

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FEBRUARY 5, 1999, IN THE COMMISSION MEETING ROOM ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY COURTHOUSE, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, 124 BULL STREET, SAVANNAH, GEORGIA.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Billy Hair called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m., Friday, February 5, 1999.

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II. INVOCATION

Commissioner Eddie DeLoach 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 Joe Murray Rivers, District Two Martin S. Jackel, District Three Harris Odell, Jr., District Five [arrived approximately 9:10 a.m.] Ben Price, District Six Eddie W. DeLoach, District Seven
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ABSENT:	David L. Saussy, District One
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IN ATTENDANCE:	Russ Abolt, County Manager R. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney Sybil E. Tillman, County Clerk
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YOUTH COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Hair said, I will now introduce our Youth Commissioners who are with us this morning. We have Courtney Pennington, who is a Senior at Memorial Day School, and we have Lazarus O'Sako, who is a Senior at Groves High School. We're glad to have y'all with us.

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V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

None.

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VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

1. SDRA SUBLEASE, CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM (CHAIRMAN HAIR).

Chairman Hair said, I have a couple of things that I would like to make the Commission aware of. Very good news in both cases. The first is the SDRA sublease with the Civil Rights Museum. The museum would like to lease a building to the—, not a building but an office to the SDRA and receive income from this. This is fair with the Attorney's office and we just need to approve it to make it official since we own the building, so I'll entertain a motion to do that.

Commissioner Thomas said, so moved, Mr. Chairman. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, motion and a second. Any discussion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Saussy and Odell were not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes. Thank you very much.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the Savannah Development and Renewal Authority (SDRA) sublease with the Civil Rights Museum. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Saussy and Odell were not present.]

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2. UPDATE ON MEETING WITH DOT COMMISSIONER

Chairman Hair said, last week Mr. Tom Triplett and I went to Atlanta to meet with Commissioner Shackelford at the DOT on several issues, and we had an extremely successful visit with Commissioner Shackelford. The first thing we went up there for was to see if the DOT would take responsibility as local assurer for the harbor because since 1967 Chatham County has been the local assurer, and while the DOT has funded that activity, we were under tremendous liability and have been since 1967, and the staff had strongly recommended that we get out of being the local assurer business. We've been discussing this for about a month, and I'm pleased to report to you that Commissioner Shackelford and Mr. Triplett have agreed to take over the local assurer responsibility. It will be on their next agenda in Atlanta and we will be transferring that responsibility over in the next couple of months. You have an item on the—, an action item today. We're going to have a personal services contract with a gentleman who is retiring who's been doing that for years, and he's agreed to stay on month-to-month until we make the transfer. But this is a real benefit to Chatham County because it gets us out from under a lot of responsibility, a lot of liability, and actually the harbor of course serves the entire State not just Chatham County, so we were successful in that and the Commissioner and Mr. Triplett were very supportive and they will be taking that over.

The other thing that we discussed while we were up there, and I'll pass out this so you can really see the impact of this. While we were there we had an opportunity—, Tom [Triplett] and I had an opportunity to meet with the Commissioner by ourselves and we discussed the LARP program, the Local Assistance Road Program, which is basically the repaving program, and as you see at the top of that sheet, our original formula amount, what we would have gotten—, what we had prior to last week was \$224,505. You go down that list and you see we would have only been able to pave five roads this year. Through talking to the Commissioner, we were able to convince him to go all the way down to Gamble Road, the \$776,000. So instead of repaving five roads this year, we'll be able to pave 20 roads this year, and the Commissioner increased our allocation from \$224,000 down to \$776,000. So that is very good news for Chatham County and for our citizens because we're going to be able to pave a lot more roads, and he even offered and said that the remaining five he said if I came back up in the middle of the year and he has some funds that he might even be willing to take the whole list, but right now he's approved down to the \$776,975 figure. So that's very good news. Anybody have any questions?

