exceeded period of time down and back, and it sure would have been more convenient, but is the city paying for that convenience or is it that we're housing folks for their non-state charges? I think I know the answer, but I think it would be good for the public to hear."

**PATRICK LABAT, FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF:** "So, it's a combination. You just answered it, right? It's a combination. One thing that we -- the research shows that there were thousands of hours in staff hours -I won't say manpower-I want to be politically correct -- in personnel that the time it takes to get police officers back on the street is absolutely unacceptable. And so, you explained it rather efficiently but to that extent, we are looking at the daily rate to offset some of the cost holistically and that will be -- it will bear out or bear fruit if you will in a year or two when we see what those numbers look like. But the best part about it is, you've got a Sheriff that is transparent and we'll continue to have that conversation. So, that it makes to steal a phrase from our County Manager, it'll make good walking around since then and we'll figure out how to move forward from that perspective."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "But, just to follow that up: If the County jail were up there you know they certainly wouldn't pay a rate to put someone in the jail, any more than--"

**PATRICK LABAT, FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF:** "-- well, the best part about that, and I was not going to disclose this, I am working on a pre-indictment fee, right, which anybody arrested and brought to the County will pay a fee. So more to come on that and that will actually, for lack of a better word, be a new revenue stream. So that'll be a larger conversation."

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "Thank you."

PATRICK LABAT, FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I'd just like to call the question."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "I'll second it."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. The motion is properly before us to call the question. Let's vote. Properly moved and seconded."

**CLERK GRIER:** "And the vote is open to call the question. And the motion passes; six yeas, one nay."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. On the motion to approve. Motion to approve by Vice Chair Hausmann, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Please vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "So more to come on this one, Sheriff. Budget time."

PATRICK LABAT, FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF: "Yes, sir."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Sorry, I got cut off, but that's the rules of the rules. Next item."

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**CLERK GRIER:** "Next Item moved up on today's Agenda on page 7, **22-0325**, Sheriff. As amended, request approval for funding of an IGA with Cobb County Sheriff's office for the housing of up to 500 Fulton County inmates at the Cobb County Jail."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Morris. No questions? What's the rate?"

PATRICK LABAT, FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF: "\$80 a day per person."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "And any idea how much longer we will be--"

**PATRICK LABAT, FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF:** "--yeah, right now we will be. Now, let me answer it this way right now we've expended close to \$2 million of that 7 million, and it is -- with the summer coming right now we've already seen arrest turning up; it will beit will remain that way for quite some time to be honest."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Chairman. Sheriff, in your professional opinion, the only thing that will alleviate this or make this not be a more of a burden for the lack of a better word would be a new jail?"

**PATRICK LABAT, FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF:** "The short answer is, yes. And I do want to thank the Board for approving the jail feasibility study that is well underway. That is much needed. And let me delve a little deeper, if I may, just take a quick 15 seconds. We are working with other Sheriff's around the state to see if we can alleviate

the problem. Right now, we still, even with the 205 in Cobb County, detainees we still have 366 on the floor. And then, I mentioned earlier a larger or more robust plan, it will have to walk in lock-step with building a new facility because we will have two move and house individuals across the state in order to do that depending on what the jail feasibility comes back and says in terms of location amounts et cetera. So, this will be hopefully this will be a long-lasting marriage, and I will be in lockstep with you all as we go through this process together."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Well, I have advocated from day one for a new jail. I think that we do a disservice to the taxpayer. I know you're doing the best you can with the facility that you were given and I commend you for that. But I know that there is a need, and I know the only way like your -- to quote one of your phrases throwing good money after bed is eventually hopefully everything will go well and we'll have that new jail and the new resources that you so desperately need. Thank you."

PATRICK LABAT, FULTON COUNTY SHERIFF: "Yes, ma'am, thank you."

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

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "Next item moved up is on page 8, **22-0328**: Request approval of a Resolution creating and establishing the Fulton County summer teen job training program for the purposes of providing Fulton County teens with professional skills and hands on work experience and for other purposes sponsored by Commissioner Arrington."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Thank you, colleagues. I hope that you will give this favorable consideration. In 2016, when we had slider crimes, we were able to pass and allocate moneys for summer jobs for our youth. We did the same thing for the following two years, and with the rise in crime that we're seeing, I thought that it would be good that we take some action similar to the action that we previously took in previous years and make sure that we are providing job training. It's easy to talk about something, but we need action. And so, I'm hoping that you all will consider this favorably. The funding for this would come from American Rescue plan funds, and it would be for job-training. It says and hands-on work experience; so, I think it should say job-training for hands on work experience. But nonetheless, as our Sheriff just stated crime is on the rise, and we're giving our children our youth an opportunity for job-training and will put them in a much better position. And hopefully help in conjunction with our Sheriff's and other officers to hopefully reduce crime. So, I'm

hopeful that you all will pass this. It's something that I believe is sorely needed, and as always you know we want this to be done throughout Fulton County, South Fulton and North Fulton. It's amazing to hear people say that North Fulton is getting more as many times as I've been down here fighting for South Fulton and advocating for not only equality, but actual equity, which sometimes requires going more than making an equal. So, hopefully you will look at this Resolution favorably and adopt it so that we can get our children to work. School is about to be out for the summer, and I think this is gravely needed. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Chairman. As I looked over this, I noticed that it was in the RIP plan. This is something that we've being waiting on -- I know my District has been waiting on for quite a while, so I definitely will support it. My question today is when will it go into effect? Do we have the framework to make sure that as hopefully my colleagues will pass this today that it will go into effect quick enough? I think that the students don't have that much longer in school and I'm not sure exactly what we have in place and I don't know if this is a question for Dr. Roshell, but I would like some insight as to what we have in place should this pass and how quick will we be able to get the jobs for these deserving teens."

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "Thank you, for the question Commissioner. The proposed program delivery model will be through partnerships. To your point about expediency, the best path for us will be to release a short form application, and that short form application will be for qualified community-based organizations that already have in place youth job training programs. And so, that is the plan. We do already have all of the information that we need based on previous programs that the County has delivered. We'll just simply repackage that into a short form application; have those qualified nonprofit organizations that have proven youth job-training programs apply so that to your point we can get these dollars out quickly and support existing programs in the community."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And so, don't want to put you on the spot here -- do you think realistically we'll be able to meet that target as the children get out of school?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS: "Yes, ma'am. Yes, ma'am."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. And, also let me ask you this: Is this replacing – because I think we do have something already or maybe that's internships --

I may be mixing it up. I just want for the sake of the viewing audience just if we do have something already that's similar to this will this replace it or is this totally different?"

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "Yes, ma'am. This is different. In 2018 and in 2019, we had a summer youth internship program. In 2020 and 2021 we did not have an in-person summer youth internship program. So, this will replace that program. It, again, will be different because we will partner with existing organizations. The previous programs were run through the Department of Community Development--"

# COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "--exactly. "

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "-- and they placed youth not only here in Fulton County Departments, but with partners across the County. And so, to expedite the implementation, we will move away from implementation at the County level and partner with organizations that have a proven track record for youth job training so that we can get this established quickly."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And so, what, basically what we're doing we're allowing the nonprofits and organizations -- community-based organizations from one end of Fulton County to the other, that may want to be part of this and place the youth-"

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "-yes, ma'am. It will be countywide. We will however have a focus based on data and analytics for some areas of the County that have higher crime statistics related to youth justice involvement, so."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay. Thank you. I appreciate that."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I just want to thank, Commissioner Arrington for his collaboration, his thought that he put in to creating this Resolution. It is something that we definitely need. As we saw in the news most recently the city of Atlanta and our 61st mayor, Andre Dickens has launched their 2022 summer youth employment program because like Commissioner Arrington said, crime is on the rise. Our youth need our help. And if we're helping those youth who are already doing well, such as in a recent e-mail -- and thank you County Manager, Dick Anderson for sharing this information with us the other day about the Center of Excellent Capstone final presentation for spring 2022. This goes to show that we feed into not only the least of these, but we also feed into those that are doing well. The Capstone project actually allowed our IT Department to employ 15 people, and to successfully mentor 264 students. So, we need to continue this and this is another way for us to help our citizens, our youth who are living in these dire strait situations who need our support and our help. Thank you, Commissioner Arrington."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Mr. Chair, I think he's choked-up a little bit. I know what he thinks about me and he chokes-up, but I'd just also like to add my support for this and thank Commissioner Arrington for bringing this forward in being the leader on this you know. Commissioner Arrington, as you all know sometimes we don't agree on everything, but we've had some very healthy disagreements over the years, but we agree on this for sure and I appreciate him being the leader on it. Work matters. You know, and I think we probably all have our own collective experiences about being exposed to work at a young age and what a difference that makes and if we can have an impact on that because right there's been a lot of idle time that folks have had and a lot of folks just not being able to be exposed to work and the value of what it means and what it brings to them. So, I applaud Commissioner Arrington for bringing it forward."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "I had a Silver spoon. Anyone else? All right, the motion before us is to approve. Please vote. Just a minute. Just a minute. Madam CFO, what's the source of funding funds for this?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "ARPA dollars."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** All right. How much is left? Did this come from a specific line item?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER**: "Chairman Pitts our plan is to move some money from our testing and vaccination allocation based on the plan that has been presented by Mr. Kallmyer and Team on our testing and vaccination needs through the end of the year. We have capacity to do that."

