

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON JANUARY 14, 2000, 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, January 14, 2000.

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**II. INVOCATION**

The Reverend Harris Ricks, Pastor, Skidaway Island Presbyterian Church, gave the invocation.

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**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

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**IV. ROLL CALL**

The Clerk called the roll.

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

Chairman Hair said, I'd like to introduced our Youth Commissioners who are with us this morning. We have Lauren Dunant, who's in the 11<sup>th</sup> Grade at Calvary Baptist Church [sic]. Did I get your name right? Ms. Dunant said, no. Chairman Hair said, I did not, okay. We have Courtney Edwards, who is a Senior at St. Vincent's Academy and with the Georgia Campaign for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention. We appreciate you being here this morning, and as we go through the deliberations, if you would like to ask questions or make a comment, raise your hand and I'll recognize you. Thank you.

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**V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

None.

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**VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS**

None.

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**VII. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS**

**1. CONAWAY CANAL DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CITY OF BLOOMINGDALE (COMMISSIONER DELOACH).**

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner DeLoach.

Commissioner DeLoach said, yes sir. I brought this up today. I met with Bloomingdale City Council and the citizens in Bloomingdale. They're interested in moving the Conaway project up as far as the time frame is concerned. We're interested in moving it up so that we could tie it in with the development of their program, and we have talked to the Mayor and the Mayor has met with the Council and they're interested in maybe doing a joint venture on this thing to where we could propose to them what it would cost to not only develop our area of Conaway Road, but also figure out what drainage program they're going to have in their area and actually tie the two together so that we can get a better price on the bid for the —, for the design and also for the actual construction. So with that in mind I wanted to bring it before y'all and see if I could get a vote of —, to do this. It will change the overall program as far as the Pipemakers Canal because it will move some funds forward out of one area into another one, but due to the fact that they're interested to move it forward, and they feel like we're holding them up, I wanted to see if we couldn't go ahead so that everybody would feel like they were getting their dollar's worth of the taxes.

Chairman Hair asked, will your proposal delay any of the other projects. County Manager Abolt said, no. Commissioner DeLoach said, no. Chairman Hair said, then I think it's a good idea. I'll entertain a motion. Commissioner DeLoach said, I make a motion that we do that. Commissioner Rivers said, second. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. Any discussion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner DeLoach moved that the Conaway Drainage Improvement Project be moved forward in partnership with the City of Bloomingdale's Conaway Project. Commissioners Rivers and Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**2. LOSS OF CURTIS COOPER (COMMISSIONER THOMAS).**

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, ladies and gentlemen. I'm sure that all of us are aware of the fact that we lost a very dedicated person, Dr. Curtis V. Cooper, who was the Director of the Westside Urban Health Center. It was a great loss to Chatham County, and I wanted to make sure that we did not overlook the fact that we need to deal with this situation at some time. But in the meantime, we want to also extend our thoughts

to the family, but we want —, I would like to do something and have the —, Connie [Cooper] and other members of the family here at a later date, Mr. Chairman and members of the Board, if that would be agreeable with you.

Chairman Hair said, I think it will be. As you and I discussed earlier this morning —. Commissioner Thomas said, right. Chairman Hair said, and Commissioner Murray, I think maybe our second meeting in February we would have a program to honor Dr. Cooper and have the family here. Without objection, we will plan that. We'll do that at that time.

Commissioner Thomas said, this —, being the Director of the Westside Urban Health Center has certainly provided an opportunity for many in our community who would otherwise not have had a facility to go to, and he was just so in tune with this facility and he worked very, very hard to provide the means by which these people will have the services rendered to them, so that's what I wanted to mention this morning and then we'll do whatever we have to do later.

Chairman Hair said, I would suggest to my fellow Commissioners that maybe Dr. Thomas and myself plan this —, this program. If any of you have any ideas that you could share with either one of us, and then she and I will get together and put together something. Commissioner Thomas said, thank you. Chairman Hair said, thank you, Dr. Thomas.

#### **ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Chairman Hair and Commissioner Thomas will work together to plan a tribute to Curtis Cooper to be held at the second meeting in February.

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### **3. VOLTAG - ESTABLISHMENT OF A VOLUNTEER TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE GROUP - HILDA WHITAKER (COMMISSIONER MURRAY).**

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, yes, I'd just like to introduce Hilda Whitaker, which I don't think needs an introduction to this Commission, but she can come up and tell us a little bit about it and then introduce someone that she has here to speak on it. Commissioner Murray recognized Mrs. Whitaker.

