#### FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS



**RECESS MEETING** 

May 18, 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 15, 2022

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Robert L. Pitts ROLL CALL: Tonya R. Grier, Clerk to the Commission	10:00 a.m.
Robert L. Pitts, Chairman (At-Large)	PRESENT
Liz Hausmann, Vice-Chairman (District 1)	ABSENT
Bob Ellis, Commissioner (District 2)	PRESENT
Lee Morris, Commissioner (District 3)	PRESENT
Natalie Hall, Commissioner (District 4)	PRESENT
Marvin S. Arrington, Jr., Commissioner (District 5)	PRESENT
Khadijah Abdur-Rahman, Commissioner (District 6)	PRESENT

**INVOCATION:** Reverend Clifton Dawkins, Jr., County Chaplain

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recite in unison

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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

#### CONSENT AGENDA

#### <u>22-0337</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 Recess Meeting Agenda for separate consideration. (ADOPTED AS AMENDED)

A motion was made by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Commissioner Morris, to adopt the Consent agenda as amended. by removing item #22-0355 as requested by the County Manager; removing items #22-0346, #22-0347, and #22-0354 for separate consideration as requested by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Absent: Hausmann, and Arrington

#### 22-0338 Board of Commissioners

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

Proclamation recognizing "Eagle Scout Mari Katherine Gerhardstein Appreciation Day." (Hausmann) May 14, 2022

Proclamation recognizing "Eagle Scout Mika Luna Lang Appreciation Day." (Hausmann) May 14, 2022

Proclamation recognizing "Nick Cannon Foundation Appreciation Day." (Arrington) May 20, 2022

Proclamation recognizing "Gordon Certain Appreciation Day." (Morris) May 21, 2022

#### **Commissioners' District Board Appointments**

#### <u>22-0339</u> Board of Commissioners

FULTON COUNTY HOMELESS CONTINUUM OF CARE (CoC) (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

Term = 2 Years

<u>Term below expired</u>: 12/31/2020 Chenee Joseph (Pitts/BOC-At-Large)

Chairman Pitts nominated Lucy Hall for a District appointment to an unexpired term ending December 31, 2022.

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

#### **<u>22-0340</u>** Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of two (2) Sewer Easement Dedications comprising 59,979 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia from Southpoint Farms LPIV, LLC., for the purpose of constructing the Panattoni Southpoint Farms Project at 0 Campbellton Fairburn Road, Union City, Georgia 30213. (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

#### **<u>22-0341</u>** Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a change order less than 10% - Department of Real Estate and Asset Management, 20RFP011320K-DB, Construction Management at Risk Services for the Renovation and Refurbishment of the Restrooms and Common Areas in the Fulton County Government and Judicial Center Complexes - Phase I in an amount not to exceed \$473,764.45 with H.J. Russell & Company (Atlanta, GA), to modify the existing scope of work to provide additional restrooms modifications and common areas improvements because of unforeseen existing conditions for the Fulton County Judicial and Government Center Complexes -Phase I Project and to extend the contract term by an additional three (3) month period through and September 30, 2022. Effective upon BOC approval. (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

#### 22-0342 Finance

Ratification of April 2022 Grants Activity Report. (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

#### 22-0343 Finance

No action is requested. This reporting is being provided to meet the quarterly reporting requirement for monetary transfers among budget funds per Board Resolution #09-1262. (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

#### Arts and Libraries

#### 22-0344 Library

Request approval to award a contract without competition - Fulton County Library System, 21EF133967B, Movie Performance License in an amount not to exceed \$16,166.00 with Swank Motion Pictures, Inc. This action will satisfy federal copyright requirements to allow library facilities to show legal movies from the world's best studios, at anywhere inside of the Library building. Effective upon BOC approval for a 12-month period. (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

#### 22-0345 Library

Request approval of a Resolution authorizing Fulton County, Georgia to accept donation of a mural by local artist Diana Toma sponsored by the Friends of the Sandy Springs Library; approving the installation agreement with Artist Diana Toma and the Friends of the Sandy Springs Library, Inc.; authorizing the Chairman to execute an agreement with the Local Artist and the Friends Group; and for other purposes. The County Attorney is authorized to approve the Donation and Installation Agreement as to form and make modifications prior to execution. (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

#### Health and Human Services

#### 22-0346 Public Works

Request approval of a change order less than 10% - Public Works, 17RFP031617K-DJ Progressive Design/Build Services for Big Creek Water Reclamation Facility (WRF) Expansion Project Phase 2B in the amount of \$201,545.00 with Archer Western-Brown and Caldwell Joint Venture (Atlanta, GA) to cover the impact of tariffs for material and equipment and to extend the contract term by eleven (11) additional days due to inclement weather so that Final Completion is now 1411 consecutive days from the issuance of the Notice to Proceed or July 5, 2024. Effective upon BOC approval. **(APPROVED)** 

#### ITEM REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION AS REQUESTED BY COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN

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

#### 22-0347 Senior Services

Request approval to increase spending authority - Department of Senior Services, 17RFP109210A-FB, Comprehensive Nutrition Care in the amount not to exceed \$254,077.30 with Open Hand Atlanta (Atlanta, GA) to provide congregate meals, nutrition education, and nutrition counseling for Fulton County residents aged 60 and above. Effective upon BOC approval. This funding is 100% grant funded. **(APPROVED)** 

#### ITEM REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION AS REQUESTED BY COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN

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

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

Absent: Hausmann

#### 22-0348 Senior Services

Request approval of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Senior Services and Georgia State University Concerning their Affiliation for Student Training. Effective upon approval through May 31, 2023. (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

#### Infrastructure and Economic Development

#### **<u>22-0349</u>** Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a First Amendment to Lease Agreement between SK ARO, LLC (Lessor) and Fulton County, Georgia (Lessee), to temporarily expand the leased space by 1,256 square feet under a previously executed Lease Agreement for the purpose of displaying art exhibits, at no additional cost to the County (except internet charges); to authorize the Chairman to execute the First Amend to Lease Agreement; to authorize the County Attorney to approve the First Amendment to Lease Agreement as to form and make modifications as necessary prior to execution. Effective May 1, 2022 and ends December 31, 2022, unless terminated sooner as permitted within the Lease Agreement. (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

#### **<u>22-0350</u>** Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a Sewer Easement Dedication of 19,494 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from GS South Fulton Owner, LLC, for the purpose of constructing the South Fulton Multifamily Project at 5617 Oakley Industrial Blvd, South Fulton, Georgia 30213. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)** 

#### **<u>22-0351</u>** Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a Sewer Easement Dedication of 1,469 square feet to Fulton County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, from Delores W. Kuneyl, not individually but as Executor of the Estate of Margaret Lou West, for the purpose of constructing the Jonesboro Road Senior Village Project at 3825 Jonesboro Road, South Fulton, Georgia 30213. (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

#### **<u>22-0352</u>** Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a Resolution approving the conveyance of an Underground Utility Easement Agreement between Fulton County, Georgia and Georgia Power Company for the purpose of completing planned onsite improvements at 3960 Aero Drive; authorizing the Chairman to execute a Underground Utility Easement Agreement and related documents; authorizing the County Attorney to approve the Underground Utility Easement Agreement and related documents as to form and make necessary modifications thereof prior to execution. Effective upon BOC approval. (APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)

#### **<u>22-0353</u>** Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval of a Resolution approving a Consent to Use Agreement between Fulton County, Georgia, and TowerCom V.B. LLC, a Delaware limited liability company, and the City of Chattahoochee Hills related to the installation of a cell tower at Cochran Mill Park; Authorizing the Chairman to execute a Consent to Use agreement to carry out this purpose; authorizing the County Attorney to approve the Consent to Use agreement as to form prior to execution by the Chairman; and for other purposes. **(APPROVED UPON ADOPTION OF THE CONSENT AGENDA)** 

#### Justice and Safety

#### 22-0354 Juvenile Court

Request approval to award a contract without competition - Juvenile Court, 22SS013A-CJC, Justice Case Activity Tracking System in the amount not to exceed \$421,000.00, with Canyon Solutions INC, (Phoenix, Arizona) to provide implementation of data collection and reporting updates to the Fulton County Juvenile Court's case management system, JCATS (Justice Case Activity Tracking System) which will further the goal of tracking recidivism rates and other youth outcomes to measure implementation progress and guide implementation improvements. Effective upon BOC approval. 100% grant funded. **(APPROVED)** 

#### ITEM REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR SEPARATE CONSIDERATION AS REQUESTED BY COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN

a. 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

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

Absent: Hausmann

Did Not Vote: Abdur-Rahman

#### <u>22-0355</u> Juvenile Court

Request approval to extend an existing contract, Juvenile Court -19RFP100119A-CJC, Specific Evidence-Based Delinquency Prevention Programming with Chris 180 to align the existing term October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021 to a new contract term of June 1, 2022 through September 30, 2022 for the (2017-CZ-BX-0028) Second Chance grant. Effective upon BOC approval. (**REMOVED**)

#### ITEM REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA

#### RECESS MEETING AGENDA

#### <u>22-0356</u> Board of Commissioners

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

A motion was made by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Commissioner Ellis, to adopt as amended by revising item #22-0358 as requested by Commissioner Hall. The motion passed by the following vote:

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

Absent: Hausmann, and Arrington

#### <u>22-0357</u> Clerk to the Commission

Ratification of Minutes. (RATIFIED)

Recess Meeting Minutes, April 20, 2022 Regular Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, May 4, 2022

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

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

Absent: Hausmann, and Arrington

#### <u>22-0358</u> Board of Commissioners

Presentation of Proclamations and Certificates. (PRESENTED)

Proclamation recognizing "Public Works Week." (Pitts)

Proclamation recognizing "Certified Public Managers Appreciation Day." (Hall)

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

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

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

\*Proclamation recognizing "Rev. Dr. Gerald Durley Appreciation Day." (Hall)

\*\* Proclamation recognizing "Asian Americans Advancing Justice Appreciation Day." (Hall)

\*removed during the meeting \*\*added during the meeting

#### PUBLIC HEARINGS

#### <u>22-0359</u> 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)

#### Speakers: NONE

5 Zoom Speakers: Carletha Felton (Retention Ponds); Matt Rowenczak (Elections); B. Rohr (Elections); Ben Howard (Commission on Elder Affairs/Senior Services) and Myrtle Bolden (Retention Ponds)

2 Emailed Comments: Tamara Seymour (Elections) and Robin Hiers (Elections)

#### PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD

#### Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority

#### **22-0360** Board of Commissioners MARTA Quarterly Briefing (PRESENTED)

#### COUNTY MANAGER'S ITEMS

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

#### 22-0361 County Manager

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

#### 22-0362 Purchasing and Contract Compliance

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

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

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

Absent: Hausmann

#### 22-0363 Finance

Presentation, review and approval of May 18, 2022 Budget Soundings. (PRESENTED/APPROVED)

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

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

Nay: Pitts

Absent: Hausmann

#### **<u>22-0364</u>** Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval to amend an existing contract - Fulton County Library System, RFP #11RFP78732K-NH, Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment (FF&E) Consulting Services for the Library Capital Improvement Program, Phase II (FCLS-CIP) with Hillsman, Inc. (Alpharetta, GA) in the amount of \$50,075.00 to provide additional interior design, furniture selection, procurement of furniture and furnishings and installation of all procured items for Peachtree Library, MLK Library and East Point Library Expansion. Effective upon BOC approval until projects are completed as determined by the County. (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

#### **<u>22-0365</u>** Real Estate and Asset Management

Request approval to amend an existing contract - Fulton County Library System, 17RFP09920117K-JAJ, Design/Build Services for Library Capital Improvement Program, Phase II (FCLS-CIP) Group 2 Projects with The Evergreen Corporation d/b/a Evergreen Construction (Atlanta, GA) in the amount of \$548,343.00, to provide additional construction services for Northeast Spruill Oaks Library, Northside Library and Buckhead Library. Effective upon BOC approval until completion as determined by the County. (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

#### 22-0366 Senior Services

Request approval to amend existing contracts - Department of Community Development, 20RFQ123941A-CJC, Fulton County Rehabilitation Program in a total amount not to exceed \$385,183.00 with: (A) Allusion Design and Construction (Roswell, GA) in the amount of \$192,591.50 and (B) Energy Construction Solutions, Inc. (Stockbridge, GA) in the amount of \$192,591.50 to provide minor home repairs as a part of the Senior Services minor home repair program. Effective upon BOC approval through December 31, 2022. **(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, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Hausmann

#### 22-0367 Senior Services

Request approval to increase spending authority - Department of Senior Services, 21RFP000016A-CJC, Alternative Senior Transportation Services, in the total amount of \$519,177.60 (including a County match of \$129,794.40 that is within the Department budget) to provide transportation services/ride sharing through Uber/Lyft for Fulton County residents aged 60 and above. Effective upon BOC approval. **(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, Arrington, and Abdur-Rahman

Absent: Hausmann

#### 22-0368 Public Works

Request approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement ("IGA") between Fulton County and the City of Milton, Georgia, for water main relocations associated with the intersection improvement of Hopewell Road and Bethany Bend in the City of Milton, in an estimated amount of \$503,585.00. If approved, the IGA is effective upon execution. **(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

#### COMMISSIONERS' ACTION ITEMS

#### **<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 ON 5/4/22) (HELD FOR 30 DAYS)

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

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

Absent: Hausmann

#### 22-0369 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution authorizing a pledge in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.00 to the Fourth Ward Neighborhood Association in support of revitalization efforts for the 54 Columns Public Art Installation Project via a Contract for Services; and for other purposes. (Pitts/Hall/Arrington)(APPROVED)

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

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

Absent: Hausmann

Did Not Vote: Ellis

#### 22-0370 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution authorizing the transfer of Title in Fee Simple of certain real property from Fulton County, Georgia to the City of South Fulton, Georgia; authorizing the Chairman to execute all documents necessary to effectuate such transfers; authorizing the County Attorney to approve all documents as to form and make modifications thereto as necessary prior to execution; and for other purposes. (Pitts) (APPROVED)

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

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

Absent: Hausmann

Did Not Vote: Abdur-Rahman

#### <u>22-0371</u> Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution in support of Women's Rights and the Rights of Privacy of all citizens, and for other purposes. (Abdur-Rahman) (APPROVED AS AMENDED)

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

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

Absent: Hausmann, and Arrington

Did Not Vote: Ellis

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Hall and seconded by Chairman Pitts, to hold. The motion failed by the following vote:

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

#### 22-0372 Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution in observance and support of Asian-American and Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander Heritage Month; and for other purposes. **(Abdur-Rahman) (APPROVED)** 

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

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

Absent: Hausmann, and Arrington

#### **<u>22-0373</u>** Board of Commissioners

Request approval of a Resolution in observance of Memorial Day in Fulton County and in honoring the men and women who gave the ultimate sacrifice so that Americans continue to enjoy life, liberty, freedom and all the privileges of American citizenship; and for other purposes. **(Abdur-Rahman) (APPROVED)** 

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

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

Absent: Hausmann, and Arrington

#### COMMISSIONERS' PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

22-0374 **Board of Commissioners** Discussion: Invest Atlanta Board of Directors April 21, 2022 Meeting Summary (Morris) (DISCUSSED) 22-0375 **Board of Commissioners** Discussion: Atlanta BeltLine, Inc. May 11, 2022 CEO Report (Morris) (DISCUSSED) **Board of Commissioners** 22-0376 Discussion: Whistle-blower protection, procedures and policies in Fulton County (Abdur-Rahman) (DISCUSSED) **Board of Commissioners** 22-0377 Discussion: Mental Health Disparities in Fulton County (Abdur-Rahman) (DISCUSSED) **Board of Commissioners** 22-0378 Discussion: ARPA Funds Distribution per Resolutions and Investment Depository update (Abdur-Rahman) (DISCUSSED) **Board of Commissioners** 22-0379 Discussion: Status update on execution and implementation of Board Resolution

to combat voter suppression in Fulton County (Abdur-Rahman) (HELD)

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### <u>22-0380</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; Lawrence Bundy Attorney Allegra Lawrence, and Clerk to the Commission Tonya R. Grier. Vice-Chairman Hausmann was absent.

PRESENT IN THE EXECUTIVE SESSION REGARDING SECURITY: Chairman Pitts, Commissioners: Ellis, Morris, Hall, Arrington and Abdur-Rahman; County Manager Dick Anderson; County Attorney Y. Soo Jo; and Clerk to the Commission Tonya R. Grier. Vice-Chairman Hausmann was absent.

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

Yea:	Pitts, Ellis,	Morris,	and Arrington

Absent: Hausmann

**Did Not Vote:** Hall, and Abdur-Rahman

b. A motion was made by Commissioner Ellis and seconded by Commissioner Morris, to approve the representation request in item #1 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 Arrington, to approve the measures set forth in item #4 as discussed in Executive Session. 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 4:25 p.m.

# FULTON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONER'S RECESS MEETING

May 18, 2022

10:00 A.M.

Alexander Solutions, LLC

(Where upon the meeting was called to order at 10:00.)

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Good morning, everyone and welcome to the Recess Meeting of the Fulton County Board of Commissioner's. It is exactly 10 a.m. Today is May 18th 2022. Madam Clerk, please call the roll."

CLERK GRIER: "Chairman Robb Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Present."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Vice Chairman Liz Hausmann. Commissioner Bob Ellis. Commissioner Lee Morris."

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "Present."

CLERK GRIER: "Commissioner Natalie Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Present."

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

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Present."

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

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

**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 2, Consent Agenda, **22-0337** - Adoption of the Consent Agenda. All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered routine by the County Commission and will be enacted by one motion. No separate discussion will take place on these items. If discussion of any Consent Agenda item is desired, the item will be moved to the Recess Meeting Agenda for separate consideration. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we have items to be removed from the Consent Agenda. The first item, on page 6, is to be removed. It may be brought back at a later date."

#### CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Which item."

**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 6, 22-0355, Juvenile Court. Request approval to extend an existing contract with Chris 180. That one will be moved altogether."

#### CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

**CLERK GRIER:** "And we have three items that are going to be removed for separate consideration as requested by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. The first item is on page 4, under Health and Human Services, 22-0346, Public Works: Request approval of a change order less than 10 percent for the Big Creek Water Reclamation Facility Expansion Project. 22-0347, Senior Services: Request approval to increase spending authority to provide congregate meals and nutrition education. And the last one is on page 5, 22-0354, Juvenile Court: Request approval to award a contract without competition to provide implementation of data collection and reporting updates to the Fulton County Juvenile Court's Case Management System."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Any others Commissioners?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay. All right. I'll entertain a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. A motion to approve by Commissioner Hall -- excuse me -- seconded by Commissioner Morris. Please vote."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 6, Recess Meeting Agenda, **22-0356**, Adoption of the Recess Meeting Agenda. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we have one item to be revised. It is on page 6, Proclamations and Certificates 22-0358. Commissioner Hall has requested to add a Proclamation recognizing 'Asian Americans Advancing Justice Appreciation Day'. And we're removing the Proclamation for 'Reverend Dr. Gerald Durley Appreciation Day'.

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Anything else?" Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Yes, Mr. Chair. The three items that were removed from the Consent Agenda, starting on page 4; I would request that those be heard after item 0 -- on page 8, 22-0368; since those will be--"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Page 8? After --"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "--the items removed from the Consent Agenda would be heard after -0368."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. Anything else?"

COMMISSIONERS: (No response.)

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Just an observation: On page 9, there are two, three items actually that seem to be more like Proclamations than Resolutions; 0371, 0372, and 0373. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, is there a reason why these are as Legislation versus Proclamations?"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "The reason they were done that way was because of the subject matter of all three. Anyone can look at the news recently; and also being a mother of a veteran and a family full of veterans, I think that the way that it was put was appropriate in observance of Memorial Day. And so, that's why it was put as that as opposed to a Proclamation."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay. No objection to that, but what I would ask as we are reviewing the way we perceive, I think we need to take a look at Resolutions versus Proclamations. It's nothing -- this has been done before, but it may be that we would treat all Proclamations as Resolutions and--"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "--well, with all due respect Chairman, I've noticed that every time we have Proclamations, you want us to speed them up. You don't like the amount of Proclamations that we are doing. So out of respect for you, that's why I didn't put a lot of Proclamations in because you don't like a lot of Proclamations. So, I have no problem. Duly noted. Moving forward. But that's why it was a determination to do it this way as opposed to spending an hour and a half on Proclamations."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "So noted. All right. Let's approve the Agenda as amended. Let's vote, please. Motion to approve by Commissioner Hall; is there a second? Seconded by Commissioner Ellis. Please vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Continue."

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WINDOWS USER

**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0357, Ratification of Minutes. Recess Meeting Minutes, April 20th. Regular Meeting Post Agenda Minutes, May 4th, 2022."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Go ahead ask your question."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "I'm sorry. I had a question on the last item that we were just discussing. I would like to ask the County Manager if you could just give us -- I'm sorry, the County Attorney if you could just give us -- clear up what is a Resolution; and what it does as it compares to a Proclamation, so that everyone can understand."

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY**: "A Proclamation is a ceremonial recognition that has been extended to recognize a community member or an issue by the Commissioners. Legislation takes action by the governing Body. In this instance, these three Resolutions are technically Legislation; but they don't do a lot more than the Proclamation in that it is recognizing the community member or event. So functionally, it appears to be in the nature of a Proclamation, but it is brought through the vehicle of a Resolution."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Yes, County Attorney. Am I in violation of anything in bringing that forward? I would like your opinion on that."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "No, Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. I was not --"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "okay, that -- you said, no. That's fine. You answered the question; you said, no. Thank you. I don't need anything additional."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Continue Madam Clerk."

