



# DeKalb County Government

178 Sams Street  
Decatur, GA 30030

## Minutes - Draft

### ERPS-Employee Relations & Public Safety Committee

*Commissioner Ted Terry (Chair)*  
*Commissioner Mereda Davis Johnson*  
*Commissioner Michelle Long Spears*

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Friday, December 13, 2024

9:30 AM

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#### Special Called Meeting

Meeting Started At: 9:34AM

Attendance: Commissioners Terry, Long Spears, Patrick, Massiah, Bolton

**Present**        2 - Commissioner Ted Terry, and Commissioner Michelle Long Spears  
**Not Present**    1 - Commissioner Mereda Davis Johnson

#### I. MINUTES

**2024-1619**        Commission District(s): All  
Minutes for the December 3, 2024 Employee Relations, and Public Safety Committee Meeting

**MOTION was made by Michelle Long Spears, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 2 - Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Long Spears

**Not Present:** 1 - Commissioner Davis Johnson

#### II. DISCUSSION

Ambulance Services in DeKalb

-presentation provided by Chief Fullum

-Question MLS: the current contract expires when? We are requesting an 18 month extension?

Chief Fullum: December 31, 2024; and that's correct

-Question MLS: did AMR meet the requirements of the current contract

-response provided by Chief Fullum

-Question MLS: what penalties did AMR pay for not meeting those response times?

-response provided by Chief Fullum

-Question MLS: previous to now we had been in contract with AMR for how long?

Chief: 5 years prior, so 10 years total

-Question MLS: when you went out to bid were there other proposers?

-response provided by Chief Fullum

-Question MLS: if the penalties in the past didn't work then why would they work now?

-response provided by Chief Fullum, with emphasis on the proposed minimum amount of hours in the system to ensure a level of service

-Question MLS: do we know what the penalties were in 2020?

-response provided by Chief Fullum

-Question MLS: can you give us an idea of what the averages were in the 4 years prior to this contract?

Chief: I can get that to you

-Question MLS: I'm grateful that priority one is a reduction, but why are priorities 2 and 3 being increased in proposed times?

-responses provided by Chief Fullum

-comments provided by Commissioner Long Spears regarding the current fee structure

-Question MLS: regarding Zone 3 how have we been able to deliver on the recommendations, and are they sufficient with what our on the ground needs are?

-responses provided by Chief Fullum

-comments provided by Commissioner Long Spears regarding the 18 month proposal and preference for a 9 - 12 month extension proposal

-comments provided by City Manager Christian Sigman - City of Brookhaven

-comments provided by City Manager Eric Linton - City of Dunwoody

The City of Dunwoody has the following comments:

- We would like to see the County break the EMS system into zones for more efficient service areas.
- We still feel we need better (quicker) response times. The proposed times (10:59 minutes, etc.) are too long.
- We are happy to see the County is adding more ambulances to the system. We would like to see the County fund or subsidize AMR (or current provider) for more ambulance service vs. relying on only private funded service.
- Fire Response for EMS needs to be more robust with more staff for the rapid response vehicles.
- The City of Dunwoody cannot sustain paying \$600k/year for a part time ambulance. Dunwoody used one time ARPA funds to fill a gap in service that DeKalb could not adequately provide. We would like for the County to pick up and continue this enhanced service. This model has proven improved response times and quality of care.
- On a final note, the City would like to see the County Increase funding for Mental Health Services and continue to fund the homelessness initiative.

-Question RP: could you prepare your updated response time requirements? Can you come back with data on how fast your team responds to these issues? We would like to know what are you providing right now

-response provided by Chief Fullum on the current data on the report provided

-Commissioner Patrick requested a comparative side by side document (County vs. vendor) with the document provided titled "Updated Response Times Requirements"

-Question RP: are there ways address staffing levels across different parameters, from ambulances to addressing wall time, etc.?

*-responses provided by Chief Fullum*

Four-Day Work Week Study

*-presentation provided by HR Director Ransom and Dr. Susan Hogan - Actionable Results Research, LLC*

*-Question TT: are you available if commissioners have questions?*

*Dr. Hogan: I am absolutely available to discuss further*

*-Question TT: please share with Director Ransom how we can get in touch with you*

### III. AGENDA ITEM

*Previously Heard Agenda Items:*

#### Fire Rescue

[2024-0985](#)

Commission District(s): ALL

CO - Change Order No. 1 to Contract No. 1200066 for Emergency Ambulance Service Provider for DeKalb County, Georgia (Multiyear Contract): for use by Fire Rescue Services. Consists of providing emergency (911) ambulance services and direct billing and collections for ambulance transport and non-transport accounts to DeKalb County citizens. This request is to extend the contract term through June 30, 2026, and provide an annual subsidy payment in accordance with the terms and conditions set forth in the final executed Amendment. Awarded to: Metro Ambulance Services, Inc. d/b/a American Medical Response, Inc. Annual Amount Not To Exceed: \$4,892,000.00.

