

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON OCTOBER 8, 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, October 8, 1999.

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II. INVOCATION

Chairman Hair gave the invocation.

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III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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IV. ROLL CALL

The Clerk called the roll.

PRESENT:	Dr. Billy B. Hair, Chairman Dr. Priscilla D. Thomas, Vice Chairman, District Eight Frank G. Murray, Chairman Pro Tem, District Four David L. Saussy, District One Joe Murray Rivers, District Two Martin S. Jackel, District Three Harris Odell, Jr., District Five (arrived approximately 9:20 a.m.) Ben Price, District Six (arrived approximately 9:20 a.m.) Eddie W. DeLoach, District Seven
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IN ATTENDANCE:	Russ Abolt, County Manager R. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney Sybil E. Tillman, County Clerk
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CHATHAM COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Hair said, I would like to introduce our Youth Commissioners this morning. We have Brianne Draffin, who's also Secretary of the Commission, who's a Senior at St. Andrew's School; we have Carvell Allen, who's a Sophomore at

Savannah Arts Academy and we have Dwayne Allen. As we go through the meeting, if you'd like to make a comment or ask any question, if you'll raise your hand I'll recognize you and we'll proceed in that fashion, okay.

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V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. INTRODUCTION OF ANTHONY (TONY) W. TYSON, NEW EAST DISTRICT HEAD FOR THE UGA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE.

Chairman Hair said, I call on Ms. Jackie Ogden to make the introduction.

Ms. Jackie Ogden said, good morning, Chairman Hair and Commissioners. It is a great privilege for me this morning on behalf of the Chatham County Extension Service to introduce to you our new district head for the East District with the University of Georgia Cooperative Extensive Service, Mr. Anthony Tyson. Tony [Tyson] has been with the University of Georgia Extension Service since 1982 and is very supportive of our mission here in Chatham County, and we're delighted to have him on board and working with him in the years to come. At this time I would like to introduce Tony [Tyson].

Mr. Tyson said, thank you, Chairman and Commissioners. I don't really have any prepared statement this morning, but I do want to tell you that I am supportive of Chatham County and the mission here with the Extension Service and I look forward to working with you in any way that I can. If you ever have any questions or concerns, I'm located in Statesboro. I'm replacing Mr. Jim Fountain, who retired in July. I'm sure a number of you knew him. So anytime you need me, give me a call.

Chairman Hair said, I appreciate that Tony [Tyson]. We've had a great working relationship with the Extension Service and we look forward to working with you. Mr. Tyson said, we're proud of our staff here. Chairman Hair said, and likewise if we can help you, call on us. Mr. Tyson said, thank you.

Commissioner Price said, thank you, Tony [Tyson].

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2. MYSTERY CUSTOMER AWARDS

Chairman Hair said, Mr. Abolt, Mystery Customer Awards.

Mr. Van Johnson said, Dr. Hair, Dr. Thomas, gentlemen, today we are pleased to present the most recent winners of the Chatham County Mystery Customer Award. You implemented this program in order to reward Chatham County employees for providing excellent customer service. Since you endorsed and implemented this program many County employees have been commended for doing the work that is so representative of the Chatham County family. Recognition programs of this type are important for employee morale, motivation and inspiration. Today's winners are:

Andrea Robertson of Magistrate Court. Andrea Robertson has been a member of the Chatham County family since December of 1997. She began her career with us as a Clerical Assistant II in the Detention Center. She transferred to the Magistrate Court in August of 1998, and she now serves as a Deputy Court Clerk II, and I believe Susan Dixon is here as well.

Ms. Susan Dixon said, I just wanted to say that we're pleased to have Andrea [Robertson] with us. She's an excellent employee and she provides excellent customer service. Thank you very much.

Ms. Robertson said, I would just like to say that I enjoy working for Chatham County and I sincerely appreciate the award. Thank you.

Chairman Hair said, thank you very much. Keep up the great work.

Mr. Johnson said, our second recipient is Cpl. Lawrence Wright of the Sheriff's Department. Cpl. Wright joined the Sheriff's Department in May of 1984 and he was promoted to Corporal in 1993. He presently serves as the Supervisor in the Court Division of the Sheriff's Department and often serves, as he did this morning, as the officer opening up the Chatham County Commission meetings. We have Lt. Aiken who's with him as well as Maj. Murray and Sheriff St. Lawrence.

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, thank you very much. Lawrence [Wright] is the gentlemen who just opened your meeting for you. He's an outstanding employee and I'm happy to see him get it. Lawrence [Wright], do you want to say anything?

Cpl. Wright said, I want to thank you. I'm appreciative of this award. I just want to say if there's anything that comes out of me that's good I contribute to the Lord Jesus Christ, and I just appreciate you giving me the opportunity to say that.

Chairman Hair said, thank you.

Mr. Johnson said, our final recipient this morning is Kathryn Prescott of the Tax Commissioner's Office. Kathy [Prescott] joined our family in November of 1997 and continues to serve as a Tax/Tag Processor in the Tax Commissioner's Office. Kathy [Prescott] now has the honor of being the only individual in Chatham County that has satisfied our mystery customer on two different occasions, and she is joined this morning by the Tax Commissioner, Danny Powers.

Mr. Powers said, well, it's good to win it twice. What can we say? I think we've won this award three times out of my department and Kathy [Prescott] has been up here twice to get this award. She's a very dedicated employee and I'm very thankful of y'all for recognizing them. So —, we would also like to see if there's a shop on an employee if they don't perform well we'd like to know.

Ms. Prescott said, thank you once again, and I really do enjoy working for the County and waiting on customers, you know. I try to remember that sometimes I'm on the other side of that counter. Sometimes it's hard, and I just wonder if it was the lady who made me cry after she left. Chairman Hair said, it probably was. County Manager Abolt said, yes, but she's smiling now.

Chairman Hair said, thank you. Thank you, Van [Johnson].

Commissioner Rivers asked, is she eligible to win again? Is she eligible to win again? [No response was given.]

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VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

None.

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VII. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS

1. HURRICANE FLOYD (COMMISSIONER JACKEL).

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Jackel said, we just went through a big evacuation. I don't need to tell anybody that. I was disappointed in several of the aspects of it. Let me tell you that if a signal engine plane flew over Savannah with one person in it and then headed out over Tybee and went over the water and got into trouble, engine trouble and got on the radio and said I'm going into the water, mayday, mayday, we would have planes in the air, we would have helicopters in the air, we would have Coast Guard Cutters out there, we would have an ambulance waiting at the dock in case the Coast Guard Cutter picked up this pilot because one life was at stake. And that's what we need to do because one life was at stake. We had almost two —, over 200,000 lives at stake in this evacuation and I don't think I saw that type of effort. I don't think I saw that type of coordination. I'll give you another example: A police office answers a call, but when he answers that call, he calls for backup, and as the backup arrives gunshots are heard and the police officer's down. The backup officer gets on his microphone and says a police officer's down. Police officers come from Tybee, they come from Bloomingdale, they come from Chatham County, they come from all over. EMS is rolling because one police officer's down. And that's what we need to do because his life's at stake and other police officers' are at stake, but we had over 200,000 lives at stake. I didn't see that type of response. Now about 9:30 Monday night I pulled off the Truman Parkway to go to DeRenne to get gas. There was chaos on DeRenne. We're lucky we didn't have fights, we're lucky we didn't have accidents. We had cars lined up out on the street on DeRenne. We had people getting out of their cars to see what the holdup was. We had cars speeding down DeRenne. We could have had serious accidents there. I went to other places looking for gas. People out in the street. Not one police officer. Now I'm not here to criticize the police. They would do what we tell them to do. They would do what we coordinate them to do. They weren't assigned to be there. That wasn't in the plan. Now to me that's very obvious. If you're going to have an evacuation, people are going to need gas. We need police officers there. There was no coordination with the banks to stay open later. Not everyone has an ATM card, not everybody remembers the pass

number or the PIN number on their ATM card. Nor was the word put out that if banks were open that they were open. There was no coordination there.

I went part of the way on I-16. It was heartbreaking to me to see people my age helping parents my age —, the age of my parents into the woods to use the bathroom, or stop and they're almost stretched out on the side because they have been waiting in the car so long with the stop-and-go driving. It's my understanding that the vote was taken around 12:00 p.m., Monday. They say there's a three hour window for doing something about I-16. I think I-16 should have been one-way at least to Macon, and it could have been done earlier in the morning than at Noontime, and this also needed to be broadcast. I don't think and I haven't heard that anyone has turned the County down when help was asked for. It's my understanding when the Governor was asked, whatever help he could give he gave. The President came on and declared certain areas a disaster area before they were disaster areas and they never became disaster areas. If anybody was asked for help, it was given, but we've got the military around here. We've got National Guards, they've got all these portable latrines. They could have been up and down I-16. The water storage tankers, gasoline tankers, they weren't on I-16, they weren't on the other major routes, and there was time to get them there if the coordination had been done ahead of time.

There was one radio station and I kept going through it when I left the house because once you leave the house TV doesn't do you any good. The only one I was able to pick up was WLOW that gave any significant information, and I kept going back to the others in the hope and also to see if they were doing that. I think that ought to be a requirement. We ought to see if our Congressional delegation can get that to be part of their licensing program that when a storm's upon us they all switch to it. Now I remember when we used to have a special emergency station and at that emergency station everybody was supposed to tune to that emergency station, and then some smart fellow said, you know, you're putting all your eggs in one basket. He said all the stations ought to be broadcasting, and I agree with that philosophy in case someone has a power failure or employees leave or whatever, if we have all the stations as a requirement to doing that.

I called our County Manager's office and the phone just rang, and I told him previously I think there should have been a recorded message: Chatham County is under a hurricane watch, you need to call me at the CEMA and give the number for the Chatham Emergency Management Zone. I called CEMA and reached them after getting a busy signal, which I understand, and asked the person who answered the phone do you have any tips on alternate routes to get out of Chatham County. I said —, I was told, sir, if you will hold on I'll get you some numbers to call. I said, you don't have any advise on that? Well, sir, if you will just hold on we'll get you some numbers. Well, they came back with two numbers. One was supposedly for DOT and no one answered there. The other was for the State Patrol and when they answered, they had no advice. Somehow they were not in the loop. Somehow the State Patrol was not coordinated with what was going on here so if our citizens were able to reach the State Patrol they could get advice. Suppose the I-16 had had several bad wrecks and was not moving at all, at least that advice could have been put out by the State Patrol if someone called if they weren't getting it on the radio stations.

I listened to WTOG six o'clock Monday and they came on and said all we know right now is that Chatham County schools and the Christian Academy are closed. I don't know how they did not understand that if we're having a mandatory evacuation everything is closed. They said we will give you further word when we get it. Somehow the right information was not being passed out. The first things I also heard was not that there was alternate things for Chatham County people to do if they didn't have transportation, the first thing I heard was SCAD telling their students on the radio and TV if you don't have transportation here's what you need to do. And then after that it was several hours later before we got to telling our citizens what to do.

