



DeKalb County Government

178 Sams Street
Decatur, GA 30030

DRAFT - Minutes

ERPS-Employee Relations & Public Safety Committee

Commissioner LaDena Bolton (Chairperson)

Commissioner Chakira Johnson

Commissioner Mereda Davis Johnson

Tuesday, August 19, 2025

2:15 PM

178 Sam's Street, Decatur, GA 30030
(Multipurpose Room A1201)

Meeting Started At: 2:16 PM

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

Present 3 - Commissioner Mereda Davis Johnson, Commissioner LaDena Bolton, and Chairperson Chakira Johnson

I. MINUTES

2025-1194 Commission District(s): All
Minutes for the July 15, 2025 Employee Relations and Public Safety Committee Meeting
MOTION was made by Chakira Johnson, seconded by Mereda Davis Johnson, that this agenda item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:
Yes: 3 - Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Bolton, and Chairperson Johnson

II. DISCUSSION

Inclusive Hiring Policy

Presentation provided by Jada Montgomery, District 5 Intern

Additional comments provided by HR Director B. Ransom & Staff

MDJ: I have a resolution, I have passed out for everyone to review and would like to discuss it in ERPS at a later date Q LB: Does our leadership training require a bachelors degree?

Ransom: We do have a clause that allows certifications or previous experience to count towards that position Comments provided by Commissioner Johnson

Comments provided by Commissioner Terry

III. AGENDA ITEM

Previously Heard Items

2025-1088

Commission District(s): All Commission District
Grant Acceptance - FY25 High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area
(HIDTA) Grant, \$276,156.00

MOTION was made by Chakira Johnson, seconded by Mereda Davis Johnson, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/26/2025. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Bolton, and Chairperson Johnson

Information provided by Asst Chief Popp

Q CJ: You receive this grant annually?

Popp: correct

-CJ: motion to approve

2025-1002

Commission District(s): ALL
REN - Contract No. 1342927 Decals for County Vehicles (Annual Contract - 2nd Renewal of 2 Options to Renew): for use by the Departments of Police Services (PS), Fire Rescue (FR) and Marshal's Office. This contract consists of providing the production and installation of vinyl decals for County vehicles. This request seeks to ratify a previously provided contract term increase and funds in the amount of \$25,000.00 for services provided during the 1st renewal term. This request also seeks to exercise the 2nd renewal option through July 31, 2026. Awarded to AKO Signs, Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: \$156,554.00.

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Chakira Johnson, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/26/2025. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Bolton, and Chairperson Johnson

Information provided by Asst Chief Popp

Q LB: When did the term end?

Additional information provided by CPO Butler

-MDJ: motion to approve

2025-1067

Commission District(s): ALL

CO - Change Order No. 4 to Contract No. 1295994 Parts for Vehicles and Off-Road Equipment, Including Batteries (Annual with 2 Options to Renew): for use by Public Works - Fleet Management to be used by Police Services (PS). This request seeks to increase the contract funds and term through October 31, 2026. Request will assist in acquiring necessary heavy-duty wraps for outfitting and upgrading the push bumpers of existing police vehicles for PIT maneuver purposes. Awarded to West Chatham Warning Devices, Inc. Amount Not To Exceed: \$176,375.00.

MOTION was made by Chakira Johnson, seconded by Mereda Davis Johnson, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/26/2025. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Bolton, and Chairperson Johnson

Information provided by Asst Chief Popp

Comments provided by Commissioner Terry

TT: I would request some clarification on the policy of use for PITT Maneuvers in the future

RP: I echo that request

LB: Lets also include the frequency on use when you come back to share that information

MDJ: I'd also like a map of areas where its been used, if this is residential or highway

LB: Central Staff lets but this on the schedule for return

-CJ: motion to approve

2024-1233

Commission District(s): All Districts

A Resolution Asking for The DeKalb County Police Department to Develop a Diversion Policy Regarding Unhoused Individuals that Considers Other Options to Arresting and Jailing Them.

MOTION was made by Chakira Johnson, seconded by Mereda Davis Johnson, that this agenda item be recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/26/2025. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Bolton, and Chairperson Johnson

Information provided by Commissioner Patrick & deputy Attorney Terry Phillips

Q MDJ: The way some of this language reads indicates that they already committed a crime; I'm concerned about that language. If you have a diversion policy for the unhoused, what does the policy entail? Do you make recommendations on where they go or what resources are available?

Response provided by Deputy Attorney Terry Phillips

Q LB: Regarding item 3 in the resolution, is the resource guide also provided?