Mrs. Whitaker said, good morning and happy new year. Several Commissioners said, good morning and happy new year to you. Mrs. Whitaker said, I hope your new year is healthy, happy and prosperous. Mr. Chairman, Dr. Thomas, Honorable Commissioners, I am privileged and it's an honor for me to present to you Carroll Crowther this morning. Carroll Logan Crowther is a geotechnical engineering consultant with Whitaker Laboratory, Incorporated, of Savannah, Georgia. Carroll [Crowther] is a licensed professional engineer in multiple states and has more than 40 years experience as a special foundation contractor and consulting engineer. He is the author of *Load Testing Deep Foundations*, published by John Wiley & Sons, 1998 —, 1988, I'm sorry, and co-author of *Differing Site Conditions* (Federal Publications; 1994). He currently serves on the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) Codes and Standards Council, and is Chairman of ASCE Pile Foundations Standards Committee, which has recently published *ASCE 20-96, Standard Guidelines for the Design and Installation of Pile Foundations*. Carroll [Crowther] holds a Civil Engineering degree from The Citadel and a Masters Degree in Soil Mechanics and Foundation Engineering from Georgia Tech. He serves as an Arbitrator for the American Arbitration Association for soils and foundation related issues, and lectures nationwide for the University of Wisconsin College of Engineering. It is my honor and privilege to present to you Carroll Crowther.

Mr. Crowther said, thank you, Hilda [Whitaker]. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen, for allowing us to talk to you a little. I want to share a concept of a program that we in the Georgia section of ASCE is pursuing, I think, for the benefit of the County and for the State. The program is known as VOLTAG —. These things [microphones] are very irritating. I wish y'all could hear me without it. Known as VOLTAG, stands for Volunteer Technical Assistance Group, and I have a little handout here, if I could —, if you could pass those out to all the Commissioners up there. It's actually an article written and published in the *SOUTH CAROLINA ENGINEER* and kind of describes the birth of this organization in South Carolina, which occurred right after Hurricane Hugo, and this past Summer I don't think anybody can forget Hurricane Floyd and the anticipation that we had that had it come ashore here, I think we would have had a situation equal to or worse than Hugo. VOLTAG evolved after Hugo. There was so much damage, so few people, so few resources to even evaluate the damage and say where do we go from here or which of these buildings can be reentered and be reconstructed. The County persons, the State Emergency Management people, the City emergency people, all were just overwhelmed after Hugo and, thus, this volunteer organization was born. It started at The Citadel. The head of the CE Department there put it together with a bunch of Citadel cadets and practicing engineers, who came and volunteered their time to help the City, County and State and Federal persons to start the recovery effort after Hugo. It is a formal program with formalized training. I was fortunate enough to be —, I live in Beaufort, South Carolina, just to give a little explanation. I was fortunate enough to be asked to attend their training last Summer. I took Joe Whitaker with me and the two of us went and we're now trained members of the South Carolina VOLTAG, which gives us a picture ID. For no other good purpose, it allows you to get back on the Islands after a hurricane before maybe everybody else can, and this was an enticement to want us to do this. But we went —, we spent a full day training, conducted by engineers and South Carolina Emergency Management personnel

on how we can assist the governmental municipal agencies in a recovery effort after a major disaster, be it earthquake or hurricane. Here I think our primary concern would be hurricanes. If you go inland to Atlanta, the primary concern is earthquake. If you will take a chance to look at this article a little bit in your leisure, I want to highlight a few of the things in it for you. This volunteer organization was formed the day following Hugo. Immediately one architectural and two other professional engineers joined in with the South Carolina Section of ASCE, which is American Society of Civil Engineers, and it's organized by state sections and by local branches. Here in Savannah we have a branch of the Georgia Section and Joey Maxwell [phonetic], who's president of our branch, was supposed to be here this morning, but I don't see him so I'm going to do double duty. We have in the Georgia Section, Savannah Branch, have formed the nucleus of what we want to have in Chatham County and the State a similar organization. We're going to have our first training session April 1<sup>st</sup>. I brought some application blanks and I want to offer them to each of you that you may want to join too. We initially are going to ask engineers, architects, contractors, anybody who has any technical skills in building construction, to come to this training. We will all then be available, and we've got Georgia Emergency Management persons have signed on on-board, and they're supporting our concept. We will then be available to be asked to assist. We have no function other than to assist. We're not here asking for money. We've got our training sessions funded. The South Carolina Section is going to provide the South Carolina trained persons to come down here to conduct the training. Whitaker Laboratory is going to provide some —, the financial support for any of the necessary reproduction and stuff. South Carolina Port Authority here in Savannah —. Excuse me. The Georgia Port Authority is going to provide some financial assistance and meeting rooms and help us with our badges, so what we're asking for from the Chatham County Commission is your vocal support and your acknowledgment that we could be of assistance when called on. If I could answer any questions, I'll look forward to doing so.

Chairman Hair said, I just would like to say —, it's not a question, it's a comment. I think it's a great idea and I think it's —, I would certainly support your effort. I appreciate you taking the initiative to come forth and sharing it with us. Mr. Crowther said, and we have a lot of support, I think, in the technical community and we're looking for support in the political community.

Commissioner Rivers said, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Hair said, yes sir. Commissioner Rivers said, does he want —, do you need a resolution or something to come forth from this? Mr. Crowther said, that would be great. Commissioner Rivers asked, can we do that?