CLERK GRIER: "Okay. We need a second on the motion to Ratify the Minutes."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Is there a second? All right. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. Please vote."

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

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WINDOWS USER

**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0358, Presentation of Proclamations and Certificates. The first Proclamation is recognizing 'Certified Public Managers Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Hall."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Thirty minutes."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Okay. There we go. All right. Come on down everyone. Hey, how you doing. Good. Hello. Hello. Good. Good. How you doing. Come on down to the other side; let's kind of balance it off. All right. Are we good? All right. Well, tip on over here. It is an honor to present this Proclamation because when Kenneth Hermon and County Manager, Dick Anderson came together with this idea to bring the Certified Public Managers training to Fulton County, at that time, I was the Chief of Staff to the late Fulton County Commissioner, Joan P. Garner; and immediately my boss said, you absolutely must do this program. And I was so happy to do it. And so, it is an honor as a Commissioner to have this certification, and be able to represent such an outstanding group of employees that actually go through this program as well. And to show that this CPM certification can really take you far. It can really help you a lot in your career. And so, the Proclamation reads: WHEREAS, Fulton County government entered into a Memorandum of Agreement with the University of Georgia, Carl Vinson Institute of Government to offer the Certified Public Managers, CPM Program to managers and supervisors within Fulton County. And WHEREAS, the University of Georgia is the only organization within the State of Georgia authorized by the National CPM Consortium to offer the CPM Program, and Fulton County CPM Class of 2022. It's the 6th class in the Fulton County -- in Fulton County to receive the CPM certification. And WHEREAS, the CPM class, Cohort K focuses on those less fortunate homeless citizens and residents of extended-stay hotels, experiencing hardships selected three Fulton County extended-stay hotels, 80 families to receive health hygiene care packages, and food items. And distributed the care packages and food items to each location with encouraging notes included. And the CPM class -- included and the CPM Class Cohort L, wanting to provide teachers with the necessary tools and supplies needed to perform their everyday duties in the classroom, identified one school in each Board of Commissioners District having the greatest need for supply donations; collecting approximately 1000 supplies. And Cohort L was able to deliver 6 to 8 boxes of supplies to each school. And WHEREAS the CPM class has completed 300 hours of coursework in nine months; dedicating three full consecutive days per month to attending classes, completing out of class homework and academic studies, and giving back to the community of their time, talents, and intellectual capital. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners of Fulton County,

congratulates the CPM Class of 2022 for successfully completing the requirements to receive their professional certifications as Certified Public Managers. And DOES HEREBY PROCLAIM Wednesday, May 18th, 2022, as Fulton County Certified Public Managers Day in Fulton County, Georgia. Congratulations to all of you."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Thank you, Commissioner. I'll say a few words before the presidents say something. Good morning, I'm Kenneth L. Hermon, Jr., Chief HR Officer. And as, Commissioner Hall indicated the CPM program is the hallmark employee development program, getting you ready for that next level of managerial experience within the County. But it doesn't happen by itself or in isolation or overnight. So, I have to express, thank you, to the Board of Commissioners for funding the program and allowing it to continue to grow; the County Manager for embracing it; UGA our partners in crime and I push them every day to try and get more individuals into the Cohorts. My employee development team for working with you guys, and you know, getting your reimbursements; and you're getting the reimbursements done, right? The mileage reimbursements? All right. Good. That was part of their graduation criteria. But I'd like to share some guick statistics. Commissioner Hall, said it in the Proclamation that this is the 6th year. We've graduated now close to 300 managers from the program – or budding managers from the program. We have a 98 percent graduation rate, an 85 percent retention rate after graduation meaning that those individuals who graduated are still here with the County in other notable positions. And we've invested about \$1.4 million in the whole event over the six years. The only statistic that I've been unable to quantify, and hopefully, Hakeem and Sharon will be able to help me with that is the contributions that those 300 plus graduates have made to the community, and I think it's immeasurable what those contributions have been. And in looking at the service that we give back, this is a note just for the current class, the future class: communication. Communication has always been the hallmark as to one of the things that they have taken away from the training program. Being able to clearly communicate their thoughts, their ideas not only with the Cohorts that they were apart, but with the employees -- when they go back into their work environment. So, for the future class that is getting ready to enroll, all of you guys communicate, communicate, communicate, it's the key to success. And let me welcome the president to say a few words."

**ROBERT KELLY, COHORT K, PRESIDENT:** "Good morning, everyone. My name is Robert Kelly. I was the President of Cohort K. And it was certainly my honor and pleasure to get to know all of you all, and to grow and to learn. And to become better employees and better public servants with the Cohorts and everyone that was on my

team. I would say that, you know, our employees are the lifeblood of Fulton County. And so, to have an organization that truly understands that and continues to invest in its employees to make us better, really speaks to how big of a deal that Fulton County is. A quick story that there was a CEO and a CFO speaking. And the CFO said to the CEO, well you know, what if we invest in our employees and they leave us? And the CEO responds, well, what if we don't and they stay? And so, the thing that I want to say is that we have some of the most talented, amazing employees in Fulton County. And I just growing with you all, it's more like family. And I feel like we've become family overcoming those challenges, and being able to talk to a lot of the issues that we're having; and learning how to overcome them successfully. So thank you so much. Thank you to the Board of Commissioners for this. Thank you to the Carl Vinson Institute. To our amazing Professor, Ms. Maria -- Marcia Campbell, thank you. Dr. Campbell, we just thank you for being a part of this, so thank you all."

MIKE CARLSON, EXEC DIST ATTORNEY, FULTON COUNTY: "My name is Mike Carlson, and I serve as an executive district attorney for Madam District Attorney, Fani Willis. And on behalf of Fulton County Cohort L, please allow me to express our deep appreciation to Fulton County, the Board of Commissioners, our department heads, the University of Georgia, and the people of Fulton County for allowing us the opportunity to be part of the University of Georgia's Certified Public Managers Program. Unified by our sense of commitment and desire to improve, the members of Fulton County Cohort L has spent months together in this highly informative course. As part of the program, we learned important lessons in leadership to include: process improvement, collaboration, and even self-awareness. Our class work with Dr. Marcia Campbell, as well as our other faulty certainly taught us much in these areas and far more. We have valued our time with them both in and out of class. At the same time, the members of Cohort L received an additional benefit that of learning from each other by exchanging ideas and perspectives from our fellow classmates. Like so many in Fulton County, we shared wide ranging backgrounds both professionally and personally; and our educational experience was enriched by the opportunity gained from that diversity and make new friendships. The members of Fulton County Cohort L are confident that with the knowledge gained through this program in hand, we will be able to better serve our departments, the people of Fulton County, and the public at large. Once again, we would like to express our appreciation to Fulton County, our Board of Commissioners, the University of Georgia, and all of those in Fulton County leadership for making the Certified Public Manager Program available to us. We're thankful for having been part of it, and now look forward to bringing what we've learned to the people we serve. Thank you."

**CLERK GRIER:** "The next Proclamation is recognizing 'Inman Park Neighborhood Association Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Tell her to sound the next Proclamation."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "She's sounded it."

**CLERK GRIER:** "The next Proclamation is recognizing 'Inman Park Neighborhood Association Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Hall.

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "All right. All right. It is an honor to, shhh -- respect. alright. It is an honor to present you with this Proclamation in appreciation of Inman Park Neighborhood Association. And the Proclamation reads: WHEREAS, Inman Park is Atlanta's first planned residential suburban, as well as its first electric trolley neighborhood built upon the wrecked land of Atlanta's Civil War battlefield, 2 miles east of downtown Atlanta. And WHEREAS, in 1970, the first Inman Park Neighborhood Association was formed. And in 1973, the neighborhood was added to the National Register of Historic Places. And WHEREAS, almost all of the houses have been restored to their former glory and the parks scattered throughout the neighborhood are well-maintained green spaces. And WHEREAS, the Inman Park Neighborhood Association continues to fight for the betterment of the neighborhood mostly financed by a three-day annual festival that brings thousands to Inman Park for food, music, and a tour of the historic homes. And WHEREAS, the original Inman Park Neighborhood, along with a few adjacent Victorian developments, is now part of the Inman Park Historic District, whose mission is to preserve the historic physical pattern, the architectural history, and the historic diversity of housing in the District. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes the Inman Park Neighborhood Association for its commitment to the preservation of one of Fulton County's most historic neighborhood. And DOES HEREBY PROCLAIM Wednesday, May 18th, 2022 as 'Inman Park Neighborhood Appreciation Day' in Fulton County, Georgia. And it was a great honor to attend your parade."

#### CRISTY LENZ, PRESIDENT, INMAN PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION:

"Thank you everyone for this honor. Inman Park -- I am Cristy Lenz, the Inman Park Association President. This festival is a huge deal in our neighborhood. We have, you know, just tens of thousands of people who come out. But it takes so many volunteers. This is a fully volunteer run festival. We have 40 people year-round that plan this festival -- fully volunteer. And then we have 8000 2-hour volunteer shifts we have to fill

over the three days to make this festival happen. It is a truly community driven event. It is something that we love to do. We love to invite people in to our neighborhood to see how it has grown and changed since being blighted in the 70s to where it is now. And so, we thank you for this recognition and this honor. Please come out to festival again next year."

**CLERK GRIER:** "The next Proclamation is recognizing 'Morris Brown College Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Come on down. Hi. Good morning to you. It's an honor to present this Proclamation to you because I know all of the hard work that you have put in to Morris Brown College; and I'm going to let you speak on that after we present this. WHEREAS, Morris Brown College was founded on Christian principles in 1881 by the African Methodist Episcopal Church; and is chartered by the State of Georgia as a private coeducational liberal arts college engaged in teaching, research, and public services in the arts, humanities, social and national sciences, and professional programs. And WHEREAS, the mission of Morris Brown College is to provide educational opportunities in a positive and nurturing environment that will enable its students to become fully functional persons in our global society. And WHEREAS, President and CEO of Morris Brown College, Dr. Kevin James made history by leading Morris Brown College to become the first HBCU to regain its accreditation after a nearly 20 year hiatus, by building a strategy around academic strengths, governance, financial solvency, alumni, partnership and community engagement. And as president, Dr. James, stabilized finances, increased funding, expanded and revised academic offerings, successfully guided the institution through tracks, accreditation, and led the college in reaching record-breaking enrollment during a global pandemic. And WHEREAS, Dr. James was named 2021 College President of the Year by the Georgia Greater Black Chamber of Commerce; one of Atlanta's most powerful leaders by Atlanta Magazine; Mentor of the Year for 100 Black Men of Atlanta Inc. And under his leadership, Morris Brown College has been completely transformed and revitalized. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Dr. Kevin James and Morris Brown College for regaining the schools accreditation, and continuing the legacy of excellence that has enriched the lives of countless students. And DOES HEREBY PROCLAIM Wednesday, May 18th, 2022, as 'Morris Brown College Appreciation Day' in Fulton County, Georgia. Congratulations."

DR. KEVIN JAMES, PRESIDENT, MORRIS BROWN COLLEGE: "Well, good morning to everyone. I am so honored to be here today. I'm so honored to have been named the 19th President of Morris Brown College. A lot of people told me that I was absolutely crazy for attempting to do something that had never been done in history. No HBCU had ever come back after a 20-year hiatus; 35 million-dollar bankruptcy, 9.5 million to the US Department of Ed, 4.2 million to the AME Church, the loss of land, the loss of our accreditation. We literally went from 3,000 students to 50 students overnight. But I am here to say today, that dry bones can live again; and Morris Brown College is back. Thank you. Thank you. Having earned our accreditation, we have proven to everyone that we have met all the standards set forth by the United States Department of Education that Morris Brown is an institution of quality. We are back. We're looking to enroll a few hundred students for this fall. And we are so excited to be the most affordable HBCU in the City of Atlanta. As we continue to educate the future minds that are going to lead Fulton County, the City of Atlanta, the State of Georgia this region, and in this country. Thank you all so much for this honor today. And Morris Brown College is back and the best is yet to come. Thank you so much."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "If you don't mind, I just want to say a few words. One, Morris Brown College was founded in Big Bethel AME basement; a church that I am four generations deep. My youngest child was Ms. Morris Brown 2015. And also, I would like Walter Jordan to stand up, who is now a student at Morris Brown College. This is a college and an institution that is in the fabric and thank you."

**CLERK GRIER:** "The next Proclamation is recognizing 'Slush Restaurant Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Well, come back down Walter. Oh, you got the whole team here. All right. Well, it just so happens that Mr. Walter Jordan is also one of the owners of the magnificent, fun restaurant and lounge called Slush. And it is an honor to present this Proclamation to you at our Board of Commissioners meeting. WHEREAS, Slush is a black own tapas bar that opened its doors for business in April of 2021 in the heart of downtown Atlanta's Historic Old Fourth Ward District. And WHEREAS, Slush is a full-service restaurant and casual tapas bar with three bars that each have a distinct offering for customers to indulge in frozen craft and draft cocktails. And WHEREAS, Slush is a 7,000 square-foot space that also hosts a variety of events including corporate meetings, private parties, wedding rehearsal dinners, and other celebrations. And Slush is the first restaurant in Atlanta to be protected with the AFCO air purifier lights and filter system and HVAC which reduces odors, kills volatile organic compounds

and biological contaminants such as mold, bacteria, viruses, and allergies in indoor air. And WHEREAS, Slush is owned by Walter L. Jordan, Kenya Amos, and Dashamica Smith all with many years in the restaurant, finance, and <del>baking</del> Banking industries. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Slush for their impactful addition to Atlanta's Historic Old Fourth Ward District, and celebrates with them on the occasion of their first anniversary. And DOES HEREBY PROCLAIM Thursday, April 21st, 2022 as 'Slush Restaurant Appreciation Day' in Fulton County, Georgia. And congratulations -- congratulations on making it through the pandemic. Yes. Congratulations."

WALTER JORDAN, RECIPIENT: "Commissioner Natalie Hall, thank you. Thank you all to all the other Commissioners. It's an honor to be here today. I'm a native Atlantean. Been here all my life, so it's just been a long journey to finally have my own restaurant. I'm known in Atlanta for opening restaurants for other people, but it was a blessing when this opportunity came to me and my business partners. We just want to thank Atlanta for record sales during the pandemic. If anyone says it can't be done, I'll beg to differ because it's been amazing journey during the pandemic. My wife and I travel the world, and we were in Los Cabos, when we decided -- when we were in Los Cabos, my wife is a studier. She studies everything; why people are doing things. And during the pandemic, everything that they provided for us during the pandemic at our hotel, at the restaurants she came back and implemented at Slush. And so, we were the first in Atlanta to have as, Commissioner Natalie Hall said that air purification system. And one of the biggest reasons for having it was it kills the coronavirus. So we were able to make our staff, first of all, as well as our customers feel safe in the restaurant. So I just want to thank you guys again. It's an honor to be here and please come and visit Slush 327 Edgewood Avenue. Thank you."

**CLERK GRIER:** "The next Proclamation is recognizing 'Asian Americans Advancing Justice Appreciation Day' sponsored by Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Becky, come on down. Hi. How are you? I want to first -first, I want to thank my colleagues for allowing this to be added to today's Proclamations because it's important that we stand against hate; hate on all levels, and racism on all levels. And so it is definitely an honor to present this Proclamation. WHEREAS, Asian Americans Advancing Justice Atlanta, is the first legal advocacy organization dedicated to protecting the civil rights of Asian Americans, native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders in Georgia, and the southeast. And WHEREAS, founded in 2010, as the Asian American legal advocacy center, the organization

became part of the Asian Americans Advancing Justice affiliation in 2014. And has since reorganized its focus areas into four programs areas: policy advocacy, organizing and civic engagement, impact litigation, and legal services. And WHEREAS, Advancing Justice Atlanta grew significantly between 2014 and present day with a reenergized focus on building cross-racial solidarity and service to all immigrants and people of color. And WHEREAS, Advancing Justice Atlanta led efforts in the aftermath of the March 2021 Atlanta Spa shootings; meeting the initial needs of the survivors and their families including: securing access to free counseling services, and issuing emergency payments to help with immediate expenses such as: medical fees, and rent. And also fund raised for and disburse the 316 Survivors Fund for the long-term needs of survivors and their families. And WHEREAS, the month of May is also Asian Pacific American History Month to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese people to the United States on May 7th, 1863. And celebrate the history and contribution of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders in the United States. And, NOW, THERFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fulton County Board of Commissioners recognizes Asian Americans Advancing Justice Atlanta for their tireless work to ensure that communities of color are fully empowered, active in civic life, and working together to promote equity, fair treatment, and self-determination for all Asian Americans and immigrants in the State of Georgia, and the southeastern United States. And DOES HEREBY PROCLAIM Wednesday, May 18th, 2022, as 'Asian Americans Advancing Justice Atlanta Appreciation Day' in Fulton County, Georgia. Congratulations."

**RECIPIENT:** "Thank you very much. We are so grateful for the support and the recognition. We're just so honored to be able to be in service to the communities here in Georgia. Not just API communities, but all immigrant communities and communities of color here in the southeast. Our programs include direct legal services for new immigrants seeking naturalization, civic engagement programs that work in language with communities speaking the AP languages of choice and Spanish here throughout the Metro Atlanta area. And we also have a policy advocacy program that works directly with legislators to try to advance more pro-immigrant and pro-API policies. So with all that work, we're so grateful for your support. We couldn't do it without -- without the support. So thank you again."

**CLERK GRIER:** "The last Proclamation is recognizing 'Public Works Week sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "Good morning. Good morning. We appreciate you all's service. We got everyone? All right. The Proclamation reads as follows:

WHEREAS, National Public Works Week is a week-long reminder of the many ways the Fulton County Department of Public Works provides the basic foundation of our day-today comfort including roadways, traffic control, sidewalks, airport, sewer and storm water management. WHEREAS, this year's theme, 'Ready and Resilient' recognizes that there would be no community without the quality-of-life Public Works provides, and spotlights the responsiveness and key role all employees play in the planning, building, and maintenance of infrastructure projects; and service collectively known as public works. And WHEREAS, Fulton County's Department of Public Works maintains sanitary sewer and water distribution systems; provide storm water management services, provides water and pollution prevention education to residents, businesses schools and communities; maintains County roads, traffic signals, and provides oversight for the tenants at the Fulton County Airport Brownfield, and ensures the maintenance of all access roads, runways, ramps, hangers and parking lots at the facility. And WHEREAS, Public Works provides critical response capabilities experience and support for 24 hours a day and 365 days a year. And is committed to delivering great services to our community. And WHEREAS, the Fulton County Department of Public Works is considered one of the most premiere agencies in the State of Georgia and have dedicated staff and facilities that are constantly and consistently award-winning. 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 to Fulton County. AND HERBY PROCLAIMS the week of May 16th through May 20th as' 'Public Works Week 2022' in Fulton County, Georgia. Let's give them a big round of applause."

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** And "Thank you, Commissioner. My name is David Clark. I'm the Director of Public Works, and it certainly is my honor to acknowledge this Proclamation; but more importantly share it with the Staff that we have in Public Works. We have about 250 employees altogether and public works that work as the Proclamation just said, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. We always like to think that if we're doing our jobs right, you don't know that we exist. And a lot of the times that is true. But it is nice to reflect once a year during Public Works Week and acknowledge what we do on a day-to-day basis for everybody throughout North and South Fulton County. So, with that I certainly appreciate the recognition from the Commissioners and I appreciate working with this fine Staff of public works individuals every single day. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Madam Clerk."

**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 7, Public hearings, **22-0359,** 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 at www.fultoncountyGA.gov. Speakers will be granted up to two minutes each. The public will not be allowed to yield or donate time to other speakers. The public comment portion of the meeting will not exceed 30 minutes. In the event the 30-minute time limit is reached prior to public comments being completed, public comment will be suspended and the business portion of the BOC meeting will commence. Public comment will resume at the end of the meeting. Mr. Chairman and Members of the Board, we do not have any speakers today in Assembly Hall. We have six Zoom speakers and two e-mailed in comments."

#### CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay. It's 10:49."

**RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Good morning, Commissioners. The first person to speak is Carletha Felton."

**CARLETHA FELTON, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "I am Carletha Felton. I am the second vice president of the Enon Pines Homeowners Association. We have been trying for quite a while to get action on our stormwater detention ponds that are dilapidated. I believe that was perhaps item number 22-0259. But unlike our North Fulton occupants, we have not been able to get repair work, clean-up done on the ponds. So, what is it that we need to do to get the same [Inaudible.] as a northern part of the county?"

**RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "Okay. The next person to speak is Matt Rowenzcak."

**MATT ROWENCZAK, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Good morning, Commissioners. I want to share with you this morning some issues that have occurred already in early voting and we heard a couple of those in the last meeting from you all, the Board itself. The first one being voters receiving incorrect ballots that Mr. Arrington experienced himself. Even at the voter registration system being down multiple times, poor training of poll workers that aren't prepared to do their job and are not educated on the law, workers that are not concerned about doing their job well and some that are absolutely not qualified. How about this one? Poll managers that are preventing poll watchers from lawfully observing and notating their observations. I'll give you an example: we had a poll manager who actually put her hand over a machines seal so the poll watcher could not write down the serial number. That is illegal. Scanners that are running extremely MAY 18, 2022 RECESS MEETING VERBATIM MINUTES

slow -- these are advanced scanners. I'm sure you could do a comparison of how long it takes your scanner at home to scan a piece of paper compared to these advanced scanners. There's no logical explanation as to why they are this slow unless settings have been adjusted. Any technical person with knowledge would laugh at the response the County gave as to why they're running this slow. Scanners are also being left powered on overnight which is a diversion from protocol. To my knowledge there is no other County in the state that is doing this. So again, why are we doing this? The explanation was that they run faster--"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--fifteen seconds--"

**MATT ROWENCZAK, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "--by leaving them on overnight. Any technical person would tell you again this is a laughable explanation. The culture of transparency and efficiency still has a long way to go in action as needed. Thank you."

**RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "The next person to speak Anifa Johnson. Anifa Johnson. The next person to speak is B. Rohr."

**B. ROHR, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Yes, good morning. And I want to thank you for all that you are doing to keep our elections fair and free and to increase transparency. Perhaps you've heard of this; there is a documentary --it's named 2000 meals and it shows how ballot trafficking was done in several states including Georgia; and specifically, Fulton County. I had forwarded the link to the documentary and I would encourage everyone in Fulton County who cares about elections and wants to strengthen the effectiveness of the elections and the fair voting of elections to watch it. And then also, I would like possible to understand how ballot trafficking to this magnitude could be possible under the careful watch of the Fulton County Board of Commissioners and the careful watch of the Fulton County Board of Registration and Elections. And also, it would be nice to get the assurance and the demonstration that we will not see a repeat of this or any other crimes in our election process. Thank you."

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

**BEN HOWARD, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Greetings Commissioners and staff. And greetings to you citizens of Fulton County. Ben Howard, Senior Advocate, Public Policy Analyst. In the middle of the month of May when one goes to the County website, one will find no agenda for the May 13th meeting of the Commission on Elder Affairs; only the agenda for the month of April. On the 2022 schedule of meetings for the Commission on Elder Affairs, one will find no Commission on Elder Affairs meeting for the holiday month of December. They will be on hiatus. And yet, the mission statement MAY 18, 2022 RECESS MEETING VERBATIM MINUTES

of the Commission on Elder Affairs includes the wording advocate for needed change and secure resources which enhance the quality of life for seniors. And so, you COEA representatives of each of the seven County Commissioners and you COEA representatives of North Fulton and South Fulton senior services and you COEA representatives of the Council on Aging, I urge you to break free from the chains of the Office of Aging and speak out on behalf of the elderly of our County. Be true to your mission. Advocate, advocate, advocate. Then advocate some more."

**RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "All right. The last person to speak is Myrtle Bolden."

**MYRTLE BOLDEN, PUBLIC SPEAKER:** "Good morning, Commissioners. I am, Myrtle Bolden, President of the Enon Pines Homeowners Association. I am a child of the 60s, but now I am now sitting at a lunch counter, but I am at a Fulton County Board of Commissioners meeting still pleading for equal rights and waiting to be served. In the last meeting, I listened and I heard over a million dollars going to the North Fulton for improvements. In South Fulton, we simply need to have our detention ponds maintained as was promised. We've been trying to get an emergency maintenance resolution passed since March. It hasn't even been allowed to stay on the agenda to be put to a vote. Commissioners, I am asking you to please do the right thing and treat your citizens from the city of South Fulton fairly. Thank you for your attention."

RICO DOLLAR, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS: "And that concludes the Zoom comments."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right, anyone (inaudible)."

CLERK GRIER: "That next comments -- we have two for e-mailed in."

**REGINA WALLER, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "This is Tamara Seymour, and I'm writing to you today regarding my concerns for issues that have arisen in voting locations in Fulton County during advanced, in-person voting that could lead to voter suppression. Below are just a few of my concerns: early during advanced in-person voting, voters were giving the incorrect ballot style; therefore, those voters were prevented from voting for the proper candidates and races. What is lacking in your control procedures that allow such an error to occur in the systems? Can we see evidence that the systems have been corrected and such an error won't occur again? Poll worker training is inadequate. I have spoken with poll workers in Fulton County and they feel that they and other workers were not adequately trained on the machines. In addition, for advanced in-person voting, the requirement that the poll workers report to work every day of early voting, seven days a week is unreasonable. Mistakes and errors will be MAY 18, 2022 RECESS MEETING VERBATIM MINUTES

made when the people are tired from working too many hours. For any runoff elections and the general election, I ask that you arrange your workers to report for duty three or four days per week. Also, ensure that training is enhanced, so that poll workers are confident in their ability to do the job. The power of the scanners are left on overnight. This makes them vulnerable. I understand that the reason for leaving them powered on is to help them to run faster the next day, but at this point we know that does not help. It also does not make sense technically. Therefore, I ask that all scanners in Fulton County be powered off each night for the remainder of advanced in-person voting and in any runoff election and the general election. Today, I am asking you to do address all of these concerns immediately so that voters will have the confidence that our elections run smoothly and their votes are counted."

**REGINA WALLER, EXTERNAL AFFAIRS:** "The second comment is from Robin Ayers. I would like to address the multiple issues that have been witnessed within the 2022 early voting for the general primary that's currently being held. Elections only happen so often. This process should be much easier than what the powers that be have made it. Citizens deserve a clear and concise method of voting. We have witnessed across multiple counties where ballots have been incorrect. The equipment was either being extremely slow or not worked at all, not to mention the entire state Enet system being down multiple times. Taxpayers and citizens deserve more. Candidates deserve more. We must do better. We must train the poll workers that understand the systems and how to troubleshoot issues. I would love to see the return to the citizens of individual communities work their own elections and not have temp agencies hired where there is no commitment to the future of their communities. Lastly, poll managers obstructing poll watchers from doing their jobs needs to stop. PWs have the right to be there and they of course need to watch what's happening because of what's being seen within 2000 miles. This concludes e-mail comments."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Anything else, Madam Clerk?"

CLERK GRIER: "No further speakers."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Continue, please."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Continuing on page 7, Presentations to the Board, **22-0360**. MARTA quarterly briefing."

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**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Mr. Greenwood. Good morning, sir. Who do you have with you? I see Ms. Mullinax; who else?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA: "Good morning, everyone. I am please two recognize -- we have our board members here: Freda Hardage and Al Pond in the audience. We have Melissa Mullinax and a cast of seven; but thousands in guality. So, a number of us will be speaking to you this morning about the MARTA budget. So, we want to thank you for this opportunity. If there's a slideshow, just say next slide? Thank you. We're going to take just a few moments. I'll tell you exactly as quick and concise as we can be in putting through the numbers and introducing them to you, and then answering the questions that you have. Following, I'll do a brief introduction; we'll do four slides on the operating budget, four slides on the capital budget, and then Majeed Ranu will go through some Fulton specific highlights. So, if I can go to the first slide, please. Basically in – oh yeah, you've got the special effects light. Thank you. Okay. So, in handing the baton to FY 23, we want to recognize some of the successes of FY 22. Some of them are you now -- everyone of these four prebullets you'll see there are successes that started in 22 or continued in 22 and will continue on in 23 and we'll get evidence of that in the budget. The economic challenges and the pandemic implications, the supply-chain, and the workforce deficits, we all widely acknowledge the effects of that. We're cautiously optimistic that they will soon stabilize; but in the meantime, and in their midst, MARTA did not rest. We know of the expansion of the electric bus fleet that took place on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Those are six more buses, coming with a Tiger grant for Summer Hill. And up to 48 more buses we hope to obtain through a low-no grant that will be finished by May 30th. So, over the next 5 years, another 48 electric vehicles going into FY23 and beyond. We also supported our MARTA workforce. There's lot of evidence of that cost-of-living adjustments, HERO payments, retention bonuses, lots of attention to recruitment and retention, in development and value for the people that actually did the work that makes MARTA successful. In terms of College Park station rehabilitation early work that was evidenced that was tile replacements made, parking lot improvements, and of course that work will continue in 23. I also want to emphasize that MARTA will continue to embrace and energize our four strategic priorities is listed on the screen. Our operating budget will continue to responsibly return us to pre-pandemic service levels. You'll see and emphasis on station cleanliness in the budget, police support, and financial sustainability via judicious administration of budgets. When it comes to the capital program, the majority of our increase occurs here. Other headcount additions, there's restructuring, etc., to expedite the capital program. We have heard the concerns about our capacity to deliver in the past; and we'll not be repeating that trend. And I will say MAY 18, 2022 RECESS MEETING **VERBATIM MINUTES** 

that the capital program specifically targets the 15th amendment advancing 13 projects during FY 23. Next slide, please. And before I ask Raj Srinath, our Chief Financial Officer to come up and walk through the numbers, I just want to give you an update on the timeline there. So, we, on last Friday, we did the Board briefing and feedback, so detailed review of the budget with our Board members. We had public hearings yesterday and the day prior, and the proposed budgets have been provided to each jurisdiction beginning yesterday. We will bring this back to the Board committee presentation on May 26<sup>th</sup>, and hope that the vote to adopt will be passed by our Board on June 9th. So, with that, Raj, I'd ask you to join us and walk through the next slide, please."

RAJ SRINATH, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER, MARTA: "Thank you. Good morning, Commissioners. My name is Raj Srinath. I'm the Chief Financial Officer at MARTA. I'm going to provide a brief summary of the fiscal year 2023 proposed operating budget as well as the proposed capital budget. Next slide, please. For the proposed budget in fiscal year 23, MARTA plans to return to pre-pandemic service levels. If you look at the highlighted column on the right side, that's a proposed budget and the service hours approximately equal to the left most column which is also highlighted. We did the 2019 service level, the last pre-pandemic full fiscal year. Next slide, please. This slide is a high-level overview of MARTA's revenues -- operating revenues and operating expenditures. As you can see from the blue columns which are the revenues and the red being expenses, the last few years operating revenues have exceeded the expenses largely due to the influx of COVID relief funds from the federal government more recently the American rescue plan funds. Next slide. I'll highlight three of the top revenues we received from operations. The biggest source of revenues is the sales tax that's about \$321.4 million. The next is a combination of the American rescue plan and the Federal assistance which is a formula of funds. Collectively, they provide about little over \$200 million. And the last third biggest source of revenue is a passenger revenue about \$67 million which is approximately about \$10 million more than fiscal year 22 budget. Next slide, please. And this is a breakdown of the different operating expenditures, and the top expenditure is the labor and associated fringe benefits with that which make up roughly about two thirds of our expenses; followed by the contractual services which is our Information Technology as well as some of the automatic field collection and maintenance facilities expenses. And the third largest expense is the mobility [Inaudible.] contract which is about \$40 million. Next slide, please. I want to briefly talk through the capital budget now. If you can please go to the next slide. These are the sources and uses on the bottom half of the slide is the capital expenditures. The total capital expenditures planned for fiscal year 23 are MAY 18, 2022 RECESS MEETING **VERBATIM MINUTES** 

\$717,000,000 broken down by state of good repair which is for the state of good repair for the entire system. That's about 512 million and the debt service on our bonds we have issued is approximately \$145 million; and the more MARTA, city of Atlanta expenditures are projected to be \$45.4 million; and the Clayton County more MARTA projects are expected to cost about 14 and a half million dollars in fiscal year 23. And the sources of revenue are on the top all sources combined are roughly about 1.1 billion. Next slide please. These are the funding sources for our capital budget. Again, sales tax being the biggest contributor for the capital budget, about 43 percent of all of the expenditures comes from sales tax. And followed by we had some reserves, the surplus from the past one or two years that combined makeup make up about \$279 million; and the last one is the federal grants which we expect to receive to the tune of about 84 and a half million dollars. Next slide, please. These other expenditures, again the top three categories are the systems, which is about 91.7 million, and vehicles - I'm sorry, the first one was the vehicles which is about 98 which is a procurement of railcars and other nonrevenue vehicles; and followed by the system which is about 91.7, and the facilities and the stations which make up the biggest chunk of expenses for 23. Next slide, please. These are the top ten projects included in our fiscal year 23 budget. They make up about roughly 59 percent of our overall budget. I believe that concludes my presentation; and let me turn this over to the Chief of Capital Programs, Manjeet Ranu, who will go through the Fulton County capital projects."

MANJEET RANU, CHIEF CAPITAL PEI, MARTA: "Good morning, Chairman Pitts, Members of the Commission. Manjeet Ranu, Chief of Capital Programs, Expansion and Innovation for MARTA. Next slide, please. And just going to give you some highlights of specific projects within Fulton County. Next slide. There it is. So, we have a new category this year in our capital budget called policy, innovation and administration; and this enables us to develop the tools as well as to comprehensively think about and guide our capital program. A new initiative for this year is safe routes to transits and this is looking at how we can provide infrastructure improvements to help people get to our bus stops and our rail stations safely where infrastructure may be lacking. As you can imagine, this is a partnership with our many jurisdictions and how we can leverage funds to provide good infrastructure for walking, bicycling, and rolling to stops and stations. Next slide, please. And under our state of good repair category, Mr. Greenwood touched on the College Park station rehabilitation as we move from early work into the comprehensive rehabilitation of the station. And ongoing work on bus shelters and amenities for Fulton County. Next slide, please. Under the expansion program, you see five key projects there for the city of Johns Creek. MARTA is looking to support the city in its work to promote place making and transferring development in MAY 18, 2022 RECESS MEETING **VERBATIM MINUTES** 

that community by providing technical assistance to the city. For the South Fulton County area, the transit initiatives include Roosevelt Highway and South Fulton Parkway. Roosevelt Highway being early action projects to greatly improve the operational characteristics of bus service along Roosevelt Highway and to provide amenities for customers as well as safety improvements along that corridor. In South Fulton Parkway being a more long-term look as growth is occurring in South Fulton County in looking at high-capacity transit for that corridor. Next is an intriguing transit mode - personal rapid transit, a pilot study on the good work on the AACIDs in that area as we work to learn more about that transit mode and how it could be deployed as a pilot project to begin with in the South Fulton County area. And next is the Georgia 400 bus rapid transit projects are operating along the planned express lanes that GDOT is looking to build in partnership with a private developer. And advancing that project forward; and finally for expansions to I-285 BRT express lanes, transit study that or course, we had a ceremonial signing last week at the ARC meeting. Next slide, please. For the ten-year outlook for capital projects is continuing the safe routes to transit initiative state of good repair, more station rehabilitation, smart restrooms, bus shelters and amenities, and ongoing systemwide work - the stuff which you don't really see which is critical to operating the system safely and effectively in the expansion projects continuing as well as some additional arterial rapid transit projects there. Next slide, please. For the bus shelter and amenities program, you see for fiscal year 22 this is the amenities that have been delivered or under construction in permitting or design for Fulton County. And in fiscal year 23, we anticipate 50 more mix of equally shelters and benches. Next slide. For systemwide programs and projects in our MARTA service area -- next slide. Over the fiscal year 23 and the rolling ten-year capital program under the category of policy innovation and administration is to begin the development of a long-range transit planning policy initiative and plan, looking at modernizing how our trains operate safely and effectively on the train which is exploring communications based train control, state of good repair, continuing replacing our tracks as needed, and our power systems and signal systems as well. And under expansion, looking at transit signal priority to help move buses along more quickly along roadways and as well as the comprehensive bus signage monetization program; so, you can read those signs any time of day or night and see what bus route that you're walking up to. And with that, we'll go to the next one. Thank you. Now I'll turn it over to you, Mr. Chair."

**COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA:** "That concludes our presentation. Open to the Chair and any other questions that may come about."

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

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Thanks. Great presentation. Great work. It's all exciting. A couple of things: one is I'm delighted to see the new policy concept the safe routes to transit. The Chairman may remember, I kicked off the sidewalk building program in Atlanta when I was on city Council, and we started with Old Ivy and tried to collaborate with the school there. And so, when governmental organizations collaborate on this, it's so important and I know it's not MARTA's job to build sidewalks. It's going to be – and you referred to the other jurisdictions, but I think about all of those transit dependent folks that have to get there and back; and so, this is terrific that you all are collaborating on that and congratulations on that."

# COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA: "Thank you."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Just a quick question, you've got federal grants in the capital budget. I'm just a little curious about are those certain known and if so that's terrific; if it's a guess, I'd love to hear that; but if it's certain and I guess the question is are there more possibly out there that you're looking at with the federal infrastructure dollars?"

**COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA:** "Right. What I can say is the federal structured such that our grant system is - we're getting, I've forgotten, the title is escaping me Raj, I think it's formula grants, formula funding to the tune of about 30 percent, a 30 percent increase in our formula funds which in MARTA's case gives us about 40 million more dollars in formula funding. Discretionary grants are you know we're in a landscape now where grants are appearing, opportunities are appearing and we're making sure that we've got the right Teams together to apply for those grants. So, I'm really not sure what the limit is on that; but in terms of formula funds, we're prepared to access all of those."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Okay. So, you've got the formula funds in effect certainty under the formulas."

COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA: "Absolutely."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** " If there's anything we can do to help with any federal grants, letters of support, anything like that, just let us know."

COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA: "We absolutely will."

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COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "That money's out there and we ought to get our share."

COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Chairman. Thank you for the work you and the Board. I appreciate it. I also appreciate the MARTA reach. I have been getting quite a bit of good feedback from that, and I have been forwarding it to you all. And I understand you all are expanding it. But I did have some questions for you today. What is the timeline for the end of MARTA and the replacement with the ATL system?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA: "The timeline for the end of MARTA?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "And the replacement with the ATL system."

**COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA:** "I'm sorry, I really don't understand that. To my knowledge, there's no plan to replace MARTA. ATL works with MARTA to make sure that jurisdictions are served better and that will bring you know the region together in a designed way, but there is no end to MARTA."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. And so, is there a transfer of the power, will the MARTA branding go away completely?"

**COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA:** "No. I mean, ATL may, and I suspect -- I think ATL will be speaking from the same tune if they were standing here with me, but I don't presume to speak on their behalf."

# COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

**COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA:** "But MARTA's perspective, you know the MARTA brand is one of our four key pillars that we put out there this morning. One of the four things that we must protect. And so, we're very serious about protecting the MARTA brand and advancing the MARTA brand. There's no reason that we couldn't have the MARTA brand prominent while we work towards the objectives of ATL; and I believe that they are in sync with each other."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** Okay. Also, what will be the power structure under the new system? Who will choose who runs the day-to-day operations?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA: "MARTA."

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**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you. And also what is the status of the discussions with neighbors and residents in Southwest Atlanta who have been asking for rail and to my understanding, MARTA has been recommending bus rapid transit -- has there been any more conversation? Is there an impasse? Can you let me know where we are with that?"

**COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA:** "Not at an impasse, and thank you for that. On Campbellton Road specifically, we have an 'Open House this Saturday where the intention is to you know give an eight-hour opportunity to folks to come and investigate the various modes; where we are with them, the pros and cons of each one. We maintain whether it's you know North or South Atlanta. Our role is to make sure that the public is fully educated. They know everything that we know so that they'll better understand the decisions -- understand the decisions as they are made. It's not – it's not a personal preference that's at play here. It really is the economics and the operating capabilities. What I'd like to say is when we're talking about building high-capacity transit, we should be talking about the objectives of that transit. What is it that we wanted it to do? And if his throughput and better operating you know specifics as well as economic development and community development, there are more modes than one that can get to that objective. So, it's a holistic review, and so if there is no impasse, it's a continued conversation."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "So, it's a continued conversation."

COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "You said that there is an Open House?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA: "Yes."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Can you tell me, for the sake of the listening audience--"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA: "--sure--"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "--where the open house is, so I can make sure that information gets out."

**COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA:** "Firstly, I'll say it's on the MARTA website in case I get this wrong--"

# COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay"

**COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA:** "--but I believe it's junction 48 -- or someone, yeah, Manjeet will help us with a specific address, but it's on Campbellton Road and the name of the establishment is Junction--"

**MANJEET RANU, CHIEF CAPITAL PEI, MARTA:** "--Junction 2800 and it's this Saturday from 11 until 4:00. It's open house format so you don't need to be there all four hours, but you're welcome to. You can drop in/drop out and learn from the stations we'll have there."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "And you say it's Junction -- say it again for me?"

MANJEET RANU, CHIEF CAPITAL PEI, MARTA: "Twenty-eight hundred."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "2800?

COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA: "Yeah, that's the name of the facility."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. And it's 11 till 4:00 p.m. this Saturday which I believe is the 21st. Okay. My last and final question to you is I noticed that the estimated total budget for Georgia 400 on page 18 is 325 million. Are we spending this amount of money in areas south of Atlanta, east and west of Atlanta?"

**COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA:** "So that 325 million is on the GA400BRT specifically; so are you - is your question - does that extend beyond that project?"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "What I'm asking there is a \$325,000,000 estimated total budget for Georgia 400. Is that correct? Am I correct in--"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA: "--that is correct."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. And so, my follow-up question to that is are we spending this amount of money in areas south of Atlanta, east of Atlanta, and west of Atlanta?"

COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA: "I'll let Manjeet speak to that."

**MANJEET RANU, CHIEF CAPITAL PEI, MARTA:** "Manjeet Ranu, Chief Capital Expansion Division for MARTA and so those are preliminary numbers and so indeed there'll be significant expenditures that will incur for capital projects across the region geographically. So, you see for example for South Fulton and Roosevelt Highway it says TBD because we're in the early stage of the study. So, some of the numbers you MAY 18, 2022 RECESS MEETING VERBATIM MINUTES see here reflect the planning study expenditures and some level of design, but not necessarily construction yet."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. So, not sure how to take that; but I'll take that as a maybe or no because I'm not sure. And I understand what you said TBD so you wouldn't want to give an amount, but I would as somebody who represents those areas, I would like to be prepared because I am getting calls about the amount of money that is being spent across Fulton County. And so, at some point when you do know the answer to that question, if you would let my office know, I really would appreciate it. Thank you."

# CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Yeah, just a quick question for you on the operating budget. For 2023 I see you've got one core source of funds is ARPA money 140 million which looks to be about 21 percent or so of your operating budget. So, you're using ARPA money exclusively for operating, not capital; is that correct?"

# COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA: "Correct."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "In terms of sort of dependency on that and be able to replace that when those funds go away, and I don't know kind of the flow-through whether you're estimating you'll have similar levels of funds or some portion of funds for FY 24 or not; but, just sort of could you speak to that and sort of how – and I say there's kind of a 65 million surplus or differential between you know the proposed expended revenues and expenditures. But just wanted to get a sense for – how can you tell us you're not overly reliant upon you know this for operating going forward."

**COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA:** "Right, you know, that's a great question. What we, what MARTA has done generally is to the extent possible brought the funds into and used them for regular expenses; expenses that they're applicable for recognizing the fact that there's no guarantee as you say that these funds will be available in years to come. So, you know I've heard Raj speak to the fact that, our CFO speak to the fact that for FY 23 and FY 24, we have a high level of confidence and that it remains to be seen what funds continue to come through in FY 25 and beyond."

# COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Other comments? All right, Mr. Greenwood and group, Board and others, thank you."

#### COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA: "Thank you all."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "I'll just say this on a personal note; you know, I've been pushing for this rapid transit for several years now. And I'm delighted to see this 10 million for that and that by the way is going to be on the Southside of Fulton County, and will be one of the few places in the world, W-O-R-L-D that has that. So, thank you for that."

COLLIE GREENWOOD, INTERIM GM, MARTA: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Continue Madam Clerk."

**CLERK GRIER:** "County Manager's items under Open and Responsible Government, **22-0361**. Presentation of COVID-19 operational response update."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "All right. Good morning Mr. Chairman and Commissioners. We'll give a brief update and then answer any questions. You've received the material. I'm glad to have Matt Kallmyer back here with us in person. You'll see that from the report the trends are somewhat mixed with a peak projected now in May, end of May. The cases are now averaging 180 per day; that's up 96 percent. I just want to underscore some of these percent increases. Positivity rate is at 8.2 percent is up 105 percent since the last report; so those are concerns. Hospitalizations in the mid-70s and death rates at 1.6 per day obviously a serious issue, but less of a concern in terms of trends. As, well, you know, that the Biden administration recently announced the possibility of a hundred million new infections in the fall. So, and by the way, Matt himself has experience COVID recently as has Doug Schuster. Fortunately, both fully vaccinated and Matt fully recovered and Doug on the mend; but it just underscores how vulnerable we all are. Matt is working on a plan that has a set of trigger-points that if these new trends worsen whereby we would take a specific action, but it still comes back to vaccinations and testing. We are opening new clinic locations. You'll see in Matts report at Royal Drive and Sunset Avenue, those are our Department of the Health -- our Board of Health offices that will now be doing vaccinations as well as we continue to partner with APS and Fulton County schools. We may also, Commissioner, add to our incentives because I am looking at is now the time to try to really push for that first and second vaccine so we're going to take a look at increasing that dollar amount. We are doing about 4 to 500 a week now so it hasn't dissipated to zero, but it's not where I think we want it to be. One interesting thing that we now have done that we told you about in previous meetings, is put a kiosk in place for PCR testing. It's the first County to do that. The Chairman and I'll defer to him on MAY 18, 2022 RECESS MEETING **VERBATIM MINUTES** 

any comments that he'd like to make about that, but we tested it this morning. I can say I have my test kit and it's very simple to get your test from the kiosk. Of course, it means self-administer the test and then put it back in the drop box and have 24 to 48 hour results. So again, we're very pleased that again Matt identified that as something that we could do removing the labor content largely but keeping the testing capability in place. We're still working with Emory on the partnership for wastewater testing so very soon we'll be doing the four plants that we talked about and then subsequently 20 manholes. We do and have had instances of infection with our employees -- eight new ones so that brings us to about 869 now so that's about you know 20 percent of the workforce. We're still with our current protocols encouraging masks except in the areas that we talked about previously in justice, clinical, and tax office. ERAP is entering it's now final \$25 million phase. I was interested to see that the AJC reported yesterday I think it was Mr. Chairman on Gwinnett getting 25 million. Again, we're, not only have we gotten, we've administered and now we've moved on to the second one. So, we'd like to get a similar article in the AJC on our success and the great leadership of Dr. Rochelle. Project ORCA: this is the second meeting of the month so you'll hear an update on that. It remains on track. There are a couple of warning signs -- really more for future performance. Cases are not being charged at a rate consistent with the expectations of clearing this entire backlog in 24 months; so that's an issue, as well as Fulton County Sheriff office and marshal staffing show significant gaps. So, both of those will hamper efforts going forward if not corrected. And Alton will obviously speak to that more. We have as you know a 26 million-dollar reserve out of our total program of the ARPA funds and other funds that have been sourced. We have now applied for 14 million in FEMA reimbursements; so, we hope to get 7 million of that expedited into us quickly. That will really be the first other than what was reimbursed for Mercedes Benz Stadium that we have received. So, it's critical for us to begin to see that money flow as we have not yet received a second tranche of the ARPA funds; although it's expected, sometime during the month of May. I believe some counties across the nation have received that. There are a number of very significant asks coming forward. And again, I think it'll be obviously up to you to make these decisions, but just as a reminder the Grady nursing cost ask is still out there. Permanent support of housing on FIB, a behavioral health crisis center which we will take another run at. I had some increased costs associated with it as well as other nonprofits that are very worthy making ask of you. So, we plan to present in the next 30 to 60 days our best view of a revised plan making use of some of that reserve, as well as considering some of these needs. Also, we'd just ask you, which I've said before, just keep in mind this very robust facility's agenda that is coming into -- into view. So, if you think again about everything

from Fulton County airport, the animal shelter, the central warehouse that we'll house our elections, but also many other functions, Public Safety training center, HHS facilities both in North Fulton and South Fulton, that would concentrate those offerings, a pandemic proofing of our main building here for any future event as well as supporting remote working and really a new modern environment. And then the ultimate which is the jail feasibility study. So, I don't want you do it under estimate both the financial as well as the management bandwidth that it's going to take to execute that. And we are working on a long-term financial plan update that will include all of this information and any other known pressure points before the midvear review. I do want to just take note of though, as we've talked about facilities these two recent awards for both the Slaten Courthouse which I think you saw as well as the Central Library, really speaks to the professionalism of Joe Davis, Tim Diamond, and that entire Team and executing -- Bill Mason most notably at executing that overall program. So, really in summary these trends I think cause us to remain cautious. But we're fully open. We are supporting the election effort, but building this very significant facilities agenda that will carry us into the future. I do want to say just a note on elections, I think a great deal of credit goes to Nadine Williams who has stepped into a role and done I think a tremendous job with this advanced voting period and then I anticipate with the primaries. I've visited myself personally about 75 percent of the sites. I'll visit all of them before -- before elections day and generally what I have seen has been smooth operations; an engaged Staff, little to no lines in terms of the voter experience. It is true we're keeping scanners on, but that's for a good reason because of the length of our ballot; so, there's no conspiracy behind that. It's just fundamentally good practice to do. We also had a very productive and cordial meeting with the Secretary of State officials in the last week. By the way, three of the officials -- of the three officials two of them were former Fulton County employees. So, kind of underscoring that it's not an us or them. It really is more trying to work together. And to that end, we are and I have authorized an emergency procurement to look at the entire database assignment of voters to precincts to just do another effort to ensure that mistakes are not in that database for the voter experience is good on election day; and we're in the process of doing that. So Matt, I think we're -I'll pass the ball to you and I know that you, if you would, give Matt some time to go through it; and Mr. Chairman, I'll let you comment obviously on our experience this morning."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Sure, just quickly I encourage each of you to take a look at that kiosk. I think it's a fantastic new addition to Fulton County and it underscores once again how proactive, how innovative Fulton County government is compared to the other 3000 plus counties. We're one of few in the country that has a kiosk." MAY 18, 2022 RECESS MEETING VERBATIM MINUTES MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL: "Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I appreciate it. Like the County Manager said, just to highlight a couple of things on page 14 in your package. The two new locations for you to help us amplify vaccination locations with our Board of Health facilities. What we're trying to do is build our internal capacity as we continue to move forward through this response and our joint effort with the Board of Health. So, we're glad to welcome citizens to these two new locations to make sure they can take advantage of vaccinations. And still taking advantage of our partnership with an NFL Alumni Association and bringing in Legends to our different vaccination events to help us go ahead and gravitate. Perhaps soon we'll get more attention to these particular sites. The last thing I just want to take a second to talk to you on is page 15; the next slide, please. We talked about it today, but before we get there, I want to make sure we talk about the third round of free federal home test kits. If everyone goes to the United States Postal Service website, or to the URL that you see there www.COVID.gov/test the federal government has opened a third round of free antigen-based tests that you can go ahead and receive for your household; four tests per household. Please take advantage of that. The Federal government is offering that for free. Leverage those to go ahead and help you make the right decision if you're not feeling well to see if that is COVID or not within your jurisdiction. Also, we wanted to amplify once again, the Board of Health has free home test kits available – antigen test kits as well as a program that Dr. Roshell championed that we still have some libraries that are passing out as well, antigen test kits. So, make sure you take advantage of that. And finally, just to go ahead and highlight once again, our External Affairs Department put out a great press release today. I know the Chairman and County Manager have had an opportunity to visit it. If you have not, it's right up stairs next to the piano. In our facility, it's right behind the very lovely information desk in the courthouse; and the last one, is over at Rice Street in the lobby. One to help the Sheriff's deputies there. It's also anyone else visiting the site, we wanted to be able to go ahead and provide something to our communities; so they can get a PCR test. This is our pilot program. If everything continues to go well here, we want to expand it to other parts of our community both North and South and Central to make sure that people have the ability to take advantage of PCR tests. With that you can do yourself at the time period that makes sense for you. So once again, 48 hours turned around with those PCR-based tests, self-swab. There's a process you have to use some technology so people have some concerns. There is a number they can call and someone can help them through that but you do have to register online to make sure that your test kit matches up with the sample collection that is being done at that particular time. With that, I'll turn it back to you Mr. Manager Mr. Chairman."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Questions? Commissioner Morris followed by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Just a couple of things. First of all, on slide 12, the County Manager talked about the numbers being up percentage-wise. Relatively the numbers compared to what they've been in the past aren't high, but the percentage increases are a little concerning and of course we have no idea about really the number of cases because of home testing and everything else; but much less the percent positives from the home tests. So, Matt what is the level of concern about these increasing numbers."

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL: "I mean, it is something that we are watching. One of the other slides that you saw in the package there, sir, it shows which particular type of subvariant is starting to increase. The variants we're seeing that are increasing are the ones that are much more transmissible. What we're seeing at this time though, the national experts as well as Dr. Paxton can go ahead and confirm that if you are vaccinated, you have a much better chance of being able to go ahead and avoid any serious outcomes or serious injuries with it. So, that's why we really want to make sure that people go and get those first three doses so they can be up-to-date with their whole ability to go ahead and fight this off. I feel very blessed that I had an opportunity to get three vaccines before I had -was finally exposed to COVID. I knew it was going to come sooner or later. My day finally showed up. It wasn't fun; but, yes, I am here to go ahead and say that vaccines work. So, to your point, sir, it is difficult. We're using hospital data at this point. We're watching the hospitals very closely to see if we are seeing up ticks in the beds that are being used for COVID patients; any ventilatory support of things along those lines we do not have anything alarming at this point in time, but we really hamstrung at this point because we are using hospital data. We don't have the same data that we've had in the past. DPH is only releasing data once a week; that's why we're trying to take our destiny into our own hands, and we're taking advantage of this partnership with Emory to do testing with wastewater; so, we can actually get a better idea of what it looks like in our community."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Yeah. Well, like you, I had my three -- my three shots before I had an exposure and it was a lot like the flu in the old days or a bad cold. So, maybe that's where we're headed as a country and a world where this is just continuing, kind of flu kind of thing. But I guess we're still in an unknown situation about it. But anyway, the percentage increases are bothersome, but we'll continue to monitor it and

see what happens. On ORCA, I just wanted to highlight again the Manager addressed them on page 43, we continue to have a tough time hiring folks in those bottom two categories, the marshals and the sheriff. And even some of the other areas we see people get hired and then leave before they start because they get another job. It's still a tough environment, but I just wanted to highlight that again. And then the -- you all will see the judges dispose cases and remaining cases and I know a lot of my constituents are interested in seeing those. You do have to look at them carefully because there's lots of reasons why twin numbers look a little usual for any particular judge, and shouldn't jump to conclusions about things, but it's important to see how they've got -- in order for us to get these ORCA cases done by the time our original money and planed work, you know, runs out. Some of these things have to happen including the charges as the County Manager mentioned on page 39. You know we started really officially with 148,000 cases. We actually were 208 -- 208,000 back before we did the kick off in December. And a lot of those cases were addressed the low hanging fruit by the magistrate court, who's done a terrific job. You can see the magistrate in blue, in a sort of royal blue there. Those numbers have declined and the Superior Court and state court numbers again the state court and superior court will get cases from the solicitor general and the DA as those cases get charged and indicted. But those cases need to be charged and indicted so they can get to the courts to be tried by the time all of this needs to be wrapped up. So, important numbers there and I just wanted to highlight those for folks. Thanks."

MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA/ANIMAL CTRL: "Mr. Chairman and Mr. Commissioner Morris, after reflecting, I don't know if I really answered your question about my level of concern. I had a chance to reflect when you got an opportunity to beat-up on Alton and some of his things. So, I appreciate that, sir. I am cautiously optimistic. I do not want us to go ahead and get into a sense of this is just going to be like the flu. I think we're going to have waning immunities. I think we're going to start seeing the virus continue to mutate which is a concern as well. I think we have seen what's happening at the federal level There is some concern that we're not seeing any packages passed that will allow some of our pharmaceutical companies to update the vaccine to go ahead and continue to match what's currently out there. So cautiously optimistic is where I like to stay. We are watching New Zealand and Australia very closely. They're in the winter time right now. That's normally what our public experts watch as well to see how they go ahead and trend during this time. They've had incredible vaccination numbers there and things that we have not hit in our country and in our state, and especially in our county. So, they're seeing an increase, and they're also seeing a very large increase in flu this year for them as well. So, we're watching MAY 18, 2022 RECESS MEETING **VERBATIM MINUTES** 

that to so how that would actually look for us in winter time here, sir. Thank you for the opportunity."

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "Thank you."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Oh, he answered -- you just answered it; what I was concerned about. And so, thank you for answering that, back tracking."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Hall followed by Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** Thank you, Mr. Chair. And thank you Matt Kallmyer and Team for all of the awesome work that you are doing. So my concern started at least three weeks ago when several people started to tell me that they had COVID, their family members had COVID, their coworkers and offices had COVID, and that was just too many people that I knew personally who were getting that virus. And one in particular works for the health industry; and she said everyone in her office is fully vaccinated, fully boosted, and they all have been getting COVID, one after the other. So, that proved to me how contagious this actually is. But, it also proved to me that you can be fully vaccinated and fully boosted and still get very, very ill; because there were men who said that this brought them to their knees. And so, with that being said I know the last time we discussed the percentage of effectiveness of the two vaccination shots and it was very low. So, at this point what is the percentage of effectiveness of the two shots and the boosters?"

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "And Dr. Paxton, I'm not sure if she joined us; she would probably be a much better expert to go ahead and answer that level of effectiveness."

# COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay."

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "Dr. Paxton, are you on the line, Ma'am? (No response.) Okay. If she is not on the line, I will do my best to try to answer that Ma'am. If not, I'll get you that specific statistical data. What we are seeing is a decrease especially with the newer variations of it. It seems to have the ability to evade the immunity that we have."

# COMMISSIONER HALL: "Yes."

**MATTHEW KALLMYER, DIRECTOR, AFCEMA:** "What you're seeing is spot on with individuals. That's why it's so important that people are up-to-date with that. And as we start to see an increase, the trigger points that the County Manager just referenced, we want to be able to bring back to y'all some recommendations that we could actually put to a practice in our jurisdiction especially in our organizations, our building. So, we are not at the point that we're going to see some places like New York has taken that big next step; buy we're watching closely and I think to your point, if people are surrounded by other individuals that are actually turning out to have COVID to take the necessary steps to protect themselves and their family. Follow CDC guidance. Once again, you should be masking up for a five-day period, taking the necessary tests. There's a great calculator on the CDC site that just helps you understand what you should do based upon the time you are exposed, and if you should isolate, quarantine, so on and so forth. And if we make sure that our External Affairs Team lists it on our website for people to use."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Thank you. And also, this is not a question for you Matt. I think it more so would be for the County Manager. You spoke about the elections and the issues that we have faced and there's been a lot in the news and it's a lot of contradiction you know from our last BOC meeting when Nadine stood before us and she spoke to the issues that Commissioner Arrington raised about the ballots not being properly populated. His own name was not on it; and then we were told that it was people were given the wrong ballots. And now, there are conflicting articles in the news saying that it's the state's fault because they didn't populate the system with the changes that happened with redistricting. And so, can you just clear up some of that by telling us who is responsible for the E-net issues and the ballot issues? Do you have any answer to that?"

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER**: "Well, I probably won't do it justice; but your questions are very germane. I think it is a joint responsibility hence the meeting that we had with the Secretary of State officials and again as I mentioned it was cordial and productive and I think there's a clear recognition that both the system that the state maintains as well as our input to the system; and then a corollary system so that we maintain all work together and if they work together successfully both in terms of staying up as well as being accurate then that's the best experience for the voter. I think we're again still working through that. Again, our goal now is zero defects by the 24th when the election day occurs. And I think at the advance voting sites because they're not over run by folks, there is the ability there to self-correct for the most part any mistakes that might otherwise happen and without a lot of delay. So, I'm pleased as I go to sites,

see that, listen to the frontline folks talk about how they're helping voters through the process that generally it's working well. And then I did mention again a complete review of our entire voter files which is currently underway by a firm that the state recommended. I think it'll give us, for the lack of a better term, good housekeeping seal of approval of that we've done everything possible to ensure the mistakes like the ones that you mentioned, do not reoccur."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Great. Thank you. And I was looking at the numbers on page 22, which are the COVID positive employees; and also on -- where is that longer lives list -- and on page 24, and I know we were told that someone on the tenth floor had COVID, about a week ago, and I don't see -- I don't know where in particular on the tenth floor, but I don't see anything that would show that in the numbers."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Let me ask Ken to respond to that, please."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "Yes, good morning, Commissioners. Kenneth Hermon, Chief HR officer. We will double check and work with the clerk's office. We have consistently reported to you what has been reported to us from the respective departments. If that was missed as part of this reporting cycle, we'll make sure that we get into the next one."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "All right. Thank you so much. And that's all my questions. Let's see; Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "I don't have any questions that are COVID specific. I didn't know if you were going to like add any more commentary on the ORCA stuff before I asked my questions on that."

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "Yes, sir, we were going to present those charts."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay. Well, I'll--"

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "--you want us to hold till that or--"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "--yeah, I'll hold to--

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "--yeah we plan to -- as soon as Matt is finished."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "All right, go ahead."

