

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FEBRUARY 20, 1998, IN THE COMMISSION MEETING ROOM ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY COURTHOUSE, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, 124 BULL STREET, SAVANNAH, GEORGIA.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Billy Hair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., Friday, February 20, 1998.

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II. INVOCATION

The Reverend John Savage gave the invocation.

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III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

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IV. ROLL CALL

The Clerk called the roll.

PRESENT:	Dr. Billy B. Hair, Chairman Dr. Priscilla D. Thomas, Vice Chairman, District Eight Frank G. Murray, Chairman Pro Tem, District Four David L. Saussy, District One Joe Murray Rivers, District Two Martin S. Jackel, District Three Harris Odell, Jr., District Five Ben Price, District Six Eddie W. DeLoach, District Seven
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IN ATTENDANCE:	Russ Abolt, County Manager Emily E. Garrard, Assistant County Attorney Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk
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V. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

1. REQUEST BY MEMBERS OF ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE COMMITTEE THAT BOARD WAIVE FEE FOR USE OF BANDSHELL ON ST. PATRICK'S DAY.

Chairman Hair said, first thing is under the Chairman's Items, I would ask unanimous consent to place a waiver for the fee for the bandshell for St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee on the agenda. Anybody object to that? [NOTE: No objection was given.]

Commissioner Jackel said, I would like to make that motion. Chairman Hair said, okay, make a motion please. Commissioner Jackel said, as a proud member of the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, I move that we waive the fee for their use of the bandshell on St. Patrick's Day. Chairman Hair asked, do I hear a second? Commissioner Price and Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. All those —.

Commissioner Price said, Mr. Chairman, I think Martin [Jackel] has a conflict of interest. [Laughter.] Commissioner Price said, I also think we ought to make him beg for it. They have to go before City Council and beg for the permit, we ought to

make him come up here and —. Commissioner Jackel said, please. Commissioner Price said, all right, all right. Chairman Hair asked, is that sufficient begging? They will also appear before us formally, but we would like to waive the fee for that use of the bandshell. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said the motion passes, thank you very much for allowing me to put that on.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Jackel moved to approve the request for waiver of fee for the use of the bandshell by the St. Patrick's Day Committee on St. Patrick's Day. Commissioners Price and Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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2. FUNDING FOR COMMISSIONING OF USS MCFAUL.

Chairman Hair said, the second thing is under my section and I sent you some background information on this a couple of days ago. We've had a request from the Navy League. We have the opportunity in April to commission a Navy ship, the USS McFaul in Savannah, and it's very significant that Commander Jackson, who's going to command this ship, is a graduate of Savannah State University and actually went through their ROTC program, and the way the Navy operates is they allow the captain of the ship to pick the city where his ship is commissioned, and Commander Jackson chose Savannah. He could have picked any city that he wanted to pick to put his ship in, and I had the privilege of meeting him last September. We had lunch with him one day, and he's a —, I was very, very impressed. He's a native of Macon, Georgia, and the city has already put up about \$4,000 to support this commissioning, and what I'm asking us to do today is to put up \$5,000, and I've talked to Russ [Abolt] about the source of funding and he's suggested the SSD Contingency for this request. Therefore, I would ask my fellow Commissioners to support this effort, and if there are any questions I would be glad to try to address the questions.

Commissioner Murray said, I don't really have any questions. I cannot support this. Not that I don't support the commissioning of the ship, but I don't support taking it out of SSD Contingency. We don't have much money in either Contingency right now. We can't buy vehicles and other things for our staff for the things we need to be doing and I don't see how we can take these extra steps to fund these other agencies or other groups when they come in, regardless of whether it's special funding or not to fund this and I just cannot support it.

Chairman Hair said, okay. Does anybody else have any comments? Commissioner Price.

Commissioner Price asked, Russ [Abolt], why SSD? Mr. Abolt said, because M&O is about tapped out and in SSD it can be justified from the Contingency. Commissioner Price asked, we can't find \$5,000 in M&O? Mr. Abolt said, M&O today, sir, with your actions, we'll be down to \$8,000. SSD, the only justification I can give you that I gave the Chairman, which is not meant to be flip, is that because the City of Savannah has contributed to this, you can make, I think, a tangible case of saying that the city taxpayers within the corporate limits of Savannah should not be paying for it twice, but it's your choice.

Commissioner Saussy said, coming from SSD don't we have a problem with grants-in-aid money coming from SSD right now? Mr. Abolt said, no sir, the grant-in-aid problem will be in M&O. We level out the recommendations that will be before you in a few minutes. What we try to do is say, well, where is the benefit derived, and in doing that assessment, which is not exact, we have established a need to transfer out of M&O, I think it was \$31,000, to SSD. The note, the budget note is to accomplish the financing of all those contracts, some of that money would have to wait to be shifted until we have fund balance in April.

Chairman Hair said, just so the Commissioners will know, about a month ago I asked Russ [Abolt] to give us some options for funding for this and he gave several options. One of the options he gave was to modify the grants-in-aid request to put it out of there, and I just —, and the other option was to get the CVB and, —, yes.

Commissioner Price said, I think the reservations we have goes back to trying to balance SSD and the fact that we were looking at the Police Department and EMS, we're still looking at EMS, and GIS got thrown out. You guys know I'm still hurting, ouching from that, but here we go in a direction —, even though it's only \$5,000 and even though it's a very worthy cause, I'd like to find a way to do it, but not out of SSD. Chairman Hair said, well, I asked the County Manager and he gave me the three options. That was the three options that he gave us, so if you would like to seek —, I mean, I'd be more than happy to entertain other options. I just think this is —, you know, I'd like to see us fund this, and I think it's important to the community, but if the source of funding is a problem, I have no objections to other —.

Commissioner Saussy asked, what were the other options? Chairman Hair said, one was to modify the final grants-in-aid committee to include the \$5,000 allocation, one was to —, in the Contingency account, which I'm recommending, and the other was because of the tourist benefit ask the CVB to incur the cost. They're already contributing to this program in addition to the city, so that would be asking them to —. Commissioner Price asked, how much is the CVB —? Chairman Hair said, I don't have that in front of me. I don't know what that number was. I think it was like \$1,700. I'm not sure, don't hold me to that, but that's roughly —.

Commissioner DeLoach said, I make a motion we approve this some way or another. Commissioner Thomas said, I second it. Chairman Hair said, okay, we have a motion and a second on the floor.

Commissioner Rivers said, if you've got a motion on the floor, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to say something. Very frankly, you know, this is a noble project, but we're in dire straits dollar-wise. We are strapped and to continually give away money, whether it's \$5,000, whether it's \$2,000, it puts more of a burden and more of a pressure on monies that we don't have. If we had something to happen today or tomorrow —, we've got Carnegie Library over there, the roof is falling in. Nobody's said one thing

about some emergency money from our budget to take care of that. We've got the courthouse with all kind of things happening over at the main courthouse, we've got a whole lot of things that may fall in today or tomorrow that we're going to need money for and we just can't afford to give it away. I mean, we've got to look to those things that we have an obligation and a liability for.

Mr. Earls said, hello, my name is Ken Earls. I'm just curious. What expenses are there that will cost, what, approximately \$10,700? Chairman Hair said, the direct expenses they list as naval affairs, port of visiting naval vessels, they have paint supplies, they have actual construction of the commissioning facility, stages and those kinds of things they have —.

Commissioner Price asked, why can't they use the bandshell? Chairman Hair said, well, they probably take care of that one thing. Commissioner Price said, what I would do instead of watching this go down in defeat, Billy [Hair], which I think it might, I would recommend that we take one other —, one more look at this with use of maybe some County-owned facilities —, I mean, property like the portable bandshell and others and then, you know, maybe we can take a look at a lower —, now I'm not —, I want to see it happen, I want to see us help, but I don't feel comfortable taking it out of SSD. Chairman Hair said, well, the motion on the floor from Commissioner DeLoach is that we fund it and it did not list a source, and we have a second, so it's not a motion to take it out of Contingency.

Commissioner Murray said, you know, you heard Russ [Abolt] say just a minute ago about the M&O Contingency, we're down to \$8,000. This is just February and we've got 10 more months to go this year, and I don't see how we'll get by on \$8,000 Contingency. The SSD is down very low and will be after today's meeting if we don't add something else to it, and you heard Commissioner Rivers talking about some concerns, and I also do not care what the dollar figure is, and I know it's a worthy cause, but we cannot continue to fund all these things when they come up like this. I will not support it, I don't think we should be supporting it right now when we can't give what we need to take care of the citizens of this community, how in the world can we justify spending more money on other things coming into the community.

Commissioner Price asked, Mr. Chairman, may I make a comment? Chairman Hair said, sure, Commissioner Price. Commissioner Price said, we take pride in what our in-house staff is able to do when it comes to renovations, construction and that type activity. Russ [Abolt], are you listening? Mr. Abolt said, yes sir. Commissioner Price said, what I'm saying is, what's the feasibility of using in-house staff to do some of this work instead of having to throw money out at it? Mr. Abolt said, I don't know what the work is, sir, but we'd be glad to talk about in-kind contribution. Commissioner Price said, my whole point here, Billy [Hair], is instead of this thing going down in flames and maybe costing us the event itself happening here in Savannah, I would prefer if we could ask staff to take another look at this and see what we have on hand, both asset wise as well as personnel wise, to be able to do something like this.

Chairman Hair said, okay, we'll deal with motion on the floor and —. Commissioner Rivers said, Mr. Chairman, I'm about to enter a substitute motion, if I can. Chairman Hair said, certainly. Commissioner Rivers said, to accomplish what Ben [Price] is saying, to send it back to staff and allow staff to look at the cost of what that money would be expended for and see how much we could do with that from in-house and if our bandshell could be used, then we go that route rather than expend the dollars. Chairman Hair said, well, we need to deal with the —, that is a substitute motion, then —. Commissioner Price asked, when's the event? Chairman Hair said, it's in April. We do need to deal with the earlier motion. Let's deal with the earlier motion. Commissioner Rivers said, well if the first comes back, I'll amend his motion to include that in the direction. All he wants to do is see it funded, then I'll amend his motion —. Chairman Hair said, that would be to amend his motion, not a substitute motion. Commissioner Rivers said, I'll amend his motion. Commissioner Price said, fund it in kind without actually having to fund it out of pocket. Commissioner Rivers said, right. Chairman Hair said, well, some of you probably could. I don't think you can probably fund the entire —.

Commissioner Jackel said, Mr. Chairman, I'm somewhat reluctant to vote for this. I would be very interested in knowing what kind of funds we expect this event to generate. That might swing the balance here. They talk about 6,000 people coming to town. It might generate way more money than we're thinking about spending, and that might be —, influence some people's vote. Commissioner Rivers said, I think you —, even at that as a generator, the impact on this budget, and I'm not worrying about the \$8,000 in Contingency because I know we're going to go out and borrow some money and then we're going to go on a spending spree and we're going to be in trouble again. But, nevertheless, I don't think that we need to expend it based on anything —.

Chairman Hair said, now that the motion —, you explained what you would like to amend —. Commissioner Rivers said, I would like to amend the motion to include staff looking at the possibility of utilization of the bandshell and doing some in-kind work from among our staff to have this achieved if we can do it that. I'll offer that amendment that we utilize staff, staff to go back and look at the cost allocation and what it's going to take to —, what that money is going to be expended for, whatever that money is going to be expended for I want staff to look at it and see if we can do some in-kind work instead of cash contribution.

Commissioner DeLoach said, I think that's an excellent idea, I don't have a problem with it. What I would say on that, I would like for —, I think it's a worthy cause and one we should do, and if we have to take it out of the Commissioners' budget to do it, I think we ought to look in our travel expenses, instead of going down the road somewhere, we need to take the money out of our traveling expenses and put it toward something that recognizes the community and don't go down the road so much. So I would recommend that we look at that with the possibility of pulling it out of the Commissioners' travel fund and moving that way. Commissioner Rivers said, well, I offered an amendment now. You can refuse to amend it, but I'll still come back with a motion?

Chairman Hair asked, will you accept the amendment? Commissioner Rivers said, and I'll put it in there, word it that he can look to the Commissioners' travel for that, but also look towards that in-kind contribution that we could make. If we don't have to expend \$4,000 or \$5,000, then whatever that balance is we'll take it out of the Commissioners'. Commissioner DeLoach said, that's fine with me. Chairman Hair asked, Dr. Thomas, will you accept that as the second? Commissioner Thomas said, yes. Chairman Hair said, okay. Any further —.

Commissioner Jackel said, point of order. Chairman Hair said, yes. Commissioner Jackel said, it's my understanding that we don't approve anything unless the funds were specified. I thought that was part of the ground rules and that's why we get where the funds are coming from. Chairman Hair said, the motion is though that we send it back to staff for source of funds. It's not —, it's not to do that, okay. Commissioner Rivers said, it's going to come back to us anyway. Commissioner Price said, you get Gen. Lynch involved and anything can happen.

Commissioner Murray said, you know, we've got later on in our agenda not too far off the grants-in-aid coming up. We've got a lot of deserving agencies that will not be getting the funding they would liked to have had to do things in this community. We've got the Sailing Center, which probably will not have the funds that they need for this community that works with youth and young people throughout the community, and yet we can take money when we get a special group coming up and find funds somewhere to give them, yet we can't take good care of our own people right here in Chatham County, and I see a problem with it. I just do not believe that we need to do this. Again, this is February. This is a group coming up in February and we could have groups like this coming up every meeting from here on out the rest of the year. What are we going to do, tell those we can't find the funds any more, but yet we can find it for this group. I just think we're making a mistake. Regardless how worthy a cause this might be, I think it's a big mistake to expend the funds to do it. I know Commissioner Thomas needs more funds for the group, the thing she puts on every Summer for the youth in this community, yet we can find \$5,000 to kick in to some other group. I think we're making a big mistake.

Commissioner DeLoach said, I have a choice of whether I go out of town or I stay in town, and I've got a budget set aside for that. I'm willing to do away with that opportunity to go to Washington. I don't know if anybody else is or wherever the folks are headed to, that's fine, but the point is I'm not taking monies from —, that was allocated, I'm taking it out of my budget line item and I'm asked it to go to that particular deal there. That's all I'm saying, and, you know, if you don't want to do it, fine, but the fact of it is I'm not pulling it out of contingency or anywhere else. I'm actually taking it out of our funds that —. Commissioner Murray said, that's are still funds that could be spent somewhere else.

