



DeKalb County Government

1300 Commerce Drive
Decatur, Georgia 30030

Minutes - Draft

PWI-Public Works & Infrastructure Committee

Commissioner Robert Patrick (Chairperson)

Commissioner Chakira Johnson

Commissioner Nicole Massiah

Tuesday, February 18, 2025

3:30 PM

Meeting Started At: 3:30PM

Attendees: Commissioners Patrick, Johnson, Massiah, Bolton, Davis Johnson

Present 3 - Chairperson Robert Patrick, Commissioner Chakira Johnson, and
Commissioner Nicole Massiah

I. MINUTES

2025-0190 Commission District(s): ALL
Minutes for the January 30, 2025 Special Called Public Works and
Infrastructure Committee Meeting
**MOTION was made by Chakira Johnson, seconded by Nicole
Massiah, that this agenda item be approved. The motion
carried by the following vote:**

Yes: 3 - Chairperson Patrick, Commissioner Johnson, and
Commissioner Massiah

2025-0203 Commission District(s): ALL
Minutes for the February 4, 2025 Public Works and Infrastructure
Committee Meeting
**MOTION was made by Chakira Johnson, seconded by Nicole
Massiah, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried
by the following vote:**

Yes: 3 - Chairperson Patrick, Commissioner Johnson, and Commissioner
Massiah

2025-0269 Commission District(s): ALL
Minutes for the February 13, 2025 Special Called Public Works and
Infrastructure Committee Meeting
**MOTION was made by Chakira Johnson, seconded by Nicole
Massiah, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried
by the following vote:**

**Yes: 3 - Chairperson Patrick, Commissioner Johnson, and Commissioner
Massiah**

II. STATUS UPDATE

MARTA BRT Feasibility Study

-presentation provided by MARTA representatives Michael Rafshoon, Marcus Arnold (Director of Federal Corridors), and Jessica Choi (Director of Local corridors)

-Question CJ: is there a timeline for the Memorial Drive analysis?

-response provided by Mr. Rafshoon regarding the NextGen Bus Network redesign process; possible next steps beyond the funding for the study

-Question NM: could you provide an update on the South DeKalb Transit Hub study

-response provided by Mr. Rafshoon regarding the 2 major projects in south DeKalb

-Question NM: of these projects you are speaking of, which one had the more recent study? When was the last time a study was done?

-response provided by Mr. Rafshoon

-Question MLS: would you mind explaining the differences between ART and BRT?

-response provided by Mr. Arnold

-Question MLS: how did you calculate the service attraction data?

-response provided by Mr. Arnold

-Question MLS: regarding hurdles, please explain what NEPA and the RTCAA are

-response provided by Mr. Arnold

-Question MLS: if we move forward with ART would they be electric, or just BRT?

-J Choi: the ART would use our existing fleet it wouldn't be electric vehicles; but if we make the transition to BRT it would be electric vehicles

-Question MLS: for the peer cities San Francisco and Los Angeles, is their BRT electric for both of those cities?

-response provided by Mr. Arnold

-Question MLS: was the BRT in San Diego electric?

-response provided by Mr. Rafshoon

-Question MDJ: is 30% in your final design, and once you get into the final design there is no opportunity for input from the community?

-response provided by Mr. Rafshoon

-Question MDJ: has this been done for Candler Road?

-M Rafshoon: yes for ART along Candler Road and Buford Highway; additional comments provided by Mr. Rafshoon regarding the ART funding & final designs for Candler Road and Buford Highway, with possible conversations of BRT along those corridors

-Question MDJ: any discussion on heavy rail?

-response provided by Mr. Rafshoon

-comments provided by Commissioner Bolton regarding support of rail going toward Stonecrest

-comments provided by Commissioner Massiah regarding the February 4, 2025 DeKalb Q1 update from MARTA that discussed the South DeKalb and Stonecrest Transit Hub

-Commissioner Patrick requests a South DeKalb Transit Discussion in PWI Committee, to discuss the activity happening between Stonecrest and the South DeKalb Mall

I-285 Express Lanes Transit Study Briefing

-presentation provided by MARTA representatives Michael Rafshoon, Marcus Arnold (Director of Federal corridors)

-additional comments provided by Mr. Rafshoon regarding the scope of projects within DeKalb and request to meet individually with commissioners regarding more information on these projects

III. AGENDA ITEM

Previously Heard Agenda Items:

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
This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 2/25/2025 .

Finance

- [2024-1326](#) Commission District(s): All Districts
Adoption Of (1) The Attached Resolution Approving 10% Rate Increase No Earlier Than May 1 for the Year 2025, and Nine Additional Increases in the Amount of 10% Each , Which Shall Become Effective on Each January 1, Beginning January 1, 2026 Through and Including January 1, 2034, and (2) the Attached Series 2025 Bond Resolution Authorizing the Issuance by the County of not to Exceed \$450 Million in Total Par Amount of Its Water and Sewerage Revenue Bonds, for the Purpose of Rehabilitating of the Scott Candler Water Treatment Facility and Other Crucial Water and Sewerage Projects, for the Department of Watershed Management (DWM) CIP.
This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 2/25/2025 .