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**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "Yes Ma'am. I'll ask Alton Adams to present and then answer any questions about Project ORCA."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Okay, great. Thank you. Good morning. Good afternoon, Commissioners. Between the County Manager and Commissioner Morris they have set me up really well to go through the presentation; so, I am going to try to run through it fairly quickly. Answer any questions that you might have and provide a bit of context. Program to date which officially kicked off on December 6th of last year. We have disposed of 41,000 cases which is approximately 28 percent of the total. As we sat hear last week because these numbers are a week old or six days old, we were at 108,000 remaining cases for the program. As you can see on page 39, we have made steady progress over the course of the program. It's actually -- it actually looks like a straight line, but we do know that this is not going to be linear. We are going to have some periods where it's going to drop faster than others and in some cases, you know really accelerate. But that having been said, continue to see steady progress across all of the various areas as mentioned by Commissioner Morris. The pace in the prosecution's side has not been what we had anticipated from a straight line perspective, but there really was no model or no precedence for us to be able to set what pace. But overall I would say if you look at page 39, we can continue to move in the right direction. The next page talks to the judges and I won't go into detail. We do in fact track how well we're doing. I think the key thing that I will point out is that in both Superior Court and you'll see in state court as well, is a mix of civil and criminal cases. At this point in time, we are exceeding the pace that we expected on the civil side; we expect that once the mix of civil and criminal changes, we're going to slow down a bit because by definition the complexity of the criminal cases tends to require more time to resolve. And so, at this point in time, this just gives you a sense of the mix on a judge by judge basis. Next slide, please. One more. So, we are trying to look at the pace and our progress from number of different dimensions. One of them that's very kind of hands-on is what's the actual weekly target that you have for each one of the various areas. And actually monthly target; I apologize. And so, for example in the case in Superior Court, our target based on a straight-line would be 636 cases that would be disposed, and 652 for the DA you know 2200 for the solicitor and so on. The actual just kind of represents a snapshot of how well we did in April. And, as I've said, it's going to be a bit bumpy. There are going to be some months we're ahead, some months behind. But I think the big measure and the one that I will focus on is the last column which it basically shows appeared to date. So, if you look at the three or four five months we've been active, some of the months we're good, some of them were below line, but overall I think in most cases in the case of Superior Court, state court, magistrate court, we're MAY 18, 2022 RECESS MEETING **VERBATIM MINUTES** 

feeling really good about where we are programmed to date. We have a bit more work to do in terms of the DA and the solicitor. I will add though that the solicitor has as you can see from the April numbers has -- excuse me considerably increased their rate of disposition over the last six weeks. Next page. As Commissioner Morris indicated you know hiring for ORCA is not unlike the challenges that you have for hiring in the County outside of the ORCA program or as we see across the entire economy. So, we've made some good starts in terms of the hiring. We continue to see some challenges obviously in then marshals and the sheriff's areas not unlike what we've seen with officers not only within Fulton County, but across the country. Excuse me. But overall, you know, we continue to focus on expanding our methods of recruiting. The salary increases that were approved by the BOC have helped significantly particularly in the public defenders' area. We have had a number of applications for the jobs that are available in the PD's office; made a number of offers; and so, it really has helped in a couple of key areas for us. Next slide, please. One of the big focuses for us and one of the keys and levels quite frankly to be able to move the cases, not only the ORCA cases, but all our cases is technology. You know we have a, to a certain extent, a fixed physical plant in terms of the number of court rooms that we have. We have a fixed capacity in terms of the numbers of individuals that we can bring over from the jail and housed in the courthouse. And so, the only way to help move things along faster is to increase the velocity and the way to do that is by using technology and increasing capacity outside our physical plant. And so, today as we sit here, we have 56 Zoom rooms that the County utilizes for cases. They account for 30 to 40 virtual hearing sessions per day which is more than 300 hours daily that are held on Zoom. And the folks at Zoom tell us that we utilize their technology more extensively than any other court system in the country. So it is a big priority for us. I want to thank Glenn and all of the technology folks and the courts, actually for making this something that has become a core part of what we do. What you see there is a real live picture of what happens on a daily basis in our court system today. Next slide. One of the things that Commissioner Morris has emphasized to us is that we need to make sure that in addition to focusing on how to move ORCA cases that we focus on as well as our post ORCA or our non-ORCA cases. So, that we don't develop a backlog in one area at the same time that we're reducing another. So we do have very specific activities. Some of them overlap; but actions associated with our ORCA cases which you know we've talked about the case triage, expanding the capacity, some of the productivity enhancements. In addition, however, for the non-ORCA, we've expanded the public defender and the DA staffing considerably. We continue to use key case triage which is which cases, when should they be done? To give you an example, the solicitor is

looking at grouping DUI cases and having a day or having a session specifically for DUI cases to help move those along. So, a lot of focus on how do we think about approaching our cases and the way we get after them at a different way and more efficient way. And a big focus on interagency collaboration and that's a big deal because it requires for us to move the cases. There is a handout process. And that handout process historically has not been something we focused on, but in some ways it's the most important level that we have to be able to make move cases through the system. So, we do that by regular meetings on a weekly basis to look at ORCA progress. We have monthly steering committee meetings -- a number of meetings in between to help us make sure that these systems working as smoothly as we can. And then across-the-board, I've mentioned the rigorous use of technology -- a lot of focus on data and analytics. Our strategy team has a lot of data that we look at and we slice and dice, but the goal really is 1: not only to increase transparency, but to give the justice partners data that they can then utilize to make better faster decisions. And so, big focus on the deployment of data and analytics to help us become more efficient. And then finally, obviously we've made a big investment in people. Some 300 plus for ORCA increased the salaries that's starting to have an impact. In some areas, it's allowing us to keep pace and the other areas we're actually able to make some progress in terms of filling out the numbers that we need. Commissioner Ellis, the last time we met, you asked a question about where we were with this criminal history update project. That was launched in April -- I think it was April 11th. It's being funded at least phase one by the Metro Atlanta Chamber of Commerce in conjunction with and working with the GBI. The number of cases is in excess of 2 million – not in cases, charges different. And so that kind of represents the totality of what we're trying to deal with. Now, please understand that these span a multiple decade. And so big part of this of phase one is trying to understand which one of these are most important, which represents significant crimes, which ones are more time sensitive, and then focusing on getting those resolved. And so, we're making some progress to goal is one. In phase one, let's identify and be clear about which of the cases represent the biggest priority for us or charges represent the biggest priority for us. And then secondly development developing improvements in the business processes and the systems that we have so that we don't continue to repeat this and it isn't a continuous problem. And then finally in terms of issuing risks as you can appreciate, this is a - our justice system is large and it's complex. And there are a number of issues and risks that we monitor they could present -- next slide, please. One more. Thank you. That we monitor and that represent what I consider to be risk and issues to being able to move the cases at the pace we would like. Clearly, there's an increase in violent crime that increases the

number of criminal cases and as a result increases the pace -- sorry, reduces the pace and increases the complexity of the cases that have to move through the system. The increase in jail population creates challenges in terms of transport capacity and the like. The increase -- the impact and increase of violent charges here again more complex cases, longer time to resolve, and as a result has an impact on the overall numbers. We've talked a bit about the Sheriff and marshal recruitment. And then finally the uptick in COVID cases. COVID cases when you have an uptick, it impacts our ability to select and put together our jury trials. It could also impact our ability to move individuals from the jail. So, I will stop there and take any questions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Yeah. To start with and I'm going to work back a little bit. On you know we've talked about you made reference to you know Commissioner Morris in particular pushing on this issue, ensuring that we're not building up another backlog, but we really don't have any data on what that looks like, right?"

**ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS:** "Well, we have data on the cases that have come in since December 7; however, there's a lag time associated with it. So, in other words if a case came in December 7<sup>th</sup>, if it's a civil case, it could take 12 months--"

#### COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Right."

**ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS:** "--so it'll take us a while to try to figure out what that gap will be and project it."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "So, let me rephrase my question. Right now, we don't really have a good sense of whether or not we are letting another backlog start to build."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "I wouldn't say that either. What I would say it is what we are monitoring are things like clearance rates and other things -- on the clearance rate side we're doing pretty good for certain cases; but to answer your question, if you were to say didn't we know today are we building a backlog? Specifically, the answer is unclear because of the lag time associated with clearing the cases."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. All right. I want to go back and sort of look at this slide, I think it's slide 39. And, I mean I do – I do I will say this, I mean, look I mean this whole sort of arena we've heard a lot of stuff over the past year and obviously this – there are a lot of myriad of issues in a lot of stuff that you know kind of comes before us and a lot of time is very anecdotal. And I think when it comes to public policy the more

you can focus on data can get away from the anecdotal to the real issues. So, I think this data is particularly important and we then we start to get a sense of what we're doing and how we're doing. And, you know, and this isn't about really sort of pointing out you know or trying to single an individual whatever this is sort of systematically looking at what we've invested in. Are we getting where we need to be? And if I look at this data, I'm looking at this and seeing right now that our investment in it right now or our additional dollars that we put in this right now, is not yielding the results that we expect. And I'm -- I'm concerned. Let me finish up what I'm saying here. So I am concerned about what we are and you know there's a couple places -- I mean certainly if I look at sort of the trends that we've seen sort of going back to this week of 12/6, here if I sort of just -- and I really sort of collectively I know this is not exactly true but sort of collectively, the cases of the DA and the Superior Court tie together--"

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

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "--and collectively the cases of the state court and the solicitor general tie together."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "That is correct."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. So, if I look at the clearance rate on these things if I sort of look at the whole Superior Court system and you know just take the last couple of weeks, I mean, it's like we're averaging cleared out about you know 127 cases or something. This is like it's going to take four point one years to clear out the backlog--"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "--so, if I can--"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "--hear me out, right? So, you know, I look at that sort of number, right and this isn't just two weeks. It's going back to December, same kind of trends. So, I mean, looks like we should be gaining, its' kind of held static. Now, if I look at magistrate numbers, it looks kind of – that looks fairly normal. Looks like we cleared that out in about 35 weeks of backlog. In state court if they continued at the pace they had, you know in the past couple weeks, you know it's right at a year, and what was our target again in terms of kind of wrapping this up?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: The target is December of 2023."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "December of 2023. So, you know, in a couple of areas, I mean you know it looks like we're making some pretty good progress; but we've got some significant deficiencies up here. And we're not, I mean, we're all not clueless

about what's going on in terms of crime right now, and what's adding into the system and the complexities of you know kind of what's coming down the pike. So, you know, I'm just saying, I'll look at this from a data standpoint and this doesn't give me a whole lot of confidence that we're not sitting here next year with a huge backlog. And we're still battling a significant issue. So, you know I'm just raising it. I'm not necessarily asking for an explanation around it. But, I do want to see these numbers every two weeks whether you talk about them or not. I want to see them so we can just look at are we -- is this just a blip? Are we starting to see an uptick? Because at some point, if it doesn't turn, we know what it is. And we know kind of what the throughput is going to be. So that's the point I want to raise on it. I mean, I'm not, Mr. Adams, I'm not being critical of you. This is good data and this is kind of what I've been looking for and I think this is great for all of us to kind of focus in on collectively with our justice partners and I'm not railing on them either. I'm just saying this is critical; and you know, so I like this slide and I hope we will continue to look at this and grind on this and everybody challenge themselves on it; and I hope we'll also kind of be able to come up with some sort of data help position to understand do we have a further backlog build on the other end. And I think particularly you know I'm interested in this from the places where we look to be sort of lagging in the clearance right now in the Superior Court you know kind of in a more hard crime area you know are we fostering another backlog. So, the more we can get some data and help us understand that, I think that would be helpful."

**ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS:** "Okay, so and I agree. I agree with the data and I do want to correct one thing if I can. If you straight line the cases that we started with and what we need to do at what pace to get to ending those cases in December 2023, we're actually ahead of that straight-line."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Well, so we're ahead of it, but that would assume that all of that which was just a batch of magistrate cases. I'm looking at it in sort of breaking out the components magistrate court, state court, Superior Court. "

# ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "I agree."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "And, you know, and I think all of them are important, but you know clearly when we look at probably the major impact that sort of flows through us on the back end, in terms of impact on our jails and sheriffs and all that sort of stuff, and what sort of the impact probably from a violent crime perspective, it's in the category that we're way behind on, you know so. That's the piece that you know I'm looking at as sort of the component pieces of that. I get that in the aggregate, you know we're, okay, but you know, if we've got a huge backlog in the Superior Court and we cleared out the MAY 18, 2022 RECESS MEETING VERBATIM MINUTES

other two, you know we're still probably going to be looking at and hearing about the same kind of problems that we got right now."

**ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS:** "I don't disagree because I mentioned that the criminal cases are the ones that create just more complex, right? And by definition harder to predict. But what I will say though is that we anticipated that there would be faster resolution to magistrate cases that the solicitor because of some of the programs that he's running including some of the diversion programs would pick up pace. The biggest risk as I pointed out is the complexity of these criminal cases and how long it's going to take for us to resolve them. And so, you're absolutely right. Those are the ones that we're focused on. Those are the ones that a lot of the -- one of the reasons why we added some more Zoom rooms so that each one of those superior court judges could have more capacity. So, I think in a lot of ways we're doing the right things, but how they come together and how they impact this is something we will continue to focus on. So, I 100 percent agree in terms of the need to do that and quite frankly focusing on the actions that we think makes sense."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "So like you know the investment in things like the Zoom rooms and so forth, right? I mean, when did those sort of come online if you will?"

**ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS:** "Well, the Zoom rooms actually started online, oh gosh, I want to say probably -- do you know Glenn -- a year ago? Yeah. Yeah. At the beginning - most of the capacity started at the beginning of COVID. So, it would have been I don't know two years ago?"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. So we started -- you said it like that all of a sudden we're -- this is something new and novel we're going to start to see--"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "--well, we've increased capacity."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay."

**ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS:** "We've changed the way we're using it, and every time every day we get more efficient more effective."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay."

**ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS:** "So, we increased the capacity via Zoom by 60 percent by adding the two per floor at the jail."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "So when was that increase in capacity? What did that take effect?"

**ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS:** "Well, we actually got the approval to move forward. The actual construction of the Zoom rooms is happening as we speak."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. Hasn't that -- we hadn't hit the mark where we have 60 percent more capacity?"

**ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS:** "That's correct. That's on actually from Judge McBurney to his bench. It's going to happen about two weeks and that's where we're going to start to see that increase as well."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "In two weeks at least that will go for additional capacity.

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Yes, yes, that's correct."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "All right. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman followed by Commissioner Morris."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Chairman. Were - did we have a backlog when the pandemic hit?"

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

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "We did have a backlog?"

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. So, my question to you is this: Have we implemented procedures and tools to work not only on that backlog, but the backlog that occurred because of the shut down as well?"

**ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS:** "Yeah, we in fact before COVID we had already started doing things like tracking the judge's performance, looking at the number of cases that each judge had at the jail; we have started a number of the kind of cross agency meetings. So yes, we started -- a lot of the productivity and enhancement improvements were started before COVID. And then once COVID came, then we started to focus on things like virtual and so on. So, it's a – it's a bit of a combination of things; that's correct."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So just to be clear for the viewing audience: this situation is fluid and it may change day-to-day in that we will not be able to see concrete numbers until we're further out because of the back log. I guess what I'm asking you is because people are still getting arrested, people are still filing suits; we have to look at the long-run outreach -- the forecast so to speak; however, we must take in consideration that we are still operating with our criminal justice partners daily. And so, the numbers may fluctuate, they may look you know, one way and then another as we go into 2023. I think what I want to do is I want to make sure that our listening audience does not get confused on to what we are doing or more importantly what your department is doing in implementing in order to attack the backlog and try as much as possible to keep an additional backlog from happening. So, if you could kind of – do you understand what I'm asking you to put it in layman's terms--"

#### ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "-- I do, I do."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "--because, I think sometimes we get a little bit too much in the weeds and the listening audience gets lost. So, if you could just put it in layman's term as to what we're doing, what our goal is, and the time frame as to how we're looking at the numbers and the fact that they will fluctuate."

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Well, so to your point, Commissioner, we started looking at improving the throughput and the operations of the justice system certainly before my time, but when I joined [Inaudible.] three and a half years ago -- four years ago; and we started a number of things, right. One was how do we do a better job of tracking who's actually in the jail. When I first got here, it was like how many people do you have in the jail today, and you get a different answer. So, a lot of work on how do we track and understand the current situation that we're in. How do we track the number of cases moving through the various systems? We implemented upgrades to Odyssey which is our core technology system. It allows us to have better sense of what's going on and to have some of these transfers. So we did have a program in place to make steady improvement and then COVID hit; and then we started – and then we had to pivot and spend more time on things like virtual, and folks may not remember when COVID first hit, we actually were aggressive in terms of having 500 individuals from the jail released because that's what the CDC said. And so we actually reduced our population to I think it's by 2400 individuals. Now, we're much higher than that because of COVID. And so, they're parallel paths, but they're very related. We have a path that's focused on ORCA and clearing up the backlog associated with the actual pandemic, but we also had some core fundamental things we were working on before

that that were exacerbated by that. And so, they overlap. And so, to answer your question, the fact of the matter is to put it in some context, every judicial system has a backlog. There probably isn't one in America that doesn't. Some kind maybe small, maybe large. There are a number of things that are considered best practices to reduce it and our focus is on utilizing those best practices to make as big of an impact as we can."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you for that. My only question to you at this point: If you all had not put in place what you put in place, what could the potential issue that we pretty much block, so to speak --what could have happened if you/we had not moved on your suggestions and did what we did as far as the virtual hearings and other things? What potential affect would it have had as far as us trying to reduce that backlog?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "Well, we'd have -- we have a hundred thousand plus cases. And I want to say it's not just necessarily my suggestions, and we do a lot of research and look at what other counties are doing across the country and see what other states are doing to kind of accelerate this. The goal of -- when we first started – when the court system was shut down and we moved to Zoom, one of the things that we realize is there were court systems across the country that had been using Zoom, for example, for first appearances for years and years. So, in some cases we were planning on deploying technology and play catch up. But I think it's fair to say if we hadn't done this, we'd be in a tougher situation in terms of the backlog and being able to move the system."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Morris."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "I'll try to be real quick. First of all, let me apologize for jumping ahead after the County Manager went through his comments, I thought maybe that was ORCA. So, I didn't know I was giving such deep detail. I should have known that; so, I apologize for that. But, secondly, this is an incredibly complex situation. I've learned so much from sitting in on these meetings about the complexities of how all this works, and Alton and his Team have done an incredible job. And he referred to some earlier pre-ORCA project efforts. I remember in my first term, we started our elected officials meetings which some of them suggested that was the first time really they all sat in the same room to talk to each other in their recollections. So, it's been a lot of effort to try to make all of the justice system work better. I got the floor again really in

response to one of Commissioner Ellis' points about the end date of Project ORCA and one of the things we really haven't talked about and we do get in the weeds when we do this is let's remember that we set up a separate funding mechanism of \$75 million for this and the planning has involved trying to make that money last through December of 23 and that's being tracked quite extensively. And because of the problems in hiring folks, you know, there we're sort of not spending as fast as the original projections. So arguably, it could - money might still be available after December 23 to wrap it up, but I sure don't want us to extend that deadline and try to all plan to stick to that deadline and hope that we get the hiring done and the money does last through December 23, and we get the cases resolved. But that's an element of it. The funding of it is a key element and I just want to make that point because it does relate to the end date of the project."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Any other comments or questions? Mr. Adams?"

ALTON ADAMS, COO, FC PSS: "No. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Mr. Manager."

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "Yes, sir. Just one PS to that discussion to add to what Commissioner Morris was saying. Don't forget that we also hired a sensor to do an end-to-end process review of the justice system, and funded case management standards and training. So, I don't know which iteration we're on, but it's probably a third or fourth generation by now. I think this one is the most potential of really having an impact. I wanted to just ask Dr. Roshell to update you on the summer youth job-training program that you gave us direction on; it's page 31, if the Clerk can bring that up."

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "Thank you, Mr. County Manager. So briefly, as you know the Board approved \$500,000 from ARPA, to fund a summer youth job training program. And I'm pleased to announce through the hard work of Purchasing, Community Development, and External Affairs that application launched on May 16th, Monday. It will run through May 23rd -- the application process that is. We created a simplified application process and we will fast-track the review of these applications so that we can be in place to take advantage of the entire summer. The eligible or the recommended vendors will be nonprofits, 501(c)3 organizations that have a history of a minimum of two years of providing career exploration, job opportunities, or improving educational employment outcomes. We use this language to align with ARPA standards. Funding must be used to support Fulton County youth ages 16 to 24. We also included a minimum of no less than \$15 an hour and a minimum of 100

hours during the contract period which will end on March 31st. We will also target ZIP Code based risk factors so applications that are going to serve certain ZIP Codes that have been determined to have higher indicators of risk for youth will receive priority points. So thank you again for this funding and we look forward to bringing you the recommendations in June."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Dr. Roshell. My office has received quite a bit of calls about this and thank you for clearing up some of that. I just want, for the record and for the listening audience -- because some of the misunderstanding has been and I am humbled for you to correct me if need be -- is you can't be a start-up; however, if you meet the requirements that you all have put forth that meets what you just stated, is it that you have to already have been doing business with Fulton County or is it that you have to have been approved by Fulton County? Because some of the nonprofits have a misunderstanding and it's whether it's on their end, or our end. I just want to clear it up."

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "Thank you, Commissioner. You do not have to be a current vendor with Fulton County. As long as you have had a track record as we've defined as a minimum of two years in providing these types of services, you do not have to be a current vendor. You would enroll as a vendor if you are approved."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you for that because I've had quite a bit of information and I told them I did not think that they were saying that they have to have already been an approved vendor with Fulton County. And I told them, you have to have the history--"

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

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "--however, and you're not a start-up."

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS: "--that's right."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "--however, that you will be able to apply for the funding. That's correct right?"

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "You're absolutely correct. And when those vendors are approved, we will give them the information they need to register as a new vendor with the County."

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

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Thank you, Mr. Chair. So, Dr. Roshell, how would someone that is not registered as a vendor find out about the RFP?"

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "So, we welcome the opportunity to have our district offices, please share the information with your constituents regarding the application. It's an online application. We've been promoting it through our social media channels. The link is FultonCountyGA.gov/youth job training. And so, we've made the application simplified compared to a full RFP, and we're just attempting to spread the word through the channels that we have here at Fulton County."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "So those organizations that are already registered to do business with Fulton County, and who already have a vendors number, don't they automatically receive any RFP that falls under the category of where they actually, what they actually do as far as their organization's business or service?"

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "So in the Department of Community Development, we have an e-mail list of vendors -- we've had in the past those that we currently have and we send that out. If I could turn to -- Ms. Donna Jenkins to confirm that Bid Net will send this information to any registered vendor."

# COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay."

**DONNA JENKINS, DEPUTY CHIEF, PCC:** "Good morning, Commissioners. Donna Jenkins, Deputy Chief Purchasing Agent. The way it works, it was posted to Bid Net and any vendor that goes out and looks at solicitations on Bid Net currently that information is out there to any vendor."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Thank you so that makes it a lot easier when a vendor is already registered because they will automatically get the information; is that correct? That's what you just said."

**DONNA JENKINS, DEPUTY CHIEF, PCC:** "They don't automatically get the information. If they go out there and look for it, yes, it's available to any vendor."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "So, they have to go look for it. They're not going to be sent it directly."