Commissioner Odell said, I call for the question. Chairman Hair said, we've got a call for the question. All right, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Jackel, Murray, Odell, Price, DeLoach and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Saussy and Murray voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of seven to two. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes, thank you. Commissioner Rivers said, that was the amendment, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Hair said, no, it was amended. He amended the motion, so that was —, he accepted it as amended.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve a request for a contribution of \$5,000 for the commissioning of the USS McFaul scheduled to occur in Savannah in April of 1998, that staff review the source of those funds and give consideration to the use of in-kind services or taking it from funds budgeted for Commissioners' travel, and that it then be brought back to the Commissioners. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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VI. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS

1. PROCLAMATION REGARDING MENTAL RETARDATION PROJECT (COMMISSIONER ODELL).

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

This item was removed from the agenda.

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2. REQUEST FROM MAYOR ADAMS FOR COUNTY STAFF TO MANAGE CONSTRUCTION OF TATEVILLE CENTER (COMMISSIONER ODELL).

Commissioner Odell said, approximately four or five months ago we received funding from this Commission to do a joint venture with the City of Savannah basically to construct a family resource center. We have considered all of the options and we can have our staff, and I've spoken to our Mayor, Mr. Adams. I think that, and the reason that this is on the agenda is, it is my preference, and I think it's Floyd's [Adams] preference, that the County staff, because we have extensive experience in the construction of neighborhood centers, that we construct the center. That's why it's on the agenda, and I'll answer any questions anyone has.

Chairman Hair said, basically as I understand it, Commissioner Odell, it's just that we would manage the project. It would not be any increase in funding —. Commissioner Odell said, right. Chairman Hair said, or anything on the County side. It's just that we would manage the project. Commissioner Odell said, absolutely. We would manage the project.

Commissioner Rivers said, I move for approval. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, we have a motion and a second. Any discussion?

Commissioner DeLoach said, I just want to ask the staff if they've got time to do it? Mr. Abolt said, yes sir. Chairman Hair said, yes. Russ [Abolt] has already talked about it. Mr. Abolt said, we feel we're darn good at it and we can do a good job for the citizens out in that area. Commissioner Odell said, I ran it past them before I put it on here.

Commissioner Price said, I favor the motion, but I have to ask the question. They did the Windsor Community Center, I mean that's the first real community center that was done jointly with the Board of Education. If this is an effort for the City to do something jointly with the County, I'm thrilled about that, but if it's just a cost item that they're not having to pay and we have to pay, I mean, is there any real dollar figures on this, Harris [Odell]? Is there anything —? Commissioner Odell said, this is not a funding request as the funding has already been approved. The sum total of this request is rather than to have the City of Savannah be given the \$500,000, we would keep the \$500,000 on our side and we would let the bids, construct the project, and the City of Savannah would in fact manage the project after it's constructed. Commissioner Price said, okay. Commissioner Odell said, and just so that everyone is abundantly clear, we had a borrow pit that was dug in Tatemville that when some of the highways were then constructed in the immediate area, and not only is that a public nuisance in that it's hazardous to the children who live in and about that area, approximately five years ago the City of Savannah made a decision that they would start setting aside money so that there could be a park. The City of Savannah has completed the first phase, and the first phase is the laying of the track, the path. The second phase would be construction of the family resource center, and that's the phase we would be doing, and we'll consider some other things down the way, but we've already approved the funding so you're not approving money today, we're just approving that our staff —, we've done it before, we can do it again, and we have time to do it. Right, Russ [Abolt]? Mr. Abolt said, always, sir.

Commissioner Rivers said, I call the question, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Hair said, all right, I have a call for the question.

Commissioner Saussy said, let me ask one question if you don't mind. Assuming that we do pass this, if there are any savings, we would keep the savings, right? Commissioner Odell said, as always. Commissioner Saussy said, that's all I needed —. Chairman Hair said, the funds won't leave our budget. Commissioner Odell said, if there are any savings, and I couch that in terms of if —. Commissioner Saussy said, I mean, it wouldn't go to the City. Commissioner Odell said, oh, God, no. Commissioner Rivers said, we're managing the project.

Chairman Hair said, all right, we had a call for the question. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Saussy, Rivers, Jackel, Odell, Price, DeLoach and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Murray voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of eight to one. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

Commissioner Odell said, Mr. Chairman, we have an active neighborhood association in Tatemville, and I think we have the president of the Tatemville Neighborhood Association, and I would literally ask —, and a lot of people have been working on this program for many years, I'd ask those who are here from Tatemville if they would stand, and to allow as spokesman to have just one or two words now that we've now passed it. Chairman Hair said, certainly. Commissioner Odell said, this is Mr. Scott.

Mr. Scott said, hello. The president isn't present, but in his stead I want to thank the Board for being so considerate. I've lived in Tatemville for 68 years and I happen to know that we have been bypassed for a long time. It's a good area out there, it's a nice area, and now we're being recognized, and I want Mr. Odell to know that we appreciate what he's doing and a special thanks to the Board, and we just thank you. Chairman Hair said, thank you very much and thank you for coming.

Commissioner Odell said, and the president of the association did come in. Commissioner Price asked, he did? Commissioner Odell said, yes, and if we could allow just one more.

Ms. Erma Jean Mobley said, I'm a product of the Tatemville community, have worked with Russ Abolt for years, and I also would like to express my gratitude to the City and the County, but the County today, for the great work that you are doing in our neighborhood, and especially Commissioner Odell, who has given us this project, which is the fulfillment of the dream that Tatemville has for having a family resource center in our neighborhood. I've been working very diligently with the board under the Family Advocacy, and this is a dream in reality for me. I have worked very hard on the family resource center on Anderson Street, and I'm just happy that I can now be proud of one in Tatemville. Thank you.

Chairman Hair said, thanks very much. Thanks for joining us. We appreciate y'all joining us today.

Commissioner Odell said, we have a meeting on Thursday at four o'clock in the Green Room to look at some alternate plans of the center.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rivers moved that the County staff manage the construction of the Tatemville Neighborhood Center, instead of giving the funds to the City of Savannah, as previously approved. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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3. CORONER'S COMPENSATION (COMMISSIONER DELOACH).

Commissioner DeLoach said, I brought that up. I was just —, they said there was something going to be on the agenda concerning the —. Chairman Hair said, there's nothing on the agenda for that item. Commissioner DeLoach asked, we're not going to have anything on there concerning the —? Chairman Hair said, no. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay. Chairman Hair said, that's going to be done by the Legislature if it's done at all. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay, it is going to be done by the Legislature? Chairman Hair said, I don't know. Commissioner DeLoach said, let's go ahead and bring that up. What is the understanding you've got that you asked for from the Legislature?

Chairman Hair said, if you remember when we had our joint meeting with the City Council and the Mayor and we had it in this room, we made a request to the delegation that they not fund any raises for any constitutional officers unless they had received our concurrence and ran it by us. It is my understanding that Dr. Metts, the Coroner, requested the Legislature to grant him a raise, and I think Rep. Mueller did exactly what we asked them to do, was to ask us for concurrence and our input into that before she was willing to drop the bill in, and we were just responding to her request, which really was our request because we asked her to do that, to poll us. So that's the status of it.

Commissioner DeLoach said, the problem I have with it is we are, one, giving somebody a raise. I mean, the comments we had earlier were everybody's concerned about where the money's going and all that. We're giving somebody a raise and we're doing it outside of the actual function of the County government. This is a County government. This should be —, we should be the one authorizing that raise, not the Legislature. It's something we should do. It should be a budgeted item that we should either fund or not fund. We chose not to fund that this year. Now, we're going around the back door and coming in the back door with this thing and funding somebody's raise. I know everyone —, you know, I'm sure everyone was asked up here whether they had a problem with the raise. They asked me and I said, long term I don't have a problem with it, but I don't see us funding it now. I said I would fund it whenever the person ran again. That's whenever I would fund it, so there's been no discussion on this as far as a public forum is concerned, and I think the public needs to know that if someone can go from a \$8,000 to \$38,000 raise, then I think the public needs to know about it. I don't think it is something that needs to be done, you know, slid in the back door and that's exactly what's happening here. I just wanted to bring it up, I just wanted to make everyone aware of the fact that if we've got a concern about \$5,000, we also ought to be concerned about \$38,000 —, excuse me, \$36,000.

Chairman Hair said, let's make sure the record's clear, Commissioner DeLoach. This is something the Legislature —, we have no control over the Legislature. They can do what they want to do. Now if they do it and we've got to fund it, I agree. But we can't tell the Legislature what to do and it's entirely up to them as to what they do. Commissioner DeLoach said, this is a direct —, this challenges our authority directly when we let the Legislature fund a budgeted item that they had no control over or no funding for. That's exactly what we're doing here. If we allow them to pass something in the Legislature that allows them to fund Dr. Metts, who works for the County, additional 30-something thousand dollars without us authorizing or without the people that vote for it, we represent them. I mean, it just can't happen. This should not happen. This is wrong. Chairman Hair said, Commissioner DeLoach, I totally agree with you, but this is the law. If you want to change the law —. Commissioner DeLoach said, no, I don't —, this is a back door approach to funding somebody's raise. I don't care what you call it. If it wasn't, we would have had it up here in the budget and we would have passed it in the budget or we'd turn it down. We turned it down in the budget. We would not give those people a raise, and that is our person that works for us.

Commissioner Rivers said, we understand that the Legislators can give any of the constitutional officers a raise. Chairman Hair said, that's correct. They're asking for a letter of support coming back from us. My motion is going to be to recommend to them that they not pass that legislation to allow the Coroner to get a raise. I think that at some point the Coroner needs a raise I think that we should look at it, and whenever we find the availability in our budget, then I would be willing to fight for granting that. I think he's grossly underpaid. We don't have any money, and if the Legislators do it, even if we recommend not doing it and we do it, we would have to find the money for it. We would be forced to, but I don't think that they will if they're asking for our support. I move —. Commissioner DeLoach said, that's why I brought it up today. Commissioner Rivers said I would move that we let them know that at this time we do not recommend that the Coroner be given a raise through the Legislative process. Commissioner Saussy said, second.

Chairman Hair said, we have a motion and a second. All those in favor of the motion —.

Commissioner DeLoach said, [inaudible] discussion. I don't like that we use Dr. Metts as an example. Dr. Metts has served this community faithfully for many years. Having been a wage and salary administrator for seven years and certified in that area, we have some salary problems which we did not address. The salary problems regarding a lot of our department heads and a lot of those people who are elected officials, I don't assume the position that because you are an elected official that it is our job and it is incumbent upon us to pay you the least amount of money that we can. I don't make that assumption. I think there are several legislative governmental bodies. We control what the Commission is with our bailiwick. I think the Legislators control those things within their bailiwick. As for Harris Odell on this particular item, I support this item. If I am alone in supporting the raise for Dr. Metts, then I'll be alone, but I'm not voting to be politically correct. I think that we have an inequity, we have an unfairness, and however that inequity, however that unfairness is corrected, I think it needs to be corrected.

Chairman Hair said, I also would remind my fellow Commissioners that in the poll we had six people supporting that raise. I agree with Commissioner Odell. I think for a Coroner of the State of —, I started to say State of Chatham, but the County of Chatham to be paid \$8,000 is ludicrous and I think the Legislature trying to raise the Coroner's salary to \$36,000 is a fair and equitable proposal, and I would certainly concur with Commissioner Odell that it's a good move.

Commissioner Rivers said, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Rivers and then Commissioner Murray. Commissioner Rivers said, if that was our sentiment when we were handling the budget, it was within our purview to say, hey, this man is making \$8,000, let's raise it. Why do we have to wait until somebody else comes to the thing or forcing us to give somebody a raise when we could have done the same consideration when we had it before this body right here, and we did not act on that. Now all of a sudden we've got this great sentiment of giving this man a raise when we could have very well done it with a stroke of a pen. I mean, it doesn't make sense. If you guys and Mrs. Thomas sitting up here, and we're looking at budget and we do things in and out of budget, budget time is the time to address dollars within this budget. And we put ourselves further and further and deeper in a hole. Once we get this, we're going to borrow some money, we're going to borrow some money. Chairman Hair said, let me clarify something in your comment. Commissioner Rivers said, okay, okay. Hold tight. I've got the floor. When we go out and borrow some money we normally go on a spending spree and we spend and the money that we borrowed is supposed to offset the budget that we've already got. I'm not for not giving him a raise. I think he is due a raise, but I think we need to do it.

Chairman Hair said, I would remind the Commissioners, as I understand the proposal, and I haven't see the legislation, but as I understand it, Rep. Mueller is talking about making the raise effective in 1999, so it would be in the next budget year. It would not be in this budget year. That's my understanding of what she's said, so it would be in the '99 budget year so you would get a chance to vote on it in the budget for the '99 budget year, Commissioner Rivers. It's not talking about —. Commissioner Rivers said, well, let us put it in the budget. Chairman Hair said, well, we chose not to do that. Commissioner Rivers said, well, we didn't put —. Chairman Hair said, secondly —. Commissioner Rivers said, we didn't do it for the '98 budget, that's not saying that we're not going to do it for the '99 budget, and I'm saying that you look at the dollars that you've got coming in and you act accordingly, even if it's a raise given to the rest of our people that need raises. That's all I'm saying.

Commissioner Murray said, I support a raise for that particular position, but before we do that I feel like we need to address that position to see if that's exactly what we need right now in Chatham County. I think we need more than that and I think we need a broader scope of what that position's going to be doing. Certainly he deserves it. I don't think many people would do it for the \$8,000 a year, and yes we were polled. I did get a phone call to ask if I would support it. I said yes I would support it; however, I don't support it during the budget year that we're already into. It should start with the first of another budget year or the first of the next term that they run. I don't —, either way that works it doesn't matter, but I think if we are going to do it we don't need the Legislators to tell us to do it if it's not going to be done until '99 anyway. We can address it among ourselves as another budget item we've got.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I certainly support the Coroner's request for a raise because he does deserve it; however, and we sit up here and we talk about our responsibilities. A lot of things we should do we don't do, and we just need to start doing that, and I think we need to look at not only his position, but there are some other inequities that we need to look at as a Commission, and if it's our responsibility, then I think we need to start accepting our responsibilities and we need to bite the bullet wherever it may fall.

Chairman Hair said, okay, the motion is that we would deny —. Commissioner Rivers said, one other thing, Mr. Chairman, one other thing in response to what everybody's said. You know, during budget time I always say that we start off with a zero budget and as we look at the digest and we've got monies in hand, we go forward. Now to do things when we don't have the money in hand, it puts an awful lot of strain on a budget that's already strapped, and I just think that we need to look at it and as we receive monies that we consider all of the raises and all of the things that we have to do in the County, but we need to have money. We can't do it based on projection. Chairman Hair said, okay, the --.

