

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON JUNE 11,1999, 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, June 11,1999.

=====

II. INVOCATION

Commissioner Joe Murray Rivers gave the invocation.

=====

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

=====

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 (arrived approximately 9:25 a.m.)
- Ben Price, District Six
- Eddie W. DeLoach, District Seven (arrived approximately 9:15 a.m.)

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

=====

V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

None.

=====

VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

None.

=====

VII. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS

None.

=====

VIII. TABLED/POSTPONED ITEMS

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

- * 1. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO WAIVE THE 90-DAY HIRING FREEZE AND AUTHORIZE HUMAN RESOURCES TO ADVERTISE POSITIONS THAT THE DEPARTMENT DEEMS MORE COST EFFICIENT TO FILL.**
- **LIBRARY - ACCOUNTING TECHNICIAN (ONE POSITION)**
- ITEM WAS TABLED AT MEETING OF MAY 14, 1999.**

Chairman Hair said, the Chair will entertain a motion to take it off the table. Commissioner Price said, so moved. Commissioner Thomas said, so moved. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, motion and second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Saussy, Rivers, Jackel, Price and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Murray voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of six to one. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and DeLoach were not present.]

Chairman Hair said, now I'll entertain a motion to either approve or deny. Commissioner Price said, I move for approval. Chairman Hair said, motion to approve. Do I have a second. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. Any discussion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Saussy, Rivers, Jackel, Price and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Murray voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of six to one. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and DeLoach were not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

1. Commissioner Thomas moved to place this item before the Commissioners for consideration. Commissioner Price seconded the motion. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Saussy, Rivers, Jackel, Price and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Murray voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of six to one. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and DeLoach were not present.]
 2. Commissioner Price moved to approve a request to waive the 90-day hiring freeze and authorize Human Resources to advertise the following position: Library - Accounting Technician (one position). Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Saussy, Rivers, Jackel, Price and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Murray voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of six to one. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and DeLoach were not present.]
- =====

- * 2. **BOARD CONSIDERATION OF A PRIORITIZED LIST OF HIGH PRIORITY PROJECTS AND PURCHASES IN THE AMOUNT OF \$498,300 FOR CAPITAL REPLACEMENTS AND IMPROVEMENTS IN THE COUNTY JAIL WHICH THE SHERIFF RECOMMENDS BE FUNDED BY BORROWING. ITEM WAS TABLED AT MEETING OF MAY 28, 1999. PLEASE SEE ATTACHED PRIORITY LISTING FROM THE SHERIFF.**

Chairman Hair said, my understanding is that staff has redone its list and dealt with the issues that we had, so I'll entertain a motion to take it off the table. Commissioner Price said, so moved. Commissioner Rivers said, second. Chairman

Hair said, second. 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, I move for approval. Chairman Hair said, we have a motion to approve. Do I have a second? Commissioner Rivers said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. Any discussion? Commissioner Thomas said, yes. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, when you say borrowing —. Chairman Hair said, it's part of —, to add it to our capital list when we were going to do it and there were some questions last time about some items on there that might not qualify for long term financing. My understanding is he's here.

Sheriff said, there was some stuff on there that we —, that I think Commissioner Jackel said he felt should be on our normal budget process, which we've been putting in and it's been taken off for lack of funds, so we put them all on there and we haven't met —, they tabled it because we had things on there that didn't have a life expectancy of that long. Mr. Blake and Mr. Lynch went over this list and cut it way down and that's what we have for you today.

Chairman Hair said, when we vote to —, if we vote to fund the entire list, we still would have another chance to decide what we're going to put on that list for the final borrowing, is that not true? County Manager Abolt said, no sir, you're committed. We'll work with the financial consultant, we'll put it together. Chairman Hair said, but I mean, that's for whole package though. County Manager Abolt said, no, no. Well, again based on your previous actions —, at least your actions today, we are crafting a bond issue which with this action today we'll come up with a Year 2000 cost of \$1.7 million. Chairman Hair said, all right. That's —.

Commissioner Price asked, what was the original amount? County Manager Abolt said, his list is \$100,000 down. Commissioner Saussy asked, that's the cost? County Manager Abolt said, yes sir. County Manager Abolt said, his list is \$100,000 down. Commissioner Price said, so the 498 is —. Chairman Hair said, three. It's 398, 398. Commissioner Price said, it's 398. Chairman Hair said, yes. It's been reduced by \$100,000, right? Mr. Lynch said, yes sir. Commissioner Jackel said, that's 396. Chairman Hair said, 396. Commissioner Price said, right. Chairman Hair asked, any further questions? Commissioner Jackel said, yes. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Jackel said, we've got Controller for Camera \$2,400, we have camera replacement (security) - five at \$4,500, we have cameras for downtown jail, \$2,400, self-contained breathing apparatus \$10,000, six convection ovens, \$24,000, three-door steamers - two for \$10,000, meat slicer for \$3,800 —, this is the revised list, I understand. Commissioner Price said, no it isn't. Commissioner Jackel asked, that's the original? Chairman Hair said, yes. That's the original. Commissioner Jackel said, all right, that's the original list. Mr. George Lynch said, yes sir, the ones that you called out are on the current list. Chairman Hair said, the revised list. Mr. Lynch said, the revised list. Commissioner Murray said, the revised list then is \$498,000, not \$398,000 [sic]. Mr. Lynch said, no. Commissioner Saussy said, it's the last page. Mr. Lynch said, \$396,171. Commissioner Thomas said, the last page. Commissioner Jackel said, all right, the last page, and that has the controller for the cameras, the meat slicer, the three-door steamers, 400 Trivoli food trays, replace collapsed duct work, floors in mechanical room - repair and sealing to prevent water damage, clean air chillers [sic] and steam coils, a large steam kettle for \$18,900, and garbage disposals - commercial, for \$8,000. I still can't vote for this.

Commissioner Price asked, may I speak for a second. Chairman Hair said, certainly. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Price. Commissioner Price said, there are numerous financings done that include this type of capital expenditures on a regular bases. I mean, I don't —, I don't see why you can have an objection to putting these types of things on the list when these are normally in any type of construction, any type of remodeling, any type of capital expense like that that happens on a regular basis when a government entity may decide to go out and leverage by issuing bonds to do this sort of thing. These are very normal type expenditures. I don't see where the problem comes with this.

Mr. Lynch said, these —, also, sir, I need to make this point. While certainly where you're talking the HVAC unit, which has got a normal life expectancy up around 20 years, that will be covered by bonds, but when you get down to the items that have got five, seven, eight years, these are financed over a five-year period with a firm such as, say, GE Capital. So you're not paying for 20 years for something that you have depleted the life of in seven or eight years. Commissioner Thomas said, that's what I wanted to know.

Commissioner Jackel said, but we don't have a breakdown of which those items were, which those items are. Mr. Lynch said, I can tell you exactly the ones that were deleted, sir. Commissioner Jackel said, deleted, but I'm talking about on the list that makes up \$396,000. Commissioner Price said, what's leased and what's long term.

Mr. Lynch said, okay, HVAC - 20 year anticipated life, \$176,500 [sic]; controller for camera system, the camera replacement, and the cameras for the downtown jail, have 10-year life expectancies. Commissioner Jackel asked, how long are we financing them for? Mr. Lynch said, five years. Commissioner Jackel said, five years. Mr. Lynch said, the self-contained breathing apparatus has a six-year life expectancy, and I'm going to —, for all the ones that I am giving to you right now, they're five-year financing. I'll tell you when I get one that comes up to the 20-year bond one. Okay, convection

ovens, eight years; three-door steamers, eight years; meat slicer, seven; food trays, seven; replace —, now those are all five-year financed and so computed. Replace collapsed duct work, that has a 20-year and that will be under your bond, long term; the sealing of the floors in the mechanical rooms is a 20-year life expectancy; your cleaning and air chill and steam coils is eight years that that has to be done at, and your large steam kettle has got a 10-year life expectancy and your garbage disposal has six-year life expectancy. Anything that is under your 20-year period is five-year financed. That's the reason that we noted that there's a very dramatic drop in your debt service at the end of five years. You drop down to about \$18,000 a year at that point.

Commissioner Jackel asked, when did we —, when did we switch from the plan that was originally presented of 20-year financing to a dual plan of 20 and 5? Mr. Lynch said, sir, we have said from the outset that it's going to fall in two categories. For the things with —, and I'm using this as a relative term when I say short life expectancy only to mean less than 20 years, you then arrange your financing through the Financial Adviser for short-term financing, and that has been the concept ever since this strategy came up. Your big bucks, if you take the thing in it's entirety, is financed over a long term, but bear in mind that gets you into such things as construction, the property that you gentlemen are considering acquiring, things like that. So you've got two categories. Commissioner Jackel asked, now, which of these items that we're going to finance, that is proposed that we finance for five years have a possibility of being taken care of in the next budget? Does the —? I mean, we've got items here for \$10,000, we have items here for —. Mr. Lynch said, sir, I wish I could answer that question for you. The Sheriff's Department has been trying to get most of these items for the past four years and they've been unsuccessful in the process of regular budget. Commissioner Jackel said, well, I understand that our —, let me get the figure on this. Our capital improvement —, what is the total request on that? County Manager Abolt said, \$22 million. Commissioner Jackel said, \$22 million. So we have from various departments \$22 million in requests, and my problem sitting up here and spending the County's money is I don't see that these fall in a higher priority than the items on the \$21 million [sic] list. Mr. Lynch said, I would make a point, sir, that in the jail situation you have two things that I think sort of escalate this one. Number one, you have not voluntary guests residing in your facility. I'm trying to be subtle, and for me that's quite a step. At any rate, you also have got a situation where you need to try to cover your security as well and as completely as you can. You have also got people who are not really dedicated to being on the facilities that they are occupying. The point I'm making to you is you've got some very high risks if you don't keep your jail up to snuff. You may have somebody who'll gripe about the food at a concession stand, but, boy, when you have them in jail if you're not having the food hot and things like that, you get yourself into some real difficulties. Those are some of the factors. I'm satisfied personally that these all deserve the position that they have, sir. Commissioner Jackel said, well, my position is when —, when I can I try and support the Sheriff, and I —, there's no question in my mind that he does an excellent job. No question —, and Mr. Blake too, and I consider both of them friends of mine, but I'm caught in here because, you know, I'm dedicated to watching every penny that we spend, and so I'm being twisted and pulled here in my own —, in my own mind between friends of mine and watching the County's money like a ferocious bulldog. So that's why I'm asking these questions. It's not because I don't think these things may need to be done, it's just —, it's just we have to be very careful when we go out and borrow money.

Chairman Hair said, okay, Commissioner Saussy.

Commissioner Saussy said, yes, how much in this bond issue have we got for the Library? County Manager Abolt said, \$775,000 approximately. Commissioner Saussy said, \$775,000. Mr. Lynch said, in technology items that's been requested. Commissioner Saussy said, which was not anywhere near what we —, what we really need. Mr. Lynch said, but when we checked with them, at your instructions, sir, that was the number that was provided to us by the Library. That was not a construct that we did. Commissioner Saussy said, you made a remark about being —, these things being —, the jail being a high-risk situation without getting some of these things. My feel is —, I think they probably are necessary, but are they any more necessary than —, than people learning to read and possibly keeping them out of jail because they can read? I don't think so.

Chairman Hair said, I need —. Is it germane, Mr. Attorney? I mean, we are discussing the Sheriff's items. Do we need to —? County Attorney Hart said, you can discuss it in the general context of the overall bond issue. The primary thing I think the Commission needs to focus on in regard to this bond issue item is there are certain items that are going to have to be financed short-term because of the very nature of those items as being expendable items. Some items are long term. The Library's seven hundred odd thousand dollars were included in the bond issue because most of those were technological items that qualify either under the short-term or long-term financing. Related to the other stuff, I don't think you can qualify to those. Chairman Hair said, I just want to suggest to Commissioner Saussy is that let's —, whatever we're going to do with this item, vote it up or down, and then if you want to add something to the agenda or if you want to just —, you know, if you've got a request to add additional funds, maybe at the next meeting. It might not be appropriate to do it at this meeting, but I think that we are voting on the one issue here. Commissioner Saussy said, I don't want to try to hold —. Chairman Hair said, I understand. Commissioner Saussy said, hostage, so to speak. Chairman Hair said, but, I mean, I think it would be appropriate if you brought something back at the June 25th meeting if you wanted to try to add something to that list. I think that would be the appropriate time to do it.

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, I guess if I was sitting up there and I looked at something like a meat slicer, I might think about that too, but let me tell you this. Whether I want to or not, we're cranking out 4,000 meals a day out there, and when I can't come up here in the normal budgeting process, and I'm not blaming everybody, everything gets taken off the table, I've

got to have some way to replace this stuff. It just don't last forever and it's something I have to do every day of the week. So that's pretty much where we're at.

Chairman Hair asked, okay, any further questions? Commissioner Jackel said, other than the School Board, you're probably feed more people a day than anybody in the County I would —. Sheriff St. Lawrence said, probably do and we do it for 89¢ a meal. Commissioner Saussy asked, how much? Sheriff St. Lawrence said, 89¢. Commissioner Saussy asked, can I come eat? Sheriff St. Lawrence said, yes.

Commissioner Jackel said, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to see us —, I would like to see us table this item and all the bond requests. Maybe we could have a workshop on all the requests and give a prioritized, all of them, and once we prioritized all them, then we could vote on it.

Chairman Hair said, all right, we have a motion to table. Do we have a second to that motion? Chairman Hair said, no second, the motion fails. Commissioner DeLoach said, call the question. Chairman Hair said, we have a call for the question. All those in favor of the motion vote yes, opposed vote no. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Saussy, Rivers, Murray, Price, DeLoach and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Jackel 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:

1. Commissioner Thomas moved to place this item before the Commissioners for consideration. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and DeLoach were not present.]
2. Commissioner Price moved to approve the following prioritized list of high priority projects and purchases in the amount of \$396,171 for capital replacements and improvements in the County Jail which the Sheriff recommends be funded by borrowing: HVAC (Unit 5), \$176,571; controller for camera system, \$2,400; camera replacement (security) - five (central control), \$4,500; cameras for downtown jail (6), \$2,400; self-contained breathing apparatus (5), \$10,000; convection ovens (6), \$24,000; three-door steamers (2), \$10,000; meat slicer, \$3,800; Trivoli III food trays (400), \$9,600; replace collapsed duct work, \$35,000; repair and sealing floors in mechanical room to prevent water damage, \$10,000; cleaning air chill and steam coils (remove and flush), \$81,000; large steam kettle, \$18,900; and garbage disposals - commercial (2), \$8,000. Commissioner Rivers seconded the motion. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Saussy, Rivers, Murray, Price, DeLoach and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Jackel voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of seven to one. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

=====

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: A GENERAL FUND M&O BUDGET AMENDMENT TO RECOGNIZE AN ADDITIONAL \$2,820 IN ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION DEPARTMENT FOR SALARY ADJUSTMENTS AND A \$26,570 COUNCIL OF SUPERIOR COURT JUDGES GRANT FROM THE STATE OF GEORGIA FOR AN AUTOMATED INFORMATION CENTER INCLUDING A NEW POSITION, CONTINGENCY TRANSFER OF \$32,340 TO ICS FOR A SYSTEMS ANALYST POSITION DEDICATED TO THE BOARD OF ASSESSORS' WINGAP PROJECT, AND \$2,460 TRANSFER TO SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FUND FOR WILMINGTON ISLAND RECYCLING CENTER ATTENDANT AND AN INTRA-DEPARTMENTAL TRANSFER FOR COURT ADMINISTRATOR OF \$2,780 FROM BOOKS AND REPORTS FOR SALARIES AND WAGES FOR TWO JUDGES AND FOR A TEMPORARY SECRETARY; A SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT BUDGET AMENDMENT TO RECOGNIZE A \$73,860 FOR A 1998 LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT BLOCK GRANT AND A CONTINGENCY TRANSFER OF \$8,210 FOR LOCAL MATCH FOR THE GRANT AND \$3,700 TRANSFER TO SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FUND FOR**

WILMINGTON ISLAND RECYCLING CENTER ATTENDANT AND TO APPROPRIATE THE TOTAL FUNDS OF \$82,070 TO POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR A COMMAND VEHICLE; A CONFISCATED FUNDS REVENUE FUND POLICE CONTINGENCY TRANSFER OF \$8,000 FOR EQUIPMENT FOR NEW VEHICLES; A CIP M&O CONTINGENCY TRANSFER OF \$34,000 TO MARINE PATROL FOR AN ADDITIONAL VESSEL.