I don't know whether we can use the rail lines or not or what the time frame is coordinating something for the railroad, but I think if we started now and let them know that we needed this help, I've been told that they have many of the Amtrak coach cars just sitting on siding that in an emergency they could have coupled together. And let me stress again, as far as I know, when we asked for help no one turned us down. But we didn't ask. We could have possibly put the school buses on the flatcars and got them to Dublin in two hours instead of the 10 or 11 hours that it took.

Now another thing about that, I kept hearing on the radio that the first available shelter was in Dublin, and that's what the TV was putting out. It turns out the first available shelter was in Statesboro. That information needs to be corrected. In addition, we need to put —, we need to prioritize the shelters. The closest shelters need to be saved for the elderly and the disabled. Those who are physically fit can go to shelters more distant, but we need to prioritize our shelters. I didn't see that that was done.

A suggestion was given to me about the County and City parking garages. A lot of people took their cars out of town because they were afraid they would be lost in a storm. If we had let people know that these shelters would be available, these parking garages, people could have maybe placed a car in there and that would have been one less car on the road. And, again, I think if we asked the private parking lots in town, I think they would have cooperated that anybody wanted to come there they could have parked free in a concrete structure away from trees where their cars would have been safe. I talked to Rabbi Belzer about his experience with it and he didn't have the best experience, he said, but when he got back his answering machine was completely filled with people calling and telling him we have room for you in Macon and your people and anybody else, not just members of your congregation. In Atlanta, in Columbus, in Augusta. But he didn't find out until he came back. I think we need to make an effort to organize our faith communities and I think we need to put out a kit and at the beginning of the hurricane season we distribute these kits to our faith communities and ask them to preplan

these things. Now I feel sure that if the situation had been reversed, if people from Atlanta were fleeing something in Atlanta and coming here, I feel like everybody here would have been out in their synagogue, church or some group helping the people that were evacuating and offering their homes. The help's out there if we just ask for it and organize it, and I think our faith community would be a tremendous resource. My wife and I were driving over to Auburn, Alabama, and we got to, and I'm not even sure because we were late at night and we were tired, but it was Butler or Reynolds, Georgia, almost to Columbus, and there was a big sign and it was hand written, anyone that needs help turn here to some Baptist church, and it was so heartening to see that almost 200 miles from Savannah. So people are out there willing to help us if we just organize a little bit better.

The news release was timed for six o'clock because that's when news goes on, but I have talked to many people in the courthouse who found out —, they didn't find out until that six o'clock time. All the employees were gone. They didn't know how to reach a lot of their employees. They were getting flooded by calls, is court on tomorrow? People didn't know. As soon as possible we need to get the word out and that TV and radios maybe every 15 minutes need to start broadcasting those and tell people the plan and expect it. Even if we're not going to do it, but this is a possibility, check with us in 15 minutes, there'll be a further update.

I got a letter from the Garden City Police Department, Captain White, and he talks about that at the time the National Guard was to be deployed I was asked for a usage plan in writing before the Guard was to be deployed on the day they were to be deployed, and he asked if he can't receive more advance knowledge of that. Now I think that is not a timely request to ask for a written deployment report.

I've also received the latest update from CEMA with pages of ideas on what we can do better. Now I understand, and I hope I'm not so naive to understand —, to fail to understand that no matter what we have done, no matter what we did, we would have had traffic problems on our interstate, we would have had traffic problems on our other roads. I think if we take all the suggestions, we're going to have traffic problems and traffic glitches, but I think if we take these ideas and the ideas that we're coming up with, we can much improve. My question was some of these simple things, why weren't they done? Now I'm repeatedly told by my colleagues and other people, well, you know, this was the biggest thing, so on and so forth, but some of these things seem to me to be so basic, like police officers at the gas station the night before. It kind of seems to me like someone wants to put on a huge concert in town and they hire this promoter and he says this big concert's coming, this big concert's coming, and all this excitement is generated, but then when you go to the event there's no police directing parking, there is no parking. There are no restrooms, there are no concessions, there's not adequate lighting, so you leave it's chaos too. Now is the guy doing his job just by telling you it's coming, it's coming, it's coming. We know it's coming. We knew the storm was coming, thanks to TV and thanks to the weather channel we could all see the storm. We could see the magnitude of the storm, and we were all scared of it or most of us were.

I know I've spent a long time here listing things that I think we can do better and criticizing. I also want to emphasize that we did a lot of things right and that our people showed a lot of patience and a lot of tolerance and put up with conditions because of this, and it was our first event. My hope is that we will learn a great deal from this, that we will improve in the future, that we will ask more people for their ideas, that we will give people notice, that we will plan better, that we will convince a lot of people that, hey, next time it's going to be better so don't hold back next time. That's a great concern of mine because I've heard numerous people say because of their ordeal they don't plan to evacuate next time, and I think that would be a mistake if we had that big of a storm come our way. So I think most of you know for years I was very active in the Optimist Club of Savannah, and one of their things in their motto is we want to forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future, and that's what I hope we can do with this event. Thank you.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Commissioner Jackel. I would —, I appreciate your comments and we will take those suggestions. I would like to give you a brief prospective from my standpoint. I was here in this courthouse for three days from Tuesday morning, and I'm extremely proud of our efforts. Does that mean we did everything right? Of course not, but I think we've spent the last two weeks figuring out how we can do it better. But I have never worked with a group of professionals that I was more proud to be a part of. I think our staff did a wonderful job, I think all of our coordinating agencies did a wonderful job. I saw it firsthand, and I think if you look at the event and the way this event occurred, I'm very proud to be a part of that. So, we certainly can do it better. We appreciate your comments and we will try to take those in consideration. Commissioner Murray and Commissioner Saussy.

Commissioner Murray said, yes, I would also like to reiterate what the Chairman just said. I did evacuate and we did it in a different circumstance than most people because we had a 92-year-old aunt living with us that broke her hip the day before, so we had surgery with her that Tuesday morning. But my wife and my animals and everybody else in the house did evacuate and, yes, we got in traffic, but you don't evacuate this many people in that short of period of time without having backup, without having traffic. I was fortunate enough to get in the eastbound lane on I-16 off of 37th Street and the traffic once we got out past, I guess, Dean Forest Road it started flowing pretty well. I was able to turn off on one of the back roads and go where I was going and get there within three hours. A lot of people had what they call horror stories that took them 14 hours and longer to get different places. I think it just proves when we evacuate this community, it takes a long time, it takes a lot of coordination and it takes a lot of planning in order to evacuate that many people, especially when you're not anticipating two other states evacuating the same time on the same major highways, and I think that our CEMA Director and those people that were working in that department and worked down at this courthouse did a professional job and did a terrific job in my opinion, and I can understand some of the concerns that Commissioner Jackel

has, but I think the planning has already started. It started as soon as this was over with and they got back on the ground they started their planning again and started trying to work out the problems that they had, and I really think that we learn from these and this one was certainly much better than the last time that we had a hurricane supposed to be coming in Savannah —. [Note: lights flashed off and on] Commissioner Murray said, I hope that's not because I'm speaking. They didn't do that when you were speaking. Commissioner Jackel said, they wouldn't dare. Chairman Hair said, the Chief needs to find another place to lean against the wall. Commissioner Price said, he's trying to tell us something. Commissioner Murray said, but anyway I think they did a great job. I think we learned from that. As far as the National Guard and the State Defense Force and those people that were involved in it, the National Guard has to evacuate also. They've got aircraft at Travis Field that had to be flown out of here, they've got some of the equipment on the ground, some of their units that have to be taken out because it's expensive equipment and it would have been damaged if the storm had hit here and it stayed, so there's an awful lot that goes on, but yes they did have people here and yes they did help with the intersections and some of the traffic control, and that's what they were here for. The only thing that I did hear that —, and it was on one of the radio stations, was the National Guard was here to protect your property from vandalism. That was not the case and I don't know what radio station put that on, but that is not what they were here for. It might have been if the hurricane had hit and we had been out for a longer period of time, but at any rate, I think that our people that were involved in it need to be commended, and certainly we learned from it and we improved for the next time.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Saussy and then Commissioner Rivers.

Commissioner Saussy said, yes, I'll have to agree. I think we —, everybody did a great job on this whole thing. You don't move 2,000,000 out of three states in any quick procedure, but the ultimate responsibility for this whole thing is each one of us, and that's where it lies. When you hear there's a warning, you better start preparing then. Certainly it might not —, the hurricane might not hit here, but it very well could. We don't know, so you'd better prepare well ahead of time. And speaking of the faith community in my church, it prepared for the thing months and months ago, so I think it's the responsibility of us, not just CEMA and not just the National Guard, but us. We'd better get out because it can happen and it can happen quicker than you think it can.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Commissioner Saussy. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Rivers.

Commissioner Rivers said, you know, it's a good thing to be down in the command center where you really watch things going on. I stayed here until Tuesday and I must commend the staff. They did a very good job. I was here during that Joe Mahany fiasco when we did not —, people felt we did not make the right decision, but sometimes down there —, if you're down there, you can understand what is going on, and we took under consideration all the lives that were at risk in making the decision, and I must commend the staff that I think the staff did a beautiful job. We had some problems along the way. I even got —, I'm even having GEMA to investigate everything that went on in Perry and they're doing an investigation and oversight of this whole thing. Mr. Chairman, I believe we are going to be critiqued as to what our thoughts and forward them to CEMA, so I think when we correlate all of that, answers and all of the complaints, I think we'll be able to get this thing balanced out, but I'll guarantee you when we're moving this many people out of this City, those roads are going to be really clogged to do that. There are some roads, some back roads that were open and some people had an easy time getting into Atlanta. I was going to take the back roads, but I left my map so I had to get stuck on 16, but nonetheless, like a good Boy Scout, I was prepared. I had my sandwiches, I had my juice, I had everything, and I laid my seat back and went to sleep. And I must commend EMS because they came along that highway and each car that was on the side they wanted to know if anything was wrong, and so I had no problems. I had —, I really enjoyed the trip. If you've got a little patience, you can endure it, you can press with it. So it wasn't as bad for me, but I know it was extremely bad for some people. And again I got several churches along the way that just opened their doors: Dublin, Augusta. I mean, they just opened their doors and took people in, and when you find good people who are God-like people, they will open their doors automatically, and that happened. So all of those people are to be commended from here, Metter, Dublin, Augusta, all the way up, and I want to thank them in some way. I think as we find out who those churches were, I think we need to some how or another send out a thank you note to those churches.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Joe [Rivers]. Our CEMA Director is here and I'm sure he's taking notes on Commissioner Jackel's suggestions, and we do appreciate everybody's suggestions. I think overall the thing went very, very well, but we —, as I said, I personally spent a lot of time in the last two weeks myself debriefing. I met with the Manufacturers Council yesterday. They were very pleased with the effort and they gave me some suggestions on how we can improve, and overall I think everybody did really, really well. We appreciate everybody's comments.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Received as information.