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

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "Next Item that was moved up on today's Regular Meeting Agenda on page 7, **22-0326**, request approval of a Resolution approving a lease agreement with the city of South Fulton for the use of Wolf Creek amphitheater sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Very quickly. Motion is to approve -- I'll second here for -- motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, I'll second. This is pretty straightforward. This brings us to really very, very close to at last finalizing the transfer of Wolf Creek Amphitheater

to the city of South Fulton. Our County Attorney has been working diligently, I want to say around-the-clock is not really not an exaggeration with the city attorney from the city of South Fulton and there are only two minor outstanding issues. One dealing just with some language regarding insurance policy and the other piece deals with the EPD, right? EPD, and this will allow us some time to resolve that issue, but what this will do will give basically transfer this facility to the city of South Fulton so they can begin to own, operate, and plan for its use going forward. So I would ask your favorable vote on this. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Yes, Chairman, I would like to know do we have a timeframe or tentative time frame? I've got over a hundred e-mails and calls about this once it was put on the Agenda because there is some concern in South Fulton as to what condition South Fulton will receive it. I don't know if that is something that is going to be hammered out later, but it is a concern for those constituents over there considering it has sat dormant for a while. And so, they are concerned as to if there is going to be a walk-through of it, and what condition they're going to receive it and how soon they will receive it."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Madam County Attorney, you want to address that? I was out there for an event and it was in pretty good shape. Go ahead, Madam County Attorney."

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "I'll start by saying it's my understanding that the city of South Fulton has already had a couple of recent events at the facility and we are not aware of any issues. But with that being said, this lease provides for the use of the property as is with the city of South Fulton responsible for maintenance, as it would have been had the property been transferred at this time in total. But it will provide for the city of South Fulton to use the facility for all of the traditional purposes as if it were owned without having to come back to the County for permission for individual events as has been done up until this point."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And so, County Attorney, I just want to make sure I understand. City of South Fulton, they will be totally responsible for what happens with it? They'll be totally responsible for any acts or anything; the only thing that this lease tentatively does is give them the use of the property, but they will be responsible for everything else?"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "That is correct, which would have been the condition had it been transferred and deeded over to the city."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. And do we know how long tentatively the lease is expected to be?"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "The lease term is until the end of 2022 and it's renewable for one year through the end of 2023 if the EPD issues have not been resolved. So, this lease provides use of the property with to provide us enough time to resolve that issue in light of the fact that the EPD is not beholding to us to stick to a particular schedule. So, since we cannot predict that, the lease allows time for us to take care of the legal impediments and at the same time for the citizens of South Fulton to have use of the property."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So, would it be -- because I don't want to put words in your mouth, okay? But I want to make sure -- because based on the questions I've received, would it be a normal assumption that once those items that you have just mentioned are taken care of that there would be an opportunity for them to have ownership of the property?"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "That is what's contemplated. This is kind of a bridge to the transfer, if you will. We would do so at this time, but for the legal impediments so this lease provides us a bridge until the time when we can transfer. So, if your question is as soon as the legal impediments are resolved, would we then move to transfer the answer is, yes."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Let's vote, please -- I'm sorry Commissioner Arrington."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "I just want us to be real clear that there was a February 20, 2020, IGA entered into and signed by both the County and the city for the transfer of the amphitheater from the County to the city, correct?"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "That is correct and that's the agreement pursuant to which we would transfer when we are in a position to do so."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Okay, and then in March of 2020, that's when COVID hit, right?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Thank you for pointing that out, yes,

Commissioner Arrington. We our agreement pursuant to which we intend to transfer the property immediately preceded the COVID shut-downs and that has directly impacted the timeline for the transfer."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Okay. Thank you. In the city, you said the city has hosted events there, correct?"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "It's my understanding that at least two if not three based on recollection events have been hosted at Wolf Creek amphitheater over the past couple of months."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Has the County done anything to stop or prevent the city from hosting any events at the amphitheater?"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "No Commissioner. In fact, a use permit right of access license agreement was issued so that free use could occur."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you."

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

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Continue, Madam Clerk."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Okay. Back on page 5, starting with action items, bottom under Open and Responsible Government, **22-0316**, Purchasing and Contract Compliance. Request ratification of countywide emergency procurements."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "There's a motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis seconded by Commissioner Morris. Please vote."

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

**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0317, Finance. Presentation, review, and approval of the May 4, 2022, budget soundings."

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

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

**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0318, Registration and Elections. Request approval of a statewide contract to provide poll pad technicians for the May 2022 General Primary and June 2022 Runoff Elections."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. There's a motion to approve by Commissioner Hall; is there a second? All right. I'll second. Discussion, Commissioner Hausmann, Commissioner Hall, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN: "Yes, is there anyone here from Elections?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No, you have questions for -- do you answer, Mr. Manager?"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "I can take a shot."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "All right. Well, let's see. You know, again, it seems like every Agenda we have an election item. Is this the final item to have us in preparation for this cycle? This one seems a little late to me -- poll pad technicians, so."

**FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC:** "I think there might be one more Agenda item, for Dominion. I'm not quite sure. I'll have to check back with them to see."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Well, again let's try to have a goal in the future of having these packaged together."

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

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** And then I've being getting a lot of questions about staffing during early voting and I just was hoping that there would be someone here that could answer the questions you know we engaged our mayors to help us find people and I'm just - we haven't seen any report or anything on how successful that was. If they were able to utilize community members? If they're still relying totally on temporary workers and those things, so. Is there someone that could answer those questions?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Looks like she's coming down the stairs now."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "There's Nadine."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Ms. Williams is on her way down."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "Good morning, I do apologize."

VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN: "Did you hear my question?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS: "No, I did not."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Okay. Basically, it's, you know, I know this is early voting has started. And I know that we had been working with our cities to help find workers for the elections. And just curious, I've been getting questions from some of the cities. If, in fact, their efforts were beneficial, helpful, how we are with staffing? If y'all got enough people that they referred or from our fairs, if we're still utilizing a lot of temporary workers? If could just give us an update on how that went and where we are."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "Yeah. The recruitment is going very well. We -- when your staff emailed me the question with regards to how many people were recruited from the fair. I want to say, all of them. But I'm going to give you the exact count. We'll have that number to you by the end of business today. But anybody who showed up to the fair, was definitely contacted. Anybody who responded to the Fulton County workers was contacted. Anybody who responded from the actual polling center was contacted. The recruitment is going very well."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "All right. I just think that since we actively engaged our cities to assist us, it would be great if we could communicate to them if it was effective, or if we still have needs and those kinds of questions that they're asking."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "Okay. We will send out a communication on municipalities today."

VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN: "All right. Thank you very much."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I just had one question. I couldn't find how many technicians will this cover?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "This actually will only cover one technician. This is a not-to-exceed amount. It' actually is -- the only vendor that we're permitted to utilize, they are the vendor that controls the SOS poll pads that we have to utilize. And their rate is roughly, I think, two to \$3,000 per hour. So that's why that amount is what you see listed."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Wow."

FELICIA STRONG-WHITAKER, DIRECTOR, PCC: "It's per day, per day."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "I'm sorry, per day. But, yes, so that's why that -- that's what that amount is -- we're not saying

we're going to use them every day. We're just saying, just in case if we do need them. That's what it would cost if we needed them every day."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "All right, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I'm just curious, is this as a result of SB-202, or is this something that internally Fulton County Elections has decided to do?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "No. This is a result of when the new voting equipment was established. The poll pads were also new at that time. So it is a statewide voting equipment. It's not something that Fulton Cointy has selected, this is statewide. All counties are required to utilize this equipment."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And I guess what I would like to know for the viewing public is, do you have a choice of using anyone else other than --"

NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS: "No, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "-- this vendor?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "No, ma'am, we do not."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Good morning. On Monday, I went to vote for myself and my race was not on my ballot. Please tell me how that happened. Please tell me that we have a number and that we know how many people. There were a hundred people that voted before me when I went to vote. These are new districts. These people don't know whether they can vote for me or not. They don't know if they're -- if I'm supposed to be on their ballot or not. So how do I know that those hundred people that went before me, did not all -- were not also deprived of the opportunity to vote for my race? And how do I know that that didn't happen at all early voting locations?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "Okay. So what happened is that the -- our ballot system is dependent upon -- well, the poll pads that -- where the voting clerks pull the information is depending on E-Net. That system is on the SOS's site. It's depending on E-Net. Somehow the information --" **COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Okay, wait. Please slow down. You're using a lot of terms that nobody knows but you. Please slow down and start over."

NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS: "Okay. So we did do a research of the voters on May 2nd that were impacted by that problem. Approximately 29 would have been impacted on May 2nd. And I have that report and I'll be forwarding that over in a few minutes, honestly. Nevertheless, that problem happened because the poll pad information that keeps the voter records comes from E-Net. That information is inaccurate. We have now realized that it's inaccurate. We have contacted the SOS in regards to that. Fortunately, we did not build our ballot project off of that. So what we did, when -- once we were notified, we had a meeting with our Advanced Voting Managers that evening via Zoom. They were communicated with during the day. But we wanted to make sure they had the information that evening. We met with all 30 of them, informed them there's an issue that do not use -- you have to do a check and balances because the information on that particular system is inaccurate. Therefore, they have a spreadsheet in front of them. They said to check that information. We have deployed registration staff that's currently on site to ensure that everybody's following that procedure. We have done research to see exactly how many people were impacted on Monday. We have contacted the SOS and had Zooms with them in regards to incorrect information as well. And they're trying to resolve that. But in the meantime, we're being proactive to ensure it doesn't happen again. But I have a full report that I will submit to you today."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "What or who is E-Net?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "E-Net is the system that keeps the voter records. That is where it keeps all the voter information. So if anything that happened with redistricting, if it changed your district lines, if it changed your commissioner district, that's where all that information is kept. So that, somehow that communication is not up to date. We do not know why it's not currently populating whatever changes we made with redistricting. We have already communicated with the SOS in regards that. But that's what that system is."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Who owns or operates E-Net?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "The Secretary of State."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Okay. Now, you said there were 29 people out of the hundred that voted for me, or out of the hundred that voted prior to me voting that were impacted by that?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "No. There were 29 -- we pulled a report from all 30 sites to see if what people -- what would happen -- what would have impacted District 5. If the ballot -- because you could have got -- let's say somebody got an incorrect ballot, but it could have been -- well, let me -- it could have still had District 5 on it. But the people that would have not had your name at all, that was a total of 29."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "And that was for the whole day --"

NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS: "Yeah."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- or out of the hundred --"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "No, the whole day from all 30 sites."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Okay. So now how -- you say you're trying to resolve that. How do you resolve that? Do they get to vote again?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "No, they do not, unfortunately."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Okay. So how do you resolve it?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS**: "I'm resolving it for not letting anybody else get the incorrect ballot. But the 29 people, unfortunately, when you go to vote, and that's for any district, anything that you're voting for, if you believe you have the incorrect ballot, if you believe that anything is -- or if you believe that your vote was not recorded correctly, once you place your ballot in a scanner, it is scanned, it cannot be cured. We were proactive in regards to that. Because of redistricting, we figured people may not review their ballot. They might not know where they're voting. There are signs inside of each unit that tell the person this. We enlarged the signs and placed them all over the precinct. But unfortunately, if the voter did not pay attention and casted that ballot, there's nothing we can do about that at this time."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "There are signs where?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "In the precinct, inside of each voting unit. When you stand in the unit, if you look at the signs that are next to you, it literally says that. Those signs are actually required --"

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "How would someone that was previously in another district that voted a year ago for someone, know that they're in a new district today?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "They would have to research their redistricting lines. I cannot control a voter having to do research. If the voter did not --"

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "They would have to -- they would have to research?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "They -- if you're -- if you want to know who you're voting for with redistricting --"

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Wait a minute. Wait a minute. Mr. Manager, I thought we said we were sending out information to all the voters, letting them know that they were in new districts."

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "Let me ask Jessica if that -- Jessica, has that been done?"

JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "Good afternoon. We have completed a mailing that went to every household that reminds them that they may have been affected by redistricting, provides them a link to check their district information. One piece of communication that is still pending is from the Secretary of State's office, a mailing of redistricting cards that clarify each person's district information. Unfortunately, those cards, to my knowledge, and I'll ask Ms. Williams to correct me if I'm wrong, have not been delivered to Fulton County. So that is, again, a piece of information from the Secretary of State's office, Commissioner Arrington. We have completed from the County, a mailing to each household that lets voters know where early voting is taking place, information about absentee ballots, and also lets them know that they may have been affected by redistricting and provides information where they can check that info -- their current district information. And Commissioner Arrington, if I could just add to that, certainly what Ms. Williams has described is unfortunate. We want to be very clear that the Secretary of State's office creates the Election Net System. They create the mailers that go to every voter that tell them where their district information is. And by not ensuring that the E-Net or Elections Net System is accessible by the poll worker in the polling place that is creating an opportunity for human error. So I understand that we're responsible for this. I already can feel the headlines being written. And I want to make sure that I'm very clear that the Secretary of State has a lot of responsibility in this issue."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "So you said the information in E-Net is incorrect?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "Yes, sir. Not all of it, but a lot of it is incorrect."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "How do you know that? How did you learn that?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "We pulled a report and we got the information and we're seeing discrepancies. We have sent that information to the SOS. Honestly, we've been in communication with the SOS, attempting to correct a lot of errors that we have seen. But we don't know if there's a glitch in the system. Like I said, we don't control it. So we're not -- we don't have a clear answer as to what the problem is with the system."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "So I'm -- I am more than extremely frustrated by this. I'm going to reserve my comments for now. Certainly, I'm not mad at either one of you ladies. But this is unacceptable. It is absolutely unacceptable and the answer that the information in the system is wrong, makes it worse. So I mean -- human error, I could almost accept. But the information is wrong, the data is wrong?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "We agree. And honestly, we did not build our machine, our voting machines on that, on the E-Net system. If we would have done that, it would have been a bigger problem. So when they built our database that information with the combos and district lines is correct. But the voter record information is -- we have no control over that. And that is incorrect."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "So the Secretary of State is compromising the integrity of this Election?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "I can't clearly say exactly what's happening. But like I said, it's a problem and we're trying to have them help us -- to let us -- advise us of what the problem is."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Madam County Attorney, what options are available to the County since the Secretary of State is interfering with the integrity of this election by providing information or maintaining a database with wrong information?"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Commissioner Arrington, I don't believe we have enough information today to provide an answer to that. We'd like an opportunity to research what exactly happened and to research the legal requirements and options surrounding that." **CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Excuse me. May I make a suggestion we talk about that in Executive Session?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Hausmann."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I was going to suggest that this is not maybe the appropriate forum to be discussing this. Obviously, it's serious. I got a few candidates that reached out also. So you may have checked District 5. But I can tell you, it's happening in District 1. I can tell you it's happening in House Districts in North Fulton. You know, I think it's a pretty serious allegation that you just made."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "Well, any -- if anyone -- any of the districts that we aware of, is on the report that I'm forwarding to you all today."

VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN: "Included in that number 29 situations?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "Yes, it's on there as well."

VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN: "Are these primarily split-precinct issues?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS: "Yes."

VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN: "You know, we've been talking a lot about split precincts before today. So, you know, I don't know where the problem is. I hope you're really working to get to the bottom of it. I mean, here we are in day three of early voting. I can't even remember what today is. But it is day three of early voting. How many people have voted in Fulton County so far?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "I would have to check the number. I know the first -- it was over 3,400 for the first day."

VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN: "Are you aware that this is happening in other counties?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "I have been informed that some other counties are also having a problem with the E-Net system, yes."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "All right. Obviously, there's a lot of people watching this. And it's very important. Very important. So please keep us posted. But I do caution us for saying anything in public if we're not a hundred percent sure."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Let's be careful what we say. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Chairman. We don't have an election supervisor. And so I want to be crystal clear in my support of you, Nadine. Because I got the calls very early yesterday morning from several. And I've reached out to you all. I went to three different polling sites, and I heard your people say, if your ballot does not look correct, or if you have issues with your ballot, please do not cast the vote. Now, here again, I'm going to take the advice of my colleagues and not go too far. But what I don't want to do is to cast aspersions on you all that you all didn't do what you needed to do when it was caught. Because it was caught very early. Because my phone start ringing off the hook at 8:00 a.m. And so the actual ones that I went to, I heard the announcement being made. Now, I do know that you all sent out some correspondence regarding this. Wasn't that -- is that not correct?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS: "Correspondence to whom?"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "To the voters? Or did correspondence come from the Secretary of State? I think that's where it's a little fuzzy on."

**JESSICACORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, Fulton County sent out a mailer that includes early voting information, absentee ballot instructions, and reminds voters that they may have been affected --"

## COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Exactly."

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "-- by redistricting. But we did not send -- because we have not received from the Secretary of State's office, are cards notifying voters of their updated district information. Because Fulton County has such a large State House and Senate delegation, we have very significant impacts in those district line changes as well as those for County Commission and Congress. So we do have significant impacts. But as of today, we have not received the redistricting cards from the State, which we are then responsible for mailing."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. And what you all did mail out, when was that mailed out?"