Commissioner Rivers said, yes, can I ask one. Chairman Hair said, certainly. Commissioner Rivers asked, Russ [Abolt], do we still own that spoilage area where we dropped the dredging material in there. County Manager Abolt asked, do we own it? Commissioner Rivers said, yes. County Manager Abolt said, I can't answer that. I do not know in whose name it is because of all the funds were coming out from GDOT. Are you referencing on the Island or are you referencing a site in South Carolina? Commissioner Rivers said, the site in South Carolina. Chairman Hair said, I believe DOT—, GDOT owns that. County Engineer Al Bungard said, no sir, we—, the County owns no property. County Manager Abolt said, we cannot property out of—. County Engineer Bungard said, all of it's been—, is owned either by the Georgia Department of Transportation and one or two private owners. We use it by easement, but the County owns no property. Commissioner Rivers said, that liability that we assumed over there I remember one time that we had an incident with one of our police officers who picked up somebody and took them across—, dropped them in South Carolina and that person got ran[sic] over by a transfer truck or eight-wheeler or whatever, and in turn we had to take depositions there. We also had to appear in New York because of some liability of us owning property over in South Carolina. Now I don't know—, I—, maybe somebody can clarify it.

County Attorney Hart said, Mr. Chairman, that happened probably 12 or 13 years ago. At that time our firm represented the County through an insurance situation and so I handled the case, as a matter of fact, and the reason that that ended up being in South Carolina, at that time Chatham County did not own land in the spoilage area, but it did own some flood control gates and dikes over there that we maintained for Mosquito Control, and at that time the State of South Carolina had a statute that said that if you owned or maintained personal or real property in the State of South Carolina that they could assume jurisdiction over you, and we ended up being in the Federal District Court of Charleston, Charleston Division, and that's why we ended up being over there. It really had nothing to do with the spoilage area.

Chairman Hair said, but you know, Commissioner Rivers, that's exactly why getting out from even the local assurer is very important because out from all that liability and that kind of thing. Commissioner Rivers said, yes, I wanted to know if we owned that then—. Chairman Hair said, the one thing that we did talk about and agree to, it's elementary but it's important to point, of course, we would still be liable up until the moment we actually transfer the assurer duties to GDOT, but anything from that point forward they would be responsible.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, Dr. Thomas, members of the Board, I cannot really understate the significance of what the Chairman's announcement is. In both areas it's really happening only because of the exceptionally good working relationship between this Board, the Chairman's office, Mr. Triplett and Mr. Shackelford. The staff literally spent years getting to a point wherein we almost were completely frustrated with our desire to transfer responsibility, but then when the need was so obvious intervention with the Chairman and the gentlemen I've mentioned have created a solution that is most beneficial to the citizens of Chatham County. Also, on the LARP program, again that is something that many members of this Board are well aware we have been deficient in years past. LARP is resurfacing and we have, as we all know, a very—, an exceptional program for dealing with County contracts in neighborhoods, but that is a one-time thing and roads wear out like everything else, and having this type of commitment, particularly if it could be sustained, will be the next chapter in creating what is a quality road system in Chatham County. I can't thank y'all enough for the leadership you've shown with Commissioner Shackelford and certainly with Mr. Triplett's intervention.

Chairman Hair said, I'm playing golf with Mr. Triplett tomorrow. I'll make sure he wins, but with my game that's going to be pretty easy, but I'll make sure I don't beat Mr. Triplett tomorrow.

Commissioner Rivers said, Mr. Chairman, I had the opportunity of—, the ACCG Board met with the DOT Board, so I got the same kind of information that you got, but also we talked a lot about this regional transportation bill that's in the Legislature now and that in itself hopefully will free up some additional LARP money. So we need to take a look at that bill and see if we can support it and [inaudible].

Chairman Hair said, we discussed that last week with the Commissioner and with Mr. Triplett, and the details are still sketchy or actually haven't been determined yet, and I think you're right, but as soon as we know the details I think that it will be something that could benefit us. Again, I wanted to make sure you were aware of that.

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VII. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS

1. \$3,000 FOR YOUTH COMMISSION TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C. (COMMISSIONER THOMAS).

Chairman Hair said, this is an excellent program and I strongly support this. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you. Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, I'm requesting this on behalf of the Youth Commission. First of all, let me say that we're very proud of the work that they have done since they have been Youth Commissioners. Also, I'd like to say that this trip is not a social trip. It's an educational trip. It's a learning trip. Representative Jack Kingston is working with us very closely and he is setting up some excellent programs for these young people, and he needs to know by Monday so that he can make the final plans for these young people when they arrive in Washington, DC. Right now we're looking at 24 Youth Commissioners and four adults to be in attendance, and we're hoping that you can support this. We know that—, I mean, let me also say, too, that the parents are also helping at this time and we're hoping that maybe next time—, next year when we—, this year when we do the budget again that we can look at something where we won't have to come to the Commission, we can do something on a more standing basis for them to help them along.