Chairman Hair said, I'll entertain a motion for a resolution to support the VOLTAG. Commissioner Rivers said, so moved. Commissioner Saussy said, second. Chairman Hair said, I have a motion and a second. Any discussion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes unanimously. Thank you very much for coming. We appreciate that.

Mrs. Whitaker said, if I might say, Ann Coleman Smith [phonetic], she's the head of the architect —, State group architects for the State of Georgia, is also on-board with this. I don't know what happened to her either this morning. Certainly they ought to know that the political agitator I am that this was the courthouse I was referring to.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Hilda [Whitaker].

#### **ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Rivers moved that the Board adopt a resolution accepting the concept of Volunteer Technical Assistance Group [VOLTAG] and acknowledging that they could be of assistance when called on. Commissioner Saussy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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#### **4. RECOGNITION OF YOUTH COMMISSION (COMMISSIONER THOMAS).**

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you Commissioner —, Dr. Hair and members of the Commission, ladies and gentlemen. I again am so delighted to tell you that our Youth Commission has been very active. Back in December, I think it was the 11<sup>th</sup> through the 12<sup>th</sup>, we were invited to participate in a retreat with Fulton County Youth Commissioners, who will be installed, I believe, on the 18<sup>th</sup> of this month. I would like for Mr. Van Johnson to come up and just kind of give you a brief report on this visit that we made to Fulton County with our youth. And not only that, but I want to tell you that Mr. Johnson has taken the leadership and he does all the correspondence and all that kind of stuff, so I don't do that. I get a lot of credit, but I mean we work very, very closely together in coordinating the activities of the Youth Commission, and I do want to give Mr. Johnson and his staff credit for a lot of things that they are doing in helping us to be very successful with the Youth Commission. Then we want to tell you also about the recognition that we were given in the **American City and County** magazine. Commissioner Thomas recognized Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Van Johnson said, good morning, Dr. Thomas, Dr. Hair, gentlemen. We were very pleased to have the opportunity to travel to Fulton County. If you will remember, some months ago when we were able to attend the NACo orientation session when we able to go to Washington, DC, last —, in March, we had the opportunity to go up there and from that we received recognition in the NACo, which is the National Association of Counties, newsletter. From that we received a lot of inquiries from all over the country from individuals that were interested in the concept that you all so graciously support. From this the Fulton County Commission has decided and has adopted the Youth Commission concept. They came here, I believe in July or so, and Dr. Thomas, myself, several of our staff members and Youth Commissioners took a van up to Fulton County and we attended their initial orientation, and we must say that we are extremely impressed by the caliber of young people they have there and the commitment of their Commission to make this happen, and they say, and we say, that it would not have happened if it had not been for your continuous support, and certainly the support of our County Manager, of Human Resources Director, certainly the vision and the foresight of Dr. Thomas to make this happen. On this Wednesday, I believe it is, the Fulton County Commission will be inducting their Youth Commission, and again I have to say that it all began because of your interest, your involvement and your support of our outstanding young people here in Chatham County. I did not see the article in **American City and County**, but I understand that it is in there. We were contacted —.

Commissioner Thomas said, it's here —. Chairman Hair said, a very good article. Commissioner Thomas said, it's a lovely article, and we have full page, and we're ecstatic about it. I, too, want to thank the Commissioners for your support because if you had not given us the support, then we would not have been able to do what we have done. Thank you for having the foresight to push our young people because these are the kinds of things that we need to do in our community in order to help our young people excel.

Commissioner Price said, make sure that gets shared with the other Youth Commissioners. Commissioner Thomas said, yes.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Van [Johnson]. I appreciate your —.

Commissioner Saussy said, Dr. Thomas, I don't know whether y'all have already done this or not, but I think the Youth Commission should, since this is the year of the census, if y'all have not already thought about it, I think they should be very much involved in the census this year. Dr. Thomas said, yes. That's very important. We are preparing to do that. I think that's something that's very worthwhile and we certainly will take, you know, a role in that. It's very important.

Chairman Hair said, thank you.

#### **ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Received as information.

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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 (\*).

1. **RESPONSE ON RESOURCES NECESSARY TO REPLY TO S.T.O.P. GROUP. (Note: No motion was formally made to table this item at the December 3, 1999, meeting, but it was decided that the Tax Assessor's Office would bring back costs at the December 17, 1999, meeting.) Note: Additional staff work is attached as requested.**

Chairman Hair said, Mr. Hart, you are, I think, someone has requested that we —, that a request come from the County that S.T.O.P. give the information to us that we requested officially. Is that not my understanding? Is that —? County Attorney Hart said, yes. Chairman Hair said, okay.

County Attorney Hart said, this is —, just succinctly stated, the Commission has always been very open in regard to supplying records —, public records to anyone that asked that are available, but the law nor policy has been to go out and create documents. If the Commission wants those documents, then obviously staff will produce those documents to the Commission.

