DeKalb County Government

178 Sams Street
Decatur, GA 30030

Minutes - Draft

ERPS-Employee Relations & Public Safety Committee

Commissioner LaDena Bolton (Chairperson)

Commissioner Nicole Massiah

Commissioner Mereda Davis Johnson

Tuesday, March 3, 2026	2:15 PM	178 Sams Street, Decatur, GA 30030 (Multipurpose Room A1201)

Meeting Started At: 2:34pm

Attendees: Commissioners Bolton, Massiah, Patrick

Present 2 - Commissioner LaDena Bolton, and Commissioner Nicole Massiah

Absent 1 - Commissioner Mereda Davis Johnson

I. MINUTES

2026-0420 Commission District(s): All
Minutes for the February 17, 2026 Employee Relations and Public Safety Committee Meeting
MOTION was made by Nicole Massiah, seconded by LaDena Bolton, that this agenda item be Recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 3/10/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Bolton, and Commissioner Massiah

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Davis Johnson

II. AGENDA ITEM

Previously Heard Agenda Items:

Public Safety - Animal Enforcement Services

2026-0284 Commission District(s): All
CO - Change Order No. 6 to Contract No. 1132039 Animal Shelter Operation Services for DeKalb County, Georgia (Multi-year): for use by the Department of Public Safety - Animal Enforcement Services. This contract consists of providing animal shelter operations and services. This request seeks to ratify a previously provided contract term and rate increase. This request also seeks to increase contract funds, scope and term through December 31, 2027. Awarded to: Lifeline Animal Project, Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: $22,244,500.00.

MOTION was made by Nicole Massiah, seconded by LaDena Bolton, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 3/10/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Bolton, and Commissioner Massiah

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Davis Johnson

-OIIA audit has supported this agenda item amount
-information provided by Director Fullum
-Question LB: could you advise the funding for expanded services for year one?
-response provided by Director Fullum
-LB: I would like for us to consider a regional approach in the future, additional comments provided by Commissioner Bolton regarding the annual increases in lieu of the contributions made across the region
-comments provided by COO Williams
-Question LB: have there been discussions to put guardrails up?
-comments provided by COO Williams, Lifeline CEO Rebecca Guinn
-Commissioner Bolton requests among the seven districts, there is a total appropriation of $100,000 allocated for district-specific events
-comments provided by COO Williams
-Question TT: could Lifeline discuss the staff support for events? What are other expenses that would make events successful?
-response provided by Ms. Guinn
-comments provided by Commissioner Massiah regarding needed services within District 3

Facilities Management (FM)

2026-0272 Commission District(s): All
SWC - Statewide Contract (SWC) No. 99999-SPD-SPD0000172-006 Integrated Security and Surveillance Products and Services: for use by the Department of Facilities Management (FM). Consists of purchasing from the competitively let SWC No. 99999-SPD-SPD0000172-006 to purchase indoor and outdoor cameras with sensors for the video surveillance security system. Awarded to Convergint Technologies, LLC. Amount Not To Exceed $146,741.40.

MOTION was made by Nicole Massiah, seconded by LaDena Bolton, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 3/10/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Bolton, and Commissioner Massiah

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Davis Johnson

-information provided by David Asbell - Facilities Management
-Question LB: is this for 4830 Memorial Drive?
D Asbell: 4572 Memorial Drive; in the shopping center outside of I-285

New Agenda Items:

Public Safety

2026-0459 Commission District(s): All Commission Districts
To Approve the Usage of SPLOST I Funds Under Category 2H for a Public Safety Training Facility in the Amount of $500,000.00, to evaluate and propose the most appropriate location for a Public Safety Training Facility.