DONNA JENKINS, DEPUTY CHIEF, PCC: "No. It's just like any other solicitation; no."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Okay. So, that's where the problem lies. Because I have had a lot of calls from people who have nonprofit organizations that saw the Board meeting where we approved the summer program, but they were saying you know where is the information for the bid. And literally, my Chief of Staff had to find it and send it to everyone. So, I was trying to figure out is there a way that people are automatically knowing about this. If they're already registered or if we have already given them previous grant funding, I was hoping that we would automatically just send it to those people who are registered and who have already done – who have already received grant funding. But I see that that's part of why they're not getting the information. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Anyone else? Mr. Manager."

DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER: "Yes, sir, that concludes our report."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Madam Clerk. Let's see now. It's 12:31. Can we get through the next two sections before we recess for lunch and executive session."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Okay. On page 7, **22-0362**, Purchasing and Contract Compliance. Request ratification of countywide emergency procurements."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Morris, a second by Commissioner Ellis. Any questions? Let's vote, please."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open -- "

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--I'm sorry; just a minute, please."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "I had a question."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Thank you, Mr. Chair. I couldn't press the button fast enough. If you look at the last page of this report, the emergency rental assistance program Fulton County emergency procurements report, it actually shows where there

was an accident and I saw this sign on the corner of Peachtree and Mitchell; and it was so bashed up and knocked over, but I see that that is the sign that's mentioned on here. Do we know what police department was doing the chase? And who actually knocked that sign down? Mr. Hermon?"

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER**: "Let me ask Joe Davis if he has that information."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Okay."

**JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.:** "Hello Commissioner. Joe Davis, Director of Real Estate and Asset Management. This was a high-speed police chase involving the city of Atlanta. The actual vehicle that struck the sign was not a police vehicle, it was actually the person being chased."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Okay. And so, did that person have insurance and will we get reimbursed for the cost of putting the sign back? Using our general fund dollars?"

**JOE DAVIS, DIRECTOR, D.R.E.A.M.:** "I cannot recall the police report off the top of my head as it relates to whether they had insurance. We do know that we are going to the risk management process. So that is being handled in terms of getting refunded the money."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "All right. Great. Thank you, Joe."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay, all right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Morris. Let's vote, please. This will be on 0362."

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

**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0363, Finance. Presentation, review and approval of the May18th budget soundings."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Morris, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Madam CFO, what do we have here?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Mr. Chairman, at the last Board meeting the Board took an action item up to approve the County attorney negotiating an intergovernmental agreement with the city of Alpharetta for the

renovation of the Alpharetta jail. This is the funding for the resources that would be necessary to make that happen so that that jail facility can be reopen."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What's the source of the 517,000?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Our soundings contingency, emergency contingency fund."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "And where will the employees come from that will be used to staff that facility?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "My understanding is that the Sheriff is covering the employee costs out of his existing budget."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Not the cost, but where are the live bodies coming from - sits on the ORCA report they've only been able to hire two for ORCA."

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "The Sheriff would have to respond to how he's staffing it. I understand from a meeting on a different subject matter that he's identified at least 22 individuals that would be assigned to the Alpharetta jail."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "But it's still only two for ORCA."

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "The Sheriff would have to answer that question."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Chairman. Would you happen to know if those are present employees or deputies that are going to be going to the Alpharetta jail or are those new employees? Is there anybody here that can answer that question?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "I don't know for certain."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "My interpretation is that it was a reassignment, but he did not say that specifically."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So it could be a reassignment, but what we don't know for sure." MAY 18, 2022 RECESS MEETING VERBATIM MINUTES

#### SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yes, ma'am."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. The questions we're asking now – should have been asked before this was approved; but the question was called, and they were not able to get these questions answered. But we'll have to deal with it. Motion on the floor is to approve. Please vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: Continue Madam Clerk.

**CLERK GRIER:** On page 8, **22-0364**, Real Estate and Asset Management. Request approval to amend an existing contract to provide additional interior design, furniture for Peachtree, MLK, East Point library expansions."

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

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

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**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0365. Request approval to amend an existing contract to provide additional construction services for Northeast, Burrell Oaks, Northside, and Buckhead library."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "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, zero nays."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Under Health and Human Services, **22-0366**, Senior Services. Request approval to amend existing contracts to provide minor home repairs."

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

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

**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0367. Request approval to increase spending authority to provide transportation services ridesharing through Uber and Lyft."

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

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

**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0368, Public Works. Request approval of an IGA with the City of Milton for water main relocations associated with the intersection improvement of Hopewell Road and Bethany Bend."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Hall, and Commissioner Abdur-Rahman has the floor, and there were three items on the Consent Agenda that we are taking up along with this item. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Yes, Director David Clark, is he still here? Thank you, Director. Thank you, Director. I have some questions that I wanted to ask concerning this. The purpose of this agreement to give more than a half a million to the city of Milton is to meet the public purpose of transportation and infrastructure improvements including water; is that correct?"

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "I wouldn't characterize it that way. David Clark, Public Works Director for Fulton County. The \$500,000 is to relocate our existing water line that is in conflict with an interception project that the city of Milton is doing. So, the city of Milton is doing the road project, and we have to move the existing water main out from their way. And in the past, we have found the most cost-effective way of doing that entering an IGA with the cities that they will do the work for us and then we would pay them back as opposed to us bringing our own contractor into the project and having our contractor and their contractor step on each other during the construction process."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. So you said you wouldn't categorize it that way that I asked it. Let me ask you this. Would they be able to do this - what they're trying to do without this they would not be able to relocate or do the things that you've just stated was needed?"

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "Well, it's not the city's responsibility to relocate the water lines; it's the County's responsibility."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay, so the counties duty to -- Milton is the reason that this needs to be done."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you. Is it a public purpose to provide infrastructure improvements including repairing detention ponds with backed up sewage and providing clean water to all citizens? Would you consider that a public purpose, yes, or no?"

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "All except for detention ponds. Fulton County no longer maintains detention ponds. We just do water North of the Chattahoochee River and sanitary sewer outside of the city of Atlanta."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "So, I'm assuming that will be a no?"

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "That will be a partial, yes --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Okay."

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "--with the exception of what you asked about detention ponds; that would be a no."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Well, I'm not sure if maybe you understood the question, so I'll ask it again: Is it a public purpose to provide infrastructural improvements including repairing detention ponds with backed up sewage and providing clean water to all citizens?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Are you saying part of that--"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "--just a minute--"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "--you would like to answer; excuse me?" MAY 18, 2022 RECESS MEETING VERBATIM MINUTES **CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Just a minute. Just a minute. We're not discussing retention ponds publicly. That's a matter for executive session."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "So, am I not allowed to ask him the question?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "No, not that question. We will take that up in executive session."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. I'm not sure, County Attorney, I'm not asking about a particular detention pond, I'm asking is it a public purpose, yes or no."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "I rule that that is not appropriate at this time. That's a matter for executive session. Now, any Commissioner--"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "--so, does that mean the County Attorney can't answer it?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Just a minute. Just a minute. Anyone can make a motion to overrule my rulings. Is there motion to overrule my ruling? (No response.) Is there a motion? (No response.) Thank you. Next item."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And so, am I not allowed to ask the County Attorney a question?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "This is a matter for executive session. We've discussed that Commissioner."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So Chairman, with all due respect, I'm asking you at my not as a sitting Commissioner allowed to ask the County Attorney a question?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "This is a matter Commissioner for executive session. You're free to ask anything you want to in executive session."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So, I'm not allowed to ask the County attorney who responds to all sitting Commissioners, not just the Chairman -- I am not as a sitting Commissioner, allowed to ask her a question, yes, or no?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "On this item in executive session, you can ask anything you want. Anything else should be out of order. Continue Madam Clerk."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So, I had some more questions that I need to ask of this person."

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

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Do you have a problem with me doing that?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "If it's - as long as it's not on this issue. Now, the motion before us is to approve this issue. Motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis—"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "--and as a sitting Commissioner, I can ask the question. You didn't allow me to finish asking my questions."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "--I'm restating the motion. The motion on the floor is to approve by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Hall. You still have the floor."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Chairman. I still have the floor. I want to ask you -- I see that the list of repairs and replacements for the city of Milton project in this agreement in exhibit A. I just would like to confirm some numbers with you, please."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I see here that it requires a watermain eight-inch GIP that's going to be a total cost for that particular item of \$178,500; is that correct? In exhibit A; it's one, two, three, four, five, six -- the seventh item down?"

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "I see it now, yes."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "That is correct, 178,000."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "--178,500. I see also an insertion valve 8 to 12 inch that's going to be a total cost of \$60,000; is that correct."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I also see tap and sleeve valve assembly. I see a price of 10,000 and below it I see the fire hydrant a price of 33,000; is that correct as well?"

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And also the flowable feel, the third item down I see 17,500."

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WINDOWS USER

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So, I see this total cost of this project as \$503,000 – 503,585; is that correct."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. Also, I would like to ask you as well in the intergovernmental agreement could you tell the public what Section 4 bullet .3 says? Could you just read it into the record, please of the intergovernmental agreement?"

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "Section 4 bullet three?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yes, please."

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "The County shall respond in a timely manner to any issue that may arise during the construction phase. Every effort shall be made not to delay the contractor under any circumstances."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** Thank you. I appreciate that. So the County's role and responsibility is to respond in a timely manner to ensure we provide infrastructure improvements including water in a timely manner; that is correct; is that correct?"

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you. Also, in the agreement with the city of Milton could you tell the public what Section 6 under additional understandings bullet .1 says; if you could just read that into the record, please."

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "The parties shall work together in a cooperative and coordinated effort and in such a manner and fashion to bring about the achievements and fulfillment of the goals and objectives of this IGA."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you. So, the County is to work in a cooperative and coordinated effort with the city of Milton to achieve this intergovernmental agreement which is to improve the infrastructure and water for citizens of Milton in North Fulton. Is that correct, yes, or no?"

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

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you. That's all I have to ask you."

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CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Mr. Clark, these are pretty routine when it comes to these road projects, right? We've entered into a lot of these IGAs, right?"

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "Especially with the institution of T-Splost over the last couple of the years, yes."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "And in this particular area where we've got responsibility for this stuff, we're paying this via a rate payer generated fund, correct?"

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "That's right, the water and sewer fund."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Yeah, so people that are in those areas are basically funded at through the rates that they're paying."

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

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "All right. Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** All right. Anything else? The motion on the floor is to approve." Cast your vote, please."

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

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. There are three items removed from the Consent Agenda by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman to be discussed along with the one that we just approved. The first one is on page 4; is that correct?"

**CLERK GRIER:** "Yes. Page 4, **22-0346**, Public Works. Request approval of a change order less than ten percent for the Big Creek water reclamation facility expansion project."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Morris, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman you have the floor."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. One second. Okay, I noticed that the change order for this is 201,545 for the Bent Creek water reclamation facility expansion. MAY 18, 2022 RECESS MEETING VERBATIM MINUTES

I would like to know what is the total overall cost of this project before this change order request."

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "David Clark, Public Works Director again. The original contract that was awarded back in 2020 was for \$274,768,712."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you. Also, this is to cover the impacts of tariffs. Could you please explain to the listening public what these tariffs are exactly and what is causing the need for us to add more money to this project in this change order, please."

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "So, the material that we are using this part of this project is coming from outside of the United States and they have been subject to new tariffs and taxes that we were not expecting when we awarded the project initially back in 2020."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And so that is what's causing the need for us to add more money to this project, correct in this change order."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. What is the purpose of the expansion of the Big Creek water reclamation facility?"

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "We're taking the existing facility which currently treats 24 million gallons a day in waste water to 32 million gallons a day in the future."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So would that be considered increased usage that's why? Am I been -- I'm just trying to put it for the listening audience."

DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS: "That's right growth in the area."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Growth in the area. Thank you. I appreciate that. What citizens and businesses and neighborhoods and communities are impacted by this expansion of the Big Creek Water Reclamation Facility?"

**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "I think you mean which areas are served."

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

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**DAVID CLARK, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC WORKS:** "Big Creek wastewater treatment plant serves a portion of Johns Creek, Alpharetta, most of Roswell, and Sandy Springs."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you. So, in a nutshell, would it be the opinion that the recommendation for this expansion needs to take place because it will improve the public health and safety in the terms of clean water supply?"

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

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you. That's all the questions I have."

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

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0347, Senior Services. Request approval to increase spending authority to provide congregate meals and nutrition education."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Arrington. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman you have the floor."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "One second, Chairman. Thank you, Chairman; I'm sorry. I had to get my notes. What is our current allocated amount we spend on meals under this agreement and grant with Open Hand? Can someone answer - I'm sorry ladies I was getting my notes. I didn't mean to not recognize you was there. Could you answer that first question for me? I'll repeat it. What is our current allotted amount we spend on meals under this agreement and grant with Open Hand?"

**LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES:** "Ladisa Onyiliogwu, Director for the Department of Senior Services. For clarification, Commissioner, are you requesting for the cost per meal or the contract amount?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I would say the contract amount."

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES: "Okay."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "If you're able - are you able to give me the contract amount?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES: "Yes. And it is included in the -- the agenda item; but for this particular vendor, let's see here--" MAY 18, 2022 RECESS MEETING VERBATIM MINUTES **DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "--Ladisa, I have the information. Madam Commissioner this contract for 2022, we started with an amendment on March 2nd, \$300,000. We added additional funding for \$23,000 on April 20th and this request is for \$254,000. The first -- the original award dates all the way back to 2017; and we have provided this service through this vendor from 2017 through today. And the total contract value from 2017 up through today has been 16 million."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I know we spend funds from this grant feeding seniors. To what extent are we providing any meals for children and youth?"

**LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES:** "The contract only indicates meals for senior residents age 60 and above so this is only for seniors. And I'm unable to answer the question for children and youth."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Dr. Rochelle does Fulton County have any program that provides any meals for children and youth?"

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "We do not have any current programs. During the height of the pandemic using CARES funding, we did provide meals for children residing in hotels, but as of today, we don't have a meal program for children."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. And since you -- this leads me to my next question: For this summer, will we have any programs to feed children and youth this summer as we have in the past as you've stated?"

DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS: "No, ma'am."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. Thank you for that. This for me is not just about meals, but also nutrition education; what are the methods and what is the staffing used to provide nutrition education?"

LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES: "The contractor provides nutrition education at our neighborhood senior centers. I have had an opportunity to see some of those counselors coming into the new horizon facility last week. And on that day, two individuals come; they have a topic that they discuss, and that's one aspect of how they provide counseling and education to our seniors."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "That's great. Would you happen to know if that is going on across the board, or was it just with new horizons? Would you happen—"

**LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES:** "--that's a part, yes Ma'am, that's a part of the contracting requirement."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "The requirement of the nutritional counseling. Thank you. In terms of our budgeting for this program, what is the percentage of the grants that we spend on actual food and the nutrition education and counseling parts of these grants."

**LADISA ONYILIOGWU, DIRECTOR, SENIOR SERVICES:** "Commissioner, I would like to provide that breakdown to you after today. We'll get that information for you."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Please do. Thank you. Considering our homeless problem in Fulton County, what can we do within any of our food and meal grants to feed the homeless population?"

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "Madam Commissioner, one avenue that we can look at would be through our emergency solution grants. We have allocated those funds for 2022. We should be receiving an allocation soon from HUD in one of the priority areas we could add could be meal provision."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. Great. And so, are there any partnerships that we can join for instance like Hosea Feed the Hungry and others? Is there a possibility for us to be able to do a partnership to feed the homeless?"

**DR. PAMELA ROSHELL, COO, FC HHS:** "So, we will confirm in the HUD regs how we would need to move forward with a meal provisions for the homeless. But we do have the ability to take Board priorities and make those the priority areas that we will fund through ESG program."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you. I appreciate you all."

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

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

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

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**CLERK GRIER:** "Bottom of page 5, on the Consent Agenda, under Justice and Safety, **22-0354**, Juvenile Court. Request approval to award a contract without competition to provide the implementation of data collection and reporting updates to the Fulton County juvenile court case management system."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Motion to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Morris. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, you have the floor."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Chairman. I have a couple of questions that I would like to ask. This is nearly a half a million dollar contract; is there any minority participation in this contract?"

**Timothy Ezell, Chief Administrative Officer:** No, Commissioner. This is the case management system. J. Canon's Solutions is making updates to their current system, our case management system."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And so, I guess, there are no women, Black, Latino businesses are a part of this contract, but they are looking – I'm sorry, I didn't quite understand what you were saying."

**Timothy Ezell, Chief Administrative Officer:** "So what's on the board from the agenda today is to actually enhance and update and convert our case management system to make upgrades. It's offered through Canon solutions. They may have minorities that work for them, but I couldn't speak to that. I can only speak to that is what they are looking to update and upgrade our system."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So, you wouldn't be able to speak for the contractor as to whether they have any women, Black or Latino businesses as a part of this contract. I just want to make sure I understand what you said."

Timothy Ezell, Chief Administrative Officer: "That's correct."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you. Can you explain to the public why this is a contract without competition?"

**ALTON ADAMS, DEPUTY COO, FC PSS**: "If I can, Tim, if I may, let me answer if I can. Is an extension of an existing software platform that we that's actually the primary platform for all of the juvenile court systems in the state of Georgia. And so, to answer your first question: it's an extension rather than a total RFP bid. And secondly,

because it is an existing company and it is a piece of software, it's not -- it wouldn't be the type of RFP or response that we would expect to have various responses in terms of minority content".

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you. My second question was can you explain to the public why this is a contract without competition I guess you kind of said it; but just in laymen's terms, would you mind just reiterating that for me?"

**Timothy Ezell, Chief Administrative Officer:** "So we're looking at make some updates to our system. Currently, our case management system operates off of internet Explorer. It has an end date, Explorer will end on June 15<sup>th</sup>. And so, without this update our case management system will be open to any security issues. And so, this dot.net conversion as well as adding an e-filing portal will allow us to do that through our current case management system [Inaudible.]."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And so, just to kind of put it in layman's term, the - not doing this will put us at a risk."

Timothy Ezell, Chief Administrative Officer: "Yes, it will put us at a security risk."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "It's a security risk. That's what I wanted to make sure that the public knew. What are some of the -- well I noticed that we talked about other youth outcomes to measure. If you can speak about that, what are the outcomes that we're looking at here outside of the recidivism rate? Are you able to speak to any of that?"

**Timothy Ezell, Chief Administrative Officer:** "Sure. Currently the [Inaudible.] system doesn't allow for robust reporting; so we have to depend on the vendor to provide us reports; and they charge us just by the hour. This part of this enhancement with allow us to do different reporting like, on our own KPIs as well as recidivism rate the number of cases assigned to each judge and things like that. So that allows us to do it internally compared to having to use the vendor to provide those services to us."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you. Also, what are some of the areas of improvement the court aims to achieve through this system? Let me just kind of expound because I want you to – for our listening audience to kind of put this in layman's term. We know that this is nearly half a million dollars will further the goal of the measuring implementation progress and guide implements - improvements. What does that mean in layman's language, please? So, what I'm asking for our listening audience because I do get calls. I do have people that call and so I don't want to put

words in their mouth. I want you to answer them. What are some of the areas of improvement that the court aims to achieve through this system in layman's term, please."

**Timothy Ezell, Chief Administrative Officer:** "Okay. So, some of the things that we look to achieve or to be able to use any Internet browser to access our case management system whether it's Internet Explorer which is leaving or Google Chrome, Edge, Firefox so that's one of them. Also we're looking to implement a e-filing portal so that would allow the public or users, our court users to file from home and actually move us closer to being a more paperless environment because as a document is filed from a petitioner, it'll go to the judge to review. The judge can actually review it, issue an order or ruling, come back to the clerk and actually go into the file. And lastly, it would enhance our reporting. So, like I said before, a lot of our reporting we have to rely on the vendor to provide for us because of the way the system is currently configured. This actually allocates some grant dollars to us to be able to allow us to do a lot more reporting internally instead of utilizing the vendor."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you. And finally, so we are spending a half a million on tracking; what currently do we spend on juvenile court and juvenile crime prevention programs; can you speak to that? And is this the area we need improvement in?"

**Timothy Ezell, Chief Administrative Officer:** "I can speak to what our current contract is for the case management system. The annual maintenance is 135,000. We've actually negotiated – and these are grant funds, Commissioner. So, we are on our third no-cost extension with the office of juvenile and delinquency prevention. And so, one of the things we did is we showed the need of what we're looking forward to enhance internally. They allowed us through reallocation to utilize this half a million dollars before the grant ends in September. And so, we've identified those, approved it; we put it out for competition, and then now we're ready to move forward with those enhancements before September ends."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you. And my final question: Do we need more improvement in this area?"

Timothy Ezell, Chief Administrative Officer: "I'm sorry, can you restate it."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Do we need more improvement in this area with dealing with juveniles and what our goal is which is to eradicate the problem with

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juvenile crimes that they are committing. Do we need more improvement in this area as a whole?"

**Timothy Ezell, Chief Administrative Officer:** "I wouldn't say that we need more improvement; but the court is always open for support. So, as you know with juvenile cases in juvenile court, we're looking and rely on the community. One of our missions is to rehabilitate and restore families and so that takes a community effort so we are always looking for partners and volunteers from the public to get involved and get engaged. And so, we're always looking for support in that way, yes."

