MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON JUNE 26, 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, June 26, 1998.

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II. INVOCATION

Commissioner Thomas introduced The Reverend Matthew Odum, Pastor of the Greater Garvin's Temple Baptist Church, who 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

IN ATTENDANCE:
Russ Abolt, County Manager
R. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney
Sybil E. Tillman, County Clerk

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V. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

None.

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

Chairman Hair said, since Ben [Price] is not here yet, I'm going to hold his items until he arrives and so we'll go to the next item, health plan item, Commissioner Jackel.

[NOTE: The order of business was changed and Items VI-4 and VI-5 were heard at this point on the agenda.]

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VI. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS

1. REQUEST FOR RECLASSIFICATIONS FROM JUDGE ANDRE (COMMISSIONER PRICE).

Commissioner Price said, I'd like to ask Judge Andre to come up. He made a very strong argument to me for why we should consider this, and I'd like for Judge Andre to share that argument with the rest of the Commission. Chairman Hair said, Judge, welcome.

Judge John Andre said, certainly. Good morning. Several of the Commissioners said, good morning. Judge Andre said, several weeks ago I sent each of you a brochure containing some of the businesses of the court and the financial runnings of the court. I don't know how many of you have that information with you. What I'd like to do now, I've got just one sheet out of that excerpt to pass it among you so that I could discuss it and you would have something if you don't have it now. I'm here on a reclassification, but before going into the reasons and this part of the reason, as to why I'm asking that my personnel be reclassified, I would like to make a few statements in relation to the operation of the court. Back in 1995 we revamped the court and decided that the fines that we were imposing for bad checks were not in line with what they should be, so we increased the fines on bad checks and we also tried to make the Sheriff's job a little bit easier. When they serve a warrant, if the person doesn't come in, it's difficult to get the Sheriff to go back out and chase these people down, so what we've done, we have two people that stay on the phone and send out notices to people that they will be picked up by the Sheriff if they don't come to court and pay the fines as they have agreed to pay them and pled guilty of. So we've revamped the office and we went from having a deficit and having taxpayers pay towards the operation of our court, from $152,224 in 1994 to showing a surplus in 1995 of $68,000 profit. In other words, in '95 we did not cost the County one penny and the taxpayers paid nothing towards the operation of the court. It was all paid by the court itself. In 1996 the profit that we sent the County was $131,000 and in 1997 it was $128,000. We're approximately half the way through this year, and I feel that the $128,000 will be exceeded this year. In fact, I see no reason on —, I see no reason that from this point forward the taxpayers of Chatham County should have any money paid towards operating this court. This court is self-sufficient. In fact, we make a profit for the County. That's one of the reasons why that I feel justified in coming here. If it was not the fact that we were losing money, then I think we'd have to suck it up and say, okay, we've got to operate on what the County gives us, but that's not the point. That's one of the things I just feel like that if I can show that my people in my office deserve to be reclassified, that this should be one reason, and I'm not costing the taxpayers one cent. Now the reason why I think my people need to be classified [sic], at first I checked with Ms. Whitehead. She's in complete agreement with me that my personnel should be reclassified. There was a court up here before y'all back several months ago that had the same argument I'm going to present to you. Whereas the courts have several functions and several different departments and several different offices in charge, we have one court. In fact, the judges' chambers are in the same office where the clerk's office are [sic]. Now the other judges are separated from the clerk's office. We're in the clerk's office. In fact, we participate, both judges, in the running of the office. Not only do we have Ms. Dixon, who is the court's administrator, we also help in the running of the court. But we do everything in this one court that the other courts take three different departments to run. State Court presented this same problem to you in December of 1997 and y'all completely unanimously voted for it, showing that they were doing other things besides just what they were previously doing, and all I'm asking is that I be treated fairly. My clerks now are upset, and there's probably going to be somebody upset because —, if y'all help me out. But my clerks feels that the money that they're bringing in, and they're making less money, and the same thing I'm asking for y'all have approved for State Court. I'm asking to be treated fair and I'll let y'all make that decision. I think it's more than asking you to be fair, and I'm open to any questions that you have concerning what I've just covered.

Commissioner Odell said, no direct questions for the judge, and I personally have personal knowledge that you all do a good job, but you had indicated that the Human Resources had concurred with your conclusion —. Judge Andre said, absolutely. Commissioner Odell said, about the reevaluation. Judge Andre said, yes. Commissioner Odell said, and that's true, Beverly [Whitehead]? Mrs. Whitehead said, yes, sir. Commissioner Odell said, okay. You know, we have a fundamental problem, and our fundamental problem is —, and I'm going to support your request, Judge, and not for the reason that you've stated, but for the following reason. We are subject to equal pay and basically equal pay simply means that you have a position that has know-how, accountability, responsibility and breadth of authority, and in your system you pay that position X-number of dollars per year. You have a salary. That should run across the system, and what you're proposing says and why I personally support it, is that in your department there have been people who are doing jobs which have a greater know-how, greater accountability, greater breadth of authority as compared to other positions in our system and they're being paid less. So obviously it's an equal pay issue. It's an issue of do we have a consistent salary policy, not only in your department, but across. And this has nothing to do with Human Resources, this must lay at the feet of the Commissioners in our not funding the salary system over periods of time. I support your system for those reasons and those reasons are that we must maintain a system of equal pay. If a job in Department A is paid X-number of dollars for certain things, then in the Sheriff's Department we have the same kind of job, we're got the same thing. And that's basically what you're saying. It speaks —. Judge Andre said, I hope that's what I said. I thought that's what I said. Commissioner Odell said, you said it more eloquently, Judge. Judge Andre said, no. Commissioner Odell said, I want the record to reflect —, and it's not because you're the Chief Judge, but I'm being positive.

Chairman Hair said, [inaudible], that's what you're saying. Commissioner Odell, are you through? Commissioner Odell said, yes. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Price.

Commissioner Price asked, Judge, have you given us a list of what these reclass —? Chairman Hair said, yes, they're in the book. Commissioner Price said, okay. Chairman Hair said, yes, they're in the book. Commissioner Price asked, what's the bottom line cost to do this? Commissioner Jackel said, $33,000. Chairman Hair said, yes, 33. Commissioner Jackel said, $39,000. Chairman Hair said, $39,000. Commissioner Jackel said, $39,000. Commissioner Price said, okay. Is this something that we can budget out of his budget? Is this something that we can take out —. Chairman Hair said, I don't think that's the way we budget. I think everything goes —, Russ [Abolt] can explain that better. I think it goes into General Fund. Russ [Abolt], can you explain that please?

County Manager Abolt said, yes. The issue is not finding the money, sir. The issue is, as the Judge has so well spoken to and you've acknowledged, the other departments, and he was very accurate. Last year you had a policy which we followed where if a department, whether there was new revenue or underspending in certain line items, we would entertain certain personnel moves, justified like Commissioner Odell said, to be funded out of those savings or additional revenue. This year, as we all know, is one of the most difficult budget years we've ever had. When you adopted the budget you really said this was the get-by year and there'll be no additional compensations to employees regardless, and so the Judge against spoke right on. In December something happened that created a very apparent problem in morale, in the situation of his court, which we understand. The justification is there. The issue is, if you choose to grant it, then what do we do with the other departments, and certainly we've had some very descriptive information from the ICS Department where they've lost key people. You're going to hear a presentation in a little bit on GIS and SAGIS. We have —, if nothing this year has been one of everybody being treated equal and everybody realizing that the time is not 1998 for salary adjustments. Again, this has not diminished the import of what the Judge has said. The numbers are there, the justification is there. The only thing I would ask is if the votes are there to approve it, then I would ask you to address very quickly how we would deal with those other departments who have similar good cases.

Commissioner Price said, what I'd like to see is a report back to us on the entirety of the other departments that you're referring to, preferably by the next meeting if possible, but I would like to go ahead and handle this request today and I move that we approve the request from Judge Andre for reclassification. Chairman Hair said, I have a motion. Do I have a second? Commissioner Jackel said, I'll second that. Chairman Hair said, and a second. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Rivers. Commissioner DeLoach said, I've got an amendment to that motion.

Commissioner Rivers said, my concern is similar to Ben's [Price], and, you know, I don't —, I just hate to see us say we're going to do something and we don't do it, we reneg and see, you know, I know that the Judge need it, I know that State Court need it. I didn't vote for that unfortunately because I feel that when we say something, we've got to stick by our guns. I'm going to support what you're doing here today based only, on the fact that you we go back —, and I'm going to make a motion to that effect that we direct staff to see that everybody, wherever there's any inequities across this whole system, we start beginning to rectify it and make sure that everybody gets an equal pay. Not only the people that's on the constitutional officers side —. Commissioner Thomas said, right. Commissioner Rivers said, not only those revenue-producing situations, because in all cases it was not revenue producing at one time, but because over the years that we have not been fair with our employees in doing what we were supposed to do, that we got this inequity. So my motion after this one is going to be that we proceed to rectify this total system.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner DeLoach wants to make an amendment. Commissioner DeLoach said, I just wanted to amend the motion, if I can get a second, to the effect that I have no problem with both things that came before me, but I would like to make the amendment state that we would do that at budget process time at the end of the year and make this process start up at our budget year because there's no way we're going to have the funds to fund everybody that's going —, that should walk up here and has the right to walk up here to get funded additional money because the money's not there. I mean, it's easy to say do it with one or two, but when you start going one or two, you're going to end up with, I mean, one of the numbers is about $1.8 million if you go to reevaluating the total package as far as each individual department is concerned. You total them all together, you're looking at $1.8 million overall. Now, you don't have $1.8 million, and it's not fair to give Judge Andre $39,000 when I can't give somebody else $5,000 and I can't give somebody else who's supposed to get half a million dollars, half a million dollars because theirs is larger. That's not fair. Now, I spoke to the Judge. He called me the other night and I told him my position on it was I have —, I understand it, we are wrong, I don't have a problem with that, we realize that. But the fact of it is, we can't do that now in the middle of the year. What I did say was, I will, and I'm doing that now, I would like to have an amendment to this to take effect at budget time beginning next year and then we can reevaluate and do it all at that time.

Chairman Hair asked, Commissioner Price, would you accept that as an amendment? Not making it effective today, making it effective January 1st? You made the motion. Commissioner Price said, yes. Yes, I would. Chairman Hair said, would the second —, who seconded that? Commissioner Jackel said, I seconded it. Chairman Hair asked, would you accept that as an amendment? Commissioner Jackel said, I'd like to hear from the Judge his —.

Judge Andre said, while I understand that two wrongs don't make a right, I understand that, I understand two wrongs don't make a right, but how did you vote for State Court and give them a pay and now say I've got to wait another six months. I understand, again, fair is fair. That's all I'm asking. If you did it for State Court and you —, my opinion is that if you did it —, y'all had the facts presented to you then the same as I'm presenting it, and you give [sic] it to State Court. My clerks now don't want to work there. I've lost three of them within the past two weeks. Now if the —, I don't have people on the phone now that are calling on the fines. Last year we took in $450,000 in fines. Now we don't do like State Court. We don't send our fines out to have a probation office, a private enterprise, collect our money. We do that ourselves. Y'all voted for State Court and that's what I'm asking for. If you don't want to do it, fine, but that's what I want. Commissioner Jackel said, let me ask you, would it be possible —, now, of course, when we did it for State Court we did it during the budget process —. Chairman Hair said, no, we didn't. Commissioner Jackel asked, we did not? Chairman Hair said, we didn't. Commissioner Jackel said,

we didn't, okay. Chairman Hair said, we didn't do it then. Commissioner DeLoach asked, when did we do that though? Commissioner Price said, January.

County Manager Abolt said, yes, sir. If I may, Dr. Thomas and gentlemen, the issue in 1997, you had a policy that on the issue of reclass, for the very reasons that Commissioner Odell presented, that if a department by line item savings, whatever reasons the money was there to cover the balance of that year, that you would entertain a shift in the budget. Please keep in mind, this Board does not approve reclass. You have to control the budget, and what you did in December there was a request, which were one of many, but it came up at the end of the year. It was justified in the previous policy, and that along with some other transfers that dealt with reclassification were approved at the tag end of the year. Come 1 January in this very, very difficult year that we're in as far as budget, The policy has been no additional compensations, period.

Commissioner Jackel said, one of the things that we all know that is a big problem that we're having is we're spending too much money on training and not enough on retention, and we have to turn that around. And what the Judge is asking is definitely a step in the right direction on doing that. Would it be possible as a compromise that we do it when we do the budget, but have it for these people that it would be retroactive back to today? Commissioner DeLoach said, man, can you imagine everybody else sitting out there that works for the County wanting —, what would you say? Chairman Hair said, Commissioner DeLoach is right. It's going to cost the same amount of money, the cost of $1.8 million if you do that. Commissioner DeLoach said, yes, $1.8 million. Chairman Hair said, it's going to cost you —. Commissioner Jackel said, no, no, I'm just talking about for this one. Commissioner DeLoach said, but you can't do it just for this one.

Chairman Hair said, well, you just need to —, I just need to know from you are you going to accept the amendment. Commissioner Jackel said, I'll accept —. Chairman Hair said, making it effective January. Commissioner Jackel said, no, no. Chairman Hair said, okay, you will not accept it. Okay, then we need to deal with this motion first. So the motion before you is to approve this effective immediately. That's the motion before you. Commissioner DeLoach asked, don't you have to vote on the amendment first? Chairman Hair said, you're amendment didn't —, he didn't accept your amendment. The second did not accept your amendment, Commissioner DeLoach. Commissioner DeLoach said, oh, okay. Chairman Hair said, he did not accept your amendment. Commissioner DeLoach said, I'm sorry. Chairman Hair said, the motion did but the second did not. Commissioner Murray said, but he can have a second on his amendment though. Chairman Hair said, well, he can —, he can. He can ask for it. Commissioner DeLoach asked, could I ask for it? I can ask for second on my motion [sic]. Could I ask for a second on my motion [sic]? Chairman Hair said, it's better to deal with the motion first and then deal with the amendment. Commissioner DeLoach said, you've got to take the amendment first. Chairman Hair said, that's correct. Commissioner Price said, he's right, Billy [Hair], it can be amended without the original —. Commissioner Thomas said, I'll second. Chairman Hair said, you'll second it. Commissioner Thomas said, I'll second it. Chairman Hair said, okay, so we now have an amended motion on the floor to make it effective January 1st. Is that —, everybody understand the motion? All right. All those in —, Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, before Eddie [DeLoach] spoke, that was going to be my question, could you wait until January 1st on this. I understand your concerns right now, and I think you've justified —. Commissioner Thomas said, yes, he has. Commissioner Murray said, these reclassifications and why they need to be there, and I support that. Where I'm having a problem right now is was brought up, what do we do with other departments when they come up to this point, and we certainly do not have the $1.8 million, and I don't see how, if they have justification, we can tell them no in the middle of the year if we say yes now. I support what you want to do, but that's not a question, but the timing on it, I guess, after I've heard discussion on this, is something that we really need to look at from that standpoint.

Judge Andre said, the only problem I have, and I would have no problem waiting until the first, my problem is that —, and I guess it would be the same thing, there's going to be people that's going to be dissatisfied because my office got it, but I'm telling you, the clerks in my office, you can only deal with what —, they're quite upset. They're quite upset, I mean, as soon as this was approved, everybody started talking in the office, well, why should —, even the Superior Court. I mean, they were —, I did not realize how bad, how bad it's gotten, but it has gotten bad —, not even in my —, just in my court, but in Superior Court because they feel that State Court can get what they want to get, and I have my own reasons for believing that's true. I have —, I won't discuss this nor will I dignify why I think that's true, but State Court has always gotten what they wanted for certain reasons, and I won't go into those reasons, but, you know, fine, I can live with it if, if the collections go down because I don't have the personnel now, like I said, I have three people who's quitting. If the collections go down, then I can't —, I don't want to be asked why is the money not coming in now because I think that's going to be a problem. I don't have somebody now calling these people. Commissioner Murray asked, Judge, those three people that you're losing or have already lost, do you have people in line to come in and fill those positions? Judge Andre said, no, no. I was hoping, I was hoping to upgrade so that when we tried to get new personnel —, I think the County, just like Mr. Odell said, I don't think the County had kept up with what the individual other private enterprise paid, and I think that —, I don't get —, most of the time I don't get applications because people don't apply for County jobs, and the County's got some great fringe benefits, but the salary I don't think is up with the other ones and, therefore, I do not get the qualified people that I have that I need to do these important jobs, and I think they are important. That's —. Commissioner DeLoach said, I agree with that. Judge Andre said, and I understand your problem. I understand you —, and if you do this, there's going to be some flack, but you should have thought about that when you did it for State Court.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Thomas and then Commissioner Rivers and then Commissioner Saussy.

Commissioner Thomas said, Judge, I understand you very clearly and you are so correct and we made a boo-boo, and I mean when you make boo-boos, you make corrections, and right now I would like to make sure that we can provide the monies that you need, you know, as soon as possible. So I would go along with the suggestion that was made —, I forgot now who made it, that —, I want to make sure that we have the money to really just go right ahead and do it for you. You have made your plea, and I think we all understand that, and we —, yes, we did. We probably jumped the gun and we just have to bite the bullet. There's no question about that. So, I mean, if you would allow us to make those corrections, then I think we would be in a better position to not be in this position again.

Judge Andre asked, can I ask you one question? When budget comes, when budget time comes, I have no problem, I can wait. If I can go back and tell my clerks that effective January it's going to be —. Chairman Hair said, that's the motion, that's the motion. Judge Andre said, but am I going to tell them they would have to deal with the same thing year after year —. Commissioner Thomas said, no. We're going to —. Chairman Hair said, that's the motion on the floor. Commissioner Thomas said, in my opinion, we want to correct it. We're going to correct it as of —. Judge Andre said, I don't want to, but because y'all have a problem —. Commissioner Thomas said, right. You've been very fair, you've been very fair. We understand it, and we will correct it. Judge Andre said, it would be a lot easier going back and telling people that —. Commissioner Thomas said, I understand it. Judge Andre said, that effective January this will be in effect, and if y'all tell me that. Commissioner Thomas said, I understand that.