The Chair—, I'll entertain a motion. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Price.

Commissioner Price said, I agree with this effort and I think one of the most important things we do as a body of government is to help educate and, Russ [Abolt], you said that this could be taken from Contingency. County Manager Abolt said, yes sir, and if I may because I know we discussed this before, for the benefit of the audience, it has great benefit and the reason you can participate in this as opposed to other requests from school groups to travel is that the Youth Commission is an official arm of Chatham County. Commissioner Thomas said, right. Commissioner Price said, I move for approval. Commissioner DeLoach said, second.

Chairman Hair said, motion and second. Any further discussion? Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray. Commissioner Rivers asked, what's the date on that? What's the date? Commissioner Thomas asked, that they'd be leaving? Commissioner Rivers said, yes. Commissioner Thomas said, on the—, is it the 5th? Miss Pennington said, the 7th. Commissioner Thomas said, of March. Commissioner Rivers said, March 7th. Through what? Commissioner Thomas said, yes, and it's it to, I think it's the 9th.

Chairman Hair recognized Youth Commissioner Pennington.

Miss Pennington said, thank you. Mr. Chairman, Dr. Priscilla Thomas and everyone, this is once in a lifetime for me. I mean, we're getting to meet with the Representatives from Georgia and the Senators from Georgia and hopefully the President and Vice President, and we represent the youth of Chatham County. I mean, what more can we say than that. I mean, and we would greatly appreciate y'all helping us. Chairman Hair said, thank you.

Commissioner Rivers asked, what's that last date, the 7th through what? Commissioner Thomas said, it's through—, where's the calendar. Chairman Hair asked, Van [Johnson], what's the date? Mr. Johnson said, the 10th of—, the 7th through the 10th. Commissioner Thomas said, 7th through 10th. Thank you, Van [Johnson]. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, I think it's a great support and we've always supported this group, and, Russ [Abolt], y'all are saying that this is an official arm of Chatham County and that's why we can do this. I would agree with Dr. Thomas that this really needs to be some way built into our budget for next year. Commissioner Thomas said, right. Commissioner Murray said, if in fact this is going to be taking place and it might even be good if they had a line item budget for them. Commissioner Thomas said, right. County Manager Abolt said, you do have that and also you have the opportunity remember with the forthcoming concern, the Count Basie Orchestra, one of the major opportunities is to fund programs for youth, the Youth Commission and Summer Bonanza, so possibly in years to come this will not be an issue.

Chairman Hair said, right, and also we did that with Summer Bonanza this budget year and we need to do that with this. Any further discussion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes. Commissioner Price said, all right. We expect you to go up there and straighten things out. Miss Pennington said, thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you very much. Chairman Hair said, I think it would be nice, Courtney [Pennington], if maybe you or some of your fellow Youth Commissioners are going, maybe after you get back to have a report and brief us as to what you did and those kinds of things. I think that would be very educational for us as well. Miss Pennington said, thank you. Commissioner Thomas said, thank you very much.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to approve \$3,000 for the Youth Commission trip to Washington, DC, scheduled for March 7-10, 1999. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.]

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VIII. TABLED/POSTPONED ITEMS

None.

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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 CONTINGENCY TRANSFERS OF \$7,000 TO RECREATION FOR REPLACEMENT OF THE FLOATING DOCK AT THE HOULIHAN BRIDGE BOAT RAMP AND \$27,000 FOR THE STATE COURT FINANCIAL SYSTEM CONTRACT; A ONE PERCENT SALES TAX EXTENSION FUND (1993-1998) CONTINGENCY TRANSFER OF \$3,940 TO THE CHATHAM COUNTY AQUATIC CENTER PROJECT.**

Commissioner DeLoach said, so moved. Commissioner Price said, second. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. Any further discussion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