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

Timothy Ezell, Chief Administrative Officer: "No problem."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. The motion on the floor is to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Morris. Commissioner Arrington."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "The money for this software system, this is grant funded money, right?"

Timothy Ezell, Chief Administrative Officer: "That's correct."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "So, to put it in layman's terms, if anyone had read this, they would have known that this was grant money, right?"

Timothy Ezell, Chief Administrative Officer: "It is grant funded, Commissioner."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "I'm done."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "And just to -- thank you, Mr. Chair -- just to get some clarification. This is a statewide system; is that not correct?"

Timothy Ezell, Chief Administrative Officer: "Yes."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "And that's why this is the only vendor because it's a statewide system, and this vendor has always has done this work and as a former IT executive of over 25 years, I know that you want to maintain that contract with the vendor who initially put your system in place because they know every aspect of how that system is in place, how it's operating, all of the maintenance needs and everything; is that correct."

Timothy Ezell, Chief Administrative Officer: "Correct."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Thank you so much."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Arrington."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Is there a second?"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Second."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Properly moved and seconded. Let's vote on the call of the question."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Okay. And the vote is open on call the question. And the motion passes; five yeas; zero nays."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "On the motion is on the floor which is to approve. Let's vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion to approve passes; six yeas, 0 nays."

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**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. It's approximately 1:10 and would entertain a motion to recess for lunch, real estate litigation, and personnel. Please vote. Motion to approve by Commissioner Morris, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Please vote."

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

(Start of Executive Session at 1:10 p.m.)

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Without objection, we will resume the regular order of business. Madam County Attorney, items from Executive Session."

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Yes, Chairman, thank you. Is there a motion to approve the request for representation as set forth in item number 1 of the Executive Session agenda?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "I'll second, let's vote, please. Actually, motion to approve by Commissioner Ellis, seconded by Commissioner Morris. Please vote."

CLERK GRIER: "And the vote is open."

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**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Is there a motion to approve the measures as set forth in the --"

CLERK GRIER: "And the motion passes --"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Oh, I'm so sorry."

CLERK GRIER: "-- five yeas, zero nays."

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**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Sorry, Madam Clerk. Now, is there a motion to approve the measures set forth in item number 4 of the Executive Session agenda?"

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

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

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Madam Clerk."

**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 9, Commissioner's Action Items **22-0331**: Request approval of an ordinance -- ordinance to amend the Fulton County Code of Ordinances to modify Code Section 101-66(b)(3) to prioritize public comments to Fulton County residents."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Hall."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Oh, Commissioner Arrington, did you want to go ahead?"

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "(Off-mic comments) I was just going to ask the Clerk if she had had time to think about a process for how she can identify Fulton County residents (off-mic comments)."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Yes. Once the speakers come in to fill out the speaker cards, right now, we do not require them to include their full address. Now, we will make it a point to explain to each speaker that they will -- it's a requirement to fill out the speaker cards. And as they come down to address the Board, they will need to, along with giving their name, confirm that they are Fulton County residents. And we will explain that if you're

not a Fulton County resident, you will still be able to speak either within the allotted 30minute time or at the end of the meeting. But Fulton County residents will speak first."

COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.: "(Off-mic comments)"

**CLERK GRIER:** "We can try to get identification. But sometimes -- I don't think that's something that we'll be able to police. It will be more so of an honor system. If they are willing to provide their identification, we'll gladly look at it. But I can't guarantee everyone will have an ID with that Fulton County address."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Thank you, Mr. Chair. So we want to make sure that every citizen is able to speak. And I understand the reasoning behind this in that, we want to make sure that our Fulton County residents have that opportunity first and foremost because everything that we do impacts the Fulton County residents. And so we definitely want to hear from them. And we want to give them the first opportunity to do so. During the last meeting, I brought up two friendly amendments that I wanted to add to this resolution. And that was so that we continue to do the Zoom and the email. We should also include the Zoom and the email in this resolution. And I just want to make sure that that is being added. Madam County Attorney, can you clarify or confirm?"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "It's my understanding that some amended language was brought down earlier in the day. I'm not sure if it was delivered to your staff or to Commissioner Arrington's."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "No? Okay, okay. It was just my friendly amendment to include the Zoom and the email since those are the other opportunities that we afford our constituents to use to make their public comment."

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "To the extent that the Board decides to amend or adjust any of the language that is in the attachment to today's agenda, our office will be happy to conform the final version to whatever the Board decides to go with."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Okay. And can you answer the question about if it can be required by the Clerk that ID be shown to confirm residency and if someone is actually a resident of Fulton County?"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "We would have to do a legal analysis as to what the -- what concerns there may be with requiring that. But as a practical matter, I would MAY 18, 2022 RECESS MEETING VERBATIM MINUTES

imagine it would be like, making people wear masks in a building. It's like, if someone says, no, and then it may present practical concerns."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Thank you so much. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Two concerns, two concerns that I have with this. One is that if there is a business owner in Fulton County that does not live in Fulton County, or if there is a nonprofit organization that the person lives outside of Fulton County, but operates the nonprofit in Fulton County, we are excluding them. Also, I would need to know, how do you enforce the ID? Do we require a picture ID? Do you accept college ID? Do accept a student ID? I mean, I think -- and maybe, the County Attorney, maybe she, she may need time. I don't know. But I think this is so important of an issue that we need to make sure, one, that those who are operating businesses in Fulton County that can be affected by this that we are not keeping them away from being able to be a part of that group. Also, the nonprofits. Also, when people come in and they sign up and they say, for instance, in this case, well, I'm a Fulton County resident. And then it's time for them to speak, Madam Clerk, and they say, oops, my ID is in my car, can I run and get it? What are we going to do in cases like that? Are we going to tell them they can't speak, that they got to wait? So to me, it's a lot of moving parts to this that we have not addressed. And I would just ask my colleagues and the County Attorney to make sure that, not only this is a fair process, but it does not put an undue burden on our Clerks. Because we're asking for ID, if we're going to ask for ID, and then the ones that are zooming in and emailing. When they email one, are we going to require to have -- to say that they're a Fulton County resident? I mean, we have not dealt with this all the way. And so, I still have concerns that have not been addressed."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Arrington."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "(Off-mic comments) I would like (off-mic comments) Mr. Mendez to come up with a way. This is a very simple task. Online, in person or not, if you want to speak, you have to register in advance. If you want to register in advance, you submit your request through the website and you upload a copy of your ID. It's real simple. Delta Airlines does it every day. They do it every day. You submit your stuff. And if you don't have it, you don't get to speak, or you get to speak after the Fulton County residents that do have their IDs. You go to the state capitol, you can't even get in the building without it presenting your ID. That's going to be next. You shouldn't be able to come in this building without presenting your ID. So we're going to get -- we're

going to get there real quick. But I'll make a motion to hold for 30 days, so the CIO, the Clerk, the Attorney, and whoever else can get together and come up with a plan. It's real simple."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I second."

**COMMISSIONER ARRINGTON, JR.:** "It's real simple. Submit your request online in advance and you upload a copy of your ID. Real simple."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Without objections, we'll hold. Continue. 30 days."

**CLERK GRIER:** "There's a motion on the floor to hold. And the motion passes; six yeas, zero nays."

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**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0369: Request approval of a resolution authorizing a pledge in an amount not to exceed \$100,000 to the Fourth Ward Neighborhood Association in support of revitalization efforts for the 54 Columns Public Art Installation Project."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Motion on the floor is to approve. Motion to approve by Commissioner Hall and I seconded the motion. Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Thank you, Mr. Chair. Will you approach, please, and just introduce yourselves?"

**TOM BOYLE, PRESIDENT OF FOURTH WARD NEIGHBORS:** "I'm Tom Boyle, President (off-mic comments)."

HOLLIS WISE, VP OF FOURTH WARD NEIGHBORS: "Hollis Wise, Vice President (offmic comments)."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "All right. I just want to say, it has been a long time coming. And I'm so excited to see this on the agenda. Because when I moved to the Old Fourth Ward in 1999, as you know, this was something that was being, you know, it was being discussed. And for many years now, we have all wanted to see this beautified. There's a history behind these columns. And if Mr. Chair wants that history to just briefly be discussed, or told to this Board."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Sure."

**TOM BOYLE, PRESIDENT OF FOURTH WARD NEIGHBORS:** "Sure. So, 54 Columns is a world-renowned sculpture park on the corner of Highland and Glenn Iris. It was installed in 1999. And in the following the year, it was rated one of the top 24 public art installations in all of America. It is Fulton County property. It was built by the renowned minimalist Sol LeWitt. His works appear in the Tate Museum in London and the High Museum here and MoMA in New York. And our idea, our goal here is to really build the dream of what we were trying to do initially when it was built in 1999, and make it a place that's really a community gathering and bring it to life. So we will add up lighting. We'll add a walkway through there. We'll add stairs so the people can sit there. We've already had inquiries to have dance, small dance recitals there. So the neighborhood is embarking on really revitalizing the space and 54 Columns is an anchor to that."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Well, you know, Fulton County is very big on supporting arts and culture. And as a former member of the NPUM Board, Executive Board, and having sat and discussed this installation for many years, I'm excited to see this before us. Thank you, Mr. Chair."

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

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item. Thank you."

**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0370: Request approval of a resolution authorizing the transfer of title in fee simple of certain real property from Fulton County to the City of South Fulton sponsored by Chairman Pitts."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Madam County Attorney, you want to --"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "For this item --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Trammell Crow."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "I'm sorry?"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "This is the Trammell Crow?"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Yes. For this item, the action requested is to authorize the final actions that are necessary to complete the transfer of certain properties that were slated for transfer to the City of South Fulton. Some of them had various MAY 18, 2022 RECESS MEETING VERBATIM MINUTES

impediments. For example, if a bond was not completely repaid, then we could not -- we were not in a position to transfer it at any prior times. We've now identified these properties as rife for transfer. And are asking -- and the resolution would allow the Chairman to execute any necessary closing documents, transfer documents, and for our office to assist in making sure that those documents are in order."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. The motion on the floor is to approve by Commissioner Hall, seconded by Commissioner Arrington. And Commissioner Ellis would like to be heard."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Yeah, I think that I was going to ask the question generally of, you know, why these were coming before us now and why they weren't transferred earlier. And this -- and the answer is, I think, effectively been answers. That they were previously encumbered, now they're not. And this is to effectuate, you know, kind of the transfer, similar to the other properties that were not encumbered when they were transferred?"

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Yes, that is correct."

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "Okay, all right."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Commissioner Arrington. All right. Motion on the floor is to approve. Please vote."

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

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**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0371: Request approval of a Resolution in support of women's rights and the rights of privacy of all citizens and for other purposes, sponsored by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay. These are three that I mentioned earlier that could be Proclamations or Resolutions. But there's nothing wrong with them coming on as a Resolution. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Yes. I basically put this forward in support of women's rights and the rights of privacy of all citizens and for other purposes. And the purpose that I want to reiterate, Chairman, is your displeasure with the amount of time that we're using for Proclamations, which led to my decision to do it this way. And so I would ask for my colleagues to recognize it as well as to support me in this."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. What's your pleasure? Is there motion? Motion is to approve, seconded by Commissioner Hall. Commissioner Rahman, you want to be heard again?"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "No. (Off-mic comments)."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Morris."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Yeah. As someone who supports women's right to choose and deal with it, with her and her physicians and family to the extent that it's important. I guess, as I read this, some of the language seems just a little -- just a little strident to me. And there's a, WHEREAS clause that refers to Republican Justices and Democratic Justices. And I didn't think Supreme Court Justices were Republicans or Democrats."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Where is that (off-mic comments)."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Hold on. Hold on. Hold on. Where are you, Commissioner?"

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "It's the fourth WHEREAS clause."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "One, two, three -- okay. Your concern there, Commissioner?"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Yeah, with the language, with five Republican Justices and two Democrat Justices in the majority of that landmark decision. Maybe, if those were struck, so it will be decided by a seven to two court 1973, written by Justice Blackmun, whatever that ought to read. And then in the last WHEREAS clause, the strong belief that if the Court revokes this right that these are the rights are in the crosshairs. I don't know how universal that strong belief is that this would be a domino. I've heard that said by people. You know, I certainly hope that isn't the case. I'm not sure, I believe that there's a strong belief that this will automatically result in these other things being jeopardized. So I -- just some of the language, as I said, just is -- just is somewhat --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Okay. Hold on, now. So we -- let's hold on. Well, the -- on page 284, the one, two, the fourth whereas, and then the last -- the fourth whereas on page -- oh, the fourth WHEREAS. And then the last WHEREAS, where is there's a strong belief. On the last one."

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "Top of the second page."

#### CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Yeah, yeah."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Well, he has a problem with those two."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "I'll accept the changes, Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "If we -- Commissioner is suggesting that --"

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Maybe that last WHEREAS be just cross -- we just delete it?"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "The whole thing?"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Yeah, if we were to delete, I think that's what he's saying. Those two -- it doesn't -- that doesn't impact the --"

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "No."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "-- negatively impact the purpose."

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "No, I don't think so."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "And Commissioner says that she will accept those two."

COMMISSIONER MORRIS: "Yeah."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Well, first, I have just sort of a procedural thing of number one; I think that we got three issues before us. Two are more what I would style in the form of proclamation. This, I would not style in the form of a proclamation. This is what I would classify in the category of an urging resolution, which is distinctly different, and not something that we typically take up in context of a proclamation --"

## CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Correct."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "-- because clearly, there are -- I think everybody up here is fully in support of Memorial Day and Asian American and Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander Heritage Month. But clearly, there are a lot of people that have different views on the issue -- the issues involving 0371. So I think that they are distinctly different. So I did want to point that out for the record. And then number two, just sort of as a matter of

course, and I do think it's something just from a procedural standpoint. Probably less of an issue here, since they're maybe not really material issue here with these two other items since the nature of them don't require expenditure of funds are really, you know, action upon our part of, you know, just kind of obligate, you know, kind of this Board or the taxpayers to do something. But these three items, the way that they're before us, they do not appear to have gone through legal review. I mean, they're just, they're not numbered, they're in a different style, and so forth. And I think -- I think as a matter of course, sort of going forward, and it may not be in our procedural rules right now, but I think it's something that does need to be, you know, looked at and consider it in our procedural rules that stuff that comes before us in the form of a Resolution, has undergone, you know, kind of the whole legal review and is sent -- and it's codified in the way that we do all of our items just for consistency purposes. So that's a procedural point that -- that I wanted to raise. You know, the other item, I think is -- well, I just -- I'll just withhold comment. I don't think it's really, you know, should be before us right now on something that's, you know, conjecture right now, based on a decision that hasn't even been made and codified, and we don't know what it is, so."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, you want to be heard again?"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Yes, just momentarily, Chairman. We pass Resolutions every MLK Day, we don't do a Proclamation. So I would just suggest that if, once again, we have -- if we're looking for consistency, let's try to have it in everything. And more importantly for me, like I said, my reasoning for doing this was purposely because of your displeasure with the long amount of time that the Proclamations are going. And so if, you know, if we're going to move in that arena with this, you know, I --I'm asking for one, a sense of fairness. And for two, I'm also asking that this is something very important, Memorial Day. This is something very important just like MLK Day. And so here again, if it needs to go through legal and all these other things, just for us to recognize Memorial Day by Resolution as opposed to extending the time that we already is long for Proclamations, then maybe we should take that up. But at the end of the day, I'm willing to accept any changes. But I am asking for support of these, considering the issues for all of them. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Commissioner Hall."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Thank you, Mr. Chair. Commissioner Ellis, you have brought this up before in the past about, we need to all ensure that we send our Resolutions through the County Attorney's office for legal vetting and other formatting and everything. MAY 18, 2022 RECESS MEETING VERBATIM MINUTES You have said this before. And so -- and I'm -- I've always been in agreeance with that anyway. The County Attorney's office will confirm that if anything I send, even the most frivolous things to them, because I want everything vetted for legality. And I will ask them to send it to the ethics office for, you know, to see if it's unethical as well. I do that on everything. So this is a practice that is just a normal part of -- and my Chief of Staff, who has always done -- been my legal -- my Legislative Assistant, she knows that everything has to go. Don't send it -- don't bring it to me until you have actually sent it to the County Attorney's office. So I need to ask, Madam County Attorney, have you seen this? Has your office seen this and had input on it?"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "I believe these resolutions, the three Resolutions, were prepared by the Commissioner's office. I don't know if they were discussed with any of my staff. But if so, I'm not aware of that. And this does not appear to be in our format."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "What was the last thing you said?"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "It's not in the format."

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "Just for formatting purposes, it does not appear to be in the format we normally use. And that is why I do not believe my office had any involvement in the drafting of this."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Okay. Well, in any of the three?"

**Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY:** "I'm not aware that we had any involvement in the drafting of 0371, 0373, or 0374 --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "One, two, three."

Y. SOO JO, COUNTY ATTORNEY: "Sorry, yes, one, two, three, that's correct."

**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "Okay. Can we hold this and allow these changes that have been requested, these -- the County Attorney vet and look at this? I'm very big on allowing the County Attorney's office to vet every resolution that comes before us to ensure that there's, you know, legal language and everything is, okay. Can we all this? I'm going to make a substitute motion to hold."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Substitute motion to hold. Is there a second? I'll second it for discussion to hold. All right. You still have the floor, Commissioner."

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#### COMMISSIONER HALL: "That's it."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Let me just say this. I appreciate my colleagues. But to make an issue about a Memorial Day Resolution, saying it needs to go to legal, it needs to do all of that, is ludicrous. And I want to go on record to all of those brave people who have served our country and continue to serve our country, that we are --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "We're on -- Recess --"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I got the floor, Chairman, let me finish, please."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Point of order. Point of order."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "For us to have a conversation about this is ridiculous."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Point of order."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "It's ridiculous. At some point, your hatred for Commissioner Khadijah --"

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner, please."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "-- cannot outweigh the citizens of Fulton County and those who have served our forces."

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Point of order, Chair."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "The point of order is, you are all out of order."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner, go ahead. What's your point of order?"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "Decorum, Commissioner, Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "The item --"

COMMISSIONER HALL: "First of all --"

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "The item that's -- please, ladies and gentlemen, the item that's before us is 0371. Still reads as follows: Approval of a resolution in support of women's rights and the rights of privacy of all citizens and for other purposes, not the other two. It's only one item before us at this point in time."

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**COMMISSIONER HALL:** "All right. And Mr. Chair, I just want to say, I am not participating in any strife amongst us. The bottom line for me is that I always have all of my Resolutions vetted by the County Attorney, period. And to find out that it's -- it has not been, I would like for it to be. And anyone who does not agree with that, then you really are disagreeing with just going through a legal process of vetting. And why would anyone not want to do that? That just makes no sense to me. This has nothing to do with anything else other than that. And we can take the time to make those edits that Commissioner Morris has asked us to do. This is in collaboration. This is in a manner of collaboration and working together, not negativity and strife. Can we all just get along, please? At least I know there's six of us that do that."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. The -- we're on item 22-0371, that's the only thing that's before us at this point in time. The motion -- the substitute before us is to hold. Let's vote."

**CLERK GRIER:** "And the vote is open on the motion to hold. And the motion to hold fails; three yeas, one nay."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "All right. Now, back to the main motion, which was to approve. Motion by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Hall. There were two, and the two friendly amendments that were accepted by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman. We were striking the third whereas and the last whereas. So the motion before us is to approve. Cast your vote, please."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0372: Request approval of a Resolution in observance of the -- and support of Asian American and Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander Heritage Month and for other purposes, sponsored by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Yes, Chairman. Here again, the Asian American and Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander population of Fulton County has increased. I

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actually have some that are in my district. And I thought the inclusiveness of Fulton County that this would be a great Resolution in observance in support of Asian American and Native Hawaiian Pacific Island Heritage Month and for other purposes. I do know that Commissioner Hall did give something out early this morning, a Proclamation. I am not trying to be redundant. However, this speaks to only to the Asian American and the Native Hawaiian Pacific Islander Heritage individuals, you know, in our area and why we're we celebrating it. And I would like for my colleagues to actually support it."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Is there a motion? Is there motion? Motion to approve by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Morris. Any further discussion? Let's vote."

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

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

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**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0373: Request approval of a Resolution in observance of Memorial Day in Fulton County."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Is there a motion? Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I don't need to speak. That's all right, Mr. Chairman."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Motion to approval by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, seconded by Commissioner Morris. Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Just like to take a point of privilege. There are a number of Memorial Day services that will be taken place in our community coming up. And I'll take a point of privilege to invite anyone that would like to attend the one that will take place in Milton. I think this probably, I think, probably the 11th one that they've done. And it's a great event, and it'll be at 10:00 a.m. on the grounds of the park of Freedom Park. And it's at the intersection of Deerfield Parkway and Webb Road. And they have a very unique tradition, where they have line crosses with all the names of the fallen within the community and their relatives. So it's a -- I would courage you -- if that's not the opportunity for you, I would encourage you to find a service somewhere to recognize those who gave all."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Motion on the floor is to approve. Please vote."

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

**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0374: Invest Atlanta Board of Directors April 21<sup>st</sup> meeting summary, sponsored by Commissioner Morris."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "Again, this is the usual summary of summary minutes of the last Invest Atlanta Board Meeting, April 21st meeting; and a summary of the four items that were adopted by that Board. And if anyone wants additional information about any of those, I'd be delighted to get it for you. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Thank you, Commissioner. Next item, Madam Clerk."

**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0375: Atlanta Beltline, May 11th CEO report, sponsored by Commissioner Morris."