Commissioner Rivers said, Judge, I understand what you're saying and I know that you're saying that we haven't looked at the salaries, but we have looked at salaries across the board. We just haven't [inaudible] like we're supposed to because we did not have the money to fully fund those things. And I promise you, I don't care if your revenues go down in January —. Commissioner Thomas said, you're going to get this. Commissioner Rivers said, I will vote to give you a raise in January or during the budgetary process. I will do that. Commissioner Thomas said, I will too. Commissioner Rivers said, I'm committed to that. I will commit myself to that today. But yet at the same time, Mr. Chairman, I would like us to direct staff to go back and see if we can look at all the salaries and all the inequities within the County —. Commissioner Thomas said, yes. Commissioner Rivers said, so that we can deal with that at budget time and hopefully we can bring everybody up to snuff, whatever it takes. Chairman Hair said, I think that would be —. Commissioner Price said, that's part of the motion. County Manager Abolt said, if I may, you've already asked us to do that. That will be part of the budget proposal in the Fall. Commissioner Thomas said, thank you. Commissioner Price said, call for the question.

Chairman Hair said, we have a call for the question. All those in favor vote yes, opposed —. Commissioner Saussy asked, can I say something before we do that? Chairman Hair said, okay, Commissioner Saussy. Commissioner Price said, go ahead. Chairman Hair said, well, you did, but we had a call for the question. Commissioner Saussy said, the only thing I wanted to say is, and the Judge brought this up, and I'm in favor of what you want to do. I think we need to do it like we're getting ready to vote, but one thing that most people do not realize is what the benefits they're getting in the County, and this is not just the County, it's all over. I think we need some sort of a thing to show the employees in this County what they really are getting in the fringe benefits because they have no idea what the dollar value is. Judge Andre said, I'll agree with you, sir, a hundred percent. Commissioner Saussy said, and I would like to ask the Human Services [sic] Department to come up with something on that because —, and this is just —, this is all over. It's not just in this County. It's in a lot of businesses and all too. We need something to show that because that's non-taxed money, and they come out much better than what they think they are if they work somewhere else.

Chairman Hair asked, Russ [Abolt], will you —, you'll handle that? County Manager Abolt said, yes, sir. We will do that. Commissioner Saussy was very kind in introducing a firm that does that. It can be done. It costs a little bit of money, but it can be done. Commissioner Jackel said, but let's not forget you can't spend benefits at the grocery store. They need an increase in pay. Commissioner Saussy said, well, I'll have to disagree with you on that. If you understand what the benefits are doing, you're bringing home more money.

Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes. Judge Andre said, thank you. Chairman Hair said, thank you, Judge.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

1. Commissioner Price moved to approve the request from Judge Andre for reclassification of employees of Magistrate Court. Commissioner Jackel seconded the motion.

2. Commissioner DeLoach moved to amend the motion on the floor that the request for reclassifications be considered at budget process time to be effective January 1, 1999. Commissioner Thomas seconded the amendment and it carried unanimously.

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2. UPDATE ON SAGIS FROM JOHN BRANNEN (COMMISSIONER PRICE).

Commissioner Price said, this is not anything today I'm asking for a vote on, okay. What I wanted to do was give you guys the opportunity to look at where we are with the whole project. Certainly what's important to me is for you to understand how much we need to get back on track the SAGIS program. You know where I am on all that. I'm not going to go rehash all that today, but if you will set back, take 20 minutes maybe, 25 minutes, listen to where we are, take a look at some of the savings we've already realized, how much we've already, the fruit that we've already seen from the labor of this whole SAGIS effort, and listen to the dollars and see if it doesn't make sense to consider where we'd go from there. Priscilla [Thomas], Frank [Murray] has his hand up.

Commissioner Murray said, I'll be glad to spend the 20 minutes provided y'all take that same consideration on something I've got coming up on tabled items because it's going to take some time on that. Commissioner Price said, I'm okay with that.

Commissioner Price said, this is John Brannen, who's director of SAGIS, and I'll turn it over to John [Brannen]. He's going to have to have the lights turned out to do this.

Mr. John Brannen said, thank you for this opportunity to update you on the SAGIS project. SAGIS stands for the Savannah Area Geographic Information System. It's basically a tool, a high level tool of economic development for the region. It's base maps, it's information that is commonly used in the development process. If I can get my computer [inaudible]. Commissioner Price said, help him with the mike. John [Brannen], you're going to stand real close to those mikes unless you want the hand-held one. This will take a couple of minutes just to get us going. Commissioner DeLoach said, that's our budget cuts right there. Commissioner Price asked, Frank [Murray], did you have anything to do with that? Commissioner Murray said, I didn't touch it. Commissioner DeLoach said, this is a before and after. We had pictures before, we have none now. Mr. Brannen said, it was working. I had it on pause. Commissioner Price asked how long will it take you to reboot? Mr. Brannen said, about five minutes. Commissioner Price asked, can you go directly to the maps and show that. Just go ahead and do it.

Mr. Brannen said, let me just describe a little bit about the tool itself. What we've been doing over the last several years —. Commissioner DeLoach asked, did you get it started —, is it rebooting now? Mr. Brannen said, no. Commissioner Saussy said, go ahead and reboot it. Commissioner DeLoach said, get it cranked up while we're talking. Shut it off and turn it back on, that's how I reboot. Mr. Brannen said, we've been working for the last few years with your support to build a lot of background information or to convert the existing information that's used out there. This encompasses the tax parcel data base, which Gary Udinsky has converted into his system, which is linked to SAGIS data. We have the zoning maps that are coming on line, we have the regular base map that is updated as new developments are placed in the system. Currently, we're under a process to map all of the water systems, sewer systems, storm water system for the City of Savannah. That entails going into each manhole, measuring the elevations of the inverts and mapping the pipe structure so it's an actual connected logical system that you can trace the flow of sewer water system inflow into the system all the way to the station itself or to the treatment facility. This is a tool again, when you begin to look at look at new developments or existing developments, what impact do these have on our infrastructure, whether it's roads or the sewer system or the wetlands or the soils, type of soils for like septic tanks and things, you're able to look at the —, all the information in the computer and do some analysis with that. That gives you a much better idea of what the impact of some of this development is. Currently, working with Savannah Electric like I do and as director of the SAGIS project, this is an unprecedented sharing of public/private sector resources for the community to benefit the economic development. We've also mapped Effingham County. That is a contiguous product all the way through Chatham and Effingham which we have recently flown aerial photography and computerized that. That's called digital orthophotography. That's another coverage that would come up and be used as a viewing tool. This, you can see actual poles, light fixtures. I was looking at the tennis courts at Forsyth Park. There's four courts there. There was doubles play, doubles play, nobody playing and singles, and somebody was rushing the net. So you can actually see down to that level. This is again a tool that paints on top of the registered map that gives you an idea of what's out there. The Park & Tree has actually coded trees to put database information about some of the trees in the downtown parks so they have a history of the trees and can actually do some analysis on where they are, what the canopies look like, what the soils conditions are there and how that's affecting, I guess, the atmosphere. So what we are at this point is sort of mid-way into our first three years. We anticipate scheduling out another three years after this of dedicated staff, a person from the City of Savannah, a person from the Metropolitan Planning Commission, a person from Chatham County and myself to continue this process of making this data work. We're training in the City/County MPC area to use the technology as we link these systems together. Just recently we've come up with a web page called SAGIS.org. We'll have that up and running here very shortly which you can actually go into, type in your address, your name or your parcel number and navigate to your parcel and look at your parcel data, and I know Gary Udinsky's going to really enjoy this part of it where people are actually looking at the data that we have tapped into his computer to look at. He's got actual digital pictures of each structure on each lot that can be viewed as well. The fire department, for instance, says they would really like to be able to use that type of technology on a call. While the dispatchers are sending someone to a call, they can actually bring up the structure and describe to the crew going to a fire scene what type of structure it is, a two-story wood frame, for instance. So they're looking at some of the technology being used in many areas. I don't know if I can find my driver at this point, but one of the more recent things we've done is share some of the resources with the one percent sales tax money that was recently approved, and in there were a lot of issues around drainage, and one of the things that we've always needed in the County is a very accurate contour integral map of the County. Being so flat here, we're basically 40 feet from one end of the County to the other in rise and have a lot of tree cover. We've never been able to afford the tens of millions of dollars we suspect it would cost to do like a one-foot contour system of the County, which would really impact us in understanding the drainage concerns, as well as coupled with the wetlands information and the soils information, a better picture of how we should develop and some of the impacts as we begin to develop some of the smaller areas in the County that are lower. So this product —, we've found technology that allowed us for $2 million to build that same project, and what we're doing —, and I have some examples here I'll pass around, using technology in this case it's called LIDR, and that's a radar look-down laser from an aircraft. We're calling it ALTM, or airborne laser terrain mapping, and we actually tested this product at a pilot area 30,000 acres on the west side of Chatham County that encompassed the Pipemaker Drainage Basin and the Hardin Canal Drainage Basin, used that data to evaluate an existing engineering solution that was already done for the Hardin Canal at a cost of $39 million estimated to put these solutions in place to improve the drainage capability of the Hardin Canal. When we put this new one-foot contour data into that solution, within a week or two we were able to find storage areas that we didn't know were there because now we see the actual contour of the ground, and we saved $7 million off of that $39 million estimate for that drainage. So right there we see a tremendous impact in how we can use this technology to better understand how we're developing and the solutions we need to put in place. The same thing applies to the influx we have between Chatham and Effingham County, and that's the larger regional aspect of economic development where we see a lot of development happening in Effingham County, but they work here in Chatham. We have the large hospitals and the large malls and we're sort of a regional support center, and a lot of people live there, so we have a tremendous influx of people moving in and out of —, between the counties, and as far as development goes, there's development that impacts us that happens in Effingham and vice versa. We see a lot of paving happening in Effingham County. Does that affect our drainage structure or our drainage conditions here in Chatham County? So this technology will allow us to look county by county, at least in this case, to see how the impacts are, and I think that's a large benefit I think at the State level because the State, of course, is interested in multi-county type applications, and they do like GIS technology, so I think being able to talk in terms of GIS and presenting solutions in a visual manner as well as backed up by good data, then I think we'll have a lot better decisions here that are a lot better supported, and I call that the defensibility of the decisions because as we're going through this very large process of scrubbing or converting information into the computer system, or the GIS, we look at that data and we say, is this good data, what do we need to do to make it

good data before we put it in there, and once it's in the system you can very easily go back through what we call metadata, which is data about data, to find a history of that data. So what we have, I guess in the old terms, is a paper trail on what this information is. So I think when we're dealing with solutions and problems in forums like this, you'll be able to have a much clearer idea of what some of the impacts are. I was looking at some zoning questions the other day at the MPC as they were talking about them, and they were looking at saying we need to look at this area and we're going to recommend a more overall approach to the zoning patterns in this area, so we're recommending the densities in residential classifications from one level to another, and some of the questions that you can ask that I don't think that are really understood at this point is what's the impact, how many houses at build-out is allowed under this current zoning setup, how many dwelling units, how many people in those dwelling units, how many vehicular traffic indexes do you have in that, and then ask the question, with this higher classification of zoning, what's the build-out in all those cases as well, and I think you could then use some of this technology to actually see the flow of traffic because we have traffic counts. Y'all all know about the CUTS data or the traffic zone information. All of that has been coded into the system as well, so you have that as some information that you can look at as you're making decisions. So all in all, and I'm not even going to pretend to try to start this up again, and I apologize for that.

Commissioner Price said, go ahead and turn the lights on, Fred [Thompson], then. Mr. Brannen said, yes. What I'll do is I'll just pass around the ALTM data and let you just get a look at that to see the impact of it, and I'd love to address any questions if you have them. Commissioner Price said, well, it's certainly disappointing that it doesn't work, but I took the time the other afternoon to look at what he's got, and you need to look at it. You would be amazed at what this system has already done, but you'll be more amazed when we get back on track and what we can achieve with this.

Chairman Hair said, there's no question it's a wonderful system and it does have multiple applications. I —, it's just a matter of matter of —, it has been in the past, a matter of priorities, quite frankly.

Mr. Brannen said, this is the Hardin Canal/Pipemaker Canal. What you see here is nothing but one-foot contours. This is I-95, I-16, this is the airport. So that's all that's on here. This was the raw data we got from the vender. County Engineering took it and massaged it and gave elevations different colors, so you can see definite patterns of lowers areas in here and drainage features. This is the basins here for the Hardin and Pipemaker. This is the airport, and you can see the elevations moving up and you can visualize that. What's really exciting about this is this area on the intersection of I-16 and I-95 is the Southbridge Community. You can see some drainage features through here that are low areas, and those are coded as wetlands. We're also bringing in the wetlands information. But what we did was pull out an existing —, and this is an enlargement of that area, an existing CAD file from an engineering company of the master plan for the Southbridge development. This was done in one technology, in auto-CAD. We're putting in top of our info product, and it matches and it levels in, so this says that every new development that's done can be brought in electronically because the engineering companies for the most part are building these things in an electronic database anyway, so we can just paste them onto this map so we don't have to redraw all these so many times, so we're saving in that. Now what immediately was seeing is this is a master plan. It's not built yet, but what we did receive, and I don't know if you can see it from there, there's a rise of about 15 or 20 feet there that wasn't known before, but the developer was anticipating a lagoon there to sell as lagoon lots. But once they painted this data on there, it was immediately apparent you'd have a 15 foot drop-off at the back of those lots if you put a lagoon there, so they had to re-engineer the plans. My point here is, up front in the development process this data is public domain information as far as like this contouring. It's out there for the developer to use at the concept plan stage, so as we're going through the permitting process, there's a lot more known about the impact of these developments before you get to the permitting process where there's already been money invested. So I think this is a tool that's going to be very highly used both in the public/private sector from now on, and we're just in the process of making more data available. And it is a process that's ongoing, and it does cost some money, but what we're doing is trying to be very logical about what we convert, only the data that's needed. For instance, we found that the MPC has already in the text for the zoning put that in a WordPerfect type format. In other words, it's already an electronic file. We coded the zoning map onto this new base map in an electronic manner. What that says now, once we link WordPerfect to the zoning map, you can click like an R-A zone and actually fit the text and read the text on line of what that zone is, and that's not a printed book that's been printed for a year, that's the text as it's being used at MPC and undated. You can do searches on this. This is where it really becomes exciting to me. My example is if I have the need to put a shoe store into the community, I can go onto the net, I can find SAGIS.org, I can call in and look at the map, zoning map, and I can say, where are all the instances of zones that allow me to put in a shoe store. It will list those zones out because it takes that text kit and finds where shoe stores are listed. I can then say show me on the map all the zones, in other words, light them up and color them for me to show me where all the zones are that allow my use. It will show me those. I can then invoke the tax parcel records and say show me all of the lots are vacant or all of the lots that have a 4,000 square foot or larger building on it that meets my needs, and it will then screen out and show me only those conditions. I can then further go in and say, my type of business where I want to put my sign up, I want to know where all of the traffic patterns are between mid-day —, what I'm saying is not rush hour morning and rush hour evening, but during the shopping type time, where are the most higher or more higher traffic conditions associated with these 10 or 15 lots I've narrowed this down to that would be the best place for me to put my store. So you begin to see that you can use the information that's already out there in a much more interactive manner to make better decisions. Then you go directly into what we hope to build in this process that is now I see where I want to go, I made need to have a zoning change or I may need to have some type of permitting done, then you can go to that part of the page and actually set up your permitting process there, sign up your paperwork or fill in your request at that stage as opposed to having to go to a lot of different agencies. So part of our goal is to have a public service agency at the MPC, we'd call that the PSA, where not only can you go and retrieve data, get your aerial photography, get your zoning map copies, but you can also get it off the web page. If you've every been surfing on the net, you know you can go and buy books off the web page, you can put a little shopping cart at the site that you're in and say I want to buy this, I want to buy that, and give your credit card number, if you're not scared to do that, and then retrieve —, you know, received your goods, and the same thing can happen here with standard products like zoning books and things like that if you still need them. So this is a very deep subject, it's a very broad based concept, but we're on the road to building this and, quite frankly, the federal level entities that deal in this, like the United States Geological Survey and higher levels of the State, know about SAGIS and they're very appreciative of how this cooperative effort has actually done this. They're quite, I guess, pleased to see that public/private sector people have actually voluntarily

worked together and funded and made something like this happen and dedicated the people to do it, and, Ben [Price], I'm just running on here, but —.

Commissioner Price said, well, what I would like to ask, John [Brannen], you to do and the other Commissioners is when you have the time in your schedule, John [Brannen], and the Commissioners themselves, if you would poll the Commissioners and find out who has an interest and you maybe coming over for a 30-minute presentation of what we didn't get to see today. Mr. Brannen said, I'll make sure it works. Commissioner Price said, okay. Chairman Hair said, we'll be happy to do that. Commissioner Price said, and maybe work one on one with them in that regard. I'll tell you right now that the more this information gets out to the general public, the more the demands are going to come back to us from our constituents that we get this done. So I'm not going to belabor the point. I will remind you once again, this was going to be a priority back when it got cut because of the EMS situation. It was going to be a priority, it was commitment you made. If we find that we have better than expected growth in the digest, for instance, we find that there are monies available between now and the end of the year, all I'm asking you is to give strong consideration to get this thing back on track because it does mean economic development, it does mean emergency response, it does mean a whole slew of things that can help save us a lot of money that can in turn help us pay our employees what they should be able to get paid. It's long term. It's not a quick fix over night, but it is a start in the right direction.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, John [Brannen], thank you for coming in, and if you will contact us individually about the schedule —. Thanks.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Received as information.