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CHATHAM AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Chairman Hair declared the meeting of the Board of Commissioners in recess at 9:30 a.m., and the Board reconvened as the Chatham Area Transit Authority.

Following adjournment of the meeting of the Chatham Area Transit Authority, the meeting of the Board of Commissioners was reconvened at 9:48 a.m.

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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 (*).

See Second Readings, Item XII-1.

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IX. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL ACTION

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

- 1. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE THE FOLLOWING: A GENERAL FUND M & O BUDGET AMENDMENT TO RECOGNIZE \$10,000 IN REVENUE AND TO APPROPRIATE \$10,000 FOR LIBRARY BOOKS; GENERAL FUND M & O CONTINGENCY TRANSFERS OF \$1,570 TO STATE COURT AND \$790 TO JUVENILE COURT FOR SALARIES AND BENEFITS, \$9,880 TO RECREATION FOR EMERGENCY REPAIRS; A SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX (1998-2003) BUDGET AMENDMENT TO RECOGNIZE \$10,000 IN REVENUE AND TO APPROPRIATE \$10,000 FOR COMPUTER EQUIPMENT; A CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROGRAM BUDGET AMENDMENT TO RECOGNIZE PROCEEDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,733,070 FOR LEASE/PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT AND A TRANSFER OF \$127,500 FROM SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND FOR RENOVATIONS TO RECORDER'S COURT; A SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX (1993-1998) TRANSFER OF \$1,151,805 FROM UNINCORPORATED ROADS TO PRESIDENT STREET RESURFACING AND DRAINAGE AND A CONFISCATED FUNDS TRANSFER OF \$4,410 FROM SHERIFF'S CONTINGENCY FOR A FIRING RANGE AND A TRANSFER OF \$200,000 FROM SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX (1985-1993) TO HUTCHINSON ISLAND PROJECT.**

Chairman Hair said, I'll entertain a motion to approve. Commissioner Price said, so moved. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Murray and then Commissioner DeLoach.

Commissioner Murray said, Russ [Abolt] \$127,500 from Special Service District Fund, is that coming out of Contingency Fund? County Manager Abolt said, no sir, it's coming out of Recorder's Court budget. They're realigning some expenditures. It will allow for some modifications to the courthouse. I do have to tell you up front though that as many of —, I think all of you know, we're in the middle of budget deliberations. It's not premature to indicate that we may very well be contemplating some actions in the next several weeks, coming back to you as early as the next meeting, asking that we put a hold on those expenditures that have yet to be made that may fall within that category. Commissioner Murray said, the only thing that was covered then in what we're doing over there with the money that we're going to be receiving on the bonds is —. County Manager Abolt said, HVAC. Commissioner Murray said, okay. That doesn't have anything to do with anything else? County Manager Abolt said, and this is within their budget. I don't want to misspeak there.

Chairman Hair said, this is for modifications which [inaudible] —. County Manager Abolt said, yes sir. Chairman Hair said, as opposed to capital improvement. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner DeLoach.

Commissioner DeLoach said, the million dollars we've got going to the President Street Resurfacing —. County Manager Abolt said, yes sir. Commissioner DeLoach asked, how are we standing on all of the other outlying roads that we —, I

thought we paved President Street one time. County Manager Abolt said, this is not for paving. You might remember that after the Olympics, when Mr. McKenzie was County Engineer I'd asked him to do something about standing water and turn pockets, which is a continual problem for all folks moving east or west. We at that time commissioned an engineering firm to do the work. They were less than quick in getting it done. We were able at one of our last visits with Commissioner Shackelford to get him to agree and make this a County contract which lessens the amount, so it is not duplicating or competing with. It maximizes our money. In fact, part of that million that we're transferring will come back in State reimbursement. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay.

Chairman Hair said, we have a motion and second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to approve the following: A General Fund M&O budget amendment to recognize \$10,000 in revenue and to appropriate \$10,000 for library books; General Fund M&O contingency transfers of \$1,570 to State Court and \$790 to Juvenile Court for salaries and benefits, \$9,880 to Recreation for emergency repairs; a Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (1998-2003) budget amendment to recognize \$10,000 in revenue and to appropriate \$10,000 for computer equipment; a Capital Improvements Program budget amendment to recognize proceeds in the amount of \$1,733,070 for lease/purchase of equipment and a transfer of \$127,500 from Special Service District Fund for renovations to Recorder's Court; a Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (1993-1998) transfer of \$1,151,805 from Unincorporated Roads to President Street resurfacing and drainage and a Confiscated Funds transfer of \$4,410 from Sheriff's Contingency for a firing range and a transfer of \$200,000 from Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (1985-1993) to Hutchinson Island Project. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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2. BOARD CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FROM THE RALPH M. GILBERT CIVIL RIGHTS MUSEUM BOARD FOR FUNDING TO CONDUCT CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS ON THE MUSEUM BUILDING.

Chairman Hair said, I would —, let me ask first the President of the museum, Gregori [Anderson], if you would please, we have both the President of the museum, Richard Shinhoster, and the Chairman of the Board, Helen Johnson, with us this morning and, Richard [Shinhoster], if I could get you maybe just to make a few opening remarks about what this project's all about, if you would come forward please and then we'll get the staff up here if we deem it necessary.

Mr. Richard Shinhoster said, thank you, Chairman Hair, and to the Commissioners. Helen Johnson and I are very honored to be able to make some remarks on behalf of the —, on our request for the Ralph Mark Gilbert Civil Rights Museum. We really appreciate the work that the staff has done to make —, to keep the building itself in good repair. However, our request centered around the needs to improve the facility. We have through our volunteers and staff been able to maintain a positive cash flow for the operation of the museum, but need the assistance of the Commission to assist us in the facility itself. We must become approved by the American Association of Museums, and that becomes one of our major points. We also feel that the County has made a tremendous investment in that facility, and we just encourage you to complete that job by doing the repairs that we have outlined. Again, we certainly appreciate the opportunity to come before you and your assistance.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Richard [Shinhoster]. Most of you probably don't know, Richard [Shinhoster] and I go way back. We use to be co-workers for many, many years and he's a very dear friend of mine. Gregori [Anderson], would you like to make a comment before we take any questions?

Mr. Gregori Anderson said, I can certainly field —, good morning. I can certainly field any questions that are on the staff report. Outlined is what those capital improvements are. These are capital improvements, as President Shinhoster just indicated and not operational type of funding requests, and quite frankly the certification by the American Museum Association [sic] would go quite a long ways in moving this museum to where it really needs to be and to bring the type of exhibits that that certification will allow the museum to have there.

Chairman Hair said, I think this is a very reasonable request and I'm very supportive of this and I would encourage my fellow Commissioners to support this. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Jackel asked, do they meet all the requirements for us to use the SPLOST funds? County Manager Abolt said, if I may, it was an original SPLOST project towards the Civil Rights Museum. We invested —, the only reason we're coming back to you today is, that officially in 1997, I believe, we closed the project out. There's nothing inappropriate about the request. It's a legitimate use of SPLOST on a project that people voted for. We just want to keep you part of a decision. If you make that decision, the money is available. You really —, you're only choice once you decide to fund is to whether or not you want to give them the complete sound proofing or only do a portion of it. The issue there is a minor \$31,000.

Commissioner DeLoach said, I make a motion for approval. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, with your approval, Commissioner DeLoach, include the full amount, right? Commissioner DeLoach said, yes. Commissioner Thomas said, yes. Chairman Hair said, okay. Commissioner Murray asked, what is the full amount? County Manager Abolt said, \$96,927. Chairman Hair said, \$96,000.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray asked, how much money is in that account? County Manager Abolt said, sir, what this —, what this is, and I don't want to diminish that \$97,000 [sic] is a little bit of money, it's not. This is part of our continued accumulation of savings from SPLOST. The first priority, as you know, is \$700,000 for the band shell. We're looking at cash flow and, given the speed or lack thereof of certain projects, we feel it's a legitimate risk to take that we can expend \$96,000 for this and still make all other existing commitments. Commissioner Murray said, I don't —. I think the museum's a great museum. I've been through it and I think they've done a terrific job with it, but if we continue to put money into these different projects, I mean, every time we come up with stuff, I understood when the band shell came up we didn't know where we were going to find the money to do the band shell, and now all of a sudden we've got the money to do that plus we've got almost another \$100,000 to do this. I don't understand it. County Manager Abolt said, okay —. Commissioner Murray said, and I just —, I support the museum and all, but I just can't support another \$96,000 into it. County Manager Abolt said, if I could only explain it in a better fashion, hopefully, than I've done before. We do have, you know, several hundreds of thousands of dollars awaiting expenditure in different SPLOST projects. Again, \$96,000 is not a little amount of money, but yet in the perspective of what we're talking about, we can amass enough interest earnings to cover the \$96,000 and at the same time keep our commitments to the band shell. As you know, they're not ready to build the band shell, and we just feel that —. Commissioner Murray said, well, I understand that, but I guess what I'm saying, if all this money is still sitting out there, then why couldn't we have done the band shell like we were supposed to have done on the Island like it was supposed to have been done to begin with? County Manager Abolt said, no sir, you did, you did. Commissioner Murray said, well, I don't think so.

County Manager Abolt said, I mean, you —. Commissioner Murray said, but anyway that's a whole other subject. My point was that I just don't —. Never mind.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Price said, your point's well taken, Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Thomas said, the Manager has said exactly what I want to say and, you know, \$96,000 it does seem like a lot of money and it is a lot of money, but for what we're talking about here, and we did make a concerted effort during the SPLOST sales tax and this was a part of it, and I, you know, I would ask that we consider that. This is really needed.

Commissioner Rivers said, call the question, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Hair said, we have a call for the question. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Saussy, Rivers, Jackel, Odell, Price, DeLoach and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Murray voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of eight to one. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes. We appreciate you folks coming. We know y'all probably have better things to do than sit here for the rest of the morning and listen to us, right. Mr. Shinhoster said, we'll go back to the museum. Chairman Hair said, good. Go back to work.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach made a motion to approve the transfer of \$96,927.00 from the One Percent Tax Extension Fund (1993-1998) contingency for funding capital improvements to the Ralph Mark Gilbert Civil Rights Museum which include the telephone system upgrade, sound proofing of the entire mezzanine theatre from the floor above, repainting the exterior masonry and bringing the facility up to museum quality stands as determined by the American Association of Museums. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Saussy, Rivers, Jackel, Odell, Price, DeLoach and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Murray voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of eight to one.

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3. BOARD CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST BY SAVANNAH ELECTRIC FOR THE RELOCATION OF A 100 FOOT WIDE SAVANNAH ELECTRIC EASEMENT AT THE CHATHAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S COMPLEX. [DISTRICT 5.]