Commissioner Price said, I move to untable it. Chairman Hair said, I have a motion to untable. Commissioner DeLoach said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

Commissioner Jackel said, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Hair said, yes sir. Commissioner Jackel asked, where are we on this thing? I'm not sure I want to supply all those documents.

Chairman Hair said, I talked to Mr. Udinsky yesterday. He called my office and stated that he would not be here today. He's out of town or he's on vacation and so, therefore, he just wanted to make sure that this was not going to come up today that he needed to be here. He also informed me that the Board of Assessors has appointed a new chairman and, I think it's Mr. Simowitz, if I recall. I think that's the new chairman, and that they were continuing to work on this issue. I was also informed last week that —, by Ms. Harrill from the S.T.O.P. group, that the Governor's office was sending some more folks down here to do some follow-up information gathering so I think that process is sort of under way right now, and I think it's —, I'm sure it's not totally resolved. I'm sure there are questions that are still not answered, but I think that —, I think we need to wait before —, until the Governor's folks to get down here and also wait to see the response of the Board of Assessors before we take any further action. Okay, thank you.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Price moved that this item be removed indefinitely from the agenda. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**2. RESOLUTION FROM COASTAL AREA DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (COMMISSIONER RIVERS). *Tabled at meeting of December 3, 1999. Note: January 13, 2000, request this item be tabled indefinitely.***

Chairman Hair said, we have had a request on the CADDA, Commissioner Rivers, that we postpone any action.

Commissioner Rivers said, we can remove it from the table because we're going to —. Chairman Hair said, just take it —. Commissioner Rivers said, have a group to come back and look at that thing together jointly.

Chairman Hair said, okay, I'll entertain a motion to remove this from the table and dispense with it. Commissioner DeLoach said, so move. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. Any further discussion. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner DeLoach moved that this item be removed indefinitely from the agenda. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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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 CONTINGENCY TRANSFER OF \$5,000 FOR SAVANNAH DAY AND A TRANSFER OF \$1,200,000 FROM THE SPLOST 1985-1993 CONTINGENCY TO TRUMAN PARKWAY PHASES III, IV AND V.**

Chairman Hair said, I'll entertain a motion to approve. Commissioner Murray said, so moved. Commissioner Saussy said, second. Chairman Hair said, motion and second. Any discussion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Murray moved to approve the following: a General Fund M & O Contingency transfer of \$5,000 for Savannah Day and a transfer of \$1,200,000 from the SPLOST 1985-1993 contingency to Truman Parkway Phases III, IV and V. Commissioner Saussy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**2. DISCUSSION OF OPTIONS AND STATUS OF IN-LINE SKATING AND HOCKEY RINK.**

Chairman Hair recognized County Manager Abolt.

County Manager Abolt said, Dr. Thomas, Dr. Hair, gentlemen, this is an issue discussed at your first meeting in December wherein folks were testifying on potential different ways of looking for the scheduling and use of our one in-line skating facility. You had asked and we have come back after a fairly extensive review not only by the County Attorney but also by the Recreation staff and meeting with the affected —, the user groups to show you some options. Those options right now have been analyzed in great detail by the County Attorney from the standpoint of the document that was submitted to you and possibly the main theme of our work is that now based on a solid commitment that the community has from Recreation staff that there will always be fair access and use of the facilities, that the way in which it will be run still under auspices of the Recreation Department seems to be the best way of going about it. It just does seem to have based on the documents attached, plus the most recent meeting I had with at least the Y, the way in which the community wishes us to proceed.

Mr. Jim Golden said, one thing is to the advantage of the situation now that we've got a hand on the [inaudible] that we can understand how many participants thus far we have about 200 and about 20 some teams registered —, I mean participants and about 31 teams. The biggest break we have here now, we have an opportunity to deal with the public where they have a lot of time where they can come up and use it not associated with any teams, and so far as the maintenance end we're doing the best we can, but we have the groups we have registered to use it will be working with us to help maintain it and also do some repairs, which we'll do and use the self-help form on our equipment volunteer systems. We have problems like any other problems, but it's just like running the normal facilities now. Anyone come in can use it, and even if they have a special function we can index it in like we do the soccer programs or baseball, softball. This is the way it's going now, but we're still looking forward of the future of building more facilities, but we'll use the volunteer approach like anything else to acquire help, and we have good response with a willingness to work with us to do that. We have some citizens here now and they want to make comments, but so far as I know no major problems.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray asked, is there a fee charged to the different teams for use of the rink? Mr. Golden said, it's not the teams, it's just for rent to use the facility that you all approved for us in essence. It's indexed in our regular calendar. Commissioner Murray asked, how does that work and what is the fee? Mr. Golden said, it means when they run leagues they will pay a fee per month to use the facility. It's a flat fee. Not by teams, it's just to use it. Commissioner Murray asked, what's the fee? Mr. Golden said, I think it's a \$100 monthly rate and then \$50 for special events like if they want to put on tournaments and things like that. It's a fee charged for it. Commissioner Murray said, the reason I was asking, I heard it was \$200 a month per group to use it and some of the groups use it much more than other groups use it, which does not really sound fair to me. If you've got some that are using the rink three or four times a week or possibly two or three times a week and others might be using it one time a week to pay the same fee structure. That's the only thing I was trying to clarify on that. Mr. Golden said, we will work that on a monthly basis. That's the new —, we get into this and we'll try to work this out monthly. Commissioner Murray said, I understand that, but how can you justify charging one group that might use it once a week, four times a month, \$200 or whatever the fee might be, and you've got another one that might use it three times a week, 12 times a month, still pays the same price. That's my only question. Mr. Golden said, they haven't discussed that with me to try and say time how many usage [sic], and we can minimize that because of the total charge. It's a monthly rate, we can divide that into it. We'll have to bring that back to you because you approved a lump sum on a monthly rate basis. Commissioner Murray said, yes, but I think when we did that we thought all the teams would be getting the same amount of time on the rink. I certainly did.

