



Minutes - Draft

PWI-Public Works & Infrastructure Committee

Commissioner Robert Patrick (Chair)

Commissioner Ted Terry, Member

Commissioner Mereda Davis Johnson, Member

Tuesday, December 3, 2024

3:30 PM

Meeting Started At: 3:40pm

Attendance: Commissioners Patrick, Terry, Davis Johnson, Bradshaw, Long Spears

Present 3 - Commissioner Robert Patrick, Commissioner Ted Terry, and
Member Mereda Davis Johnson

I. MINUTES

2024-1590 Commission District(s): ALL
Minutes for the November 19, 2024 Public Works and
Infrastructure Committee Meeting
**MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick,
that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the
following vote:**

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

II. DISCUSSION

Sidewalk Mapping Implementation Plan

-presentation provided by Director Gear and GIS staff

-comments provided by Commissioner Terry

Water & Sewer Rates Study Presentation: Arcadis & PFM

-information provided by Director Robert Ryall - Arcadis

-Question MLS: an amount of finance deemed "reasonable and prudent" is vague. Could you provide additional information?

-response provided by Mr. Ryall

-Question MLS: could you discuss the current working capital reserves for Watershed?

-response provided by Mr. Ryall

-Question MLS: what is the current debt service coverage?

-response provided by Mr. Ryall

-Question MLS: could you share with us the consultant's engineering report?

-response provided by Mr. Ryall

-Question MLS: I wonder why we wouldn't look at a rate increase of 8% in 2025 for example. Could you provide us other options as opposed to the 6% currently being proposed?

-response provided by Mr. Ryall

-discussion amongst the committee regarding possible rate options

-Question SB: can you expound on the minimal term on our capital plan?

-response provided by Director Houser

-Question SB: what is the MOST tax that the City of Atlanta has?

-response provided by Mr. Ryall

-Question RP: what happens if the term goes to 15 years? Is there additional benefit?

-response provided by Mr. Ryall

-TT: motion to recess

Second MDJ

Vote: yes unanimous

-the committee recessed at 4:30pm, and reconvened at 4:44pm

-TT: motion to return from recess

Second MDJ

Vote: yes unanimous

-TT: motion regarding item 2024-1326: motion to direct Staff to implement amendments in the form of a substitute for item 2024-1326 (amendments read by Commissioner Terry and attached to minutes document):

1. Request that the Administration commit to creating a Water Customer Advocate Office within DeKalb County Government to address customer billing issues by January 1, 2026. This office would work in concert with the current Watershed Customer Service and Billing Advisory Board (WCSBAB), which will be reconstituted via amendments to its enabling legislation.

2. Requests that the Administration use Watershed Enterprise resources to fund the DeKalb C.A.R.E.S. Discount program and amend item 2024-1612, walked on to the Board of Commissioners agenda on 12/3/24, to remove the proposed \$1 million allocation to Water Discount programs from the ARP interest fund.

3. Request that the Administration commit to not shutting off any customer's water that is currently in dispute process. For customers who are not in the dispute process currently, do not currently qualify for the dispute process, but believe that they should be in the dispute process, that the Administration develops a process to input these customers into the forthcoming consumer advocate process. For customers who have completed the dispute process but are still unsatisfied with the result, they will be forwarded to the new consumer advocate program; therefore their dispute will be adjudicated in that process and not be subject to disconnection, as long as they pay 100% of the undisputed charges.

a. Re-establish a seven (7) year payment plan option while the Customer Advocate Office is being established, for customers currently in the dispute process prior to the Water & Sewer rate increase being adopted.

4. An operational audit of the Watershed Department to be completed by January 31, 2026.

5. To implement a master planning process for the Pole Bridge Wastewater Treatment Facility, to include: brownfield remediation and sustainability goals.

6. Request the Administration come back with a substitute to adopt a 10-year Water & Sewer rate plan at a targeted 8%increase each year.