Chairman Hair said, the Chair will entertain a motion. Commissioner Saussy said, so moved. Mrs. Whitaker asked, Mr. Chairman, may I ask a question? Chairman Hair said, well let's get a motion and a second on the floor please. I have a motion, do I have a second. Commissioner DeLoach said, second. Chairman Hair recognized Mrs. Whitaker.

Mrs. Hilda Whitaker said, would you please explain the two funds for the Wilmington Island transfer center from the Solid Waste. Chairman Hair asked, Mr. Abolt, could you explain —?

County Manager Abolt said, yes. The issue there is expanding the capability to receive customers and having the necessary contractor employer there to receive it. Chairman Hair said, so it expands the operation by having additional contractors.

Mrs. Whitaker asked, oh, so it couldn't have been done in one —, one amount? Chairman Hair said, I have no —. Mrs. Whitaker said, thank you.

Chairman Hair asked, any further discussion?

Commissioner Jackel said, yes. I'd like some information on the transfer of \$34,000 to Marine Patrol. I thought we just did that recently. County Manager Abolt said, no sir. This is a vessel the Chief has been wanting for some time. As you recall, a while back we charged —, divest ourselves of a larger vessel that could not be in shallower waters. We have a great presence now, as you know, in a variety of the waterways, some that are very much sensitive to tide. The Chief has requested and I have recommended that we do provide the type of vessel that would allow him to go into those areas. As you can see, from Operation Waterwheel in just a couple of weeks those officers on the water are making a great change. We feel particularly with, you know, the thefts off docks and other areas, it's nice to be able to get the officers in the remote areas.

Commissioner DeLoach said, and we can borrow it on weekends and after hours.

Commissioner Jackel said, I thought that's —, with that program that's when we just —. County Manager Abolt said, no sir. Commissioner Jackel said, we just bought two jet skis and a couple of vessels. County Manager Abolt said, no sir, I believe all we [inaudible] was overtime. I don't remember jet skis. I don't think we've had jet skis since the Olympics. I don't think. Commissioner Murray asked, we don't have jet skis any more? County Manager Abolt said, purchased jet skis since the Olympics. Commissioner Murray said, oh, purchased them, we haven't. County Manager Abolt said, no, I don't believe —.

Chairman Hair asked, any further questions, Commissioner Jackel? Do we have a —, Sybil [Tillman], do we have a motion. The Clerk said, yes, we do. Chairman Hair said, we have a 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 Saussy moved to approve the following: A General Fund M&O budget amendment to recognize an additional \$2,820 in Alternative Dispute Resolution reimbursement for the Alternative Dispute Resolution Department for salary adjustments and a \$26,570 Council of Superior Court Judges Grant from the State of Georgia for an automated information center including a new position, Contingency transfer of \$32,340 to ICS for a Systems Analyst position dedicated to the Board of Assessors' WINGap project, and \$2,460 transfer to Solid Waste Management Fund for Wilmington Island Recycling Center attendant and an intra-departmental transfer for Court Administrator of \$2,780 from Books and Reports for salaries and wages for two judges and for a temporary secretary; a Special Service District budget amendment to recognize a \$73,860 for a 1998 Local Law Enforcement Block Grant and a Contingency transfer of \$8,210 for local match for the grant and \$3,700 transfer to Solid Waste Management Fund for Wilmington Island Recycling Center attendant and to appropriate the total funds of \$82,070 to Police Department for a command vehicle; a Confiscated Funds Revenue Fund Police Contingency transfer of \$8,000 for equipment for new vehicles; a CIP M&O Contingency transfer of \$34,000 to Marine Patrol for an additional vessel. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present.]

=====

2. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDATION REGARDING ACCESSIBILITY OF SOLID WASTE COLLECTION SERVICES FOR CHATHAM COUNTY RESIDENTS. NOTE: STAFF IS PREPARED TO MAKE BRIEF PRESENTATION.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, Dr. Thomas, members of the Board, this was not in the —, y'all discussed at your previous meeting. I know that the Chairman received a letter from Mayor Strozier of Bloomingdale, and you asked for us to come back with a big picture analysis of where we have our drop-off stations. We are prepared to do that today, if you would like. I would like to upfront compliment both Mr. Drewry and Ms. Lamb for what I believe to be a very insightful report. It does, as I sent out to you in advance, possibly for —, at least for the first time, but brings to mind the fact the Special Service District is subsidizing to a fairly large extent the use of these transfer stations by folks who live within the incorporated area. You will be revisiting that come budget time and reapportioning the costs, but essentially we do have a service that is used well in the unincorporated area by way of dry trash pickup. We also have fairly high demand and fully accessible access to three transfer stations that are providing service primarily to those within the city. Ms. Lamb can make a detailed presentation.

Chairman Hair asked, Ms. Lamb, would you come forward please?

Ms. Virginia Lamb said, good morning, Mr. Chairman, Dr. Thomas and Commissioners. I was trying to think of a way to begin this because certainly what we have on our hands is a conglomeration of things of kind of leftover residual things from long, long ago. I was thinking about how there are so many theories about things began. I don't have a big bang theory of solid waste, but I do have a popcorn theory of solid waste, and that theory is that we continue to —, when we have a need in the community and continue to approach it by looking very sincerely at that particular area and popping that corn, and we continue to pop that corn without much thinking about how it affects the rest of the community and where the other kernels are in relation to that community. And in reviewing our solid waste issues we were asked to develop an overall comprehensive look at one pile of popcorn, that called collection. So before you is a staff report that goes into great detail about all the various kernels in your bowl of popcorn called collection. I hope that while you're looking at these things, you take a look at the number of layers of popcorn you have in your bowl. You've got an awful lot of popcorn, you've got an awful lot of layers, and every layer of popcorn has a cost. So when you're going through this, if you have any particular questions, I'll be glad to answer them, but I think the staff report pretty well wraps up all of the detailed information, with the exception of on the graph on page four, I believe, there's a reference to the population of Chatham County. It should be 64,000 rather than 88,000. Thank you.

Chairman Hair asked, any questions?

Commissioner DeLoach said, I've got one. [Inaudible] staff report. Who's coming up to talk to me? Chairman Hair said, I think that's —. County Manager Abolt said, we're recommending status quo because of the impacts in the unincorporated area versus the cities. In the case of the one that came before you on an individual basis, the one in Bloomingdale, we're recommending it stay closed. Commissioner DeLoach said, I've got a problem with that. [Inaudible] wrong with that. I'm sure [inaudible], and I've got a problem with this popcorn not being popped. I need some help with this. I mean, I don't understand why we've got to close it. How about Sharon Park? What's [inaudible]? I need the solid waste lady back up here. Ms. Lamb? Ms. Lamb said, yes sir. Commissioner DeLoach asked, what are we doing —, what are we doing at Sharon Park? Ms. Lamb said, it was the Board's decision last August to reopen the drop-off centers at Sharon Park and Chevis Road where we had landfill sites previously. At that time they also made a decision to close Dillon because of low usage. Commissioner Price asked, because of what? Ms. Lamb said, low usage. We only have about 300 cars a month. Commissioner DeLoach asked, 300 tons a month? Ms. Lamb said, no, 300 cars. Commissioner DeLoach said, 300 cars. Ms. Lamb said, and the rest of the drop-off centers had much higher ratios, although we certainly for drop-off centers have very low usage compared to other counties that have drop-off centers. But, again, we're only collecting a very —.

County Manager Abolt said, Virginia [Lamb], if you would direct your attention to page three of the staff report. It shows our two-year history on those landfill sites. The top box shows Dillon. In 1997 the tonnage is just under 470. For '98 it was just under 440 compared to in the thousands for the other three sites. Commissioner DeLoach said, but most of that at those other three sites were used by this —, well, not Wilmington Island, but I'd say you get a lot of incorporated people using the drop-offs there, don't we? County Manager Abolt said, yes sir. Ms. Lamb said, that's correct. Commissioner DeLoach said, like Garden City at Sharon Park, and stuff like that. Ms. Lamb said, a little farther down on that same page it shows a breakdown by percentage of where the individuals come from. Commissioner DeLoach said, so the one at Bloomingdale is probably the only one that we actually that the unincorporated area basically uses. Ms. Lamb said, no sir, most of the residents from there we feel would come from Bloomingdale itself. Commissioner DeLoach said, you think most of the trash that you're having dumped at Dillon comes from —. Ms. Lamb said, yes, in Dillon. Commissioner DeLoach said, come from —. Ms. Lamb said, from Bloomingdale residents. Commissioner DeLoach asked, so you don't feel there's a need for a drop-off site at the south —, what's that, southwest, south —, what is that? Yes, over in that area at 204, down through there, you don't feel like there's a need for a drop-off center in those locations that do not have one at the present time? Ms. Lamb said, I believe that if you look at the one in that location, you're also going to have to look at providing accessibility at Port Wentworth and Tybee Island, who are also remotely accessible to our other drop-off centers. Commissioner DeLoach asked, what does that mean —? Commissioner Saussy said, also Skidaway and that

area. Ms. Lamb said, I'm saying that if you're going —, if the issue is providing —, if this Board decides the issue is providing accessibility within a reasonable driving distance, less than five miles to a drop-off center, then you're also going to have access for anyone in Tybee Island and also for Port Wentworth because it would be unfair not to service those communities in exactly the same way that you're approaching Bloomingdale. Commissioner DeLoach asked, what is your suggestion on it? Ms. Lamb said, I'm suggesting that because of the low usage that we go with what we have because if you look at the concentric circles on this particular map, it shows where the location of disposal alternatives are and they are within a reasonable driving range, although past five miles obviously. Commissioner DeLoach asked, how far do the people have to go from 204 at, say at Jones' Corner? Ms. Lamb said, you probably talking —. Commissioner DeLoach said, Joyner's [sic] Corner there? Ms. Lamb said, seven to ten miles. Commissioner DeLoach said, seven to ten miles.

Commissioner Saussy asked, how far have they got to go from Burnside Island? Ms. Lamb said, about the same distance. Commissioner DeLoach said, yes. Ms. Lamb said, the other problem ends up being that everyone in Chatham County has access to dry trash collection. Don't forget that. That's another level. We provide dry trash, curbside collection, to every resident of the unincorporated area of Chatham County. And if you'll also take a look in the report at the issue —, at the service attachment, which is Attachment 1, it will show you how many different collection services are provided throughout Chatham County for the various citizens living in incorporated areas as well. I'm just suggesting that there was a cost to be paid for providing at a County level continued levels of service for individuals living in incorporated areas.

Commissioner Jackel asked, what is the cost for this —, to this —, what would have been the cost for this Dillon? Commissioner DeLoach said, about \$50,000. Ms. Lamb said, there were actually two costs involved. One is to out —, to re-upfit it because we've had to pull the cans and put them in Wilmington Island so the cost to upfit it to an existing standard of all the other ones, which is what you want to do, is 41 —, approximately \$41,000, but there is a reoccurring annual cost of at least \$50,000 per center to keep them up and operational. Understand, that's because you no longer have internal disposal capacity and anything that we have that comes into us, we must haul somewhere else, and somewhere else requires extra dollars.

Commissioner DeLoach said, but that doesn't —, I mean, that's —, it doesn't matter whether we pick it up on the side of the road or where you pick it up, you've still got to do the same thing, so that's not a real cost. I mean, it's a real cost, but it's not one that impacts Dillon or impacts the center. It impacts Chatham County because you're going to pay it whether you pick it up with a truck goes buy or whether you go to dump site and dump it. There's no difference in that cost. Ms. Lamb said, there is with the hauls. You have to —, in other words, if you had a disposal facility, okay, and the people were bringing stuff in that was going to be disposed of on site, as we did with Sharon and Chevis when it was a landfill site, then you're not having to collect it and haul it somewhere else and pay another disposal fee. That intermediate collection cost and haul cost are what you're paying above and beyond the disposal cost and beforehand we internalized the disposal costs. Commissioner DeLoach said, yes, but I'm talking about now. You still have that cost. There's no difference today if I drive by and pick it up than it is if I haul it to the —, haul it to Wilmington Island and you pick it up there in a large container and you haul it. You've still got to go pay for it —, a dump fee at the dump site, and that is the largest cost that we have. It's not the haul, it's the dump fee. So that —, nothing's changed there. It's a cost period because we don't have our dump sites any more. So whether we keep it open or not, it's still going to be a cost if that truck has to drive out there and pick it up because we don't have the landfill there. It's still the same cost. Ms. Lamb said, it's a relative cost to the distance of the disposal facility used. Commissioner DeLoach said, all that said, what that line said was it's all equal, I think —, is what I think you said there. In other words, every —, if you pick it up outside with a truck driving by or we bring it up there, it's still the same cost as far as the dump fee's concerned. Ms. Lamb said, the cost of disposal stays the same currently. The difference is how far you have to drive that truck from one facility —, Wilmington, for example, to Republic versus Dillon to its disposal facility, which also may be Republic. It just depends on how —, where the trucks are going, but that's the difference, where the ultimate disposal facility is located.

Chairman Hair asked, okay, any further questions?

Commissioner DeLoach said, I —, in my opinion, I don't think we've answered anything. I think we're just basically saying let's stick our head in the dirt —. County Manager Abolt said, no sir. Chairman Hair said, well, what would you —, I mean, unless you were willing to make —. Commissioner DeLoach said, another landfill. Yes, let's stick our head in a landfill. I don't know. I don't know, but this isn't an answer. It's just a let's just wait awhile. Chairman Hair said, well, what would you —. Commissioner DeLoach asked, are we waiting until another time and they're coming up with an idea or —?

County Manager Abolt said, no sir. What you have here is a major subsidy by Special Service District of M&O. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay. County Manager Abolt said, if you take the Attachment 1 that Ms. Lamb has referred to and a policy decision is made to, you know, pump up our commitment of serving the unincorporated area, we'll come back with a proposal and in effect look at a future draw down from M&O. Commissioner DeLoach said, yes, okay. Do we need to do that? County Manager Abolt said, well, if you want to do that. Commissioner DeLoach said, we need to do more than we're saying, well, let's just leave it status quo. Status quo is nothing. If it was status quo I wouldn't be up here complaining about Dillon being closed, but status quo is not good enough. County Manager Abolt said, yes sir. The position of staff for a number of years is solid waste is too darn expensive to maintain our current level of service. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay. County Manager Abolt said, remember each year, particularly in Special Service —, well, in both budgets, M&O and SSD, our major out-of-control costs include two items: one, solid waste and the other is

indigent defense. In both cases we look at almost annually several hundred thousand dollars additional costs. What we see here is we're trying to get out of the business. We don't have landfills, as such. We have old dumps that we're in effect turning into transfer stations, but we're providing this service in effect at no cost to the residential folks. What you're seeing here, and what's very eye-opening is, that primarily the Special Service District is providing this service, funding this service, and it's being used in large part by folks that live with inside a city. And so if our plan to get out of the business is not the right way to go, we'll come back with a proposal that will shift the cost to M&O so that all of these municipalities will have the opportunity to pay for the costs.