County Manager Abolt said, we'll look at that. Commissioner Rivers said, all you've got to do is pro rata.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Price and then —, Commissioner Price. Commissioner Price said, I thought Martin [Jackel] had his hand up before me.

Commissioner Jackel said, I was looking at the required equipment and this talk about when it's open and anyone can come in and skate at their own risk. Is there a same equipment requirement when the leagues are playing? Mr. Golden said, yes, the leagues have the same equipment requirement, but ours is come from safety in which we adopted when we first built the facility and what we do, Commissioner, if we go out, like last week I was out there and some parents had some kids out there. We took the sign down because we wanted to add more to the sign, so we just barely explained the minimum to help keep them safe and they were happy to be that because this is a pretty dangerous situation as far as kids

and some of them had no elbow bands and no chin guards, no helmets, and so we require that as a minimum, and so the parents understand that now and we've got the signs posted. Commissioner Jackel said, I would —, not necessarily for the free skates, but it seems to me when there's actual games there ought to be also a requirement that the kids wear mouth guards. I just offer that as a suggestion.

Chairman Hair said, okay. Commissioner Price and then Mrs. Whitaker and Commissioner Murray again.

Commissioner Price asked, why didn't we consider doing this from the beginning, and I'm not suggesting that this is the total solution by any means, but —? County Manager Abolt said, I can answer that. Commissioner Price said, you know, in some instances we're willing to privatize and contract, just like the Aquatic Center we do that, and other instances we're not. There isn't in my opinion any consistency on how we handle our recreation facilities. County Manager Abolt said there's a consistency as far as our continued willingness to work with anybody interested in the new sport. It happened with the BMX Track at L. Scott Stell Park, it's happened with the Weightlifting Center, it's happened with the Soccer Complex, it happened at the Aquatic Center. It usually comes out of very specific interests initially by a few folks. They might want to introduce some new leisure type services. Mr. Golden and his staff have gone out of their way regardless of how minimal it might seem at the time to work with them. In the case of in-line skating, that was not a County project. We had private folks coming forward and say if you give us the land, we'll raise the money, we'll build the facility. Not unlike the BMX Track out at L. Scott Stell Park. This one, fortunately like so many other things that we've been a part of producing, has now received a great deal of support from the community and that's why we're looking at it. From the standpoint of how to go forward certainly the County will always be a facilitator. We think, we've met with Paul Scott of the Recreation Authority from the standpoint of coordination, but more importantly the improvements, both public and private, the Recreation Authority has a real role to play in that too. Commissioner Price said, say that last part again. County Manager Abolt said, the Recreation Authority from the standpoint of construction, we only have one facility. This is a lot of attention to one rink. There is a great deal of concern, just like with soccer and like other sports, that it be made available on a disburse basis throughout the County. We don't have the current resources to do that.

Commissioner Price said, well we don't have —, do we have the resources to manage the in-line skating rink and if we build more or more are built in the County, do we have resources to do that as well? County Manager Abolt said, we only have one rink right now, and yes we do have the resources. Commissioner Price asked, well, what about when we go to Wilmington Island or go other places and build rinks? I mean, I think that we need to just stop and think about what it is we're committing ourselves to do today and consider that there is going to be an expansion of other facilities in in-line skating and the rinks that we're going to have and that's going to end up meaning more staffing, more costs to the County to do this. I'd rather take a look at it from the standpoint of another organization, whether it be the YMCA or whether it be whoever it is, but another organization bringing to us alternatives to this proposal. In other words, Russ [Abolt], I don't think we have all of the options available to us in front of us today, and I'm not ready to vote on it today. County Manager Abolt said, I'm not —, well, it's your choice. The options must be driven by the opportunities. In this case we only have one facility. We fully support, as you have, the choices that this community might have in the future for several rinks, some of which the County might put in and some which the Y might put in, but until we have that we can give you options, but we're talking about what if, and I think the what if could be manifested in a public/private partnership possibly through the Recreation Authority over time, but we'd have a series of these facilities built throughout the County, some would be publicly owned, some would be privately owned.

