



DeKalb County Government

Manuel J. Maloof Center
1300 Commerce Drive
Decatur, Georgia 30030

Agenda Item

File ID: FileID

Walk-On Item

5/26/2020

Public Hearing: YES NO

Department: Board of Commissioners

SUBJECT:

Commission District(s): All Districts

To add an item to the agenda

Information Contact: Commissioner Larry Johnson

Phone Number: 404-371-2425

PURPOSE:

To add an item to the agenda.

NEED/IMPACT:

Commissioner Johnson seeks to add an item to the agenda.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No Fiscal Impact

RECOMMENDATION:

To approve the addition of an item to the agenda.



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SUBJECT:

Commission District(s): All Districts

A Committee Transparency Resolution

Information Contact: Commissioner Larry Johnson

Phone Number: 404-371-2425

PURPOSE:

To approve a resolution to Amend the Commission's Standing Procedural Rules to ensure that all Commissioners are given adequate notice of all specially called Committee Meetings

NEED/IMPACT:

The Commission's Standing Procedural Rules do not address the process and notice for the calling of specially called meetings of any Committee of the Commission. This amendment to the rules allows the chair of each committee or two members, exclusive of the chair to call specially called Committee meetings and identifies the adequate notice which must be given to all Commissioners of such specially called Committee meetings.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None

RECOMMENDATION:

To approve the attached Resolution, by a two-thirds vote of the members present and voting but no less than five votes upon two readings of the proposed amendment.

COMMITTEE TRANSPARENCY RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF DEKALB COUNTY, GEORGIA TO AMEND THE STANDING PROCEDURAL RULES TO REQUIRE COMMITTEE TRANSPARENCY BY GIVING ADEQUATE NOTICE TO ALL COMMISSIONERS OF ANY SPECIALLY CALLED MEETING OF ANY COMMITTEE CREATED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS. AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

WHEREAS, the board of commissioners of DeKalb County has the authority to enact and amend parliamentary rules to govern how the legislative branch transacts business;

WHEREAS, the board of commissioners have enacted Standing Procedural Rules which were originally adopted on 1990 and have been amended on several occasions with the most recent revision having been adopted in October of 2019;

WHEREAS, the Standing Procedural Rules do not provide for a particular type of notice of specially called meetings of committees of the board of commissioners (“BOC Committees”);

WHEREAS, state law, specifically the Open Meetings Act requires at least twenty-four (24) hours advance notice, in a specific manner, of all specially called BOC Committee meetings;

WHEREAS, the board of commissioners finds that it is important that action by committees be transparent and open by ensuring that all commissioners are given adequate notice of all specially called BOC Committee meetings and it is equally imperative that all Committee members be given adequate notice of such specially called BOC Committee meetings;

WHEREAS, the Organizational Act of DeKalb County, 1981 Ga. Laws, p. 4304, as amended and codified as Section 12 of the Organizational Act, authorizes the Presiding Officer, the Chief Executive Officer and any four Commissioners to call a specially called meeting of the BOC, but at least three days advance notice of such meeting must be given to all Commissioners;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the board of commissioners of DeKalb County, Georgia to amend its Standing Procedural Rules as follows:

1. Article VI, entitled “Committees” is amended to add the following new subsection 11 to read as follows:

11. Notice of Specially Called Committee Meetings. The Chair of each Committee or two members of that Committee, exclusive of the Chair, shall be authorized to call a specially called meeting of that Committee. All Commissioners shall be given three days advance notice of the specially called meeting. Advance notice shall be by email to the commissioner’s county email address and by telephone to a telephone number designated by each commissioner to the clerk. The email notice shall include a copy of the agenda and shall identify any participants/presenters, or group of participants who have asked to present information or been invited to participate

or attend the meeting. In an emergency, less than three (3) days notice of such specially called Committee meeting may be given, but in no event shall such specially called Committee meeting be held without at least twenty four (24) hours advance notice in the manner required by this section and state law, and in such case, the agenda must specifically identify the facts or nature of the emergency which prevented the giving of three days advance notice to all Commissioners.

ADOPTED by the DeKalb County Board of Commissioners, this ____ day of _____, 2020.

STEPHEN R. BRADSHAW
Presiding Officer
Board of Commissioners
DeKalb County, Georgia

APPROVED by the Chief Executive Officer of DeKalb County, this ____ day of _____, 2020.

MICHAEL L. THURMOND
Chief Executive Officer
DeKalb County, Georgia

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

BARBARA SANDERS-NORWOOD, CCC
Clerk to the Chief Executive Officer
and Board of Commissioners

VIVIANE H. ERNSTES
County Attorney