Chairman Hair said, may I suggest to Commissioner DeLoach we might want to address this in our planning session when we prioritize our budget requests for next year. This —, you know, we would bring it up as an issue and we could get high priority. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Rivers.

Commissioner Rivers said, let me ask one question. If we're talking about transferring to M&O, how much benefit is certain cities getting out of this? County Manager Abolt said, a large amount. If you look at the numbers there that we see —, and I'm not talking just about the transfer stations. We're not talking about dry trash. Dry trash is exclusively within the unincorporated area. What you see from our —, from our utilization it's estimated from the sign-in records that less than 20% of the residential units in the unincorporated area utilize the County's drop-off facilities. Commissioner Rivers asked, what amount —, dollar amount are we talking about to cover that cost? County Manager Abolt said, I haven't gotten to that yet. I don't know if Ms. Lamb —. Commissioner Murray said, well, this —, let's just —. Chairman Hair said, that's why I suggested maybe at the budget, when we have our budget planning session maybe we could —.

Commissioner DeLoach said, my thought on it, I mean, if you're in the budget planning session they're going to have to start planning that to go to budget planning session. The problem with that is that we're going to be trying to plug in something that will pay for —, we can pay for but not necessarily what we need. I need to —, I need an idea of what we really need with this thing. If we need the drop-off centers, I mean —, I don't see how anybody can function on Wilmington Island without a drop-off center. I mean it's —.

County Manager Abolt said, if I may though, when you look at the utilization, you're looking at reliable dry trash service, so in effect we have evidence of people coming from farther off than just Wilmington Island to use the drop-off center because they rely on the weekly dry trash —. Commissioner DeLoach said, I mean, you've only got 2%. I mean, based on what I see in the collection centers, you're looking at 2% and every place else —, I mean, Garden City. I can't imagine Garden City driving to Wilmington Island to dump trash but that's okay, let's assume they do go across —, all the way across the County to drop trash. Whatever, but 2% from Savannah, but 97% of Wilmington Island, which is unincorporated use it. So, you know, I know they need it. Chevis Road is 78%. That's a large percentage. I mean, I don't know what the answer is. Maybe you do. I hope you do and you can come up with an idea of what we do need to do. Whether it means incorporating M&O monies to help with it, I don't know, but I just —.

County Manager Abolt said, if I may, the answer goes back to the root policy decision made several years back that we want to get out of the landfill business, and getting out of the landfill business rather than just going cold turkey, the County Commission and staff came up with what amounted to kind of a phase in, let's provide some transfer stations. There's no real logic to where those transfer stations are located other than the fact that they happen to be the site of a former dump. If the Board wants to continue in earnest to provide landfill options that would include transfer stations, then I would ask you tell us that. That's a policy decision.

Commissioner DeLoach said, that's not what I'm —, my issue, and I hate to keep belaboring on this thing. My issue is availability, whether it be a transfer station. I don't care if we have a dump. I'm not interested in getting into the landfill business. I'm just saying, do we need to have places located, strategically located throughout Chatham County to service the unincorporated [sic], because I feel like what we're pushing towards long term is to get out of the dry trash pickup on the roads. I mean, I know every time we come up to budget hearings, we —, everybody says, oh, God, we can't do this anymore, and I know that, you know, sooner or later we're going to lose on that issue. We're going to lose on it, and then we're going to be in a situation where we can throw it out on the street and y'all get tired of looking at it and go pick it up or we can have a place to take it to. Right now, y'all are closing places I can take it to or my people in the southwest Chatham, and I just think we need to long term think if we have to get out of the —, if the votes aren't there to carry the dry trash pickup on a long-term basis, what's going to happen to long-term dry trash materials and where are they going to?

County Manager Abolt said, again I would ask you to address it as a Board when you have the opportunity, the reason being is that the choice was made —, and again I realize it's history, but the County made a choice some time ago to get out of the business, and the only reason we have transfer stations, we were trying to provide some sort of a phase out option, but this County cannot afford, given it's current way of financing solid waste, the type of expenditure we'd be talking about. We are trying to give to others —, the private sector, the City of Savannah —, the options of running landfill sites. We are also trying to minimize the cost on the property owner in the unincorporated areas with what they are doing in subsidizing the service, which is provided gratis to any residential account within the unincorporated area. It was a no-win situation because we are not in the business of solid waste like, for example, the City of Savannah, like Waste

Management, and we realized also that these landfills were not landfills, they were dumps and we were saying, you know, minimize our cost, reduce our risk, get out of the business.

Commissioner DeLoach said, all right. Well, assuming you do that though, to me it's one of the things that you have to offer to get in the County. I mean, we're in a business and we have to offer trash pickup. I would think —, I mean, whether you like it or not, I mean, Effingham, they've got a countywide trash pickup. They go and they go to the front door of everybody in Effingham County to pickup their trash. Now, granted, that's a cost and we have to absorb the cost, the taxpayers have to absorb, but do we need to be there? Do we need to have these transfer centers, or what do we need? We can't just stick our head in the dirt and say we're out of the business so just go somewhere. We can't do that, and that's what we're doing. We're moving in that direction, and you sat there and say —, when you say that we don't want to be in it, therefore we're pushing the private sector to be there, you're saying, okay, you pay for it, Mr. Homeowner, you just pay for it because I —, like at Southbridge, I pay somebody to pick up my trash. That's a County function that we chose not to do, but in fact it's just like a tax because I'm paying it every month for that service. In fact, that's what the County should provide as a —, as a government, but in fact we're moving out of the dry trash, we're moving out of this and out of that, but we're not —, we don't have anything to fill the gap.

County Manager Abolt said, if I may, less than a decade ago when the County Commission was address the issue of expanding the landfill on the west side of the County, the issue came about, should the County in effect duplicate this, compete with, whatever? A decision which has —, obviously has to be long term, was that the County is the least prepared to provide dry trash service. So we kind of assessed our strengths and weaknesses in our ability to provide services. We were the least prepared. We literally had, and I don't want to be clever or a smart aleck, we a mom and pop operation. Commissioner DeLoach said, right. County Manager Abolt said, we had dumps around here —, they were dumps, and they were convenient and yet for the longest time they provided an alternative because it was getting too darn expensive to dump in landfills and it gets more and more expensive, but it was getting more and more expensive to maintain these dumps so we flat started to get out of the business. Then the issue comes about, and it happens every year when you all receive the Special Service District budget. The Special Service District budget is made up of very easy to find services of primarily in police, there's some engineering, the Metropolitan Planning Commission, there's Inspections. So what happens is when taxes are not increased, and we certainly understand why and we want to maintain public safety services, you come to me and you say, Mr. Manager, give me your priorities for reducing. I look at where we're least able and where's so costly to provide this type of service, and I say let's eliminate dry trash. You don't eliminate dry trash, so we're faced continually with the tugging and the pulling between public safety services, like police, and dry trash in the unincorporated area, and we're seeing even now, because of the convenience of drop-off centers, it appears that the Special Service District those 64,000 people are subsidizing folks that live within the incorporated areas. And again, we can do what you want, and I'm not trying to make it difficult on you, but I would say that it must be addressed at a policy level first.

Commissioner DeLoach said, and I'm not —. Chairman Hair asked, what do you want to see done? Commissioner DeLoach said, what I want to see done. I mean, Chatham County if we're going to —, if we're functioning, we should have some kind of policy on trash. I mean, some kind of policy other than being the least prepared to be in it so we hope somebody else will come and fill the gap. That's where we are. That's not —, that's not functioning properly. I mean, you've got to get out there and say, okay, we don't want to do it, therefore I'll contract with Chatham —, with Savannah and I'll bid it out and you pick up the trash and you be responsible so that when the folks need it, they've got the service. We can't just —, we just can't just close Dillon and say, hey, you get there when you can. I'd take it out on the street and dump it and say you come by and get it, you know, because I'm paying taxes for the service already. Why shouldn't I have the service? But I don't have a —.

Chairman Hair asked, do you want to see —, do you want to direct staff to bring back options that will do that and costs associated with those options? Commissioner DeLoach said, well tell me —. Chairman Hair asked, is that what you want to see? Commissioner DeLoach said, I'm not the only parrot up here. Y'all tell me what y'all think. I mean, am I wrong? Am I going in the wrong direction? Chairman Hair said, I think that —, my suggestion I think is what we need to do. I think —. Commissioner DeLoach said, don't we need to do it before so that we can use it at budget time to determine —. Chairman Hair said, well, that's what I'm saying, we direct staff now to look at the alternatives —. Commissioner DeLoach said, right, do it now. Chairman Hair said, and have costs associated with those alternatives and then bring those back to us. I think that would be something that we could use. I'm going to get to you, Ms. Whitaker. Commissioner Price and then Commissioner Murray. I'll get to you after —.

Commissioner Price said, the way I look at it, Eddie [DeLoach], is basically staff is saying until we get out of the business of dry trash there's no need to go forward in expanding what we're doing because we have an uncontrollable expense we're dealing with here anyway, but the real issue that I want to bring up is that we either have to decide one direction or the other, and that's what I hear Eddie [DeLoach] saying, and I agree with him in that regard. Chairman Hair said, but I don't think we have the information we need to make that decision. That's my point. Commissioner Price said, I agree. There's nothing we can do today to change what's happening and basically, Eddie [DeLoach], that's what staff is recommending is basically status quo for the time being let's continue to do what we're doing. But I will say this, every one of us got a letter from Wayne County, the Commissioners of Wayne County, and Wayne County's saying to us we would like to encourage you to reconsider your decision concerning the opening of the transfer station located outside Port Wentworth. As we all

know, no one wants garbage, but what would happen if we were unable to locate a transfer stations or landfills, what would become of our garbage? They're talking about a state-of-the-art type facility they have down there. They want our garbage. Commissioner Jackel said, they're welcome to it. Commissioner Price said, they're welcome to it, but —, but we missed the boat last time and we didn't approve a transfer station to get the garbage out of here. And now we're talking about the same issue here basically —. Commissioner DeLoach said, I'll make a motion then. Commissioner Price said, I mean, what I'm saying to you Commissioners is when we have opportunities to get the trash out of Chatham County, let's do it. And this type of problem we're discussing today won't be as big of a problem.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Murray and then I'm going to recognize Ms. Whitaker. Commissioner DeLoach said, I'll make a motion. Chairman Hair said, okay, after —.

Commissioner Murray said, Russ [Abolt], the dry trash landfills that we have are in the —, or transfer sites or whatever you want to call them, all are in the unincorporated area. Is that right? County Manager Abolt said, no sir. Virginia [Lamb], please come forward. Isn't there one in Garden City? Ms. Lamb said, the one in —. Sharon Park is actually in Garden City. Commissioner Murray asked, are these funded in the M&O budget or are they funded in SSD budget? County Manager Abolt said, it's usually —, the rule of thumb is a 60/40 split. I mean, in our solid waste operation, which includes transportation, we have a subsidy 60% SSD, about 40% M&O, and with this information we're going to revisit that based on —. Commissioner Murray said, the numbers that you showed us though is more coming in from municipalities than there is from the unincorporated area. The unincorporated area is picking up the bulk of the expense. That needs to be corrected also, but —, and I think we need to look at that. Whether we put it all under M&O or not is fine, but if it's all being paid by M&O —, I mean by the Special Service District, then I'd say when those people come to sign in to bring the stuff, if they're not from the unincorporated area, they don't dump the stuff there. But we can't do that. County Manager Abolt said, that's a City of Savannah dump. Commissioner Murray said, I understand that, but to answer Eddie's question, Eddie [DeLoach], I don't think that we can put these transfer stations all over Chatham County. I think the locations they're in —, of course I can say this because one's not too far from my house, but I feel like they're adequate right now and I don't know how many people would actually use the Dillon site —. Chairman Hair said, 300, 300 a month. Commissioner Murray said, 300. Chairman Hair said, 300 cars a month. Commissioner Murray said, 300 cars a month. Which generates how much? Ms. Lamb said, we average a little less than 9 tons out of there. Commissioner Murray said, all right. The other point is that if we start closing all these sites down and we don't allow people and if in fact we discontinue the dry trash pickup, which I'm adamantly opposed to, then we're going to have trash dumped all over our streets and it's going to stay there and there's not going to be a whole lot we can do about it except take people to court and we're going to lose that battle. I just don't think we need to get into that, and so I think we've got to come up with some compromise. I don't think we can come up with a decision today, but I think we need to move forward with the recommendation today and then plan for the future of what we're trying to do with it. Chairman Hair said, okay. Commissioner DeLoach said, I agree. Commissioner Thomas said, I do too.

Chairman Hair said, Ms. Whitaker, I'll recognize you.

Ms. Hilda Whitaker said, thank you Mr. Chairman. For the record, I haven't had the benefit to read the staff report, but there's some things that I've heard in discussion that bother me. Number one, under House Bill 489 it's my understanding from reading it that we have to come into compliance with the —, the Special Service District has to pay for all of the services that they are providing. No money can come from M&O. So if we don't have a full cost accounting of what it takes to provide the solid waste service, the dry trash service, how are we going to say that you need to enter into a resolution with the municipalities that even in disasters that they pick up —, agree to pay a percentage for massive pickup of dry trash. Now I think that they ought to have to pay, in House Bill 489, if I am correct and the Special Service District has to pay for it all, you've got to do full cost accounting. By the way, Mr. Chairman, I respectfully request that I receive the information that I requested on the Solid Waste Management Fund the last time I was here. Dillon Landfill —, I could never use the dry trash pickup in front of my home because I live across the S&O Canal and the regulations, and since I had been down on Public Works so much, the regulations required that you place it in a specific spot. They wouldn't come on my property and I wasn't allowed to put it by the road, so I have always and have never utilized the dry trash pickup on Bush Road. I always had to utilize something else. It is also my understanding from rumors on the street that some of the citizens in Southbridge are taking their household garbage, and I'm speaking of municipal solid waste garbage, and disposing it at the City's landfill when —, where we have dry trash and we are in a way subsidizing for some household garbage. All of us in the unincorporated areas of Chatham County have always had to pay for our municipal solid waste pickup from our homes. We've never had the benefit of that. That was just something you knew you had to do. We got our police protection, we paid for our fire and we paid for our garbage. That's it. I'd also like to say the citizens in southwestern Chatham County were told years ago they would have drop-off centers at a major industrial site on Little Neck Road, and we —, it was always inside of the gates, and also when you have these drop-off centers I think we're entitled to one in West Chatham, but if the municipalities want to use them, I think they ought to cough up the money and help pay for them. Thank you.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Ms. Whitaker. I'll call on Commissioner DeLoach for a motion. Commissioner Rivers said, Mr. Chairman Hair. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Rivers.

Commissioner Rivers said, I just got a call from Nancy Jones, Administrator down in Wayne County, and she asked that I relay this word to the Commission that we please reconsider that letter that Ben [Price] spoke about of having that dry trash —, the trash transfer station reinstated so they'll take all the garbage from us.

Chairman Hair said, it's my understanding that there is some —, between Port Wentworth and the people out there, I think they're trying to work out a compromise that may be back before us by the end of June that might satisfy everybody and I think they are pretty close to an agreement where everybody agrees —, a lot of the homeowners, not necessarily every homeowner, but a lot of the homeowners, so I think that might be back before us the end of June.

Commissioner Rivers said, one other thing. I would like to ask the Manager to contact Ms. Jones, the Administrator down there, and keep here abreast of what we decide.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Price and then Commissioner DeLoach for a motion.