- discussion introduced by COO Williams regarding the 10x10 rate proposal
- comments provided by Commissioner Massiah
- Commissioner Massiah proposes 12% rate increase from June 2025 - December 2025, and 10% increases annually for the next 2 years (2026 and 2027)
- Question MLS: since the new rate item (2025-0259) and bond resolution (2025-0258) has been proposed, would the expectation be for this agenda item 2024-1326 would be withdrawn?
- Z Williams: that's correct
- comments provided by Commissioner Long Spears regarding support for the rate proposal discussed by Commissioner Massiah
- comments provided by Commissioner Long Spears
- comments provided by COO Williams regarding the previous rate plan proposals, recent history of CIP
- Commissioner Long Spears discussed the 3 year plan discussed would allow time for implementation of specific aspects the Board has proposed (e.g. office of water advocacy, CIP auditor, etc), as well as rolling in the water affordability item (2024-1357)
- comments provided by Commissioner Davis Johnson regarding support for the proposal advanced by the Administration
- comments provided by Commissioner Bolton
- comments provided by Commissioner Johnson regarding the current rate proposals and perspective regarding a 3 year proposal
- comments provided by Commissioner Johnson regarding her experience as a civil engineer
- comments provided by Commissioner Massiah regarding the Consent Decree and how the rate proposal relates to the existing MCD
- comments provided by Commissioner Davis Johnson on her perspective regarding the short term vs. long term proposals
- comments provided by Commissioner Long Spears regarding the timing of the upcoming rate increases if passed
- Commissioner Long Spears if we are proposing 10% from May 2025 - December 2025, what does the long term look like?
- comments provided by COO Williams regarding the needs of the system regarding the infrastructure needs of the County and how the 10x10 rate plan will address this
- comments provided by Commissioner Patrick regarding this ongoing issue and dynamics of the conversation
- Question MLS: we are in mid-February; is May 1 still our target date regarding the rate increase?
- Z Williams: let's stay with the 4 months; if you vote on the 25th, it would be 4 months from that date
- comments provided by Commissioner Davis Johnson regarding trust in staff and experts that prepare this data
- comments provided by Commissioner Massiah regarding the requested need for additional information
- no vote taken; item held in committee

Board of Commissioners - District 2

2024-1357

Commission District(s): All 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

**This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to
the Board of Commissioners due back on 2/25/2025 .**

New Agenda Items:

Watershed Management (DWM)

- [2025-0259](#) Commission District(s): All Commission Districts
The Department of Watershed Management rate increase proposal of 10% per year for 10 years to fund the water and sewer operation and maintenance, debt service, and the CIP 2024 from 2025 to 2034.
This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 2/25/2025 .

Public Works - Transportation

- [2024-1420](#) Commission District(s): 2 & 6
CO - Change Order No. 1 to Contract No. 1366762 Right Turn Lane on Briarlake Road at Briarcliff Road (180 days): for use by Public Works-Transportation. This contract consists of the construction of a right turn lane at the Briarlake Road intersection with Briarcliff Road, including related curb, ramps, and sidewalk. This request seeks approval to ratify previously provided sixty (60) day contract term increase, effective January 1, 2025. This request also seeks approval to increase the contract funds and contract term through December 31, 2025. Awarded to: SD&C, Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: \$55,250.86.
This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 2/25/2025 .
- [2025-0067](#) Commission District(s): ALL
RA - Ratification of Change Order No. 2 to Contract No. 1350952, DeKalb Industrial Way at Milscott Drive Traffic Signal (270 days): for use by Public Works - Transportation (PW-T). This contract consists of the installation of a traffic signal on DeKalb Industrial Way at Milscott Drive. This request seeks to ratify an issued Purchase Order for work that had to be completed in the field for the traffic signal project, while in-progress. Awarded to: Brooks Berry Haynie & Associates. Amount Not To Exceed: \$24,000.25.
This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 2/25/2025 .

Public Works - Roads & Drainage (R&D)

[2025-0147](#) Commission District(s): All
LB - Invitation No. 24-101686 Roadway Bulk De-Icing (Three (3) Year Multiyear Contract): for use by Public Works - Roads and Drainage (R&D). Consists of the purchase of de-icing materials to make the sand/salt mixture used to maintain the County's roadways, parking lots and sidewalks. Recommend award to the sole responsive and responsible bidder: F.M. Shelton, Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: \$150,000.00.

This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 2/25/2025 .

[2025-0008](#) Commission District(s): All
RA - Ratification of Purchase Order No. 5017519 for Tree Removal Services (Emergency Purchase): for use by Public Works - Roads & Drainage (R&D). This request seeks to ratify an issued purchase order for the emergency purchase of tree removal services to clear blocked roads and ensuring emergency access during the state of emergency caused by Hurricane Helene. Awarded to ArborServ Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: \$225,150.00.

This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 2/25/2025 .