Commissioner Murray said, let me just ask for clarification on something. This letter or request that's being sent to our Legislators, does that include anything other than the Coroner? Chairman Hair said, negative. Commissioner Murray said, because what read said the County Commission also and I'm adamantly opposed to that. Chairman Hair said, negative. As I understand it, it's for the Coroner only. That was the request the —. Commissioner Murray said, well, that's not the way it read. Commissioner DeLoach said, that's not the letter we got. Chairman Hair said, okay.

Commissioner Thomas said, that's my —, Mr. Chairman, that was my understanding because when I was in Atlanta on yesterday Rep. Mueller approached me about it and she was definitely concerned about the Coroner. Chairman Hair said, that's correct. That was my understanding when I talked to her last week.

Chairman Hair said, all right, we have a motion that we do not recommend the raise. We have a second to that motion. If you are in favor of the motion you vote yes, if you're opposed to that motion you vote no. Commissioners Saussy, Rivers, Price and DeLoach voted in favor of the motion. Chairman Hair and Commissioners, Jackel, Murray, Odell and Thomas voted in opposition. The motion failed by a vote of five to four. Chairman Hair said, the motion fails. The Chair will entertain any other motion.

Commissioner Odell said, I move that we —, I move that we give authorization and give support to our Legislators to introduce a bill increasing the salary of the Coroner. Chairman Hair asked, do we have a second? Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. Any discussion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Jackel, Odell and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Saussy, Rivers, Murray, Price and DeLoach voted in opposition. The motion failed by a vote of five to four. Chairman Hair said, the motion fails. Commissioner DeLoach said, that's good. Chairman Hair said, all right.

Commissioner DeLoach said, can I make a motion? I've got a motion. I move that —. Chairman Hair said, I don't think that —, there are only two motions, either you support it or you don't support it. What other motion could we have? Commissioner DeLoach said, I've got one. Is it okay? Chairman Hair said, certainly.

Commissioner DeLoach said, I make a motion that we approve a pay increase effective the next term of the position that we're raising, the Coroner's position, to the \$36,000. Chairman Hair asked, do we have a second? Chairman Hair said, the motion fails to get a second.

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Chairman Hair said, before we go in Executive Session, there's two information items, one is I want to clarify so everyone knows, what's going to happen on the Coroner's vote. Anne [Mueller] requested that I communicate to her in writing support —, I mean, or non-support, so I will send a letter to Anne [Mueller] letting her know the results of today's vote on that, and also remind everybody that they're asking our input, but hey don't have to listen to it. So, I mean, they still could come back and do this, and so if you read in the paper they've done it, I mean, we still have given our input to them. So, but she did ask for me to give her that in writing, and I'll give her the result of today's vote in writing with the five to four vote.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

1. Commissioner Rivers moved that we let the Legislature know that we do not at this time recommend that the Coroner be given a raise through the Legislative process. Commissioner Saussy seconded the motion. Commissioners

Saussy, Rivers, Price and DeLoach voted in favor of the motion. Chairman Hair and Commissioners, Jackel, Murray, Odell and Thomas voted in opposition. The motion failed by a vote of five to four.

- 2. Commissioner Odell moved that the Board give authorization and support to our Legislators to introduce a bill increasing the salary of the Coroner. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Jackel, Odell and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Saussy, Rivers, Murray, Price and DeLoach voted in opposition. The motion failed by a vote of five to four.

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VII. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. INTRODUCTION OF BARTLETT MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL AND TEACHER, GAIL ELLIOTT.

Chairman Hair said, we have a welcome, the introduction of Bartlett Middle School Student Council and Teacher, Gail Elliott. They're not here. Okay.

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2. REQUEST FOR BOARD TO ACCEPT DONATION OF AN EXCEPTIONAL LIVE OAK TREE IN THE LAUREL GREEN DEVELOPMENT AS PART OF ARBOR DAY.

Chairman Hair said, we have some folks that want to give us a tree. I participated with the Mayor yesterday at East Broad at Arbor Day, and we have, I think, Ms. Page Hungerpiller and Mr. Louis Young are supposed to be here.

Mr. Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, I would ask Mr. Bungard to bring forward, Mr. Young and Ms. Hungerpiller. There is a staff report, Dr. Thomas and gentlemen, in your agenda packet.

Mr. Al Bungard said, in a subdivision Mr. Young is developing there was an exceptional live oak. You have an agenda item there, and we wanted to protect it. So Mr. Young was gracious enough to take part of that property and wishes to donate it to the County. It's appropriate, we're here to do that and also in recognition of Arbor Day.

Ms. Page Hungerpiller said, I would just like to, in absentia, thank Mr. Young and say that this is really a first for the County so long as I've been involved with trees with the County. It's auspicious that we're recognizing this on Arbor Day, which was first started in 1872 for the purpose of planting trees, and I think saving this particular tree, which is absolutely magnificent —, if you haven't been out there to look at it, please do go —, is equally almost as auspicious, but it is for us it's auspicious, so many, many thanks to Louis Young, and I hope he will serve as an example for other developers in the community to look and see what they have their property and save it if they can. Thank you. Chairman Hair said, thank you.

Mr. Michael Hussey said, I'm Michael Hussey with Freeman and Vaughn Engineering, and we've worked with Mr. Young on this project. He wanted to apologize. He just had another meeting. He thought it might have been sooner on the agenda, but he does want to thank the staff for working with him on this and enjoyed being able to do this for the County and the citizens. Chairman Hair said, express our thanks to Mr. Young. Mr. Hussey said, I sure will. Chairman Hair said, thanks.

Commissioner Saussy said, I would hope that others developers will take notice of this and do the same thing when they come up against a tree like this in the County because this is exceptional. Chairman Hair said, thank you, Commissioner Saussy. Thanks.

Mr. Abolt said, sir, we need a motion to accept the donation. Commissioner Rivers said, so moved. Chairman Hair said, we have a motion. Do we have a second? Commissioner Saussy and Commissioner DeLoach said, second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Murray was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

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VIII. TABLED/POSTPONED ITEMS

action is contemplated at today's meeting, staff report and file material has not been duplicated in your agenda packet. The files are available from the Clerk. Those on which staff is requesting action are indicated by asterisk (*).

- 1. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVE GENERAL FUND M&O CONTINGENCY TRANSFER OF \$55,000 FOR BOARD OF EDUCATION TO PERFORM CERTIFICATION, OUTREACH AND TRAINING FOR MINORITY, FEMALE AND LOCAL SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISES; REQUEST BOARD TO ENTER INTO AN INTER-GOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO PROVIDE CERTIFICATION, OUTREACH AND TRAINING SERVICES TO MINORITY, FEMALE AND LOCAL SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISES ON BEHALF OF CHATHAM COUNTY. (NOTE: At the time of agenda preparation a meeting of Dr. Thomas' committee is pending.) Tabled at meeting of January 24, 1997. Further note: Committee has been unable to meet in intervening period. Tabled at the meeting of February 21, 1997.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

This item was not placed before the Commissioners for consideration.

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- 2. **BOARD CONSIDERATION OF ACTION REGARDING ADVISORY BOARDS AND COMMITTEES. Tabled at meeting of April 25, 1997. Further note: Assigned to committee at meeting of May 9, 1997.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

This item was not placed before the Commissioners for consideration.

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- 3. **BOARD CONSIDERATION ON CHANGING THE COUNTY'S FISCAL YEAR. Tabled at meeting of May 9, 1997.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

This item was not placed before the Commissioners for consideration.

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- 4. **BOARD CONSIDERATION OF MODIFICATION TO EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM REGARDING NOTIFICATION AS TO PARTICIPATING EMPLOYEES. Tabled at meeting of May 9, 1997.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

This item was not placed before the Commissioners for consideration.

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- 5. **BOARD CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FROM THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES FOR FINE COLLECTION. Tabled at meeting of June 13, 1997. *Please see memo from Clerk of Superior Court asking that item remain on the table.***

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

This item was not placed before the Commissioners for consideration.

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IX. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL ACTION

(Unless the Board directs otherwise, adoption of an Action Item will mean approval of the respective County staff report and its recommended action.)

1. BOARD CONSIDERATION OF GRANTS-IN-AID REQUESTS.

Chairman Hair said, before we discuss this, I'd like to make a general comment. Whatever we do today on these grants-in-aid I think that we need to protect the system that we have in place. It works very well. We have these people that worked long and hard hours, you know, spending time on these committees and making these selections, and they don't always agree with us, and that's fine, and I would ask my fellow Commissioners that if we don't want to approve these today, the next best thing would be to send it back to them for modification. I don't think we need to sit up here today and try to modify these grants-in-aid requests for \$900,000. I think that would be a mistake and I think it would destroy the system we put in place to do that. So I would ask that either we approve them or we send it back to them and ask for revisions, but I don't think we should modify them up here at the table.

Commissioner Thomas said, yes, I agree with you, Mr. Chairman. One thing I would like to ask the grants-in-aid committee to consider for the next time. As opposed to giving an across-the-board when you're comparing your smaller organizations to the larger organizations, that you would consider that and not cut them the same amount as you did the larger ones because in the first place the smaller groups are starting off with a much smaller number and when you cut them substantially like that, it doesn't leave them with very much. So my feeling is that, yes, they do an excellent job, but I would like for them to consider that the next time around. Chairman Hair said, thank you, Dr. Thomas.

Commissioner Murray said, I'm sorry I was out the room, but are we getting ready to table this thing again? Chairman Hair said, no. I'm sorry you were out the room too, but what we said was that if either we don't approve it, we need to protect the process, and we don't need to sit up here and make individual cuts and additions, we need to send it back to them if we don't want to approve it. Commissioner Murray said, I think we need to approve it. Chairman Hair said, the appropriate thing today is to approve it or to send it back.

Commissioner Thomas said, I move for approval. Chairman Hair said, we have a motion. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, we have a second. Any further discussion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes. Thank you.

Mrs. Beverly Whitehead said, excuse me, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Firman, who chairs our Cultural Affairs Task Force, Bill Broker our Human Services Task Force. As the Chairman has indicated, these individuals volunteered their time and service. They worked very diligently with the agencies to understand their programs and services and if the Board will allow a couple of minutes, I think both Mr. Broker and Mr. Firman just wanted to have one minute of your time and if the Board would allow that, I would appreciate it.

Commissioner Murray said, before they speak, and I appreciate you letting them speak and I also appreciate the willingness from that whole —, both committees to serve because I know that it's a job. It takes a lot of time when you're go through the process y'all go through. But I would ask each person on this Commission, if we have concerns about something, that we contact those committees while that process is going on and tell them where we have concerns and let them address that, and then when they come back to the meeting with their recommendations they can tell us whether they've addressed it or not and what recommendation they have based on it because I think they've done a very thorough job and I think they need to be commended for the job they're doing. Chairman Hair said, thank you. Commissioner Murray said, I don't think we need to bring them up here on their time, as we did last time, and table something without them even knowing about it. They came up at our last meeting expecting to address this and have this voted on, and they had not been contacted telling them otherwise, yet we had some feelings differently. So I just feel like that if we have some differences we need to request that before we get to the voting point. Chairman Hair said, thank you. Mr. Broker, do you want to make a brief comment?

Mr. Bill Broker said, sure. Just a couple of comments. I'd like to thank y'all for the confidence that you've expressed in this committee. I had the good fortune to chair the Human Services Task Force committee this time around and I'd just like to tell you a couple of things we did differently this year. First of all, we developed and we distributed a number of factors and considerations that we were going to be looking at in our consideration of all the grant requests. We developed those and we distributed them to all the organizations that had made requests. We also invited every applicant agency to come before our committee and make a presentation. Every single agency that made the application did indeed appear. So we found ourselves being able to listen to 34 applicant agencies. It basically took us two full days. The committee basically sat on November 6th and November 13th, spending the entire day listening to these agencies. We tried to make sure this year that all the applicant agencies knew what was going on. We gave them the factors and considerations early on and we tried to keep them apprised of where we were in terms of the development of the recommendations, and we were also very conscious this year of conflicts of interest. We did our best to make sure that everyone disclosed any conflict of interest he or she had, and we took appropriate action to make sure that the process was open and fair. We were really pleased with the way everything turned out. With respect to the suggestion that Ms. Thomas had, I do indeed understand where she's coming from with respect to that, and the problem that we had was we were operating under the assumption that the group would receive the 8% increase, and when we were told that the 8% increase was not in fact going to occur, we simply went back and made across-the-board cuts. I had some real difficulty reconvening the group and having them go through all 34 agencies again, but I understand where you're coming from on that, and we'll try to make sure that doesn't occur again. I do want to thank all the members of the committee who worked with me and, in particular, I believe David Richards, the Vice Chair, and Jerry Loupee are here, who served on the committee with me. And I'd also like to thank Rhonda McCullough and Beverly Whitehead on staff for what they did. And, most importantly, all the organizations and volunteers with those organizations that took of their time and energy to come and talk to us. They're really ones that are doing all their work and, I think as a

result of the recommendations, that you've approved Chatham County is going to be a safer, a more healthy, a more just, just a better place for people to live, and I appreciate the opportunity to serve. Chairman Hair said, thank you.

Commissioner Murray said, let me ask you a question, and it's not to try to change anything. That's not my intent, but when I was looking down the list I saw SCAD was there for \$2,500. What are they doing for that? Mr. Broker said, SCAD. Commissioner Price said, he's human resources. Commissioner Murray said, oh, that's cultural committee. I'll ask y'all that. Win [Firman] can answer that.

Commissioner Odell asked, do we give the people who serve on this committee —, I know Dave Richards spent a lot of time —, do we give a proclamation or wall plaque or any symbol [inaudible] —. Commissioner Price said, rocking chair? Commissioner Odell said, we don't do the rocking chair? Commissioner Murray said, so far we just give them the time to do it. Commissioner Odell said, we just give them the time to do it. I would really like to see us to give something to acknowledge —, two days out of your life along with our other activities is a lot to ask of these individuals, and it's really not easy where you have multiple organizations coming in and we have a lot of needy [inaudible] here in Chatham County. We're not short on these —. Mr. Abolt said, Commissioner Odell, with the Chairman's and you all's permission, I'll ask Mrs. Griffin to work on a recognition program.

Chairman Hair said, I think that's a good idea. These folks really do work hard and, you know, it is a thankless job. I mean, they get faced with some of the things I think we get faced with. Not quite as much, but it is a thankless job and we do appreciate you folks volunteering.