Commissioner Price said, I have a question. If we were to table this item, we would discontinue what we currently have available, wouldn't we, Russ [Abolt]? County Manager Abolt said, no. This is brought back only at your request. The Chairman received a letter from Mayor Strozier. You said you wanted the big picture presentation. This is our effort at the big picture. Commissioner Price said, so if we do nothing then —. County Manager Abolt said, I mean, this is for your benefit only. Chairman Hair said, it's the same as approving the motion in essence. Commissioner Price said, okay. That means [inaudible] if we approve the motion either way. Commissioner Saussy said, then we don't need a motion. Chairman Hair said, I think Commissioner DeLoach wants to make an additional motion. I think that's the issue. Commissioner DeLoach said, yes. Commissioner Price said, well, that's fine. I will say this though, if there's anything we're very good at it's talking trash. Talked and talked it [inaudible]. Go ahead.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner DeLoach.

Commissioner DeLoach said, I'd like to —, I have no problem —. There's nothing I can do about the basic setup we have now, but I'd like to make a motion that we ask the staff to actually study what would be the best proposal for the unincorporated people of Chatham County and Chatham County as far as dry trash pickup for Chatham County residents in the unincorporated area, and I'd like to have that before we have —, not only the dry trash pickup, but the transfer stations —. Chairman Hair said, bring all that back in one proposal. Commissioner DeLoach said, yes, in one proposal to give us the best option for all the —, for the people in the unincorporated area. Chairman Hair asked, Russ [Abolt], do you have any trouble with that time line? Commissioner DeLoach said, before the —, before we have the budget sessions where we start doing our priorities.

County Manager Abolt said, yes sir. Now remember I've made a recommendation which you've agreed to that possibly you just have your first budget goal session prior to you setting the millage, which will be a matter of just a few weeks away. I think it —, that would make it very difficult, but certainly by September I could have something for you. Commissioner DeLoach said, all right. Well, that's fine. It's a long term plan so —.

Chairman Hair said, certainly before the budget we've have it to do it. Commissioner DeLoach asked, is that okay with everybody. Chairman Hair said, yes. I don't even know that you need a motion for that, Eddie [DeLoach], unless you just want to make a motion. I think we —. Commissioner DeLoach said, I don't need to. Chairman Hair said, we can direct staff to do that. Commissioner Price said, let's do that. Commissioner DeLoach said, let's just direct staff. Okay, that's fine. Chairman Hair said, okay. By consensus we'll just direct staff to do that. Okay any further questions or comments? Commissioner DeLoach said, thank y'all. Chairman Hair said, thanks. Commissioner DeLoach said, thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

By general consensus of the Board, staff was directed to study and bring back to the Commission by September 1999 the best options for the people of unincorporated Chatham County as far as dry trash pickup and with regard to transfer stations so that it will be available to the Commissioners before budget is set for FY 2000.

=====

3. REPORT FROM JORDAN, JONES AND GOULDING CONSULTING FIRM ON DELAYS, TRUMAN PARKWAY. *Report will come from consultants at meeting.*

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, Dr. Thomas and members of the Board, as you all are aware, we have sent you out alerts a few days ago as to new information on the delay of this project. We do have the consultants available to make a presentation, which certainly we want them to do. They also have a plan of action to do the best we can to get it back on track.

Mr. Jim McGee said, Mr. Chairman, Board members, to start with I'm going to —. Chairman Hair said, for the record, state your name, sir. Mr. McGee asked, sir? Chairman Hair said, for the record state your name. Mr. McGee said, I'm Jim McGee. I'm Jim McGee from Jordan, Jones & Goulding, and let me —, before I go any further, let me introduce the key players on our team that is working on this project: Michael Hussey from Freeman & Vaughn, who is a joint venture partner on this, Tommy Crochet, from Jordan, Jones & Goulding and David Ashley from Jordan, Jones & Goulding, key players in this endeavor. This is an issue that has been around for a while and I'm sure your constituents, as you gentlemen and lady, are getting somewhat impatient, but there's a very complex process, and we have been wrestling through this process for some time now. In fact, we're told by the Georgia Department of Transportation that this is the most complex EIS that's ever been undertaken in the State of Georgia. Generally —, also according to the DOT, a complex EIS of this nature would take about 10 years to do. We don't like that time frame there for us to finish this for you, and we're going to have it done a whole lot before that, but it is a lengthy process, and actually the Federal Highway Administration is the federal agency that is responsible and is the sponsoring agency on this —, on this particular project there. You will hear me make a couple of comments about some delays that have been caused because of extended review time by the Federal Highway Administration. Somewhat in their defense recognize that the Federal Highway Administration must deal with many other federal agencies: Game & Fish, the Corps, many other federal agencies, and they're —, they're going at it in great depth, number one, to make sure that what decisions they make are defensible from a legal standpoint and also they're doing it —, they're going at it in a very —, to great depth there in order to be better prepared to respond to issues that come up by the other agencies, realizing that each of these agencies has their own agenda that they're concerned about. The Federal Highway Administration has theirs and, of course, theirs is transportation. That is not necessarily true with the other agencies that are involved in this. So whereas there has been some delays and some involved —, more involved review by the Federal Highway Administration there, some of that is to —, is understandable from their standpoint there. As I said, it's a very complex EIS. Almost every issue that is in the NEPA law is involved in the Truman Parkway. Parklands, socio-economic, non —, neotropical migratory birds, wetlands, just about every issue that is in that very complex NEPA law is involved out there, and each of those has to be addressed, and I point this out, this is the document and you can see it's voluminous [four volumes] that we have recently submitted to the Federal Highway Administration as the draft final EIS. That is under review by the Federal Highway Administration at this point in time. We feel good from comments we're getting back from the Federal Highway Administration now that this particular document, that they're review —, they had no further comments to provide to us. Most unusual, and we —, if we may pat ourselves on the back, with your staff and what we have done on the job there, that's a bit unusual, but you generally —, we get a long, long list of comments they want you to address there. There have been some delays, as all of you are aware. The project —, number one, the project is just large and complex and it is very involved and it takes a lot of time to do it. I assure you that your consultant has been working vigorously on this project. We have probably worked this year between 2,000 and 3,000 hours on this particular project to get to the point we are. So we are prosecuting the project very diligently and working very hard on it and we're working very closely with your staff, and so we're working together. It's our responsibility to accomplish this mission for you, and we are in the process of doing that and we will get that done for you.

Mr. McGee said, a few items that have affected it and caused some delays is —, although I spoke so favorably about the Federal Highway Administration a moment ago, a few months back when we submitted the draft EIS, not the final, but the draft EIS, the Federal Highway Administration spent seven and a half months reviewing that. We are awaiting, and of course contacting them continuously about a process that we would have anticipated about two months. Those kinds of things that just keep shoving it further down.

Chairman Hair asked, Mr. McGee, could I ask you a question about that? Mr. McGee said, yes sir. Chairman Hair asked, at any point that any part of this is in state hands or federal hands, is it possible through using our political influence to speed the process up at the federal level? Would it —, I mean, for example, if it's at the FHA [sic] for seven and a half months, if we could get our senators to intervene on our behalf, could we get it done in three or four months? I mean, is there any —, I think one thing that concerns me is that, you know, we don't know that it's been delayed until it's been delayed. That bothers me. It seems to me we should have known that. You know, when this thing was submitted if we had been said [sic], okay, it's up there now, if y'all can help, call the senators and see if we can get this thing expedited, do that, but we, you know, we wait until today, you know. I found out from a newspaper reporter yesterday that this thing had been delayed. I mean, it seems to me if we were more proactive on when you submit certain documents to certain agencies, whether it be state or federal, if we know that, we might be able to influence that. Is that not possible? Mr. McGee said, yes sir, it is and we would —. Chairman Hair asked, well, then why weren't we —, why weren't we notified when they —, these documents are submitted so we can lobby for this? Mr. McGee said, well we —, we've submitted them and we check periodically with them. We probably were a little negligent of not calling on you folks and asking you to use your influence, and I'm sure that is —, it is great, that you could have expedited that. It was a situation we were in where every week we expected to get on Monday or Tuesday we'd get that approval and then you'd go through another few days there and it sort of got away from us there, and all I can do is apologize that we did not call on you for your help at that —. Chairman Hair asked, can I have any assurance from you that this won't happen again? Mr. McGee said, yes sir. In fact, we're in a —, we're in a process —, in the process right now where there is a potential for some delays on what is called a 106, which is the historic portion of this, which is on the desk or in the hands of the State Natural Resources Director for him to sign off on. That possibly will end up going to Washington for further review. If it does, we will be in contact with you gentlemen through your staff there and ask you to make your calls up there to the people that you know to try to do that. At this point in time we do not anticipate any other lengthy delays that might affect it that much.

Commissioner Rivers said, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Rivers. Commissioner Rivers asked, how soon would that document be transferred into Washington. Mr. McGee asked, sir? Commissioner Rivers asked, how soon? Mr. McGee said, the —. Commissioner Rivers said, that you're expecting a delay on. Mr. McGee said, this 106 thing, that's a part of the document and we —, we anticipate that to be broken loose the latter part of —, well, mid-week of this week. Certainly by next week if it's not, if it's not approved and goes through the local agencies, then by the end of next week then we would —, I think that might be a time to get into it. Chairman Hair asked, would it —? Mr. McGee said, but it's not there yet because they don't know about it yet. Commissioner Rivers said, there's a possibility if we get stuck down the line with that, if you give me a contact between now and the 6th of July, I'll probably be with the Secretary or some of his top staff and I can convey that to them with that request and maybe we can expedite it. Mr. McGee said, yes sir. Also, we have not done as good a job as we job.

Chairman Hair said, let me ask you this. You said it's on the DNR's desk in Atlanta, right? Mr. McGee said, yes sir. Chairman Hair said, and there's a possibility it would be submitted to Washington. Is there a possibility that we could prohibit that from happening and speed it up by doing it at State level? Mr. McGee said, well, one of the —. Chairman Hair asked, if you could get the Commissioner to act on it at the State level, would he be able to act without sending it to Washington? Mr. McGee said, and that's a good point. What's happening there is the regulation has changed. We have been plagued with this throughout the project and most of the time when the regulation has changed it's been a detriment to move it forward —, the project. It's a situation now where the regulations have been changed. They go into effect the latter part of this month, and those regulations as they go onto effect, it will allow the decision to be made on the local level in Georgia and only a notification to the Washington bureau. We're talking with the Federal Highway Administration at this point in time and asking them to try to address this issue under the new regulation. They are nervous about that because the project has been moving forward under the old regulations, and again they're very nervous about doing anything that could open any crack for future legal action now, and I think y'all would want them to be careful about that. We certainly do there, but that's an issue that we won't know until a few days there, but, Mr. Rivers, that would be a part of that issue there. If the Federal Highway Administration will agree to go under the new regulations, which have not gone into effect as yet, that could help to expedite that issue.

Chairman Hair asked, and would the Secretary make that decision? Or could the Secretary make that decision? Mr. McGee said, that would be —, that decision would be made in Atlanta by the Federal Highway Administration. Chairman Hair asked, by the who? Mr. McGee said, by the Federal Highway Administration in Atlanta. Chairman Hair said, okay. Commissioner Murray and then Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Murray said, I've just got a couple of questions. First of all, your firm was hired by Chatham County when? Mr. McGee said, we started the project in '93. Commissioner Murray asked, in 1993? Mr. McGee said, yes sir. Commissioner Murray said, okay, and so y'all have been with us since the first phases were done? Is that correct? Mr. McGee said, yes sir. Commissioner Murray said, and we've known since before that time where this road is going and how many phases we have. Is that correct? Mr. McGee said, well, personally we have not known exactly where the road is going because that is a part of the process we're —. Commissioner Murray said, we've had a general idea of what direction we're going in anyway. Mr. McGee said, we've had —, we've had and have been addressing probably four alternatives that it could have been on any of those four alternatives, and that has precluded us from really being in a position to say the road is going to be built here, and you really cannot do that until the final decision is made by the Federal Highway Administration and they approve what's called a record of decision. Now our recommendations that have gone forward based on your recommendation to us as we did the evaluation and analysis where we selected a line for recommendation for the final roadway, you folks on the Commission approved that recommendation and we moved forward with that, and that's the line we're working on, but it is not established to date where the road —. Commissioner Murray said, all right, you've answered —. I've got some other questions though and I don't want to get in a long drawn out on each one of them. Mr. McGee said, yes sir. Commissioner Murray asked, how much has your firm been paid since you've been —, since y'all have been doing this for Chatham County? Mr. McGee asked, on the environ —. Commissioner Murray said, no, since 1993 to the present y'all have been paid what? Mr. McGee said, I can't tell you the exact number. I don't really know that. Commissioner Murray asked, do you have an idea? Mr. McGee said, yes sir, yes sir. It's in the neighborhood of a million or a million and a quarter dollars. Commissioner Murray said, okay, and we've just been billed for some more if I'm not mistaken. Is that correct? Mr. McGee said, well, we're —, as we continue to work, we're continuing to bill you, yes sir. Commissioner Murray said, all right. What is the time frame that you see the next phase of Truman Parkway starting? Mr. McGee said, the next phase, which is phase three —. Commissioner Murray said, from DeRenne Avenue out south. Mr. McGee said, we anticipate it to be ready to go to contract in August of next year. Commissioner Murray said, that's not satisfactory. I don't see any way —. We —, let me tell you something. When this thing was approved on the One Percent Sales Tax, there was stuff put out there, the DOT Commissioner sat right there at the opening of the first phase and made all these promises and other people made promises and before we get the next phase of this road built, the first two phases will be obsolete, and to me that's not satisfactory. It's got to be sooner than that. Now you've got all your stacks of documentation there and you've got all this other stuff, but let me tell you something. I'm one vote and I know it would put us behind further, but if it was up to me I'd find another consultant firm to deal with. I don't have any other questions. I'm just tired of listening to it.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Jackel said, sir, I've had a hard time understanding you up here and you used some indefinite pronouns and you talk about the project, but the project consists of phase three, four and five. If you will be more specific. You're talking about starting the next phase, phase three, in the year 2000. Now, August of 2000, is that right? Mr. McGee said, yes sir. Commissioner Jackel said, all right. Can you explain to us why there was such a big delay between the last phase that was finished and starting this new phase in August of 2000? Mr. McGee said, we were not involved in the development of the first two phases. I believe both of those were done directly by the Georgia DOT. I could be wrong. I'm not sure, but we were not involved in that. We started a long time ago, as has been pointed out, to do this project. When we started with the —, started to work for Chatham County on the Truman Parkway, our first contact with Chatham County was to do an environmental assessment on phase five. Now —, and let me explain. Phase five —, there's three phases left to be done, or three sections left to be done. The —, phase one and two, which start up at President Street, of course, are completed. Phase three is from DeRenne to Montgomery Crossroads and then phase four is Montgomery Crossroads to Whitfield, and phase five is Whitfield to Abercorn, just to give you a picture of where we're going. The original contract that we had with Chatham County that you hired us to do was to do an environmental assessment on phase five plus to do preliminary engineering on phase five. After we got started into that project and met with all of the federal agencies to go through this, and I don't want to go in —, belabor it and go into great detail about it. I'm just going to hit two or three highlights of it, but after we got started with that, the very first thing that occurred was that the Corps of Engineers and the federal agencies advised that you cannot do an EA on one segment of this project, it must be done on the entire segment from DeRenne to Abercorn. So the project has grown as far as its scope and the project has grown as far as your contract with us commensurate with that additional work there. We never got very far into the project. We worked on it probably for a year and —, on that environmental assessment, and the Federal Highway Administration advised us that this is too complex for an environmental assessment, we must go to the next level, which is an environmental impact statement, and that got us into the —, what's called EIS, and in the meanwhile you had contracted with us to do phases three and four, which at time the Georgia DOT were [sic] doing it, but were not doing it with any priority at all, and y'all wanted to move on with it. You wanted to get it moved on, but you have. You've made great progress with it. We've made good progress with the thing. It is an extremely complete project and I would tell you, and I say this a little bit, you know, from our standpoint, you would not have gotten this project any further along than it is today with some other firm doing it. We are as qualified as anybody and the Georgia DOT will tell you that in a minute as the Federal Highway Administration will tell you.