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman and members of the Board, I'll have Mr. Bungard come forward. Normally this would have been a routine addition —, not addition but portion of your Action Calendar. The only reason I've asked that we place this as Individual is because of the potential —, not potential, the real activity once this is approved, if that is your choice, for removing several trees along I-16. If you'll look at the photograph, which is monochromatic and very difficult,

I know, to pick up, we're looking at SEPCO's request to relocate an easement and to move that relocated easement much closer to I-16. To do that will come at the expense of several trees. It will diminish the buffer along I-16, it will create a potential problem for folks calling and saying what is going on. The purpose behind it is to facilitate, to expedite further expansion of the Savannah Park and Commerce, and SEPCO feels that that is a legitimate reason to make the request to relocate the easement. I bring it to your attention only because I did not want to have questions coming forward and you be caught unawares that if the easement relocation is approved, there will be a substantial loss of tree cover along I-16, and then, finally, only as background, the previous County Commission at the time the Sheriff's Detention Center was constructed was very concerned about a fairly dense buffer along the Detention Center. This does not directly affect it though there is one portion you could now drive, you can look back in there and see a portion of the wire and the fencing. And again, it's somewhat of a high profile location, somewhat routine but yet not routine when it comes to the loss of tree cover.

Chairman Hair recognized County Engineer Al Bungard.

Mr. Bungard said, the only issue —, other issue I checked on, I called GDOT and said what would be the impacts of this against the future widening of I-16 and they said that the six-laning would probably have to go towards the middle anyway, but if they ever go to an eight-lane then obviously there's some implications there.

Chairman Hair said, okay. Any questions? Commissioner Saussy and then Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Saussy asked, is this overhead wiring? Mr. Bungard said, yes. Commissioner Saussy asked, why can't they put it under ground. Mr. Bungard said, I don't know, it's not my call. Commissioner Saussy said, it costs more. Mr. Bungard said, oh, obviously. Commissioner Saussy said, and that's why. That's the only reason why. [Unintelligible comments when several Commissioners began speaking at the same time.] Commissioner Price said, that's the same thing with Henderson Golf Course.

Mr. Bungard said, and right now —, I haven't seen the construction plans, but currently where it goes through the 100-foot wide clear part of Savannah Park it's one of those that double wooden poles, you know, with an aerial, they will put where it makes the corner at I-16 they'll have to probably go with a single large mast to make the turn and then they'll probably have to go to those where it crosses Chatham Parkway. What happens between there, I don't know, but I'm pretty sure that's what they'll have to do at those two points.

Commissioner Saussy said, it seems to me that they could use the same existing location and go under ground and they've got no problem. I'm not an electrician and don't know anything about that, but —. Mr. Bungard said, I don't know what the development plans for the Savannah Park. The intent here is to get it out of the way for the development of the Park.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Jackel said, suppose we turn this down, then what happens? Mr. Bungard said, I don't know. They came to us in a hurry and said can you please get this on the agenda, everybody else has agree but we need to come to the County because there's a small piece there that affects County property.

Chairman Hair said, we have a representative from SEPCO here. Maybe he could address some questions.

Mr. Faircloth said, thank you, Commissioners. I'm Allen Faircloth and I'm with Savannah Electric. We were approached by two of the major customers in that area, Savannah Park and Commerce and Chatham Center, to relocate our existing easement to allow for future expansion and economic development in their properties, and that's what we try to do is accommodate their needs by rerouting this line at their request at this particular location. By doing this, we're not asking for any more land than's already existing, we're just relocating at the request of the development in that area. In response to Commissioner Saussy, this is an overhead transmission line, and you'll notice, it's typical all transmission lines are overhead unless there's some outstanding reason for them to go underground. Commissioner Saussy asked, but they can go under ground, right? Mr. Faircloth said, yes sir, but it would probably be cost prohibitive, but that is an option.

Chairman Hair said, I think what this will do is allow both of those centers to develop more. Mr. Faircloth said, yes sir. Chairman Hair said, that's what it will do. I personally think that it's a good idea. Any further questions?

Commissioner Jackel asked, what happens if we don't approve this? Mr. Faircloth asked, what happens if you don't approve it? There's, like I said, we've been approached by the developers in that area. There's some major development that's supposed to take place that would probably be scratched. That's my understanding. Commissioner Jackel said, now as I'm looking at this map here, where Chatham Center is both the existing and the new one go through Chatham Center. Is that not the purpose to provide power for Chatham Center? Mr. Faircloth said, well, it —. Commissioner Jackel asked, or is it move it to the new locations so someone can develop along the old? Mr. Faircloth said, that's correct. Commissioner Jackel said, all right, so someone wants to develop along the old right-of-way and they want to come on our property and cut down substantial trees. What kind of compensation do we get for that? Are y'all going to plant additional trees somewhere else for us or are you going to do some screening for us or —. Mr. Faircloth said, no sir, we hadn't planned to do that. We could make that option back to the developers and see if that's something they want to

pursue. Commissioner Jackel said, so as I understand it, there's some developers that want to develop in Chatham Center along the right-of-way and they want us to destroy all these trees and give them the rights on our property so they can develop there and we don't get anything for it except destruction of our trees. Mr. Faircloth said, I don't particularly look at that way, Commissioner Jackel. I think these people bring a tax base to your community and improve the way of life for a lot of people in this town, and that's the way I look at it.

Commissioner Price said, we get a lot. We get new jobs, we get a great impact on our economy.

Commissioner Jackel asked, well, what's going in there. You know more than I do. What's going in there? Commissioner Price said, I can tell you that commercial property and whatever's going in there is going to have prime commercial real estate value, it's going to be revenues that will offset what individual homeowners will have to pay otherwise. I move for approval. Commissioner DeLoach said, I second it.

Commissioner Jackel said, from looking at the map I just can't tell where it's, you know, there's not enough information here. I would like additional information and I would also like to see, if we're going to lose all these trees, that additional trees are planted somewhere, something similar to what we do in wetlands that when we destroy some, we create some somewhere else. So until I have a better view of what's going on and see if we can't get some —, some sort of compensation for this tree loss and visual screens that we're losing, at this time I couldn't vote for it.

Commissioner DeLoach said, call the question. Vice Chairman Thomas said, it's been —, we have a motion and second on the floor. All in favor of the motion, please vote. And opposes. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Rivers, Odell, Price, DeLoach and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Saussy and Jackel voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of six to two. [NOTE: Commissioner Murray was not present when this vote was taken.] Vice Chairman Thomas said, it's been approved.

Commissioner DeLoach asked, could I make a comment? Vice Chairman Thomas said, sure. Could we find out what the cost is for under ground in that area? Mr. Faircloth said, yes sir. Commissioner DeLoach said, we'd like to know that and see whether we can take it back to the owners in that area and see if there's a possibility of some kind of —, working out some kind of compromise where we might be able to get that under ground.

Mr. Faircloth said, okay, I'll be glad to do that. I'd just like to make a note to Mr. Jackel's comment about this. If you take a look at the relocation route, it's going to an area, if you remember the complex is where the Jail's at, that's typically a road going there now. What this will do for yourself as a County, it will free up more useful land for you also on the back side of that property that will be much more open to development for your benefit.

Commissioner Rivers said, let me ask one question. Can we replace those trees that we are taking out? Commissioner Saussy asked, where are you going to replace them though? You've got to have that wide width. Commissioner Jackel said, we'll plant trees somewhere else if they cut those. Mr. Faircloth said, yes, it's just —. Excuse me for disrupting. Commissioner Rivers said, anyway, I'm just asking is there enough space between I-16 and that easement to provide a buffer there? Commissioner DeLoach said, there is a buffer there. Mr. Faircloth said, that buffer will be not be disturbed. Commissioner Saussy said, that will not be. Chairman Hair said, that won't be disturbed. Mr. Faircloth said, the buffer that will be left between the easement and I-16, that is —, we won't have any part with. Commissioner Saussy said, oh, okay. Mr. Faircloth said, just the land that falls within that 100-foot prescribed easement. Commissioner Rivers said, okay, that was my understanding.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Mr. Faircloth. We appreciate you being here.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to approve the request by Savannah Electric for the relocation of a 100-foot wide Savannah Electric Easement at the Chatham county Sheriff's Complex. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Rivers, Odell, Price, DeLoach and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Saussy and Jackel voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of six to two. [NOTE: Commissioner Murray was not present when this vote was taken.]

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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.

- **SHERIFF - CLERICAL ASSISTANT III (ONE POSITION)**
- **CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT - CLERICAL ASSISTANT III (ONE POSITION)**
- **LIBRARY - LIBRARY ASSISTANT I (ONE POSITION)**

- **PUBLIC WORKS - EQUIPMENT OPERATOR III (ONE POSITION)**

SHERIFF - CLERICAL ASSISTANT III (ONE POSITION):

Chairman Hair recognized Sheriff St. Lawrence.

Commissioner Price said, move for approval. Commissioner DeLoach said, second. Chairman Hair said, motion and second. You want to —.

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, only that's out at that Records Department. I don't have but seven people in their and they work in shifts, but we're trying to change those hours in there, if we can do it, to keep up with all the court records, but right now paying Clerical III's and they [inaudible] work shift is a real problem.

Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. (NOTE: Commissioners Saussy and Rivers did not vote on this item.)

CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT - CLERICAL ASSISTANT III (ONE POSITION):

Chairman Hair said, next one, Clerk of Superior Court, Clerical Assistant III (one position). Commissioner Odell said, move for approval. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair asked, anybody have any questions? Okay, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. (NOTE: Commissioners Saussy and Rivers did not vote on this item.)

LIBRARY - LIBRARY ASSISTANT I (ONE POSITION):

Chairman Hair said, Library - Library Assistant I (one position). Commissioner DeLoach said, move for approval. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, motion and second. Anybody from the Library here? Anybody have any questions? Go ahead. Commissioner Murray has a question.

Commissioner Murray asked, where is this person going to be working? An unidentified representative of the Library said, the position has been at the Oglethorpe Mall Branch, but moves to the main branch when it opens. We want to be prepared for that opening. Commissioner Murray asked, do you have a date? The unidentified representative of the Library said, no. Commissioner Price said, that's a million dollar question.

Chairman Hair said, we're going to have a report, Mary Ellen Sprague asked to be on the October 22nd agenda, so we're going to get an update at the next meeting. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes. Thank you.

PUBLIC WORKS - EQUIPMENT OPERATOR III (ONE POSITION):

Chairman Hair said, Public Works - Equipment Operator III (one position). Chairman Hair recognized Mr. Drewry.