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3. MR. WILLIAM COWART AND COMPLAINTS REGARDING 204 ANIMAL HOSPITAL/DR. DAVID KICKLIGHTER (COMMISSIONER PRICE AND CHAIRMAN HAIR). Note: This item is postponed until July 10th.

Commissioner Price said, if anybody's here for Item 3, which is Mr. William Cowart and complaints regarding the 204 Animal Hospital, Dr. Kicklighter, we're going to move that to the July 10th meeting. Dr. Kicklighter wasn't given notice of the meeting until yesterday and wasn't able to reschedule some of his patients, and his attorney wasn't able to get out a court appearance this morning as well.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

This item was postponed to July 10, 1998.

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4. HEALTH PLAN ITEM (COMMISSIONER JACKEL).

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Jackel. Commissioner Jackel said, I'm sorry, I didn't hear that, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Hair said, it's your Commissioner's item, Health Plan Item.

Commissioner Jackel said, okay. Let me start, and I didn't get —, maybe this is it here. I didn't get all the information I requested. This started out when I received my first bill from the health plan provider, Jones, Hill & Mercer. The first plan I received did not have their phone number on it. I complained about that and they have since started putting their phone number on it. The second statement I received from them had written on it that they would not —, the plan did not cover regular Pap smears. We have since found out that that was incorrect even though that was clearly printed on the statement. There has been questions about whether mammograms are covered. We have now found out that that is covered. I have called them on numerous occasions and about three weeks ago I called them and they took a week to return my telephone call. The latest statement I got from them I could not understand what it meant, what I should pay, what I shouldn't pay. It was something that I could not figure out. I understand that I am somewhat challenged having gone to Emory University and Mercer Law School, but I still thought I ought to be able to figure out a bill that was sent to me by our provider. In addition, I asked my wife to look at the bill and she couldn't figure it out, and then I sent it on to our County Manager and he couldn't figure it out either. I have since had it explained to me and I do understand it now with the explanations that were given, although the person who did explain it to me, I said how was I supposed to understand this from looking at the bill when she explained this to me, and she had no explanation whatsoever. As an example, one of the things indicates that $55.25 is ineligible. Now ineligible to me —, my definition of it doesn't fit anything that would indicate what was going on with this bill. What it turns out is when the provider charged $179, he was only allowed to charge $55.25 less than that amount, so he —, in effect, there was an ineligible charge and that meant we didn't have to pay it under the plan, but it just indicates what he charged and what amount was ineligible. It talks about a co-payment insurance of 90%, but there's no explanation given for that. Since I spoke about the health care plan in our last meeting, there has been an audit and we do know now that they're supposed to cover routine Pap smears and mammograms and there's going to be a credit given for any employee who has taken this in the past and has not gotten reimbursed because of wrong information. The claim we understand is, is that several people with the County, their plans were —, they were improperly encoded into the system. Now I'm not the most up to date on computers, but I just have a hard time figuring that since anyone in the plan should have been under the same codes, as you tried to enter wrong information, as you do on my computer, an error comes up, so I'm not sure what the story

is. I think we need to get someone up here from Jones, Hill & Mercer to explain why we continue to have all these problems with their plan, to explain why their bill is not understandable to me, my wife or the County Manager. If anybody else wants to figure it out, we can add you to the list. I've had numerous complaints from County employees about the same thing. I think it's time we get this thing straightened out and we make sure that our employees are getting the full benefit of what they're paying for, that they get a statement that they can read and understand, and that they have a place to call and can get a response in less than one week. When we recently dealt with the cable company, I took great interest to note that there were exacting time lines on how long they had to respond to a call. The phone had to be picked up within three rings, I think, they had —, no one had to wait more than two or three minutes, and so on and so forth. We don't seem to have anything like this, and the money we're paying for this plan is, I think everyone would agree, is a great deal of money. It's something that's a great benefit to our employees, and to have it be administered in such a manner is unacceptable to me, and I want staff to look in this and start the process of straightening this out.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Rivers.

Commissioner Rivers said, Mr. Chairman, I think that we have —, don't we have somebody in that office that covers these plans, that take care of this plan, Ms. Whitehead? Ms. Beverly Whitehead said, yes, sir, we do. Under the new contract period which went into effect June 1 of 1998, and correspondence went out to all County employees giving the name of Ramona Johnson. She is the Customer Service Representative in St. Joe/Candler's Managed Care. She is the person that —, to whom all questions should be directed, and the contract requires that she respond within 24 hours of the call. Commissioner Rivers said, okay. Don't we have another person on our staff upstairs that takes care of —? Ms. Whitehead said, that's in my office, that's correct. Commissioner Rivers said, and can answer questions also. Ms. Whitehead said, that is correct. Commissioner Rivers said, okay, I —. Ms. Whitehead said, and provided to County employees were three things: Ramona Johnson's work number, St. Joe/Candler provided her with a beeper and a cell phone. All numbers were provided and sent to our County employees. Commissioner Rivers said, okay, Mr. Chairman, what I'm going to do is request that Mr. Abolt assign someone, or either Human Resources, to get together with whomever throughout this organization that has any kind of complaints with the insurance company or any difficulty with reading this form, even if we have to devise another form I would direct that, and I'm going to put that in the form of a motion so that we can be finished with this. I hope that this don't ever come back here again. So I'll so move that we direct staff to look into that to streamline all of the concerns that anybody has. Chairman Hair said, and to inform all the County employees of that, okay. Commissioner Jackel said, well, let me just —. Chairman Hair said, well, let's deal with the motion first, Commissioner Jackel. Commissioner Jackel said, okay.

Chairman Hair said, we have a motion, do I have a second? Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, okay, Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Jackel said, the problem is is when the bill comes in, if we should want to contact Ramona Johnson about the bill, it would be nice if her number was on the bill. Chairman Hair said, well, that's the kind of thing we're talking about, Commissioner Jackel. That would be part of this —. Commissioner Jackel said, that's what I want to do. Now, I understand that we had all these people in place. Okay. Now what I want to know is when you look at Item X-10 in our agenda, why was there still confusion about the Pap smears done by the primary care physicians are included in the $10 pay? Why hadn't they done something about that prior to now? The mammograms are done by the in-network provider are paid at 90%, no deductible required. Why hadn't she done something about this before. The aforementioned benefits have covered —, have been a covered expense, due to coding errors some plan participants have been charged differently. Credits to plan participants should be made to correct this matter. I would like some sort of number on how many people were incorrectly charged and to have a better explanation of that. The bi-annual physicals performed by primary care physicians have been included in the $10 co-pay, total cost not to exceed $150. That was effective —, that becomes effective and it changes —, these are the things that I think these people should have been on top of prior to now —. Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Jackel. Commissioner Jackel said, and I would like some explanation of why there hasn't been.

Chairman Hair said, can I suggest that the best way to handle that is to get those questions to the County Manager and let's get Commissioner Jackel's questions answered. I don't think that this is necessarily the forum to answer them today. Could you, Commissioner Jackel —, she may not even know the answers. Commissioner Jackel said, oh, I understand that. Chairman Hair asked, would you agree —, if you'll give all the questions to Russ [Abolt] and let Russ [Abolt] get the answers to you? Commissioner Jackel said, I have done that. We've done it of record now. We've already made some improvement, but I think perhaps more needs to be done and I think —. Chairman Hair said, well, I think Commissioner Rivers's motion —. Commissioner Jackel said, motion will cover that. Chairman Hair said, okay. All right, we have a motion and a second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner DeLoach was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes. Thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rivers moved to that someone be assigned to get together with any employee who has a complaint with the health plan or who has difficulty reading or understanding the forms and that the employees be given the name and telephone number of the contact. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner DeLoach was not present.]

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5. SUMMER BONANZA FUNDING (COMMISSIONER THOMAS).

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen. I put that on the agenda because we do have a slight problem. As you may already know, I made you aware of the fact that due to the various cuts over the past two or three years in the, you know, in the award system for the various grants-in-aid, Summer Bonanza was one of the

organizations that was cut the most and, therefore, we do not have the —, enough funds to continue this program this year. So, therefore, I am asking this Commission —, it is not my program. It is the County's program. I want to make that very clear. I am only directing it. Right now the young people are at the Savannah Institute —, Technical Institute in the Computer Workshop. On tomorrow they will be at the Aquatic Center participating in the Water-wise Program sponsored through Jill White, and we are getting great returns from these young people. So, therefore, I'm asking for $5,000 to complete this program, and we're already putting into effect some plans so that perhaps we can seek some more fundings next year. We've exhausted the community.

Chairman Hair asked, and you're recommending it come from Contingency? Commissioner Thomas said, and I'm recommending —, yes. Chairman Hair said, okay. Do you want to make a motion? Commissioner Thomas said, I'd like to make a motion. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, we have a motion and a second. Any discussion? All those in favor vote —.

Commissioner Rivers said, let me ask a question. Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Rivers, certainly. Commissioner Rivers said, Russ [Abolt], where would we —, do we have funds to take care of this. County Manager Abolt said, yes, sir. With the adjustments today on your calendar and in this, you'd have a Contingency going into the last half of this fiscal year of $123,000.

Chairman Hair said, we discussed this at agenda review yesterday. I think this is a great program. Dr. Thomas has done a wonderful job. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes. Commissioner Thomas said, thank you. I'd like to invite any and all of you who would like to come to the Aquatic Center tomorrow. We will be there from nine till two. Chairman Hair said, thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to that $5,000 be allocated to the Summer Bonanza Program for this year from General M&O Contingency. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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VII. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. MYSTERY CUSTOMER AWARDS

Chairman Hair recognized County Manager Abolt.

Mrs. Beverly Whitehead said, good morning again, Mr. Chairman and Commissioners. Our mystery customer [sic] —, we have three for this month. The first is Elaine Ausby from our Engineering Department, and I'll ask Elaine [Ausby] and her department head, Al Bungard, to please come forward.

County Manager Abolt said, Al [Bungard] could not be here. He's representing the County at this moment in a change of command ceremony for the District Engineer. Before Al [Bungard] left he said he had Elaine's [Ausby] permission to leave.

Mrs. Whitehead said, in terms of —, just a little bit of background. Elaine [Ausby] has had many years of service with Chatham County. She functions as an Administrative Assistant in the Engineering Department, and what that type means, in reality, is she does just about everything that needs to be done upstairs in concert with our other Administrative Assistant, everything from responding to citizen inquiries, handling correspondence, putting out fires, which we do daily and all day long, and she does this well. Her mystery customer, she will not know, but that person rated her five in all categories, and five is the highest that can be received. At this time, I will ask the County Manager if he will present both the certificate and the check.

Ms. Ausby said, thank you. I'd like to say that the check is mine and the certificate is —, represents my whole department.

Mrs. Whitehead said, our second recipient for Mystery Customer Award is Roy Finely. Roy Finely is an Internal Auditor, and I'll ask at this time if he and his department head, Reese White, will come forward. Roy [Finely], again, has many years of service with Chatham County. As you know, the functions of Internal Audit, they are tasked with the responsibility of not only dealing with very sensitive, confidential, but very complex situations, going in and being able to fairly and objectively assess and make recommendations, assure that proper internal controls are in place. Roy [Finely] does it well. He, again, will not know who the mystery customer is, but he rated five in all those categories. At this point, I'll turn it over to Mr. Abolt.

Mr. Abolt said, thank you. You'd never believe that an auditor would get an award like this. We're going to evaluate his effectiveness as an auditor.

Mr. Finely said, I'd like to thank the Commissioners, Mrs. Whitehead, Mr. Abolt and Reese White and my fellow employees of the Internal Audit Department. I think I know who the mystery customer was, and at the time I did not realize it, but I think I know who she was and perhaps that is part of being an auditor. Chairman Hair said, to be able to recognize that, right. Mr. Finely said, thank you very much. Chairman Hair said, thank you.

Mrs. Whitehead said, our last recipient, last but not least, is Toyia Hunter. Toyia [Hunter] is Purchasing Technician, and I'll ask both the department head, George Lynch, and her position head, Bill Parson, if they will please come forward. Toyia [Hunter] began work with Chatham County in our temporary pool when we established that pool in 1990, and subsequently was employed on a permanent basis with Chatham County and has served this jurisdiction well in many departments as she floated in the temporary pool, to include Human Resources, and ultimately landed in Purchasing where she has excelled. Toyia [Hunter] is, again, rated five in all of the categories. One of the comments made in the narrative portion by her mystery customer, who was extremely irate, and irate on purpose, was that this was the first time in his live, and he took great pride in telling me that he was 58 years old, that in his 58 years anybody had ever calmed him down. So, Toyia [Hunter], you did well.

Ms. Hunter said, thank you. Who the mystery customer was I have no idea, but I'm glad I did what I was supposed to do. Chairman Hair said, thank you. Thank all of you.

Mr. George Lynch said, everything they say about Toyia [Hunter] is true. She's great, dedicated, smart and takes care of the customers. Chairman Hair said, thank you.

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2. PRESENTATION OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD TO JOHN CATOE.

County Manager Abolt said, Dr. Thomas and gentlemen, ladies and gentlemen, this is something very important for this organization. We know what makes us do our jobs so well is the human side of the equation. Yesterday I was privileged to be invited and make a preliminary presentation to this employee to recognize what you're about to see as far as 10 years of accomplishment. The one thing that was present yesterday that's not present today, and I'll take a moment to describe, is the number of departments and representatives from those departments who took the time out of the day to travel to the shop to say thank you to John Catoe. You're going to see the reason why in a moment, but people who count on Fleet Maintenance were there to say they appreciated what you're about to hear.

Chairman Hair said, it is my pleasure to read the proclamation and the County Manager will present the special award to Mr. Catoe. Chairman Hair then read the following proclamation into the record:

Chairman Hair said, I would like to have Mr. Catoe join us here and also George [Lynch] and Stuart [Chatham] please. This is the plaque that will be presented right now. It say, again as the Chairman referred to, Distinguished Service Award presented to John Catoe in recognition of outstanding and exemplary service to Chatham County in the Fleet Operations Division of the Central Services Department.

Mr. George Lynch said, all you can say is, you're seeing outstanding management, leadership, technical expertise and success. That team of the guys in the blue shirts, our Fleet Manager, Stuart Chatham, and John [Catoe] have done miracles for the citizens and for the customers in Chatham County. Chairman Hair said, thank you, George [Lynch].

Mr. Stuart Chatham said, I guess one thing that I would like to add is we had to invent the award. This is the first time the thing has existed. When we started, the idea was to have something in addition to the five-year pins, the ten-year pins, the seniority pins, so we had to sit down and come up with an award to give. That's been accomplished. The way is open now for additional awards. I'm just proud that John [Catoe] got the first one.

Mr. Catoe said, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, thank you very much and I'd really like to thank Stuart [Chatham]. When you have a good boss that's gives you the leeway to do your job, you can do it. Thank you very much. Chairman Hair said, thank you.

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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. 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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2. 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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3. 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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4. SALARY ADJUSTMENTS (CHAIRMAN HAIR). Tabled at meeting of October 24, 1997, until budget deliberations.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

This item was not placed before the Commissioners for consideration.

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*** 5. REJECTION OF BIDS TO PURCHASE HENDERSON GOLF COURSE.**

Chairman Hair said, the first one I would request off the table is the Henderson Golf Course potential sale. We have the representatives from the company here today, as well as their local representatives. Commissioner Price said, so moved. Chairman Hair said, we have a motion, and do I have a second to take it off the table? Do I have a second to take it off the table? Commissioner Jackel said, yes, we have to discuss this. Yes, I'll second. Chairman Hair said, okay, second to take it off the table. All those in favor of taking it off the table vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Saussy and DeLoach were not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

Chairman Hair said, okay, I think it would be appropriate at this time, Mack [Armstrong], if you and Mr. Schmutzer would come forward, and I think they've just got a couple of brief comments they want to make and they will be happy to address any questions that anyone might have. Mack [Armstrong], do you want to open or is Mr. Schmutzer going to open it?

Mr. Mack Armstrong said, I'll open it. I just —, we're here really to answer questions. This thing had been going on for a number of months now, as y'all know. The County put out a RFP for bids to sell the golf course. Cascade Pointe, Mr. Schmutzer, was the high bidder. It was not exactly what the County wanted and, in the meantime, we had been negotiating with County staff, bond counsels, to try to make this work. The idea obviously is to get the most monies for the golf course who'll be utilizing the existing bonds. I understand that there may be a question about that. We've had bond counsel from Oregon and bond counsel from the County and other bond counsel —, I would like to say that obviously this would have to be worked out before anything could happen. I mean, that is an issue that would have to be worked out, which I really can't discuss today because I'm not a bond counsel. So, you know, having said that, there were some issues that had been raised, questions by the Commissioners, and I've got —, Mr. Schmutzer here is President of Cascade Pointe, who was the high bidder, to hopefully answer some of those questions, and then if you have any others, we'll be glad to answer those.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Mack [Armstrong]. Chairman Hair recognized Mr. Schmutzer. For the record, if you would state your name please.

Mr. Schmutzer said, I'm Scott Schmutzer and I'm President and managing member of Cascade Pointe, Portland, Oregon. Chairman Hair and fellow Councilmen [sic], I'm here to field your questions. I understand at your last meeting that there were some of them raised that you were —, amongst yourself [sic], you were unable to answer. I reviewed some of those that were potentially brought up and answered incorrectly. One of them that have been battered around numerous times has been that of turning the facility private. We have no intention of turning it private. It was built as a public facility. My interest in the industry is to acquire public facilities and continue to make them and run them as such, so I would like to dispel that as a rumor because that in no case will happen our leadership or management at any period. The other way was the name change, the potential name change of the facility. We've been introduced to the reason it was named Henderson. We're very comfortable with that and, again, have no intention of a name change.