Chairman Hair said, sir, you made a statement I want to correct. You made a statement that the DOT didn't have high priority on this project. Commissioner DeLoach said, they did not. Chairman Hair said, did not. Commissioner DeLoach said, that's the reason we —. Mr. McGee said, this was 1993-94 [inaudible]. Chairman Hair asked, when was the coupling —, was the coupling of three and four done in '94 by this Commission. Commissioner DeLoach said, we did it. Chairman Hair said, that's what I'm saying. You coupled three and four in '94. Commissioner DeLoach said, because the State was going to actually move the project back a year. Commissioner Saussy said, exactly. Commissioner DeLoach said, we took that on and we started the environmental impact and all that other because we didn't want the project to slide two years and then just begin. It would have been two years —. Chairman Hair said, but that was five years ago. Commissioner DeLoach said, yes, well it would have been two years delay anyway, so we actually took it and started funding through Chatham County so that we could move it forward two years before the State would actually start on the project. Chairman Hair said, and that two became seven. Commissioner DeLoach said, well, whatever that —, it doesn't —. The point is we gained two years by doing that.

Commissioner Jackel said, we have phrases —, the next phase that goes from DeRenne to Montgomery Crossroads, did you attempt —, you said you —, the federal government said, hey, you've got to do this for the whole strip of the road, that you can't segment it out. Did you appeal or try and get some help to say, look, from DeRenne to Montgomery Crossroads is totally different from beyond Montgomery Crossroads, let us just take that out and get that portion done. Did you make that appeal? Mr. McGee said, I assure you there was extended effort made in that direction both by us on your behalf and by the Georgia DOT on have of the project. They were absolutely opposed to doing that type project and they finally yielded to the federal agency and agreed to do that. Yes, we fought that very hard.

Commissioner Saussy asked, you mean the federal government was opposed to the whole project? Mr. McGee said, no sir, no sir. They were opposed to you segmenting the studies and analysis on it. Commissioner Saussy said, okay. Mr. McGee said, in their judgment it was one project from DeRenne to Abercorn and what we had attempted to do was try to segment it or piecemeal it and could have let and moved forward with the smaller sections of it and it probably would have advanced it some.

Commissioner Rivers said, let me as you —. Commissioner Jackel said, I still don't —. Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Jackel has the floor.

Commissioner Jackel said, I'm still not sure why we have the huge delay from when we completed one segment to the starting on the next other than you're saying it all had to be lumped together. That's the reason then? Mr. McGee said, well, that's part of the reason. Part of the reason is that the laws and the regulations through the years have gotten tougher and tougher and even as we have gotten into this project we have had to —, the regulations have changed on us at least twice that's caused us to go back and redo and expand on some work that we have previously done before [sic] we did that. When the —, and as I said a while ago, I think —. Commissioner Jackel said, that seems like that's all the more reason to move forward with dispatch so the regulations don't change again on us. Mr. McGee said, sir, we're moving with great

dispatch. It does not seem that way to you folks, and I understand that, but it is —, it is moving vigorously as we can make it move. Commissioner Jackel asked, is there any auditing of this process? Are y'all self-auditing or is there an outside auditor or anything else of what you're doing for us? Mr. McGee said, I'm not sure I understand what you mean by this process. Commissioner Jackel said, I mean, I hear what you're saying that you're moving it as quick as you can. How do I know that's so? Do y'all have internal audits, performance reports of your people, or do y'all self-audit yourself to see if you're moving in the right direction? Mr. McGee said, of course, we do that internally ourselves. That's what we call a [inaudible] control, but the audit and the bottom line audit on it is that everything is —, whereas we work for you, you folks, and we understand that, the State agency is the Georgia DOT that's really in control of this technically. They review everything we do. We work with them continuously and then the federal agency, the Federal Highway Administration is on top of that reviewing and auditing what we're doing. So it is a lot of scrutiny. Commissioner Jackel asked, could we possibly see any of your internal stuff on the quality control? Mr. McGee said, I'm not sure that we've got any formalized. It is an ongoing type of thing that we review periodically what we're doing. We don't generally make reports on that for our internal control. Commissioner Jackel said, because I'm just very frustrated with this. I mean, we have not even —, we won't even start until August of 2000 on the extending it out to DeRenne to Montgomery and then when —, where do we start after that. When do the next phases of it —? Mr. McGee said, well, the next phase —, I've forgotten exactly what the schedule is on the —.

Mr. Tommy Crochet said, we're looking at starting the following phases approximately about a little later than 2001 and, of course, that's phase four. Of course, currently now there is no funding for phase five, but we would be ready with the plans if funding is made available to start that just six months later. Commissioner Jackel said, there's no funds for phase five. How is it that we were required to plan three, four and five if there's no funding for phase five before we could even start on three? Mr. Crochet said, because you asked us to prepare an environmental document on phase five because you wanted that project. All of the federal agencies were aware of that, which is why they said it was absolutely necessary to put all three phases together.

Mr. David Ashley said, Mr. Jackel, the —. Chairman Hair said, would you come to the microphone please for the record. Mr. Ashley said, I'm David Ashley. I'm the environmental guy at JJ&G, and when we met with the agencies in 1994, they basically said not only no are you only going to work on one phase, but hell no. They said this is one single and complete project, and that's the word out of regulations that they used, that they basically said the project is not effective unless it goes all the way from DeRenne out to Abercorn, and so they're going to combine it, you're going to have to go back. And we did try to do the project in single pieces as Georgia DOT had done, but the regulations continue to tighten up on us, and part of the reason that we're saying August of next year before we can go to let is because this thing called —, Mr. McGee mentioned called record of decision. It used to be the Federal Highway Administration would let you do a lot of stuff in advance. They would let you do preliminary plans, they'd let you do a lot of advance kind of acquisition work and that sort of thing before the record of decision, but they lost a lot of law suits because people said you'll prejudice the outcome of this stuff if you've preselected an alternative, and we're not going to let you do that anymore. So they are holding our feet to the fire and saying nothing happens until after the ROD, we call the record of decision, is issued. So that's one of the major things that's pushing us out to August. That and the lengthy reviews that we've gotten from FHWA and extended comment periods when they put the EIS out for comment. We had the public hearing last October, you know, the agencies extended their comment period and requested an extension [inaudible], and the other thing is, as Jim [McGee] said, we have come across a lot of things that just don't happen on this project. I mean, the eagles are an example of that and I think y'all know about that. We had a year delay because of the eagles and rerouting around the eagles. Mr. McGee said, that's not an issue today though. Mr. Ashley said, that's not an issue today. Mr. McGee said, not an issue today. Mr. Ashley said, regardless of what the paper said, that issue is pretty well resolved. We're having an adverse visual effect on the Town of Vernonburg. We went to DOT and we said, how do we handle this? They said, we don't know; you figure it out. So we went through an iterative process with the Federal Highway Administration on how to resolve those kind of issues. We're ninety percent there now. I mean, we're very much in the home stretch right now.

Mr. McGee said, well, if I may —, if I may add one more little thing to that. One thing and it's frustrating to —, we know the frustration here. We understand that. You have our commitments of continuing to work as far as we can on the project there, but as David [Ashley] just mentioned, the present regulations prohibit you from doing any final design work until you have that record of decision. Now we can do it, but it as the great risk and jeopardy of you losing all of your federal highway money for the project, and I don't think you want to do that because it is —, we're talking major dollars there.

Commissioner Jackel said, you have —, I don't think you have any idea about the level of our frustration. None of us can go to a function without being asked it. None of us can go anywhere without hearing jokes about it. I mean, our taxpayers have voted to spend their money. They expect to see something done. I mean, they're tired of us telling them, well, it's going to get built sometime and there are problems with this and there are delays, but we're doing what we can do. I mean, people have told me they don't want to hear that from me any more. So I have to tell you the same thing. I mean, it is —, I mean, that is probably one of the three most asked questions that I receive when I go anywhere is, is this thing going to be built in my lifetime or am I ever going to get to drive to it, where's it going to end, is it going to come out on Abercorn or is it going to go out further and connect up with the Veterans Parkway, or if it comes out on Abercorn will it go around and finally connect up, and when are they going to start building again, and what were these delays? We can't go anywhere without hearing that stuff. It's a community joke and we're depending on y'all. Now is there any method that we have that we can determine the effectiveness of your service?

Mr. Crochet said, you can talk with the Georgia Department of Transportation. The work we have done on this document, and they have seen us work on this, has allowed us to do other work with them. They have selected us as one of only three firms in the State to general services work —. Commissioner Jackel said, okay. Mr. Crochet said, partly because of that work. They have asked us to bail them out on projects they can't get to because they know we do really good work and we do it as quickly as we possibly can. Commissioner Jackel said, okay. Mr. Crochet said, David [Ashley] is bailing them out on a project down in Savannah at the —. Commissioner Jackel asked, is there a particular person we need to contract? Mr. Crochet said, you can talk to Commissioner Shackelford on down, any staff member you'd like to talk to. Commissioner Jackel said, okay. Mr. McGee said, David Studstill is the Georgia DOT Environmental Engineer, but as Tommy [Crochet] said, we have no fear of any comment any of those people would tell you about the quality of our work.

Commissioner Jackel said, all right. And then when we received no on dividing the project, did we try and take any political action to see if we couldn't —. Mr. Crochet said, those guidelines are very strict on the —, what's call the logical termini of the project, and when the agencies looked at it they said there's no way we're going to allow —, and this was the Corps, this was U. S. Fish and Wildlife, and this was EPA saying you put those together, and there's just no argument you can make that we're going to accept on this. Mr. Ashley said, and FHWA agreed with it. Commissioner Jackel said, I hear what you gentlemen are saying that in the past people have built a road and they get the road seventy, eighty percent complete and then there's a problem there and they say, well, we're eighty percent complete, we have to go through this problem area, so they changed the regulations to say let's look at the whole thing, but in this thing if we just go to Montgomery Crossroads, we've still got three or four different options. Nothing would be locked in a that point. It seems like we were perfectly set up for an exception to that rule. That argument [inaudible] things that frustrate —. Mr. McGee said, that argument was used to great extent. We went through all of that. Commissioner Jackel asked, and they still wouldn't —? Mr. Crochet said, but because they knew you had the desire to continue that road on to Abercorn, they said you have to study the whole route so that where you end up on Montgomery Crossroads won't affect undue impacts to the other sections of the roadway. We'd be happy to step through what we need to do now, where the document is —. Commissioner Murray said, yes, yes. Mr. Crochet asked, would you like to see that? Commissioner Jackel said, I'd love to see it.

Mr. McGee said, while he's doing that, there are some things that we're trying to combine to expedite getting this design finished there and we're working on that today. '

Commissioner Saussy said, and let's please let the media get this correct. Mr. McGee said, we take no credit for what the media might say.

Mr. Ashley said, these are the activities that we still have to complete on the EIS, and we're here in June and the Federal Highway Administration does have the EIS that needs to go from the Division Office to the Regional Solicitors for them to review to make sure the legal sufficiency is done, and they have told us that they will not complete that until we have the Section 106, the historic issues —.

Mr. McGee said, another possible place, Mr. Chairman, that you might intercede when it gets —, and I shouldn't say this maybe, but when it gets in the hands of the Federal Highway Administration legal staff. We'll notify you about that if that gets to be a problem. Chairman Hair said, it will be helpful if you notify us slightly ahead of that so that we would know that it's coming and the report gets in their hands. Mr. McGee said, we can do that. Chairman Hair said, we might be able to —. Mr. McGee said, we'll let you know before it goes in there. Chairman Hair said, okay.

Mr. Ashley said, at the point that they finish it, we'll be ready to publish the final EIS, and just as we had to do when we published the draft EIS, there's a notice of availability that has to go in the Federal Register right there. There's a three-week statutory time period where we'll publish the final EIS. On the date that it's actually published in the Federal Register we have to send it to everybody who offered comments. That includes all the federal agencies and anybody who offered substantive comments on the document before. That's —, we're —, that statutory there is 30-day review period. We've allowed 60 days because if we have the same thing happen, the agencies will request an extension of that. Then we prepare what is the final piece, and that's the record of decision, and that's just a piece of paper that says what the comments were on the final EIS and how we addressed them and, most importantly, has the Federal Highway Administration signature on it. When that happens there's a whole host of other things that once the Federal Highway Administration reviews that, and we haven't had any luck in getting less than a 60-day review from them on anything, and that record of decision is issued, then we can begin to do a lot of other things. We can begin utility relocation, we can begin the landfill work that needs to be done. So there's the end of the EIS right there, the record of decision. Tommy [Crochet] will talk to you about that.

Mr. Crochet said, yes, at that point we'll be able to get done —, we'll have all the preliminary plans completed at that point and at that point we can hold what is called the preliminary field plan review. This is mandatory and without that field plan review and acceptance of that report, we can't approve the right-of-way plans, and of course we have to have the right-of-way plans approved before we start acquiring the right-of-way on the remaining parcels that need to be bought for the project. Typically, what used to happen is we used to be able to hold these preliminary field plan reviews months, some times a year before you had the approved environmental document. When we started this project, that's what we thought

we were going to be able to do. Over the past year, year and a half, the Federal Highway has been forcing DOT to wait and to hold those preliminary field plan reviews until after the approved document. But what we're committing to you is that we're going to be very well prepared with these preliminary plans so that we only have a short time period of about three months to do the final construction plans for phase three. Normally, that's a nine-month process. We're going to compact that for y'all by putting additional staff on there and doing some front-end work at our own risk to make sure that we're not going to cause any delays on the back-end of this process. We need a —, it's a mandatory about six-month process to acquire the right-of-way, and that's primarily due to the relocations that have to take place on the northern end of phase three. So there's no real way to reduce that six-month time period, and so that all drives with the right-of-way has to be certified before they have the letting, which is why the letting is —, we're anticipating that to be in August of 2000. Now what we're going to do to make sure that once the letting happens that we can get the project constructed in a timely manner, a couple of key issues: one is we have to relocate and remove some of the trash from the landfill at Bacon Park to make room for the roadway, and what we'll do is we will have those plans ready and get the EPD review and a permit revised on that and be ready with bid documents and take those bids so that we can let that contract right after we get the record of decision, hopefully in January. Then that way, at the same time we would have all of our coordination in this time period between now and the end of the year, coordination with the effect that utilities so that they can be prepared to start relocating those utilities. So actually we're looking at towards the end of January and February we're going to start work in preparation for letting the construction contract on the roadway by doing the construction on the landfill and the utility relocations ahead of time. So in actuality we will be starting on the project hopefully in January or early February in anticipation of that record of decision at the first of the year.