MOTION was made by Nicole Massiah, seconded by LaDena Bolton, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 3/10/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Bolton, and Commissioner Massiah

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Davis Johnson

-information provided by Director Fullum
-Question LB: could you reiterate the type of work that will be completed?
-response provided by Director Fullum
-Question LB: have we identified an expert in the industry to conduct the study?
-response provided by Chris Kingsbury - SPLOST manager
-Question NM: will the funding be sufficient to cover potential repurposing an established building, or is building another one needed? Do we have an anticipated timeframe?
-response provided by Chris Kingsbury - SPLOST manager
-Question TT: will you be looking at other properties that we own or those that we acquire?
-response provided by Director Fullum
-Question NM: what opportunity would present itself for the commissioners to make suggestions regarding potential locations?
-response provided by Director Fullum regarding potential updates from the consultant to the ERPS committee as the process advances
-Question LB: could you discuss the need for this facility and provide context to the community for this request?
-responses provided by Police Chief Padrick, Fire Chief Carter

Police Services (PS)

2026-0460 Commission District(s): All Commission Districts
To Approve the Usage of SPLOST I and SPLOST II Funding to make needed repairs to East Precinct and the Police Training Facility (East Precinct and Police Training Academy) by $3,019,530.00.
MOTION was made by Nicole Massiah, seconded by LaDena Bolton, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 3/10/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Bolton, and Commissioner Massiah

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Davis Johnson

-information provided by Chris Kingsbury - SPLOST manager
-Question NM: has this item come out of the audit review?
-response provided by COO Williams
-Commissioner Massiah requests the agenda item title be adjusted to reflect "amount not to exceed".
-Question LB: could you discuss the $2.5M already approved?
-response provided by Mr. Kingsbury, Chief Padrick
-Question LB: can you itemize the funding for the $2.5M?
-response provided by Mr. Kingsbury

2026-0311 Commission District(s): All
SWC - Statewide Contract (SWC) No.: 99999-001-SPD0000209-012 Guns, Ammunition, and Accessories: for use by the Department of Police Services (PS). Consists of purchasing from the competitively let SWCs for the purchase and trade in of weapons. Awarded to Smyrna Police Distributors, Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: $150,074.50.
MOTION was made by Nicole Massiah, seconded by LaDena Bolton, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 3/10/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Bolton, and Commissioner Massiah

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Davis Johnson

-information provided by Chief Padrick
-Question NM: how many firearms will we have the opportunity to modernize with this funding? Is that amount enough for what is needed?
Chief: approximately 600 firearms; yes ma'am
-Question LB: is this just for firearms in the field or does it include any stock for the new class incoming?
-response provided by Chief Padrick
-Question RP: does body armor go through a life cycle and when will you be coming to us with a request for body armor?
-response provided by Chief Padrick

III. DISCUSSION

DKPD Annual Report 2025

-report provided by Chief Padrick
-comments provided by Commissioner Bolton
-Question NM: are there thoughts on what we could do to address the homicides, rapes and violent crime clearance rates?
-response provided by Chief Padrick
-Question NM: are the victims' advocates in conjunction with the courts or are there separate and within the Police Department?
-response provided by Chief Padrick
-Question NM: how many victims' advocates are there now?
Chief Padrick: we have 8; we had 4 last year, there are 8 this year; additional comments provided
-Question NM: is the need for additional advocates included in the FY26 budget?
Chief Padrick: yes ma'am
-Question TT: are community service aides considered in the civilians count? I would suggest that you include a page in the document on the community service aides program
-response provided by Chief Padrick
-Question TT: regarding traffic fatalities, could you provide a breakout of pedestrian/traffic incidents?
Chief Padrick: yes sir
-Question LB: for complaints did you include both civilian and sworn officers?
-response provided by Chief Padrick
-Question LB: for the victim and witness advocates are they on civilian payroll?
Chief Padrick: yes ma'am
-Question LB: I would like for us to consider the number of investigators we have in relation to court held animal cases to assist the Solicitor's Office. Do you have investigators to handle those cases?
-response provided by Chief Padrick

Meeting Ended At: 3:35pm

MOTION was made by Nicole Massiah, seconded by LaDena Bolton, that this agenda item be Adjourned meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Bolton, and Commissioner Massiah

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Davis Johnson

Barbara H. Sanders-Norwood - March 3, 2026

Barbara H. Sanders-Norwood CCC, CMC