Chairman Hair said, the third issue, Mr. Schmutzer, if you could address, would be the youth programs, minority programs, those kinds of things that you have planned.

Mr. Schmutzer said, right. I think in conjunction with that too, there was another issue that was raised about the fee structure. Chairman Hair said, right. If you could deal with both of those, I'd appreciate it. Mr. Schmutzer said, I'm a very strong proponent of the junior program —. Chairman Hair asked, could you speak a little louder? The Commissioners are having trouble —. Commissioner Thomas said, I'm having a hard time understanding. Mr. Schmutzer said, I'm a very strong proponent of junior programs. In fact, I'm here this week to watch the Junior Qualifier over on Hilton Head. It's a very, very integral part of what I've done with the PGA to this point, and I'm proud to say that I'm noted within the PGA structure as a very strong proponent of junior programs. Henderson has a program in existence right now that we would maintain and would certainly hope to exceed from what has been done to this point. It takes a lot of personal volunteers to run a junior program and we hope to build and maintain what exists right. I know that one of the other issues that was strongly raised was that of fee structure. Savannah represents an extremely competitive market right now. You have Black Creek, Willopeg, a refurbished facility at the Savannah Inn, Southbridge. A market normally is driven by your level of competitors. In a customer service related industry that Henderson is, it would be very, very difficult for us to raise fees and still compete effectively in this marketplace. I think the County has adequately placed the fee structure that they have currently, and we based our evaluation of the property and it's potential profitability on that fee structure, and we're comfortable to continue with that.

Chairman Hair said, questions —, Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Jackel said, give us some idea of the youth activities that you run at your other golf courses, other than the junior golf. Mr. Schmutzer said, AGA and USGA both have programs in our Northwest market. Because of our weather conditions, they're not as strong or number-wise as large as they are here, but the main focus of our efforts in conjunction with the PGA in our Northwest market, as well as here, is developing what President George Bush initially put into effect with First Tee, and First Tee is a program that builds and strictly maintains facilities for junior golf and youth programs. Commissioner Jackel said, okay, and we currently have at Henderson now, we have Henderson annually sponsors junior golf camps through the Summer months. This includes eight camps, Monday through Friday, three hours per day with 10 junior golfers in each camp. Will you be able to handle something like that? Mr. Schmutzer said, I would say that it should certainly be expanded beyond the 10 members in each camp. Commissioner Jackel said, and we have another thing that one of our Commissioners is —, actually works with, that program —, Priscilla [Thomas], somehow I've lost this on here. I must be looking right at it and not seeing it. Commissioner Thomas said, yes. Commissioner Jackel said, oh, hosted the Summer Bonanza program. Commissioner Thomas said, Summer Bonanza. Commissioner Jackel said, with more than a hundred —. Mr. Schmutzer said, right. Commissioner Jackel said, youth. Now when they go out there I don't think we pay anything for them, do we? Commissioner Thomas said, no. We didn't do it that time. Commissioner Jackel said, okay. Do you have any sort of way to deal where we can bring inner city youths out there of low income? Mr. Schmutzer said, absolutely, and that —, to expand on the opportunities that the First Tee program represents, that's what it is for is to give the opportunity to underprivileged inner city youth to be able to come out and participate in this program. And as is normal with most facilities, they donate that time and any equipment and personnel necessary to run those programs are usually done on a donation basis as a part of the club, and we would certainly intend to continue that.

Commissioner Thomas said, we certainly will be following up on that because we do have 200 young people and there is a great interest in that when they made their first visit to Henderson, and we would like to follow up on that. Mr. Schmutzer said, the success of a program like that is to get them to come back the second time too. Commissioner Thomas said, thank you. Mr. Schmutzer said, those are your future golfers.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner DeLoach.

Commissioner DeLoach said, yes. I understand the —, you see no need to change the price of what we're basically charging now. You think that will pretty well hold the line? Mr. Schmutzer said, you're well within the competitive range of the single price facilities in the market right now. Commissioner DeLoach asked, so if you were to take it over you wouldn't see any need in changing the prices? Mr. Schmutzer said, no. Now the immediate impact that you'll see at that facility is what we have budgeted as far as capital improvements to expand on that already exist, considerable improvements to the clubhouse facility, expanding that, as well as the —. Chairman Hair asked, could you expand on that a little bit? I think that's important that you not only plan on purchasing, but also adding to the facility and improving the facility. Mr. Schmutzer said, at this point we see the majority of the expansion to be —, if I might back up. I'm very well impressed with the condition that the facility has been kept in even with the tremendous heat that normally impacts a facility like that. Our initial intentions from an expansion standpoint are to the clubhouse and pro shop facilities, provide a little larger food and beverage capabilities, as well as —. Chairman Hair said, which is desperately needed. Commissioner Price said, yes. Mr. Schmutzer said, it's a little bit under-sized there, and then to expand the practice facility and teaching area. Again, that comes right back to enticing junior programs and things like that to come to the facility. Chairman Hair said, Commissioner DeLoach still has the floor.

Commissioner DeLoach said, yes. You've check into the other places around here and the ones that are offering golf at the present time, and you feel like Henderson would be competitive. Would you have any problem managing a property like that? Mr. Schmutzer asked, managing Henderson? Commissioner DeLoach said, yes. Mr. Schmutzer said, I don't feel that I'd have a problem managing Henderson or any other property in the market that we're evaluating for acquisition right now either. Commissioner DeLoach said, I was just —, I was just curious about —. If you'd enlighten me, basically when you got there and presented your approach to it, you were saying you just wanted —, you just wanted to take over golf courses, not make them private, but take over public courses and develop them. Could you enlighten me on exactly what —, what are you trying to do here besides buy a golf course? I mean, the information I got with the original statement it sounded like you were, you know, we were going to be everything to golf, but we're really here to make a profit. Wouldn't you agree with that? Mr. Schmutzer said, absolutely. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay. How do we intend to get to that direction? Can you just —, your business program, and if you can manage it, if you're able to buy it and you can manage also, I'm trying to figure out

the difference in —, I mean, if we were to hire you to manage it, you feel like we would not lose any money from now on? In other words, we decided instead of offering you the golf course, we wanted to hire you, we're going to make you a manager because you're great and you do an awesome job and you're going to manage it for us and we're going to break even from now on because you're buying it and you're not going to increase the price of it and yet we're going to all of a sudden make money out there. I need to understand all of those combinations. One, we're not going to raise the fee structure; two, you're not going to, you know, you're going to expand and add to; three, we're going to break even from now on if we were to let you manage it. How you do all three of those? I mean, if we could break even —, we want to make money, you know, literally, I mean, in thought, we want to say we want to at least make a dollar on the place. Could you take it and make a dollar on the place? Basically. Mr. Schmutzer said, if I didn't think I could, I wouldn't be standing here before you now trying to do that. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay. Mr. Schmutzer said, the situation that you have that exists with the management company in place, and I'm certainly not here to belittle the structure that it's in, is relatively ineffective as you obviously have experienced. The combination of revenue streams from both the pro shop side as well as green fee and cart structure, it's paramount that those are in parallel with each other to derive the most benefit that you can from both of them. My interest in this market is not strictly on the Henderson Golf Club, but in multiple facilities, and in doing that the utilization and economies of scale that I can bring to individual facilities is —. Commissioner DeLoach said, let's talk about economies of scale. I can understand economies of scale of a Sears or, you know, any of these number of places where you buy in large volume and all. What —, give me an idea where you're economies of scale will —, in a golf course. I mean, you buy fertilizer, you buy chemicals, you've got a pro shop, you've got people that run it. Everybody gets paid the same thing. The economy is there I don't see. Maybe it's in the pro shop area or —, it's not in food and beverage because you're buying from the local market, so I don't see it as economy of scale. I can understand the ability to manage better because you can get more qualified people, but I'm talking about Henderson Golf Course and I'm talking about what I feel like will be a profound change in the direction that that facility will be, which I think that's what will happen if we sell it to a private company, and I need to get down to that won't happen, you know, and if it doesn't and you're going to say that I'm going to reduce my debt for, you know, a half a million dollars, I'm going to have the same thing I've got out there, we're all going to live happily ever after and the fees aren't going to change. If I have all that, there's no reason for me not to vote for it. So if you'll —, and I offered this the last time I was here, and I'll offer it to you again, if you're willing to state that the fees won't change in the next 10 years, at, you know, at 10% higher than the market is, the local market, just —, and I'm talking about, you know, I'm talking about the local public facilities, if they won't be up more than 10% above those, I have no problem with this. I really don't. I mean, if they're going to sit around at Bacon Park and Bacon Park's at $25 average and you're going to be $27.50, hey, I don't have a problem with that. I understand that because —, and what I'm understanding from you is that's what you're saying up here, and if I'm —, if you're saying that, I'm ready to make the motion, which I was ready to make the motion at the last meeting. Now if that's where we are with this thing and you say that, then I'm ready to make a motion to that effect. Would you be willing to say that? Mr. Schmutzer said, I'm puzzled. Do you want me to respond to the economies of scale and the operation of the facility or these —? Commissioner DeLoach said, well, you pick up, go from all of them, but are you willing, on the last statement, would you be willing to go in that approach as far as whatever the public courses are offering you'd be willing to be within 10% of those numbers on a yearly basis, and if you're willing to do that, there's no need for us to discuss any more. We can go ahead and move in that direction. I mean, you don't have to talk any more. Mr. Schmutzer said, as a businessman certainly I wouldn't stand here and guarantee you that I would commit to a price structure frozen for the next 10 years, but I can also commit —. Commissioner DeLoach said, no, not frozen. No, not frozen. Based on the fluctuation of the local public course, which is Bacon Park. As long as you're within 10% of that, I have no problem with you owning that course, and that's what I'm asking you today. I mean, I'm willing to work with you on this, but I also want to protect that individual who can't afford to play at a Southbridge or pay $12,000 to go to The Landings and be a member and then pay $170 a month. I am out there trying to protect that group of people, which is the market that you're going to be catering. I need you —, and if you can do that, I am willing to make the motion right here today that we go ahead with it, and I don't have a problem with it, and I'm not against you buying it. I'm not against you even managing it, but what I am concerned about is I'm buying something that's a pig in a poke. What I'm going to end up with is what I thought was a public course that wasn't going to go up, and then we get down the road it's going to go up because you want to make a profit, and I understand that, and yet the people who put that course there, the taxpayers who put that course there are the ones who will not be able to use it because your prices will be out of range for that group of individuals. That's where I am on this thing, and if I can get that guarantee from you, we can move on and dispense with any other conversation, and I'll make the motion right now to do that. Could I have that commitment? Mr. Schmutzer said, I would caution you to compare Henderson to Bacon Park. It's not apples to apples. The fee structure that is there —. Commissioner DeLoach said, I've got a price on Bacon Park right now and I've got a price on Henderson Park [sic], and they're just about —, they're within $2.00 or $3.00 average, okay. So if I can get that same commitment, just like I'm going to say it again, if I can get a 10% commitment from you, I'm ready to vote on this, and if I can't, you're not giving me what we —, you're saying you're giving me.

Commissioner Price asked, what is the price on Bacon that you have? Commissioner DeLoach said, let's take an average of $25. Mr. Schmutzer said, the current fee structure at Henderson Park [sic] is $34 weekdays, $40 on the weekend. Commissioner Price said, right. Commissioner DeLoach said, no, that's not —, if I —. Commissioner Price said, I play and I pay that. I know. Mr. Schmutzer said, then they overpaid —, they overcharged me on the weekend. Chairman Hair said, that is true. Commissioner Price said, could I just say they charged me too much then.

Commissioner DeLoach said, I had a —, I got a pricing list and I'll pull it up, but —. Mr. Schmutzer said, if you want to debate pricing structures, that's fine, but what I told you and I what I mentioned, and perhaps that was a comment that went by quickly, I cannot as a businessman either guarantee you a price structure or can I justify pricing myself out of the market. I've been successful in the endeavors that I've accomplished or taken on before, I don't buy a pig in a poke, and I would not have looked at it, evaluated it or chosen to pursue Henderson if I didn't think that under the current fee structure that there was the potential for me and my entity to make a profit. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay, well, that in itself, if you will just say, hey, another 10% or so. I mean, I'm willing to give room, 10%. If you're saying right now you evaluated it and based on the fee structure that you've got there today that you're happy with it, then let's vote on it right now if you'll give me that commitment because I've got to deal with the people who put that there, not you. You're from the Northwest, you know. You're not from here so I don't have to deal with you, but those folks that put me in office want to play golf. They want to be able to play golf at a decent price. Now, granted, you've got to make a profit. We're not making one out there and I don't

think, you know, the quote, you know, economies of scale is going to reduce that price a half a million dollars of operating costs when it, you know, it's just not there.

Commissioner Price said, Eddie [DeLoach], can I remind you that the County Manager is also from the Northwest. Commissioner DeLoach said, but my point on that is he is here. Commissioner Price said, he's within a hundred miles from where he's from.

Commissioner DeLoach said, but that's my —, I mean, that's the whole concern we've got here. I don't care about privatizing. I'd privatize cutting the grass on all of the right-of-ways. I did that. I mean, I don't have a problem with privatizing as long as it's for the betterment of the taxpayers. My feeling here is —, and I can't get you to move on this, my feeling here is this is not for the betterment of the taxpayers, this is for the betterment of an individual who's buying a golf course, and I don't have a problem with that if it weren't my golf course, but this is the County taxpayers' golf course who we're fixing to put out to someone to jack the price up, move it up, do whatever he's going to do, and we've got to live with it whenever we initially put the thing out there to develop that property originally. That's my biggest problem with it. Is there any kind of commitment I can get out of you based on what we have discussed so far, understanding you like the fee structures like they are now? Mr. Schmutzer said, and I feel they're very competitive in the market as it exists right now, and I will make the commitment to you that I will certainly fall well within the parameters of the existing competitive market. Commissioner DeLoach said, no, that ranges anywhere —. Mr. Schmutzer said, there are higher —. Commissioner DeLoach said, understand, that range goes from 25, or from whatever you said, 18 or —, it goes from $18 to $100 here. Mr. Schmutzer said, so do the quality of the facilities, that's why I asked you not to compare Bacon Park to Henderson. Commissioner DeLoach said, that's not my point. I talking —, that's my point. I mean, you can go out there and you can put Cadillacs at every green and we can have air conditioned booths and you can end up paying $200 a round if you wanted to, and if people are willing to pay it, you know, they'll come, but the point is we're talking about Joe Average wanting to go play golf on a public course that is going to be limited back to just Bacon Park. That's what they're going to be limited to or they're going to drive to Bryan County. This is what the issue is here. It is not about whether you can make money there because if you could just break even for us, we'd hire you on as a management company maybe. Mr. Schmutzer said, I wouldn't be interested. Commissioner DeLoach said, so —, okay, well, but the point is —. Mr. Schmutzer said, that's not the business that I'm in. Commissioner DeLoach said, right. The point is we're giving away something that the taxpayers of Chatham County not only pay money to, which is a half —, say it's a half a million dollars a year, but that average person, Joe Blow, who makes $25,000 a year, can't afford to go play for $100 a round or $75 a round or $42 a round. They want to be able to go play as cheap as they can and at a decent place, and we've got one out there right now as it's competitive, it's low priced as compared to anything else in the market except Bacon Park, and it's right there with Bacon Park. Joe Blow can go play, but if we turn this thing private and we have no controls over the —, what you're going to get for it, Joe Blow has no place to go anymore except Bacon Park. That is a concern that everybody on this Commission should be worried about. There is no other place, and you need to look at that before you vote in favor of giving this away, regardless of what it costs to keep it open, and again I'll point to the fact that we keep baseball, softball, football, basketball, all of these other things going, as well as the Aquatic Center and everything else. We can't afford to just close the door on this golf course. If we can't get some kind of guarantee that says I'm going to be within the range of so-and-so so that I know the public, Joe Blow, is taken care of. That's all.

Chairman Hair said, I would just make a comment. You know, all of us up here are business people. I would not guarantee my prices for 10 years. I wouldn't guarantee my prices for five years. I think that we have to be competitive in any business we're in, but I think to ask for a guarantee is sort of out of the scope of the way businesses operate. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Price.