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "They've been mailed out over last week, everything went -- I know the County Manager let me know he had received his and many other voters have received theirs."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. What I would want to say openly in this open forum for those that are listening, if there is an issue with your ballot, or you suspect there is an issue, please do not cast that vote. Because once the public casts that vote, it is absolutely nothing that can be done. Ms. Nadine, Ms. Williams, is that correct? I just want to reiterate that."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "That's a hundred percent correct."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And so you all are working very hard to try to catch those. And you all are trying to wait on the information, or you're trying to work with the Secretary of State's office to get it resolved?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "Yes, ma'am. We're informing voters at the poll, we've enlarged the signs to let them know to please review and do not cast your ballot --"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Yeah. I went to three different early polling sites and I heard. I commend your staff, because I actually heard people saying it over and over and over again. And so I'm going to reserve any other comments that I may have about this until a later date, considering we don't have an Elections Director, considering that you all are still waiting on some information. But thank you for the work that you all have done so far."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Thank you, Mr. Chair. Okay. First, I want to ask about a process that use to take place as it related to elections. We use to receive a report, updating us as a Board of Commissioners on what was happening at the polls, any issues or anything like that. And I have not seen an email at all as it relates to updates on what's going on. So that is number 1, what has happened to that process?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "I am not aware of memo that you received. But I will look into that, and we'll start forwarding that to you. I know that all of the numbers that -- of counts of daily votes are posted on the website, as required, by 10:00 a.m. So but all of the counts from every day advanced voting is on the website before 10:00. But any other memos that you are -- you need, we'll make sure we send that for -- send that to you."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Okay. I guess maybe, the previous Department Head at Registrations and Elections was just going above and beyond. Because we used to know if there were issues that were happening at the polling places before, especially before getting to a televised Board of Commissioners meeting and the questions arising about this. This is not something that we should be just hearing right now for the first time that the ballot -- the poll pads were incorrect and an entire race is not even on the poll pads for people to vote on. And especially during a time when there's enough questions and enough negative communications, where our residents are confused about where they're supposed to vote and who they're supposed to vote for because of redistricting. So I'm hoping that moving forward, we will get this information beforehand, before we get to a meeting like this and have to discuss it. And then I'm a little confused, because I heard it said that people were calling at 8:00 a.m. But what time do the polls actually open? I thought it was 9:00."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "The polls open at 9:00."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "So how could people know that something was wrong before the polls even opened?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "I don't know who called at 8:00 a.m. -- so I'm not -- I didn't make that statement."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "It could've been 9:00 a.m., 8:00 a.m., 9:00 a.m., tomatoes, tomatoes, six and dozen --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Just a minute. Just a minute. Commissioner, you have the floor."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Decorum, please. Decorum. So anyway, so the polls open at 9:00; that's correct?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS: "Yes."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "All right, thank you. And the information in E-Net, you found out that that was incorrect when?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "We found out that the information was incorrect -- it's been -- it's been having -- it's having problems. We did an update. We were waiting for, as we update since the weekend before advance voting began. We're still waiting for -- we still have not received that update to this date from the SOS. So we were hoping that it -- they were reflected in E-Net. But we did not know until the morning of advanced voting that none of it was

captured. We were hoping that -- it was no way they would had -- they could captured it by the first day of voting. But unfortunately, that's not the case."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "All right. That's my questions. Thank you and keep up the good work. You too, Jessica."

**JESSICA CORBITT-DOMINGUEZ, DIRECTOR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Thank you, Commissioner Hall. I wanted to mention one thing that any voter who has a question about redistricting can go to FultonCountyGA.gov/redistricting. We have an online finder tool. There's information about the redistricting process and a handout. So we would encourage voters to go to that page."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Thank you for that information, because I have not received any information on redistricting myself. And I asked my team member, who also lives in the city, if she received anything and she has not either. So I don't know what this mailer looks like or how it could miss two voters that sit right here. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "I want to talk about this, let someone know if your ballot is missing. If you are a voter and you just voted for a Commissioner a year ago, you don't know that the race is missing from your ballot. So you can't object or tell anyone, especially if you haven't received the postcard from the Secretary of State to let you know that you're in a new district. There's no way for you to know. There's no way for you to say, hey, this race is missing from my ballot, because you don't know it's missing. So this is a huge problem. And saying, telling someone to look and review their ballot. I've looked and reviewed my ballot. I -- it was missing my race. Some of those 29 people might not have known that the race was missing. They just voted on Commissioner last year. How would they know? How would they know that a whole race was missing from their ballot?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS: "May I comment?"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Please."

NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS: "Okay."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Answer the question and then comment."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "They would only know if they did redistricting research before they went out to vote. I believe that the mailer that's sent out and our website encourages people to -- that it is a redistricting year, to please do research to see how it has affected you. So we're hoping

that people go out. There's an interactive map to let you look up your redistricting. And if you -- if a voter does do that, they will see exactly what races they have to vote for. They would also visit the MVP page to see --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Have you done redistricting research?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS: "Yes, I have."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "On your -- on your --"

NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS: "Yes, I have."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "-- Commission District?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "On your Congressional District?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "On your State House and State Senate Districts?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "Yes, sir. You used to be my Commissioner. Now, I have a different Commissioner, yes, sir."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Well, you're -- you're an elections professional. The average voter is not an elections professional."

NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS: "I agree, but --"

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "And they probably don't know where to go do redistricting research."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "Well, we -- like I said, we put it on the -- we tried to make it as simple as possible and put it on the Fulton County website that gives you a link to the interactive map. We know it's difficult, but there is a complete landing page that gives people that information."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "But you said the data is wrong."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "Not on that portion. Redistricting – from our map was made by Fulton County GIS, so that information is accurate."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "So why would we use differently? Why would we use wrong information, if we have accurate information?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "Because we do not control what is on E-Net. We have no control over E-Net. That is not our platform. That is the Secretary of State's platform."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Are we required to use E-Net?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM ELECTIONS DIRECTOR: "Yes, we are."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Okay. Madam Attorney, I need the -- I need to know what's going on, because this is crazy."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We'll discuss that, Commissioner. We'll discuss that."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Absolute craziness."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Yeah. For the listening public, I received the calls -- I just went in my phone. I starting receiving the calls and texts at 9:15, instead 8:15 a.m. So for those that are worried about it, it didn't come in until 9:15. However, I did receive several calls. I reached out to your office. I was told what happened, I went to several precincts. Once again, I will ask you this, Nadine, Ms. Williams, do you have control over what happened yesterday?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "No, we do not have control over what is in the platform, on the E-Net platform. We do not have control over that."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So the protocol -- and I'm not -- I don't want to go into it too far. But the protocol is, I'm assuming, to reach out to Secretary of State's office, because you do not have any anything where you can go in, or the Registrations and Elections Department can go in and fix that?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "That is correct. And we have -- we have been corresponding with the SOS in regards to that. And since we have no control over that platform, we tried to be as proactive as possible now. We're telling voters to please check their -- to check their ballots. We're telling our

staff to go off of a spreadsheet that gives correct combo information to make sure they are giving that person the correct ballot, is what we are doing at this time."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Vice Chair Hausmann."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Do we have sample ballots hanging in the precinct locations?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "We do. We have a composite ballot that Communications was able to assist us with. We also have books, because there are so many sample ballots and because the ballots are so long, we had to put them in three-ring binders. So there are sample ballots in there. It is a -- and just to be clear, it is a card style. When you go into the binder, it's actually the card style for each precinct. There's over 337 card styles. There's a manifest that helps people understand exactly which card style pertains to their precinct."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "Is there a master one though, they could hang on the wall that would indicate all the available races?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS: "Yes."

**VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN:** "So that people would know, for example that if there is a Commissioner District race that should be on their ballot?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "Yes, there is a composite ballot that's posted on the wall at ever site. There's two copies."

VICE CHAIRMAN HAUSMANN: "All right, thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Just real brief. So, Director Williams, I appreciate all the background. I've been listening real closely to this. And I got some other comments I'll reserve for later. But I did hear you say, you are going -- you've asked the staff and all the workers to go beyond just, telling the perspective voter to look at things. But you're - they're looking at detail too to try to ensure that the -- whatever they can do that the ballot they're handing is the correct ballot?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "Yes. And what we also did, which I forgot to mention, because we do understand that people are not familiar with redistricting --"

### COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Right."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "What we did do was, make a poster that has a QR code that you can scan with your phone and look up your redistricting map. For persons that do not have a phone, there is a laptop there. They can sit down and research their redistricting map as well to see exactly what's supposed to be on that ballot with their address. So all the things are available to voters if they wanted to review and make sure that they know who they are supposed to be voting for."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. But you're, in addition to that, I mean, they're sitting there when their -- when that voter walks up and they're giving their address, they're looking at it and saying, okay, this doesn't necessarily look right? So we're capturing -- we're capturing some of those things."

NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS: "Yes."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "So if that happens at that point in time and they capture and identify it, hey, this isn't the right ballot, what's sort of the step -- they're there at the polls, so what -- what's the step from there?"

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "All they have to do is inform the poll manager or inform one of the clerks. Their poll manager will call downtown, do the research --"

## COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS:** "Have them see exactly where that person resides, where that person -- that would determine the combo, which would determine what ballot they receive. So it would be a simple process for them to look it up --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS**: "-- to ensure that they get the correct ballot. And again, we have those things in place for if person wants to look at the map as well at the site."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. And is this issue all seem to revolve around split precincts, or not necessarily?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS: "Not necessarily."

#### COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay."

**NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS**: "It's not completely with the split precincts, but it is a lot of the split precincts--"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. But this -- but, you know, but we put this APB out to everybody working early voting and they're coming in and checking that -- they've kind of changed their procedure real-time, right?"

NADINE WILLIAMS, INTERIM DIRECTOR, REGISTRATION & ELECTIONS: "Yes."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay, all right. Thank you for that. This is -- yeah, wow. I'll reserve comment."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. The motion on the floor 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 Madam Clerk."

**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 6, **22-0319**, Registration and Elections. Request approval of an IGA to conduct special elections for the cities of Atlanta, East Point, College Park, and Hapeville on May 24th, 2022."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to improve by Commissioner Morris, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Please vote."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0320, Finance. Request approval of a recommended proposal to provide life and disability broker services."

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

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

**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0321, Real Estate and Asset Management. Request approval to amend the existing contract to provide project management services during the design and construction phases of the new animal service facility."

