

DEKALB COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING

January 8, 2025

The following Council Members were present:

President David Yarde
Vice President William VanWye, absent
Member Richard Ring
Member Robert E. Krafft
Member Amy Demske
Member Amy Prosser
Member Rick Collins

Others present: Auditor Susan Sleeper
Attorney Donald J Stuckey

Robert Krafft opened the meeting with prayer at 8:30 a.m.

MATTER OF MINUTES

Richard Ring made a motion to approve December 11, 2024, minutes of the Regular Meeting. Amy Demske seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF REORGANIZATION

Richard Ring nominated David Yarde as president, Amy Demske seconded. Motion passed for David Yarde as President unanimously.

David Yarde nominated William VanWye for Vice President. Richard Ring seconded. motioned to close nominations; seconded to close nominations. Motion passed for William VanWye as Vice President unanimously.

Rick Collins made a motion to retain Don Stuckey. Robert Krafft seconded and all approved.

President Yarde let the Council Members know that he calls each of them by name, as he feels it is more personable.

MATTER OF ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

None

MATTER OF TRANSFERS

None

MATTER OF FINANCIAL REPORT BY FUND

The Council certified that they have received and reviewed the December 2024 Financial Report by Fund.

MATTER OF 2024 YEAR-END TRANSFERS

Amy Demske made a motion to approve 2024 year-end transfers. Amy Prosser seconded, and all approved. The list of transfers is attached to these minutes.

MATTER OF 2024 ENCUMBRANCES INTO 2025

A breakdown of the encumbrances for fund summaries was presented to the Council prior to their meeting and is available in the Auditor's Office. The list of encumbrances is attached to these minutes.

Amy Demske made a motion to approve 2024 encumbrances into 2025. Robert Krafft seconded the motion, and all approved.

MATTER OF DCCC FY 26 JUVENILE GRANT SUBMISSION

Michelle Fosnaugh explained the 2 different grants that DCCC applies to for funding adult and juvenile programs. Michelle also let everyone know that the deadline again was moved up and is due January 25, 2025. Michelle explained that the State sent an email telling her the amount of money that she is eligible to receive and the grant then needs to be written for that amount. This amount has not changed for the past few years and is the amount of \$88,686.

Michelle also let the Council know that the CHANGE lease is not going to be renewed and they need a location. She has a couple of leads but is open and welcome to any suggestions.

Amy Prosser asked if the money the schools receive comes over to CHANGE academy to help with funding. Michelle explained that the schools pay per 'seat' whether a student attends or not. The current charge per seat is \$5,000.

Amy Demske made a motion to approve Michelle Fosnaugh to submit the FY26 juvenile grant as submitted. Robert Krafft seconded and all approved.

Misc: Michelle gave the Council an update on a few maintenance items that will be coming down the pipeline that include HVAC issues on roof (\$6,400), water softener 'head' repair (over \$2,000), lobby heating issue, as well as notice of water rates increasing therefore, she may need funding assistance from the Council. Rick Snyder feels some of these issues are due to improper maintenance prior to her taking over the building. Robert Krafft asked if we had preventative maintenance contracts, which Michelle informed the Council that it was just started last year but had not been done prior.

MATTER OF AIRPORT UPDATE

Council and Commissioner Brief 1/8/2025

New Business

- The 2024 NAVAIDS Relocation Project is complete. The FAA has flown and commissioned all of the GPS approaches to the airport, the Localizer, the Distance Measuring Equipment, the VOR-A approach, the Approach Lighting System and they have started on the Glideslope. They

will return at some point to finish the Glideslope and recertify the Outer Marker. The important part, the GPS approaches, which give minimums as low as the ILS (Glideslope and Localizer @ 200' ceilings and ½ mile visibility) and are what most business aircraft prefer, are complete so we are back in business.

- The crew is ready for the remainder of winter. Let it snow!

Old Business

- None.

MATTER OF RESOLUTION 2025-RCC-1 | PRELIMINARY (DECLARATORY) RESOLUTION FOR THE CREATION OF AN ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AREA

Richard Ring made a motion to approve Resolution 2024-RCC-1 as described above for Arbor Wood. Robert Krafft seconded, and the motion passed (5,1) with Prosser voting against.

