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, October 20, 2026	2:15 PM	178 Sam's Street, Decatur, GA 30030 (Multipurpose Room A1201)

Meeting Started At: 2:26pm

Attendees: Commissioners Bolton, Davis Johnson, Terry, Patrick

Present 2 - Commissioner Mereda Davis Johnson, and Commissioner LaDena Bolton

Absent 1 - Commissioner Nicole Massiah

I. MINUTES

2026-1484 Commission District(s): All
Minutes for the October 6, 2026 Employee Relations and Public Safety Committee Meeting
MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by LaDena Bolton, that this agenda item be Approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Davis Johnson, and Commissioner Bolton

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Massiah

II. AGENDA ITEM

New Agenda Items:

Public Safety

2026-1387 Commission District(s): All Commission Districts
To Approve the Use of SPLOST I, Category 2H Funding for Preliminary Design Services for a Proposed Joint Fire/Police Training Facility in an Amount Not to Exceed $490,797.00.
MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by LaDena Bolton, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 10/27/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Davis Johnson, and Commissioner Bolton

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Massiah

-information provided by Chief Fullum
-comments provided by Commissioner Davis Johnson regarding the need for a new training center
-Question TT: did you speak to the goal to create a joint facility?
-response provided by Director Fullum
-Question TT: is the theory of combining this operation to save money?
-response provided by Director Fullum
-Question TT: so you're designing a spec based on need, and the next step is to identify land?
-response provided by Director Fullum regarding next steps and potential land identification
-Question TT: this is SPLOST I Category 2H - is that statutorily required for this project?
-response provided by SPLOST manager Chris Kingsbury
-Question LB: could you discuss our current costs for the multiple facilities versus the expenses for a new facility?
-response provided by Chief Padrick
-Question RP: at the conclusion of this study could you provide a fee comparison of what other facilities would charge, so that the Board could cost compare, and note the savings for taxpayers?
-Question MDJ: yesterday I saw motorcycles in the community; were they training?
-response provided by Chief Padrick
-Question LB: with this facility, which departments would potentially be in the shared partitions?
-response provided by Director Fullum (EMS, Sheriff, Marshall's, Police, other relevant departments)

Fire Rescue (FR)

2026-0773 Commission District(s): ALL
CO - Change Order No. 5 to Contract No. 1210840 Inspection, Care, Maintenance and Cleaning of Personal Protective Equipment (Multiyear). For use by the Department of Fire Rescue (FR), to obtain inspection, care, maintenance and cleaning of personal protective equipment (PPE). Seeking increase in contract funds and term through April 30, 2027, and ratifying previous term increase. Awarded to North America Fire Equipment Company, Inc. (NAFECO). Amount Not To Exceed: $75,000.00.
MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by LaDena Bolton, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 10/27/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Davis Johnson, and Commissioner Bolton

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Massiah

-information provided by Chief Carter
-Question LB: was the original term until April of 2026?
-response provided by Director Butler regarding an upcoming substitute to reflect the correct ratification; the extension will remain April 30, 2027

2026-1370 Commission District(s): ALL
CO - Change Order No. 6 to Contract No. 1246736 Emergency Medical Supplies (Annual Contract with 2 Options to Renew). For use by Fire Rescue (FR) to obtain emergency medical supplies for Fire Rescue and Emergency Medical Service units/vehicles. Seeking to increase the contract funds and term through June 30, 2027. Awarded to: Bound Tree Medical, LLC: Amount Not To Exceed: $225,000.00.
MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by LaDena Bolton, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 10/27/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Davis Johnson, and Commissioner Bolton

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Massiah

-information provided by Chief Carter
-Question LB: could we discuss the need for a change order?
-response provided by Director Butler

E-911

2026-1338 Commission District(s): All
CO - Change Order No. 2 to Contract No. 2000023 DeKalb County E-911 Call Handling System. For use by E911 Communications (e911) to obtain Emergency Call Handling System. Ratifying increase in contract scope and funds. Awarded to AT&T Enterprises, LLC: Amount Not To Exceed: $16,117.36.
MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by LaDena Bolton, that this agenda item be Recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 10/27/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Davis Johnson, and Commissioner Bolton

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Massiah

-information provided by Director Swain
-Question LB: this is in addition to the original scope?
-C Swain: yes
-Question MDJ: would this reduce the time for the operators to respond?
-response provided by Director Swain
-Question MDJ: would $16,000 cover all of the key pads?
-response provided by Director Swain

Previously Heard Agenda Items:

Board of Commissioners - District 2

2026-0596 Commission District(s): All Commission Districts
An Ordinance to Regulate the Restraint and Transportation of Animals and for other Purposes.
MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by LaDena Bolton, that this agenda item be Recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 10/27/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Davis Johnson, and Commissioner Bolton

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Massiah

-redline document discussed by County Attorney Phillips and the ERPS Committee
-update provided by County Attorney regarding comments provided by an Animal Services expert regarding a "reasonable amount of time" that considers the unhoused; or the option to include an exemption for people that are unhoused in the legislation
-comments provided by Commissioner Bolton - these options are adequate as long as we are not specifically categorizing people as 'unhoused'
-Question T Phillips: did you want to primarily discuss the receipt of County services for the individuals in question?
-response provided by Commissioner Bolton
-Comments provided by Commissioner Terry regarding operationally how Animal Services' SOP's would look in this scenario; discussed a decision tree that could be considered
-COO Williams discussed bringing back an outline of what Commissioner

-MDJ: motion to defer 2 weeks to the next ERPS Committee meeting

2026-1218 Commission District(s): All Commission Districts
An Ordinance to Amend the Code of DeKalb County, Georgia, Chapter 15- Licenses, Permits, and Miscellaneous Regulations, Article XV. Non-Discrimination
MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by LaDena Bolton, that this agenda item be Recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 10/27/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Davis Johnson, and Commissioner Bolton

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Massiah

-comments provided by Attorney Welch
-comments provided by Commissioner Terry regarding the most recent redline presented; will be prepared to discuss at the next ERPS Committee meeting

-MDJ: motion to defer 2 weeks to the next ERPS Committee meeting

Board of Commissioners - Super District 6

2026-0769 Commission District(s): All Commission Districts
A Resolution Requesting the Administration to Establish Independent Civilian Oversight and Auditing For DeKalb County's Digital Shield Initiatives and Surveillance Infrastructure
MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by LaDena Bolton, that this agenda item be Recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 10/27/2026. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Davis Johnson, and Commissioner Bolton

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Massiah

-information provided by Commissioner Terry
-Commissioner Terry requests the ACLU discuss at the next ERPS Committee meeting
-Commissioner Bolton requests a copy of the CCOPS (Community Control Over Police and Surveillance) legislation that the ACLU is working on in advance of the meeting, prior to ACLU representation being invited to the ERPS Committee meeting
-comments provided by Commissioner Patrick regarding a potential existing board such as a community council that could take on this work
-Question MDJ: I would like to have it defined what this body's oversight would do, what if any authority would that have?
-response provided by Commissioner Terry

-MDJ: motion to defer 2 weeks to the next ERPS Committee meeting

Meeting Ended At: 3:14pm

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

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Davis Johnson, and Commissioner Bolton

Absent: 1 - Commissioner Massiah

Barbara H. Sanders-Norwood CCC, CMC