Commissioner DeLoach said, move for approval. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair asked, any discussion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

1. Commissioner Price moved to approve waiver of the 90-day hiring freeze and authorize Human Resources to advertise the position of Clerical Assistant III, Sheriff's Department (one position). Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. (NOTE: Commissioners Saussy and Rivers did not vote on this item.)
2. Commissioner Odell moved to approve waiver of the 90-day hiring freeze and authorize Human Resources to advertise the position of Clerical Assistant III, Clerk of Superior Court (one position). Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. (NOTE: Commissioners Saussy and Rivers did not vote on this item.)
3. Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve waiver of the 90-day hiring freeze and authorize Human Resources to advertise the position of Library Assistant I, Library (one position). Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
4. Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve waiver of the 90-day hiring freeze and authorize Human Resources to advertise the position of Clerical Assistant III, Sheriff's Department (one position). Commissioners Price and Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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X. ACTION CALENDAR

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

Chairman Hair said, that takes us to the Action Calendar. Does anybody want to pull anything off the Action Calendar? If not, I'll entertain a motion to approve the balance —. Hold his hand, will you. I need a motion to approve the Action Calendar.

Commissioner Thomas said, move for approval. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [Unintelligible comments when several Commissioners began speaking at the same time.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved that Items 1 through 13-S of the Action Calendar be approved in their entirety. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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

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1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ON SEPTEMBER 10, 1999, AS MAILED.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 10, 1999, as mailed. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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2. CLAIMS VS CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 2 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 29, 1999.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved that the Finance Director is authorized to pay claims against the County for the period September 2, 1999, through September 29, 1999, in the amount of \$8,495,178. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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3. REQUEST FROM THE STEVENSON & PALMER ENGINEERING, ENGINEER FOR EAGLE DEVELOPMENT GROUP OF SAVANNAH, INC., TO RECORD ST. JAMES PLACE PHASE 3 SUBDIVISION, ACCEPT THE FINANCIAL GUARANTEE AND AMEND THE EXISTING STREETLIGHTING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the request from Stevenson & Palmer Engineering, engineer for Eagle Development Group of Savannah, Inc., to record St. James Place Phase 3 Subdivision, accept the financial guarantee and amend the existing Streetlighting Assessment District. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**4. REQUEST FROM THOMAS & HUTTON ENGINEERING, ENGINEER FOR BOUY BROTHERS BUILDERS, TO RECORD THE SUBDIVISION PLAT FOR THE COTTAGES AT CAUSTON BLUFF, PHASE 3B.
[DISTRICT 3.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the request from Thomas & Hutton Engineering, engineer for Bouy Brothers Builders, to record the subdivision plat for The Cottages at Causton Bluff, Phase 3B. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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- 5. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE THE EARLY ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY OWNED BY LAMARA CONSTRUCTION CORPORATION AT 1426 WHITNEY ROAD, TRUMAN PARKWAY PHASE III.
[DISTRICT 3.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the early acquisition of property owned by Lamara Construction Company at 1426 Whitney Road for Truman Parkway Phase III. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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- 6. REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN, COUNTY CLERK, COUNTY ATTORNEY AND COUNTY ENGINEER TO SIGN ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY FOR OBTAINING A GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION COUNTY CONTRACT FOR THE PAVING, RESURFACING AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS OF PRESIDENT STREET.
(Note: Transfer of funds is on Agenda Item IX-1.)**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to authorize the Chairman, County Clerk, County Attorney and County Engineer to sign all documents necessary for obtaining a Georgia Department of Transportation County Contract for the paving, resurfacing and drainage improvements of President Street. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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- 7. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SAVANNAH-CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION AND CHATHAM COUNTY THAT GOVERNS THE CONSTRUCTION OF A PARK TO BE BUILT AT HESSE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve an amendment to an Intergovernmental Agreement between the Savannah-Chatham County Board of Education and Chatham County that governs the construction of a park to be built at Hesse Elementary School and authorized the Chairman to sign the amendment. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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- 8. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE THE RENEWAL OF THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE SAVANNAH PROP TWISTERS REMOTE CONTROL BOATING CLUB AND CHATHAM COUNTY FOR RENTAL SPACE ASSOCIATED WITH A PUBLIC REMOTE CONTROL BOATING SITE AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the renewal of the agreement between the Savannah Prop Twisters Remote Control Boating Club and Chatham County for rental space associated with a public remote control boating site and authorized the Chairman to sign the agreement. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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9. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF A LONG-TERM LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CANEBRAKE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION AND CHATHAM COUNTY TO ESTABLISH A PARK IN THE CANEBRAKE COMMUNITY, AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT, AND CONSIDER ALLOCATING \$400,000 IN THE FUTURE UNFUNDED CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT BUDGET FOR THE PROJECT.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve a long-term lease agreement between the Canebrake Community Association and Chatham County to establish a park in the Canebrake Community, authorized the Chairman to sign the agreement, and allocated \$400,000 in future unfunded CIP budget for the project. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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10. **REQUEST FOR NEW BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR POURING LICENSE FOR 1999. PETITIONER: JIMMY C. HARVEY, D/B/A SHAMROCK'S IRISH PUB, LOCATED AT 140 JOHNNY MERCER BOULEVARD, #B. [DISTRICT 4.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the request of Petitioner Jimmy C. Harvey, d/b/a Shamrock's Irish Pub, located at 140 Johnny Mercer Boulevard, #B, for a new beer, wine and liquor pouring license for 1999. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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11. **REQUEST FOR NEW BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR POURING LICENSE FOR 1999. PETITIONER: WILLIAMS SEAFOOD RESTAURANT, LOCATED AT 8010 TYBEE ROAD. [DISTRICT 4.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the request of Petitioner Williams Seafood Restaurant, located at 8010 Tybee Road, for a new beer, wine and liquor pouring license for 1999 in connection with special catered affairs. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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12. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVE A REQUEST FROM THE TAX COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE TO WRITE OFF UNCOLLECTIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE PERIOD 1992 THROUGH 1998.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas made a motion to approve a written request from the Tax Commissioner's Office to write off uncollectible personal property taxes for the period 1992 through 1998. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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13. **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. Contract to provide and install various kitchen equipment	SPLOST	Baring Industries	\$885,032	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Trade Center (FF&E Budget)
B. Change Order No. 2 to the contract to perform a hydraulic analysis of the Kingsway Canal for additional engineering work	Engineering	Hussey, Gay, Bell and DeYoung	\$1,250	CIP - Drainage
C. Contract for off-site mitigation work for Pooler Parkway Phase II, and Hutchinson Island Road Project	SPLOST	Ashridge, Inc.	\$618,689	•SPLOST (1993-1998) - Pooler Parkway Phase II •SPLOST (1985-1993) - Hutchinson Island Road Project (pending transfer)
D. Change Order No. 4 to the contract for drainage improvement and paving of Cartwright, Lucas and Queen Aire Drive for the addition of a concrete swale on Queen Aire Drive	SPLOST	Claco Construction	\$2,900	SPLOST (1985-1993) - Cartwright, Lucas and Queen Aire Drives
E. Contract to provide a parking access and revenue control system	SPLOST	Time & Parking Controls of Georgia	\$135,095.60	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Trade Center (FF&E Budget)
F. Change Order No. 1 to the contract for the construction of Mother Matilda Beasley Park for the removal of aerial cable and utility poles	SPLOST	ARCO, Inc.	\$3,800	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Mother Matilda Beasley Park
G. Software and firmware upgrade for the Jail card reader access system	I.C.S.	Quanta Secure Systems (sole source)	\$31,031	CIP - Y2K Remediation
H. Confirmation of a contract, with four renewal options, for disaster recovery services	Public Works	Grubbs Construction Company	\$100 subscription fee and payment upon debris removal as needed per disaster	No County funding available in SSD - Public Works. Funding to accommodate this request would be from funds received from FEMA
I. Agreement to provide data entry services	Inspections	Robin Heard-Scott	Not to exceed \$1,500 per month	SSD - Inspections
J. Final renewal option to the annual contract for pest control services	Various	Cox Termite and Pest Control	\$19,000	•SSD - Various •General Fund/M&O - Various
K. Technical surveillance equipment	Police	Racom Products, Inc. (sole source)	\$12,860	SSD - Police
L. Computer hardware components	Sheriff	Entr• Computer Center (MBE)	\$11,605	CIP - Y2K Remediation
M. Telescopic excavator	Public Works	Stith Equipment Company	\$177,944	Vehicle and Equipment Lease
N. Materials and supplies for the geosynthetic clay liner for the closure of Chevis Landfill	Solid Waste	Fluid Systems	\$142,537	Solid Waste Enterprise Fund
O. Contract for programming services	I.C.S.	Gray Goose Consulting	\$18,500	CIP - Y2K Remediation

ITEM	DEPT.	SOURCE	AMOUNT	FUNDING
P. Confirmation emergency purchase of an uninterruptible power supply	Tax Commissioner	Emergency Power Systems (WBE)	\$26,796	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Administrative Annex/Police Headquarters
Q. Computers	C.N.T.	Gateway Computers	\$32,837	Confiscated Fund - CNT
R. Change Order No. 10 to the engineering contract to provide for additional environmental mitigation work associated with the Highway 80	SPLOST	EMC Engineering	\$55,249	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Pooler Parkway, Phase II
S. Change Order No. 14 to the contract to transfer upon completion, as planned, the Riverwalk Extension Project from status as an Allowance to recognition as a Change Order	SPLOST	MTCB	\$5,957,118	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Trade Center

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve Items 13-A through 13-S. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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XI. FIRST READINGS

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

- PETITIONER, PHILLIP R. MCCORKLE, AGENT (FOR C. ANTHONY RHODES, OWNER) IS REQUESTING REZONING AN EIGHT (8) ACRES PARCEL LOCATED ON THE EASTERN SIDE OF GEORGIA HIGHWAY 21 SOUTH OF BOURNE AVENUE, FROM I-H (HEAVY-INDUSTRIAL) TO P-B (PLANNED-BUSINESS) IN ORDER TO CONSTRUCT A SHOPPING CENTER THAT WOULD INCLUDE A GROCERY STORE. MPC RECOMMENDED THAT THE REQUEST BE DENIED, BUT FURTHER RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF A P-B-C (PLANNED COMMUNITY-BUSINESS) ZONING CLASSIFICATION BASED ON THE EMERGING BUSINESS CHARACTER OF THIS SECTION OF HIGHWAY 21.**

MPC FILE NO. 99-12659-C
[DISTRICT 7.]
Note: Original Agenda Item was submitted for the August 13, 1999, meeting and postponed by agent. This was re-advertised, re-posted and adjacent property owners re-notified.

Commissioner DeLoach said, that is District 7 though, I believe. Chairman Hair said, thank you for correcting the record.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Read into the record as first reading.

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XII. SECOND READINGS

1. AMENDMENT TO THE COUNTY PROPERTY MAINTENANCE ORDINANCE TO ADDRESS THE ACCUMULATION OF MOTOR VEHICLES ON REAL PROPERTY AS A HOBBYIST USE GROUP. *Note: Item was tabled at meeting of September 10, 1999. Revised from First Reading.*

Chairman Hair said, we do need to take the first one —, I need a motion to take it off the table. Commissioner DeLoach said, so moved. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, motion and second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

Chairman Hair recognized Mr. Gregori Anderson.