Commissioner Price said, we have on the agenda rejection of bids to purchase Henderson Golf Course. County Attorney Hart said, those were rejected. Commissioner Price said, they were actually so —. Chairman Hair said, that's correct. Commissioner Price said, so point of clarification here —. Chairman Hair said, which was a step —, the first step we had to take. Commissioner Price said, right, we're already done that. What was —, what was tabled at the last meeting, and Commissioner Jackel made the motion to table it, was the motion that I made that a resolution be passed to refer to the Chatham County Recreation Authority for purposes of review of the proposal of Cascade Point, L.L.C., concerning the operation and purchase of the Henderson Golf Course. I'd like to at this time move to rescind that motion and replace it with another motion. So I'll —. Chairman Hair asked, could we do it in the same motion or do we need two motions. County Attorney Hart said, let's do two motions. Chairman Hair said, two motions, okay. Commissioner Price said, okay, so I move to rescind my previous motion. Chairman Hair asked, do I have a second to rescind the previous motion? Commissioner Jackel said, yes, I'll second that. Chairman Hair said, okay, a second. All those in favor of rescinding the previous motion vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and Thomas were not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

Commissioner Price said, what I would like to do is to make a new motion to refer this matter to the Chatham County Recreation Authority for purposes of review —, to review the proposal for the sale of the Henderson Golf Course to Cascade Pointe, L.L.C, so long as the sale will work out legally. Chairman Hair said, okay. Do I have second to that motion? Commissioner Jackel said, I don't think we could do it if it isn't legal, so I don't —, that may be superfluous. Chairman Hair said, well [inaudible] the motion. Commissioner Jackel said, I hope we wouldn't do it if it was illegal, let's put it that way. Chairman Hair asked, did you second that —, that motion? Do I have a second. Commissioner Jackel said, I'm trying to come up with —, I'm trying to think of some wording that would satisfy —, Eddie [DeLoach], as part of that motion, Eddie [DeLoach], maybe 10% of what they're doing is too restrictive. What would 15% or 20% or something like that for a period of time —. Chairman Hair said, keep in mind, Commissioner Jackel, that this would be something that the Recreation —, by law remember the way the deed is structured. This is the first step in that process to go to the Recreation Authority. They would be —, I think it would be, and the lawyer just pointed out, we really can't restrict, you know, what the Recreation Authority does like they can't restrict what we do. So I think to do that would be restrict what —, they could review that, but we couldn't really, I don't think, dictate to the Recreation Authority what they could do. Jon [Hart], am I correct on that? We couldn't dictate to what they can —, we couldn't put negotiating parameters around them. Commissioner Jackel said, all right, as a point of information then, let me ask, if we approve this what —, it goes to the Recreation Authority, and then what

happens now. Chairman Hair said, then it comes back to us after they —, it comes back to us after that. Commissioner Price said, it comes back to us for a final decision. Chairman Hair said, yes, for the final decision. Commissioner Jackel said, if we get also the approval of the bond attorney. Chairman Hair said, that's correct, that's correct. Commissioner Jackel said, and then it comes back to us. Chairman Hair said, that's correct. Commissioner Price said, that's why it's worded the way it is. Commissioner Jackel said, we'll have the final vote —. County Attorney Hart said, Mr. Chairman, we need a second to the motion. Chairman Hair asked, pardon? County Attorney Hart said, we need a second to that motion. Chairman Hair said, well, he's asking, I think, the question is to see if he's going to second the motion, okay. Commissioner Jackel said, okay, all right. I think this is something we need to vote on so I will second. Chairman Hair said, you'll second the motion. Chairman Hair asked, all right, any discussion on the motion? Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, yes, at our last meeting there was quite a bit of discussion on whether a golf course is something that the County government should provide for the citizens. As far as I'm concerned, a golf course is part of our regular recreational program. We subsidize just about every program we have right now in recreation, plus the facilities that we have. There was other discussion also that if this is sent to the Recreation Authority, the Recreation Authority would either have to approve it or would have to pay the bond. I don't believe that's true. Commissioner Saussy said, I don't either. Commissioner Murray said, I don't —, I think you'd better research that some more because I don't think we have to do that. The other concern I have with this, and until we can get something in writing to do this, I will not support any of the motions to do anything with the Golf Course other than to keep it, and that is that I asked the question the last time and I think I got the wrong answer based on some other attorneys I've talked to since then, and that is that right now your firm has a good —, a great deal because in the year 2003 if y'all can't make a profit with it and if it does not work out like you would like it to, you can back out of the agreement. The way it's written right now, the County doesn't have that option, and until that option is put in, and I think there's a way to do it legally, then I can't support any of this because I think the County and the taxpayers of this community should have that same option in the year 2003 that if we want to back out of this contract and agreement, we will have the right to do that also.

Mr. Schmutzer said, I think —, I think you're misinterpreting what happens or what potentially could be triggered in the year 2003. It's at that point within the parameters of the existing tax exempt bond that the County itself or, in the structure that we've created, have the latitude to cash the bond out. That's the option that we're holding out to each other. In the structure of the transaction there are two entities that are participating, one under the closed end fixed term lease that can run potentially through the year 2016 that can hold the management contract, and then there is a second entity that is in fact the buying entity that works within the tax structure of the bond to do that, to perform that function at the end. There are latitudes and penalty clauses imposed between those time periods, but I think the option period that you're speaking of is not whether or not we can back away from the management contract at that point, but whether or not we have the latitude to exercise and cash the bond out at that point.

Commissioner Murray said, that's not quite the way it was explained at our last meeting. Mr. Schmutzer said, that's why I'm here today. Chairman Hair said, okay. Do you have any more questions, Commissioner Murray? Commissioner Murray said, well, do we have the latitude in this new agreement that we're being told about that evidently was the original agreement that we were misinformed at our last meeting on, in that do we have the same latitude to back out or not accept that? Commissioner Price said, uh, ask Jon [Hart]. County Attorney Hart said, if you give them the option as stated in the proposal of June 9th, 1998, you would not have the —, they would have the right to exercise their option and you would not have the right to necessarily back out. The question is, does the person put that much money in the golf course and on the front end an then not exercise the option? So that —, I think that was the thinking for that [inaudible]. Commissioner Murray said, which brings up another good point. We've put money into it, taxpayers' money, since it was opened up year after year. We continue to do this and they've put the money into it and if they decide to exercise that option, they'd pay us what let's on it. The County ends up losing in the long run? The taxpayers of this community have done the losing, and I don't think it's a good deal for us and, therefore, I will not support it.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner DeLoach. Commissioner DeLoach said, I was just curious. For whatever reason, we as the County were to enter into agreement and we worked out a term that we could come up to. What affect would it have if for some reason this market didn't go as you had planned and you were to decide to quit, what happens to the course as far as legally, what happens to the course if all of a sudden they ---, they pull up states and go back to Washington? Chairman Hair asked, are you talking about the conclusion of the management agreement? Commissioner DeLoach said, no, no, no, not the conclusion of the management agreement? Commissioner DeLoach said, no, not the conclusion, in the middle of it. For whatever reason, he dies and everybody says I quit, we don't have —, we didn't have a management company any more. Mr. Schmutzer said, under the terms and conditions of the contract, both of them that we'd proposed, we're liable for the [inaudible]. Commissioner DeLoach said, I realize you're liable, but, you know, have you ever —, back several years ago whenever we had an oil shortage, Orlando was covered up with apartment complexes that were about 90% occupied —, 90% completed. That all fell down around people who live in that area because nobody had any money, so they just went —, it just fell apart right there. That's what —, what's going to happen to our golf course if for whatever reason you can't complete the management of it? Do we lose control of it then? Will it have to go to courts and be decided? What happens to the course if for any reason you quit or you fold? Do we have a —, like do we have a bond on this thing that says, okay, if for any reason you don't fulfill your end of it, we have a bond covering Chatham County so that we can go in there and make sure the course is up to what we gave you whenever we started? Not that you're going to walk, and I'm not questioning you. I don't know you, okay, but my —, I've got to look at all the worst care scenarios. If you go in there and you bleed off a certain amount of money off the thing trying to —, and you don't put money back into it and you give us something back that is less than quality that we gave you, what happens to Chatham County if you were to walk away? Mr. Schmutzer said, the verbiage is very clearly stated about in the original RFP as well as our contract that we revised that it's maintained and controlled to meet or exceed current industry standards that, again, I'm proud to say that I participate in leading, and as far as the —, in any interim period for the contractual relationship with the County, we are responsible for those payments on an annual basis back to the County. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay, I understand that and I'm not questioning you —, I'm not —. Mr. Schmutzer said, I might also add that in the times of economic downturn, it's a pretty popular sport. Those that are out of work usually can find time and the resources to go play golf. We weren't too adversely affected before.

Chairman Hair asked, any other questions? We have a motion and a second on the floor. Does everybody understand the motion? All those in favor of the motion —.

Mr. Ken Earls said, hey. Commissioner Thomas said, wait a minute. Chairman Hair asked, would you like to —? Mr. Earls wants to make a comment. Mr. Earls said, my name is Ken Earls. I don't think we had a final answer, or at least I was so stupid I didn't pick it up, answer to the question: Are we protected, can we pull out, can they pull out? He's saying one thing, out attorney's saying something else. How can you send something to the Recreation Authority for them to approve when you —, they aren't even sure what's being approved? I realize it's coming back here in the end, but don't you think everything or most things —, the major issue should be worked out before it is sent to them for their approval? Thank you.

Commissioner Price said, good question. Chairman Hair said, thank you, Mr. Earls. Commissioner Price said, good question. Commissioner Thomas said, that's a good question, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Hair asked, pardon? Commissioner Thomas said, I said that's a very good question. Chairman Hair said, well, I think the whole —. Commissioner Price said, the motion —. Chairman Hair said, if you'll remember, the steps were clearly laid out at the last meeting about the, you know, the whole purpose of referring it to the Recreation Authority was to —, they're the legal holders of the title to the property, and I think the current motion allows ample time to —, and the way the motion is structured, it says to work out any legal problems, and that would be one of them, and that's the way the attorneys have recommended that we do it. So I think —, I think it's a legitimate question, but I think we have ample opportunity to work that out. We've got two of us to work it out, quite frankly, the Recreation Authority and also the same attorney represents them and also we've got another chance to come back before us again too.

Chairman Hair said, all right, we have a motion and a second. All those in favor of the motion vote yes, opposed vote no. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Saussy, Rivers, Jackel and Price voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Murray, DeLoach and Thomas voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of 5 to 3. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes. Thank you, Mr. Schmutzer very much.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

1. Commissioner Price moved to untable this item for consideration by the Board. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Saussy and DeLoach were not present.]

2. Commissioner Price moved to rescind the motion made June 12, 1998, that a resolution be passed to refer to the Chatham County Recreation Authority for purposes of review of the proposal of Cascade Pointe, L.L.C., concerning the operation and purchase of Henderson Golf Course. Commissioner Jackel seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and Thomas were not present.)

3. Commissioner Price moved to refer to the Chatham County Recreation Authority for purposes of review the proposal for the sale of Henderson Golf Course so long as the sale will work out legally. Commissioner Jackel seconded the motion. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Saussy, Rivers, Jackel and Price voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Murray, DeLoach and Thomas voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of 5 to 3. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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* 6. CONSIDERATION OF A REGIONAL COMMITTEE TO LOOK INTO THE WATER PLAN (COMMISSIONER MURRAY). Tabled at meeting of June 12, 1998.

Chairman Hair said, the next item to take off the table is the consideration of a regional committee to look into the water plan. We pulled this one last time because —, at the request of Commissioner Murray. I will entertain a motion to take it off the table. Commissioner Murray said, so moved. Chairman Hair asked, have we got a second? Commissioner Thomas said, second. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. All those in favor of taking it off the table vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, there are several things that are supposed to be included on that. One, yes, I would like to see us create a committee with people outside of Chatham County involved because we have outside —, outlying areas from Chatham County that our water plan and the aquifer affects. It's not just Chatham County, so that's the main point of this, but we've heard a great deal from TSG on what they can do for us and what they want to do and what we need to do so they can do that, but we've never really heard anything from the other side of reasons that we might not need to be doing these things, and also we had a public hearing a month or so back on whether we were going to sell our water system or not, and everyone that spoke during that meeting and left public hearing stated they did not want us to see us sell that water system, they were satisfied with what was going on with it, and then a couple of meetings later then we came right back to try to sell the system again. So I've asked a couple of people to come that could give us more information on the current water plan. First of all, the vote that was taken, if I had had the information that I have today I would not have voted in favor of that motion to amend our water plan, and if I understand it correctly, we're just one of the government agencies that has to vote on that. The rest of the municipalities have to agree with us too, and I think we made a big mistake when we agreed to do that the last time, and I wish there was some way to change it, but I doubt if there is. I'd like to call or Mr. Ben Brewton right now, if he could come forward and give us some information that he has towards the water land, our system and other things that are going on right now so we can have both sides before we make any final decisions.

Mr. Ben Brewton said, good morning. Several Commissioners said, good morning. Mr. Brewton said, thank you, Commissioner Murray and other honorable Commissioners. Let me take just a moment and tell you a little bit about —, introduce myself to you and tell you why I'm here. I lived in Chatham County quite a number of years, I do live in Bryan County now. I graduated from Jenkins High School in 1968 and my entire family, except for me, lives here in Chatham County. I moved some years back, back out to some family property in Bryan County and got involved in local government there, served a number of years on the planning and zoning commission there, three terms as chairman, and then was asked by the commissioners to sit on the board of tax assessors and served as chairman there for term. I sat with Commissioner Rivers on the Governor's Coastal Management Advisory Committee. I first got involved in the Chatham County water plan a couple of years ago. I'm the immediate past chairman of the Chatham Environmental Forum. Those of you who aren't familiar with that, that is a group that is one-third members from the government sector, one-third members from the business sector, and one-third members from the environmental community, and we served as an advisory body to the MPC in the development of that plan, which went on for two or three years, and most recently I've been asked to serve as chairman of a group called the Coastal Environmental Organization of Georgia, which is a coast-wide environmental organization that has a number of members from Chatham County. I'm a lifelong citizen of the area and in 1996 when TSG first made their proposal for withdrawals from the three area rivers, the Savannah, Ogeechee and Altamaha Rivers, I started following this rather closely. I've been to a dozens of hearings, written dozens of letters, seen —, met with Harold Reheis and other folks at EPD, met with TSG officials and a number of other people, and learned a great deal about that, and some of my friends and associates here in Chatham County thought that it may be beneficial, and Commissioner Murray thought that, after talking with him, that it may be helpful for me to share some of this information with you. So I am grateful for that opportunity. I guess to start with and to finish, the main thing I would like to emphasis is this is all part of a much, much bigger picture. I know in your position here you see hundreds of item every meeting and some of them are big issues and some of them are little tiny issues but are big issues to people who are standing before you on them, and sometimes the big issues can get lost in the little issues and sometimes they can seem like smaller issues than they are. But we are in the midst and have been for a number of years —, I'll go back to my childhood. I remember reading a feature article in the *Savannah Morning News* in the 1950's that said by the year 2000 we're going to have serious problems with the aquifer, and it was hear no evil, see no evil, and we proceeded ahead as we were, and now that those problems have come to the forefront, the EPD has mandated water supply plans from the 24 area counties using the aquifer. There's all sorts of proposals and scenarios about what to do and people are in some ways almost in a panic state, but it is a very big picture, it's a very important decision. It will control the future of what happens not just in Chatham County, but most of the counties in the area, and I commend you, Commissioner Murray, and others for considering trying to put together some sort of regional force for looking at this issue, but it seems like over and over we do things and we study things and then the study gets put on the shelf and we forget about it and sort of go back to reinvent the wheel sometimes, and I want to —, this is a —, since this is such a complex issue, try to, number one, run through some parts of it, some highlights as quickly as possible, give you some material to look at, and then offer to you, collectively or individually, any time to spend as much time with you as you would like, be it 10 minutes or 10 hours, looking over this because it's a very, very complex issue. There are some significant issues that have been raised. There are public policy issues, there are legal issues, there are environmental issues, there are economic issues, and it is, as I said, a very complex issue and it's much bigger than just a question about public versus private, although that is one of the questions, I guess, to be considered in that, just like you were talking about on the golf course. The original process of that plan, I'm sure most of you have heard by now or maybe you remember from when it originally happened was the EPD ordered Chatham County to develop a water supply plan, and I believe the various governing bodies in Chatham County charged the Metropolitan Planning Commission to develop that. The MPC established two advisory groups, the Chatham Environmental Forum I guess was more of a policy advisory group, and the Technical Committee, which was a technical advisory group, and through two or three years of lengthy work and meetings, and I participated in many of them that went on for hours and hours, public hearings and meetings and with a variety of citizens and citizens groups, a lot of staff work at the MPC, that plan was eventually brought back to the Chatham County Commission and the City of Savannah and the other municipalities and governing bodies in the County and was adopted by all of them. There was a lot of thought, a lot of preparation that went into that —, went into that plan. I'd like at this time, if somehow or other we could distribute to you some —, a packet of some information I've prepared for the Commissioners and also one for the County Manager. Now I'm not going to go over all this in detail, and for your convenience I have put a cover page there that's sort of an index to what is included and has my name and telephone number, e-mail and fax addresses, and I will be happy to respond, get you copies of this or any of the approximately two feet thick stack of materials that I have. This process started —, I'm just going to hit a few highlights in this chronology. The process started June 5, 1996, when the Savannah Group filed applications with EPD for permits to draw surface water from the Altamaha, Ogeechee and Savannah Rivers. Those permits totaled somewhere 130, 140 million gallons of water per day, approximately twice what the entire City of Savannah, Chatham County, all private and industrial systems combined within Chatham County, public, private and industrial systems use, and wanted a permit to be given rights to withdraw that amount of water, and I don't know how much of this has been before this Board, but as you go out into the other counties, I can tell you that if you think people are upset about paying a little bit more money for a round of golf, you should see their reaction when they feel they may be faced with dealing with a monopoly on their drinking water and fishing water and boating water. The quantity was ridiculously high and TSG has since reduced their request by about 90%, prompting many people to ask what the point of the original request was to begin with, and they are still yet to define any definite customers. If you'll jump down on this chronology to October 15, 1996, in an EPD interoffice memo, which I have provided a copy for you, one EPD staff member, the head of the surface water area, calls the TSG proposal ludicrous and notes that it —, the EPD has never seen this sort of proposal before. October 24, 1996, EPD asked two economists, I believe, from Georgia State University to meet with TSG and prepare a memorandum about the TSG proposal and during that meeting —.