Chairman Hair said, before I recognize Mrs. Whitaker and then Commissioner Murray, I'd like to make a comment in support of what Commissioner Price is saying though. I think we've got to be careful here that we don't let one experience that we have with in-line skating influence the concept of privatizing the management of recreation facilities. I think the Aquatic Center, as Commissioner Price pointed out, is a perfect example of how when you do it right it works really, really well, and we did have a situation with the contract with in-line skating that we had to correct, but I totally support the concept that Commissioner Price is putting forward that I think we still need to look at privatizing the management of that facility because I think it works so well with the Aquatic Center, I don't know why it wouldn't work, and also as he pointed out, if we establish that, we would have the mechanism in place to manage multiple facilities down the road. I'll now recognize Mrs. Whitaker and then Commissioner Murray.

Mrs. Hilda Whitaker said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Hilda Whitaker. I've got a suggestion about fees. Suppose you start with a set fee for everybody and to ensure that those with less money get equal opportunity to schedule a session, that the more times you use it the fee goes up each time you use it. That way it will ensure those who have less money an equal opportunity to use it, but those groups who have more money if they want more time that week, they'll have to pay more money each time they use it. It would go up in increments and that way it will ensure some fairness to those who have less resources. Thank you.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Mrs. Whitaker. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, my other question's still on the fees that we charge and what I'd like to know, do we charge softball teams fees to play on the County softball fields? Do we charge —? Mr. Golden said, no sir. We charge them a fee if they're participating in a sponsored program that would buy out the park. Commissioner Murray asked, but if they go out there and practice or something like that, do we charge them a fee to do that? Mr. Golden said, no sir. Commissioner Murray asked, do we charge a fee for soccer fields for somebody to go practice? Mr. Golden said, only

if they participate in a league, City and County charges a fee. Commissioner Murray said, but if they go out and just practice, there's no charge. Mr. Golden said, no sir. Commissioner Murray asked, or any of our other recreational facilities do we charge a fee for the general public to go out and just use them without being in a league? Mr. Golden said, just the pool. Commissioner Murray asked, then why are we doing it with the skating rink? Mr. Golden said, well, when in our initial meetings and advisement of the fees, this was discussed about the possibility of turning away or the possibility of a fee charging to use the facility, we came up with the idea and the participants were aware of it. We projected as an idea with our overall package with the budget presentation, and it was approved by the Board. Commissioner Murray said, well, my feeling is if we aren't doing it with the rest of the recreational facilities we have, then we should treat this one the same way, and they need to do their registration in the leagues that play out there and that money comes in, but as far as the rest of it, I think we need to look at it because I just don't see how you can do one without doing all of them.

Chairman Hair said, before I recognize Commissioner Saussy, I would like to suggest after everyone's had a chance to say whatever they need to say, I think this needs to go back for further study and that we —, both on the fees and also the privatization as another option. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Saussy.

Commissioner Saussy said, that's exactly what I was going to say. Let's table this until further —. Chairman Hair said, okay. Commissioner Saussy said, we get further information. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, I have a motion to table. All those in favor of tabling vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion is tabled. Thank you.

Commissioner DeLoach said, I think we have some folks here from the general public who wanted to speak on this thing. I don't know that —. Chairman Hair asked, are you talking about in-line skating? Commissioner DeLoach said, yes, and I don't know that —. Chairman Hair said, well, I don't know if we're going to take any action today, but they're welcome —. Commissioner DeLoach said, we might not take any action, but we might get some benefit from their thoughts on it because they came and they're here and I just hate to —. Chairman Hair said, all right. Let's finish the Library issue and then go back to that. Commissioner Price said, and as a point of order we would need to untable the item. Commissioner DeLoach said, Joe [Turcotte] and them were walking out now because they think it's over with. Chairman Hair said, okay.

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Chairman Hair said, let's go back and untable if we want to allow —, do we have to untable just to get discussion on it? County Attorney Hart said, yes. Chairman Hair said, okay, let's untable Item #2 for discussion. Commissioner Saussy 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. I'll now recognize anybody that wants to speak on the skating issue. Come forward and state your name for the record, sir.

Mr. Carl Eastwood [phonetic], Wilmington Island Hockey Association. I wanted to bring back that the registration fee is \$200 per month. We're a non-profit organization. It's a strain on our budget to do that. Most of the facilities we've rented —, we've used, like the Tybee Pier, for presentations and parties and things, and typically the County will waive that fee for non-profit organizations. That's what my suggestion is because the other —, there is a league that is operated for profit [inaudible]. I'm just asking that [inaudible], not tabled but get some kind of motion on it because it [inaudible] and that's \$600 for two months and our organization has money, but that's a major strain on us.