Second MDJ

*-comments provided by Commissioner Long Spears
-comments provided by Commissioner Bradshaw
-comments provided by Commissioner Davis Johnson
Vote: yes unanimous*

III. AGENDA ITEM

New Agenda Items:

Chief Executive Office

[2024-1480](#) Commission District(s): All Commissioner District
Intergovernmental Agreement for SPLOST II proceeds to fund
capital outlay and infrastructure projects.
**MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick,
that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the
Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion
carried by the following vote:**

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-information provided by COO Williams, Deputy County Attorney Phillips

Public Works - Roads & Drainage

[2024-1532](#) Commission District(s): County Wide
Reallocation of ARP Funding
**MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick,
that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the
Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion
carried by the following vote:**

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-information provided by Director Lemke

[2024-1525](#) Commission District(s): County Wide
Reimbursement for Traffic Signal Equipment Relocations, Upgrades,
Recycling and Damage
**MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick,
that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board
of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by
the following vote:**

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

Public Works - Transportation

[2024-1500](#) Commission District(s): 2 and 6
Reserve \$32,350.00 of SPLOST Funds for Additional Floodplain
Studies for South Fork Peachtree Creek Trail
**MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick,
that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the
Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion
carried by the following vote:**

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-information provided by Director Pelton

[2024-1605](#) Commission District(s): 4, 5, 6, and 7
Payment of \$160,000.00 to Georgia Power for LED Conversion of
Memorial Drive Lighting from I-285 to Mountain Drive
**MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick,
that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board
of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by
the following vote:**

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

*-information provided by Director Pelton
-comments provided by Commissioner Terry*

Watershed Management

[2024-1327](#) Commission District(s): All
Change Order No. 2 to Contract No. 1201890 Consent Decree - Gravity Sewer Rehabilitation and Replacement (CD-GSRR) (Multiyear Contract with 1 Option to Renew): for use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM). This contract consists primarily of providing gravity sewer rehabilitation and replacement via cured in place pipe (CIPP) with internal and external point repairs and open cut pipe bursting. This request seeks to increase the contract term through December 31, 2025. Awarded to The Renee Group, Inc. CONTRACT TERM INCREASE ONLY.

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-information provided by Director Hayes

[2024-1334](#) Commission District(s): 3 and 7
CO - Change Order No. 6 to Contract No. 13-902684 Construction Management (CM) Services for Snapfinger Creek Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion - Phase II: for use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM). This contract consists of providing construction management services for the Snapfinger Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facilities Expansion - Phase II. This request is to increase funds and the contract term through December 31, 2025. Awarded to Tetra Tech, Inc. Amount not to exceed \$1,500,000.00.

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-information provided by Director Hayes

[2024-1338](#) Commission District(s): All
CO - Change Order No. 3 to Contract No. 1208627 Consent Decree - Construction Management Services: Gravity Sewer Rehabilitation and Replacement (CD-GSRR): for use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM). This contract consists of providing construction management services for various gravity sewer collection system rehabilitation and replacement projects. This request is to increase contract term through December 31, 2026. Awarded to Benchmark Management, LLC. CONTRACT TERM INCREASE ONLY.
MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-information provided by Director Hayes

[2024-1342](#) Commission District(s): 2 and 6
CO - Change Order No. 2 to Contract No. 1296980 Scott Boulevard Phase III Watermain Replacement: for use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM). This contract consists of the installation of 30-inch ductile iron pip (DIP) watermain and replacement of existing 6-inch distribution mains with 8-inch DIP inside the right-of-way and under existing pavement. This request is to increase the contract term through December 31, 2025. Awarded to Garney Companies, Inc. CONTRACT TERM INCREASE ONLY.
MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-information provided by Director Hayes

[2024-1374](#)

Commission District(s): All
CO - Change Order No. 2 to Contract Nos.: 1242005 and 1242006
Electrical Switchgear Inspections and Repair (Annual Contract with 2
Options to Renew): for use by the Department of Watershed
Management (DWM). These contracts consist of providing inspection
and repair of switchgear equipment at water and wastewater treatment
plants. This request seeks to increase the contract term through March
31, 2025 for Contract No. 1242006 and through December 31, 2025
for Contract No. 1242005. Awarded to Cleveland Electric Company
and Brown Electrical Services, LLC. CONTRACT TERM INCREASE
ONLY.

**MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick,
that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board
of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by
the following vote:**

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-information provided by Director Hayes

[2024-1378](#)

Commission District(s): All
REN - On-Call Water and Sewer (Multiyear Contract - 1st Renewal of
2 Options to Renew): Contracts Nos.: 1301520, 1301526, 1301523,
and 1301524 for use by the Department of Watershed Management
(DWM). These contracts consist of providing on-call services for the
installation and repair of various sizes of water and sewer pipes. The
work also involves providing the means to respond to emergencies, and
unforeseen failures or malfunctions throughout the County's
distribution system. This request seeks to exercise the 1st renewal
option through December 31, 2025, for all four (4) contracts utilizing
existing remaining funds. Awarded to GS Construction, Inc.,
Ruby-Collins, Inc., SD&C, Inc., and The Renee Group, Inc.

**MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick,
that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board
of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by
the following vote:**

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-information provided by Director Hayes

[2024-1448](#) Commission District(s): All
CO - Change Order No. 1 to Contract No. 1267579 Red Dyed Diesel Fuel (Three (3) Year Multiyear Contract): for use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM). This contract consists of providing red dyed diesel fuel for off-road equipment and vehicles to various county facilities. This request seeks to increase the contract funds and term through March 31, 2025. Awarded to Delta Fuel, LLC. Amount Not To Exceed: \$50,000.00.
MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-information provided by Director Hayes

[2024-1502](#) Commission District(s): 3 and 6
Septic to Sewer Petition - Cougar Court - Ellenwood, Georgia
MOTION was made that this agenda item be No recommendation to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

[2024-1584](#) Commission District(s): 1 and 7
Allocate \$10,000,000 from SPLOST funds to Watershed Management to Construct the Emergency Project, Peachtree Industrial Boulevard
MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-information provided by Director Hayes

-Question RP: where on Peachtree Industrial will you be working?

-response provided by Director Hayes

2024-1343

Commission District(s): All
CO - Change Order No. 3 to Contract No. 1283955 Cooperative Agreement for consent Decree: Trenchless Technology Rehabilitation, External Point Repairs, and Related Products and Services (OMNIA Partners Cooperative Purchasing Agreement No. R170802) [DeKalb Cooperative Agreement]: for use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM). This contract consists of provided sewer system trenchless sewer line rehabilitation services. This request seeks to utilize the Engineering News Record - Construction Cost Index (ENR-CCI) to calculate and address cost increases for work completed after January 1, 2025. This request also seeks to increase the contract scope of work, funds, and contract term through December 31, 2026. Awarded to SAK Construction, LLC. Amount Not To Exceed: \$14,866,309.92.
MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be No recommendation to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-this item is currently in OIIA audit review

-TT: motion to forward to the BOC meeting on December 10th with no official recommendation

2024-1450

Commission District(s): All
LB - Invitation No. 24-101643 Stone Crushed Granite (Three (3) Year Multiyear Contract): for use by the Departments of Watershed Management (DWM), Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs (RPCA), and Public Works - Roads & Drainage (R&D) and Sanitation. Consists of providing stone crushed granite for use in various applications. Recommend award to the lowest, responsive and responsible bidders: F.M. Shelton, Inc. and Green Dream International, LLC. Total Amount Not To Exceed: \$ \$7,080,000.00.
MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-this item is currently in OIIA audit review

-TT: motion to defer to the next PWI meeting pending OIIA audit review

Public Works - Roads & Drainage (R&D)

2024-1488

Commission District(s): All
CO - Change Order No. 4 to Contract No. 1295610 for 2021 LMIG Road Resurfacing Projects (365 Day Contract): for use by Public Works - Roads & Drainage (R&D). This contract consists of resurfacing of County roads. This request seeks to increase the contract funds and term through June 30, 2025. Awarded to HEH Paving, Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: \$5,315,481.51.