Mr. Anderson said, yes, this was heard for second reading at our last meeting. With comments from the Commission, staff has revised the proposed amendment. The staff report indicates that we've changed the number of vehicles from seven to four and we've also instituted a requirement for registration of hobbyists, and that's what's before you today.

Chairman Hair said, I think both of those are very good changes. I'll entertain a motion to approve.

Commissioner Jackel said, I would want to make a motion that we amend this to no more than two vehicles. I say that —. Chairman Hair said, you can't amend it here. Can he?

County Attorney Hart said, two comments to that is the number four was picked after we surveyed the number of vehicles in various households in Savannah and, believe it or not, there are a lot of people that have more vehicles within their own personal household especially when you include the pick'em-up trucks. Okay? So what we're —, the result of lowering it before four is going to require a pretty massive registration.

Commissioner Jackel said, wait a minute, wait a minute, wait a minute. This is for vehicles that are not running and not tagged. You can have numerous vehicles if they're running and tagged. County Attorney Hart said, you've got a lot of folks that have got vehicles that —. Commissioner Jackel asked, that have four—, over four vehicles that are not running and tagged? County Attorney Hart said, you've got plenty of people that have vehicles that are not running and tagged that are four or less. Commissioner Jackel asked, that have what now? County Attorney Hart said, four or less. Commissioner Jackel asked, that have four or less that are not running and not tagged on their property? County Attorney Hart said, yes sir, you sure do.

Commissioner Murray said, well, I thought that's what we were trying to avoid. Commissioner Jackel said, what we're doing is we're saying anybody that has four or more has got to register as a hobbyist.

Commissioner Jackel said, I'm going to make you a bet that you cannot find one subdivision that has restrictive covenants that allows more than one vehicle that is untagged and unrunning on property in Chatham County. County Attorney Hart said, I don't doubt that at all. Commissioner Jackel said, and why should we treat our people different than those people who have restrictive covenants? County Attorney Hart said, because the landowner chose to put the restrictive covenants on there. Commissioner Jackel said, well, I understand that, but that kind of to me says that that's what the norm is. These people that have restrictive covenants have that to rely on. Our citizens only have zoning and these regulations to lie on —, rely on, and they can have five cars there if they're running and tagged, but I'm talking about cars that are not running, not tagged that I would consider derelicts that people don't want to see next to them and I think two is a gracious plenty.

Chairman Hair said, okay, we have a couple of people in the audience that wants to speak. Will you come forward and state your name for the record? Anybody want to speak? Please come —. You don't want to speak? Okay, I thought you wanted to speak. Okay. Anybody else? Okay. Any other Commissioners want to speak on this issue. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, yes, I agree with Martin [Jackel]. I just —, that was my concern at the last meeting. What we —, the attempt was to eliminate how many they could have, and now —, I agree. If you've got four automobiles, four vehicles plus the runs that are running sitting on your property, if they're not tagged and they're not running, I don't think they need to be there. Now Martin [Jackel] says two, and I can support two. I'd rather see if there's one. Commissioner Jackel said, I'll go with one.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Price.

Commissioner Price asked, is there any way that we could require that this number of four that they be covered, garaged or whatever? That they not be visible. County Attorney Hart said, well, we're going to end up with a lot of non-conforming uses, whatever we do.

Chairman Hair said, I think Commissioner Saussy may —. Commissioner Saussy said, what they're going to do is they're going to cover them with a tarp and that's it. Chairman Hair said, yes, I think Commissioner Saussy had a good idea about maybe —, what about the possibility of making them have them tagged so that they have to pay taxes on them? County Attorney Hart said, well, we can't make —, we can pass an ordinance for any number y'all choose to pass. Two things you've got to consider is an enforcement problem, number one, and the cost of registering and the administrative staffing required to do that. If y'all choose two, we'll go with two. If y'all choose one, we'll go with one. Commissioner Saussy said, I think we ought to go to two.

Commissioner Murray asked, if we're going to be concerned about what it's going to cost us to implement an ordinance, why are we even discussing it?

Commissioner DeLoach said, I make a motion we go to two. Commissioner Jackel said, I just asked that. Commissioner Saussy said, second.

Commissioner Price said, listen to what Shot [Hart] is saying here and the extra government you're creating to have to do this. Commissioner Murray said, but if we don't do something we're telling the people you can put anything you want to out there, and I don't think that's right. Commissioner Price said, well —. Commissioner Jackel asked, do you want your next door neighbor to have four cars out there that aren't running —?

Commissioner Murray said, let me use an example. Of course, I've got a aunt living in the house with us, but we've got five automobiles at our house, but they're all running. We all pay taxes on all of them. That means I can take four additional cars and park them wherever I want to on my property and let them sit because they don't run and I don't have a tag on them. I don't think it's right. Commissioner Jackel said, I don't think it's right either.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Odell.

Commissioner Odell asked, Jon [Hart] or Greg [Anderson], how many vehicles are now allowed by the City of Savannah? Mr. Anderson said, don't know. County Attorney Hart said, I don't know whether they have an ordinance like this. Do they? Mr. Anderson said, the City does have a very active ordinance. They police the same type of things that we police in terms of derelict vehicles and that kind of thing, but I don't know what the number is. Commissioner Odell said, the only reason why I would ask this, I think they've spent a substantial amount of time in addressing this issue also, and I'm just concerned that if we don't correlate between the City and the County that whatever we do —, and I agree with Martin [Jackel] and Frank [Murray]. I would hate to live next door to someone who had four untagged vehicles and they'd show up if they were cited and I think Martin [Jackel] said bring three sparkplugs and, you know, they're a hobbyist. Commissioner Jackel said, two wrenches. Commissioner Odell said, I mean, that's —. Commissioner Jackel said, and a dirty oil rag. Commissioner Odell said, I'd like to know what the City is doing so that —, I think they've had the same kind of problems we've had too.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Price and then I'd like to make a comment.

Commissioner Price said, I agree with what Harris [Odell] is saying. We need to find out what the City is doing and then ours should, I think, comply to a great extent. A lot of neighborhoods that have homeowner associations have certain types of requirements of their homeowners within that association and within that group of property owners about these sort of things, so a lot of this is already being done and policed in different neighborhoods by their homeowner associations, whatever the covenants are. What I don't want to see us do is expand the government and have more government to have to be required to take care of this, the additional cars. I agree, I don't want to have a neighbor across the street or next to me with all these, you know, junk cars out there they're pulling parts off to try to make one car, but I do think that this needs a little more work, this item today, and I think we that we need to find out what the City of Savannah is doing. I agree with Harris [Odell]. I'm going to hold off on proposing a table because I see some hands up, but I do think we ought to consider tabling it until we get some more information.

Chairman Hair said, okay, my concern is that we don't create something we can't enforce. One of the problems we've got now is enforcing the existing one we've got because what we're doing is we're making cases and we're going to the courts and the judge is just throwing it out. Commissioner Jackel said, that's changed. Chairman Hair said, well, I'll give you the phone numbers of some people to talk to, Commissioner Jackel. Commissioner Jackel said, they tell me it's changed. He's changed his strike zone. Chairman Hair said, we've got to make sure —, it doesn't do any good other than a warm fuzzy feeling to pass an ordinance if we can't enforce it. So we've got to make sure if we pass this that it's got to be rigorously enforced and these people have to be adjudicated properly in the courts, and if we're not going to do that, let's don't just get a warm fuzzy feeling by thinking we're helping people and we really aren't helping people. So I think we have to —, as part of this information we need, Gregori [Anderson], or I need, is how much time and money is it going to take to enforce an ordinance like this. Commissioner Price said, how defensible is it. Chairman Hair said, and I think it's important to know that cost figure before go here and say we want to eliminate it down to two or one. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, as far as enforcement I think the enforcement is done when one of us get's calls like I do —. Commissioner Saussy said, right. Commissioner Murray said, and we call down to the Manager and the Manager calls

Gregori's office and they go out and investigate it. And that's the way it's been done in the past. Now if you've got Inspectors that are riding out and checking other things and happen to see something like this, then certainly they can check on it, but I don't see us adding a lot of additional expense and burden just to be able to enforce the ordinance because we're going to have to enforce it anyway. It's obvious that some of y'all don't get phone calls about this, but I get them. Commissioner Saussy said, I do too. Chairman Hair said, Commissioner —, oh, I'm sorry. Commissioner Murray said, no, go ahead.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner DeLoach.

Commissioner DeLoach said, I was just adding to what Frank [Murray] says. It's strictly enforced when we call and complain. That's how it always happens. If it's the sign ordinance that's in the unincorporated. If we've got a problem there, if it's the business license, people working and don't have a business license, it's all by somebody calling us complaining saying we've got a problem here and then we address it and Gregori [Anderson] and then take action on it, and if the people comply, then things are fine. If they don't, then things, you know, we move a little bit, a step further, but it's not people running around with badges running into peoples houses and saying, oh, you know, you're not complying. We don't need to hire anybody to do this. We've got people —, citizens out there who doesn't want 10 or 12 cars sitting next to their house that'll call you and say this guy's got a junkyard next to my house, help me. And what you do is you call Gregori [Anderson] and you say we've got a junkyard out there, we want something done, and then they make an attempt. Now we need to have that ordinance put in force and we need to have these citizens out there in this area have the ability to do that.

Chairman Hair recognized County Manager Abolt.

County Manager Abolt said, that's the issue, Dr. Thomas and gentlemen. Just as the Chairman says, we're doing that, but again as Commissioner Jackel has referred to, when we do not get cooperation and the staff's values are identical to your values. We're not at cross purposes. We're trying to plug a situation in which, as we said in the first staff report, when we make the case and we get no cooperation, but then see that the Recorder's Court Judge is saying you're a hobbyist, King's X, you're allowed to have to have it. My understanding in talking to Greg [Anderson] is these are extreme situations. I am, it is not a question of one or two vehicles. You have individuals with several vehicles and when they go before the court because we can go no further than the judge, the judge has said you're a hobbyist, you're okay.

Chairman Hair said, okay, we just need to decide on either let's table it or let's go ahead —. Commissioner Jackel said, I'm ready to move that we approve two vehicles. Chairman Hair said, all right, we have a motion to approve the ordinance with a limit of two. Do I have a second. Commissioner DeLoach said, second. Chairman Hair asked, any further discussion? Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Price.

Commissioner Price said, yes, yes. I'd like to hear from Chief Sprague, who got up to come up and speak to us. I think the enforcement side of it, at least let's hear what he has to say. Commissioner Jackel said, he's got six cars at his house abandoned he doesn't —. Commissioner Saussy said, that's only because the County won't pay taxes.

Chief Thomas Sprague said, your attempts to keep this situation from degenerating into derelict vehicle yards reminds me of Jeff Foxworthy and a person was mowing their and found a '57 Chevy, but when constituents call you about vehicles, abandoned vehicles, derelict vehicles in their neighborhoods, I know Greg [Anderson] gets calls, but we handle a lot of them. Officers are sent out there, they check with the owners to find the ownership, find out if they're tagged and they're legal, et cetera, and then if they're not, they're given five days and it's pinned on the vehicle and the officer has to check in five days and then we'll call a tow truck to enforce the ordinance. And I just want to say if you have something like this I think it would be more of a burden on the Police Department than it is anticipated at this point.