Mr. Win Firman said, good morning. I'm Win Firman, Cultural Affairs Committee Chairman. I thank you very much for hearing us this morning. We found that this is not an easy task because our requests from 18 agencies totaled \$335,822. Our budget was the same as last year, \$181,420. So we had to make some cuts to some very worthy organizations. We wish we could have done more. I agree with Dr. Thomas that the little guys really deserve complete examination. One of our criteria was the number of people served, and if we found that, in the case of one agency, they were serving essentially 60 people on a twenty some thousand dollar budget. We didn't think it was cost effective. We did cut that one. Others that seemed to reach out and reach a lot of people we increased within the bounds of what the Commissioners had given us to work with. Mr. Murray, you asked about SCAD. We're very impressed with some of the work they do. Last year we made an appropriation for them but before it could be approved, they withdrew their request. But they reach out to all the children in Chatham County, particularly those, as they say, the under-served community neighborhoods. Each youth will be invited to attend two or three performances. Middle school teachers and recreation leaders of the targeted community neighborhoods attending a performance will be invited to participate in a complimentary performance workshop. SCAD does a good job. They have a lot of money. So does the Savannah Symphony, so does Telfair, but they represent the cultural aspects of the City of Savannah and the County, and that was an important consideration to us. Do these people, does the Savannah Festival, On-Stage Festival reach out and say to the people all over the United States this is an important community? So this weighed heavily in our considerations. We did have one suggestion, and I hear that Bill [Broker] has already done that and Stephanie Blount, your designee, Mr. Hair, that next year we'll be co-active in contacting all of the small agencies that may not know the procedure, that may not be able to do an application without help from us, and we thank that's an excellent idea, and we intend to do that. Essentially, that's it. I would like to thank Beverly Whitehead because she really did a big job for us, as did Rhonda McCullough. I have two members of my committee here, Carolyn Stillwell and Tom White, both of whom attended every single, seven sessions interviewing these 18 agencies, and I think the committee did a good job. Are there any questions?

Commissioner Jackel said, yes. I would just suggest that possibly we get that on the County web site next time. Commissioner Price said, that's a good idea. Mr. Firman said, I think that's an excellent idea. I'm totally computer illiterate, but I'm sure some members of my committee could do that.

Chairman Hair said, thank you very much, Mr. Firman. We appreciate it. Commissioner Murray said, you answered my question about SCAD. Chairman Hair said, we appreciate you coming and appreciate the work that y'all did.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the recommended distribution to grants-in-aid agencies and authorized the transfer of the following funds to cover total funding: Increase SSD Contingency by \$31,060 and decrease M&O Contingency by \$31,060. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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2. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVE THE FOLLOWING: GENERAL FUND M&O CONTINGENCY TRANSFER TO SUPERIOR COURT JUDICIARY OF \$6,960 FOR SUPERIOR COURT JUDICIARY TO PROPERLY FUND STATE-MANDATED SALARIES AND TO INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES DEPARTMENT OF \$19,400 FOR TERMINAL PAY AND \$10,250 FOR 6 PAYROLLS FOR SAGIS EMPLOYEE, AN INTER-DEPARTMENTAL TRANSFER OF \$37,890 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND ALLOCATION TO I.C.S. DEPARTMENT AND A BUDGET AMENDMENT TO REFLECT AN ADDITIONAL \$2,680 IN LAW LIBRARY REIMBURSEMENT FOR SALARY INCREASES FOR TWO EMPLOYEES; A CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT TO DECREASE THE BUDGET BY \$37,890 TO RECOGNIZE TRANSFER OF 20 PAYROLLS OF SAGIS EMPLOYEE TO GENERAL FUND I.C.S. DEPARTMENT; A ONE PERCENT SALES TAX EXTENSION FUND (1993-1998) RESERVE FOR**

SPECIFIED PROJECTS TRANSFER OF \$8,830 FOR THE JIMMY DELOACH PARKWAY/HIGHWAY 21 INTERCHANGE.

Commissioner Price said, so moved. Chairman Hair said, I have a motion. Do I have a second? Commissioner Price said, second that, Eddie [DeLoach]. Commissioner DeLoach said, second. Chairman Hair said, I have a second. Any discussion.. Chairman Hair said, okay, Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, my question is on the General Fund M&O Contingency transfer to Superior Court Judiciary of \$6,960 for State-mandated salaries. I thought that we were not going to have anything mandated unless it was going to start with the budget year again. Mr. Abolt said, sir, this was an error made on the staff's part in computing an authorization that was given last budget year. Mr. DeLoach, I believe, who was in the audience, brought it to our attention and then in the way we interpreted State law we had a start-up date that was not sensitive in the direction from the State, so we have to make up the difference, but essentially it's legislation that was approved in action taken in 1997. Commissioner Murray said, and my other question was on this \$10,250 on the six-week [sic] payroll for SAGIS. Mr. Abolt said, what happened —, what happened there, and I know you all recall at that —, it wasn't the eleventh hour, it was like five minutes to midnight when the budget was finally adopted. There was a motion to take approximately \$600,000 out of SAGIS, and at that time Mr. Persaud and I said take no more because we've got a position in there. Well, the long and the short of it was we came up just that shy of being able to retain the position for the full 12 months. It was never the intent of this Board to cut that position, so we're making up the difference.

Chairman Hair said, okay, we have a motion and a second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Odell were not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to approve the following: General Fund M&O Contingency transfer to Superior Court Judiciary of \$6,960 for Superior Court Judiciary to properly fund State-mandated salaries and to Information and Communications Services Department of \$19,400 for terminal pay and \$10,250 for 6 payrolls for SAGIS employee, an inter-departmental transfer of \$37,890 from the Capital Improvement Fund allocation to I.C.S. Department and a budget amendment to reflect an additional \$2,680 in Law Library reimbursement for salary increases for two employees; a Capital Improvement Fund budget amendment to decrease the budget by \$37,890 to recognize transfer of 20 payrolls of SAGIS employee to General Fund I.C.S. Department; a One Percent Sales Tax Extension Fund (1993-1998) Reserve for Specified Projects transfer of \$8,830 for the Jimmy DeLoach Parkway/Highway 21 Interchange. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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3. BOARD CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVE ASSUMPTIONS FOR A FIVE-YEAR BUDGET PLAN.

Chairman Hair said, I discussed this with Commissioner DeLoach and Dr. Thomas this morning. Basically, in your packet you have —, so far, the only two Commissioners that have submitted assumptions is myself and Commissioner DeLoach, and I also discussed this with Russ [Abolt] yesterday. My suggestion is that what we do is that we give everybody until the next week any other Commissioners that wanted to submit any other budget assumptions to submit them, and then we would send them out to you in a spreadsheet format and you could decide which one you wanted to support, and then we could give that to the County Manager. I think that's the proper way to do this. I think that's the most expedient way. It would be really difficult for us to discuss it today because we only have two Commissioners out of nine represented, but everybody would have an opportunity to either submit assumptions or to either go along with the ones that are already on the table, and we would do that through polling next week. Does anybody object to that? Okay, that's what we'll do then, that's the way we'll handle that. Thanks very much.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

No action required.

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4. REQUEST BOARD MAKE PERMANENT A TEMPORARY, SIX (6) MONTHS, COMPENSATION INCREASE APPROVED SEPTEMBER 12, 1997, FOR FOUR (4) EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS DISPATCH TRAINERS IN ORDER TO COMPENSATE THEM FOR THE ADDITIONAL DUTIES WHICH THEY PERFORM, AND TO APPROVE A SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT CONTINGENCY TRANSFER OF \$3,830 TO THE 104411 POLICE BUDGET, SALARY AND WAGES OBJECT CODE, TO FUND THIS PERMANENT CHANGE IN COMPENSATION.

Chairman Hair recognized the County Manager, Russ Abolt.

Mr. Abolt said, yes sir, I can explain. Mr. Chairman, Dr. Thomas, gentlemen, you all, as indicated in the title, did approve an experiment that was aimed at bolstering a very weakened dispatch capacity within the County. Chief Sprague did an excellent job during the budget hearings of explaining the extent of our exposure during the last year. He made certain budget

adjustments, which were well appreciated and have been implemented, to alleviate any type of problem as far as having an adequate number of dispatchers. This demonstration project allowed us to recognize lead employees that had a responsibility for training. Chief Sprague in his evaluation believes, and I concur in that, that the need to have that capacity and fairly compensated in is the last step in fully assuring that our dispatch operation will be at top capacity and prepared to handle any emergency.

Chairman Hair asked, are there any questions? The Chair will entertain a motion. Commissioner Jackel said, so moved. Chairman Hair said, I have a motion. Do I have a second? Commissioner DeLoach said, second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Odell and Price were not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Jackel moved to make permanent a temporary, six (6) months, compensation increase approved September 12, 1997, for four (4) Emergency Communications Dispatch Trainers in order to compensate them for the additional duties which they perform, and to approve a Special Service District Contingency Transfer of \$3,830 to the 104411 Police Budget, Salary and Wages Object Code, to fund this permanent change in compensation. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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5. REQUEST FROM THE SHERIFF FOR EXPANSION OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT KENNELS TO PROVIDE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR VISITING K-9 HANDLERS DURING TRAINING AND/OR CERTIFICATION PROCESS. REQUEST IS FOR THE BOARD TO APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE OF REIMBURSABLE GRANT MONIES.

Chairman Hair asked, Sheriff, do you want to comment on that?

Sheriff Al St. Lawrence said, that's a hundred percent —. Commissioner DeLoach said, I make a motion we approve. Commissioner Murray said, I'll second, but I'd like to make a comment. Sheriff St. Lawrence said, a place for them to stay when they're here so the State don't have to pay for motels.

Chairman Hair said, okay, we have a motion and a second. Commissioner Murray has a question.

Commissioner Murray said, Sheriff St. Lawrence, I just want to commend you and the people that run the canine side of the Sheriff's Department. A month or so ago I was visiting the 116th Bomber Wing in Warner Robins. One of the girls there that's in the security for them. She said she would sure like to come here and visit and talk with us about it. She came up last Saturday and y'all's people met with her for over two hours. She called me back at home that —, this past week to thank me and also to say how much that y'all were doing, how well it was done, and the amount of time y'all spent with her explaining it, and she would like to come back another time and bring her dog down with her, but —. Sheriff St. Lawrence said, she's welcome. I mean, we have people there every day of the week. It's a great program and the State's picking up the tab a hundred percent.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, thank you very much. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the request from the Sheriff for expansion of the Chatham County Sheriff's Department Kennels to provide accommodations for visiting K-9 handlers during training and/or certification process. Request is for the Board to approve the expenditure of reimbursable grant monies. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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6. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO WAIVE THE 90-DAY HIRING FREEZE AND AUTHORIZE HUMAN RESOURCES TO ADVERTISE POSITIONS THAT THE DEPARTMENT DEEMS MORE COST EFFICIENT TO FILL.

- MOSQUITO CONTROL - HELICOPTER PILOT/MECHANIC (ONE POSITION)
- CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT - CLERICAL ASSISTANT II (ONE POSITION)
- CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT - CLERICAL ASSISTANT II (TWO POSITIONS)

Chairman Hair said, the Chair will entertain a motion. Commissioner Price said, so moved. Chairman Hair said, I have a motion. Do I have a second? Commissioner Jackel said, I'll second. Chairman Hair said, second. Okay, Commissioner Murray. Commissioner Murray said, I would like for us just to consider taking these off of the agenda totally and not having them come up every meeting because of the time it takes and we're approving them anyway. Commissioner DeLoach said, well, it drags it out a little bit.

Commissioner Price said, let me ask this question. Chairman Hair recognized, Commissioner Price. Commissioner Price asked, Russ [Abolt], can you give us any evidence that this 90-day hiring freeze is working, that there are employees —, I

mean, we see these numbers, we never see the others who, you know, request and don't get. Mr. Abolt said, not only is it working, certainly it has its trails, as Commissioner Murray has so accurately testified to, but from a financial reporting to you, you remember in the third quarter of last year we indicated we were about \$25,000 off target, but essentially we were looking at amassing a savings of seven hundred and some odd thousands that allowed us to balance the budget in 1997, and in 1998 we have about the same amount of money, so we are watching it closely, but absence the freeze we will be out of balance that amount of money. Commissioner Price asked, so we saved about \$700,000 last year? Mr. Abolt said, I don't --, well, of course, the audit is not complete, but our third quarter evaluation of it was that within about \$25,000 we were on target for amassing that savings. Commissioner DeLoach made a comment about slowing it down, and I know that that was made in jest, but honestly and truly I would ask you to slow it down at least that much because it does create —.

Commissioner Murray said, well, my point was not to stop the 90-day hiring freezes. My point is to give staff authority because we, as a Commission, are not saving that money because we're approving every one that comes to us.

Chairman Hair said, well, we may approve them. I still think there's some advantage in having them on the agenda because you never know —, I have a real problem with taking them off the agenda. I think they need to be up here and we need to look at them individually. I would oppose taking them off the agenda. All right, all those in favor vote yes, all those opposed vote no. Chairman Hair and Commissioner Saussy, Rivers, Jackel, Price, DeLoach and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Murray voted in opposition. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.] The motion carried by a vote of seven to one. Chairman Hair said, and the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to approve the request to waive the 90-day hiring freeze and authorize Human Resources to advertise the following positions: Mosquito Control - Helicopter Pilot/Mechanic (one position); Child Support Enforcement - Clerical Assistant II (one Position); and Clerk of Superior Court - Clerical Assistant II (two positions). Commissioner Jackel seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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X. ACTION CALENDAR

(The Board can entertain one motion to adopt the below-listed calendar. Such motion would mean adoption of staff's recommendation. Any Board Member may choose to pull an item from the calendar and it would be considered separately.)

Chairman Hair said, all right, Action Calendar. We need to pull off from staff request, Item G. Apparently the person at the Savannah Police Department that made the request for the derelict vehicle, or confiscated vehicle, did not have the authorization, so —. Commissioner Jackel said, where is that? Chairman Hair said, G, we're just going to take G off totally.

Commissioner Price said, I need to be recused from Item A. Chairman Hair said, okay? Commissioner Price said, for obvious reasons. Commissioner Jackel said, Item E. Chairman Hair said, item what, A? Commissioner Price said, yes. Chairman Hair said, okay. Commissioner DeLoach asked, on the Action Calendar? Chairman Hair said, right. Did anybody else —, before we get to the recusal, did anybody else want to take anything off before we vote for the recusal. Commissioner Murray said, Item E. Commissioner Price asked, what's that, Frank [Murray]? Commissioner Jackel said, Item E. Chairman Hair said, okay. Anybody else want to take anything off? All right, let's deal with the recusal first. I think —, the Chair will entertain a motion to recuse. The Clerk said, excuse me, you need state a reason for your recusal first. Commissioner Price said, okay, the reason for the recusal is because the firm I work with, A. G. Edwards, is once again being asked to continue on as financial advisor for the County, an arrangement that predates my employment with A. G. Edwards, I might add. Chairman Hair said, that sounds like a conflict to me. Commissioner Rivers said, so moved that he be recused. Commissioner Murray said, second. Chairman Hair said, we have a motion and a second to recuse Commissioner Price. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present; Commissioner Price did not cast a vote.] Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Price is recused.

