



Fulton County District 5 News

Emma I. Darnell, J.D., Commissioner

June 18, 2010



Commissioner's Corner

What Happened on the Gulf of Mexico?



What happened on the Gulf of Mexico when BP was deep digging for oil and eleven people died? In his testimony before the Congressional Committee, Tony Hayward, CEO said, "We don't know. I cannot respond to your questions until after our investigation is complete."

I have not been asked to respond to the questions by Committee members (or anybody else). However, unlike Tony Hayward, I DO know what happened on that tragic day. I know what happened that created the worst environmental disaster in the nation's history.

It happens somewhere in government at every level each day. A "surplus" is not confirmed, financial "statements" are not read, drop-out rates are ignored, mentally-ill people are taken to overcrowded jails, released and picked up again the next day. Banks are created by and for a single developer, sewage and storm water combined overrun rivers and streams after heavy rains, whole houses disappear into sink holes, a 92-year old woman is killed trying to protect herself from people who have taken an oath to protect her.

Maybe all the "big spills" are not in the Gulf- some of them may be (uncomfortably) closer to home.

BOARD ACTIONS

On Wednesday, June 16, 2010 at the Recess Meeting of Board of Commissioners took following actions were completed:

Grants to Non-Profit Agencies To Support Programs for Children and Youth

The Board of Commissioners (BOC) approved F.R.E.S.H. Grants in the amount of \$1,850,000 and F.R.E.S.H. Enhancement Grants in the amount of \$709,815 to support programs providing direct services to children and their families 0-21 years from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 as amended.



Voting YES: Eaves, Edwards, Pitts, Lowe, Darnell, Boxill

Voting NO: Riley

[Click here for the "F.R.E.S.H. \(Children and Youth\) Grants to Non-Profit Agencies in District 5"](#)

Grants to Non-Profit Partners to Support Human Services Programs



The BOC approved Human Services Grants in the amount of \$4,683,169 and Human Services Enhancement Grants in the amount of \$750,000 to provide direct services in the area of Senior Home Repair and Senior Transportation.

Voting YES: Eaves, Edwards Darnell, Boxill, Lowe, Pitts

Voting NO: Riley

Discussed the Grady Hospital Corporation Independent Audit Financial Statements, May 2008 – December 31, 2010.

[Click here for the "Grady Hospital Corporation Independent Audit, May 2008 – December 31, 2009 Report" to Fulton County/Dekalb Hospital \(Grady Hospital\) Board of Directors](#)

Commissioner Darnell requested a full review of the item after the Audit has been reviewed by the Grady Hospital Board of Directors (The Fulton/Dekalb Hospital Authority). Major questions related to the Hospital include: (1) restricted vs. unrestricted revenues (2) "current assets" representing ICTF funds in the amount of \$37 million dollars due (from the State of Georgia) but not received on May 30, 2010 and (3) Quarterly Report, "Quality of Care and Customer Satisfaction", Grady Hospital.

[Click here for the "Grady Hospital Quality of Care and Customer Satisfaction Survey Quarterly Reports", Fulton County Director of Health Services, Dr. Patrice Harris](#)

[Click here for the "GHS Fulton-Dekalb Hospital Authority Board"](#)

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Neighborhood Senior Center and Support Services Third (and Final) Renewal Option Approved

Approved funding to support Fulton Senior Neighborhood Centers and related services including: Fulton County Senior Collaborative (Central Fulton Neighborhood Senior Centers including Dogwood, New Horizons, and Northside Shepherd Senior Centers (\$1,848,430.83); Senior Citizen Services; \$116,025 Senior Services North Fulton (Roswell, GA.) \$919,639.33 and South Fulton Senior Services (College Park, GA.) \$1,142,710.74.

Voting YES: Edwards, Pitts, Riley, Lowe, Darnell, Boxill

NO VOTE: Eaves

Board of Commissioners OPPOSES Attempt by City of Sandy Springs to be Exempted from Pre-Clearance requirements of Voting Rights of 1965

The Board of Commissioners has gone on record in opposition to an attempt by the City of Sandy Springs to be exempted from federal laws prohibiting discrimination in voting practices including certain provisions that apply only to states (like the State of Georgia) with a history of discriminatory voting practices.

Created in 2005 by a referendum which excluded residents of a predominately minority area, the City of Sandy Springs claims it should be exempted because it is “less than 10 years old.” A copy of the Resolution has been forwarded to the Mayor and City Council of Sandy Springs and to the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice.

Voting YES: Boxill, Eaves, Edwards, Darnell

Voting NO: Lowe, Riley

NO VOTE: Pitts

[Click here for the “Resolution Opposing the City of Sandy Springs Request to be Exempted from Voting Rights Act of 1965”](#)

Other Matters of Special Interest to District 5 Residents

(New) Adamsville Community Health Center Land Purchased

A four-acre tract of land near the Adamsville Health Center, 3712 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive will be purchased for the location of the (New) Adamsville Community Health Center. In June, 2009 a feasibility study conducted by the Department of Health and Human Services disclosed significant disparities between the health status of Adamsville residents and the health status of Fulton County residents as a whole. The Adamsville Project is based upon a philosophy of public health, called “Common Ground” which seeks to reduce health disparities by the delivery of quality primary care, behavioral (mental) health care, workforce development, library services, and health education services at a single location.

Other “one-stop” Common Ground projects scheduled or in progress include the Neighborhood Union Community Health Center, District, 5 & 6 and the (New) North Fulton Community Health Center, Districts 3 & 4.

[Click here for the “Adamsville Regional Health Center, Health Statistics”; Proposed Services; and Proposed Site Data](#)

Final Vote on MARTA Cuts June 28

A final vote on deep cuts in bus and rail services to residents of Fulton County including transit dependent riders will be held at MARTA Headquarters, Monday June 28, 2010, 2424 Piedmont Rd. NE. “If not us, who, if not now, when?”

[Click here to view the MARTA FY2011 “Reduced Service Plan”](#) and here for the [“Marta Board of Directors”](#)