RP: the guide is not included but I believe it is something police or staff could provide

Q CJ: To commissioner Patrick has police reviewed this language yet?

RP: we have engaged with the administration

TP: I can also provide a copy to the correct police staff

Comments provided by Commissioner Terry

TT: I would assume that police would come back in a set number of days and present on the policy. I think it fits in line with our goal of providing wraparound services. I do see them getting "stuck" at some point because of our own resource and capacity limits.

Q LB: What is our approach for item #2 in the resolution; is there is a suggestion or list of who is responsible?

Comments provided by Commissioner Davis Johnson

Q CJ: who is responsible for creating the resource guide? I am in support for the marketing aspect in our districts but we need to know who the partners are

Q RP: MY first thought it the housing officer as that touch point but let me speak with staff and follow up

TT: During the point in time count, Community development has a resource guide they pass out but it is a list of numbers which gives me concern. I am in support of this for its intended purpose however I think there is an opportunity for us to be more proactive and bring all these players together.

Additional comments provided by Commissioner Patrick

MDJ: it could be burdensome for a police officer to go through a list of numbers but I like the concept one number for all resources.

LB: Law department please make sure PD has reviewed and provide feedback. I'd like the committee to have more time to review.

LB: Can police come back and speak to what tools they may have

COO: Next time we can also bring in our outreach team to speak to the logistics

-CJ: Recommended defer 30 days

2025-0683

Commission District(s): All Districts

To Approve a Resolution to Address Egregious Littering and the Illegal Dumping of Scrap Tires

MOTION was made by Mereda Davis Johnson, seconded by Chakira Johnson, that this agenda item be recommended for deferral to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/26/2025. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Bolton, and Chairperson Johnson

Information provided by Commissioner Patrick

TT: Can we inquire if all tire scrap generators are required to register? Seems like they are required to keep records for set time.

RP: I think there is also a misalignment in the code that we need to sure up. Staff could speak more to the process as they get closer to development

-MDJ: Recommended defer 60 days

New Agenda Items

2025-0959

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts
Agreement of Mutual Aid and Automatic Aid Between Dekalb County Georgia and Rockdale County Georgia for Fire & Rescue Services
MOTION was made by Chakira Johnson, seconded by Mereda Davis Johnson, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/26/2025. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Bolton, and Chairperson Johnson

Information provided by Chief Fullum F&R Department -

CJ: motion to approve

2025-1104

Commission District(s): All
CO - Change Order No. 4 to Contract No. 1218886 Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) Purchase, Repair, & Maintenance (Annual Contract with 4 Options To Renew): for use by the Department of Fire Rescue Services (FR). This contract consists of the purchase, repair, maintenance, and management of the County's SCBA equipment. This request seeks to increase the contract funds and term through March 30, 2026. This request also seeks a consent to assign the contract and remaining contract funds and term from Municipal Emergency Services, Inc. (MES) to MES Service Company, LLC. Awarded to: MES Service Company, LLC (formerly Municipal Emergency Services, Inc. (MES)). Amount Not To Exceed: \$268,000.00.

MOTION was made by Chakira Johnson, seconded by Mereda Davis Johnson, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/26/2025. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Bolton, and Chairperson Johnson

Information provided by Chief Fullum F&R Department

-CJ: motion to approve

2025-1153

Commission District(s): All Districts

Acceptance of Grant Funds (\$24,780) from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), through the Georgia Department of Public Health (GA-DPH) for the DeKalb County Medical Examiner's Office (DCMEO).

MOTION was made by Chakira Johnson, seconded by Mereda Davis Johnson, that this agenda item be recommended for approval. to the Board of Commissioners, due back on 8/26/2025. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Bolton, and Chairperson Johnson

Information provided by Director Loveless, ME Office

Q LB: are there contingencies for the grant funds?

Loveless: no, its based on a formula by the CDC

Q MDJ: what are the funds used for?

Details provided by Director Loveless

Q MDJ: what is the average amount received?

Loveless: between \$25,000-\$50,000

-CJ: motion to approve

2025-1107

Commission District(s): All Commission Districts

A Resolution Requesting The Administration Implement A DeKalb County Police Department LGBTQ+ Police Liaison Position, Require Hate Crimes Identification Training For Law Enforcement, And For Other Purposes.

This agenda item was recommended holding in committee to the Board of Commissioners due back on 8/26/2025 .

Item held in committee at the request of Police Department

Meeting Concluded At: 3:28 PM

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

**Yes: 3 - Commissioner Davis Johnson, Commissioner Bolton, and
Chairperson Johnson**

Barbara H. Sanders-Norwood CCC, CMC