Chairman Hair said, the Chair will entertain a motion to approve the balance of the Action Calendar except that one. Commissioner Price asked, can you go ahead and vote on that one item and that way I can vote on the rest of the items? Chairman Hair said, okay, we'll do that. Commissioner Murray said, I'd like to pull Item #4. Chairman Hair said, all right, let's pull Item #4.

Chairman Hair said, all right, let's first vote on the Item A that Commissioner Price is recused from. This is the annual contract with option to renew for two additional one-year terms for financial advisor services which goes to A. G. Edwards & Sons. Commissioner Saussy said, I move for approval. Commissioner DeLoach said, second. Chairman Hair said, motion and a second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present; Commissioner Price was recused from voting.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

Chairman Hair said, now the Chair will entertain a motion to approve the balance of the Action Calendar. Commissioner Price said, so moved. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, I have a motion and second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. Commissioner Saussy said, except for #4. Chairman Hair said, I said except for the ones —, I said the balance of the Action Calendar. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

[NOTE: See Items 4 and 14 for discussion on those items.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved that the Action Calendar be approved in its entirety with the exception of Items 4, 14-A, 14-E and 14-G. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

[NOTE: ACTION OF THE BOARD IS SHOWN ON EACH ITEM AS THOUGH AN INDIVIDUAL MOTION WAS MADE THEREON.]

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1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ON FEBRUARY 6, 1998, AS MAILED.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on February 6, 1998, as mailed. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 29, 1998, THROUGH FEBRUARY 11, 1998.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved that the Finance Director is authorized to pay claims for the period January 29, 1998, through February 11, 1998, in the amount of \$2,129,731. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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3. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE THE NOTE RESOLUTION FOR THE COUNTY TO ISSUE SHORT-TERM DEBT TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES FOR FISCAL YEAR 1998 FOR THE GENERAL FUND AND SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND TOTALING \$11.085 MILLION (GENERAL FUND \$8.815 MILLION AND SSD \$2.270 MILLION).

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to approve the Note Resolution for the County to issue short-term debt Tax Anticipation Notes for fiscal year 1998 for the General Fund and Special Service District Fund totaling \$11.085 million (General Fund \$8.815 million and SSD \$2.270 million). Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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4. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL FOR REVISIONS TO THE CHATHAM COUNTY TRAVEL POLICY TO COMPLY WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF TREASURY INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE REGULATIONS (PUBLICATION 463 TRAVEL, ENTERTAINMENT, GIFT, AND CAR EXPENSES).

Commissioner Murray said, I'm not as much opposed to the increase in the per diem as I am the increase in mileage. I think 31 cents a mile is adequate. A lot of times we don't even pay that, and I don't think just because the federal government would approve up to 32½ cents that we have to pay that. 31 cents in my mind is enough for anybody to be reimbursed just for driving their personal vehicle on a trip or wherever else they have to use it for company business. But to go from \$26 to \$30 a day on per diem, I know the cost of food and those type things have gone up and I don't have any problem with that, but I do have a problem with the 32½ cents.

Chairman Hair said, okay, the Chair will entertain a motion. Mr. Ken Earls said, please read. Chairman Hair said, request Board approval for revisions to the Chatham County travel policy to comply with the Department of Treasury Internal Revenue Service Regulations (Publication 463 Travel, Entertainment, Gift and Car Expenses).

Commissioner Murray said, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to move for approval of the \$26 to the \$30 on per diem, but leave the mileage rate at 31 cents a mile. Commissioner DeLoach said, so moved. Chairman Hair said, do we have a second? Commissioner Saussy and Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to approve revisions to the Chatham County Travel Policy to increase the base per diem from \$26.00 to \$30.00 per day to comply with the Department of Treasury Internal Revenue Service Regulations (Publication 463 Travel, Entertainment, Gift, and Car Expenses), but leave the mileage rate at 31 cents. Commissioners Saussy and Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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- 5. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL FOR AN EXTENSION TO THE GRANT CONTRACT FOR ASSISTANCE IN CONSTRUCTING A TIMBER BRIDGE AT RUNAWAY POINT PARK (AMENDMENT NO. 1, CONTRACT BETWEEN GEORGIA FORESTRY COMMISSION AND CHATHAM COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, DATED MAY 23, 1997). [DISTRICT 3.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to approve an extension to the grant contract for assistance in constructing a timber bridge at Runaway Point Park (Amendment No. 1, Contract between Georgia Forestry Commission and Chatham County Commissioners, dated May 23, 1997). Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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- 6. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE THE REDISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS WITHIN THE 1993-1998 SPLOST UNINCORPORATED DRAINAGE ACCOUNTS BY TRANSFERRING UNCOMMITTED FUNDS TO ACTIVE DRAINAGE PROJECTS.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to approve the redistribution of funds within the 1993-1998 SPLOST Unincorporated Drainage Accounts by transferring uncommitted funds to active drainage projects. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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- 7. REQUEST FROM THOMAS AND HUTTON ENGINEERING, AGENT FOR ZAREMBA CONTRACTORS, INC., TO RECORD THE SUBDIVISION PLAT FOR STEEPLE RUN AT SOUTHBRIDGE PHASE 14, LOTS 14 & 16 THROUGH 20, AND TO INCLUDE THE STREETLIGHTS WITH THE SOUTHBRIDGE DISTRICT. [DISTRICT 7.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to approve the request from Thomas and Hutton Engineering, agent for Zaremba Contractors, Inc., to record the subdivision plat for Steeple Run at Southbridge Phase 14, Lots 14 & 16 through 20, and to include the streetlights with the Southbridge district. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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- 8. REQUEST FROM ENGINEER FOR THE DEVELOPER, JERRY C. WARDLAW DEVELOPMENT CO., INC., TO RECORD THE SUBDIVISION PLAT FOR HERON CREST, PHASE 4, ACCEPT THE FINANCIAL GUARANTEE AND RECOMBINE THE SUBDIVISION INTO THE EXISTING GEORGETOWN STREETLIGHTING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT. [DISTRICT 6.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to approve the request from the engineer for the developer, Jerry C. Wardlaw Development Co., Inc., to record the subdivision plat for Heron Crest, Phase 4, accept the financial guarantee and recombine the subdivision into the existing Georgetown streetlighting assessment district. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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9. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL FOR CHAIRMAN AND CLERK TO SIGN A CONTRACT AMENDMENT TO THE S.R. 204 AND KING GEORGE BOULEVARD PROJECT WITH GDOT AND AN AGREEMENT WITH GUS BELL FOR DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS ALONG S.R. 204 AND FOR REQUIRED TRAFFIC CONTROL ON KING GEORGE BOULEVARD. [DISTRICTS 6 AND 7.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to approve the request for the Chairman and Clerk to sign a contract amendment to the S.R. 204 and King George Boulevard project with GDOT and an agreement with Gus Bell for drainage improvements along S.R. 204 and for required traffic control on King George Boulevard. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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10. **REQUEST FOR RENEWAL OF SUNDAY SALES LICENSE FOR BEER POURING FOR 1998. PETITIONER: RUSSELL C. DAWES, JR., D/B/A SANTINO'S PIZZA, INC., LOCATED AT 5548G OGEECHEE ROAD. [DISTRICT 7.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to approve the request of petitioner Russell C. Dawes, Jr., d/b/a Santino's Pizza, Inc., located at 5548G Ogeechee Road, for renewal of Sunday sales license for beer pouring for 1998. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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11. **REQUEST FOR RENEWAL OF LICENSE FOR SUNDAY SALES OF BEER AND WINE POURING FOR 1998 FROM THE FOLLOWING:**
- A. **PETITIONER: SURENDRA PATEL, D/B/A DENNY'S RESTAURANT, WITHIN THE BEST WESTERN MOTEL, LOCATED AT ONE GATEWAY BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 7.]**
 - B. **PETITIONER: MAEYU C. WU, D/B/A HUNAN'S RESTAURANT, LOCATED AT 318 JOHNNY MERCER BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 4.]**
 - C. **PETITIONER: PETER J. ROUILLARD, D/B/A HENDERSON GOLF CLUB, LOCATED AT ONE AL HENDERSON DRIVE. [DISTRICT 7.]**
 - D. **PETITIONER: LISA M. CLARK, D/B/A THE UPPER CRUST RESTAURANT, LOCATED AT 3A SKIDAWAY VILLAGE WALK.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to approve the following requests for renewal of license for Sunday sales of beer and wine pouring for 1998: (a) Petitioner: Surendra Patel, d/b/a Denny's Restaurant, within the Best Western Motel, located at One Gateway Boulevard; (b) Petitioner: Maeyu C. Wu, d/b/a Hunan's Restaurant, located at 318 Johnny Mercer Boulevard; (c) Petitioner: Peter J. Rouillard, d/b/a Henderson Golf Club, located at One Al Henderson Drive; and, (d) Petitioner: Lisa M. Clark, d/b/a The Upper Crust Restaurant, located at 3A Skidaway Village Walk. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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12. **REQUEST RENEWAL OF SUNDAY SALES OF BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR POURING LICENSE FOR 1998 FROM THE FOLLOWING:**
- A. **PETITIONER: MARY E. GARRETT, D/B/A THE SHELL HOUSE RESTAURANT, LOCATED AT 8 GATEWAY BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 7.]**
 - B. **PETITIONER: JUANA LORENA DE LA TORRE PICAZO, D/B/A CANCUN MEXICAN RESTAURANT II, LOCATED AT 216 JOHNNY MERCER BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 4.]**

- C. PETITIONER: ERIC P. COMPTON, D/B/A SAVANNAH YACHT CLUB, INC., LOCATED AT RT. 6, BOX 271, BRADLEY POINT ROAD. [DISTRICT 4.]
- D. PETITIONER: BELINDA F. FLANIGAN, D/B/A THE CRAB SHACK AT CHIMNEY CREEK, LOCATED AT 40-A ESTILL HAMMOCK ROAD. [DISTRICT 4.]
- E. PETITIONER: DAVID M. THORNTON, D/B/A HOLIDAY INN-SOUTH, LOCATED AT I-95 AND HIGHWAY 204. [DISTRICT 6.]
- F. PETITIONER: JOHN R. TURNER, D/B/A ISLAND OYSTER BAR RESTAURANT, LOCATED AT 444 JOHNNY MERCER BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 3.]
- G. PETITIONER: JOHN R. TURNER, D/B/A PEARL'S ELEGANT PELICAN RESTAURANT, LOCATED AT 7000 LAROCHE AVENUE. [DISTRICT 3.]
- H. PETITIONER: ELEANOR M. COURSEY, D/B/A GRANT'S CROW BAR LOUNGE, LOCATED AT 205 JOHNNY MERCER BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 4.]
- I. PETITIONER: PANAGIOTIS A. KIRIAKOS, D/B/A SNAPPERS SEAFOOD RESTAURANT, LOCATED AT 104 BRYAN WOODS ROAD. [DISTRICT 4.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to approve the following requests for renewal of Sunday sales of beer, wine and liquor pouring license for 1998: (a) Petitioner: Mary E. Garrett, d/b/a The Shell House Restaurant, located at 8 Gateway Boulevard; (b) Petitioner: Juana Lorena De La Torre Picazo, d/b/a Cancun Mexican Restaurant II, located at 216 Johnny Mercer Boulevard; (c) Petitioner: Eric P. Compton, d/b/a Savannah Yacht Club, Inc., located at Rt. 6, Box 271, Bradley Point Road; (e) Petitioner: Belinda F. Flanigan, d/b/a The Crab Shack at Chimney Creek, located at 40-A Estill Hammock Road; (f) Petitioner: David M. Thornton, d/b/a Holiday Inn-South, located at I-95 and Highway 204; (f) Petitioner: John R. Turner, d/b/a Island Oyster Bar Restaurant, located at 444 Johnny Mercer Boulevard; (g) Petitioner: John R. Turner, d/b/a Pearl's Elegant Pelican Restaurant, located at 7000 LaRoche Avenue; (h) Petitioner: Eleanor M. Coursey, d/b/a Grant's Crow Bar Lounge, located at 205 Johnny Mercer Boulevard; and (l) Petitioner: Panagiotis A. Kiriakos, d/b/a Snappers Seafood Restaurant, located at 104 Bryan Woods Road. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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13. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF QUITCLAIM DEEDS.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to approve the following quitclaim deeds in satisfaction of payment of delinquent property taxes: Ruth Washington, PIN 2010;4-07001, \$215.54; and Robert L. Spaulding, PIN 20062-280007, \$218.61. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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14. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO AWARD BIDS AS FOLLOWS:

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
A. Annual contract with option to renew for two additional one-year terms, to provide financial advisor services	Finance	A. G. Edwards & Sons, Inc.	N/A	Funding for this service will be derived from individual bond issuances
B. Change Order No. 3, to the contract to provide surveying and analysis to improve the outfall to the South Springfield Canal, to provide additional engineering services for the Westlake Outfall Drainage Improvement Project	Engineering	EMC Engineering	\$7,056	CIP - 1998 Drainage (pending Board approval of carryovers)
C. Change Order No. 1 to the contract to provide janitorial services to include the first floor of the "Old" Jail	Building Maintenance and Operations	Basics Cleaning Company	\$8,000	General Fund/M & O - Building Maintenance and Operations
D. Annual contract, with option to renew for two additional one-year terms, to provide various high volume paper and chemical supplies	•Detention Center •Purchasing	•Coastal Paper-Sail •Paper Chemical Supply •Don Swann Distributors •Unisource, Inc. •Doyle Chemical Company •Heritage Paper Company •Georgia Correctional Industries	See staff report	General Fund/M & O - Various
E. Purchase on an "as needed, funds available" basis 1998 police sedans	•Police •Sheriff	Classic South Ford	Unit cost not to exceed \$20,213.40	CIP - Vehicle Replacement Fund (pending allocation of funds)
F. Annual software maintenance agreement	I.C.S.	Informix Software	\$18,110	General Fund/M & O - I.C.S.
G. Donate surplus confiscated vehicle to Savannah Police Department	C.N.T.			
H. Change Order No. 5, to the contract to provide hydraulic analysis, to provide wetlands mitigation planning associated with the Pipemakers Canal Drainage Improvement Project	Engineering	EMC Engineering	Not to exceed \$10,000	1998 Drainage CIP
I. Annual contract with option to renew for two additional one-year terms, to provide chemicals (bleach)	Aquatic Center	Allied Universal Corporation	\$.79/per gallon	General Fund/M & O - Aquatic Center
J. Emergency Change Order No. 1 to the contract to raise Dredged Material Containment Area (DMCA) 13A dikes to include raising at designated locations DMCA Area 2A	Engineering	Tri State Consultants	\$98,560	General Fund/M & O - Harbor Maintenance (100% reimbursable by GDOT)
K. Agreement for certain water and sewer work needed for the Jimmy DeLoach Parkway Highway 21 Interchange	SPLOST	City of Port Wentworth	\$8,825	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Reserved for specified projects (pending transfer)
L. Annual contract to	Juvenile Court	Marshlands, Inc.	Not to exceed	Restricted Account -

ITEM	DEPT.	SOURCE	AMOUNT	FUNDING
M. Annual contract to provide a community service work program to youthful offenders under jurisdiction of Juvenile Court	Juvenile Court	Marshlands, Inc.	Not to exceed \$12,000 per year	Restricted Account - Supervision Fees - Juvenile Court
N. Change Order No. 2 to contract for Hardin Canal Drainage Improvements to provide geotechnical services	Engineering	Thomas and Hutton Engineering	Not to exceed \$10,000	CIP - Drainage Improvement Program

Chairman Hair said, we need to pull off from staff request, Item G. Apparently the person at the Savannah Police Department that made the request for the derelict vehicle, or confiscated vehicle, did not have the authorization, so —. We're just going to take G off totally.