Chairman Hair said, Mr. Brewton, I'm going to stop you right here. I'm quite —, you know, what's on the agenda is that you're going to talk about a regional water plan. I'm beginning to get a little concerned that this —. I don't think it's fair to criticize TSG necessarily when they're not here to defend themselves. Are you going to talk about the regional water plan? Mr. Brewton said, would you like me to respond to that or did you want to say something, Commissioner Murray? Chairman Hair said, respond to my question first and then I'll recognize Commissioner Murray. Mr. Brewton said, yes, sir. I was heard that you might try to stop and interrupt me today when I brought this before the Committee [sic]. I don't believe anyone has been here to respond to any TSG presentation, and I was, in fact, told by my Bryan County manager that he attended a meeting

where you wanted to discuss a regional water plan and you had TSG officials there to present their proposal. I was asked here to talk about the background on the water situation —. Chairman Hair asked, you were asked to come here? Mr. Brewton said, yes, sir, I was asked to come here. Chairman Hair said, okay, okay. Mr. Brewton said, and I commend you for the idea to establish a regional water plan, but that was not specifically what I was asked to come to discuss. Chairman Hair asked, but that's what you're going to discuss this morning? That's what's on my agenda is regional water plan.

Commissioner Murray said, I can clarify that. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray. Commissioner Murray said, I had called down because I didn't see it on the Commissioners' items because it was tabled at the last meeting and I wanted to change that a little bit, and if you'll look at the page it came out on Wednesday, the fifth item on that says consideration of a regional committee to look into the water plan, County's water system, Mr. Ben Brewton, and that was by my name, and then got a call yesterday saying that the original tabled motion [sic] was under tabled motions and that's why it ended up like it did, but I did ask him to come speak. Chairman Hair said, okay. Continue, sir.

Mr. Brewton said, okay, thank you, sir. The —, on October 24th, and, Chairman Hair, I would like to say I am just putting the facts out here, I'm not criticizing TSG or anyone else. I think they're a private company just trying to make a buck like most other private companies, but it has to do with a public resource, water. On October 24, 1996, during that meeting with the Georgia State University officials, economists TSG first articulated or further articulated their ASR plan, that is the Aquifer Storage and Recovery plan —. Would you like for me to wait until you come back, sir, to continue?

Commissioner Price said, Mr. Brewton, would you continue and please respect the rights of the Commissioners to come and go as they please during the meeting. You don't have to go to that level.

Mr. Brewton said, okay. The ASR plan was presented whereby TSG first indicated that it's use of the water withdrawn from the rivers would be to inject into the aquifer and would be to withdraw it at another location, and this is something that there's very little Georgia law on and is considered by many people to be a very dangerous practice and something with very, very many unknowns. They would take river water, partially treated to whatever minimum drinking water standards were, and then inject it into our pure pristine Florida aquifer and then what they would like to do is to have rights to withdraw water, an equal amount of water in other places throughout the area. I'll turn it over to May 27, 1997, on the second page of the chronology. The EPD, and I think this is where the Chatham Commission and other governing bodies need to look very carefully at what they're doing and move that —, I applaud them for involving the local governing bodies, but at the same time in many cases I think EPD, it may be deferring part of their responsibility by saying it's not up to us, it's up to you. They asked —, told TSG that they would require TSG's proposal to be incorporated into the Glynn County plan; however, you'll see later that they changed that. On July 25, 1997, and that's the reason, Commissioner Price, I thought the Chairman might like to be in the room, on July 25, 1997, I have a copy of a letter where Chatham County's Chairman Billy Hair sent a letter to EPD saying that the Chatham County Commission supported the application and urged EPD to process and grant TSG their permit as soon as possible. On August 27, 1997, I call you attention to a memo from Coastal Resources Division from DNR stating that —, or a memo to them, where EPD asked by September 3rd, six days later, for Coastal Resources to reply on the effect of the withdrawals from the rivers and fisheries. On September 9th, CRD sent comments back saying that they are unable to evaluate it because they do not have a hydrologist, do not know the effect on the fisheries, and certainly can't do it in that length of time. September 19, '97, EPD produced a paper called Concerns and Responses in which, despite the fact that they earlier said that they would only permit the applicant if the Glynn County Commission chose them as their provider, they said that if the Glynn County government does not want them as provider, then they can present contracts with others. October 6, '97, EPD holds a public meeting in Brunswick and after the meeting, or during the meeting, the EPD director admitted the EPD did not know what the effect would be on the Altamaha River Estuary. In November 1997, on the 24th, TSG sent a letter to EPD saying that officially TSG amended it's application for surface water withdrawal from the Ogeechee River to include the use of aquifer storage and recovery, so I call your attention to that because in endorsing or supporting whatever you may do on this application, you may also be inadvertently supporting the use of injecting that water into the aquifer, according to EPD and TSG. November 26, Coastal Resources Division advises EPD that there is not enough scientific information to address many of the questions; however, a few days later, on December the 3rd, EPD sent a concurrence letter to TSG. Anyway, in March of this year, some press coverage started, or in February actually. The *Atlanta Constitution* published a lengthy editorial in opposition, as did the *Savannah Morning News*, and on April 13, 1998, which I guess is part of what really brings me here, EPD Director Harold Reheis sent letters to the Bryan and Chatham County Commission Chairmen asking them to state by April 30th, just 17 days later, whether your county water plan will or will not incorporate TSG's Ogeechee River proposal. The —, April 24th, I believe, you adopted a motion to start some type of process to possibly amend your water plan. On May 2nd the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah adopted a resolution affirming that the 1995 Savannah-Chatham Comprehensive Water Management Plan remains unmodified and is the official unified plan for Chatham County and its municipalities. On May 7th, Chairman Billy Hair sent a letter to Harold Reheis saying the Commission approved to amend the plan, I believe this should meet the requirements for TSG's application, and on May 13th, EPD Director Harold Reheis issued a concurrence letter on the Savannah River application. Now to run through this packet with you, I'll do this very quickly, you have the first thing is a copy of the October 26, 1996, memo —.

Chairman Hair said, just for time purposes, how long do you anticipate —, 30 minutes or how long do you —, you can take as long as you want. Mr. Brewton said, I would say probably about 10 minutes or so. Chairman Hair said, thank you.

Mr. Brewton said, the memo in which the EPD official refers to the application as ludicrous, the second page includes a number of legal issues that have been raised about how their application may not even fully comply with State law. The next page is an article from February of '97 from the *Savannah Morning News* called Thirst for Profit. The next item is an editorial from the *Atlanta Constitution* on Sunday, March 1st of this year, a very lengthy editorial called Who Owns Georgia's Waters. The next page, a *Savannah Morning News* editorial saying, Water Plan: All Wet, talking about the TSG proposal. The next item is a lengthy article from *The Wall Street Journal* from June 10th, and I think I've copied in there also TSG's response to that. Then you will see on April 13th two letters, a letter to Bryan County Commission Chairman Brooks Warnell and on May 6th a copy of Mr. Warnell's response to Mr. Reheis about that and their feeling about the proposal. You'll next see a copy of one of the original documents filed in October of '96 with EPD concerning aquifer storage and recovery. That's the

methodology of pumping the partially treated water into the aquifer. You will see on November 24, 1997, a letter from TSG notifying the EPD that is officially part of their application. Now I did a little research on this ASR and there's not much out there, which is why a lot of people have some concern, but it has been used some in Texas and some other area, and something called the Upper Guadalupe Water Authority in Kerrville, Texas, has used this, and there's an article that came some publication talking about them installing tests, but the interesting thing is some months later you'll see the second article, Kerrville Aquifer Storage and Recovery: Carcinogen Threat Exists, where it was reported by a consultant in the *Kerrville Daily News* that the chlorine in the water injected into the aquifer could potentially react with other materials in the aquifer and cause the possibility of formation of carcinogenic substances. It's a very dangerous thing in it plays with the drinking water supply of all of Southeast Georgia. The next thing is a copy of that July 25, 1997, letter from Chairman Hair to EPD urging the permit be granted. It says on behalf of the Commission. I'm not sure whether the Commission had taken action on that or not. The letter is from EPD to the Commission of this year. A memo from MPC to the County Manager Russ Abolt dated March 11th, where the MPC recommends a public hearing process be used for any amendments to the plan, and then the letters of May 7th from Director Milton Newton at MPC and Chairman Billy Hair to Harold Reheis talking about the committee —, the Commission will amend the plan. So I guess after going through that chronology, the question before us now is what is the impact of all these things, and I would urge you to be very, very cautious in your consideration of whether it be sale of the private water system or endorsement of some proposal, there's a very complex proposal because it may be taken by a context by EPD and others that is far beyond what your intentions are and used as a justification for —.

Chairman Hair said, I think Commissioner DeLoach has a question. Let him finish, and then he has a question.

Mr. Brewton said, for issuing of permits and so forth. What, I guess, has to question before some of your Chatham County systems —, citizens in reading some of this, I confess, I'm unable to quite figure out, I've seen a memo apparently that —, from just in the last few days the MPC back to Mr. Abolt and to —, and one from him to you regarding a process that you might follow to consider amendments to the water supply plan over the next six or eight months or so, including reconvening some of the original advisory bodies, and so forth, and the question I have, I guess, if you've just started the process and the amendment hasn't been complete [sic], I'm curious as to why letters have been sent to the EPD sort of predicting what the outcome will be to that process even before it's —, or as it's just gotten started, and exactly where things stand now and where you plan to go with this, and I'd be happy to respond to any questions as well.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner DeLoach.

Commissioner DeLoach said, I've got —, since you are a visitor to this County, I will just basically say we let you have an opportunity to say what you had to say. We here can figure out what's best for Chatham County as far as the Chatham County Commission is concerned. We don't need you to lecture us on how our procedures are done, what we're doing or how we go about it. I understand your concern with TGS [sic]. We voted in favor of looking at a private enterprise furnishing water. That's our right. We did extend you the right to come up here, although you're not even from this County, but that's okay. We'll be glad to listen to you, but don't lecture me on what I think is right and what I think should be done. We'll do that ourselves here, and we do a pretty good job of it. We have applied for it and we did just what we were supposed to. Everything we've done is legal. There's no problem with our process. We feel like there's a need for —, or a majority felt like there was a need for an additional private water source. Whether you agree with that or not doesn't matter. You're not from here, but the point is, it was a process that we went through and we voted on, just clean, clear-cut, studied it, and did what we felt like was right. Now maybe it's not. I'm not questioning that. You know, we have made wrong decisions up here before, but in our opinion, and since we're voted on by the people of Chatham County, in our opinion, we felt like it was the right move to make, okay. Now I don't like to get personal, and you've gotten personal with it and we don't need that. We just need the facts presented and I just don't need all of that rhetoric that you've been putting out up here, especially not being from this County, and then in directing us on how we're supposed to do our process and what we should do and what we shouldn't do. That's not going to happen here. Billy Hair did what was right, Billy Hair did what the Commission voted on, and you questioned whether the Commission voted on it or not. We voted on it, on whether to send that letter or not, and he did what he was responsible to do. He did exactly what the Commission asked him to do. So, you know, whether you agree with the process, that's your opinion, and we've got nine others up here that's got different ones too, but don't come —, you know, don't start attacking, one, the Commission, the Chairman first, don't start attacking the Chairman when he walks out the room; two, don't start attacking the Commission because we don't know the rhetoric of what we're —, our long term implications. We know what we're doing here. Okay? So we don't need a discussion on what we're —, our process. If you've got a problem with the company or if you've got a problem with their procedure, I don't want water injected into the aquifer. We up here have not said we want water injected into the aquifer. That is not the issue here. The issue here is, and what we sent to Reheis was, we wanted a private source or a second source of water in Chatham County, which we have a right to do as Chatham County citizens, and we've done that. Nothing in the discussion, no discussion on aquifer injection or anything else. I don't believe there's a soul up here that would be in favor of that, but the point is we've done our process, we appreciate the information, and we'll be able to decide what we need to do here when it comes time to decide.

Mr. Brewton said, I appreciate that, sir. Let me clarify just a couple of things. I'm sorry you feel like I was lecturing you. I was simply trying to present —. Commissioner DeLoach said, no, no, no. There's was no —, don't misunderstand me. You were lecturing. Mr. Brewton said, I was trying to present the facts. I will say, as I told you, I lived in Chatham County a long time, I shop in Chatham County, I do business in Chatham County, my family lives in Chatham County, and I've donated a lot of time to Chatham County in the original water plan development, many hours chairing a group that worked on that long before TSG was ever heard of. I'm sorry you feel so territorial about it. The aquifer is something that serves 24 Southeast Georgia counties, and I think we all have an interest in that. I'm sorry if you're offended that I came here. I was invited here, and I spent a good deal of time preparing these materials for you. Commissioner DeLoach said, and we thank you for this material and we will take it under advisement. Mr. Brewton said, as far as my comment about the Chairman since he walked out just about as soon as I started, I wanted to ask him whether he would like me to wait to give him the benefit to come back and hear my remarks. I'm sorry you and Commissioner Price found that offensive. In regard to a couple of statements, I did not say that you did not vote on this, I simply asked you a question in my presentation about what the nature of that vote was and what it meant because there seems to be some confusion. When I asked if there had been a vote, it was not in relation to

Chairman Hair's May 7, '98, letter, it was in relation to his July 25, 1997, letter, and I have been unable to find anything in the minutes reflecting a vote prior to that time. Finally, in regard to ASR, the letter from Chairman Hair endorsed TSG's application, and I have a letter that is in your packet there where TSG says that ASR is part of their application, so it's my feeling that if you're not careful, I'm sorry if you were offended by me pointing this out to you, by endorsing their application and by them maintaining that ASR is part of their application, you may be unintentionally endorsing ASR. So apologize to you for any offense you may have taken to my remarks.

Chairman Hair said, I'm going to recognize Commissioner Jackel and Commissioner Murray for some brief comments. I think it's time to move on to another issue. Commissioner Jackel first. Mr. Brewton said, thank you for your time. That's really all I have unless you have some questions. Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Jackel and then Commissioner Murray. I think it's time to move on.

Commissioner Jackel said, I just had an opposite view. I think this is great information. I appreciate you taking the time to come here, I appreciate you taking the time to put this together. This is something that we are all very concerned with. We know we're getting into a water crunch, if it's not here already, and I wish more citizens would get involved and put information together and let us know how they feel. Mr. Brewton said, thank you, sir, you're very welcome. I appreciate it.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, yes, I just wanted to say, first of all, I'm the one that invited him here. I'm glad he came. The reason I tabled it at the last meeting was because I felt like we had to had more information than what could have been presented at that meeting, and I agree with him. The letter he's talking about is July 25, 1997. I don't have a problem with the letter that was sent. I think the Chairman has the right to send those letters, but the one we voted on and the action that we took was at a meeting this year, which wasn't but about a month or so back requesting an amended water plan, but I think we need that kind of background that was given to us today of what's taken place over the years, where we're headed, and what's going on for us to make good decisions on what we do. I also feel like that we should not just be concerned about Chatham County. We've got other outlying counties that receive water off the same aquifer, and I think that's why we need a regional study committee on this and not just Chatham County. It affects all of us. What they do affects us and what we do is going to affect them, and I just feel like that we need a regional committee to study it.

Chairman Hair said, I fully agree with that. Commissioner Saussy and then Commissioner Rivers, and then let's move on.

Commissioner Saussy said, yes, I'd like to thank Mr. Brewton for coming because, frankly, if I had had this information, I don't believe I would have voted yes for what we voted on. Hopefully, it will not be detrimental to us in the future, and I agree with —, very much with what Frank Murray was talking about a regional center. In fact, I have already been working and talking to some people, both in South Carolina and in Effingham County about getting, if nothing else, and ad hoc committee to study not only —, not only water, but the whole development of the area because it's going to happen, and if we do not do it in a planned manner, it's going to be real bad in 10 to 20 years. So I think we really need to get started right away with this —, with getting some sort of a commission or something started between Effingham and Bryan —, Bryan too, I guess, and Chatham, Jasper and Beaufort especially, because those are the counties that are really involved in the Savannah/Chatham County and those areas. I would —, anybody that wants to help me with this, I'd be happy for them to help because I really have been looking at this and I've already gotten some people that want to do it, both in Georgia and South Carolina.

Mr. Brewton said, one last comment, sir. In regard to —, one other point that may not have been obvious in some of the materials that you've seen, TSG has asked EPD for an exclusive service territory whereby whatever area they have service in that they would have exclusive rights, a monopoly if you will, so I know that there's some concern about the City of Savannah and their determination perhaps of what goes on in the County, and I can understand why you might want to look at an alternative; however, the way it is structured right now, you'll be trading one monopoly for another. Just before I go, the question that I'd asked, could you clarify —, did the Commission simply start the process to amend the plan or has the plan been amended or —? Chairman Hair said, it's been sent to the MPC. That was what we voted on was that we —, we have consulted. Every time this issue has come up, we have consulted with staff and we've consulted with MPC and, Russ [Abolt], correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe it's been sent to MPC for them to do whatever they have to do to begin the process of amending the plan. Is that correct?

County Manager Abolt said, yes, sir. It's just like your letter said, and the Board concurred, you want other options. Mr. Brewton said, so as of right now the plan has not been amended, you've simply started the process and then the final plan will come back to you? Chairman Hair said, I think if you read the letter, that's what the letter says that we have —, we voted to —, I think it says something like start the process or something. It says something to that —. Mr. Brewton said, okay. So it would come back, you'd have a public hearing, so as of right now that's just under consideration. You haven't actually changed the plan to include TSG. Chairman Hair said, it says —, the letter is very clear, it says, the purpose of this letter is to confirm that Chatham County —, our long range water plan will be amended. That was after the vote was taken to amend it so we sent this to process. Mr. Brewton said, okay, but it hasn't been amended yet. Chairman Hair said, no, it's in the process of being amended, and the MPC controls that process as far as public hearings and those sort of things. Mr. Brewton said, and that would come back to you to actually approve it in the —. Chairman Hair said, I would assume. I don't know that to be true. I think that's true. Commissioner Rivers did you want to make one final comment and let's get this —, let's move —.