Commissioner DeLoach asked, what's the time frame on the Houlihan Bridge? County Manager Abolt said, very quickly because the equipment is there. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay, good because the fish are beginning to run. I got a call—. Chairman Hair said, and that's important, right. Commissioner DeLoach said, I got a call on yesterday. A guy that's got an artificial leg and he can't maneuver on it and he says the fish are beginning to run and do you know when the bridge is—, I mean, the dock's going to be ready. I said no, but I'll find out. Commissioner Murray asked, they haven't started that one yet, Eddie [DeLoach]? They started the one down on Turner's Creek. Commissioner DeLoach asked, they have? Commissioner Murray said, we've got one thing ahead of you. Chairman Hair said, but the fish come there first though, Eddie [DeLoach], and by the time they get up to [inaudible] bridge, you know—. Commissioner DeLoach said, that's right. Chairman Hair said, see, it's closer to the ocean. They're moving up that way and by the time they get to that bridge—. Commissioner DeLoach said, it'll be ready. Chairman Hair said, it'll be ready.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the following: General Fund M & O Contingency transfers of \$7,000 to Recreation for replacement of the floating dock at the Houlihan Bridge boat Ramp and \$27,000 for the State Court financial system contract; a One Percent Sales Tax Extension Fund (1993-1998) Contingency transfer of \$3,940 to the Chatham County Aquatic Center Project. Commissioners Price and Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.]

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- 2. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL FOR LEASE FINANCING AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN THE FOUR FINANCING AGREEMENTS WITH G. E. CAPITAL PUBLIC FINANCE WITH AN INTEREST RATE OF 4.73% OVER A PERIOD OF FIVE YEARS FOR THE FOLLOWING EQUIPMENT:**
 - (1) **\$200,000 FOR A LONG REACH TRACK EXCAVATOR FOR PUBLIC WORKS**
 - (2) **\$300,000 FOR A MCDONALD DOUGLAS 500E HELICOPTER FOR MOSQUITO CONTROL**
 - (3) **\$250,000 FOR A PROCESSING/RECYCLING DRY TRASH MACHINE FOR SOLID WASTE**
 - (4) **\$225,000 FOR A SEWER CLEANER FOR PUBLIC WORKS**

Commissioner Rivers said, so moved. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, motion and second. Any discussion? Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, Russ [Abolt], didn't we just—, I thought we had already approved the helicopter. County Manager Abolt said, yes, you did, sir, you approved it subject to the conditions of the lease. Chairman Hair said, we just approved the lease. County Manager Abolt said, y'all can appreciate, these are just flat outstanding interest rates. Chairman Hair said, this is not a second helicopter. It's the same helicopter. County Manager Abolt said, no, no, and outstanding interest rates.

Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rivers moved to approve the request for lease financing and authorize the Chairman to sign the four financing agreements with G. E. Capital Public Finance with an interest rate of 4.73% over a period of five years for the following equipment: (1) \$200,000 for a Long Reach Track Excavator for Public Works; (2) \$300,000 for a McDonald Douglas 500E Helicopter for Mosquito Control; (3) \$250,000 for a Processing/Recycling Dry Trash Machine for Solid Waste; and (4) \$225,000 for a Sewer Cleaner for Public Works. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.]

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- 3. REQUEST BOARD ADOPT A POLICY REGARDING ANY SPECIAL EVENT USE OF GRAND PRIZE OF AMERICA AVENUE (HUTCHINSON ISLAND LOOP ROAD) DURING 1999. NOTE: This item will be delayed until the February 19th meeting.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

This item was removed from the agenda.

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- 4. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF GRANT-IN-AID RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE HUMAN SERVICES AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS TASK FORCES.**

Chairman Hairsaid, the Chair will entertain a motion. Commissioner Price said, this says no. Chairman Hair said, pardon. That's what that other one says. Commissioner Thomas said, I move for approval, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Hair said, I have a motion. Do I have a second? Commissioner Odell said, second. Chairman Hair asked, any discussion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

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Commissioner Thomas said, we have members from both the Human Services and Cultural Affairs Task Force with us and we have already approved, you know, what they have done, but I think it would be very appropriate if we just recognize them and say to them how much we appreciate the hard work that they have done in both of these instances and we look forward to continuing their services to us because they do provide an excellent service to this Commission, and I think it's a fair, a fair way of doing whatever they're doing. And it's very hard, it's very hard.

Chairman Hair said, it is and you folks put in a tremendous amount of time and—. Commissioner Thomas said, a tremendous amount of time and hours in there and you have to look at the total spectrum, and that's what I have, you know, talked about last year, looking at the total spectrum of requests and being fair in those requests. So I just want to say to them this morning that we appreciate all of the hard work, all of the hard—, I mean the amount of hours that you put in to these various task forces committees.