**MOTION was made by Michelle Long Spears, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be recommended for approval upon receipt of additional information to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/17/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 2 - Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Long Spears**

**Not Present: 1 - Commissioner Davis Johnson**

*-MLS: what is your recommendation Chief on the extension since we are at the end of the year?*

*-Chief: I would say that 12 months is the minimum; additional comments provide by Chief Ramos*

*-comments provided by Commissioner Patrick*

*-MLS: motion to approve, with an amendment for a 12 month extension, not an 18 month extension*

#### Public Safety

[2024-1476](#) Commission District(s): All Commission Districts  
Upgrade to 911  
**MOTION was made by Michelle Long Spears, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/17/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 2 - Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Long Spears

**Not Present:** 1 - Commissioner Davis Johnson

*-a substitute for this item has been provided*

*-information provided by COO Williams, Director Swain, Director Lumpkin*

*-Director Swain discussed the key features of the new E-911 system*

*-TT: I would like to request that we hold this in committee*

*-Director Lumpkin requests that the team would be able to provide a 911 Presentation to the ERPS Committee to focus this conversation*

*-MLS: motion to defer to second BOC in January 2025 with a prior stop in ERPS*

#### **Finance - Risk Management**

[2024-1407](#) Commission District(s): ALL  
CO - Change Order No. 2 to Contract No. 1200000 Employee Health and Benefits Consulting Services (Multi-Year): for use by the Department of Finance - Risk Management. This contract consists of providing professional brokerage and consulting services related to County Employees' Health and Welfare Benefits. This request is to extend the contract term and increase the funding through December 31, 2026. Awarded to Buck Global, LLC. Amount Not To Exceed: \$985,000.00.  
**MOTION was made by Michelle Long Spears, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/17/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 2 - Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Long Spears

**Not Present:** 1 - Commissioner Davis Johnson

*-information provided by Director Jacobs*

*-Question TT: regarding the public safety pension benefits analysis, is that something that can be shared with the committee members and commissioners?*

*-response provided by Director Jacobs*

*-Question TT: Buck is looking at this from the perspective of health perspective?*

*L Jacobs: that's correct Buck is focused on the healthcare plans*

*-Commissioner Terry requested a copy of the study prior to Tuesday's BOC meeting*

2024-1339

Commission District(s): ALL  
CO - Change Order No. 1 to Contract No. 1284701 Off-Site Records Storage for County Clerk Superior Court (Sole Source): for use by Finance-Risk Management. Consists of the purchase of an off-site records storage system for documents assigned to the County Clerk Superior Court for the County. This request seeks to increase funds for the remainder of the contract period for new records transfers and retrievals. Awarded to GRM Information Management Services. Amount Not To Exceed \$125,000.00.

**MOTION was made by Michelle Long Spears, seconded by Ted Terry, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/17/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 2 - Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Long Spears**

**Not Present: 1 - Commissioner Davis Johnson**

*-information provided by Director Jacobs*

*-Question MLS: the amount requested is \$125K in addition to the \$96K that was awarded in 2022?*

*L Jacobs: that's correct*

*-Question MLS: the \$125K would get us through to when?*

*L Jacobs: March 31, 2025*

*-MLS: please explain further the amount requested now because it is higher than when first awarded.*

*-information provided by Director Jacobs regarding the cost increases*

*-Question TT: this type of storage, can these documents be digitized?*

*-responses provided by Director Jacobs*

*-Question LB: regarding the retention schedule, are we storing on a retention schedule to help cut down on the costs?*

*-responses provided by Director Jacobs regarding the retention schedule*

*-Question LB: is there a plan moving forward? We can only do this for so long*

*-responses provided by Director Jacobs*

*-comments provided by Commissioner Massiah*

**Board of Commissioners - District 6**

2024-1591

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts  
To Approve a Resolution to Affirm the Provisions of Section 13(d) of the DeKalb County Organizational Act, Emphasizing the Chief Executive, Executive Assistant, or His or Her Designee's Lack of Authority to Appoint, Remove, and Fix the Compensation of the DeKalb County Board of Commission's Employees.

**MOTION was made that this agenda item be recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/17/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes: 2 - Commissioner Terry, and Commissioner Long Spears**

**Not Present:** 1 - Commissioner Davis Johnson

*-agenda item not discussed in committee*

Meeting Ended At: 11:05AM

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Barbara H. Sanders-Norwood CCC, CMC