Chairman Hair asked, weren't we just told a minute ago that it was \$100 a month? Mr. Eastwood said, no, it is \$200. I have it here. Chairman Hair said, well, I'm saying, weren't we told by the staff just a minute ago that it was \$100 a month? County Manager Abolt said, we'll clarify that before you leave. Mr. Eastwood said, it was a misquote I'm sure. Chairman Hair said, okay. All right. Thank you.

Mr. Eastwood said, we presented a proposal at the last Commissioners' meeting and today my understanding was [inaudible] position on it. Has there anything —, my understanding is that it was tabled and it was to be brought up for discussion? Chairman Hair asked, I'm not sure what your question —, what's your specific question? I'm not sure I understand your question. Mr. Eastwood said, we presented a proposal for basically an association, Board of Governors, that I presented and I gave it to all of you. You had to leave for the opening of the convention center, so as far as I know it was going to be discussed and they would bring it back up today and give us the position on —, as far as the County —. Chairman Hair asked, was your proposal to manage the facility, I'm not sure what your proposal was for? Commissioner Murray said, no —. Mr. Eastwood said, Mr. Murray is familiar and so is Mr. Abolt.

Commissioner Murray said, the proposal was [inaudible] by the Attorney to look at and —. County Manager Abolt said, yes sir, it's in your staff report. Commissioner Murray said, and Jim's [Golden] report came back with this other recommendation, which we tabled. So all of that has been tabled until —. Chairman Hair said, it still will be part of the discussion.

Commissioner Price said, it is public record though if you want to take a look at what the staff has said about it. Mr. Eastwood asked, okay, where can I get the —? County Manager Abolt said, I'll give it to you right now.

Chairman Hair said, you'll get a copy of that. Mr. Eastwood said, I appreciate it. Thank you. Chairman Hair said, thank you.

Mr. Joe Turcotte said, good morning. My name is Joe Turcotte. I'm with the Super Goose Hockey Club. We're using the rink out there at Lake Mayer. I'd like to take about two minutes to bring you up to date on where we are. We've started —, we're starting a new season. We've got three leagues for the kids. There's a development league. All kids are welcome to join. We've got an eight and under group, eleven and under group, fourteen and under group, which equates to about 125 kids. We have active right now, we have three select teams, teams that travel all across the Southeast and represent Savannah. They've gone to tournaments in Jacksonville, Columbia, Charleston. Wherever we can send them, we'll take them. We're working on two additional teams right now, ten and under group, fourteen and under group. One of the holdups we're having with these groups is coaches. The three select teams that we do have in place, the coaches have well over 15, 20 years experience in hockey. We've had another gentleman step forward with just as much experience to coach one of those teams. Our adult leagues are up and running very strong. We've got an intermediate league with four teams. We have an advance league with five teams. We've been able to work with and have a lot of fun with two SCAD club teams. Our coaches throughout the system, most of them have extensive hockey backgrounds. Six of them have at least 20 years, and there's three of us that have 30 years experience. Referees we're getting trained. We've got a lot of kids that are refereeing now, cycling through to make a little extra money, learning more about the game. We had our first organizational meeting last Wednesday night. It was attended by roughly 40 parents, which I thought was a tremendous turnout. We've set up five committees, ranging from discipline to rink maintenance, rink maintenance being our big thing. We've got at least six parents very active on what's going on at the rink. Recently we had some volunteers come out and fix the surface. Unfortunately our slabs were kind of floating and we've got these lifts that have created, and they actually rented an industrial sander and got rid of the lifts, so the surface is nice and smooth again. We plan to recoat the surface in the Spring when it warms up so the paint sticks well. All this is being worked at with Mr. Golden. We're open to anything that needs to get done out there. One of the big things that came out of our parents' meeting was the lack of, well, communication, like always, but what we're developing right now is a website for our club and, to summarize, none of this would be place today without you guys, and I feel it's a very successful club. We're going full steam ahead. It's got a lot of support from our parents and the other parts I would like to thank is Mr. Golden and his staff, namely Lorenzo Bryant and Vicki Blumberg. They conducted what I thought was a very, very well run scheduling committee with the groups that wanted to use the rink. We all walked out of that meeting thinking that we all got our times that we wanted, and on top of that there's some times out there on Saturday nights for three hours that are open to the public. So overall I think that the rink is a major success. There's a lot of talk about expansion. We have a database now and are more than willing to strategically look at that and maybe find out where maybe the next rink should be built, but overall it's, I think, is a major success and, once again, I'd just like to thank you and I'm glad we can stay in touch and work with Mr. Golden. Thanks.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, gentlemen. Okay, we probably should need to retable the item. Commissioner Price said, I move to table. Commissioner DeLoach said, second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor of tabling vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

#### **ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

1. Commissioner Saussy moved to table this item and that it be returned to staff for further study. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
2. Commissioner Price moved to untable this item and place it on the table for discussion. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
3. Commissioner Price moved to table this item and return it to staff for further study. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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#### **3. BOARD CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FROM LIBRARY FOR APPROVAL TO RESTRUCTURE THREE VACANT FULL-TIME POSITIONS INTO FOUR PART-TIME POSITIONS.**

Chairman Hair asked, is anyone here from the Library to explain this?