Chairman Hair said, if you would like to make any comments, we'll be glad to entertain them. Well, we certainly do appreciate what you do. We know the time and effort you put into it and it works so much better than the old way. We had us making these decisions and we do appreciate what you do. Thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you very much.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve grants-in-aid recommendations from the Human Services and Cultural Affairs Task Forces for budget year 1999 and approve the required contingency adjustments for General M&O and Special Service District. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.]

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5. BOARD CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FROM THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY FOR WAIVER OF THE FEE FOR USE OF A PORTABLE BAND SHELL.

Chairman Hair said, the Chair will entertain a motion. Commissioner Price said, so moved. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. Any discussion? Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Murray has a question.

Commissioner Murray said, my question is I thought we had agreed that the band shell, that we would recoup our cost, not a profit but our cost on what it cost us to take it out and set it up and do these things. County Manager Abolt said, where you have left it, and this is—, I was going to ask you on the motion for clarification, we give you three choices and we're asking for direction because Commissioner Murray has summarized your last discussion. When this had come before you in the form of another request, you had said that from here on out you wanted to make sure that the County did recover its cost and you had asked for an accounting of the extension at no cost to citizens and group throughout 1998, which we provided in this staff, and it is substantial. The County Attorney has advised in the past that one way in which you might get around just a potential violation of the gratuities contract—, clause of the Constitution would be to charge costs, and then the discussion at your last meeting centered around, well, as opposed to having primarily Mr. Golden's budget absorb each year what amounts to several hundreds of dollars in overtime expenses, that the County would say in times when you're approached on projects of some community-wide benefit that that money would be taken from another County account and put into the Recreation Department similar to what you do when CAT has requests for "free transportation." In this particular case, we are incurring fairly substantial expense. If you choose to approve the agreement—, or the petition as requested without further clarification, this money would have to be absorbed in Mr. Golden's budget. If you choose to refine it in the way in which you discussed at your last time of mentioning this particular offering, it would be to set up a special account that in weeks and months to come when requests like this are warranted, you would accept the request, approve the request, and the dollars would be transferred from that account into Parks.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Powers would like to, I think, comment on this request.

Tax Commissioner Powers said, well, I'm here on behalf of the Cancer Society. I get involved in this every year, Relay for Life. Naturally we're asking for the waiver because it is a worthwhile project for the community. We have so many corporate people involved in this and we're simply asking the County to waive the fee involved with this band shell. It's a vital part of the event that takes place out there each May.

Commissioner Price said, call the question. Chairman Hair said, okay, I have a call for the question. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, I agree with the Cancer Society and all these other groups. As a matter of fact, I had cancer four years ago so I know what this Cancer Society does, but what I'm saying is that I just don't think that we can waive our hard costs on any of these any more and that's what we run into and that's why we came up with the decision we made earlier that we would not do that, that our actual cost to transport and to set up and to clean up and to transport it back is what we would recoup on that, and that was the only fee and that's why—.

Chairman Hair said, all right. We've had a call for the question. Comment quickly.

Commissioner DeLoach said, yes. I think—, I'm with Frank [Murray] on it. I think we need to just leave the policy set in place and let, you know, everyone adhere to it and everyone figure from that. I think we should charge just the cost of setting up—. Tax Commissioner Powers asked, how much would that cost be to set that up? County Manager Abolt said, \$510.

Chairman Hair said, okay, we have a call—, we have a call for the question. We have a motion and a second on the floor to approve the waiver and we have a call for the question. All those in favor of the motion vote yes, opposed vote no. Commissioner DeLoach said, to—, we're voting no to not—. Chairman Hair and Commissioner Price voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Rivers, Jackel, Murray, Odell, DeLoach and Thomas voted in opposition. The motion failed by a vote of six to two. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion fails. Commissioner Price said, let's clarify the motion. Chairman Hair said, the motion was to waive the fee and that fails. Commissioner DeLoach said, yes.

Chairman Hair said, the Chair will entertain any other motion. Commissioner DeLoach said, I make a motion that we stand by our policy that we developed in the past that we only get the cost and we would like to offer it to you at our cost. Chairman Hair asked, do I have a second? Commissioner Murray said, second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor of that motion vote yes, opposed vote no. Commissioners Rivers, Jackel, Murray, Odell, Price, DeLoach and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Chairman Hair voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of seven to one. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

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Commissioner DeLoach said, I'd like to see, on Line Item 5, I would like for us to consider taking #5, band shell cost, I would like to, if I could, recommend that we take it out of the Commission's budget to fund this for the American Cancer

Society. Commissioner Price said, I'll second that if it's appropriate. Chairman Hair said, well, we've got to make sure we've got money in there. I don't know if we can—.