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

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

**CLERK GRIER:** "Under Health and Human Services, **22-0322**, Senior Services. Request approval of an amendment to a MOU to support senior services.""

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "22-0 -- six with Commissioner Arrington."

**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0323, Behavioral Health and Development Disabilities. Request approval of a Memorandum of Understanding to resume financial support for delivery of pre-arrest diversion services."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Morris. No questions, please vote."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0324: Public Works request approval of contract item agreement with Georgia Department of Transportation for the Widening, Milling and Resurfacing Project on Birmingham Highway."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to -- is to approve by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Chairman. I just had a couple questions for this. I believe the -- one second -- I'm sorry, I got that question answered. I withdraw the request."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion is to approve. Let's vote."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "And the next and it will be the Add-on item, **22-0336**: Request approval of a Resolution to extend emergency purchasing authority of the Chairman and County Manager for COVID-19 related purchases."

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

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

CLERK GRIER: "Next items will be on the Consent Agenda going back to page 3."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I'm impressed."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Under open and responsible government, **22-0305**, Real Estate and Asset Management. Request approval of a water vault easement dedication for the purpose of constructing the Northwinds Summit Project."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Morris. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. It's on page 3 at the top, 0305 on the Consent Agenda."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Chairman. Give me one second, I did have a question about this, I need to look back at my notes. What I wanted to know was what was the total value of this project in terms of dollars. Who would be able to answer that?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Mr. Clark."

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "Thank you. David Clark, Public Works Director for Fulton County. This is not a Public Works Project, it is a private development. What happens is typically, the infrastructure that a private development is constructing is normally installed within the right-of-way. And so therefore, we don't need a special dedicated easement. This case is, water vaults is left outside of the public right-of-way. And it's on the property of the Northwinds developments. So the developer has already constructed this water valve and vault. The valve is inside the vault. And therefore, is dedicating that over to Fulton County. There's no direct cost to Fulton County Public Works." **COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. So based on that, what is our role as a County pertaining to this request?"

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "We have to maintain the valve that's inside the water vault."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. And the water for this particular area will serve the residences that serve this area, will come from the Fulton County Water Department?"

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "That is correct."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. And I would assume, but for the sake of conversation, this action will improve the quality of life of those individuals in the Alpharetta area?"

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "I would not say that, it's basically just serving the new development's water needs."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay. So this is something that's needed?"

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "Yes."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. And if you didn't have it, it would cause a problem, correct? If it wasn't done?"

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "The development would not have water, correct."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay, all right, thank you. That's all my questions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion is to approve. Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion passes; four yeas, one abstention."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Under Health and Human Services, **22-0306**, Department for HIV Elimination. Request approval of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS program, HIV emergency relief project grants."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. We have a motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Morris. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Chairman. Glad to see you today. Just had some questions for just the education of our audience. I see that we have 23 million this year in Part A funds and 2.6 million in minority AIDS initiative or the MAI funds; is that correct?"

JEFF CHEEK, DIRECTOR, HIV ELIMINATION DEPT .: "Yes, Commissioner."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. Just for the viewing audience, what is -- could you just kind of give a layman's term of what the Part A funds are and what the MAI funds are exactly?

**JEFF CHEEK, DIRECTOR, HIV ELIMINATION DEPT.:** "Sure. My name is Jeff Cheek and I'm the Director of the Department for HIV Elimination. One of the programs that we operate is the Ryan White Program. And it's a federally funded program that provides money for Fulton County to service a 20-county area to provide services to people who otherwise could not afford care. And so we received a certain amount of money that is based on a formula that's set up by the Federal government and part based on a competitive application that we do. So then we get Part A dollars. Then there's also something called Minority AIDS initiative dollars. Those funds are to target health improvements for people of color. That they realize that the disparity is so great between minority populations and not-minority populations with HIV that we need to do targeted service to make sure that we were addressing those specific issues."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you. Could you also speak to the current status of HIV patient count in Fulton County, approximately? And also, Mr. Cheek, if you don't mind, I also would like that minority figure, the black and brown patients as well that count as well in Fulton County. So if you can give me the whole tentatively, approximately. And then what portion of that would figure in the black and brown patients in Fulton County?"

**JEFF CHEEK, DIRECTOR, HIV ELIMINATION DEPT.:** "So the majority of the cases that we serve in the entire 20-county are minority. Meaning that they are African-American or they are Latino or Latinx. Fulton County has the highest number of cases. And so that would stand true for Fulton County as well. The exact number, I can get to you. I thought I had it with me, but I could --"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "That's okay. I know we've met before. Also, I see that there is a possibility that we may have more funding coming in '23 and '24, similar amounts. What I would like to know, is this considered a large grant for fighting HIV and AIDS? Is it an average size for our county? Is it enough? Is it not enough? Could you just --"

# JEFF CHEEK, DIRECTOR, HIV ELIMINATION DEPT.: "Sure.

# COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: -- quickly speak to that?"

**JEFF CHEEK, DIRECTOR, HIV ELIMINATION DEPT.:** "Sure. Clearly, I'm going to say it's not enough."

## COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

**JEFF CHEEK, DIRECTOR, HIV ELIMINATION DEPT.:** "But we received the fifth highest award in the nation behind New York, Los Angeles, Houston. So it is in line with the burden of the HIV epidemic in Metro Atlanta. \$28 million is what we received this year -- well, in 2021. We've not gotten our full award for 2022 yet. So we are awarding the funds based on flat funding. In the event that we get additional money this year, we would then have the great experience of being able to provide additional funding to agencies. So we've also -- our grant for the first time is going to be a three-year grant from the federal government. And so we were also able to award funds for 2023 and 2024, which give agencies the opportunity to plan and to make sure that they have services in place for a period of time. So we also anticipated an increase in funding for those areas, so that -- I mean, for those years. So that if we do get an additional increase in our grant, we would be prepared to move forward with the contracts."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. Thank you for that. Also, as far as trends, are we seeing an improvement in the trends? Or are people still contracting AIDS and HIV more than ever before?"

**JEFF CHEEK, DIRECTOR, HIV ELIMINATION DEPT.:** "Right. So as a country, the number of new cases of HIV are going down, for the country as a whole. That is not true for African-Americans, where the number of new cases continues to increase. Metropolitan Atlanta is number one for new cases among African-American men in the United States. We're number one for African-American women in the United States. So our epidemic is not trending down among those populations."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Sounds as though that we're trending up."

JEFF CHEEK, DIRECTOR, HIV ELIMINATION DEPT .: "That is correct."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Especially among women and men of color. I don't know -- because I know we had this conversation before, but if you can remember as far as a district-wise, in my district, are you seeing those numbers explode? Are you seeing them in other districts going high?"

# JEFF CHEEK, DIRECTOR, HIV ELIMINATION DEPT.: "Sure."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Can you remember to speak to that?"

**JEFF CHEEK, DIRECTOR, HIV ELIMINATION DEPT.:** "Sure. So in Metropolitan Atlanta, Fulton County has the highest number of cases. Our cases are continuing to go up. They're concentrated in the central core or the central part of Fulton County that includes downtown and sort of is a little closer outside the city of Atlanta, a little bit north, and then going towards City of South Fulton below it, is where we have the majority of cases. And I also want to mention, when we were talking about the overwhelming burden among African-American men. In Georgia, the average person has a 1-in-51 chance of acquiring HIV in their lifetime. For an African-American man who has sex with men in Fulton -- in Metropolitan Atlanta, it is six out of ten, or a 60 percent chance of acquiring HIV during their lifetime."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Wow. That's devastating numbers. This is a very serious issue. So I hope you don't mind me asking these questions."

JEFF CHEEK, DIRECTOR, HIV ELIMINATION DEPT .: "My pleasure."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Because I'm trying to educate the audience as well as those that may not understand that this is at what I consider to be epidemic numbers. I see another 60 million or so for the next two years in similar funding. Is this money that is guaranteed for the county to use, and do we match any of these funds?"

**JEFF CHEEK, DIRECTOR, HIV ELIMINATION DEPT.:** "So there is not a required match. It is guaranteed only insofar as the federal government does not say we're going to discontinue the program. It's been in existence since 1990. I don't anticipate that they are going to eliminate the program anytime soon. One of the other programs that we administer is the Ending the HIV Epidemic Grant, which gives a little bit more ability to be creative in what we're doing to respond to the epidemic. And so instead of focusing just on medical care, we're focusing on some new initiatives to try to get people into care and keep them in care. So that's an additional about three and a half million. And we anticipate that number going up when we get our full reward this year. So that would be in addition to the Ryan White Part A dollars."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Well, I know in our meeting, we want to try to do some collaborative stuff, especially since we do know that people of color in the metropolitan and moving south, the numbers are increasing. What any suggestions you have? What more can we, as a Board, do to help this fight, if anything?"

**JEFF CHEEK, DIRECTOR, HIV ELIMINATION DEPT.:** "Sure. I think the Board can continue to be supportive of the issue. One of the strategic areas that the Board of Commissioners set was to be a regional leader in HIV. And to make sure that we are on

the forefront of planning for and taking care of the HIV issue in Metro Atlanta. I think that there are also things that we could do with our other departments to do better. For example, we know housing is one of the greatest unmet needs among people living with HIV disease. I think, we, in our department could do a better job partnering with Community Development to make sure we get the word out to people living with HIV that they are eligible for these programs. That they are not relying just on the HIV programs supported by the city of Atlanta. And so, you know, we could also work with senior services. Because we are seeing an aging population -- I'm sorry -- aging, not Asian, aging population. So that there are also things that could be done on educating within our senior centers to make sure that people are aware."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. Thank you, I appreciate that. I don't have any more questions."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion on the floor is to approve. Motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Morris. Please vote."