Public Works - Roads & Drainage (R&D) and Sanitation

- [2025-0140](#) Commission District(s): All
LB - Invitation No. 24-101670 - Fence & Gate Repair (Three (3) Year Multiyear Contract): for use by the Department of Watershed Management, Public Works - Roads & Drainage (R&D) and Sanitation. Consists of the repair and installation of fences and gates throughout the County. Recommend award to the lowest, responsive and responsible bidders: Executive Realty Solutions, Inc. and Wainwright Construction Inc. dba Wayne Construction. Total Amount Not To Exceed: \$2,294,400.00
This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 2/25/2025 .

Watershed Management (DWM)

- [2025-0003](#) Commission District(s): All
LB - Invitation No. 24-101671 Electrical Switchgear Inspection and Repair (Annual Contract with Two (2) Options to Renew) for use by Department of Watershed Management (DWM). Consists of providing inspection and repair of switchgear equipment at water and wastewater treatment plants. Recommend award to the lowest, responsive and responsible bidders: TRC Engineers, Inc. and Brown Electrical Services, LLC. Total Amount Not To Exceed: \$1,250,000.00.
This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 2/25/2025 .

[2025-0040](#)

Commission District(s): All
SS - UtiliSphere Software (Sole Source): for use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM). Consists of purchasing a three-year UtiliSphere software subscription for optimizing field workforce operations, managing underground assets, and ensuring compliance with the GA811 System. This request seeks to establish a three-year agreement with Irth Solutions, Inc. and to ratify Purchase Order No. 1377624 for the subscription fee from March 2024 to February 2025. Awarded to Irth Solutions, LLC. Amount Not To Exceed: \$199,018.68.

This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 2/25/2025 .

[2025-0064](#)

Commission District(s): All
SS - Rockwell Automation/Allen-Bradley Parts and Services (Sole Source): for use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM). Consists of purchasing Rockwell Automation/Allen-Bradley hardware and services. This request seeks to establish a three-year agreement with McNaughton-McKay Electric Company to assist in maintaining the functionality and ensure the continued operation of critical machinery at the Scott Candler, Snapfinger, and Pole Bridge plants in DeKalb County, GA. The parts and services support vital systems such as Variable Frequency Drives (VFDs), Programmable Logic Controllers (PLCs), and other equipment, which are essential for controlling and maintaining machinery functionality in water treatment processes. Awarded to McNaughton-McKay Electric Company. Amount Not To Exceed: \$2,100,000.00.

This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 2/25/2025 .

[2025-0138](#) Commission District(s): All
CO - Change Order No. 2 to Contract 1275646 for Manhole Castings and Accessories (Three (3) Year Multiyear Contract): for the use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM) and Public Works - Roads and Drainage (R&D). This contract consists of the purchase of manhole castings and accessories. This request seeks to increase contract funds for use by R&D. Awarded to Ferguson Waterworks. Amount Not To Exceed: \$20,000.00.

This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 2/25/2025 .

[2025-0144](#) Commission District(s): All
CA - Cooperative Agreement for Vacuum Truck Services (Cobb County Contract No. 24-6825): for use by the Department of Watershed Management (DWM). Consists of purchasing from the competitively let Cobb County contract for the removal and final disposal of materials, such as sand, silt, and/or sewage sludge utilizing vacuum truck services for treatment plants. Awarded to Allsouth Environmental Services, LLC. Amount Not To Exceed: \$300,000.00.

This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 2/25/2025 .

[2025-0177](#) Commission District(s): 3 & 7
Agreement for the Construction and Financing of Sewer Upgrades with Company with a Contribution of \$216,000.00.

This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 2/25/2025 .

[2025-0201](#) Commission District(s): All Districts
The Authorization of a Georgia Power Easement for the Department of Watershed Management located at 1640 Roadhaven Drive

This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 2/25/2025 .

[2025-0146](#) Commission District(s): All
LB - Invitation No. 24-101687 Sanitary Sewer Chemical Root Control (Three (3) Year Multiyear Contract) for use by Department of Watershed Management (DWM). Consists of treating portions of the County's gravity sewer system with a chemical root control herbicide. Recommend award to the sole responsive and responsible bidder: Duke's Root Control, Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: \$19,685,670.00.
This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 2/25/2025 .

[2025-0001](#) Commission District(s): All
LB - Invitation No. 24-101674 Engine and Generator Maintenance and Repair (Annual Contract with Two (2) Options to Renew): for use by Departments of Watershed Management (DWM) and Facilities Management (FM). This contract consists of maintenance and repair of engines and generators. Recommend award to the sole bidders who are responsive and responsible: Power and Energy Services and Generator Maintenance of Georgia, dba Sage Properties, LLC. Total Amount Not To Exceed: \$3,925,000.00.
This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 2/25/2025 .

Meeting Ended At: 5:15pm

MOTION was made by Chakira Johnson, seconded by Nicole Massiah, that this agenda item be adjourned meeting. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Chairperson Patrick, Commissioner Johnson, and Commissioner Massiah

Barbara H. Sanders-Norwood CCC, CMC