DeKalb County GEORGIA | Board of Ethics of DeKalb County

Draft
DeKalb County Board of Ethics
Regular Meeting

Thursday, August 20, 2026
6:00 p.m.
178 Sams Street

Minutes

Board Members Present:
Robert Dallas, Board Chair
Scott Mathews, Secretary
George Ference
Thomas Clements
Micah Dial
Lauren Florence

Alternate Board Members Present:
Cathea Simelton-Treminio

Board Staff Present:
Elisa Murphy, Ethics Officer
Kristin Rodgers, Ethics Administrator
Hakim Hilliard, General Counsel

County Technology Personnel Present:
DeKalb IT/DCTV

Agenda

I. Call to Order

Ethics Board Chair Robert Dallas conducted the meeting and called the Board of Ethics (Board) public meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

II. Adoption of Agenda

Motion: Board Member Ference moved to adopt the agenda of the Regular Board of Ethics Meeting of July 16, 2026. Board Member Mathews seconded the motion. Board Member Florence was absent from the vote. Vice Chair Wright was absent from the meeting. The motion passed by a 5-0 vote.

III. Administrative Items

A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regularly Scheduled Board Meeting of July 16, 2026

Motion: Board Member Mathews moved to approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of July 17, 2026. Board Member Dial seconded the motion. Board Vice Chair Wright was absent from the meeting. Board Member Florence was absent from the vote. Board Chair Dallas abstained from the vote. The motion passed by a 4-1-0 vote.

B. *Report of Committees*

Board Member Clements announced that Board Member Florence will be joining the Personnel committee.

C. *Ethics Officer's Monthly Report*

Ethics Officer Murphy provided a monthly report of the Ethics Office.

IV. Preliminary Cases

A. *Tywon Bailey v. Nicole Sullivan, Case No. 2026-13*

Ethics Officer Murphy presented the case, made a recommendation to dismiss, and provided the rationale for the recommendation of dismissal.

Motion: Board Member Ference moved to accept the recommendation of the Ethics Officer to dismiss this case. Board Member Mathews seconded the motion. Board Vice Chair Wright was absent from the meeting. The motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

B. *Ariel Weaver v. Gregory Surrent, Case No. 2026-14*

Ethics Officer Murphy presented the case, made a recommendation to dismiss, and provided the rationale for the recommendation of dismissal.

Motion: Board Member Mathews moved to accept the recommendation of the Ethics Officer to dismiss this case. Board Member Dial seconded the motion. Board Vice Chair Wright was absent from the meeting. The motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

C. *Anonymous v. Anthony Grant, Case No. 2026-15*

Ethics Officer Murphy presented the case, made a recommendation to dismiss, and provided the rationale for the recommendation of dismissal.

Motion: Board member Clements moved to accept the recommendation of the Ethics Officer to dismiss this case. Board Member Florence seconded the motion. Board Vice chair Wright was absent from the meeting. The motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

D. *Adam Kaufman v. DeKalb County School Board, Case No. 2026-16*

Ethics Officer Murphy presented the case, made a recommendation to dismiss, and provided the rationale for the recommendation of dismissal.

Motion: Board Member Clements moved to accept the recommendation of the Ethics Officer to dismiss this case. Board Member Matews seconded the motion. Board Vice chair

Wright was absent from the meeting. The motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

V. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

VI. Comments from the Board of Ethics

Board Chair Dallas, Board Members Mathews, Florence and Simelton-Treminio provided comments.

VII. Executive Session to Discuss Pending Litigation and Personnel Issues

A. Motion to Convene an Executive Session

Motion: Board Member Clements moved to convene an Executive Session. Board Member Mathews seconded the motion. Board Vice Chair Wright was absent from the meeting. The motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

B. Motion to Adjourn an Executive Session

Motion: Board Member Clements moved to adjourn the Executive Session. Board Member Dial seconded the motion. Board Vice Chair Wright was absent from the meeting. The motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

C. Motion to Approve the Executive Session Affidavit

Motion: Board Member Dial moved to approve the Executive Session Affidavit. Board Member Clements seconded the motion. Board Vice Chair Wright was absent from the meeting. The motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

VIII. Announcement: Next Regular Board Meeting Date is September 17, 2026

IX. Adjournment

Motion: Board Member Clements moved to adjourn the August 20, 2026, Board of Ethics Regular Meeting at 7:20 p.m. Board Member Florence seconded the motion. Vice Chair Wright was absent from the meeting. The motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

Approved:

_______________________________ _______________________

Chair Date