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

**CLERK GRIER:** "Under Infrastructure and Economic Development, **22-0307**, Real Estate and Asset Management. Request approval of an indemnification, maintenance, and land-use agreement for the purpose of granting conditional approval to allow storm drainage."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. A motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Chairman. I just had -- I guess DREAM can answer this. For our listening audience, what is the land-use agreement and what does it do?"

**JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, DREAM:** "Good morning, Commissioner. I'll yield to David Clark, Director of Public Works."

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "Again, David Clark, Director of Public Works. The agreement allows the storm water pipe that the developer has put in to serve his developments to be with inside the easements of the water vault."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And also, is this County land we're allowing the developer to use?"

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "Well, it's a county easement that is on private property."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. Do you know if there's any value on the land that is under this agreement? And if you do know, do you know the value of that land?"

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "I don't know what the value would be. It'll be whatever the fair market value of the private development."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay, thank you. Is there not enough storm drainage within the county's existing water vault at this site?"

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "No. There is -- the storm water line is owned and maintained by the developer. He's just placing it inside the easements of where we have the water vaults. Instead of having it completely outside of the easement on his own property, we're allowing him to have it inside the easements for the water vaults."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And so the easements, we own, the county own? Is that --"

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "The easement --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "-- we're responsible for?"

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "Yes."

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

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "But we don't maintain the storm water line. The developer still maintains storm water line. We're just letting the line that he will maintain to be within our easement."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you. You answered the --"

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "Okay."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. The motion on the floor is to approve by Commissioner Ellis and was seconded by Commissioner Hall. Let's vote."

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

**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0308, Real Estate and Asset Management. Request approval of a water vault easement for the purpose of constructing the Ivy Kids Early Learning Center."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "There's a motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Yes, Chairman. Just have a quick couple of questions. Do you know what is the value of the project, Ivy Kids Learning Center, in terms of dollars?"

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "No, ma'am, I'm sorry, I do not."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay, that's fine. And on a scale of one to ten, ten being the highest, do you know what grade of improvement and quality of life will bring -- in quality of life will this project bring to the area?"

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "No, I do not know."

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

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

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

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CLERK GRIER: "On page 7 --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Let's do this -- it's right at 1:00, so I'll entertain a motion to recess for lunch, Executive Session, items of Real Estate, Litigation, and Personnel. All right. Let's vote, please."

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

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. And Commissioner Hausmann has asked to be excused for the remainder of the day."

(Whereupon, Executive Session began at 12:56 p.m.)

(Whereupon, the Regular Session reconvened at 2:12 p.m.)

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Without objection, we will resume the regular order of business. Madam County Attorney, you ready?"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Yes, Chairman. Is there a motion to approve the request for representation set forth in items 1 through 7 of the Executive Session agenda?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. The motion to approve by Commissioner Morris, I will second. Let's vote, please."

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

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**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "And is there a motion to approve a settlement in the case of Georgia Advocacy Office versus Labat in the amount of \$1.2 million as set forth in item number 8 of the Executive Session agenda?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. We have a motion to approve by Commissioner Morris, seconded by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Let's vote, please."

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

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Back on page 7, Commissioner's Action Items, **22-0208**: Development Authority of Fulton County, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman nominated Rodney Littles to replace JoAnna Potts for a district appointment to an unexpired term ending May 31st, 2025."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Yes, Chairman. I just wanted to speak to a conversation that I had with the actual attorney that actually did the actual investigation. The attorney that the -- the actual group -- give me one second, let me put up right here. Okay. I had a conversation with Attorney Washington, Henry Washington of Andersen, Tate, and Carr. He interviewed Rodney Little. And he said that -- that Rodney Littles was not a target, he was not a person of interest. And moreover, he said that the information that Rodney Littles gave was of no help to the focus of the investigation. This is information that is available to all Commissioners. All you have to do is place a call to him or via email. And so I would say since that was a point of contention with this gentleman, I would ask my colleagues to support my person that is well respected in my district. There was information that was sent in to the Chairman, as well as other

individuals from the person in Omaha who actually was over this event. And so if we're going to be fair, the Vice Chair this morning made a statement that, I had nothing to do with her district and what goes on in her district. And I would be remiss if I didn't feel if that is the case, if I had nothing to do with what's going on in her district, why do my colleagues feel a need to block an upstanding citizen, someone who is revered, not only in the state of Georgia, but in South Fulton; had absolutely nothing to do with JoAnna Potts; have gotten information from Attorney Henry Washington of Andersen, Tate, and Carr, who were the firm that led the investigation, did the investigation; have actually said that he was not quote, a person of interest, a target, or more so, the information that he gave was totally immaterial, had nothing to do with the investigation. I would ask that they do what is fair, what is right, and to not deny the Districts 6 Commissioner's choice for the District 6 appointee to the Development Authority."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Is there a motion? Is there a motion? Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Is there a second? All right, I'll second, as I did before. Is there a second? I'll second. All right. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, followed by -- sorry. Commissioner Hall, okay."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "I'm confused. I don't understand what we were just listening to about some investigation. I think perhaps, when I went to the ladies room last meeting, I might have missed something significant. Because this whole thing about investigation that was just said, I'm not sure about what's going on."

### COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "May I address that?"

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Commissioner Ellis had a concern about JoAnna Potts. And in his concern of JoAnna Potts, he tied that concern to Rodney Littles as well. There was an ethics investigation, separate from what the attorney, who I just referenced that Dominique Huff and the other lady, I can't think of her name right now, they pulled -- when it was day -- the day for them to go before the Ethics Board, they pulled that ethics complaint back. However, that had no bearing on the investigation by the Fulton Development Authority. They hired -- one second -- they hired Andersen, Tate, and Carr to do an independent investigation on behalf of the Development Authority. And in their investigation, they interviewed several people. They interviewed quite a few people. But I won't get into who they interviewed quite a few people. But one of the people that they interviewed was Rodney J. Littles. And they have issued to me a -- what he was interviewed for, was he a target? Was he a person of interest? Or if the information, which the interview took all -- based on what Attorney Henry Washington of Andersen,

Tate and Carr stated to me. He stated that he did not have any information that was of any help to the investigation. And so since that was the concern that was stated by Commissioner Ellis, I needed to bring it to the attention of this Board that the actual investigation -- because the ethics complaint is closed. Because the two individuals that brought the ethics complaint forward, pulled it back. That had no bearing the actual legal firm of Andersen, Tate, and Carr, who did a separate investigation on behalf of the Fulton Development Authority."

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

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes. So is there or is there not currently an investigation?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "There is not an investigation."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Could County -- Madam County Attorney, can you answer that, please?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "I'm not familiar with the status of that investigation."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "And since I'm not sure who Andersen, Tate, and Carr are, I don't know who that is, have not spoken to them ever. How do we find -- can -- I'm looking in my phone and I don't have anything from them. How do we get an update on this, because I don't have any of this information."

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Our office was not involved in that investigation. It appears that Commissioner Abdur-Rahman obtained that information from the attorney's office, I believe, that conducted the investigation."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Okay. Well, I'd like all of that information shared with -- well, with at least me, if I'm asking to vote on something and there's an investigation, I don't -- I don't have any of that information. This -- was it ever sent to the Board?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "I don't think so."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "No?"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Are you asking me the question, or are you asking her? I don't --"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "I'm not aware of --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "You don't know?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "-- whether it was sent -- disseminated."

#### COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. County Attorney, to your knowledge, you have no knowledge of an open investigation concerning Rodney Littles?"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "I'm not familiar with whether there's an open investigation."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "That would not have been conducted by our office."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yeah, it was not because it was -- an ethics complaint was filed. This was well documented in news reports. So an ethics complaint was filed. That ethics complaint was pulled back by the two parties that filed it. There's no ongoing ethics complaint. When this person was submitted, the information was put out there that there was a ongoing ethics complaint. There is no ongoing ethics complaint with the Fulton County Ethics Board. Outside of that, the Fulton County Development Authority, had its separate ethics investigation handled by Andersen, Tate, and Carr. They were the hired attorneys by the Fulton County Development Authority. Nobody has access to that report except for the Commissioners. They did release a report that made its way into the news. How it made its way into the news, I don't know. But it did not name Rodney J. Littles as being a target, a person of interest, or information that he had to be any help to the investigation. And so I took it upon myself to bring that information today. But every one of these Commissioners -- if you would like, I will send you the name, and the phone number of Andersen, Tate and Carr Attorney Henry Washington, who supplied me with this information, if it's of a concern for you, as to why he should not be appointed as my District 6 representation. The information was put out there that it was a concern, because he was connected, supposedly, with JoAnna Potts. That is not true, there is not a ethics complaint, open ethics investigation on -- going on. That is not true. And the investigation that did take place on behalf of the Fulton Development Authority, he had no information as to being the target, a person of interest, or any information that he spent in a five minute, four-minute conversation with Attorney Andersen, Tate, and Carr, it did not help the investigation at all. I think this is very important information that is put out there. You have a upstanding citizen who has been made out to, where the person intentionally did or not, to not be of reputable character. And I think it's very important that I put the information out there. When we have a citizen who is a actual resident of my district, a resident of the City of South Fulton, a upstanding person. And I want to clear his name, whether you want to support my appointee to my district, is totally not the issue. The issue is, I want Rodney Littles' name cleared. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Yeah. I said my peace in this last meeting, so I'm not going to belabor it. And I don't know specifically, what all the facts are. You know, and he indeed, may have no engagement with it. But I do want to correct one thing on the record. There is -- and I confirmed this with the Ethics Board -- there were ethics charges and complaints, which were refiled in March. So those are outstanding. So I just wanted to confirm that for the record."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you. Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you, Mr. Chair, I'd like to call the question."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Is there a second?"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Second."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Let's vote on calling the question."