Commissioner Rivers asked, Mr. Chairman, can I ask a question? Chairman Hair said, certainly. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Rivers. Commissioner Rivers said, you said —, now you've allocated more time during the period of review because you normally said it takes 30 days but you're allotted 60. Mr. Crochet said, that's based on an issue that we are well aware of. One of the last issues that needs to be resolved in this document deals with the construction method that we have outlined for the bridge over the Vernon River and its marshes. Currently in the document we are saying we would like to use mats and barges to construct that bridge; however, the Fish and Wildlife Administration, National Marine Fisheries, have been vocal about use what is called top-down or end-on construction so that we don't place anything in the marsh other than those piles supporting the bridge. Fish and Wildlife requested a 30-day extension on the draft EIS and we fully anticipate them to do that again as well on the final EIS primarily because of that issue. Commissioner Rivers asked, well, why can't we start beginning to apply some pressure to them to compact that rather than to draw it out; therefore, trying to save another 30 days so that you can get another 30-days lead time? Mr. Crochet said, once we submit the document, we'll have dialogue with them very carefully through the Corps of Engineers primarily to do that. We want to be careful not to alienate those people reviewing that because they have a hard decision to make and they will make their recommendation, and Federal Highway as well can overrule anything they say. But they have to be very careful because if they do overrule and disagree with another federal agency, that other federal agency could request that the document be elevated to the National Environmental Council, which could really delay the project by a year or two. Commissioner Rivers said, well, if this becomes a sensitive situation as it is, and as the Chairman said, then it may be necessary to bring political pressure through our legislators in order to get some quick action, and I just think we need quick action on this particular project. I think we have let this project bog down so much when we could have done some things to sort of expedite it. Mr. Crochet said, we've done an excellent job on this document and, in doing so, those federal agencies have gained a lot of respect for the work we've done and trust us. The work David [Ashley] and I have done and being straightforward with them in doing it has allowed us to create a document we feel is extremely defensible from a legal standpoint and we've done everything we can, so we feel like they have to make a very quick decision or else Federal Highway is going to say, hey, our document's good, we're going with it, and that's the way —, that's the indication we're getting from Federal Highway at this time. We will keep you —, we'll keep you posted. Yes, we have briefed the County Manager and County Engineer on that issue and at that time period when we publish the final EIS, we're going to be working very closely with them about strategies on where to put pressure and y'all will be apprised of that at that time.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Price.

Commissioner Price said, I know that the City of Vernonburg has a opposition, if you will, to phase five of the parkway. Have you guys gone to any effort to discuss with these individuals phase five in a way that, and I don't think Vernonburg would want to keep three and four from happening by any means. They recognize the need for that, and even though they may not agree with phase five, what I don't want to see happening is for them to become more proactive in their efforts to inadvertently on their part maybe to sabotage all of three, four and five. Mr. Ashley said, yes sir. Commissioner Price said, tell me what your discussions have been and are you educating them and bringing them along as to what the technology is and what you're going to plan to use. Mr. Ashley said, we met with the folks in Vernonburg several times and talked to them. As you know, we're not actually entering the Town of Vernonburg. Commissioner Price said, right. Mr. Ashley said, the bridge on phase five is about a half a mile away. Commissioner Price said, right. Mr. Ashley said, and they're very much opposed to it because they've got a —, they've got a very beautiful marsh view out there. I can —, you know, I don't blame them. If I lived in Vernonburg I wouldn't like phase five either, but, you know, every public works project affects somebody adversely. Well, because Vernonburg is on the National Register of Historic Places we had to do consultation with the DOT and with the folks in Vernonburg. We had a couple of meetings with them. We asked them what we could do to lessen the effects, and they both —, their main comment, of course, is we just don't want phase five out here, but they said, you know, the noise and lights are two of the major things that we don't want to see, and so we've worked with the

DOT and we've worked with the folks in Vernonburg, and the bridge that goes across there is going to be stained a brown color so that it won't be as much of a visual intrusion in the marsh. The parapet on the side that faces Vernonburg is going to be six feet high so that it keeps down the glare from the lights and some of the noise as well. So that's the process that we've been working with them on since the first of the year and that's what we're waiting for the Commissioner of DNR to sign off on right now, the agreement.

Mr. McGee said, that's the document that's up there that I mentioned earlier. Chairman Hair asked, that's the 106? Mr. Ashley said, that's the Section 106.

Commissioner Price asked, what's the historic aspect you were talking about in that regard? You said that there was something historic —. Mr. Ashley said, well, Vernonburg is eligible as a district to the National Register of Historic Places. Commissioner Price asked, so that was what you were speaking at —, speaking about? Mr. Ashley said, right. Mr. McGee said, it compounds the visual thing because of the historic nature. Mr. Ashley said, and at DOT's direction we couldn't start on that project until the draft EIS was done —. Commissioner Price said, okay. Mr. Ashley said, because if we had started on it during the draft EIS, we would have had to have done the same thing on all four alternates to be considered. Commissioner Price said, well, it sounds to me like these guys are in fact doing all that they can do to certainly set —, I'm not saying they're perfect in everything that they've done because I think certainly we haven't been perfect in everything that we've done to this point, but I do think it's important that —, and I would suggest that the Chairmango ahead and discuss in a preliminary way, and I'm sure he has these discussions with Congressman Kingston on a regular basis, but our efforts to be more involved, the desire to be more involved as well as to discuss it with Senators Coverdell and Cleland. I mean, I —.

Chairman Hair said, I do that, but I do think that the important thing is that you do that at the right time. Commissioner Price said, right. Chairman Hair said, if you do that too far in advance it gets lost in the shuffle. If you do it too late, then they say I'm sorry, if you'd called me last week I could have helped. I mean, the critical thing with the political intervention is to do it at the appropriate time. Commissioner Thomas said, exactly. Chairman Hair said, that's why I stressed to you it's so important for us to know that and, you know, and Commissioner Price said you guys have done a good job as far as your technical work, I'm sure it is, but you admitted that if you had involved us early on in the process, we might have been able to speed this thing up politically, and I would hope that wouldn't happen again, and you've assured me it won't, and I'm taking you at your word, but I think that has cost us a month. I really do. If we had known —.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner DeLoach and then Commissioner Rivers and Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner DeLoach said, I just wanted to follow up. When we originally did the coupling of the two, whenever the DOT and we agreed to take over the —, to take over the projects, the environmental and all the other things that go beforehand, they were originally coupled together. Three and four were coupled together and originally, I think, we were anticipating those —, both of those going out to bid at the same time. I hear the conversation now all I hear about is phase three and I just want to make sure that phase four is not lost in here somewhere or another. Mr. McGee said, there's a —, but there is a reason, if I may explain why that —. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay. Mr. McGee said, that split has happened. Because —, and I hate to refer back to this, but because of the eagle situation that occurred a year or so ago out there, it required a relocation of the alignment which affected phase four. It did not affect phase three, so we cannot do any work on phase four, or have not really done any work. We're legally probably could, but if it's a risk in doing that for phase four as far as developing the design of that until we get further into this process, we are about at that point. Phase three we were —, because it didn't relocate, we went ahead and continued our work there, but that's the reason four sort of dropped aside. It's not dropped out, but it just got pushed aside until this record of decision. Commissioner DeLoach asked, where is —, where is that phase four in the process of —, if phase three is being let in August —? Mr. McGee said, we would —. It would probably take a year to get it ready so we've not even —, and there's a lot of reason for it, but we have not even done the preliminary work on design of phase four because of the fact that it has completely relocated from where it originally was. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay. Mr. McGee said, but we would —, as soon as that record of decision is made and a final decision is made on the direction we'll go, and we'll be taking from your staff on that, we will immediately be working on phase four. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay. Mr. McGee said, it did get delayed though.

Chairman Hair said, I thought I was told that once the eagle problem was solved we went back to the original center line. That's not true? Mr. Ashley said, that's what we're hoping to do, but at this time —. Mr. McGee said, we can't do that now. Mr. Ashley said, we have to proceed with developing the project with the new alignment that brings the alignment closer to Ferguson Avenue. Mr. McGee said, there is some desire to do that, but that cannot be done until after that record of decision is done, and then it would require some modification from the EIS to do that. Chairman Hair said, well, if you go with the other —. Mr. McGee said, that's something that we don't even need to talk about really. At this point in time because it's —, we're going forward with the EIS and we want nothing to jeopardize the final approval of that EIS. So we're —, that is developed on a specific line. There's been some discussion about maybe going back to the original line, and that's something for us to consider, and like I say, we're taking from your staff on that, but that can't even be considered at this point in time. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay. Thank you.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Rivers.

Commissioner Rivers said, Mr. Engineer, Al [Bungard]. Mr. Al Bungard said, sir. Commissioner Rivers asked, how do you feel about this process that we're in? Are we on a scale that we should be on or in line where we should be? Can we bring this thing to some conclusion or can we expedite it from our standpoint? Mr. Bungard said, the thing that I'm —. Commissioner Rivers asked, do we think they're doing what they should be doing in order to expedite it? Mr. Bungard said, legally, yes sir. You know, the issue aside of the politics earlier, every time I talked to Walker Scott, the director of preconstruction over Atlanta, two or three times a week on this, particularly after, you know, when I got this list. When I wrote you the memo about things that we want to look at to expedite the project, what we traditionally thought of as the major project starting, you know, in January, what can we do. Things like the landfill, things like your locating utilities. Every idea brought up, I am —, not chastised, I am cautioned about the risk in what we do to prejudice the decision before the record of decision. So those are what I would call, I guess, preconstruction activities, and that's what I need to work with them on and the DOT. You know, these are things that typically done as part of the construction process, the one we thing of traditionally. We start to relocate utilities, you know, once we award the big contract. We'll start demolishing facilities. There are things we can do. There are some other things we're looking at on the bridges. We don't know where that's going to go yet. So, yes, we have some more ideas that we're working on. Does that answer your question, sir? Commissioner Rivers said, let me ask you this. We have acquired some right-of-way —. Mr. Bungard said, yes sir. Commissioner Rivers said, and they're saying that we can't go ahead and acquire right-of-way without having that record of decision being made on certain phases of it. Why are we allowed to acquire some parcels? Mr. Bungard said, I am not allowed to approach a property owner initiating right-of-way acquisition activities until after the record of decision. Under the early acquisition process, the property owner must come to us and request early acquisition based on personal hardship or some other extenuating reason. Those are the ones that went on the agenda for today the same way. Along that line, the Federal Highway and GDOT have been very broad in their interpretation of what constitutes a hardship, financial difficulty, personal hardship, whatever, and of the —, I think it's approximately 30 parcels along this phase alone, we've already acquired about ten. We've already acquired about ten. We've acquired probably, I think it's 30 out of 100 parcels for the entire project, phases three, four and five, but I am legally prohibited from approaching a property holder and saying I want to come acquire your property or part of your property. Commissioner Rivers said, so we're —, in other words, in essence what you're saying to me is that we've got to get through all of the legal ramifications before we can acquire and do all the things necessary that we need to do, and there are going to be some snags here and there from a legal standpoint, or are we looking not necessarily sometimes from a legal standpoint, but at a reg standpoint, because reg standpoints can —, I think they could be manipulated. Legal standpoints I don't think we can do anything with them, but regs —. Mr. Bungard said, yes sir. I ask that question all the time.

Mr. Ashley said, this document could be tossed out if we attempted to acquire right-of-way, and you wouldn't be able to build the project.

Commissioner Price said, I've got a question. Chairman Hair said, okay. Commissioner Price and then —. Commissioner Price said, you've already called on me once. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, Al [Bungard], based on what I've heard then, is it possible that we are purchasing right-of-ways [sic] that we won't ever use? Mr. Bungard said, we are purchasing right-of-ways [sic] by early acquisition on the preferred route. Commissioner Murray said, but there's a possibility that route might not take place. Is that what we're saying? Mr. Bungard said, technically I think that's true. Commissioner Murray said, so there's a possibility that some of this right-of-way that we've already purchased on early acquisition may not be used. Commissioner Price said, that's true. Commissioner Thomas said, that's true. Mr. Bungard said, technically, yes sir. Commissioner Murray said, I just thought I'd ask that question. Mr. Bungard said, that's the risk we take. That's a risk.

Chairman Hair asked, any other questions, Commissioners? Commissioner Rivers said, I call the question. Chairman Hair said, well, there's no —. Commissioner Rivers said, there's no —. Chairman Hair said, just a report. It's not a thing that requires action. Thank you, gentlemen.

Mr. McGee said, thank you and we understand your concern and we give you our assurance we're diligently working on it. Commissioner Murray asked, do you mind if we just give the citizens your telephone number then instead of ours. Chairman Hair said, give us your home phone number if you really want to do something on this. Mr. McGee said, I'll be happy to take it.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Report received as information.

=====

4. **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.**
 - **COUNTY ATTORNEY - ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT IV (ONE POSITION)**
 - **BOARD OF ASSESSORS - APPRAISER I (ONE POSITION)**

Chairman Hair recognized the County Attorney.

County Attorney Hart said, basically after approximately 10 years we're going to lose Dale Sykes. We have two legal —. Her husband's been transferred and it's a real opportunity for him, so she's going to be leaving us. I think everybody —. Dale [Sykes] in our office. I think everybody knows Dale [Sykes]. She does a good job. She's a secretary, she's also a paralegal. She is also the person that does all of our right-of-way acquisition paperwork. We would like to waive the 90-day hiring freeze since as this project delays, the acquisition end of it's going to be squeezed, and I'd like to get somebody in there to already start the learning curve of what needs to be done. We really don't have any place else to off-load that type work, so we really need to fill that position.

Commissioner Thomas said, move for approval. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. Any questions? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Odell were not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

Chairman Hair said, next, Board of Assessors, Appraiser I (one position). Chairman Hair recognized Gary Udinsky.

Mr. Gary Udinsky said, yes. The answer is yes. It's a critical position that's been vacant now for almost 30 days. Again, by the time we finally get this filled, it will probably 60 or 70 days, and we have five —, four vacancies currently already and another resignation that takes effect next week. We're just real short of manpower.

Commissioner Price said, I move for approval. Chairman Hair said, motion to approve and a second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The Clerk asked who was the second? Chairman Hair said, Eddie [DeLoach] Commissioner DeLoach said, me and him. Whatever you want to do. Commissioner Price said, either way. Commissioner DeLoach said, either way. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Jackel and Odell were not present.] Mr. Udinsky said, thank you very much.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

1. Commissioner Thomas moved to approve waiver of the 90-day hiring freeze and authorize the Human Resources to advertise the following position: County Attorney - Administrative Assistant IV (one position). Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Odell were not present.]
2. Commissioner Price moved to approve waiver of the 90-day hiring freeze and authorize the Human Resources to advertise the following position: Board of Assessors - Appraiser I (one position). Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Jackel and Odell were not present.]

=====

5. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE THE SECOND NOTE RESOLUTION FOR THE TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES FOR FISCAL YEAR 1999 FOR THE GENERAL FUND AND SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND TOTALING \$21.2 MILLION (GENERAL FUND \$19.1 MILLION AND SSD \$2.1 MILLION).

Chairman Hair said, the County Manager has requested that we add one item to the agenda dealing with the Tax Anticipation Notes, so I'll entertain a motion to add this item to the agenda. 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: Commissioners Rivers, Jackel and Odell were not present.]

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, Dr. Thomas and gentlemen, thank you very much. Last night, as you may be aware if you had a chance to read the packet, we have opened the bids on this with the help of our Financial Adviser. We had Tax Anticipation Notes ready for you to aware and at the interest rate of 3.77%, which is excellent.

Commissioner DeLoach said, so moved. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. Is there discussion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Jackel and Odell were not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

1. Commissioner DeLoach moved to add to the agenda a request that the Board approve the Second Note Resolution for the Tax Anticipation Notes for Fiscal Year 1999 for the General Fund and Special Service District

Fund totaling \$21.2 million (General Fund \$19.1 million and SSD \$2.1 million). Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Jackel and Odell were not present.]