Commissioner Rivers asked, what effect, what effect does our letter have on the fact that we sent an endorsement letter to EPD in regards to them storing water in the aquifer? Where is that [inaudible]? Mr. Brewton said, well, based on that letter, the EPD has issued what they call a concurrence letter, and I believe that's —, my impression from talking with people at EPD, Mr. Reheis and Mr. Caldwell up there, is that they took that letter to mean that you actually have already amended the plan, so it may be that a clarification letter may be in order that you've simply started, and on the basis of that issued this concurrence letter concurring with TSG's application. They haven't issued the actual permit yet. Chairman Hair said, they

will not —, they will not issue any permits until they have customers. That's —. Commissioner Rivers asked, Milton [Newton], where are we at on that? Is there any way that we can rescind that. I don't think anybody sitting up here wants that —. Commissioner Saussy said, absolutely not. Commissioner Rivers said, to put water into that aquifer, and that's a —. Commissioner DeLoach said, that's not the —. Chairman Hair said, that's not the issue. Commissioner DeLoach said, that is not the issue here. Chairman Hair said, the issue is that you have to amend the plan, and there's a legal process that you have to follow to do that, but no —, there's nothing that's been put in place or that has anything put in motion that would —, Commissioner DeLoach is absolutely correct. I don't think there's a single one up here that would vote for ASR. I don't think there's a single one of us. I certainly wouldn't vote for it. Commissioner Rivers said, well, I mean, we have endorsed it —. [Unintelligible comments when several Commissioners began speaking at the same time.] Chairman Hair said, no, we endorsed the process of amending the plan to allow for a private supplier of water. That's all we've done. Commissioner DeLoach said, we have no control over that. Only the —. Chairman Hair said, the EPD —. Commissioner DeLoach said, the EPD is the only one to control whether that thing can be injected or not, and they have not approved it. I think you said the term was it's [inaudible] —. Chairman Hair said, we can't approve or disapprove ASR. Commissioner Rivers said, but we can support it. Chairman Hair said, that's correct. Commissioner Rivers said, and if we have supported it —. Chairman Hair said, we have not supported that. Commissioner DeLoach said, we've not supported it. Mr. Brewton said, their application does include a —. [Unintelligible comments were made when several Commissioners and Mr. Brewton were speaking at the same time.]

Commissioner Jackel said, well, why don't we go on record against it then. Commissioner Saussy said, I think we need to go on record —. Commissioner DeLoach asked, has their application been approved? Commissioner Jackel said, let's do that. Mr. Brewton said, there application has been submitted and it's gone through a process called —, where they've issued a concurrence letter saying they concur with the application. Commissioner DeLoach asked, has it been approved? Mr. Brewton said, no permit has yet —. Commissioner DeLoach asked, has it been approved to inject —, has it been approved to inject water into the aquifer by the EPD? Mr. Brewton said, there has been no final action. Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Rivers has the floor please.

Commissioner Rivers said, okay, one other thing. Everybody is talking about starting a regional water task force or committee. The RDC has one —. Commissioner Saussy asked, with South Carolina? Commissioner Rivers said, the RDC has a committee in place. Commissioner Saussy said, South Carolina. Commissioner Rivers said, and what I think we need to do is expand on that because they have already submitted a request to the State for funding, they're already doing water plans throughout the 12-county area, so I think we need to look at that effort and correlate whatever we're doing and not duplicate what is already being done.

Chairman Hair said, I would agree, and also I think the States, both States have to be involved in the process as well. We can't just do it as counties. We need to also have the State involved in that process. I think we need to move on. Does anybody have any burning, you know —. Commissioner Saussy asked, do you want to make a motion? Chairman Hair asked, do y'all want to make a motion?

Commissioner Jackel said, yes, we wanted to make a —, make a motion that this Commission goes on record against pumping any water into the aquifer, and send a copy of that to Harold Reheis. Chairman Hair said, I have a motion. Do I have a second? Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor of the motion vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes. Thank you, Mr. Brewton.

County Manager Abolt said, I just want to remind the Board —, I know you are well aware of it, but this —, the work that Commissioner Murray is referring to is at one level. Please understand you have instructed us, and we're about and have solicited for proposals for the water systems and sewer systems, and also you've asked us at the same time to look at expansion of our current system. That is ongoing. Chairman Hair said, that is correct. County Manager Abolt said, I'm assuming nothing you've talked about here —. Chairman Hair said, will change that. That's —, that is correct. That is correct. I also will point out too that the ASR only applies to the Ogeechee and Altamaha, not the Savannah River application anyway. They were never intending to do it here. It was only in the Ogeechee River and the Altamaha, but we're on record as opposing it.

Mr. Brewton said, thank you for your time, and I do want to say I tried to talk very fast, and put a lot of information in a short while to not take a lot of your time, and if that seemed like a lecture to you, I apologize. Chairman Hair said, thank you. Thank you, Mr. Brewton.

Commissioner Murray said, thank you. We appreciate it. Russ [Abolt] —, let me ask Russ [Abolt] one question. On the County's current water system, the one we have now —. County Manager Abolt said, yes, sir. Commissioner Murray asked, that is a proposal to either sell it or expand it, is that correct? Chairman Hair said, correct. Both options. Commissioner Murray said, we have both options that y'all work from. County Manager Abolt said, and we're going full speed ahead, but I don't want us to —. Chairman Hair said, that's correct. Commissioner Murray said, as long as both options are there.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

1. Commissioner Murray moved to untable this item for consideration by the Board. Commissioners Price and Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

2. Commissioner Jackel moved that this Commission go on record against pumping any water into the aquifer and that a copy of that be sent to Harold Reheis. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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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. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE THE FOLLOWING: GENERAL FUND M & O BUDGET AMENDMENT FOR $204,420 TO RECOGNIZE PROJECTED REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE AQUATIC CENTER, CONTINGENCY TRANSFERS OF $10,000 TO RECREATION FOR REPAIRS TO FOUR TENNIS COURTS AT L. SCOTT STELL PARK AND $50,000 TO THE CHATHAM COUNTY TEMPORARY POOL AND $10,000 FROM I.C.S. SALARY SAVINGS FOR A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH THE TECHNICAL SERVICES MANAGER FOR TRAINING TECHNICIANS; A ONE PERCENT SALES TAX ROAD PROGRAM FUND (1985-1993) CONTINGENCY TRANSFER OF $44,000 TO IMPROVE TRAFFIC CONDITIONS ON WILMINGTON ISLAND ROAD; A SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT CONTINGENCY TRANSFER OF $6,810 TO POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR REPAIRS TO SHARON PARK TOWER.

Chairman Hair said, the Chair will entertain a motion. Commissioner Thomas said, move for approval. Chairman Hair asked, do I have a second? Do I have a second? Commissioner Rivers said, second. Chairman Hair said, okay. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, Russ [Abolt], what plan is that —, do we have for that $44,000? Is that due to the questions we asked at the last meeting? County Manager Abolt said, sir, if you look at the —, yes, sir. There's $13,000 worth of some minor improvements and then there's the balance of it going to a study that would take into consideration all the [inaudible], Logical Growth would come in with looking to street closures and some rerouting of traffic. It's SPLOST eligible and certainly any improvements would come out of SPLOST funds. Chairman Hair said, it looks at both the short term and the long term aspects [inaudible]. Commissioner Murray asked, okay, well, we won't have any report or anything on this? County Manager Abolt said, you eventually will, sir. Yes, sir. Commissioner Murray asked, how long will it take to do this? County Manager Abolt said, without —, unless Mr. Bungard is back in the chain of command, I cannot answer that, sir. I do not know. I will find out for you. Chairman Hair said, but it should be brought back to us though, right? County Manager Abolt said, yes, sir, the actual award. Yes sir, yes sir. Chairman Hair said, yes, the awarding of it. County Manager Abolt said, I'll find out for you today, sir. Commissioner Murray said, because the only thing I knew about was the plan that was presented to us, one of the recommendations that we passed on to staff, and at the last meeting made a comment about declaring a certain project infeasible. County Manager Abolt said, yes sir, and that's in the staff report saying it's premature on that. It also says that because of the consequence, both short —, mid and long term, we would like the benefit of a very detailed analysis, particularly up there at Wilmington Island Road and —. Commissioner Murray said, thank you.

Chairman Hair said, I have a motion and a second on the floor. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the following: General Fund M & O budget amendment for $204,420 to recognize projected revenue and expenditures for the Aquatic Center, Contingency transfers of $10,000 to Recreation for repairs to four tennis courts at L. Scott Stell Park and $50,000 to the Chatham County temporary pool and $10,000 from I.C.S. salary savings for a professional services contract with the Technical Services Manager for training technicians; a One Percent Sales Tax Road Program Fund (1985-1993) Contingency transfer of $44,000 to improve traffic conditions on Wilmington Island Road; a Special Service District Contingency transfer of $6,810 to Police Department for repairs to Sharon Park Tower. Commissioner Rivers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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2. 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.

- **CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT - CHILD SUPPORT SPECIALIST I (3 POSITIONS)**
- **CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT - CLERICAL ASSISTANT II (1 POSITION)**
- **ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT - CIVIL ENGINEER I (1 POSITION)**

Commissioner Thomas said, move for approval. Chairman Hair asked, do I have a second? Commissioner Price said, second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Saussy, Rivers, Jackel, Price, DeLoach and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Murray voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of seven to one. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to waive the 90-day hiring freeze and authorize Human Resources to advertise the following positions: Child Support Enforcement, Child Support Specialist I (3 positions); Clerk of Superior Court, Clerical Assistant II (1 position); and Engineering Department, Civil Engineer I (1 position). Commissioner Price seconded the motion.

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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 asked, does anybody want to pull anything off the Action Calendar? Commissioner Jackel said, yes, please. Chairman Hair asked, which one? Commissioner Jackel said, Item 10 and —. Chairman Hair asked, which one? Commissioner Jackel said, Item 10 and Item 12. Chairman Hair said, Item 10 and Item 12. Anybody else want to pull anything? The Chair will entertain a motion to approve the balance of the Action Calendar. Commissioner Murray said, moved. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Commissioner DeLoach said, I want to know —, can I move —. Commissioner Jackel said, no. Commissioner DeLoach said, I want to move to pull Items 1 —, not 1, Items 2 through 15-G. No, I'm just kidding. Go ahead. Commissioner Thomas said, you've been sitting here too long. Chairman Hair said, you've been —, yes, it's been a long day, hasn't it, Eddie [DeLoach]? Okay, all right, the Chair will entertain a motion to approve the balance of the Action Calendar except 10 and 12. Commissioner Murray said, so moved. Commissioner DeLoach said, so moved. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, 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 that the Action Calendar be approved in its entirety with the exception of Items 10 and 12. 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 JUNE 12, 1998, AS MAILED.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on June 12, 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 JUNE 4, 1998, THROUGH JUNE 17, 1998.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved that the Finance Director is authorized to pay claims for the period June 4, 1998, through June 17, 1998, in the amount of $3,022,563. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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3. REQUEST FROM THE DEVELOPER, RICE MILL DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, TO RECORD THE FINAL PLAT AND COMBINE THE STREETLIGHT DISTRICT WITH PREVIOUS DISTRICTS FOR RICE MILL PLANTATION PHASE 6D. [DISTRICT 6.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to approve the request from the developer, Rice Mill Development Company, to record the final plat and combine the streetlight district with previous districts for Rice Mill Plantation Phase 6D. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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4. REQUEST FROM ENGINEER FOR THE DEVELOPER, RICK FITZER, D/B/A A.R.F. DEVELOPMENT GROUP, LLP, TO ADD THE LOTS WITHIN THE RECENTLY APPROVED ESTATES ON GROVE RIVER SUBDIVISION TO THE PREVIOUSLY ESTABLISHED STREETLIGHT ASSESSMENT DISTRICT. [DISTRICT 6.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to approve the request from engineer for the developer, Rick Fitzer, d/b/a A.R.F. Development Group, LLP, to add the ten lots within the recently approved Estates on Grove River Subdivision to the previously established streetlight assessment district. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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5. REQUEST FROM HUSSEY, GAY, BELL & DEYOUNG, INC., ENGINEER FOR THE DEVELOPER, TO APPROVE THE CONSTRUCTION AT SOUTH HARBOR SUBDIVISION, PHASE 1-E-1. [DISTRICT 4.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to approve the request from Hussey, Gay, Bell & DeYoung, Inc., engineer for the developer, to approve the construction at South Harbor Subdivision, Phase 1-E-1. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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6. REQUEST FROM HUSSEY, GAY, BELL & DEYOUNG, INC., ENGINEER FOR GEORGIAN WALK DEVELOPERS, FOR RELEASE OF THE SUBDIVISION BOND FOR SUGAR MILL SUBDIVISION PHASE 5 (A/K/A NORTH MARSH SUBDIVISION) AND ACCEPT THE PAVING AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS FOR COUNTY MAINTENANCE. [DISTRICT 7.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to approve the request from Hussey, Gay, Bell & DeYoung, Inc., engineer for Georgian Walk Developers, for release of the subdivision bond for Sugar Mill Subdivision Phase 5 (a/k/a North Marsh Subdivision) and accept the paving and drainage improvements for County maintenance. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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7. CONCEPTUAL APPROVAL TO INSTALL STREETLIGHTS ON BOURNE AVENUE.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to approve the concept of the installation of streetlights on Bourne Avenue. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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8. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE EARLY ACQUISITION REQUEST FOR PROPERTY OWNED BY GEORGE TASSEY, 1419 FORSYTHE ROAD, TRUMAN PARKWAY PHASE III. [DISTRICT 1.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to approve the early acquisition request for property owned by George Tassey, 1419 Forsythe Road, Truman Parkway Phase III. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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9. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE EARLY ACQUISITION REQUEST FOR PROPERTY OWNED BY MARK JAVETZ, 9217 WHITFIELD AVENUE, TRUMAN PARKWAY PHASE V. [DISTRICT 1.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to Request Board approve early acquisition request for property owned by Mark Javetz, 9217 Whitfield Avenue, Truman Parkway Phase V. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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10. CLARIFICATION OF EMPLOYEE HEALTH BENEFITS.

Commissioner Jackel said, I just want to make sure that everybody now understands that the Pap smears, mammograms, bi-annual physicals are covered by our health plan, that this is available, that they don't have to reach into their pockets to pay for this, that this is out there and to make sure that all our employees understand this and take advantage of these things because these are potentially life-saving procedures if they will get these things.

Chairman Hair said, the Chair will entertain a motion. Commissioner DeLoach said, so moved. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, I have a motion and a second. 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 accept the clarification of employee health benefits. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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11. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO RE-NAME THE SECTION OF PINE BARREN ROAD WHICH RUNS BETWEEN HIGHWAY 204 AND LITTLE NECK ROAD IN CONJUNCTION WITH CONVERSION OF RURAL ROUTES/BOX NUMBERING SYSTEM.
[DISTRICT 7.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to approve the request to re-name the section of Pine Barren Road which runs between Highway 204 and Little Neck Road in conjunction with conversion of rural routes/box numbering system. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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12. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO PROVIDE MAINTENANCE FOR A SAVANNAH TREE FOUNDATION VOLUNTEER TREE PLANTING PROJECT PROPOSED FOR THE VETERANS/CHATHAM PARKWAY INTERCHANGE.
[DISTRICT 5.]

Commissioner Jackel said, this thing is something I'm very much in favor of and we need to plant more trees, and I just wanted to bring that up that I feel like we're moving in the right direction here and we need to do more of this.

Chairman Hair said, the Chair will entertain a motion. Commissioner Jackel said, so moved. Commissioner Price 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.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Jackel moved to approve the request to provide maintenance for a Savannah Tree Foundation volunteer tree planting project proposed for the Veterans/Chatham Parkway interchange. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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13. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE A RESOLUTION FOR THE UPDATED FIVE-YEAR SHORT-TERM SOLID WASTE WORK PLAN.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to approve a resolution for the updated five-year short-term solid waste work plan. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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14. REQUEST FOR NEW BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR POURING LICENSE FOR 1998. PETITIONER: ALEXANDER LEE BRYANT, D/B/A CHEER'S BAR & GRILL, LOCATED AT 4001 OGEECHEE ROAD.
[DISTRICT 5.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to approve the request of petitioner, Alexander Lee Bryant, d/b/a Cheer's Bar & Grill, located at 4001 Ogeechee Road, for a new beer, wine and liquor pouring license for 1998. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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15. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO AWARD BIDS AS FOLLOWS: (Please note that new purchase thresholds of $10,000 or more have been enacted; however, contracts and change orders of a lesser amount still will appear.)

ITEM	DEPT.	SOURCE	AMOUNT	FUNDING
A. Change Order No. 2 to the annual contract for landscape maintenance to also include services at the Tag Office on Hodgson Memorial Drive	Building Maintenance and Operations	Charlie's Lawn Care (MBE)	$130/month	•General Fund/M & O - Building Maintenance and Operations •General Fund/M & O - Tax Commissioner
B. Confirmation of emergency purchase of 40,000 cubic yards of fill material on Hutchinson Island	SPLOST	Malphrus Construction	$180,000	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Hutchinson Island Interchange
C. Month-to-month renewal, not to exceed 12 months, to the annual contracts for landfill attendant services	Solid Waste	•J.D. Mikell (Wilmington Island Landfill) •Retha Scruggs (Dillon Landfill) •Hall Brothers (Chevis Road Landfill) •Retha Scruggs (Sharon Park Landfill)	•$2,000 per month •$1,400 per month •$1,083.33 per month •$1,300 per month	Solid Waste Fund
D. Change Order No. 1 to the contract for raising of power lines for temporary relocation of power lines at Jimmy DeLoach Parkway I-95 Interchange as required by GDOT	SPLOST	Savannah Electric and Power	$6,588	SPLOST (1985-1993) - Contingency (pending transfer)
E. Change Order No. 2 to the contract for construction of water and sewer improvements for additions to the County's water and sewer systems on Isle of Hope	Water and Sewer	Thomas Griffin Construction	$26,954	Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund
F. Change Order No. 2 to the contract for design of the County's water and sewer systems to include design of additional sanitary sewer lines	Water and Sewer	Thomas & Hutton	$2,000	Water and Sewer Enterprise Fund
G. Professional services contract for providing technical training to ICS personnel	I.C.S.	Jonathan Feldman	$10,000	General Fund/M & O - I.C.S. (pending transfer)

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to approve Items 15-A through 15-G. 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. MPC WAS REQUESTED TO AMEND SECTION 7, SIGNS, OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY ZONING REGULATIONS TO ALLOW BANNERS WHICH PROVIDE A SALES MESSAGE IN ADDITION TO THE EXISTING SIGNS ALLOWED. THE MPC RECOMMENDED THAT THE

COUNTY SIGN REGULATIONS NOT BE AMENDED AND THAT THE SUGGESTED TEXT SUBMITTED BE DENIED.
MPC FILE NO. 98-12071-C
NO DISTRICT/TEXT AMENDMENT/UNINCORPORATED AREA

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Read into the record as first reading.