**CLERK GRIER:** "And the vote is open on calling the question. And the motion passes; five yeas, one nay."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion is to approve. The main motion is to approve. Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Pitts. Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion fails; two yeas, one nay, and one abstention."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Bottom of page 7, **22-0327**: Request approval of an ordinance to amend the Fulton County Code of Ordinances relating to budgetary controls of members of the Board of Commissioners."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Yeah, I'll just be brief on this. This is a fairly straightforward ordinance amendment to our -- the ordinance which really governs our expenditures out

of our County Commission budget. And I did make a statement at the last meeting in regards to another Resolution we passed that, you know, as a governing body, we do have, ultimately, the responsibility of policing ourselves, or monitoring ourselves, and setting rules around, kind of, how we govern ourselves and how we expend our funds. And it was brought to my attention by some outside parties that there were some expenditures that were made by a Commissioner for costs of musicians, emcees, or kind of a mistress of ceremonies, if you will, and some other expenditures for purposes of essentially, holding themselves an anniversary party. And I guess they went through our system and they were approved and they were -- whatever. I don't know whether they were right or not don't want to fight on that. But I do think we need to be clear in our procedures that those types of expenditures shouldn't be permitted. So the ordinance does really, you know, a few things. It says, no expenditures shall been permitted for emcees, disc jockeys, or masters or mistress of ceremonies, musicians -- these are from our County-Commission specific budgets -- or any expenditures including all party-related expenses for personal parties or events including, but not limited to, birthdays, anniversaries, weddings, or principally for the benefit or recognition of the Commissioner or other elected officials or candidates for elected office; and that Commissioners shall be personally responsible for payment of standard rental and usage fees of County facilities for items described in that subsection; and those standard fees shall not be waived; and that External Affairs, as well as DREAM, shall not promote or provide for coverage for the events described in those particular subsections unless they've been authorized to do so by the Board of Commissioners as a whole. Shouldn't have to have -- probably have to go this far to have to do these things, but it happened, so I felt like it should be spelled out."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I would like to put forth amended by a certain A Section 2A that reads, town -- to include town halls, public meetings, oath of office, and other such public purchases -- purpose events shall be allowed and are exempt from Section F 1, 2, 3 and 4."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "I'm not comfortable with -- I'm not comfortable with the amendment. I feel comfortable with the way the Resolution is written as it is and that that doesn't need to be explicitly said within it."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Anything else? All right. The motion is to approve by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Morris. Let's vote."

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

**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 8, **22-0329**: Request approval of an ordinance of the Fulton County Code of Ordinance to make defamation of other Commissioners expressly prohibited and to provide penalties for any violation and for other purposes, sponsored by Commissioner Arrington."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "The Chairman has asked me, in the absence of the Chairman and the Vice Chairman, to preside. So I'm assuming that's not an issue for anybody, I'll accept his assignment here. We have Commissioner Abdur-Rahman in the queue."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Madam County Attorney, does this Resolution leave it up to the Board to determine what is defamation?"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "The procedure for determining violation under this amendment would be the same as the current procedure within the decorum policy."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "So that's a, yes, or a, no?"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "It leaves it up to the Board as to whether or not there's been a violation of the decorum policy."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And so, to make sure I understand what you're saying, is that it leaves -- it does leave it up to the Board to determine what's defamation?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Yes, for purposes of this decorum policy."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Does this adjustment, in any way, set up a potential lawsuit in any way? Could be?"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "I don't think I understand your question. What do you mean?"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "This adjustment to the actual ordinance, the Resolution, does -- could it, in any way, set up a potential lawsuit in any way?"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Anyone can file a lawsuit. That is not something that you can control. That question is broad."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. Are there any First Amendment claims that can be lodged under this amendment?"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Again, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, you are asking me to pre-opine on matters that seem to implicate potential exposure for the County. So that is something I would be happy to discuss with you outside of open session. But I don't think it's appropriate for discussion in this forum."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Well, on that, you did put this Resolution -- you saw -- you oversaw this Resolution? Or did --"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "I saw it on the Agenda, yes."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. So when it was sent to you, did you check it for form and the clarity of it and the legality of it? Did you do any of that?"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "I certified those as to form, as I do when your office asks us to prepare matters as well."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. As our County Attorney, is truth a defense against defamation claims?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Generally, truth is a defense, yes."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you."

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "Commissioner Arrington."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Yes, thank you. I'd like to call the question."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Is there a second to calling the question? All right. A motion to call the question has been seconded. Madam Clerk."

**CLERK GRIER:** "And the vote is open to call the question. Motion to call the question passes; four yeas, one nay."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Did we have a motion on the main -- on the paper itself? We've not had motion or a second on that."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Move, approval."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "You want to press your button? All right. The motion to approve has been made by Commissioner Arrington, and seconded by Commissioner Hall. And the question has been called. So there's no discussion. So let's go ahead with the vote."

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

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "Next item."

**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0330: Request approval of a Resolution to amend the procedural rules of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners to authorize the Clerk to the Board of Commissioners to remove items from the Agenda that have been determined by the Board to be reserved for Executive Session and for other purposes sponsored by Commissioner Arrington."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Commissioner Arrington, you have the floor."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "Thank you. I want to call the question."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Okay. Is there a second? Commissioner Hall has seconded the calling of the question. Let's vote on that."

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

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "On the main motion, which was moved by Commissioner Arrington and seconded by Commissioner Hall. Let's vote."

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

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "Next item."

**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0331: Request approval of ordinance to amend the Fulton County Code of Ordinance to modify to prioritize public comments to Fulton County residents and for other purposes, sponsored by Commissioner Arrington."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Commissioner Ellis is the first in the queue."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "I just had one just real just sort of practical question. This is really for the Clerk. Just, do we feel like we can execute on this? Is there any problem with doing that?"

**CLERK GRIER:** "We could, I guess, check IDs. I don't know how we would do it through Zoom or email. That may be difficult. But we could ask for IDs here as long as it's not a large group that would you know --"

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "We should screen them --"

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "Mr. Ellis has the floor."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "I mean, I -- if you -- I'm generally supportive of this. And I do think our citizens should, you know, be given priority for, you know, when we've got sort of a limited pre-described time frame for public comments. I do think that that's -- is fair for that. I just want to make sure that if we pass it, we can effectuate the necessary procedures to allow it to occur. I mean, and if there needs to be, you know, any further conversation to allow that to take place, you know, our modifications to the, you know, to the ordinance, then I mean -- I'm just -- I don't know if you've looked at this to feel like you can answer that question effectively right now or not."

**CLERK GRIER:** "We would need to probably take some time to evaluate that. As I stated, I think that the only way we could really determine that would be with IDs, driver's license. I'm not sure."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Well, I mean obviously, you know, when they -- we're supposed to state, you know, I guess, when in their public comment record, right?"

CLERK GRIER: "Right."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "So I mean, I don't think you need to be in the, you know, process of checking IDs and that sort of stuff --"

CLERK GRIER: "That would be the only way."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "That goes a little bit -- but they would need to identify them within their remarks. If they did that, do we have the ability to then prioritize it based upon, you know, the cards that are submitted?"

**CLERK GRIER:** "Yes. There is an area for you to have your address on the card. We could do it that way. But --"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "And is the ordinance -- this is a question, I guess, for Commissioner Arrington. Does the ordinance specify that? I mean, it's not that non-Fulton County citizens would not be restricted from public comment. It's just that the Fulton County residents would give -- be given priority to go first?"

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Yes. They would be given priority. So today, for example, we only had six speakers."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Right."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "So anyone that was not a Fulton County resident would likely have had time today."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "And did the resolution speak specifically, to all public comment, or just for the public portion of public comment, with people coming down?"

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "I'm not sure if it's for all or just -- I think it's for all, but."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Can the County Attorney -- did the language, speak to that? I'm sorry to take so long. I just want to make sure that if we put it in place, we just can operate on."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "As currently drafted --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Yeah."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "-- it only includes the in-person public comments."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. So that -- so that, given that, it's pretty straightforward for you to be able to do the card so that the folks that notate a Fulton County residency or Fulton County address could be first. And then the ones, the other ones would be at the end if we ran out of time then --"

CLERK GRIER: "That's correct."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "They would come back --"

CLERK GRIER: "If they provide us with that address."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay, all right. Thank you."

