



SPLOST Citizen Oversight Group  
Meeting Minutes, July 25, 2019, 6:30 p.m.

1 **July 25, 2019**

2 **SPLOST OVERSIGHT GROUP MINUTES**

3

4 **Call to order**

5 Isaac Blythers called to order the regular monthly meeting of the SPLOST Citizens Oversight Group  
6 at 6:32 p.m. in the Maloof Auditorium.

7

8 **Register**

9 The following members were present:

10 Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Appointed By:

11	Teresa Hardy	CEO
12	Gale Walldorff	CEO
13	Jenna Teston	District 1
14	Nancy Love	District 2 co-chair
15	Alice Bussey	District 3
16	Isaac Blythers	District 4 co-chair
17	Gina Mangham	District 5
18	Randal Mangham	District 7 (on phone)

19 DeKalb County Staff:

20	Delores Crowell	DeKalb County Government Affairs Director
21	Chris Kingsbury	SPLOST Program Manager, Moreland-Altobelli

22

23 **Preliminary Matters**

24 Gale Walldorff moved for approval of minutes for the June monthly meeting; Teresa Hardy seconded;  
25 motion carried.

1 Alice Bussey expressed concerns that her comments were not included in the June minutes.  
2 Isaac Blythers suggested that based on corrections that had to be made to the minutes, that the motion  
3 to approve be withdrawn.  
4 Motion for deferral was properly made, seconded and carried.  
5 The agenda was adopted by a unanimous vote.

6

7 **Old business**

8 Alice Bussey expressed concerns about the objectivity and accuracy of the monthly minutes taken for  
9 SPLOST Oversight Committee meetings. Ms. Bussey moved that an independent contractor be provided  
10 by the County to take Committee minutes; Gina Mangham seconded; motion carried.  
11 Isaac Blythers asked Delores Crowell to get firm names and pricing for review and approval.

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13 **New business**

14 Isaac Blythers stated that there was no educator to present. Alice Bussey requested that the CEO come  
15 back at the September monthly meeting.  
16 Teresa Hardy stated that the SPLOST Oversight Committee members need to suggest who they want to  
17 come to the monthly meetings to make presentations.  
18 And let Delores Crowell know so she can schedule them to come to meeting to speak and  
19 educate everyone.  
20 The Committee has previously had speakers from Fire, Police, Roads and Drainage, and Park &  
21 Recreation. Delores Crowell recommended that someone from Facilities, Sidewalks, and Transportation  
22 be invited to come out and speak.

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24 **SPLOST updates**

25 Chris Kingsbury talks about updates going on in DeKalb. "He said he hope everyone is

1 logged onto TEAMS (software) it's a pretty nifty tool. Front Page, I think it's pretty important  
2 also. The last few weeks have had a lot of movement on two areas of improvements that are  
3 SPLOST funded. One is ER Snell was awarded by the Board of Commissioners on Tuesday, the  
4 Rock Bridge Road streetscape and borderline replaced but the water line is funded, not with  
5 SPLOST dollars but the streetscape portion, turn lane sidewalks and so forth, are funded with  
6 the SPLOST matching dollars. And that's a great project. It's a long time coming low bid was  
7 \$3.2 million. Watershed and round numbers putting in about a million and Georgia DOT is  
8 putting in about a million dollars.

9 Terry Phillips a deputy county attorney spoke about the resolution of the SPLOST  
10 oversight group. He stated "The 2018 resolutions started with establishing this in the form of a  
11 being citizen's oversight. The mission is to provide transparency and accountability to the  
12 citizens of the cab County with three stated purposes. First, to make sure that the funds are  
13 spent in accordance with the law. Second to make sure those funds are well managed, and use  
14 them efficiently. And then finally, to make sure the projects are equitable, appropriately  
15 prioritized it well distributed throughout been incorporated to care. Resolution provides for  
16 recording at least once a year from to give really what's an annual report or more frequent  
17 reports as you deem appropriate. And your reports should include your advice, your reviews  
18 and your recommendations. It also provides four terms for each of the appointees. And as you  
19 guys know, you're appointed by the Commission, as well as the CEO. And then your meetings  
20 are to be held as you see fit. The first one had to be held by April 1 and 2018. And that's  
21 primarily the role of the CEO and Mr. Kingsbury and others who have participated with you.  
22 And finally it provides that this will end in June of 2024, which is the life of SPLOST. And what I'll  
23 add for you in lay terms is what you witnessed already tonight from Mr. Kingsbury  
24 is exactly what this body is supposed to do. Questions from Alice Bussey to Mr. Kingsbury about  
25 prioritizing projects is an exact example of what this body was supposed to do. It's another

1 layer of transparency. The people who chose to come tonight, got to hear questions, the  
2 answers, you heard the detailed reporting of where we are in terms of spending and projects,  
3 You heard the discussion about why priorities were set and how priorities were set, you heard  
4 the bad news that we're having to take a look at where we are with some of the costs that's  
5 now been identified for sidewalks versus two projections, Initially. And that type of detailed  
6 discussion provides a great deal of information to the public. So they get to hear all of this and  
7 you guys are leading us in that. So I'll finish by saying I'll take any questions. And I thank you for  
8 your service."

9 Teresa Hardy brings up that in this meeting they are supposed to go over report. Since it is due  
10 in April they decided as group that in July they were going to talk about what draft was going to  
11 look like and then in August come together and review and decide what they will do with the  
12 report. Delores states again that they do have Program Manager who is available to produce  
13 the annual report based on facts.

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#### 15 **Public comments**

16 Stephen Binney suggested that John Green from Audit come in and talk. He said it the  
17 job of the SPLOST Committee to make a graph comparing money spent to the actual money  
18 list. Also he suggests that all changes be brought in front of committee for them to decide and  
19 have some input on it.

20 The next speaker Brad Hubbard speaks about all kind of ills like drug, homelessness, and  
21 Incarceration and they should address the problem demographically.

22 Jolan Texler a student and small time business owner needs a local food movement and how can this  
23 change happen?

#### 24 **Notes**

25 Delores Crowell said SPLOST is unique in their county because they do not tax on unprepared

1 food for SPLOST.

2 They said the BOC meets on regular basis that the public speakers should address these issues

3 at meeting.

4 Teresa Hardy thanked the public speakers. She said as a group they accomplished a lot. Wants to

5 Encourage everyone to go to TEAMS it will answer a lot of questions that you may have.

6 Next SPLOST meeting will be August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 at 6:30pm.

7 The September SPLOST meeting will be September 26, 2019 at 6:30pm.

8 Isaac Blythers asks Gale Walldorff to reach out to Ellen Nash to send her the final draft of the bylaws to

9 Sarah so she can distribute them to everyone.

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11 Isaac Blythers put forth the motion that the meeting be adjourned. It was unanimously carried.

12 The meeting adjourned at 7:59pm.

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