Commissioner Murray said, my only question would be on that is—. Commissioner DeLoach said, you can save from my trip. I'm not going—. Chairman Hair said, you doing that there's no difference in waiving it. Commissioner DeLoach said, oh, yes it is, yes it is. Chairman Hair said, taking it out of our budget instead of the Public Works [sic] budget. Commissioner DeLoach said, there's a very big difference. Chairman Hair said, it's still tax money. Commissioner DeLoach said, but it's a very big difference. Commissioner Jackel said, I don't want to open that door and go there. Commissioner Murray said, if you do it for one we're going to have to for everybody. Chairman Hair said, that's exactly right.

Chairman Hair said, all right. If you want to make a motion I'll be glad to entertain it. Commissioner DeLoach said, we'll put it out there. Chairman Hair said, all right, I have a motion. Do I have a second to that? Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, all right. All those in favor of the motion—. Any discussion? Vote yes, opposed vote no. Commissioners Rivers, Price, DeLoach and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Jackel, Murray and Odell voted in opposition. The motion failed as a result of a four/four tie vote. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion fails. Commissioner DeLoach said, it was close though. Chairman Hair said, yes, it was close.

Tax Commissioner Powers said, this is the American Cancer Society you just voted down waiving a fee. Chairman Hair said, we tried Commissioner. We just didn't have the votes. Tax Commissioner Powers said, I can't believe it.

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Following Executive Session, Tax Commissioner Powers asked, can the fee for the setup be handled from my budget if I can find the relocation cost? County Attorney Hart said, I will have to look at it. The law is very narrowly drawn.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

1. Commissioner Price moved to approve the request from the American Cancer Society for waiver of the fee for use of a portable band shell. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion. Chairman Hair and Commissioner Price voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Rivers, Jackel, Murray, Odell, DeLoach and Thomas voted in opposition. The motion failed by a vote of six to two. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.]
2. Commissioner DeLoach moved that the Commission stand by its policy and charge the amount of actual cost to the County for the use of the band shell by the American Cancer Society during its May 14 and 15, 1999, Relay for Life. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion. Commissioners Rivers, Jackel, Murray, Odell, Price, DeLoach and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Chairman Hair voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of seven to one. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.]

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6. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO WAIVE THE 90-DAY HIRING FREEZE AND AUTHORIZE HUMAN RESOURCES TO ADVERTISE POSITIONS THAT THE DEPARTMENT DEEMS MORE COST EFFICIENT TO FILL.**
 - **PUBLIC WORKS - EQUIPMENT OPERATOR II (1 POSITION)**

Chairman Hair asked, is Mr. Drewry here?

Mr. Robert Drewry said, good morning. I've got two basic reasons why I want to fill this position. Number one, the Operator II is our tandem dump truck operator and I've got several projects coming up where I'm going to need every available tandem working on that one, and the other reason is I'm currently filling for several other Operator II positions and I would like to include this position in that current search.

Commissioner Price said, so moved. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, motion and second. Any further discussion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to approve waiver of the 90-day hiring freeze and authorize the Human Resources to advertise the following positions: Public Works - Equipment Operator II (one position). Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.]

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X. ACTION CALENDAR

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

Chairman Hair said, okay. Commissioner Jackel, do you want to take anything off the Action Calendar? Commissioner Jackel said, I'm going to clean up today. Chairman Hair said, this could be a record here. Okay, does anybody want to take anything off the Action Calendar? If not, the Chair will entertain a motion to approve the entire Action Calendar. Commissioner DeLoach said, so moved. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. Any discussion? All those in favor of the motion—. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.] Commissioner Price said, historic. This is historic. Chairman Hair said, let the minutes reflect that, Sybil [Tillman].

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved that the Action Calendar be approved in its entirety. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy 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 JANUARY 22, 1999, AS MAILED.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on January 22, 1999, as mailed. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.]

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2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 14 THROUGH JANUARY 28, 1999.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved that the Finance Director is authorized to pay claims for the period January 14 through January 28, 1999, in the amount of \$3,430,475. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.]

