



DeKalb County Audit Oversight Committee

**M E E T I N G M I N U T E S**

October 7, 2016 ■ 12:00 PM  
330 West Ponce DeLeon Avenue  
First Floor Conference Room  
Decatur, Georgia 30030



**Committee Members**

Harmel Codi  
Gena Major  
Monica Miles  
Belinda Pedroso  
Harold Smith, Jr.

**Legal Counsel**

Mary Carole Cooney

**I. Call Meeting to Order**

Chairperson Harold Smith, Jr. called the meeting to order at approximately 12:06 PM.

**II. Adoption of the Agenda**

Monica Miles moved to adopt the proposed agenda, and Harmel Codi seconded the motion. The agenda was adopted by the unanimous vote of Harmel Codi, Gena Major, Monica Miles, Belinda Pedroso and Harold Smith, Jr.

**III. Opening Statement**

Chairperson Harold Smith, Jr. thanked the members of the Committee for their work through fifteen meetings to get the Chief Audit Executive hired. He thanked public once again for their presence and also thanked the Committee members present. Our major objective of getting the Chief Audit Executive hired has been accomplished. Mr. John Greene started his work on September 26, 2016.

**IV. Guidelines for Public Comments.**

Legal Counsel Mary Carole Cooney read aloud the guidelines for making and receiving comments from the public.

## **V. Public Comments**

Mr. Harrison Rogers noted that he had also spoken at last night's public hearing, and asked the Committee to look immediately into the problem of water billing. He said that there appears to be no communication between the water and finance departments, and that to confront a property owner with astronomical bills and then require that owner to initiate negotiations for the appropriate amount is a form of extortion. Mr. Stephen Binney thanked Mr. John Greene for becoming the Chief Audit Executive, and stated that, despite an internal County audit, \$ 1.3 million of County funds is still missing. He offered his complete support to Mr. Greene.

Chairperson Smith stated that he does not usually respond to public comments but wants to say that the Committee is aware of the problems mentioned by the public and that this will find its way into the audit process.

## **VI. Acknowledgment of DeKalb's New Chief Audit Executive**

Chairperson Smith extended a welcome and congratulations to Mr. John Greene, and noted that Mr. Greene is a Certified Internal Auditor (CIA), a Certified Inspector General (CIG) and a Certified Government Financial Manager (CGFM), among many credentials, with significant experience working for the State of Florida.

Mr. Greene thanked the Committee for its support. In response to the issues raised by citizen observers, he told the Committee that he can't say exactly what he will be looking at first, because he needs to do a full risk assessment. He added that he sees his job as being the oversight for the taxpayers of DeKalb County.

## **VII. Acceptance of September 23, 2016 Meeting Minutes**

Vice-Chairperson Gena Major moved that the minutes of the September 23, 2016 meetings be accepted as presented and Ms. Monica Miles seconded the motion, which was then unanimously adopted.

## **VIII. Acceptance of Legal Services Billing for September 2016**

Legal Counsel's invoice for services rendered in September, 2016 was presented to the Committee. Vice-Chairperson Gena Major made a motion to approve Legal Counsel's invoice, and Ms. Monica Miles seconded the motion. All attendees present (Harmel Codi, Gena Major, Belinda Pedroso, Monica Miles, and Harold Smith) unanimously approved Legal Counsel's invoice.

## **IX Unfinished Business**

1. Chairperson Smith reported that all work required to obtain binding Liability Insurance coverage for the Committee has been completed, and that coverage is effective as of September 26, 2016.
2. All information required for obtaining funding within the County's budget was submitted timely, and should result in a total budget of \$1.8 million.

3. Chairperson Smith distributed a year-to-date expenditure report. Ms. Monica Miles requested a YTD report on a monthly basis.
4. The Committee looked at business card formats for the Committee's and the Department's use. Chairperson Smith asked for any edits so that such cards can be finalized.
5. Audit committee guide books have been ordered.
6. Vice chairperson Gena Major ask Mr. Greene if all necessary equipment, phone service, and reimbursement arrangements have been provided to him. Mr. Greene said that they have.

**X. Other Business**

- The next meeting of the Committee is scheduled for October 21.

**XI. Meeting Adjournment**

The regular business meeting concluded at 12:41 p.m., with the unanimous consent of all Committee members present.