- 2. Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the Second Note Resolution for the Tax Anticipation Notes for Fiscal Year 1999 for the General Fund and Special Service District Fund totaling \$21.2 million (General Fund \$19.1 million and SSD \$2.1 million). Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Jackel and Odell were not present.]

=====

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 is there anything —, does anybody want to pull anything off the Action Calendar? Commissioner Murray said, 12. Chairman Hair said, pardon. Commissioner Murray said, 12. Chairman Hair said, 12. Anything else? Does anybody want to pull anything? Commissioner Jackel's not here. Commissioner DeLoach said, let's go. Commissioner Thomas said, I'd just like to hear a little bit about #6. Commissioner DeLoach said, pull 6. Chairman Hair said, pull 6, Dr. Thomas. Commissioner DeLoach said, move for approval for all the rest. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, I have a motion to approve the balance of the Action Calendar. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Jackel and Odell were not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved that the Action Calendar be approved in its entirety with the exception of Items 6 and 12. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Jackel and Odell were not present.]

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

=====

- 1. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ON MAY 28, 1999, AS MAILED.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on May 28, 1999, as mailed. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Jackel and Odell were not present.]

=====

- 2. **CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD MAY 19 THROUGH JUNE 2, 1999.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved that the Finance Director is authorized to pay claims for the period May 19, 1999, through June 2, 1999, in the amount of \$6,534,187. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Jackel and Odell were not present.]

=====

- 3. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVE THE FISCAL YEAR 2000 BUDGET CALENDAR.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2000 Budget Calendar. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Jackel and Odell were not present.]

=====

- 4. **REQUEST FROM HALL DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THEIR AGENT, THOMAS & HUTTON ENGINEERING, TO RECORD THE FINAL PLAT FOR SOUTHBRIDGE SUBDIVISION PHASE 15A AND TO COMBINE THE STREETLIGHT ASSESSMENT DISTRICT WITH THE EXISTING DISTRICT.
[DISTRICT 7.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the request from Hall Development through their agent, Thomas & Hutton Engineering, to record the final plat for Southbridge Subdivision Phase 15A and to combine the streetlight assessment district with the existing district. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Jackel and Odell were not present.]

=====

- 5. **REQUEST FROM ALLIE AND LILLIAN ARCHER FOR EARLY ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY AT 9242 WHITFIELD AVENUE, TRUMAN PARKWAY, PHASE IV.
[DISTRICT 1.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the request from Archie and Lillian Archer for early acquisition of property at 9242 Whitfield Avenue, Truman Parkway, Phase IV. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Jackel and Odell were not present.]

=====

- 6. **REQUEST FROM FREDDIE THOMPSON FOR EARLY ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY AT 1254 WEST VICTORY DRIVE FOR THE WIDENING OF OGEECHEE ROAD FROM LYNES PARKWAY TO VICTORY DRIVE.
[DISTRICT 8.]**

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, yes. I just want to get some information as to —, I just need a further explanation on it, that's all. Just a little brief explanation. Chairman Hair asked, Mr. Bungard, can you explain?

County Manager Abolt said, the property was acquired, according to the staff report, on widening of the Ogeechee Road. Also we need this for the Springfield Canal project too. Commissioner Thomas said, oh, okay. That's going to tie into that. County Manager Abolt said, yes 'mam. Commissioner Thomas said, all right, okay.

Chairman Hair said, I need a motion. Commissioner DeLoach said, I move for approval. 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: Commissioners Rivers and Odell were not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the request from Freddie Thompson for early acquisition of property at 1254 West Victory Drive for the widening of Ogeechee Road from Lynes Parkway to Victory Drive. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Odell were not present.]

=====

- 7. **REQUEST BOARD POSTPONE RECEIVING A PROPOSAL FROM THE ANIMAL WELFARE ADVISORY BOARD IN REFERENCE TO AMENDING THE CURRENT ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE UNTIL THE MEETING OF JUNE 25, 1999.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve a request to postpone receiving a proposal from the Animal Welfare Advisory Board in reference to amending the current Animal Control Ordinance until the meeting of June 25, 1999. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Jackel and Odell were not present.]

=====

- 8. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL FOR THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF PORT WENTWORTH IN REFERENCE TO PROVIDING AN EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES SITE WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF PORT WENTWORTH.
[DISTRICT 7.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to authorize the Chairman to sign an Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Port Wentworth in reference to providing an Emergency Medical Services site within the corporate limits of the City of Port Wentworth. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Jackel and Odell were not present.]

=====

- 9. REQUEST FROM SHERIFF TO APPROVE THE EXPENDITURE OF \$14,850 FROM THE S.M.O.C.T.A. ACCOUNT TO FINISH THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT FIRING RANGE AUTOMATED TARGET SYSTEM.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the expenditure of \$14,850 from the S.M.O.C.T.A. account to finish the Sheriff's Department Firing Range automated target system. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Jackel and Odell were not present.]

=====

- 10. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE A REVISED SPECIAL USE PERMIT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, AND CHATHAM COUNTY AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN THE PERMIT FOR THE CONTINUED USE AND MAINTENANCE OF THE MCQUEEN'S ISLAND MULTI-PURPOSE TRAIL.
[DISTRICT 4.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve a revised Special Use Permit between the United States Department of the Interior, National Park Service, and Chatham County and authorize the Chairman to sign the permit for the continued use and maintenance of the McQueen's Island Multi-Purpose Trail. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Jackel and Odell were not present.]

=====

- 11. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND CHATHAM COUNTY AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT TO ASSIST IN THE FUNDING FOR THE PLANNING AND DESIGN DEVELOPMENT OF THE HESSE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL COMMUNITY PARK.
[DISTRICT 1.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Board of Education and Chatham County and authorize the Chairman to sign the agreement to assist in the funding for the planning and design development of the Hesse Elementary School Community Park. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Jackel and Odell were not present.]

=====

12. REQUEST FOR NEW BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR POURING AND SUNDAY SALES LICENSE FOR 1999. PETITIONER: PEDRO J. CLAUDIO, JR., D/B/A TURNER'S CREEK SEAFOOD & STEAK HOUSE, LOCATED AT 618 WILMINGTON ISLAND ROAD. [DISTRICT 4.]

Chairman Hair said, I don't have a problem with the approval of that, I just wanted to bring it to everybody's attention that that is the same location that we were told during the cruise boat, Sail Harbor, that that restaurant could not be used for something like that. It was just to draw the business. But, at any rate, I'm glad to see they are opening up another business in there since the boat is now gone.

Commissioner Price asked, where was —, what was this previously? County Attorney Hart said, Sail Harbor. Commissioner Price said, Sail Harbor. Commissioner Murray said, yes, that's where all the —, the place was at one point. Commissioner Price said, yes. Commissioner Murray said, now the boat's gone so someone else can open a restaurant up, and it sounds like a good restaurant to me. Commissioner Price asked, are you still going to have live music? Commissioner Murray said, I have no idea what they're going to have.

Commissioner Jackel said, let me make a comment on this. On this item, I was recently at a Recorder's Court hearing where there was discussion of the City ordinance, and the City apparently has an ordinance where you're granted a limited liquor license only if you serve food, and it has to be full meal. Commissioner Murray said, well, he is. Commissioner Jackel said, well, they are here, but I don't think we have a comparable license, and I think we need —. Commissioner Murray said, well, that's a whole different thing. Chairman Hair asked, what are you —? That's not related to this item. Commissioner Jackel said, it is related in that it —, I would because of that like us to look at creating a similar ordinance. Commissioner Price said, well, that's —. Chairman Hair said, the petitioner is here.

Commissioner Murray said, I'll move for approval. Commissioner Odell said, I'll second. Chairman Hair said, we have a motion and a second. Any —.

Mr. Pedro Claudio said, good morning. I'm the —, my name is Pedro Claudio, for the record. Commissioner Odell said, you've probably got enough votes to pass it. The only thing you can do is [inaudible]. Mr. Claudio said, I just want to make clear for the Chairman. This is going to be a full service restaurant, but, you know, a lot of people like to drink wine or beer with their food, which —, what I want to do is sell more food than liquor, beer and wine, but I need it. I need the license for that. Chairman Hair said, okay.

Commissioner Odell asked, are you going to have live entertainment? Ben [Price] wants to know. Mr. Claudio said, no. I only have a sunset parties on Thursday night because I'm just taking that from the Sheraton Hotel that used to have it, so Thursday night we're going to have sunset parties. At the Tiki bar we have a deck —. Chairman Hair said, the only live entertainment will be Commissioner Price when he goes out there.

Chairman Hair said, okay, we have a motion to approve 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.

Commissioner Jackel said, okay, this has passed. I would still like us to look into a similar ordinance, and the City has this ordinance where if they grant a beer and wine license to a place and someone comes in and says I just want beer or I just want a wine or I just want a drink, they cannot do that. You can only do it as part of a meal, and I would like to see us look at the feasibility of developing something —. County Attorney Hart said, we'll be glad to review the City and the County ordinance. They're very similar ordinances. You know, both provide for certain type restaurants, bar type facilities. Chairman Hair said, yes, why don't you review them and bring us back any differences and see if we want to make any changes. Commissioner Odell asked, what will that accomplish, Martin [Jackel]? Commissioner Jackel said, because when you have places like this that are in residential neighborhoods, I think the neighbors are satisfied if the place is a restaurant that serves drinks rather than a bar that may serve food. I think there a big distinction between those two type places, and I think it makes for better neighborhood feelings between them and the establishment if they know it's going to be a restaurant that serves drinks rather than a bar that serves food, and people have tried to circumvent the new City ordinance by having a boiling pot of water with hot dogs in it and say, well, yes, we serve food when it's really a bar. And I think we need to —, into our neighborhoods when we put a place and if it's going to —, if we're going to approve it as a bar that's one thing, but if we —, what we really want is to limit it to a restaurant, then that type of ordinance can do that.

Commissioner Rivers said, but you still can —. Chairman Hair said, you still can turn it down. Commissioner Rivers said, if he has a restaurant he still can put his hot dog pot up and if I want to drink, give me a hot dog and a beer. Commissioner Jackel said, that would not meet the standards of the —. Commissioner Rivers said, no, but you've still got a restaurant.

County Attorney Hart said, the County ordinance currently has a requirement for restaurant/bar type situation of percentage of sales being food, percentage of sales being —. Commissioner Murray said, they have to have a commercial kitchen. Chairman Hair said, exactly. All right, let's move on.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to approve the request of petitioner Pedro J. Claudio, Jr., d/b/a Turner's Creek Seafood & Steak House, located at 618 Wilmington Island Road, for a new beer, wine and liquor pouring and Sunday sales license for 1999. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner DeLoach was not present.]

=====

13. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE SETTLEMENT OF A CONDEMNATION FOR JIMMY DELOACH PARKWAY INVOLVING PROPERTY OWNED BY TAMMY WILKES MYRICK, PRESENTED BY CHARLES W. BARROW, SPECIAL COUNSEL TO CHATHAM COUNTY.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the amount of \$8,150.00 for total settlement of a condemnation for Jimmy DeLoach Parkway involving property owned by Tammy Wilkes Myrick, presented by Charles W. Barrow, Special Counsel to Chatham County. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Jackel and Odell were not present.]

=====

14. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF QUITCLAIM DEEDS.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the following quitclaim deed in exchange for satisfaction of delinquent taxes, which have now been paid: Clark and Geraldine C. Saxon, PIN 60009-02005, \$39,995.42. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Jackel and Odell were not present.]

=====

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. Confirmation of emergency purchase of twenty (20) personal computers	ICS	Gateway Computers	\$24,420	CIP - Y2K Remediation
B. Annual contract, with the option to renew for two additional one-year terms, to provide water treatment chemicals	•Building Maintenance and Operations •Detention Center	Anderson Chemical Company, Inc.	\$11,459.62	•General Fund/M & O - Building Maintenance and Operations •General Fund/M & O - Detention Center
C. Confirmation emergency purchase for 1999 Ford 15 passenger van	Detention Center	Willoughby Ford	\$23,168.40	CIP - Vehicle Replacement

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
D. Two (2) 1999 rotary cutters	Public Works	Joiner International	\$15,672	General Fund/M & O - Public Works Right-of-way Mowing Program
E. 1999 Ford ambulance	EMS	Unlimited Mobility	\$63,700	CIP - Vehicle Replacement
F. Boat, motor and trailer	Marine Patrol	Savannah Sports Center	\$22,187	CIP - Contingency (pending Board approval of CIP contingency transfer)
G. Hardware, software upgrades and telephone equipment replacement for the telephone systems for Y2K requirements	I.C.S.	Property Technology (sole source)	\$261,435	CIP - Y2K Remediation
H. Software, software upgrade and maintenance	I.C.S.	Department of Administrative Services (DOAS) (sole source)	\$18,973.99	CIP - Y2K Remediation
I. Reject bids received for purchase and installation of carpet	Assessor	N/A	N/A	N/A
J. Change Order No. 1 to the annual contract for attendant services at Wilmington Island Drop-off Center for an addi- tional employee	Solid Waste	Phelps Painting	Not to exceed \$880 per month	SSD - Contingency General Fund/M & O - Contingency (pending Board approval of transfers)

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve Items 15-A through 15-J. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Jackel and Odell were not present.]

=====

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. **AMENDMENT TO THE CHATHAM COUNTY EMPLOYEE'S RETIREMENT PLAN ORDINANCE TO CHANGE NORMAL RETIREMENT AGE FROM 62 YEARS FOR GENERAL EMPLOYEES AND 55 YEARS FOR PEACE OFFICER EMPLOYEES OR 30 YEARS OF CREDITED SERVICE TO 62 YEARS FOR GENERAL EMPLOYEES AND 55 YEARS FOR PEACE OFFICER EMPLOYEES OR 25 YEARS OF CREDITED SERVICE; TO CHANGE NORMAL RETIREMENT BENEFIT FROM 2% OF FINAL AVERAGE EARNINGS FOR EACH OF THE FIRST 25 YEARS AND 1% THEREAFTER TO 2% OF THE FIRST 30 YEARS AND 1% THEREAFTER FOR PARTICIPATING PEACE OFFICER AND GENERAL EMPLOYEES; TO CHANGE A QUORUM FOR TRANSACTION OF BUSINESS FROM FOUR MEMBERS TO FIVE.**

Commissioner Jackel said, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Hair said, we don't discuss on —. Commissioner Jackel said, I know we don't have discussion. Chairman Hair said, well, please hold —. That's our policy, let's just stick with it. Commissioner Jackel said, well, what —, if you'd just bear with me a second here. I have read the information on changing the retirement policy. On reading it, it leaves many questions that I have. I would like to see us to get some better data so I can make a decision on what they have here. Chairman Hair said, okay. Would you submit a list of questions to the County Manager between now and two weeks from now and he'll be glad to get those for you before we take debate on it. Commissioner Odell asked, can we all get a copy of the responses on that? County Manager Abolt said, sure.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Read into the record as first reading.

=====

2. **TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE CHATHAM COUNTY SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS TO EXTEND THE PERMITTED LENGTH OF PRIVATE VEHICULAR ACCESS EASEMENTS FROM 350' TO 750' AND TO PERMIT AN UNPAVED PRIVATE VEHICULAR ACCESS EASEMENT SERVING THREE OR FEWER SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL LOTS. THE MPC RECOMMENDED APPROVAL.**

MPC FILE NO. 99-12566-C

[NO DISTRICT - TEXT AMENDMENT - UNINCORPORATED AREA.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Read into the record as first reading.