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3. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO ACCEPT ADDITIONAL NON-MATCHING GRANT FUNDS FROM THE EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL DRUG CONTROL AND SYSTEM IMPROVEMENT FORMULA GRANT.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the expenditure of an additional \$50,000 of reimbursable monies to fund and equip an interdiction specialist position for the Multijurisdictional Region K-9 Resource Team, enabling the Sheriff's Department to procure non-matching grant funds from the Edward Byrne Memorial Drug Control and System Improvement Formula Grant. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.]

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4. **REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF SAVANNAH AND SOUTHSIDE FIRE DEPARTMENT WHICH PERMITS THE SOUTHSIDE FIRE DEPARTMENT TO USE THE CITY-COUNTY 800MHZ RADIO SYSTEM.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to authorize the Chairman to sign an agreement with the City of Savannah and Southside Fire Department which permits the Southside Fire Department to use the City-County 800MHz radio system. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.]

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5. **REQUEST BOARD CONFIRMATION OF CHATHAM COUNTY'S APPLICATION FOR A JUVENILE ACCOUNTABILITY INCENTIVE BLOCK GRANT (JAIBG).**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to confirm Chatham County's application for a Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant (JAIBG) which totals \$17,927, with Chatham County being required to match \$1,703 (10%), which funds are to be taken from with Juvenile Court's budget for the match. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.]

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6. **REQUEST FOR RENEWAL OF SUNDAY SALES OF BEER POURING LICENSE FOR 1999. PETITIONER: RUSSELL C. DAWES, JR., D/B/A SANTINO'S, INC., LOCATED AT 5548 OGEECHEE ROAD. [DISTRICT 7.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the request of Petitioner Russell C. Dawes, Jr., d/b/a Santino's, Inc., located at 5548 Ogeechee Road, for renewal of Sunday sales of beer pouring license for 1999. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.]

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7. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVE TRANSFER OF THE CABLE TELEVISION FRANCHISE AGREEMENT FROM JONES COMMUNICATIONS TO COMCAST CABLE COMMUNICATIONS.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve transfer of the cable television franchise agreement from Jones Communications to Comcast Cable Communications. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.]

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8. **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.)

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
A. First renewal option to annual contract to provide various high volume paper and chemical products	•Detention Center •Southside Warehouse	Georgia Correctional Industries	Varies by item with a 3% increase	•General Fund/M & O - Various •SSD - Various
B. First renewal option to annual contract to provide various high volume paper and chemical products	•Detention Center •Southside Warehouse	•Coastal Sail Paper and Chemical Company •Heritage Paper Co.	Same terms and conditions	•General Fund/M & O - Various •SSD - Various
C. First renewal option to annual contract to provide financial advisor services	Finance	A.G. Edwards and Sons teamed with P.G. Corbin and Company	Same terms and conditions	Funding for this service will be derived from individual bond issuances
D. First renewal option to annual contract to provide landscape architect services	Engineering	Hinesley/Hickson Association (WBE)	Same terms and conditions	•SPLOST (1993-1998) - Road Improvements •1999 Drainage Capital Improvement Program
E. Annual contract, with renewal options for two additional one-year terms, to provide conduit and cable installation	Various	Delta Electric	Varies	•General Fund/M & O - Various •SSD - Various
F. One larvicide broadcaster system	Mosquito Control	Isolair, Inc. (sole source)	\$16,545	General Fund/M & O - Mosquito Control
G. Declare 1985 Wellcraft boat as surplus property, unserviceable for County needs and authorize sale by sealed bid	Police	N/A	N/A	Revenue producing
H. Change Order No. 6 to the contract for construction of the Aquatic Center for five small but essential additions to contract scope	SPLOST	Braun Construction	\$3,935	SPLOST (1993-1998) Contingency transfer (pending Board approval)
I. Renew and modify lease agreement to provide the option to the County for up to five additional one-year extensions of the lease for the building occupied by CNT	CNT	Melaver, Inc.	\$69,118.92 plus the percentage increase in the CPI	General Fund/M & O - CNT
J. Professional services contract on a "month to month" basis for providing engineering management of Savannah Harbor maintenance contract during the transition of "Assurer" responsibilities from Chatham County to Georgia DOT	Engineering	William S. Simmons	\$6,000 per month plus expenses not to exceed \$400 per month	General Fund/M & O - Harbor Maintenance (100% reimbursable by GDOT)
K. Annual contract, with renewal options for two additional one-year terms, to provide custodial and janitorial services for the Anderson Cohen Weightlifting Center	Parks and Recreation	Team Savannah	\$18,936.72	General Fund/M & O - Weightlifting Center
L. Change Order No. 5 to the design contract for the widening project for Stephenson Avenue for additional surveys and design	SPLOST	Moreland Altobelli	\$13,250	SPLOST (1985-1993) - Stephenson Avenue Widening Project
M. Annual duct rental agreement that covers the County's fiber optic cable running from the Judicial Courthouse to the Administrative Courthouse	ICS	Savannah Electric and Power	\$6,462.50	General Fund/M & O - ICS

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve Items 8-A through 8-M. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy 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.