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2. PETITIONER, ROBERT W. ANDERSON, III, OWNER, IS REQUESTING THAT A 2-ACRE PARCEL BE REZONED FROM P-B-C (PLANNED COMMUNITY-BUSINESS) TO AN A-T (AGRICULTURAL-TOURIST) CLASSIFICATION TO ALLOW A MANUFACTURED HOME SALES LOT. THE MPC RECOMMENDED THAT THE REZONING BE APPROVED.
MPC FILE NO. 98-12197-C
[DISTRICT 6.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Read into the record as first reading.

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XII. SECOND READINGS

1. AMENDMENT TO THE CHATHAM COUNTY SOIL EROSION AND SEDIMENTATION CONTROL ORDINANCE AS REQUESTED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES.

Chairman Hair said, the Chair will entertain a motion. Commissioner Price said, so moved. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, I have a motion and a second. Any discussion? 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 Price moved to approve the proposed Amendment to the Chatham County Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Ordinance as requested by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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2. PETITIONER, H, K AND E DEVELOPMENT, LLC, AGENT (FOR GERALD E. CAPLAN, SANFORD V. BERENS AND ARLENE NEUFELD, OWNERS) IS REQUESTING A TEXT AMENDMENT TO SECTION 4-5.2 OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY ZONING REGULATIONS TO ALLOW A NEW USE, FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT CENTER, WITHIN THE B ZONING DISTRICT. AN AMENDMENT IS ALSO REQUESTED TO DEFINE "FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT CENTER" IN SECTION 2 OF THE DEFINITION SECTION OF THE COUNTY REGULATIONS. THE MPC RECOMMENDED THAT THE REQUEST BE APPROVED.
MPC FILE NO. 98-12143-C
NO DISTRICT/TEXT AMENDMENT/UNINCORPORATED AREA

Chairman Hair recognized Mr. Bill Saxman.

Mr. Saxman said, in summary, the petitioner is requesting a new use, a family entertainment center, which includes a number of recreational activities as defined on page three of your report, which is defined as a family entertainment center and it's got the definition for the types of uses, batting cages, go-cart race tracks, bumper boats, pony rides,

arcades, and similar activities, including the sale of food as long as it's nonalcoholic beverages for on-site consumption. The use also is allowed subject to certain conditions within the B and B-N-1 district is recommended. It does required if it's within a thousand feet of any residential property, it's got to be a minimum of a 10-acre site to make sure we're going to have adequate bumpers and screening and setbacks. If it is within 350 feet of a residential property, then everything's got to be set back at least 350 feet for any motorized equipment on the site and then the Noise Ordinance of Chatham County would also have to be complied with. It has seven different standards. I won't read them all, but basically the Planning Commission feels that these standards would be adequate in protecting any adjacent residential properties and it does feel that this use is similar to some of the other activities allowed in the zoning district. For example, driving ranges or baseball batting cages are allowed in certain other districts. This will just aggregate them all into one particular area and the site plan would have to be approved. We feel that it would be a new use that would be suitable for this County.

Chairman Hair asked, any questions of Mr. Saxman?

Commissioner Jackel said, yes. I have some real problems with this thing. Who wants to live next to a thing where they're going to stay open until ten o'clock, twelve o'clock at night, and it's going to be 50 feet away in certain parts of it. I don't think this thing is restrictive enough to any residential location it might be next to. Mr. Saxman said, it's required to be at least 350 feet from any dwelling unit if you have any motorized vehicles, which is basically over a city block away —. Commissioner Jackel said, I'm sorry, I can't hear —. Chairman Hair said, 350 feet if it has motorized vehicles. Commissioner Jackel said, 350 feet if it has motorized —. Mr. Saxman said, right, any outside activities with a motorized vehicle would have to be at least 350 feet from any dwelling unit, and if it's closer than a thousand feet from any dwelling zoning district, it's got to be at least 10 acres in size to make sure you have enough land to make sure you're got enough buffers and screens and setbacks. Chairman Hair said, plus the site plan also has to be approved. Mr. Saxman said, right. The site plan has to be approved by the Planning Commission and the general site plan they brought in for a specific type they have in mind, of course, we did point this applies, you know, to all B districts in the County, but their particular site plan has basically a parking lot as a buffer and screening —, a screened landscaped parking as their separation from any properties along Grove Point Road and it also abuts Abercorn Street on the north side, which is a heavily traveled arterial. They were able to show through their presentation that the noise levels on Abercorn basically were going to be a lot noisier than just a typical traffic lying down Abercorn Street as far as the noise of that type a highway would generate..

Commissioner Price said, these are not as noisy as your average go-cart is either. The type of go-cart they're using is not the same that you see on the front of your street. The kids using them, you know, going up and down the street. Commissioner Jackel said, but this thing here says —. Commissioner DeLoach said, no, no, no, no, not on the street. Commissioner Price said, in the yard. Commissioner Jackel said, this thing says it's within 150 feet of a dwelling unit. Mr. Saxman asked, which figure are you referring to? Commissioner Jackel said, on page two under item four, and then —, and then they can stay open to —. 6:00 a.m., they can start at six o'clock in the morning and they can go until twelve o'clock at night and I would suspect —. Commissioner Price said, no that's —. Mr. Saxman said, we just summarized what existing uses were on item four there. They were just indicating that within a B-N-1 District that a indoor activity, Use No. 60, which is an indoor amusement park, is currently allowed within 150 feet of a residence providing —, and they are --, allow these particular standards. We're saying the current B-N-1 district is going to be less restrictive than what we're proposing under the new ordinance, under the B district. Item number four is just summarizing what's allowed under the current regulations.

Chairman Hair asked, any further questions, Commissioner Jackel? Commissioner Jackel said, I just had my doubts that anybody would want to live as close as —, to something like that. All exterior recreational activities shall be set back a minimum of 50 feet. Mr. Saxman said, well, that's what currently allowed, sir. Putt-Putt golfing, things of this nature. Now if it's got motorize vehicles, like a go-cart race or some of those activities that generate more noise, then they're going to have to be set back further, but Putt-Putt golf or —. Commissioner Jackel asked, that's going to have to be set back how much further than fifty feet. Mr. Saxman said, well, they're going to have to be back at least 350 feet from the residential property, item "b" there if they have a motorized vehicle outside --. Chairman Hair said, plus be 10 acres in size. Mr. Saxman said, right. Chairman Hair asked, any further questions for Mr. Jackel [sic]?

Mr. William Vick said, I represent the petitioner if I —. Chairman Hair said, certainly, come forward, sir. Mr. Vick said, if I could approach. Chairman Hair said, absolutely. State your name for the record, sir. Mr. Vick said, thank you for the opportunity to come before you and speak to this issue. Chairman Hair said, state your name for the record, sir, please. Mr. Vick said, I'm sorry. William Vick, H, K and E Development. We worked with the MPC for quite a while on this, and even though they've imposed some conditions and [inaudible] on this that we didn't have in there originally, they're acceptable to us, and I can understand Commissioner Jackel's concerns and their concerns, as I would have if I were on the other side of the fence. I did have the time afforded to me by Commissioner Price to make a presentation to him, including some videos, and I can share with you any technical information with respect to the sound or the noise condition that I think you're concerned with, but one of the things that we did put forth in front of the MPC was an actual case history from the City of Albuquerque, and as it happens an individual who was feeling somewhat the way you are and in a residential area very close to, in fact across the street, they went through the complete process. It was everything the developer said it would be. In fact, that individual wound up joining the MPC Commission once having gotten interested in it, but I do have technical data here that supports the fact that you shouldn't have —, you don't have to have those concerns, and I'd be happy to answer any questions for you.

Chairman Hair asked, anybody —? Commissioner Price said, this location, Martin [Jackel], is also —, one side is Gaster Lumber and Storage Units, the other side of it is a railroad track —. Mr. Vick said, if I —, I might quash any —. Commissioner Jackel said, we're not —, we're not —. Commissioner Price said, I know, we're not talking site specific here. Commissioner Jackel said, we're not talking site specific. Mr. Vick said, we're not talking site specific so —. Commissioner Jackel said, they could put this thing along Montgomery Crossroads in some of those places there and it

would not be far from those residential —, right up at those residential areas there. Chairman Hair said, well, you're not going to have too many sites that are going to be 10 acres in size. Commissioner Jackel said, well, I think there's along Montgomery Crossroads there used to be that Mayfair [sic] Hardware or something like that right in there, they could slap that thing in here and it would be right next to those two Mayfair Subdivisions. Commissioner Murray said, Maycrest is still there. Commissioner Jackel said, whatever. There's room in there for plenty of sites. My question is are these setbacks sufficient to protect neighborhoods from —, if your industry didn't even make a sound, if it was dead silence and I lived there and I know that —, some of these people, they pull up at six o'clock at the morning and they're hollering to let everybody know they're there and, boy, are we going to have fun. You know the hours it operates —. Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Jackel, where is this? Commissioner Jackel said, well, some of our —, some of our —, you know, everybody just focuses on what they're doing, and I'm not excluding myself, and we forget that there's others. You know, I had the greatest dog in the County and I walked him three times a day from Troup Square down to Whitfield Square and I see people and sometimes —. Chairman Hair asked, you do have a pooper-scooper? Commissioner Jackel said, yes, I do. Chairman Hair said, I'm just checking. Commissioner Jackel said, everybody knows me. I wear headset radio, have a pooper-scooper and a cigar in my mouth and the best moustache in the County and the best [inaudible]. It's hard to miss all of that. Chairman Hair said, I would agree with that. Commissioner DeLoach said, that's in one package too. Commissioner Jackel said, that's one package. All right —. Chairman Hair asked, have you got any questions? Commissioner Jackel said, so these people will be eleven, eleven-thirty at night and what they're doing is they're having fun. They're not worried about some of our neighbors may be asleep and have to get up early. I mean, we're talking about a thing that can be within 50 feet of a residential neighborhood. Mr. Vick said, no, sir. Commissioner Saussy said, no. Commissioner Murray said, that's not right. Commissioner Saussy said, you're looking at the present. Chairman Hair said, it's 350 feet, Commissioner Jackel. Commissioner Jackel said, no, 350 for the motorized part. Chairman Hair said, right. Commissioner Jackel said, other than the motorized part it can be up to —, where is it? Chairman Hair asked, are you making a statement or do you have a question? Commissioner Jackel said, no, I —, well, both, both. Chairman Hair said, okay. Commissioner Jackel said, all exterior recreational activity shall be set back a minimum of 50 feet and screened as required by the MPC. Is that not correct? Mr. Saxman said, yes, that's if you have like a Putt-Putt or some of the activities that don't have noise. They're already allowed in the B-C district and the other zoning districts. Just to clarify your point on the area of Montgomery Crossroads, that's not zoned properly. That's a B-N-1 zoning that's required. Commissioner Jackel said, well, I just sited that as an example. When you have a business that starts early in the morning, goes late at night, mostly operates on weekends, we need to make sure that our neighborhoods are adequately protected, and I'm not sure that the standards here do that.

Chairman Hair said, the Chair will entertain a motion. Commissioner Price said, I move that we approve the —. Chairman Hair asked, do we have a second? Commissioner Price said, rezoning. Chairman Hair asked, do I have a second? Commissioner Saussy said, second. Chairman Hair said, we have a second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. Commissioner Price said, wait, we've got —. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, I'm no so much opposed to this particular one, but I think when we have text amendments that affect zoning totally in the unincorporated area, we have to be very careful whether we approve them or disapprove them because it's not just the one site that this gentleman or somebody else might be looking at, but it's anywhere that zoning is allowed in the unincorporated area, and I think sometimes we don't realize that it's going to affect the whole County and not just one particular area, but this one I think, as the Chairman said, there are very few places left that you have 10 acres of land that you can do something like this on, and I don't think this would really create a problem with the zoning, but I think, again, we do have to be careful and look at text amendments real close.

Chairman Hair said, good point. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and DeLoach were not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes. Commissioner Price said, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Hair said, yes, Commissioner Price. Commissioner Price said, I'd like to point out that Mr. Vick is a —, also, I believe, a past Chairman of the County Commission from Rochester, New York. Is that correct? Chairman Hair asked, Mr. Vick, did you guys operate the way we operate? Mr. Vick said, I don't think I exercised the restraint that you do. Chairman Hair said, thank you, sir. I appreciate that. It does take a lot sometimes, as you well know.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to approve the petition of H, K and E Development, LLC, Agent (for Gerald E. Caplan, Sanford V. Berens and Arlene Neufeld, Owners), requesting a text amendment to Section 4-5.2 of the Chatham County Zoning Regulations to allow a new use, Family Entertainment Center, within the B zoning district, **and** to approve an amendment to define "family entertainment center" in Section 2 of the Definition Section of the County Regulations. Commissioner Saussy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and DeLoach were not present.]

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3. AMENDMENT TO THE BUILDING PERMIT ORDINANCE TO REDUCE THE REGULATORY FEES AND TO ADD ONE NEW POSITION TO THE INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENT STAFF.

Chairman Hair said, this is something that comes to us periodically because everything is controlled by fees. They're adding one position and lowering the fees by the way. The Chair will entertain a motion. Commissioner Jackel said, I'll move. Commissioner Thomas said, so moved. Chairman Hair said, do we have a second? Commissioner Murray asked, why are we lowering the fees? Commissioner Jackel said, by law you have to. Chairman Hair said, by law if

you're creating so much of a surplus you have to lower the fees. All those in favor vote yes —. Commissioner Murray said, so we'll amend those fees —.

The Clerk said, I didn't hear a second. Commissioner Saussy said, second. Chairman Hair said, yes, we had a second. 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 Jackel moved to approve an amendment to the Building Permit Ordinance to reduce the regulatory fees and to add one new position to the Inspections Department staff. Commissioner Saussy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was 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:

Report received as information.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Report received as information.

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3. STATUS ON CONSOLIDATION OF RECREATION AND INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENTS WITH THOSE OF THE CITY OF SAVANNAH AND RECOMMENDATION FOR MEETING IN JULY WITH OTHER GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Report received as information.

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4. MONTHLY ROAD AND DRAINAGE BRIEFING.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Report received as information.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Hair said, that completes the regular agenda. We'll now go into Executive Session for the purposes of —. County Manager Abolt said, personnel, possible litigation and land acquisition.

Commissioner Rivers moved that the Board go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel, possible litigation, and land acquisition. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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

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APPOINTMENTS:

A. SOUTHEAST COASTAL REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH/MENTAL RETARDATION/SUBSTANCE ABUSE BOARD:

Appoint Sam Simpson, Jr., to fill the unexpired term of Russ Billings, which term will expire July 31, 1999, and reappoint David L. Saussy and Lennox Seals to a term which will expire July 31, 2001.

B. TIDELANDS COMMUNITY SERVICE BOARD

Reappoint Marianne Heimes as Mental Heath representative to a term which will expire June 30, 2000.

C. CHATHAM COUNTY MOSQUITO CONTROL COMMISSION:

Appoint Lawrence E. Madison to fill the position previously held by Charles E. Milmine and appoint Dr. Stephen King to fill the position previously held by Harry Tear, Jr., which terms will expire October 1, 1999, and October 1, 2000, respectively.

D. CHATHAM-EFFINGHAM-LIBERTY REGIONAL LIBRARY BOARD:

Appoint Tom Coleman, H. Byron "Sonny" Colley and William E. Skinner to fill the unexpired terms of Virginia Edwards, Kaye Kole and William Williams, which terms will expire June 30, 2000.

E. SEACOAST WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD:

Submit the name of Virginia Chapman, owner of Imperial Mortgage & Loan Brokerage Co., and a retired business education teacher, Bryan County.

F. CHATHAM AREA BOARD OF HEALTH:

Appoint Dr. Roslyn Taylor to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Dr. Theodora Gongaware, which term will expire December 31, 1999.

G. CHATHAM-SAVANNAH AUTHORITY FOR THE HOMELESS:

Reappoint Karen Sachs to a term which will expire June 30, 2000.

H. SAVANNAH CONVENTION & VISITORS BUREAU

Appoint Commissioner Priscilla Thomas to the Convention and Visitors Bureau with a term to expire December 31, 1999.

I. ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AUTHORITY

Appoint Wesley J. Ball, M.D., to fill the position previously held by Patrick Shay, which term will expire December 31, 2001.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Jackel moved to approve the above appointments enumerated in paragraphs A through I. Commissioner Saussy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioner Odell were not present.]

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ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Vice Chairman Thomas declared the meeting adjourned at approximately 12:30 p.m.

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APPROVED: THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 1998

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

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SYBIL E. TILLMAN, CLERK