Chairman Hair said, I agree. I totally agree, Chief. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner DeLoach.

Commissioner DeLoach said, I want to just give a —, cite an example to that. We run into, in our covering the areas we cover in the unincorporated areas, I've got a 65-foot trailer that is broken in half in the middle of a main highway, or right near a main highway that's sitting on a —, sitting in a lot beside the road. I've been in office going on eight years. I've requested that mobile home be moved probably five of those eight years and that mobile home is still there, still broke in half, still sitting there and it hasn't moved yet. I wind up and call them up every so often and punch them up again, but nothing ever happens, but that's what we have to do in our process of getting these places cleaned up. You have to continually be on these people because unless you sit there and grind on them, they're not going to move on it. They're going to —, they know you'll be gone one day. I just continually grind on it. It's the same thing with the car issue. If we don't have something to enforce it, nothing's going to happen.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Murray and then Commissioner Odell.

Commissioner Murray said, just two things. I know Commissioner Price was talking about the different homeowners associations. We don't —, our unincorporated area does not have homeowners associations so it eliminates some of that. The other, Chief, when I —, I support your department as much as anyone, but if it's going to cause an extra burden, then so be it. That's what we're out there for, and you've got people patrolling these areas anyway. So if they have to ride back

by another house five days later, in my opinion that's what we need to do. We don't need to use this as a reason not to be able to put an ordinance out there that helps clean up some of this.

Chief Sprague said, you have me wrong, I believe, sir. Commissioner Murray said, well, you said it was going to be more of a burden on the Police Department. Chief Sprague said, if there's four vehicles, yes sir. Commissioner Murray said, oh, so you support the two or less. Chief Sprague said, yes sir. Commissioner Murray said, good.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Odell and then Commissioner Price and then Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Odell said, Chief, if you could just stay there maybe you could agree or disagree. I don't think that anyone has a right to buy a house next to an individual and then have four untagged cars that create all kind of health hazards. It's a nuisance. It will take more manpower if we reduce the number, but it should take more manpower because that goes into the quality of life, and I think if we have a person wants four untagged vehicles on their lot, then they need to move to another county. They'd be happier living somewhere else.

Chief Sprague said, I think I—, I've got to agree with you on that, and it does get into quality life issues. In some neighborhoods the COP officers, one of their strategies is to attempt to get the neighborhoods involved in some cases to start cleaning it up and to fix that broken window, et cetera, to give the neighborhood more cohesiveness as a neighborhood. Neighborhood watch is not just to prevent crime, and it all comes back to if you've got four '57 Chevys in your neighbor's yard that are just sitting there, we're going to get calls on that, you'll get calls on it and —.

Commissioner Odell said, I think that we should and I think that you should because that's a quality of life issue, and that's what government is here, I think, to try to address. I think anything over two cars and untagged, unregistered, is excessive. I have handled cases in Recorder's Court that the City of Savannah makes against some of my clients who move into a very nice neighborhood and go out and buy six or seven old broken down cars and stack them in the front yard so all of their neighbors who go out and edge their yards, every time they drive by they'll have to look at that. My position is that a person should not be allowed to come into a neighborhood and make it unpleasant for everyone. Chief Sprague said, I've got to agree with that.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Price and then Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Price said, I would ask you guys to be patient just to find out what the City of Savannah's doing. That's all I'm saying. Greg [Anderson] said he doesn't know what their ordinance is. You know, we tried to coordinate and we're trying to coordinate in all our efforts as far as even consolidating the Inspections Department. This is something, this is something if we're going to consolidate the Inspections Department then we ought to be looking at what the City of Savannah is doing before we pass this ordinance. What I'm asking you guys to consider is one more meeting that this will take to pass it. I'm warming up to the idea, I like the idea and I'm probably going to support it, but I think we need to find out what the City of Savannah's ordinance looks like.

Chairman Hair said, if you make a motion to table, we'll see if it's got the votes. Commissioner Odell said, we don't need to table. Why don't we just put it on hold, Greg [Anderson] walks out, calls the City of Savannah, finds out, comes back in, and then we know. Commissioner Saussy said, good idea.

Commissioner Jackel said, I want to look at something with the ordinance. In paragraph (e)(2), it says all persons that have stored automotive vehicles, boats or trailer-type vehicles as of the date of the enactment of this ordinance shall not be permitted an increase. Now I think we need to change the language here because that would seem to me that then we're grandfathering in someone that has 20 vehicles sitting there, and that's not my intention. My intention is we're not grandfathering in anybody. Am I reading this wrong?

County Attorney Hart said, no, you're reading it so that we freeze everybody that's got the number of vehicles that they have now because this ordinance is going to create a massive nonconforming use —. Commissioner Jackel said, I don't want to grandfather them in. County Attorney Hart said, in a lot of situations. Commissioner Jackel said, I want —, I don't —, and I know that Greg [Anderson] can call the City right now, but if they have zero, I think we're stuck at two even though I'd like to see zero, but I'd like to one, and I moved that —, I would like to amend my own motion that we limit it to two and that the grandfather clause be stricken, paragraph (e)(2), from the proposed amendment, that if someone has 20 vehicles, they'd better get rid of 18 in a hurry. Commissioner Price said, another reason why we need to table this.

Chairman Hair said, we have a —, I think it does need to be tabled, I really do. The attorney here is very uncomfortable with that amendment, Commissioner, from a legal standpoint. County Attorney Hart said, well, you know, we're changing the rules on people that already have an existing right on their property and you get into ex post facto questions, you get into zoning questions, you get into different types of potential —. Commissioner Odell said, I think that's a legal issue. County Attorney Hart said, a lot of challenge, and all I'm saying. Chairman Hair said, that's why I think it ought to be tabled. County Attorney Hart said, we'll look at it. Chairman Hair said, let's table it, let's table it —. Commissioner Price said, I move to table. Chairman Hair said, all right, I have a motion to table. Commissioner Odell said, second.

Commissioner Jackel said, let me talk one just second if I can. The City of Savannah has been talked about here. They had people parking these tractor-trailers all over —. Commissioner Odell said, I seconded it. Commissioner Jackel said, and they've been doing it for years, and they passed a regulation and they got rid of that to help people with the quality of their life. If they had gone to a fence and anywhere where people didn't have fencing and they required people to put up fencing around their gas stations and garages and all that, if we're just going to allow those people who have bothered their neighbors, to continue to bother them, and we're talking about some new things, we haven't accomplished anything here.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Jackel, I've already allowed a little bit —, we already have a motion and a second on the floor to table. It's not a debatable motion. All those in favor of tabling vote yes —. Commissioner Price said, Harris [Odell] seconded the motion. Commissioner Odell said, I second the motion. Chairman Hair said, yes, we have a —. Commissioner Jackel asked, the motion is what? Chairman Hair said, the motion is table until next meeting. Commissioner Price said, to work all this out and bring it back. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Rivers, Odell, Price and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Saussy, Jackel, Murray and DeLoach voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of five to four.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

1. Commissioner DeLoach moved to untable this item and place it before the Commissioners for consideration. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
2. Commissioner Jackel moved to approve an amendment to the County Property Maintenance Ordinance to address the accumulation of motor vehicles on real property as a hobbyist use group with a limit of two untagged, unregistered vehicles and with the elimination of paragraph (e)(2) of the proposed amendment. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion.
3. Commissioner Price moved to table this item until the next meeting of the Board of Commissioners on October 22, 1999. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Rivers, Odell, Price and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Saussy, Jackel, Murray and DeLoach voted in opposition. The motion to table carried by a vote of five to four.

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2. AMENDMENT TO THE COUNTY BUSINESS/OCCUPATIONAL TAX ORDINANCE TO REFLECT THE PROVISIONS OF HB 459.

Chairman Hair recognized Mr. Anderson.

Mr. Gregori Anderson said, ladies and gentlemen, what you have before you here is a reaction to a recently adopted State law, House Bill 459. It basically gives a 30-day grace period for anyone who's conducting business in the State of Georgia before they actually have to come in and secure a tax certificate or a business license before a County or action can be taken by a local jurisdiction, and we're amending our ordinance to reflect that, that State change.

Commissioner DeLoach said, move for approval. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, motion and second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve an amendment to the County Business/Occupational Tax Ordinance to reflect the provisions of House Bill 459, which allows a 30-day grace period to any person conducting business in the State of Georgia to obtain or renew a license and/or pay occupational taxes before they are declared delinquent. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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3. REZONING OF THE HARROCK HALL NEIGHBORHOOD FROM THE CURRENT R-1 (ONE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) AND R-3 (MULTI-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) ZONING DISTRICTS TO R-1-A (ONE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) AND R-1-B (ONE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL), ZONING DISTRICTS IN ORDER TO REQUIRE LARGER LOT SIZES FOR NEW DEVELOPMENT. THE MPC RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE R-1-A AND R-1-B ZONING DESIGNATIONS IN ORDER TO PRESERVE THE LARGE LOT, LOW-DENSITY

**RESIDENTIAL CHARACTER OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD THAT COULD BE DIMINISHED
UNDER THE CURRENT ZONING.
MPC FILE NO. 99-12646-C
[DISTRICT 1.]**

Commissioner DeLoach said, move for approval. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair asked, any discussion? Commissioner Price said, it's actually Harrock Hall, not Harrock Hill. Chairman Hair asked, do we have somebody that wants to speak to this?

Mr. Henry Morgan said, my name's Henry Morgan and we represent Ms. Blakewood, who's just had a subdivision passed in there and I came here on behalf of Mr. Blackburn today, Jr., because he's tied up in a mediation, and we just wanted to make a point about it that —, and have maybe a ruling from the County Attorney that her subdivision is still okay even though it doesn't meet these R-1-A and R-1-B.

Chairman Hair said, all right. Could you make a ruling, do you need the time to think about it? Chairman Hair said, I could not get that ruling at this point in time. Chairman Hair said, okay.

Mr. Morgan said, I mean, we're not really —, we're happy for the rest of the neighborhood to go to their larger lot sizes apparently —. Commissioner DeLoach said, yes. Mr. Morgan said, 15 and 20,000 square foot lot sizes, R-1-A and R-1-B, but we just want to make sure Ms. Blakewood keeps her, I guess, mini-subdivision.

Chairman Hair asked, Mr. Gaudry, did you want to speak? Dana [Braun], would you like to —?