Commissioner Price said, I need to be recused from Item A. Chairman Hair said, okay? Commissioner Price said, for obvious reasons. Commissioner Jackel said, Item E. Chairman Hair said, item what, A? Commissioner Price said, yes. Chairman Hair said, okay. Commissioner DeLoach asked, on the Action Calendar? Chairman Hair said, right. Did anybody else —, before we get to the recusal, did anybody else want to take anything off before we vote for the recusal. Commissioner Murray said, Item E. Commissioner Price asked, what's that, Frank [Murray]? Commissioner Jackel said, Item E. Chairman Hair said, okay. Anybody else want to take anything off? All right, let's deal with the recusal first. I think —, the Chair will entertain a motion to recuse. The Clerk said, excuse me, you need state a reason for your recusal first. Commissioner Price said, okay, the reason for the recusal is because the firm I work with, A. G. Edwards, is once again being asked to continue on as financial advisor for the County, an arrangement that predates my employment with A. G. Edwards, I might add. Chairman Hair said, that sounds like a conflict to me. Commissioner Rivers said, so moved that he be recused. Commissioner Murray said, second. Chairman Hair said, we have a motion and a second to recuse Commissioner Price. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present; Commissioner Price did not cast a vote.] Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Price is recused.

Chairman Hair said, all right, let's first vote on the Item A that Commissioner Price is recused from. This is the annual contract with option to renew for two additional one-year terms for financial advisor services which goes to A. G. Edwards & Sons. Commissioner Saussy said, I move for approval. Commissioner DeLoach said, second. Chairman Hair said, motion and a second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present; Commissioner Price was recused from voting.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

Commissioner Jackel said, here we are again. I know we have legislation pending in our State Legislature about giving a local preference. We're trying to purchase —. Mr. George Lynch said, we have no purchase here. We're simply establishing pricing and source so as requirement and funding become available we can go ahead and proceed with it. Commissioner Jackel said, well, what —, and I understand that you're operating according to regulations. We have someone out of Thomson, Georgia, and someone out of Brunswick, Georgia, and we have J. C. Lewis Motors here from Savannah, on a \$20,000 item they're like a hundred, there's \$140 difference. I just can't see how we can sell to someone out of town when there's that less of a difference. I know we're trying to get that changed in the State Legislature. I just can't go for that anymore. I'm tired of it. I can't do it.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Jackel, let me bring you up to date. It just happened yesterday. It's in your packets y'all will get it today. I just got it late yesterday afternoon. You know, that's something I've always been concerned about and I've been working very hard to get this changed, and I think we have accomplished that now, and the County Manager and I discussed this yesterday, and there will be an item —, an agenda item at the next meeting that will give us the right to do this. We've gotten a formal letter from the Legislative Council and he consulted with the Attorney General's Office, and we have an official ruling now that we have the power to do that under Home Rule. We have the power of first refusal, the low bidder has the power —, or has the option of first refusal, so the Manager and I discussed this yesterday and we will have an item on our agenda at the next meeting that will allow us to do this.

Commissioner Jackel said, well, then, my question is, can we table this until we get that done? Mr. Abolt said, bids were taken under a certain set of situations. I think your only option would be to reject and us to readvertise it. Commissioner Price said, Martin [Jackel], it's probably already done. Mr. Lynch said, no, no, no, no. Commissioner Price asked, no? Mr. Lynch said no, unfortunately, to my knowledge we don't have the money to buy them. Mr. Abolt said, please understand. This just creates a unit price that if money becomes available.

Chairman Hair said, I think it would be good to reject this though and have this come back. You're not buying anything anyway, so we can reject this and once the new ordinance is in place we can do it. There's no —. Commissioner Price said, it's a liability [inaudible]. Ms. Garrard said, you have the right to reject it. Mr. Abolt said, you can reject. The only thing I would ask, George [Lynch], to make sure you're fully apprised of it because the reason we do this is the season and to ensure when a prospective bidder can commit to a unit price based on where they are in the model year. If this is rejected and then there is subsequent readvertising, is that going to jeopardize that seasonal window? Mr. Lynch said, I don't believe it will in this case. With y'all's permission, may I ask that we take no action on this one and then come to you rather than reject —, Chairman Hair said, just pull it off the agenda. Mr. Lynch said, may I suggest table it or pull it. Commissioner Price asked, what if we refer it back to staff? Mr. Lynch said, that's great.

Chairman Hair said, I also think it's very important to refer this back to staff because this is not just the purchase of a single vehicle, this is establishing that base price, which could be 40 vehicles, and I think we definitely need to send this back to staff and when we get the new ordinance in place and rebid it, Commissioner Jackel, then we would be in much better position.

Commissioner Price said, I move that we do so. Chairman Hair said, we have a motion to send it back to staff. Commissioner Murray said, second. Mr. Earls said, please read. Chairman Hair said, purchase on an "as needed, funds available" basis 1998 police sedans. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

- 1. Commissioner Rivers moved to recuse Commissioner Price from voting on Item 14-A because A. G. Edwards & Sons is his employer. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present; Commissioner Price did not cast a vote.]
- 2. Commissioner Saussy moved to approve Item 14-A. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present; Commissioner Price was recused from voting.]
- 3. Commissioner Price moved to approve Items 14-B through 14-N, except Items 14-E and 14-G. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]
- 4. Commissioner Price moved to pull Item 14-G and refer it back to staff. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]
- 5. Item 14-E was pulled from the agenda and required no action by the Board.

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15. REQUEST FROM THE DEVELOPER OF SOUTH HARBOR SUBDIVISION, PHASE 1-E-1, TO RECORD THE FINAL PLAT AND TO POST A LETTER OF CREDIT TO GUARANTEE THE COMPLETION OF THE REQUIRED IMPROVEMENTS. [DISTRICT 4.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to approve the request from the developer of South Harbor Subdivision, Phase 1-E-1, to record the final plat and to post a letter of credit to guarantee the completion of the required improvements. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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XI. FIRST READINGS

Proposed changes to ordinances must be read or presented in written form at two meetings held not less than one week apart. A vote on the following listed matters will occur at the next regularly scheduled meeting. Comments, discussion and debate from members of the public will be received only at the meeting at which a vote is to be taken on one of the following listed items.

- 1. **TO ADOPT "AN AMENDMENT TO THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE OF CHATHAM COUNTY TO MODIFY CERTAIN PROVISIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GEORGIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ACT AND ANY AMENDMENTS THERETO; REPEALING PRIOR ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES;" AND TO APPROVE THE ACCOMPANYING "DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY" AND "DECLARATION OF EFFECTIVE ORDINANCES DURING EMERGENCY" FORMS. Hold on first reading until response is received from each of the municipalities.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

First reading held until response is received from each of the municipalities.

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- 2. TO ADOPT "AN AMENDMENT TO THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE OF CHATHAM COUNTY TO PROHIBIT PRICE OVERCHARGING DURING EMERGENCIES; REPEALING PRIOR ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES." Hold on first reading until response is received from each of the municipalities.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

First reading held until response is received from each of the municipalities.

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- 3. TO ADOPT AN AMENDMENT TO THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE OF CHATHAM COUNTY TO ALLOW FOR TEMPORARY MOBILE/MANUFACTURED/INDUSTRIALIZED HOMES, TRAVEL TRAILERS, RECREATIONAL VEHICLES, AND MOBILE/MANUFACTURED/INDUSTRIALIZED HOME PARKS IN ANY ZONING DISTRICT DURING EMERGENCIES; REPEALING PRIOR ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Hold on first reading until response is received from each of the municipalities.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

First reading held until response is received from each of the municipalities.

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- 4. TO ADOPT AN AMENDMENT TO THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE OF CHATHAM COUNTY TO ALLOW FOR EMERGENCY BUSINESS LICENSES; REPEALING PRIOR ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Hold on first reading until response is received from each of the municipalities.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

First reading held until response is received from each of the municipalities.

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- 5. TO ADOPT AN AMENDMENT TO THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE OF CHATHAM COUNTY TO ALLOW FOR EMERGENCY BUILDING PERMITS; REPEALING PRIOR ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Hold on first reading until response is received from each of the municipalities.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

First reading held until response is received from each of the municipalities.

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6. **TO ADOPT AN AMENDMENT TO THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORDINANCE OF CHATHAM COUNTY TO PROVIDE A CURFEW AND CLOSED OR RESTRICTED AREAS DURING EMERGENCIES; REPEALING PRIOR ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. Hold on first reading until response is received from each of the municipalities.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

First reading held until response is received from each of the municipalities.

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XII. SECOND READINGS

1. **PETITIONER, SANDY DIXON, IS REQUESTING THAT THE COUNTY ZONING REGULATIONS, STREET CLASSIFICATION MAP NO. 1, BE AMENDED TO RECLASSIFY ROBERT B. MILLER ROAD AS A COLLECTOR. THE MPC RECOMMENDED THAT THE REQUEST BE APPROVED. MPC FILE NO. 97-11983-C
NO DISTRICT/TEXT AMENDMENT**

Mr. Bill Saxman said, the property in question, or the street in question is out parallel to the airport. Part of it is in the City of Savannah jurisdiction, part of it is unincorporated Chatham County. The same amendment is going to the City Council for their action also. The issue is about a two and one-half mile strip of roadway, Robert B. Miller, is being requested by a developer, a business person in that area, to reclassify it from a minor street to a collector street. Based on the County Code, it would meet all the criteria in order to justify that classification. Just to give you some background, the Policy Committee for the TCC had recommended denial of it back last Fall, feeling that it was basically an effort just to put a billboard up and they didn't think it would justify it, but we did point out in the year 2015 CUTS Plan there is a proposal to extend the Chatham Parkway, which basically goes through this corridor, and if that's the case, this roadway will be upgraded to an arterial at that time. But in the meantime if it could be classified as a collector street, it would require additional setbacks and it would help protect additional rights-of-way along that corridor. The TCC recommended that it be classified to a collector street, and if you look on the map there's a section of roadway for the Grumman Road that is not classified under the current regulations, and we recommend that that big section be classified to a collector street also to tie into either end of that street or roadway system.

Chairman Hair asked, any questions of Mr. Saxman? Commissioner Murray said, I move for approval. Chairman Hair said, we have a motion to approve. Do I have a second? Commissioner Saussy said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. Any further discussion? Commissioner DeLoach said, I've got one. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner DeLoach.

Commissioner DeLoach asked, we're just basically setting this up to upgrade in the future or does it —? Mr. Saxman said, right. It does require setbacks going from a minor street to a collector street as far as front yard setbacks. That would help protect that roadway if it ever is developed as an extension of Chatham Parkway in the year two thousand and some odd.

Chairman Hair said, okay, we have a motion and a second to approve. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to approve the request of petitioner, Sandy Dixon, that the County Zoning Regulations, Street Classification Map No. 1, be amended to reclassify Robert M. Miller Road as a collector and that the central portion (missing length on Map 1 of the Street Classification Map) of the Gulfstream/Airport Connector Road also be classified as a collector street, on the City [Section 8-3025(e)] and County [Section 4-6] Street Classification Map No. 1. Commissioner Saussy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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2. **THE PETITIONER, VAWN L. SCHROLL, AGENT (FOR GLADYS M. WISE, OWNER) IS REQUESTING THAT A 2.5-ACRE TRACT OF LAND LOCATED ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF JOHNNY MERCER BOULEVARD ON WHITEMARSH ISLAND, BE REZONED FROM P-R-A (PLANNED RESIDENTIAL-AGRICULTURE) TO A P-BN-1 (PLANNED NEIGHBORHOOD-BUSINESS-LIMITED) ZONING CLASSIFICATION IN ORDER TO ESTABLISH A COMMERCIAL PERSONAL SERVICE SHOP (HAIR STYLIST). THE MPC RECOMMENDED THAT THE REQUEST BE DENIED AND THAT A TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE R-A CLASSIFICATION TO ALLOW PERSONAL SERVICE SHOPS BE APPROVED.**

MPC FILE NO. 97-112004-C
[DISTRICT 4.]

Commissioner Price said, so moved. Chairman Hair said, we have a motion to approve. Do we have a second to that? No second? Okay. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray asked, Bill [Saxman], would you give MPC's definition of personal service shops? Mr. Saxman said, a personal service shop would include a barber shop, a shoe shop, laundry pickup stations, laundromat, watch repair, and those type operations, which are personal service. Commissioner DeLoach asked, palm reading? Mr. Saxman said, not yet, no. Commissioner Price asked, massage parlors? Commissioner Murray said, if I'm not mistaken, when we do a text amendment that means anywhere in the unincorporated area of Chatham County that this zoning is in place would then be allowed to use that. Mr. Saxman said, that's correct. Commissioner Murray said, I don't think we need to do that. I also understand that this piece of property —, is anybody here representing the petitioner? Chairman Hair said, Mrs. Heimes wants to speak. I don't know if she —. Commissioner Murray said, I know, but she's not in favor of it. Chairman Hair said, well, she's still allowed to speak though. Commissioner Murray said, but I was still speaking though. Chairman Hair said, okay. Commissioner Murray said, I understand also that this property if the zoning goes through will be sold. Is that correct? Do you know anything about that? Mr. Saxman said, I'm not sure about that. I haven't heard anything on that. Commissioner Price asked, is the petitioner here? Commissioner Murray said, no, they're not. Chairman Hair said, no. All right, are you finished? Commissioner Murray said, yes, I'll ask some more questions later.