None.

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XII. SECOND READINGS

None.

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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. UPDATE ON THE USE OF LAKE MAYER COMMUNITY PARK AS A "HOST SITE" FOR THE SAVANNAH COLLEGE OF ARTS AND DESIGN'S FUNCTIONAL FOLLIES: 20 ARCHITECTURAL OBJECTS OF DELIGHT EXHIBITION.**

Chairman Hairsaid, we have Karen Davies here from SCAD and she just wants to make a brief report to you on something they're going to do at Lake Mayer. Chairman Hair recognized Mr. Jim Golden to introduce Ms. Davies.

Mr. Golden said, Mr. Chairman and members of the Board, as we're well aware, this is the 20th year anniversary for SCAD and they're celebrating in fashion and Ms. Karen Davies is the professor there who's working with the County [inaudible].

Ms. Karen Davies said, thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you, Mr. Golden. On behalf of the Savannah College of Art and Design I want to express our thanks and gratitude for allowing us to exhibit one of our Functional Follies at Lake Mayer Community Park. It's entitled "The Crab" and there is a display over here. You're looking at the structure actually from above, and if you want to get a better look, you'll have to come and tilt the board to see it good. Basically, this artist is

from—, he’s got an architecture background, he’s from Equador and he has modeled his folly on a crab trap. And Functional Follies is actually an exhibition of whimsical garden architectural structures and are 20 around town, and we have a brochure that will be available to the soon to the public. They’ll be available at each site including the site at Lake Mayer, and it has a site map on it and an explanation of the different follies and the dates of the exhibition, which is February 1st through March 31st. It has a site map so that you can find the locations and Chatham County parks that are represented on this map, and there will be a reception at the Savannah College of Art and Design Ex Libra on February 26th from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., and you’re all welcome to attend that, and I hope that you’ll take an opportunity to stop by and see all of our follies. Thank you very much.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Ms. Davies.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Report received as information.

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4. SURPLUS PROPERTY DISPOSITION STATUS.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Report received as information.

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5. STATUS OF REVIEW BY FINANCIAL ADVISOR, A. G. EDWARDS, REGARDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR DEBT REDUCTION (\$4.3 MILLION SPLOST).

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Report received as information.

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6. INFORMATION ABOUT THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BECOMING THE LOCAL SPONSOR FOR THE SAVANNAH RIVER HARBOR.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Report received as information.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Commissioner DeLoach moved the Board go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing land acquisition and personnel. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.]

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ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. BOARD CONSIDERATION OF ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY OWNED BY THE STATE OF GEORGIA AND CURRENTLY USED AS THE GEORGIA AIR NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY LOCATED AT 1117 EISENHOWER DRIVE

Chairman Hair said, an appropriate motion would be for us to proceed on the Eisenhower property, authorize the Chairman to sign a letter addressed to the National Guard that we are interested, and staff will come back next meeting on the source of funds and we will make a decision at the next meeting.

Commissioner Rivers said, so moved. Commissioner DeLoach said, second. Chairman Hair said, motion and second. Any further discussion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rivers moved to authorize the Chairman to sign a letter notifying the National Guard that we are interested in the property located at 1117 Eisenhower Drive and direct staff to come back at the next meeting with a source of funds for acquisition of the property. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.]

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Chairman Hair declared the meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

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APPROVED: THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 1999

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

SYBIL E. TILLMAN, COUNTY CLERK

THE DOCUMENTS HEREINAFTER ATTACHED ARE STAFF REPORTS AND OTHER SUPPORTING INFORMATION FOR THE ITEMS CONTAINED IN THE FOREGOING MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 1999, IN THE COMMISSION MEETING ROOM, CHATHAM COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 124 BULL STREET, SECOND FLOOR, SAVANNAH, GEORGIA.