**COMMISSIONER MORRIS:** "And again, as usual, the -- this is the CEO's report. We really don't have minutes. But some significant items are listed in there. If I can find it. We had a tremendous fundraising success in the funding of the Trails Project, in addition to the Woodruff Foundation's \$80 million grant, and the US DOT's raise grant of 16.46 million. We also received an appropriation from the federal government of 5 million. Of course, we previously celebrated the passage by the Atlanta City Council of Special Services District legislation around the Beltline, which is proposed to raise about a hundred million dollars for Trails. But the most recent news is the Cox Foundation's \$30 million gift, which all those things together, just about fund the rest of the construction of the Trail around the Beltline. I'm still hopeful we're going to find some way to do the transit around the Beltline, which is one of the original ideas of the Beltline. And that funding is still a long way off. But the Trail funding is something to celebrate, and that's mentioned in the CEO's report."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "All right. Next item."

**CLERK GRIER:** "On page 10, **22-0376**: Whistleblower protection, procedures, and policies in Fulton County. Sponsored by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Yes, Chairman, I would like to ask a few questions, starting with Auditor Anthony Nix-Nicks. Thank you for showing up today. As your office is structured, you serve as our internal investigator, generally speaking? Would that be correct?"

ANTHONY NICKS, COUNTY AUDITOR: "Yes."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And also, what is the practice if your office receives a whistleblower or other complaint?"

**ANTHONY NICKS, COUNTY AUDITOR:** "Commissioner, just too back up a little bit to give you a little bit of history."

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

**ANTHONY NICKS, COUNTY AUDITOR:** "The Whistleblower Hotline is the responsibility of the Audit Committee. That legislation indicated that a Whistleblower Hotline was to be put in place. We have a third-party vendor who receives that information for us. That vendor operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The line is offered in five different languages. And once the information is received, it is sent to my office and received by our Investigative Analyst and myself and one other backup employee. We review the data within 24 hours and decide what is the best course of action for us to take to address the issue."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you. Mr. Nicks, how many complaints has your office received in the past, say, the past two years?"

**ANTHONY NICKS, COUNTY AUDITOR:** "If I may go back to the beginning, we received 235 complaints --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

**ANTHONY NICKS, COUNTY AUDITOR:** "-- of which, 222 have been closed. The remainder are currently open --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

ANTHONY NICKS, COUNTY AUDITOR: "-- and they are being investigated."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "You pretty much have given me an answer. Well, you've shared with us the procedure, pretty much, correct?"

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### ANTHONY NICKS, COUNTY AUDITOR: "Yes."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. And so has there been any complaints lodged against any department managers?"

ANTHONY NICKS, COUNTY AUDITOR: "Commissioner, if I may --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

**ANTHONY NICKS, COUNTY AUDITOR:** "The Whistleblower Hotline is designed to -- for us to receive data anonymously."

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

**ANTHONY NICKS, COUNTY AUDITOR:** "And allows us to investigate potential issues that may or may not true. So the answer to your question is, we have received a wide range of complaints. And we have investigated them all. I cannot speak specifically --"

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "To the specificity -- okay, so let me -- let me -let me ask you a different question. If a complaint is lodged against a department manager or a county officer, an elected official, is an investigation process treated the same no matter who a complaint is lodged against or makes the complaint?"

**ANTHONY NICKS, COUNTY AUDITOR:** "Our process for reviewing the complaints are the same. Although, I think that it is important that you know or that the public know that right now, our Whistleblower Hotline is an internal function. We receive complaints sometimes from outside of Fulton County. We investigate those if they are egregious enough. However, our line right now is based on Fulton County employees reporting fraud, waste, and abuse. To that end, we're talking about how things are investigated. I do have the benefit of addressing issues with members of the audit committee who can provide me with direction on how they might think things need to be approached. I also coordinate with the County Manager's office, with Legal, with Human Resources to ensure that our investigations are done completely and fairly."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "So, because we do have a whistleblower policy and someone, for instance, could make a complaint against me, or they can make a complaint against an employee or they can make a complaint -- I'm sorry about that -they can make a complaint against another employee if it's in the realms of what you have said. It's not treated any differently?"

**ANTHONY NICKS, COUNTY AUDITOR:** "No, Commissioner. However, please keep in mind --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

**ANTHONY NICKS, COUNTY AUDITOR:** "-- my job is to investigate fraud, waste, and abuse."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

**ANTHONY NICKS, COUNTY AUDITOR:** "When items go outside of that spectrum, I am probably going to send that over to another department such as Legal or such as HR."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Okay."

ANTHONY NICKS, COUNTY AUDITOR: "And allow them to deal with those."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. And my final question to you is this, if someone is not a resident of Fulton County and they think this is, the subject matter maybe a whistleblower or not, and it comes to you, is it your duty to investigate it? Is it - let's say, if it meets the criteria of what you just explained, would it have any bearing on them not being a resident of Fulton County?"

**ANTHONY NICKS, COUNTY AUDITOR:** "No. Again, let me be clear that while the hotline is centered on Fulton County and its employees, we do receive complaints from outside of this building. And all of the complaints are reviewed. Again, if it is -- reaches the spectrum of fraud, waste, and abuse, we certainly take a look to make sure that there is nothing there that we need to investigate further."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay, thank you. I did have a few more questions for -- Mr. Hermon, we do have a whistleblower policy, correct?"

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER**: "Good afternoon, Commissioner, yes, that's the same policy, yes --"

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "The same policy, okay."

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Yes."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And just for our listening audience, I know he has spoken to it. But if you can just put in layman's terms, what the purpose of our whistleblower policy in an organization such as ours, what's the purpose of it?"

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KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "You said, in layman's terms?"

## COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Yes, please."

**KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER:** "I would say, Commissioner, in layman's terms, it is to create an avenue for, in my world, an employee to provide insight to leadership on a concern that they might have within their respective department or some procedure that may not be followed, anonymously."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "And we do have an actual policy on the books, in layman's terms? That's what I'm asking. Do we have a policy on the books?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Yes."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "We do?"

KENNETH HERMON, CHIEF HR OFFICER: "Yes."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. And my final question to either one of you. Because like you said, it may be areas that may need to go to HR. I'm willing to get an answer from either one of you or one of you. What do we do to make sure the person who remains anonymous and there is no backlash or any retribution for someone that may come forward?"

**ANTHONY NICKS, COUNTY AUDITOR:** "Our Whistleblower Hotline, the reason we chose the company who receives this information is because they are a leader in the industry. They take extreme caution to provide us with the information directly as it is received to make sure the callers or reporters feel comfortable and make sure that they understand that there is not a need for them to reveal their identity. Each of the reporters are given a password so that they can reenter the system in case we have a question that we need to ask them or ask them for additional information. When the information comes to my office, while we may send information over to departments for it to have them investigated at the highest level, by the way. And if it is a director, then we'll move it to Deputy County Manager's level. When that information is sent out, there is no indication of who may have reported it or anything of that nature. We also make sure that everyone understands that if, in fact, a reporter does come forward and give their name that retaliation is strictly prohibited. And if, in fact, we ever encounter that, because we have not, we would certainly take the necessary steps to mitigate that."

COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Thank you. I have no more questions."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0377: Mental health disparities in Fulton County sponsored by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, you have the floor."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Chairman. I guess, Dr. Roshell, because I don't see Latrina. Oh, she's here, okay. I'm sorry, Latrina, you were hiding over there in the corner, Ms. Foster, I apologize for that. I just had a few questions I wanted to ask you."

LATRINA FOSTER, BHDD DIRECTOR: "Good afternoon, Commissioners."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Good afternoon. Ms. Foster, just have a couple of questions I want to ask you. The Mental Health Awareness Month, by the way, is this month. How is that going in terms of our promotion and advocacy of the observance, I guess, in layman's term, at the county level? What are we doing to make sure we're letting the community know about mental health awareness?"

LATRINA FOSTER, BHDD DIRECTOR: "Thank you for the question. Latrina Foster, Director of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities. I would say that the month of May is a very significant month for Fulton County as it relates to, we've launched several initiatives this month, i.e. our huge marketing campaign with our billboards, where people -- where we're trying to increase community awareness about what Fulton County has to offer as it relates to behavioral health services. In addition to that, we work with at External Affairs to launch, like, tips, Monday tips. And we're working with your office to do an event at the end of the month. So we've invited the community out to come and participate in that as well. So we've being doing various things to increase awareness around behavior health within the community."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you. I also want to ask you this question. It appears when America gets a cold, people of color, black and brown people, catch the flu. Do we currently have a disparity problem in terms of mental healthcare in the county?"

LATRINA FOSTER, BHDD DIRECTOR: "I would definitely recognize that there is a mental health disparity in Fulton County as well as within the state of Georgia."

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**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Would you also opine on if you have seen an uptick in it since COVID, since the pandemic?"

LATRINA FOSTER, BHDD DIRECTOR: "Absolutely."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay, thank you. Do you have any idea, data, or any suggestion as to what parts of Fulton County suffer the most in terms of being victims of mental illness?"

**LATRINA FOSTER, BHDD DIRECTOR:** "So currently, our team is actually under a grant that we were awarded, the Health Literacy Grant. We are working with the Department of -- I'm sorry -- the Board of Health on health literacy, identifying where are those pockets, so that once those pockets are identified, we're able to triage a team. And that is why you all approved us acquiring a mobile unit, I think, two BOC meetings ago. And we will utilize that mobile van to be able to go to those communities where it's been identified that there are healthcare disparities within those communities."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Are you seeing any hesitancy in one part of the county versus the other? What I mean in layman's terms, when you're talking about people of color, are we being more forthcoming in any services at the county level that you are letting the communities know, are we -- how are we addressing that if, in fact, that is an issue?"

LATRINA FOSTER, BHDD DIRECTOR: "Well, I would say that individuals of color accessing behavioral health services is not a new issue. I mean, this a generational issue, where when you're suffering from a mental health disorder, i.e. mental health or substance use disorder, it's something that you don't talk about within our black communities, correct?"

# COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN: "Correct."

**LATRINA FOSTER, BHDD DIRECTOR:** "And so we notice that that is a stigma. And so those are barriers that we're trying to knock down as we increase awareness within a community. I will say that COVID has made the discussion more real, and has highlighted the fact that sometimes everyone needs help. So I think that is one great thing that came out of COVID, was that now, everyone is talking about mental health and substance-use disorders."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you for that. What can we do as a Board, more? I know that what we're doing now, but just a suggestion from you, since you would

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be what I call, a subject matter expert. What can we do as a Board to address the disparity or eliminate or reduce the disparity in mental healthcare and coverage?"

**LATRINA FOSTER, BHDD DIRECTOR:** "That's a heavy question. I would say that we just need to continue down the path that we're on; continue to stay committed to the department; ensuring that we're strengthen our partnerships within the community. Because there is not one agency that can handle the issue of mental health and substance-use disorders. We all have to work together, as I said before, it's like a village trying to heal our community."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Exactly. And a lot of times, a lot of the calls that I receive in my office and I have to send people, you know, to get the help that we have here, you all are accommodating. I just want to take this time to thank you and Jessica's team in External Affairs for the Mighty 6 Mental Health Awareness Fair next weekend at the South Fulton Service Center. I appreciate all the hard work that you all have done with it. And hopefully, this village concept that we have will make more people understand that there is help out there. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item."

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**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0378: ARPA Funds distribution per resolutions and investment depository updates, sponsored by Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, you have the floor."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Chairman. County Manager, this question I think would be best served by you. But if you would like to have someone else take it, that's fine. We received the first half last May of about \$103 million; is that correct?"

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

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Generally speaking, how much of that have we spent and how much remains unspent?"

**DICK ANDERSON, COUNTY MANAGER:** "Hold just a second. I think Sharon is looking for the -- that's included in today's package (off-mic comments) page included in today's deck."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Commissioner, we've expended out of our American Rescue Act Funds, that 70.8 million of what has been received to date."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. And I think you may have spoken to this earlier, but I don't want to misspeak. Have we received the second batch yet?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "We have not, Commissioner. We have received the information from Treasury on applying for the second tranche payment and we have completed that process as well and are currently awaiting receipt."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. And so you said we've received 70 -- you said we've allocated 78, correct? 78 million?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "We've expended 70.8 -- yes, ma'am."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "We've expended 78 million? And so that means we have a balance. Where does that balance sit until we allocate it?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "We developed a plan that fully allocated the resources that we were designated to receive with the exception of the 26 million that that we show in our report as the reserve. So the monies that we've received, we've programmed them all and we are in the process of executing against those programs. So the funds are all accounted for in our ARPA budget that we've established."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "I won't put words in your mouth, so let me just ask you this, for the sake of our viewing audience. Allocation and spent can mean two different things. So when I'm asking you, in layman's term, of that money, how much have we physically spent?"

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "70.8 million."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. And so 70.8 million, is it a correct assumption -- just educate me as though I'm -- I don't know the answer. What bank holds the remaining funds?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "The majority of our funds are actually invested in the state of Georgia local government investment pool."

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**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Okay. Thank you for that. I just want to clear up another matter. In the June Regular meeting last year, the Board adopted a Resolution, sponsored by the Chairman, item 21-0382. And the Department of External Affairs issued a news release on the Resolution that our intent was to allocate American Rescue dollars to help impacted small and black and minority-owned businesses by the pandemic by investing in minority owned banks, so they could provide loans to pandemic-impacted small and minority-owned businesses. The amount was \$10 million allocated. But what we have learned in news reports is that the rest -- the Rescue Plan money was never given to small businesses, in fact, it was general fund taxpayer dollars given to two banks and they just deposited the money. Then the public was told that this was an investment deposit by us. There is no evidence that the banks provided any relief with the taxpayer's money to any small, women or minority and black-owned businesses impacted by the pandemic. So I won't miss -- I won't give an impression that's incorrect, if I can get the Madam Clerk, for the benefit of the listening public, could you please read the resolution 21-0382, we adopted? Just page 2, lines 1 through 6 and page 3 lines 1 through 7."

**CLERK GRIER:** "Okay. This Resolution was provided by your office and the highlighted portion: Whereas, the pandemic has severely impacted small minority-owned business. And whereas, Fulton County is committed to fostering entrepreneurial endeavors within minority populations throughout Fulton County. And whereas, Fulton County is also committed to encouraging diversity, equity, and inclusion. And then on page 3, therefore be it resolved, the Board of Commissioners hereby expresses its intent to support minority-owned businesses including minority-owned banking institutions, generally and in its local recovery efforts. Be it further resolved, the Board of Commissioners hereby encourages the Finance Department to deposit a portion of the ARPA funds allocated to Fulton County with minority-owned financial institutions that meet the County's investment policy attached hereto as attachment A."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Madam Clerk. So Mr. Chairman and the viewing audience, so we're clear, the goal was to support impacted small business and apparently, we did not do that. Because if we had used federal rescue dollars as we intended in our resolutions, the banks would have been legally bound to use it for small and minority businesses impacted by the pandemic. But since we used general fund money, we cannot require, nor can Treasury require what those two banks do with the taxpayer's money. We must be more accountable, and we must start following what we approved. Now, let me be clear about this statement that I'm making publicly. When we say we're going to do something and we have a resolution that says we're going to do something, then we should do it. Because my office -- and if anyone here, County

Manager, Mr. Chairman, or anyone else has a different opinion or facts, my office has reached out and we cannot -- because it is not the intent of the resolution of the money that was put there, we cannot track that money. It was not treasury money, it was not ARPA money. And so my issue is that we did not go by the intent, for one. And two, when we decided -- or not we, because I didn't decide it -- when the decision was made to not use ARPA funds and to use general funds that was not made aware to the taxpaying citizens of Fulton County. And I think we do a disservice to them when we do not, one, live up to the intentions of the resolution, for one. And two, when we use general fund dollars and I go to the bank and ask them how many women minority-owned businesses got this money, they cannot tell me. That is a disservice. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Yeah, this is probably a subject to me that kind of borders on ridiculous. When we have excess funds, we deposit them at a -- at some sort of depository institution, correct? Some sort of vehicle that allows for us to access them as we need them on a short-term basis, correct?"

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

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Historically, those have been at either state, you know, kind or pools or large institutions, correct?"

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

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. How do local banks basically -- how are they able -for work and function in the community, right? One of the things -- deposits matter to banks, right? Because it enables them to have excess funds if they're able to generally lend into the communities in which they operate in, correct?"

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

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. So with this resolution, you know, I don't know, maybe somewhat of a distinction without a difference. But we had some excess funds that were created because we got a large amount of deposits that came through given this ARPA deposit. So we had funds, you know, we got collective funds that we have to make a decision in terms of where they're going to go, right? Whether it's general fund money, whether its stuff coming in through, you know, held in reserve, whatever it is, right? So we have to make a decision where it's going to go, correct? Where those short-term funds are going to go, you have to make a decision, our Finance folks, correct?"

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

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "Okay. So this particular program was unique in that, all of a sudden, we did something different. And we said, we're going to take a small portion of those funds. We're not going to give you that money, bank, for you to -- for you to go out and use as you, please. We're given it, so you -- in the form of a deposit, which enables you to better, serve. It gives you more capital, kind of, to serve your community. That's all it was. We didn't put any strings on them. Like, we don't put any strings on Wells Fargo or Bank of America. I mean, this is just a -- I mean, it was a unique thing that we did. And it benefited those institutions, just like it benefited, you know, Wells Fargo. Nobody's calling them up and saying, what in the heck are you doing with the money? Nobody's calling up that, you know, whatever we got in the state pool, what are they doing with that money? You know, these were institutions that, you know, were operating within our communities that are serving lots of customers. They were qualified for our credit policies, correct? You know, so the money is not at risk. We're going to get the money back as soon as -- I guess, using our form of CDs, right? So when it expires, we'll get the money back and we'll deploy it, you know, kind of when we have the time, when we have the need to use them. So, you know, I mean, this is a -- this is just a bunch of nonsense, trying to create a headline for something that doesn't even, you know, that it's just -anyway, it's not even worth me kind of continuing this whole discussion, so."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Chairman. For the listening public, the resolution called for ARPA funds for loans to pandemic impacted people. The point of my discussion today is the intent of the resolution was changed and not adhered to. That is the point of my discussion. And I think the citizens of Fulton County deserve accountability when the intent of the resolution was not done. I don't have a problem with money being put in banks. I don't have a problem when the Chair and whoever made the decision to not to use ARPA funds, and decided to use general funds. My issue is, there is not accountability for that. That is not the intent of the resolution. And when that discussion was made to change it, it should have been clearly, clearly disseminated to the taxpaying citizen of Fulton County."

## CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Ellis."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "I'll make one other remark. The intent of this resolution was to support minority banks in that -- within, operating within Fulton County that qualified for our guidelines by providing them deposits, which allowed them to the better serve the

communities in which they operate, period, end of story. That was done. There was a certain amount -- I believe it was a certain amount of money that was called for, specifically within the resolution. And those funds were allocated to those qualified entities, correct?"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "Commissioner Ellis, the copy of the resolution that I have does not specify the dollar amount to be invested. It simply directed the Finance Department to deposit ARPA funds and others, into our --"

COMMISSIONER ELLIS: "ARPA funds and others --"

**SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER:** "-- into minority-owned financial institutions --"

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "-- into minority-owned financial institutions."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "-- that meet the investment policy guidelines of Fulton County."

**COMMISSIONER ELLIS:** "That's it. That's the intent of the resolution, just like you read it. So I'm not looking to go pick out, you know, a verse from, you know, Hezekiah 3:12, or something to try to parse words on this. This is pretty simple."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Chairman, if you would just indulge me. I don't think it's pretty simple to the minority businesses that had to close their doors and didn't get this funding. So I'm glad to see that some of us see humor in black, minority, and women-owned businesses who closed doors because they could not get funding. There's nothing comical in that, first of all. Secondly, it's accountability. You can't ask for accountability sometimes, half the time, one fourth of the time. Now, can anybody in the County Manager's office, can anybody tell me how many women-owned minority-owned businesses received loans from that money that was put in the banks? I'll wait. Thank you."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "Madam CFO, would you ask the two institutions that received the funds to give a report, penny for penny? I know every penny -- every dime is safe. But in response to her question -- a lot of times, it's a lack of understanding with banking that leads to some of these questions. But just get report for the record, please."

SHARON WHITMORE, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER: "Yes, Mr. Chairman."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Next item. Next item."

**CLERK GRIER:** "22-0379: Status update on execution and implementation of Board Resolution to combat voter suppression in Fulton County."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Commissioner Abdur-Rahman, you have the floor."

**COMMISSIONER ABDUR-RAHMAN:** "Thank you, Chairman. Give me one moment. This question is for our County Attorney. Resolution 222, adopted last year in April, required some deliverables of the County Attorney, County Manager, our Civil Rights Compliance Officer and the Elections Board. Where is the written report that was to be submitted to this Board back in May last year? It was to, among other things; provide recommendations on any and all legal avenues to fight implementation of SB-202, and other voter suppression legislation. You know what, Chairman; I just looked up and saw the time, 4:24. And I know that you have an event at 5:30 in my district. I'm going to go on and hold this item. Because I know you and I have to both get to that event. And so, Madam County Attorney, I apologize. I just realized what time it is. I'm going to hold this item. Thank you."

CHAIRMAN PITTS: "Any other matters to come before us today, Madam Clerk?"

CLERK GRIER: "No further items."

**CHAIRMAN PITTS:** "No further items to come before us today, we are adjourned. Thank you."

(Whereupon the meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.)