Chairman Hair said, all right, Mrs. Heimes.

Mrs. Marianne Heimes, Islands Citizens for Logical Growth, said I'd like to, just as an aside, introduce our new president, Jean Valentine, who's in the audience. Commissioner Price said, welcome. Mrs. Heimes said, she'll be bothering you from now on. Chairman Hair said, we need a lot of that. Mrs. Heimes said, well, this is another text amendment. We're changing our zoning again, and I remind you all that this is why some of us have asked for a look at our zoning ordinance. Are you aware that the text amendment to an R-A would allow the personal service shops or beauty parlors in Modena, Turner's Rock, Dutch Island, and the new division —, subdivisions on Quacco Road that Mr. Louis Young has just finished. I'm not —, Laurel Green, Laurel Crest. I wonder if these people are aware of the wonderful things coming to their neighborhood soon. I have a feeling that they would not be too much in favor of it. We feel that there are several issues here. First of all, the traffic at that particular intersection has become very troublesome because right across from Skipper's Florist are the three new schools that serve the Islands' population and downtown population too. On rainy days it's a nightmare there. It also serves the people, the soon to be 600 apartments there at The Hammocks. It's something that really we have requested the Police Department to look into, and I think the traffic there —, if they put —, if this whole property is sold, there's quite a bit of property behind Skipper's that would then be eligible to be built under this and zoned this way. I really think that we need to be cautious here and perhaps we need to relook this whole situation because I think —, you know we're concerned on the Islands about building. I would like to suggest that you look into it further and deny it at this time. Thank you.

Chairman Hair said, thank you. Anybody else want to speak on this petition. The Chair will entertain a motion.

Commissioner Murray said, I would just like to explain to the Commission how that property is set up if you're not familiar with it. You've got the new apartments they're building, The Hammocks, then you've got Skipper's and behind Skipper's you've got some more vacant land and then you've got vacant land on past them, and then you've got the Baptist Church. I know it can't expand into a lot, but the intersection there and the traffic out there is a major concern that everybody has right now, and I would just like to see us look at that further before we approve anything on it, and I would certainly feel better if the petitioner was here to answer some questions. Chairman Hair said, do you want to table it?

Ms. Garrard said, that was going to be my question, Mr. Chairman. I'm concerned that the petitioner is not here, and if the Commission took some vote to deny it, that the petitioner —, I would like some assurance that the petitioner has been properly notified.

Chairman Hair said, why don't we table it. Let's just table it. The Chair will entertain a motion to table. Commissioner Murray said, so moved. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. All those in favor to table it vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Saussy, Rivers and Odell were not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

Ms. Garrard asked, does that mean that you will have it on for the next meeting? Commissioner Murray said, yes. Chairman Hair said, yes. We should [inaudible]. Ms. Garrard said, I don't think so, but the petitioner does need to be notified. Chairman Hair said, we should make some —. Commissioner Murray said, let's just table it to the next meeting and if the petitioner is not here, we will act on it at that time one way or the other. Chairman Hair said, yes, we really need to make some attempt to notify the petitioner. Commissioner Murray said, I don't think we need to postpone it any further.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to table to the next meeting the petition of Vawn L. Schroll, Agent (for Gladys M. Wise, Owner), requesting that a 2.5-acre tract of land located on the south side of Johnny Mercer Boulevard on Whitemarsh Island, be rezoned from P-R-A (Planned Residential-Agriculture) to a P-BN-1 (Planned Neighborhood-Business-Limited) zoning classification in order to establish a commercial personal service shop (hair stylist). The MPC recommended that the request be denied and that a text amendment to the R-A classification to allow personal service shops be approved. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Saussy, Rivers and Odell were not present.]

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XIII. INFORMATION CALENDAR

- 1. PROGRESS REPORT ON GENERAL FUND CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT - M&O AND THE SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT (SEE ATTACHED).**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Information status report.

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- 2. LIST OF PURCHASING ITEMS BETWEEN \$2,500 AND \$9,999 (SEE ATTACHED).**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Information status report.

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- 3. STATUS REPORT ON CONSOLIDATION OF INSPECTIONS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENTS WITH THOSE OF THE CITY OF SAVANNAH.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Information status report.

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- 4. STATUS REPORT ON ADMISSION FEE, ANDERSON/COHEN WEIGHTLIFTING CENTER.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Information status report.

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- 5. MONTHLY VERBAL ROAD AND DRAINAGE BRIEFING (AL BUNGARD, MIKE KAIGLER).**

Chairman Hair said, the County Manager has requested that we get a brief report on roads and drainage from Mr. Bungard and Mr. Kaigler, and we'll get Mr. Bungard first. While he's coming up, what I suggested to the County Manager yesterday, that in the future when we get these monthly reports, that a week in advance we would get a written status report and then we would basically handle this monthly report as a question and answer period based on —. It's very difficult for us to respond to something the day we hear for the first time and also we don't have a record of what Mr. Bungard is going to tell us, so he and the County Manager thought that was a good approach, so in the future that's what we will do. We'll get it in advance and we'll just ask questions about it when we get the monthly reports.

Mr. Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, if I may, I would like to recognize —, Mr. Bungard's obviously in front of you, but possibly he's wearing one of the finest looking suits I've seen on him since he's been here. Commissioner Price asked, is that a Brooks Brothers? Chairman Hair said, we're paying him obviously too much. That's where we could get the \$5,000 for McFaul right there, from his salary. Commissioner Price said, Bungard's wardrobe. Mr. Abolt said, the reason for the comment is had you not had this opportunity he would have been crestfallen.

Mr. Al Bungard said, I'll try —, what I'd like to do is just highlight some of the projects, kind of working from West to East in the County. As y'all know —, remember, we opened the Jimmy DeLoach Parkway Phase I, we continue with the interchange project at 95. That's being done by Harvey Baker. He has two years to complete that, but only —, he's down to 270 days to complete the bridge and transfer the traffic and that's coming along very nicely. And then there's the extension from the Home Depot out towards 21. That is a continuation of the APAC contract. That's been delayed because of rain, but that should be done now by May or June, and then the follow-on project to that is the State Route 21 Interchange, and for that project we have started acquiring the rights-of-way, the biggest impact being the Collum Mobile Home Park, assisting and

relocating 44 residents in that area, and we're working our way through that, it's going quite well. We look to advertise that sometime this Summer.

Pooler Parkway Phase II, which will go then from Highway 80 down to I-16, there were several problems with that, primarily with rights-of-way and wetland. There were three projects, the interchanges and then the road in between. The Georgia Department of Transportation decided to break into two projects with logical termini being Pine Baron, and the priority is going to the southern piece from I-16 up to Pine Baron. We're acquiring three right-of-way parcels and there's some controversial environmental litigation and we're working on that, but we're still shooting for an award of that by the DOT around June.

King George and 204, last time Commissioner Price asked about why wasn't the dirt turning. I got a schedule yesterday from APAC. I had a prayer meeting in my office on the 17th with APAC and the division president and that is again delayed because of utilities coordination, and my guide to them was, do get the utilities coordination lined up so we don't have another Waters where we start digging up the streets only to find out the utilities are not ready to be relocated. The schedule I received yesterday shows them starting by the end of the month. They should be putting up traffic controls very soon. Erosion control plans were all approved on Monday, so I think, you know, it's looking better. Commissioner DeLoach asked, that's March 1 they're going to start? Mr. Bungard said, their plan shows starting to grade near the end of this month. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay. Mr. Bungard said, I'll give Commissioner Price a copy of that before I leave, I promise. Commissioner Price said, well give Eddie [DeLoach] too because the other side of that intersection is his district. Mr. Bungard said, I'll be glad to.

Okay, Highway 17. As you may recall that was two projects, from Dean Forest to 204 and then 204 down to the County line. That has been delayed at least six to eight months because —, I don't know how else to put this —, the subcontractor that was doing the right-of-way plans botched it and they're being totally redone, and the DOT is working that.

Science Drive, I was asked about. That is out for bid. Bid opening is scheduled for 4 March. That's the —, it's called a relocation project, but it's going to go from Apache over to Windsor, and that's coming along. The most recent change being on Windsor we added some median with trees for traffic control in that area. Does that answer your question? Do you have others? Commissioner Price said, well, yes, the time frame of it all. I'm glad to hear that —, I think one of the City Engineers had the idea about the 600 block of Windsor Road, doing the trees and the median that you just referred to that I'm glad to hear we are following up on that idea, which was very well received by those who were, you know, reluctant to see this thing go through. You missed the public debate about that. I don't think you were here —. Mr. Bungard said, I was not here then, no. Commissioner Price said, in time for that, so you're talking a bid opening of March 4th. From there how long before they actually see —? Mr. Bungard said, that's —, well, the bid opening, those proceedings usually take 30 - 45 days, so we're looking at probably starting work around June and it's scheduled to be a nine month project, nine or 10 months. Commissioner Price said, okay.

Mr. Bungard said, Waters Avenue, we did get them by APAC to open up DeRenne working well; however, I was upset again with the delays at Memorial since that was their next priority in the meeting they had with me, and they've had —, they have been generally impacted by rain delays, but they were back out there working yesterday and I've agreed to some changes if need be. They couldn't get the compaction of the dirt and to expedite that we may have to authorize additional gravel, but I'm working that one.

Truman Parkway, Phases III, IV and V, a lot of recent interest on that. The EIS still remains at the Federal Highway Administration since September and I can get no kind of readout or no commitment on when they're going to sign that. Commissioner Price said, what about public hearings. Does that come after? Mr. Bungard said, now the way it will work is once we get their comments back, we will schedule the public hearings. Once we've collected them we will have a 30 to 45 day comment period and the public hearing is going to be jointly done with the Corps of Engineers. I'll coordinate that with Colonel Smith.

Commissioner Murray said, I just think that on Truman Parkway right now that we need to get something clarified for the citizens of Chatham County, and I guess probably a week or so ago the Executive Vice President and General Manager of WTOC did his commentary on, I think, probably the six o'clock news stating that the Chatham County Commission, that Chatham County had not done anything to move it forward, had not purchased right-of-ways [sic], we haven't done a lot of things there. I think they need to get their facts straight. We have purchased right-of-ways [sic] on the third and fourth phase, we have purchased right-of-ways [sic] on the fifth phase, which is way out. There is also a sign that you can rent down on Abercorn and White Bluff Road, you can rent it on a daily basis, that had something up this past week about call your County Commissioners to move the project forward. We are limited to what we can do. The sales tax is only paying to relocate the utilities and purchasing the right-of-ways [sic]. The State is funding the construction cost for that project and they'll let the contracts, and I think the general public needs to know that. It's not the County Commission. We have done everything we can do and we're still trying to move it forward. Mr. Bungard said, I called Bill Cathcart and told him that we have, in fact, under —. Commissioner Murray asked, did you see that? Mr. Bungard said, yes sir, I did and I called him and told him he was incorrect, and he'd been talking to me, but —.

Commissioner Saussy asked, did he correct it? Mr. Bungard said, he knows —, he's been [inaudible], but I told him on that part he was incorrect. Commissioner Saussy said, well, the problem is he'll know and the public knowing are two different things. I think WTOC needs to retract that. Chairman Hair said, well, one thing, Commissioner Saussy, we might want to pursue, I also saw that very inaccurate report. They do allow, and it might be that we can work through Lori's [Griffin] office, we might be able to get one of us on to counter, you know, do a counter point and actually counter the editorial. I know they do allow that, and if the Commission would like us to pursue that —. Mr. Paul Johnson, an employee of WTOC, said, we invite that. Chairman Hair said, okay, so if the Commission would like, I would be glad to go on there and counter that. Commissioner Price said, please. Chairman Hair said, and if y'all would —, think that's a good idea. I think it's —. Commissioner Price said, you are the official spokesperson for the County. Chairman Hair said, and I will work with Lori [Griffin] and —. Commissioner Saussy said, I would hope it would be in prime time like they did the other. Chairman Hair said, well, we'll request that. I think they'll be fair. Commissioner Murray said, well, you can always do it on the [inaudible]. Mr. Johnson said, it would be in the same time slot. Chairman Hair said, same time slot, so that would be good. So we need

— Commissioner Price asked, same amount of time? Commissioner Murray said, I think a lot of what he was saying was good, but I do think he had the wrong facts on that portion of it. Chairman Hair said, what we might want to do, Lori [Griffin], we might want to get a video tape of that and maybe get with Al [Bungard] and just maybe a point by point thing where we had inaccuracies so that we could —, and then develop a script that we could use. I'm sure they would give us a tape of that if we call out there. Okay, we'll work on that and we'll try to do an on-air, you know, rebuttal to that. I think that's a good point, Commissioner Murray. Anything else, Al [Bungard]?

Mr. Bungard said, I'm going to skip only down to local roads. We continue to work a long list of well over a hundred that started back in '87.

Chairman Hair said, Al [Bungard], let me interrupt you here just a second. We need a —, Fred [Thompson] needs to know if we want to cancel lunch today. Commissioner Murray said, I'm not going to eat. Chairman Hair asked, do you want to cancel. Commissioner Price said, yes. Commissioner Jackel asked, how long —? Chairman Hair said, I think we might be here another 15 or 20 minutes plus Executive Session. Commissioner Jackel asked, how long is Executive Session? Chairman Hair said, probably fairly short, I would think. Everybody want to cancel? Commissioner DeLoach said, yes. Chairman Hair said, all right, cancel. I'm sorry.

Mr. Bungard said, we're getting ready to advertise next month all kinds of local roads. As you know, we've been regrouping those based on geographic drainage problems. One thing I have tried to do since I got here, I found out that we actually graded the drainage problems and some of the road projects, and I've held some up to fix the drainage problems and, for instance, we're getting ready to do Smith, Central, Cherokee, and Saussy. We'll advertise that on 1 March. Tara, Charlene, Doland and Perry Cove will be advertised around 1 March. Wilma is —, we just completed. Commissioner Price said, we've got a Saussy Road and a DeLoach Road. Mr. Bungard said, then we have Cartwright, Lucas, Queenaire lumped together and they're out for bids and opening in three weeks.