=====

XII. SECOND READINGS

1. **PETITIONER: UNION CAMP CORPORATION. PETITIONER IS REQUESTING THAT A 943 ACRE TRACT OF LAND LOCATED ON THE EAST SIDE OF LITTLE NECK ROAD, SOUTH OF I-16, BE REZONED FROM R-A (RESIDENTIAL-AGRICULTURE) TO A PD-R-SM (PLANNED DEVELOPMENT RECLAMATION SURFACE MINING) ZONING CLASSIFICATION IN ORDER TO OPERATE BORROW PITS ON THE SITE AND ULTIMATELY DEVELOP THE REMAINING AREAS FOR SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL USE. MPC RECOMMENDED THAT THE REQUEST BE APPROVED BASED ON ITS**

CONSISTENCY WITH THE LAND USE PLAN AND THE ZONING AND DEVELOPMENT PATTERNS OF THE AREA. IT IS FURTHER RECOMMENDED THAT THE GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN BE APPROVED SUBJECT TO THE CONDITIONS LISTED IN THE REPORT.

MPC FILE NO. 99-125-18-C *Note: Staff is evaluating the legitimacy of proposed reuse plan.*

[DISTRICT 7.]

Chairman Hair recognized Mr. Bill Saxman.

Mr. Saxman said, in summary, the Union Camp Company has submitted a petition to rezone 943 acres. It is on the eastern side of Little Neck Road. The property is all zoned R-A, Agricultural. A good portion of this property is wetlands. We have asked the County Engineer Department and they have responded to evaluate the assessment of the general redevelopment plan for this property, but they have written us to indicate that based on their analysis of all the current codes and the aerial photography available of this site and the general information they have on hand, that this is a viable project. They are proposing to surface mine for six years. We recommended that that be broken down into two-year phases. After each two-year phase, the County Engineering Department would review the process on that site to make sure it's in compliance with the codes before the next phase of development would take place. They propose to have basically 360 acres for single-family residential properties. It would be about 12½ acres for recreational lands and then 60 acres made up of five lagoons that would be eventually fish ponds, which the residential development could be around those particular wetlands or water areas. The Planning Commission is recommending approval. There's a general site plan shown in your packet about the third page from the back of your report indicating the pockets of high land that are proposed to be developed. Working with the County Engineering Department, they have adjusted the plan over —, two or three plans that were submitted to us initially. They have two roadways coming in off of Little Neck Road, which would service this 600 —, 360 lots. They do recommend approval of the site —, general site plan. Again, before they could develop this property, they would have to go through the specific review of a subdivision regulation and any other regulations that may have changed between now and whenever they develop it in six years, they'd have to follow those new guidelines and regulations. This is not giving them the right to do it, it's just saying if they do develop it, they've got to develop it for single-family residential unless they come back through the County Commissioners and change their development plan.

Chairman Hair said, okay. Commissioner DeLoach and —.

Commissioner DeLoach said, okay. Based on our discussion at the last meeting, they basically have submitted a plan of development and we feel like the property is where we —, it can be developed? Mr. Saxman said, yes sir. We've analyzed it on staff. Of course, the Engineering at the last meeting, the discussion we had the one on 204, the County Engineering staff went back in and looked at it closer and with the consultants on it, and based on the reviews that we did, that project is viable. I will point out they initially came in and they had 90 acres of commercial development on this site. We worked them over about a, I guess, six-week period reviewing the site plan. We don't just accept their site plan as they submit it in. We work with the County Engineering Department, we try to make sure it's in compliance with the comprehensive plan for the westside. They had initially 90 acres of commercial land along 204 that did not comply with the land use plan for that particular area and we indicated we could not support that. They modified it and they eventually took off all the commercial. That doesn't say they can't come back in the future and ask for it, but if they do, they've got to go through the zoning process just like they were rezoning the property and they'd have to come back through the County Commissioners and would have to amend the general development plan. Commissioner DeLoach said, but basically they have submitted a plan that would produce a nice residential area. Mr. Saxman said, 360 acres out of the 900 acres. The majority —, it would be 60 acres of ponds or lakes and the balance of that is wetlands. Commissioner DeLoach said, yes. Based on the general site plan it looks fine. I just wanted to make sure that it is tied to the overall borrow pit activity. If they decide to —, what would they have to do to change their approach on the residential? Would they have to come back in and —? Mr. Saxman said, if they reduce the residential and want to throw a commercial component in in this area, they —, or want to change to multi-family, we'd have to amend the general development plan and that would mean they'd have to petition the County through the Inspections Department and come to MPC for recommendation, we'd make a recommendation back to the County Commissioners, and y'all would review the revised general site plan.

Commissioner DeLoach said, I move for approval. Commissioner Price said, second. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, we've got a motion and second for approval. Any further discussion. 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 that the Board approve the petition of Union Camp Corporation requesting that a 943-acre tract of land located on the east side of Little Neck Road, south of I-16, be rezoned from R-A (Residential Agriculture) to a PD-R-SM (Planned Development Reclamation Surface Mining) zoning classification in order to operate borrow pits on the site and ultimately develop the remaining areas for single family residential use; that the request be approved based on its consistency with the Land Use Plan and the zoning and development patterns of the area; and that the General

Development Plan be approved subject to the conditions listed in the report.. Commissioners Price and Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

=====

2. MPC IS RECOMMENDING THAT THE TEXT OF THE COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE BE AMENDED TO CREATE SECTION 4-6.613. PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT MIXED-USE (PUD-MXU) IN ORDER TO CREATE A NEW MIXED USE ZONING CLASSIFICATION. MPC FILE NO. 99-12465-C.1 [NO DISTRICT - TEXT AMENDMENT - UNINCORPORATED AREA.]

Mr. Saxman said, we had a petition on Wilmington Island to rezone some properties for a commercial classification. Our staff and the Planning Commission had some concerns with that. After a number of meetings with the developer and with the citizens of that area we recommended that an alternate zoning classification, the Planned Unit Development MXU, which is a Planned Unit Mixed Use district, be considered as an alternative. The City has adopted this ordinance. They did have a district classified on the maps and that district has since been deleted and another district put in the place of it, but since this is an existing code requirement in the City and we are trying to combine the City and County ordinances and have a uniform ordinance, we felt that with some amendments to this particular district, we could come up with a zoning district that would be compatible for both the City and the County, and we recommended that alternate zoning classification be utilized. The developer's agreeable to that and the citizens of that area and hopefully the Logical Growth Committee and other citizen groups, as a general rule, have endorsed this plan. The plan would require that no greater than 75% of the land be developed for a commercial/retail activity. The other activities would either have to be residential or some other kind of institutional use. The developer opted on his general development plan to show the area that he's asked to be developed, which is out of the 16-something acres he's asked for 7 acres, a little over, to be redeveloped as a commercial enterprise. The balance of the property he's recommended to be donated or an easement being granted that would provide that land to be maintained as a perpetual [inaudible] —.

Chairman Hair asked, are you still on —, we're on two now. Mr. Saxman said, I'm sorry. I got off here. I'm sorry. This is what brought it to effect. Chairman Hair said, let's deal with them one at a time. Mr. Saxman said, sorry, sorry. I was trying to memorize my speech and I forgot to read my notes. Commissioner Murray said, we don't have to listen to it again now, we've already heard it. Mr. Saxman said, I apologize for that.

Mr. Saxman said, at any rate, the new district would support the property that is being rezoned, or recommended to be rezoned for commercial development, and it would require that a general development plan come forward to —, under this case or any other case, for the County Commission to review and if that general development plan is ever changed, it would have to again go back through the process and again come back before the County Commissioners. We are recommending the text amendment be —.

Commissioner Murray said, I move for approval. Chairman Hair said, we have a motion to approve. Do we have a second? Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

Commissioner Saussy said, just for information, what is allowed in this? Mr. Saxman said, we have basically three different types of uses: retail, which again is spelled out in your report on page six or seven. The uses are indoor recreational activities, such as movie theaters, bowling, billiards, mechanical amusement games; retail services such as food, drug store, package shops, as long as they do not exceed 12,000 square feet in area, it could have restaurants, seating restaurants including a drive-thru without or with alcoholic beverages. Again the point that Mr. Jackel made earlier, there is a draft that we are looking at, both the City and the County, where you would have full service meals and it does define what a full service meal is to keep you from getting into the hamburger, hot dog type of scenario that was brought out, but those are the issues we're looking at. Personal service shops and those kinds of operations, and then other uses which would be motels, hotels, cultural facilities and different types of offices. And then, of course, we do require that signage be required to be a directory sign, not individual signs along the highway that you would have, an overall development directory sign that would coordinate all the signage and keep the individual shops from having just individual signs all up and down the roadway to protect the area, and we did have additional design standards as far as buffers that are greater than any of the other districts we do have on the records at the time.

Chairman Hair asked, does that answer your question, Commissioner Saussy? Commissioner Saussy said, yes, right. Chairman Hair asked, any other? Okay.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to approve the recommendation of the MPC that the text of the County Zoning Ordinance be amended to create Section 4-6.613. Planned Unit Development Mixed-Use (PUD-MXU), in order to create a new mixed use zoning classification. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

=====

3. **PETITIONER: ERWIN FRIEDMAN, AGENT FOR WILMINGTON ISLAND INVESTORS, L.L.C., OWNER, REQUESTED THAT A 16.75 ACRE PARCEL LOCATED ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF U.S. HIGHWAY 80 BETWEEN QUARTERMAN DRIVE AND JOHNNY MERCER BOULEVARD BE REZONED FROM PUD-M-5 (PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT-MULTI-FAMILY) TO THE FOLLOWING: THE EASTERN 7.42 ACRES TO A P-B-C (PLANNED COMMUNITY BUSINESS) CLASSIFICATION AND THE REMAINING 9.33 ACRES TO A RECREATIONAL/CONSERVATION CLASSIFICATION. MPC RECOMMENDED THAT THE PETITIONER'S REQUEST BE DENIED BASED ON THE INAPPROPRIATENESS OF MANY USES IN THE B-C CLASSIFICATION FOR THIS AREA. MPC FURTHER RECOMMENDED THAT A PUD-MXU (PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT-MIXED USE) CLASSIFICATION FOR THE 7.42 ACRES AND A R-1-C (ONE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) CLASSIFICATION FOR THE BALANCE BE APPROVED PROVIDED THAT A MECHANISM IS IN PLACE PRIOR TO THE REZONING TO ASSURE THE PERPETUAL PRESERVATION OF THE 9.33 ACRE OPEN SPACE TRACT BY A PUBLIC AGENCY OR A PRIVATE NONPROFIT CONSERVATION ENTITY. MPC FURTHER RECOMMENDED THAT THE GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR THE PUD-MXU DISTRICT BE APPROVED SUBJECT TO CONDITIONS.**
- MPC FILE NO. 99-12465-C**
[DISTRICT 4.]

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, I met with --. Mr. Saxman said, I'll read my notes this time. Commissioner Murray said, just be ready for some questions. I'm sure Eddie [DeLoach] is going to ask you some. I met with the developer and looked at what they propose to put on this property. The zoning that we just approved for the unincorporated area in the last time certainly is a better use, I think, for that particular piece of property than what it was presently zoned for. I don't have a problem with the zoning and approving this zoning request, but I think it has to be contingent upon three items that I'll bring up. One is that I think it has to be —, the paperwork for this acreage that will be given to the Land Trust or whatever group it's given to, needs to be signed off on, signed, sealed and delivered before the zoning goes into effect. Second, based on talking to some of the residents that have some concerns, that an eight-foot masonry fence be put on the back side of that that backs up to a 150-foot buffer that will be there because of this. Mr. Saxman asked, on the northern side of the buffer or the southern side? Adjacent to the residential properties or adjacent to —? Commissioner Murray said, no, that will be on —, right on their property where the [inaudible]. Mr. Saxman said, adjacent to the commercial properties. Okay. Commissioner Murray said, not on the outside of the buffer, and also those plans, the final development plans, when they are drawn up and done would come back to the County Commission for final approval on that. I need to ask the County Attorney if what I've asked for is —, if we can do that.

County Attorney Hart said, yes sir, you can and one of the other questions you asked me before the meeting was whether you could require the general development plan to come back before you. You also have the right to require the specific development plan to come back before you. Commissioner Murray said, I'd like those to be done. I don't think that will hurt the development because he's already said he's going to do most of this anyway, and I just feel like those things need to be in place. The reason for that property and for that 150-foot buffer being in there and part of this motion would be that that guarantees that Blue Heron Road can never be opened up to thoroughfare going through that subdivision, and that's a concern of the residents of Marsh Cove. If this is approved this way, then that can never happen, this stays as it is now, and I think the developer from what I —, unless they want to comment differently, have said that that is fine with them.

Chairman Hair asked, would the developer like to speak? Mr. Friedman, would you like to speak to this? Mr. Friedman said, we would support the motion in full. Chairman Hair said, okay. You have no problem? Mr. Friedman said, no.

Commissioner Murray said, so moved. Commissioner DeLoach said, second. Chairman Hair said, we have a motion and a second. Any further discussion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved that the Board **deny** the petition of Erwin Friedman, agent for Wilmington Island Investors, L.L.C., Owner, requesting that a 16.75-acre parcel located on the south side of U. S. Highway 80 between Quarterman Drive and Johnny Mercer Boulevard be rezoned from PUD-M-5 (Planned Unit Development-Multi-Family) to the following: The eastern 7.42 acres to a P-B-C (Planned Community Business) classification and the remaining 9.33 acres to a recreational/conservation classification, based on the inappropriateness of many uses in the B-C classification for this area; that the Board **approve** a PUD-MXU (Planned Unit Development-Mixed Use) classification for the 7.42 acres and

a R-1-C (One-Family Residential) classification for the balance, provided that a mechanism is in place prior to the rezoning to assure the perpetual preservation of the 9.33 acre open space tract by a public agency or a private nonprofit conservation entity; and that the Board **approve** the General Development Plan for the PUD-MXU district subject to conditions. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

=====

REQUEST BOARD ADD TO AGENDA AND APPROVE AMENDMENT TO THE MINUTES OF MEETING ON MAY 14, 1999.

The Clerk asked the Chairman to add to the agenda and approve an amendment to the approval of the minutes of the meeting of May 14, 1999, as shown on the memorandum supplied to all Commissioners.

Commissioner Thomas said, so moved. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, all right. We have a motion and a second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Hair said, now we need the approval. That was just to get it on the agenda. Now we need the approval. Commissioner DeLoach said, I move approval as corrected. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, all right, 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:

1. Commissioner Thomas moved to place on the agenda a request for an amendment to the approval of the minutes of May 14, 1999. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
2. Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve an amendment to the approval of the minutes of the meeting of May 14, 1999, on pages 23 and 25 of the minutes regarding the vote on the motion to approve Option B (\$696,000), by changing the result of the vote from "The motion **carried** by a vote of five to three" to read: "The motion **failed** by a vote of five to three." Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

=====

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.

=====

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Report received as information.

=====

EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

* * *

Following adjournment of the Executive Session, the meeting of the Board of Commissioners was reconvened.

=====

APPOINTMENTS

1. METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to appoint Mr. Timothy Mackey to the Metropolitan Planning Commission to fill the vacancy created due to the inability to serve of Ms. Dot Owens, Realtor, which term will expire April 1, 2002. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

=====

2. SOUTHEAST COASTAL REGIONAL BOARD FOR MENTAL HEALTH, MENTAL RETARDATION, SUBSTANCE ABUSE.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Saussy moved to reappoint Mr. Sam Simpson to the Southeast Coastal Regional Board for Mental Health, Mental Retardation and Substance Abuse to a term which begins August 1, 1999, and will expire July 31, 2002. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair was not present.]

=====

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Vice Chairman Thomas declared the meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

=====

APPROVED: THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 1999

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

SYBIL E. TILLMAN, COUNTY CLERK