Mr. Dana Braun said, I don't want to get in a —. I'm Dana Braun and I live in this area and several of the other residents are here. Mr. Zipperer was here earlier, but he had to leave for court. The issue regarding Ms. Blakewood's subdivision, she started her —. At one time she was in agreement with our rezoning request and was going to —, and submitted a plan —, showed us a plan that would fit within the rezoning request. After the rezoning started, after the MPC approved the rezoning, she brought forward her new subdivision plan, which would not be in conformance. I think when it was passed at the MPC it was a very close vote, but it was also somewhat conditional upon what this body did on the entire rezoning. Our point is there's some 125 lots, property lots in this area and the present zoning allows lots as small as 6,000 square feet. Out of this 125 lots there's only, I think, four lots that don't comply with the R-1-A or R-1-B zoning that would —, and that the R-1-A and R-1-B is the appropriate zoning for this area, and that's the —, this subdivision has existed a long time.

Chairman Hair said, to make sure I'm understanding this, Dana [Braun], you're saying that if we were to pass this, even if it did adversely affect the lots, it would only adversely affect four lots. Is that correct? Mr. Braun said, it wouldn't —, it would —, I think it would just make those four lots as nonconforming uses, which wouldn't really have any adverse effect on it. They couldn't subdivide those lots any smaller —, under the present zoning any smaller than they are now. They would just —, they would be the only lots not in conformance with this. Chairman Hair asked, but you support this rezoning? Mr. Braun said, yes sir. Chairman Hair said, okay. Any further questions?

Commissioner Saussy said, call the question. Commissioner Price asked, is Henry [Morgan] through? Chairman Hair asked, oh, any questions, Mr. Morgan?

Mr. Morgan said, yes. We just want to make sure that Ms. Blakewood is protected. Chairman Hair said, well, we can't —, we can't guaran—. The Attorney said he can't guarantee you that. He can't make a ruling this morning on that issue. Mr. Morgan said, and it's my understanding from Mr. Blackburn, I talked with him this morning before I came down here, that across Norwood there's several lots that are R-1 that are small lots, and it may be more than four. I haven't sat down and counted them. Apparently, Mr. Braun has here. Mr. Braun said, across Norwood is not the Harrock Hall Subdivision. Chairman Hair said, right. Mr. Morgan said, well, it's not the Harrock Hall Subdivision, but, my God, it's there.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray asked, when you keep asking about is your client protected, have they been to MPC —. Mr. Morgan said, yes sir. Commissioner Murray asked, and have they been approved by MPC for —. Mr. Morgan said, as far as I know. I don't have the file. Commissioner Murray asked, those plans that Dana Braun is talking about or the plans that you're talking about on reduced sized lots? Mr. Morgan said, she had —, oh, I'm sorry, Mr. Hart.

Chairman Hair recognized County Attorney Hart. County Attorney Hart said, there's a couple of issues here that, one of which I would prefer discussing in Executive Session about the County's legal position in regard to a number of matters regarding zoning. This particular case, this —, procedurally this matter arose where the original petition appeared before y'all for approval or non-approval. Y'all sent it back to MPC, okay, for reconsideration of what could be done. The MPC made a recommendation to use this zoning classification. In the interim period of time this petitioner petitioned the MPC for approval of her subdivision plat or plan. If the rezoning were to occur it would not meet the confines of the rezoning classification before you. It gets to be —. Her plan was approved conditioned upon what happened here. It's my

understanding from Mr. Braun that they're not opposing the rezoning. All I'm saying is that there are some legal issues there, depending on the use of the property.

Commissioner Murray said, well, I would like to table this until after Executive Session so we can discuss it, whatever you need to, in Executive Session. Commissioner Price said, second. Commissioner DeLoach asked, will that help us. I mean, you have some more informa —? Okay. Commissioner Murray said, I want to hear what he has to say.

Chairman Hair asked, would that give us the information we need? County Attorney Hart said, yes sir. Chairman Hair said, all right, we have a motion to table until after the Executive Session. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously.

* * *

Following adjournment of Executive Session, Chairman Hair read the agenda item. Chairman Hair said, we need a motion to untable. Commissioner Saussy said, so moved. Commissioner Odell said, second. Chairman Hair said, motion and a second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Price said, there's already a motion. Chairman Hair said, motion and second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously.

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Mr. Braun said, can I—, I told Commissioner Odell and Commissioner Rivers this earlier about your car ordinance. I have a car untitled, untagged that's been in the shop since September of 1990. Can y'all help me out? [Inaudible comments when several Commissioners began speaking at one time.] Commissioner Price said, [inaudible] the band shell. Mr. Braun said, I don't know what's going on. I think the City and County staffs are trying to get together. Commissioner Rivers said, just don't take that car into your neighborhood unless it's sheltered.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Dana [Braun]. Mr. Braun said, thank you for your time and consideration.

and 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 DeLoach moved to approve the rezoning Hall neighborhood from the current R-1 (One-Family Residential) and R-3 (Multi-Family Residential) zoning districts to R-1-A (One-Family Residential) and R-1-B (One-Family Residential) zoning districts in order to require larger lot sizes for new development to preserve large lot, low-density residential character of the neighborhood that could be diminished under the current zoning. Commissioner Price seconded the motion.
2. Commissioner Murray moved to table this item until after Executive Session. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
3. Following adjournment of Executive Session, Commissioner Saussy made a motion to untable this item for consideration by the Board. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
4. Following Executive Session, a vote was taken on the previous motion made by Commissioner DeLoach and seconded by Commissioner Price. The motion to approve carried unanimously.

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XIII. INFORMATION CALENDAR

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Written report received as information.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Written report received as information.

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3. STATUS REPORT ON YEAR 2000 REMEDIATION PROJECT.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Written report received as information.

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4. REPORT ON STATUS OF PARTICIPATION BY LOCAL AND DISADVANTAGED BUSINESSES ON THE TRADE CENTER'S CONSTRUCTION.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Written report received as information.

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5. STATUS REPORT ON INSPECTIONS MERGER.

Written report received as information.

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6. MONTHLY ROADS AND DRAINAGE BRIEFINGS.

Written report received as information.

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COMMISSIONER PRICE - PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Commissioner Price said, I have one other business. Can I bring up one issue real quick. Chairman Hair said, put it on the agenda, yes. Go ahead.

Commissioner Price said, I'd like to put on the maintenance of the Soccer Complex on the agenda and move to do so. Chairman Hair said, the maintenance of Soccer Complex. Commissioner Price said, I have some points I'd like to discuss.

Chairman Hair said, all right, Commissioner Price wants to add —. I'm not sure we can do this. County Manager Abolt said, I want to get the —. Not that I'm talking against this, but for the new open meetings and all that —. Chairman Hair said, yes, I'm not sure we can do that. County Manager Abolt said, I want the attention of the County Attorney to instruct us how to do that. There has to be some finding as to why it's coming up. Chairman Hair said, yes, I'm not sure. If it's

something that could not be delayed until the next meeting, is absolutely essential that we get it —. Two weeks? Commissioner Price said, I just wanted us to discuss it. Commissioner DeLoach said, if it's maintenance it needs to be looked at. Chairman Hair said, well, we've got to make sure though we —, we're not —, we're legal. We don't want to —, for something like this we don't want to get —. Commissioner DeLoach said, whatever you say, I mean —. Commissioner Price said, [inaudible] put that in Executive Session. Chairman Hair said, I know that, but —.

County Attorney Hart said, Russ [Abolt] is making a good point. County Manager Abolt said, I'm looking at legal opinions from —. Chairman Hair said, you can't —, you can't amend the agenda like we use to could [sic], okay, because of notice. That's what I'm saying, and if it's not something that's essential, let's hold it. Commissioner Price said, okay.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Hair asked, we need a motion to go into Executive Session for what purpose? County Manager Abolt said, litigation, land acquisition and personnel. Commissioner Thomas said, so moved. Commissioner Odell said, second. Chairman Hair said, motion and a second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Hair said, all the Commissioners, before we go into Executive Session, they want to take some photos of all of us.

The Board recessed at 10:40 a.m., to go into Executive Session. Following adjournment of Executive Session, the Board reconvened the meeting of the County Commission at 11:25 a.m.

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ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. REQUEST BOARD PAY CLAIM OF SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION.

Chairman Hair said, I'll entertain a motion to pay the claim of the Small Business Administration. Commissioner Rivers said, so moved. Commissioner Saussy said, second. Chairman Hair said, we have a motion and a second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rivers moved to authorize payment of the claim of the Small Business Administration in the amount of \$2,156.56 from Claims and Judgments. Commissioner Saussy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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2. REZONING OF HARROCK HALL NEIGHBORHOOD FROM CURRENT R-1 AND R-3 TO R-1-A AND R-1-B.

See Second Readings, Item XII-3.

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3. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE THE MUTUAL TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT WITH SAVANNAH HOCKEY AND SKATING ASSOCIATION, INC.

County Attorney Hart said, Mr. Chairman, we've got to approve the \$30,000 rebate on the in-line skating to reacquire —.

Chairman Hair said, okay, we have to obtain a motion to approve the \$30,000 settlement with the Savannah Hockey Association. Commissioner Murray said, so moved. Chairman Hair asked, second? Commissioner Odell said, second. Chairman Hair said, motion and second.

County Manager Abolt said, for the record the source of funds is the M&O CIP. County Attorney Hart said, and that's just reacquiring the capital investment that they already have in the facilities.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to approve payment of \$30,000 and authorize the Chairman to execute the Mutual Termination of Agreement with the Savannah Hockey and Skating association, Inc., to reacquire the facilities. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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4. REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZE SALE OF PARCEL IN SETTLEMENT OF CHATHAM COUNTY V. 0.101 ACRES OF LAND, MARION THOMAS BOYD, WACHOVIA BANK, NA, AND CRUISES PLUS, INC., CIVIL ACTION NO. CV99-1262-BA.

County Attorney Hart said, and the final thing is the \$80,000 approval to settle that litigation on Stephenson Avenue.

Commissioner DeLoach said, so moved. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Commissioner Rivers said, so moved. Chairman Hair said, second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the sale of a parcel of land owned by Chatham County and consisting of 13,300 square feet for \$80,100, pending approval by the Metropolitan Planning Commission of site plan, in settlement of *Chatham County V. 0.101 Acres of Land, Marion Thomas Boyd, Wachovia Bank, NA, and Cruises Plus, Inc.*, Civil Action No. CV99-1262-BA, and authorize the Chairman to sign a required letter. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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5. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE A MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE AN AFFIDAVIT THAT THE EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS HELD IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to authorize the Chairman to execute an affidavit that the Executive Session was held in compliance with the Open Meetings Law. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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APPOINTMENTS

1. CHATHAM-SAVANNAH YOUTH FUTURES AUTHORITY

Chairman Hair said, we need a motion to appoint Ms. Earline Wesley Davis and Mr. Julian Pafford to the Youth Futures Authority. Commissioner Murray said, so moved. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, motion and second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to appoint Ms. Earline Wesley Davis and Mr. Julian A. Pafford, Jr., to the Chatham-Savannah Youth Futures Authority to fill unexpired terms which will expire on June 30, 2002. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Chairman Hair declared the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

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APPROVED: THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 1999

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

SYBIL E. TILLMAN, COUNTY CLERK