Commissioner Murray asked, what about Tara? Mr. Bungard said, Tara, that's the one we're going to advertise in about a week. That one was held up because Doland, that was our consultant had defaulted, went bankrupt. We had to finish up the design on that. Commissioner Price asked, how about Hill Road? Commissioner Murray said, let me ask you a question. Oh, excuse me. Commissioner Price said, no, go ahead. Commissioner Murray said, and I'll use Gray's Creek Subdivision as an example. They've had probably five roads total that were not paved. Some were paved almost all the way down and you had a couple of blocks that were still unpaved on those particular roads. To me it would seem like it would have been better to have gone in and bid all of them at one time and gone and done them all with the same company when the equipment was down there rather than taking them in and out. Maybe that's not feasible, I don't know. Mr. Bungard said, it's been on-going. What I'm trying to do is tweak in a program, you know, that's been —, that we started a long while ago. In some cases we've done that, where somebody built on the end of the road after it was already paved. Some of these are grouped because of State participation. For instance, Wilma was pulled out and done separately because the State would not participate. That's a factor on how we group them also. Commissioner Murray said, [inaudible] my situation altogether. Mr. Bungard said, it's a little convoluted, I understand, but if you're aware of a case like that, we would be glad to throw them in.

Commissioner Price asked, what about Hill Road and Groves? Are you aware of these two? Mr. Bungard said, Hill, yes, I have some information to show you after this on that. It's —, I'd rather not discuss that one in here. Commissioner Price said, what about the community park, and I know this is getting a little bit off the subject, but the Burroughs Community Park, where does that stand now? Mr. Bungard said, I do not know, I'll have to check on that. Commissioner Price said, you're looking blank, Russ [Abolt]. Mr. Abolt said, Burroughs. Mr. Bungard said, yes. Mr. Abolt asked, the basketball? Commissioner Price said, no. Mr. Bungard said, [inaudible] the bids, that's right. Where the bids were way over the amount under the program and we rejected the bids. Commissioner Price said, right. Mr. Bungard said, and we are rewriting the contract and are going to put it out for bids again. We'll still have to address the money issue because I believe it's going to come over the amount of money allocated. That's where that is.

Commissioner Saussy asked, what about Ferguson Avenue drainage area? What's the status on that? Mr. Bungard said, the drainage on Ferguson. Commissioner Saussy said, off of Ferguson. In that area. Mr. Bungard said, we're doing Ferguson Avenue, '93-'98 SPLOST, we're in the right-of-way acquisition phase on that and we're about 90% complete.

Commissioner Jackel said, I got a call from a constituent just yesterday about Southwest Bypass, coming on —. When you're coming north on it, it says Hunter Army Airfield. He says there's no mention of DeRenne, there's no mention that there's hospitals that way. Someone who is not familiar with all of Savannah, that would greatly help people find their way to a hospital if they needed, and let them understand that it is going to DeRenne if that's the street that they're looking for. Mr. Bungard said, okay, we'll take a look at it.

Commissioner Murray said, I know this is not County responsibility, but I think we're going to have to play some type of role in it. I understand from talking with Pat Monahan this morning that the State is charge of the interchange coming off of the Talmadge Bridge to the —. Mr. Abolt said, Hutchinson. Commissioner Murray said, Hutchinson Island. The construction of the Trade Center and the hotel would be underway or is underway. It takes approximately two years, I think, to build that interchange, so if the State is not starting on the interchange, we're going to have a hotel and a Trade Center built with very poor access in and off that island, so I don't know what we can do to speed that up or to get the State to move on it, but the funds were approved, I think, I've forgotten —, a couple of sales tax back, so I think we need to do what we can to get the State's involvement to get them to start on that project so it can be opened at the same time or at least within that time frame. Chairman Hair said, we may need to set a meeting up with Commissioner Shackelford or someone, Al [Bungard] on that, and I do know that Commissioner Shackelford is very adamant about that is his interchange, but I think he is also open to us seeking if we can speed it up. It may be that at some point we need to meet with him. Commissioner Murray said, well, I understand it's theirs, but I think they need to have it [inaudible] the hotel. Chairman Hair said, I agree. I mean, they've been extremely cooperative when we've asked them. This just might be one of —, I mean, like the rest of us, they have a lot of things on their plate, and it might be that we just need to jog their memory about how important this is. Mr. Bungard said, it

might be an awareness issue of their staff of me writing them a letter saying be advised, this is the schedule for opening, let's [inaudible] in such a way that it's done —. Chairman Hair said, yes. Why don't we pursue it this way. Why don't you deal with them at the staff level and if you see that you're getting some resistance, let me know and we'll deal with it at the Commissioner level.

Commissioner Price said, I wanted to follow up on what Martin [Jackel] was saying. He was talking about the Southwest Bypass, which is also really known as Veteran's Parkway. One day we'll get the signs fixed. The overpass at Veteran's Parkway and 204. I know that there are some redesigns going in right now concerning that overpass and taking into consideration what I've read about the ecological impact or the impact on the marsh in that area, the wetlands area, is that the only thing that's holding that project up or is it a funding problem? Mr. Bungard said, as far as I know, yes. I'm checking my notes here, we're looking at putting in the wetlands permits the middle of March, there's an issue because of trade-offs with the saltwater marsh and existing borrow and prior work done out there. I don't have the details on it yet, but, yes, it could be a problem there. It's about 30-some acres involved. Commissioner Price asked, it could be a problem in the sense that it might not get built or it could be —? Mr. Bungard said, no, I just think it's going to take time to sort it out. Commissioner Price said, well, this is probably one of the longest —, the only exception would be the Truman Parkway. I think that, of a project that's taken so long to get moving and get going. We have continued to see traffic accidents out there. The amount of traffic volume between Savannah Mall going out past Georgetown and going out past that very critical intersection at Veteran's Parkway, Southwest Bypass, we used to have with the, I think it was the DOT's help, some type of flashing light up there. You weren't here, but, Russ [Abolt], you remember, there was some kind of extra —. Mr. Abolt said, an advance. Commissioner Price said, extra cautionary warning given about you're going to have to prepare to stop up here. We have gotten a tremendous number of rear-end collisions that continue to occur, and we had it up right as the road was opened and for probably three or four months and then it hadn't been back but there's a lot of people might not have seen it back then. There's a lot of people coming out of Savannah that don't know Savannah, and I just —, what I'm asking for is that we have —, we go back to DOT and ask them to put that sign back out there until we can get this problem fixed. Of course, the overpass will fix it, but —. Mr. Bungard said, but nobody has told me that the wetlands issue could delay the scheduled construction start for 1999. Mr. Abolt said, there obviously is an awful lot of attention given to this, and we don't —, I'm not going to blink on it.

Chairman Hair asked, anything else [inaudible]? Any other questions of Al [Bungard]? Michael [Kaigler], do you want to bring us up quickly on drainage issues? Commissioner Murray said, since you haven't had any rain over the last couple of months we ought to be in good shape.

Mr. Michael Kaigler said, we're about to float away, I'll tell you. Just kind of briefly, and I will commit this to writing for the next meeting in the report, but we're very pleased at the way the Countywide drainage maintenance program has been coming along. Even with the recent rains that we've had, we've had no structural flooding. We've had some street flooding, but it's been dramatically decreased from what we've been seeing in past years. We started out with about 132 miles of canals in inventory. When we were going through the program, we found out there were several areas within the City and some of the smaller municipalities that we could not access, so we decreased the amount of mileage, so in the inventory as it currently stands we've got about 124 miles of canals that we've been maintaining. The mowing contractors and herbicide contractors, they performed extremely well for the first year. We got three mowings and two [inaudible] herbicides, so we think that's coming along real good, and we're very proud of the contractors. I think they have given us very good service and we did really well, I think, for the first year. I think we could improve on it next year —, well, this year.

Commissioner Murray said, let me ask a question while we're on that, and I know it happens down in the Islands area. We've got some canals and ditches back in areas that people normally don't see them that stay clogged up, and we've got people that throw trash, used tires and things like that in them. Is there anyway that we can prosecute those people when we find out who's doing it? Mr. Kaigler said, yes, we are instituting a very stringent inspections program where they're getting inspected. Other than when we go down to clean them, we're inspecting them two or three times a year to make sure that, you know, when we have illegal dumping —, because a lot of our flooding occurs when people throw some stuff in the canals and the ditches and clog them up, and if we find —, if we're able to find out who's doing the illegal dumping, Inspections will work with us and get that. Commissioner Murray said, [inaudible] find out who does it, but [inaudible] certainly doing it.

Mr. Kaigler said, also we'll be coming back to you with a report that outlines a new scheduling on our small ditch maintenance. With the '98 budget we lost —, we're dealing with shrinking resources, and we've had to kind of revamp that program, so we'll be coming back to you with a schedule and sort of a public campaign to let the citizens know what we'll be able to do and when we'll be in their areas.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Michael [Kaigler]. Any questions of Michael [Kaigler]? Okay, thanks.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Information status report. No action required by the Board.

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CHATHAM COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Thomas wants to bring us up to date on a very successful trip she had yesterday with the Youth Commission to Atlanta.

Commissioner Thomas said, Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission, I just wanted to share some information with you concerning our Youth Commission. You would have been very proud of them. We were able to take 16 of the 30 to Atlanta on yesterday, where they had the opportunity of meeting with the Governor and they visited both the House and the

Senate to see our legislators in action. They had many opportunities for photo sessions, which all of our Representatives were able to be present and do that with them. They had an opportunity to tour the State Capitol where they learned a lot about the history, and in addition to that, after lunch we took the opportunity to take them up to the 20th Floor of Twin Towers where the State Board of Education is held, and of course we were not able to see the State Superintendent because she was not in, but we were privy of the opportunity of visiting her office and the board room where decisions are being made, and so forth and so on, but the young people carried themselves very well. They represented Chatham County, and I'd like to thank Mr. Van Johnson and Wanda —, I keep, is it Mayer or Meier, and Ms. Beverly Whitehead for assisting us in the travel because that was the only way we could get there. We couldn't go on a school bus. And they made it possible for us to go on a chartered bus there. I would like to also thank State Representative Dorothy Pelote who did the leg work and she provided us the opportunity to move about with such ease, and she stayed with us and she gave us information. She made it possible for us to meet the important people. We also met the lobbyist, they had an opportunity to see our lobbyist, and we, generally, we were excited about the whole day. I would like to point out to the Commission that, you know, they are our Youth Commission and they represent us and they represent us well, and although we did not think about it during our budget time, but in the future I hope that we will consider finding some means of putting something in the budget for operating expenses for them so that we can adequately address their concerns, and you will probably hear more from them at the next meeting, but I just wanted to share that information with you. They are preparing a youth rally, which will take place on April 18th, and at that time I think Jack Kingston will also be here along with some other Representatives, so they will be calling on you, and I hope when they, you know, check with you that you will, if you have the time, to try to participate in those activities if you can because it will make them feel real good knowing that we are supporting them.

Commissioner Price said, you must have worn them out because they didn't show up today. Commissioner Thomas said, well, we did not want them to —. Chairman Hair said, take them out of school another day. Commissioner Thomas said, miss another day and, you know, from school inasmuch as they had been away the entire day. We left from here at 5:30 yesterday morning. Commissioner Price said, so they are tired. Commissioner Thomas said, and we —, well, we got back at 7:00 last night.

Chairman Hair said, Dr. Thomas is being a little bit modest. You know, most of you know that she was on the State Board of Education so she has a little clout up there that most of us wouldn't have, and she was able to get them in some of the inner chambers that most of us wouldn't have been able to do. So, we thank you for your work on that. Commissioner Thomas said, it was a real learning experience for them.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner Rivers moved that the Board go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation, land acquisition and personnel. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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Following adjournment of Executive Session, the meeting of the Chatham County Commissioners reconvened.

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Chairman Hair said, Martin [Jackel] told us he would present this. Martin [Jackel] had a great idea. He sent a draft to me that I'll —, basically, what it is, is, like the rest of us, we get so many requests to be at places that we can't be. Commissioner Saussy said, right. Chairman Hair said, and Martin [Jackel] went to the time and effort, and I really appreciate that, Martin [Jackel], it's well drafted. He drafted up like a little letter that says, you know, we appreciate your invitation, but we all have full time jobs and we're, you know, and basically it also stated in there that we also meet on the first and third [sic] Fridays and we'd be more than happy to have you come visit us and, you know, and put you on the agenda and that sort of thing. I personally think it's a good idea to use it sort of as a standard —, I mean, all of us would have copies of it and if you wanted to use it, you could. If you didn't, you didn't have to, but it would sort of give a standard answer. Martin [Jackel] do you want to —.

Commissioner Jackel said, well, we can't go to all the things, and the advantage of them coming to us is, one, all of us are here instead of maybe —. Commissioner Murray said, well, we're all here at the same time too. Commissioner Jackel said, yes, instead of maybe one or two showing up. The other thing, the news media is here and a lot of people watch that public access TV, so it would really help the groups instead of calling something at 10:00 or 10:30, that they just came and we let them make a short presentation. Commissioner Saussy said, we used to do that basically when we had the premeeting. I don't know whether we want to reinstate that or not. Chairman Hair said, no. Commissioner Jackel said, but the idea is to not say, hey, we're not showing up or whatever, and then there's an additional part that says, okay, if you're going to have this thing we suggest that either you do it the very first thing in the morning, you do it during the lunch hour, or you do it like at 5:00 or 5:30 because if it's like 10:00 or 10:30, time I leave my office, go to the function, come back, the whole morning is gone.

Chairman Hair said, well, I think it's worth a try. I mean, you know, it's just something that maybe —, you know, and I think, like I said, Martin [Jackel] put a lot of time in it. I appreciate that. He did a good job of drafting it up. Commissioner Saussy asked, but this would be at the Chairman's and the Commissioner's —. Chairman Hair said, yes. He drafted it with like

blanks. You've got blanks where you just put your name in there, you know, that sort of thing. Commissioner Saussy said, that's fine. Chairman Hair said, and, I mean, we can try it. I don't think it —, I think it's a great idea and I know Martin [Jackel] has, like I said, you know he put some time and effort in it. What I'll do is I'll copies of it to everybody, I'll send copies out to everybody with a cover memo and you can use it —.

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APPOINTMENTS:

No appointments were made at this meeting.

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ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Chairman Hair declared the meeting adjourned.

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APPROVED: THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 1998

DR. BILLY B. HAIR, CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

SYBIL E. TILLMAN, CLERK