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-this item is currently in OIIA audit review

-information provided by Director Lemke

-TT: motion to defer to the next PWI meeting pending OIIA audit review

2024-1592

Commission District(s): County Wide
Request for Funding from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) for the FY2025 Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant Program, Cost to the county \$23,000,000.00.

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-information provided by Director Lemke

-Question RP: is it possible with these spending bills that you can come back to us with a map that we can share with residents?

R Lemke: yes

[2024-1047](#) Commission District(s): All
CO - Change Order No. 1 to Contract Nos.: 1335341, 1335342, 1335468, and 1355409 and Change Order No. 2 to Contract No. 1335343 Pond Maintenance Services (Multiyear Contract): for use by Public Works - Roads and Drainage (R&D) and the Department of Recreation, Parks and Cultural Affairs (RPCA). These contracts consist of cutting, cleaning, spraying and repair/maintenance of stormwater retention and detention ponds. This request seeks to increase the contract funds for all awarded contracts. Awarded to KSK Landscaping, Inc.; ASAP Landscape Management Group, LLC; Mariani Enterprises, LLC dba Ed Castro Landscape; Executive Realty Solutions, Inc.; and Phillips Lawncare & Services, LLC. Total Amount Not To Exceed: \$4,300,000.00.

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-this item is currently in OIIA audit review

-information provided by Director Lemke

-TT: motion to defer to the next PWI meeting pending OIIA audit review

Previously Heard Agenda Items:

Public Works - Transportation

[2024-1126](#) Commission District(s): 3 and 7
Payment of \$171,378.67 to Georgia Power for LED Conversion of Columbia Drive at I-20 Interchange Lighting
MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-information provided by Director Pelton

Public Works - Sanitation

[2024-1452](#)

Commission District(s): All
CO - Change Order No. 1 to Contract No. 1299082 Start-up, Operation, and Maintenance of DeKalb County's Renewable Fuels Facility (RFF) (Multi-Year): for use by the Department of Public Works-Sanitation. This revenue generated contract consists of the start-up, operation, maintenance, and conversion of renewable natural gas at the County's RFF. This request seeks to increase the contract term through December 31, 2034 and add provisions related to: construction milestones and liquidated damages, amend the provisions related to the anticipated revenue and termination to only allow for termination for cause, as well as authorization for the marketing and selling of existing equipment at the RFF, if authorized pursuant to a task order. Awarded to Conyers Renewable Power, LLC. CONTRACT TERM INCREASE ONLY.

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-information provided by Director Hutchinson

-comments provided by Commissioner Terry

Watershed Management

[2024-1426](#)

Commission District(s): All
LB - Invitation No. 24-101672 Pump Repair Services (Three (3) Year Multiyear Contract) for use by Department of Watershed Management (DWM). Consists of pump repair services for various wastewater treatment plants. Recommend award to the lowest, responsive, and responsible bidder: Cole Technology, Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: \$3,600,000.00.

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-this item is currently in OIIA audit review
-information provided by Director Hayes
-Question TT: was there only 1 bidder?
-response provided by Director Butler

-TT: motion to defer to the next PWI meeting

Watershed Management (DWM), Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Affairs (RPCA), Facilities Management (FM), and Public Works - Roads & Drainage (R&D)

2024-1382 Commission District(s): All
CO - Change Order No. 2 to Contract Nos. 1321948 & 1321949 and Change Order No. 3 to Contract No. 1321944 Asphaltic Concrete Pavement Repairs: for use by the Departments of Watershed Management (DWM), Recreation, Parks, and Cultural Affairs (RPCA), Facilities Management (FM), and Public Works - Roads & Drainage (R&D). These contracts consist of providing road repair and maintenance services on various County roads. This request seeks to increase the contract funds and term through December 31, 2025. Awarded to A&S Paving, Inc.; Greenway One, Inc.; and HEH Paving, Inc. Total Amount Not to Exceed: \$3,960,501.00

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-this agenda item was supported by OIIA audit review
-information provided by Director Hayes
-Question TT: do we think about the \$3M audit threshold as a contract or an agenda item?
-response provided by COO Williams