Amy Prosser feels it is frustrating that the State keeps making loopholes for certain businesses to have tax breaks but not all businesses.

MATTER OF TRANSFER FROM COUNTY GENERAL TO RAINY DAY FUND

Richard Ring made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-RCC-2, A Resolution Transferring Funds from the County General Fund to the Rainy-Day Fund in the amount of \$495,754.41 (for the years of 2016-2022). Rick Collins seconded and all approved.

Richard Ring shared that the more money that is put in the Rainy-Day fund is nice as the money in that fund can be used for grant matches. He also let the Council know that the CCMG grant may be changing to only being able to get funding if a County has already passed the Wheel Tax.

MATTER OF TRANSFER FROM COUNTY GENERAL TO RAINY DAY FUND

Richard Ring made a motion to approve Resolution 2025-RCC-3, A Resolution Transferring Funds from the County General Fund to the Rainy-Day Fund in the amount of \$383,901.72 (for the year of 2024). Robert Krafft seconded, and all approved.

MATTER OF COMMISSARY REPORT FOR JULY 1 TO DECEMBER 31, 2024

Richard Ring made a motion to acknowledge receipt of receiving the Commissary Report from the Sheriff. Amy Prosser seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF RECEIPT OF ANNUAL CORONERS REPORT

Amy Demske made a motion to acknowledge receipt of receiving the Annual Coroner's Report. Robert Krafft seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF 2025 BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Rick Collins made a motion to appoint Amy Prosser to the **N.E. Solid Waste Management District** for the term beginning January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025. Robert Krafft seconded and all approved.

President Yarde's Statement:

President Yarde addressed the prior meeting when Jessica Shull was allowed to address the council and made accusations regarding members of the RDC. As Council President, Yarde requested Bob Krafft and Rick Ring to conduct an investigate on the validity of Ms. Shull's statements. The investigation resulted in the following conclusions:

- 1) The RDC did not, at any time, do anything improper.
- 2) RDC President, John Good did not mislead, misrepresent, or withhold any information to any member of the commission.
- 3) The vote to retain SDI TIF increment was unanimous, noting the decision was supported by the non-voting member of the RDC that represents the Eastside School District.
- 4) There was no conflict of interest with any members of the RDC.
- 5) There was no hidden agenda to retain or use any TIF fund for the purpose of building a jail.
- 6) Statements made during the last meeting citing a conversation had with an RDC member have been refuted by that RDC member. The member was questioned and did not feel misled nor feel he did not have necessary information to make a proper decision.

"As the President of the council, I would like to publicly apologize to John Good, Pete Reinoehl, Chris Pranger, Shelley Smaltz, Doug Norrick, Leon Steury, Zach Lightner, and to Baker Tilly for the statements made at our last council meeting."

President Yarde is in support to re-appoint John Good and Peter Reinoehl to the DeKalb County Redevelopment Commission for 2025.

Amy Prosser noted that in emails directed to John Good from Baker Tilly stating that Eastside School district would lose money by retaining the SDI TIF dollars and that they understood that. Prosser wanted to be clear that Bob and Rick have just verified those to be accurate. Amy Prosser does not want to put John Good or Peter Reinoehl back into office and feels they decided at the last council meeting that it was agreed upon to spread the powers around the County.

Amy Prosser made a motion to appoint Doug DeMint and Will Flehman on the **DeKalb County Redevelopment Commission**. No second therefore, motion dies.

Richard Ring made a motion to re-appoint John Good and Peter Reinoehl to the **DeKalb County Redevelopment Commission** for the term beginning January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2025. Robert Krafft seconded; motion passed (5,1) with Prosser voting against.

Amy Demske does not know Mr. DeMint that Amy Prosser had appointed but does agree that it is a good idea to have representation around the County as those on RDC need to have knowledge of the TIF areas. Richard Ring also explained that when anyone is appointed to a board no matter where they reside, once appointed to a board they are representing the entire County. Amy Prosser feels if the board is that knowledgeable, they wouldn't have to hire a consultant to tell them what to do and feels it is completely wrong to not allow two people that are showing interest in wanting to serve.

Amy Prosser made a motion to appoint Kristian Hoff to the **Butler Library Board of Trustees** for the term beginning January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2027 (fulfilling Cathy Bowen's term). Amy Demske seconded and all approved.