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I would move to table this to get more information. Because if we are still taking Zoom comments, if we're still taking online comments, but we are saying it only applies to people in person, I think there's a potential, in any way, to create for us to be sued by a citizen who works in Fulton County, citizen who goes to school in Fulton County, in terms of a citizen, period. So I believe it is in the best interest of this Body to table this to get more questions answered. Because I even have a concern, is -- if though we're putting more work, unnecessary work on the Clerk's staff. And here again, how would you determine who is a Fulton County citizen. Are we requiring a picture ID? Are we going to take a library card? Are we going to take voter's registration? I have questions and I think it's in the best interest that we table this and get those questions answered to be fair to all of the taxpaying citizens of Fulton County. I think you do not -- you do not want to be accused of not being fair. So I would ask for a second on my motion, just to table this to get some questions answered."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Commissioner, there is a difference between tabling and holding. Are you -- would a motion to hold be just as sufficient for you?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yes, it would."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Okay. Is there a second on the motion to hold? I guess, I'm going to second that motion to hold for discussion purposes at least. But I had the same questions that Commissioner Ellis had about the verification. And the language talks about verifying the residency. I would have been comfortable with just filling out the card and taking their word for it as opposed to, you know, really doing an investigation and making sure some way. And I don't know, Commissioner Arrington, if that would be sufficient in your -- with respect to why you put this forth. And I think I understood why it ought to be put forth. And I don't disagree with the concept. And it did seem to me, maybe we need a little clarification, it talks about -- the language that's been added is in the section dealing with -- well, Section D, 3-D. And the sentence before the added language is, regardless of the form of the public comment, spoken slash written, end quote, the time limit would be two minutes. And then it goes on to add about priority. So it sort of implies that it addresses written and oral. And maybe it needs a little clarification. Can I ask you, Mr. Arrington, to respond to that those questions?"

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Certainly. Thank you, Commissioner Morris. I'm happy to work with you and some of the other Commissioners to find language that may be useful. You know, in normal times and normal circumstances, Commissioner Morris, everything you said would be true, but these are not normal times. These are not normal circumstances. Someone firebombed my law office, firebombed my law office. I go to the poll yesterday and my race is not on my ballot. These are unusual and unprecedented times. And so I agree with you, normally we ought to be able to rely on people to provide their address and to just look at that. Unfortunately, I think we need identification. But my proposal was to let the Clerk make that decision in her realm, how she verifies them, and not necessarily overstep my boundaries and tell her how to do it. I just kind of wanted to establish the policy, and then give her that freedom."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "And I think I heard the Clerk suggesting you might want a little time to reflect on that. So maybe the motion to hold is in order. But Commissioner Hall is in the queue. Call on you, Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Thank you, Commissioner Morris. I just want to go to the fact that I offered a friendly amendment. I actually did it via email. My Chief of Staff, Anita Harris, sent an email on my behalf to the County Attorney and Commissioner Arrington and his Chief of Staff, Dorsha Simmons, for this particular item. And my friendly amendment was to restrict all non-County citizens from giving public comment after all in-

person, Zoom, and emailed Fulton County citizen's comments have been heard. So I do agree that it needs to cover all of the means of communication that we offer to our citizens. So I had actually presented that as a friendly amendment. I just did it via email because trying to get it done before the Board meeting. And additionally, my question was, does Fulton County citizen include those citizens that have businesses and nonprofit employees in Fulton County?"

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "I don't know that it is defined. But I certainly will accept the friendly amendment. But I'm happy to hold to work with you and Commissioner Morris, Ellis, Hausmann, and Pitts on how to proceed and going forward."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Okay. Do we need to take a vote on the motion to hold?"

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

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "Okay. Next item, please."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Bottom of page 8, Commissioner's Full-Board Appointments 22-0332, Hospital Authority of Fulton County, the Board of Trustees of the Hospital Authority reelected Barbara Pare, elected Steven Moss, M.D., and reelected Stephen J. Wells, M.D. for terms ending April 1st, 2026."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "This is a little bit unusual. You may recall that we put forth some name -- they put forth some names for us to send back to them. And then from those names that they had sent us, they picked these three folks. And then now sent it back to us to sort of accept them. So I made that motion to approve their selection of these board members. And Commissioner Ellis has seconded. Commissioner Arrington, you want to speak on this?"

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "No. I would just like to get a copy of their mission statement. We just had another hospital close in South Fulton. And this -- yeah, I know we have the Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority. This authority is labeled Hospital Authority of Fulton County, and I see Northside in parentheses. So I just need to understand more about what they're doing and what their area and territory is. But I don't have any problem going forward with the slate of nominees, as suggested."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Okay. I'll ask my Chief of Staff, perhaps, to track that down for everybody; that would be terrific."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Okay. Yeah, or the County Attorney's office may be able to do it. I can assume that there's some type of bylaws or charters or something. Is it a state entity? Is it a county entity?"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "My understanding is the county owns the land. And the hospital rents it."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "So, very similar to Fulton-DeKalb Hospital Authority."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Except we don't pay them a lot of money. We don't pay them any money."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "So when it says Northside, it's talking about Northside Hospital?"

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "Northside Hospital, that's correct."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Okay. It's not just talking about all of the north side?"

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "That's correct. It's just Northside Hospital."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "See, so a lot of that stuff can be misleading in the way it's presented."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Understand. All right. If there are no other questions or comments, let's vote."

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

**CLERK GRIER:** "And back on page 5, **22-0315**: Presentation of the COVID-19 Operational Response Update."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Great. I think this is the last item on the agenda. So County Manager, it's almost 3:00. So you only have two hours. So we're going to wrap up by 5:00."

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "You surprised me. I thought you were going to say two minutes. And that's what we're prepared for. So very routine report, Commissioners. I'll give you some upfront comments, and then I think Doug Schuster is available. Matt Kallmyer is at the Kentucky Derby shadowing their emergency

management folks. And as a Kentuckian, I'm offended that I wasn't invited. But I'm pleased that he's thought so highly of that they've invited him there. The trends are continuing to be good. The cases rising slightly to 94 or so, which is a little bit more than the per capita average, which would be 60. Hospitalizations and deaths have declined and plateaued. The BA.2 variant is the most prevalent, makes up 66 percent of the cases now. The projections though, as you look through your materials, still look very good and no uptick is forecasted at this point. Given other factors, not COVID related, bed availability is less than 15 percent. And the morgue census is at 88. So both are at levels of concern and we continue to monitor those. We remain in a transition phase as we continue to administer test and vaccines. Our discussion this past week, we are still delivering about 400 to 500 vaccines per week. We are augmenting testing with four water treatment plant sites this next week, and then 20 targeted manholes in the next month or so in this partnership with Emory that I discussed in the last meeting. We also are prepared now to launch kiosk-based testing here at 141, the courts system, and then at the jail that'll give us insight into any emerging trends without any intensive labor content. And in if that goes well, we plan to fix some other locations for more readily public access. Dr. Roshell reports that we've almost now fully distributed this first incremental tranche of 25 million in the emergency rental assistance. So now we begin the second tranche of that. We'll keep you updated as that moves along. Our operations remain open. We managed through the special grand jury security restrictions, I think, without a hiccup. In fact, it's probably a good drill for us for other purposes from talking to the Sheriff. We did have five new cases reported in the last reporting period, so still pretty nominal. In addition, as you know, Advanced Voting began this Monday. We've listed the COVID protocols in your material, as well as, I sent you a memorandum to that effect. And again, the summary of that is, masks are not required but are available in our polling places upon citizen request. I don't think we have, certainly, any of the 30 advanced locations that require masking. If that is required on Election Day, we'll be prepared to do that. We've implemented the key classification changes and are seeing good progress. One most encouraging in the last IT status call that we had on Friday, Glenn reported vacancies declining from 48 to 33. So in about the next 30 or 45 days, we'll give you an overall report. But anticipating now, a very positive impact. One thing I wanted to bring to your attention that someone outside of this, but some of this funded by our ARPA funds is that we have a significant number of facility builds or planned investments. So just to remind you, animal shelter, public safety training center, and election's central warehouse, HHH -- HHS centers at Northpoint and Stonewall Tell, the Fulton County Airport, a housing option on FIB, yet to be flushed out. Of course, pandemic proofing the 141 building. And then the ultimate project, which will be whatever results from the jail feasibility study. So just keep that in mind. We're beginning to assess it for both financial implications as well as operational capacity to manage. But we've got a lot actually in front of us. Last, I just want to make note of, because of not only that it's Mental Health Awareness Month, but I think we're the only county that has launched a campaign to bring attention to that important issue. Included in your package is all the aspects of this overall campaign, digital billboards, social media page search, and radio. So hopefully, you'll take a look at that summary and as well, perhaps, already being -- seeing it in the public. And then last, of course, our COVID financial program is now at 355 million with the additional 25 million received for ERAP. It remains in good shape. It's all fully allocated with a \$26 million reserve. So just keep that in mind as external parties' approaches for any significant allocations. So, Commissioner Morris, that's our report. If the Board has any questions, I can probably answer those. Or if Doug is available, I'll call on him."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Okay. Questions or comments from the Board? Seeing none."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "That concludes our report."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Thank you. You got -- golly, you could have used just a few minutes. It's not 3:00 o'clock yet. All right. There's nothing else to come before us, we will stand adjourned."

# Adjournment at 2:59 p.m.