Board of Commissioners - District 2

2024-1139 Commission District(s): Districts 1, 2, and 6
A Resolution Supporting Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) on Buford Highway in DeKalb County, Georgia
MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-RP: we will request that MARTA present at the next special called meeting to discuss

-TT: motion to defer to the next PWI meeting

2024-1357 Commission District(s): All Commission Districts
Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of DeKalb County
Supporting Policy Changes to Protect Seniors, Disabled Individuals,
and Low-Income Residents Against Upcoming Water Rate Increases
**MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick,
that this agenda item be recommended for deferral to the Board
of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by
the following vote:**

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

Board of Commissioners - District 6

2024-1405 Commission District(s): All Commission Districts
A Resolution of the Board of Commissioners of DeKalb County
Requesting an Operational Audit of the DeKalb County Watershed
Department.
**MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick,
that this agenda item be recommended for deferral to the
Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion
carried by the following vote:**

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

2024-0525 Commission District(s): All Commission Districts
A Resolution to Establish a DeKalb Environmental Justice Commission
**MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick,
that this agenda item be recommended for deferral to the Board
of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by
the following vote:**

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-TT: motion to defer to last BOC meeting in January 2025, with a prior stop in PWI

2024-1007

Commission District(s): All DeKalb County Commission Districts
A Resolution to Create a “Sustainability Fund” to Support Mitigating Climate Change, Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Reaching Clean Energy Goals, Improving Resiliency in Our Neighborhoods and County Facilities, and Creating Local, Green Jobs

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 12/10/2024. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

-information provided by Commissioner Terry

-TT: motion to defer to last BOC meeting in January 2025, with a prior stop in PWI

Meeting Ended At: 5:49PM

MOTION was made by Ted Terry, seconded by Robert Patrick, that this agenda item be adjourned meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - Commissioner Patrick, and Commissioner Terry

Not Present: 1 - Member Davis Johnson

Barbara H. Sanders-Norwood CCC, CMC



Office of the Board of Commissioners

Chief Executive Officer
Michael L. Thurmond

Board of Commissioners

District 1
Robert Patrick

District 2
Michelle Long Spears

District 3

District 4
Steve Bradshaw

District 5
Mereda Davis Johnson

District 6
Ted Terry

District 7

MEMORANDUM

TO: Commissioner Ted Terry

FROM: BOC Central Staff

DATE: December 3, 2024

SUBJECT: Water and Sewer Rate Proposed Amendments

Commissioner Terry has requested that Central Staff draft the following potential amendments to the proposed Water and Sewer rate increase that is currently under consideration by the Board.

1. Request that the Administration commit to creating a Water Customer Advocate Office within DeKalb County Government to address customer billing issues by January 1, 2026. This office would work in concert with the current Watershed Customer Service and Billing Advisory Board (WCSBAB), which will be reconstituted via amendments to its enabling legislation.
2. Requests that the Administration use Watershed Enterprise resources to fund the DeKalb C.A.R.E.S. Discount program and amend item 2024-1612, walked on to the Board of Commissioners agenda on 12/3/24, to remove the proposed \$1 million allocation to Water Discount programs.
3. Request that the Administration commit to not shutting off any customer's water that is currently in dispute process. For customers who are not in the dispute process currently, do not currently qualify for the dispute process, but believe that they should be in the dispute process, that the Administration develops a process to input these customers into the forthcoming consumer advocate process. For customers who have completed the dispute process but are still unsatisfied with the result, they will be forwarded to the new consumer advocate process; therefore their dispute will be adjudicated in that process and not be subject to disconnection, as long as they pay 100% of the undisputed charges.
 - a. Re-establish a six (6) year payment plan option while the Customer Advocate Office is being established, for customers currently in the dispute process prior to the Water & Sewer rate increase being adopted.
4. An operational audit of the Watershed Department to be completed by January 31, 2026.
5. To implement a master planning process for the Pole Bridge Wastewater Treatment Facility, to include: brownfield remediation and sustainability goals.
6. To adopt a 10-year Water & Sewer rate plan at a targeted 8% increase each year.