

THE FULTON COUNTY QUORUM COURT MET IN SPECIAL SESSION ON JULY 31 ,2023 AT 6:30 P.M. AT THE FULTON COUNTY COURTHOUSE ANNEX. THE MEETING OPENED WITH PLEDGE AND PRAYER.

ROLL CALL BY CLERK BISHOP WITH ALL 9 JUSTICES PRESENT

JUDGE CROW STATED THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS TO UNDERSTAND WHAT IS BEING PROPOSED WHICH IS A MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN FULTON COUNTY HOSPITAL AND BAXTER REGIONAL AND TO PASS A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THAT.

SENATOR SCOTT FLIPPO ADDRESSED THE COURT STATING THE GOVERNOR IS THE ONLY ONE TO SUBMIT A LETTER REQUESTING EXPENDITURES OF THESE FEDERAL ARPA FUNDS. SENATOR HEARD FROM THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE AUTHORIZING HIM TO GO TO THE FULTON COUNTY HOSPITAL MEETING TO MAKE IT KNOWN THAT THE GOVERNOR WOULD NOT BE SUBMITTING A LETTER REQUESTING FUNDS SHOULD FULTON COUNTY HOSPITAL NOT BE SUPPORTIVE OF A MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT. THE GOVERNOR'S ADMINISTRATION HAS BEEN VERY ADAMANT ABOUT LONG-TERM VIABILITY SUSTAINABILITY. THIS IS NOT TO JUST KEEP THE DOORS OPEN BUT TO EXCEL.

FULTON COUNTY HOSPITAL BOARD MEMBER DR. CHRIS COCHRAN SPOKE IN SUPPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT FROM BAXTER REGIONAL.

FULTON COUNTY HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATOR CURREN EVERETT ECHOED THE PREVIOUS SPEAKERS. HE STATED THIS IS SOMETHING THAT IS NEEDED, AND THE HOSPITAL IS IN NEED OF THIS MONEY.

CEO OF BAXTER HEALTH RON PETERSON ADDRESSED THE COURT STATING THE HEALTH CARE AND TYPES OF SERVICES SHOULD BE PROVIDED AS CLOSE TO HOME AS POSSIBLE. JUSTICE ROORK ASKED IF WE WOULD BE CONTINUING THE AMBULANCE SERVICE WE HAVE HERE NOW. MR. PETERSON STATED THEY WOULD BE LOOKING INTO THAT BUT HE THOUGHT YES.

JUDGE CROW STATED HE BELIEVED DEMAND FOR HEALTH CARE IN FULTON COUNTY IS GOING TO INCREASE. JUDGE REQUESTING A RESOLUTION TO BE PASSED IN SUPPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT. NEXT, WILL BE THE MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT IN WHICH THE FULTON COUNTY HOSPITAL BOARD WILL APPROVE, AND THEN BRING IT TO THE QUORUM COURT FOR RATIFICATION. JUSTICE ROORK ASKED IF IT WAS THE HOSPITAL BOARD OPINION THAT WE NEED TO MERGE.

FULTON COUNTY HOSPITAL BOARD SECRETARY TRENA SPEARS CONFIRMED THE BOARD HAD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO GO AHEAD WITH THIS MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT. SHE SAID THERE WAS NO SUSTAINABILITY OF THE FULTON COUNTY HOSPITAL WITHOUT BAXTER'S HELP.

CLERK BISHOP READ THE RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF FULTON COUNTY HOSPITAL EXPLORING A STRATEGIC PLAN MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT WITH BAXTER REGIONAL HEALTH SYSTEM AND PROCEEDING WITH A JOINT APPLICATION FOR ARPA FUNDS. A MOTION WAS MADE BY ROBERT ELLIOTT AND SECONDED BY ALBERT ROORK TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION 2023-07.

JULY 31, 2023

PAGE 2

JUSTICE PHILLIPS SPOKE TO THE JUSTICES AND SAID ULTIMATLEY IT COMES DOWN TO THE QUORUM COURT. HE SAID THE STATE LAW SAYS THE HOSPITAL BOARD INITIATES IT, BUT THE QUORUM COURT MUST APPROVE IT. IT'S A COUNTY HOSPITAL AND WE ARE THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT, AND WE ARE RESPONSIBLE TO THE VOTERS. COUNTY ATTORNEY PLUMLEE HAD CONCERNS WITH THE TIME FRAME. THAT ISSUE WAS ADDRESSED BY MR. PETERSON, AND AFTER DISCUSSION THE MOTION PASSED BY ROLL CALL VOTE 9 YEAS. (RESOLUTION 2023-07)

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CARRIE ANDREWS AND SECONDED BY ROBERT ELLIOTT TO ADJOURN AT 7:20 P.M. THE MOTION PASSED BY VOICE VOTE 9 YEAS.

ATTEST:

Vickie Bishop

VICKIE BISHOP, CLERK