Rick Collins made a motion to appoint Vivian Likes to the **Garrett Economic Development Board** for the term beginning January 1, 2025, to December 31, 2027 (fulfilling Milton Otero's term). seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF ORDINANCE 2025-OCC-1 | 2025 DeKalb County Salary and Hourly Wage Ordinance Amendment

Rick Collins made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-OCC-1 on FIRST Reading. Richard Ring seconded and all approved.

Amy Prosser made a motion to suspend the rules and pass the Ordinance 2025-OCC-1 by title only on 2nd and 3rd Readings. Rick Collins seconded and all approved.

Amy Demske made a motion to approve Ordinance 2025-OCC-1 on SECOND and THIRD Reading. Robert Krafft seconded and all approved.

MATTER OF COUNCIL DISCUSSION

ARPA Discussion: Auditor Sleeper provided a synopsis of all the different things DeKalb County used their ARPA distribution to fulfill. She explained that of the original projects that were planned, along with plan changes those projects that are yet to be completed will be funded from other funds, due to the claim adjustments that had been done to allow the Auditor to expend the full amount of ARPA dollars, thus completing the requirements and reporting as of 12/31/2024.

CCD Rate Re-establishment process discussion: Auditor Sleeper provided the Council with an email from May that she had sent to them regarding the Cumulative Capital Development Rate, reminding them that the MAX rate is \$0.0333 and for many years the rate would automatically decrease with trending, however the rate no longer automatically decreases. DeKalb County's rate is currently \$0.0307, which means we could re-establish the rate to \$0.0026.

In 2016, The Council re-established the rate from \$0.0191 up to the max of \$0.0333 AND required the increase of \$0.0142 revenue all to be allocated to bridges. If the Council decides to re-establish the rate back to the max, it could bring an extra \$95,000 into the CCD Fund at Settlement and 42% would still be allocated to bridges.

To make all of this happen, by May 31st (deadline) so that we can begin receiving the revenue beginning January 2026 there will need to be a public hearing, ordinance adoption and remonstrance period and then sent on to DLGF for approval. Richard Ring explained that the Council dedicated 42% to bridges because the Highway Fund was at its max and not able to get additional funding.

% Cash Balances for year-end: Auditor Sleeper also provided the cash balance percentages for certain funds, along with notes on if projects are planned to be paid from a certain fund to complete the remaining ARPA projects. (documentation attached) She also highlighted that in 2023 when planning the 2024 budgets the Council's target percentage for the GENERAL Fund was 34.30% and the ACTUAL 12/31/2024 ending percentage is 39%.

Commissioners: Bill Hartman asked what constituted the 15% surcharge on the utilities at DCCC? Richard Ring explained that it is due to not being annexed into the City. Bill wanted all to know that the County paid for the water and sewer line extension and then gave them to the City, and we were slapped with a \$40,000 connection fee and now a surcharge.

Andrew Provines: Clarifying when Amy Prosser made a motion and there was not a second, you could tell where the decision was going. The council had been asked to spread the power around the County. Andrew wanted it on record that Rick Collins, the eastside of the County representative did not even second Amy Prosser's motion.

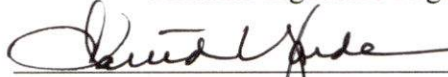
Veteran's Treatment Court Graduation: Rick Collins encouraged the Council to attend the event as it is a very encouraging event.

MATTER OF ADJOURNMENT

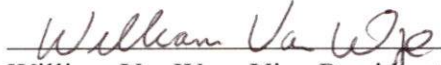
Rick Collins made a motion to adjourn at 10:16 a.m. Amy Prosser seconded and all approved.

DEKALB COUNTY COUNCIL: January 8th, 2025,


Minutes Signature Page



David Yarde, President



William Van Wye, Vice President




Richard Ring



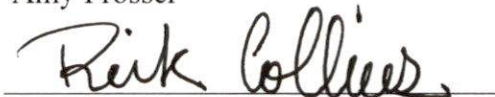
Robert E. Krafft

absent

Amy Demske




Amy Prosser



Rick Collins

ATTEST:



Susan Sleeper
DeKalb County Auditor