Ms. Candy Frawley said, good morning. Okay, are you ready for us? We were asking that we be able to reorganize three full-time library assistant positions into four part-time library assistant positions.

Chairman Hair asked, does somebody have any questions?

Commissioner Murray asked, what's your cost savings? Ms. Frawley said, the difference is between \$54,000 —, I'm sorry. County Manager Abolt said, about \$8,000. Ms. Frawley said, I'm sorry. About \$8,000. Commissioner Murray asked, but it is a savings? Ms. Frawley said, yes sir.

Chairman Hair asked, any further questions? The Chair will entertain a motion to approve. Commissioner DeLoach said, I've got a question. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Rivers.

Commissioner Rivers said, I don't have a —. Why would we —, it seems here that we are knocking down to part-time people when really we should be working towards full-time people to keep the Library open at a significant time. We're making these adjustments here. Now I put forth a proposal to the Library Chairman, which I got no word back from her other than this couldn't be done. You know, this is asinine. Chairman Hair said, I think your proposal also, Commissioner Rivers, was an excellent proposal. Commissioner Rivers said, but I think —. Chairman Hair said, and one that I thought was very worthwhile and I'm disturbed to know that you did not get any response to that. Commissioner Rivers said, you know, in all this adjustments, when we could look at doing the Library on a full-time basis or maximize the hours with enough personnel if we make adjustments in the right places, you know, I'm concerned about this.

Chairman Hair said, one of the concerns that I have too is that we get this and then maybe another meeting it would be another adjustment, and another meeting another, I'd like to see a more comprehensive proposal on staffing that would address the whole staffing issue at one time and not try to piecemeal this. I'm going to suggest to my fellow Commissioners that we table this.

Commissioner Odell said, before we do I'd like to ask a question. Commissioner DeLoach said, me too. Commissioner Jackel said, I would too. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Odell.

Commissioner Odell said, my question is the advantage as perceived from the Library to convert full-time positions to part-time positions. What is the rationale in doing this? Ms. Frawley said, our scheduling needs. This meets some of our scheduling needs. We have —, except for the three larger branches, most of the branches work on very short schedules every day and to have a full-time person working in these positions, they would have to move from one branch to another using travel time. It more effectively fits our scheduling needs. Commissioner Odell asked, okay, these are not people that you would be reducing their hours, those are future positions? Ms. Frawley said, correct. Commissioner Odell said, and in your computation as far as the savings, did you also compute a benefits savings? Ms. Frawley said, that has been computed. Commissioner Odell said, so the part-time positions are in response to a shortened work hour in certain locations? Ms. Frawley said, it is not —, from what I understand from the scheduling, it is not a projected shortening of work hours. It is just the need at this time and for the future. Commissioner Odell said, okay.

Commissioner Odell recognized Commissioner Price.

Commissioner Price said, what was that, CMG/Maximus that we —? Chairman Hair said, DMG. Commissioner Price said, that we hired to take a look at, how does this proposal fit in what the recommendations from DMG/Maximus? Ms. Frawley said, I can't say that it was mentioned in that. I don't have the answer to that. Commissioner Price said, okay. I mean, have we actually taken that that we have paid for and actually applied it and are taking note of how to use it in the management of the Library? County Manager Abolt said, if you're asking me, yes. You've done it in your budget time. Commissioner Rivers presented a proposal that addresses exactly what the study says from the standpoint of needed cash. This is a very small issue in comparison to what Commissioner Rivers brought forward. That I think is the issue of substance. This is tweaking an organization that may need more than just tweaking from the standpoint of where they're now going. I believe the Library staff, possibly with the Library Board Director, would be more on point to it, but you have a report from your consultant which says they need certain additional resources to keep the Bull Street Library open and not affect branch operation. That amount of money was quantified. Commissioner Rivers took that report and in effect made an offering, which is attached and is a second part of this agenda item that would in effect get the Library Board where they want to be and the community where it wants to be from the standpoint of full access by patrons to all of our facilities. That I think is the issue of substance.

Commissioner Price said, I move that we take Commissioner Rivers's proposal, which is a very good proposal, and that —, I don't know how from a —, I mean, they're a separate board. We've approved budgetary items, I don't know from the management standpoint whether or not, Jon [Hart], that we can dictate how they manage? Chairman Hair said, I don't think we can dictate, but I do think we can pass a motion that would say to the Library Board that we would expect you to seriously discuss Commissioner Rivers's proposal and come back to us with why it could not be done.

Mr. Neal Vickers said, if I could, Commissioner Rivers's proposal came in between our board meetings and at our next board meeting the Library Board is going to address those. There was three alternatives in this study. One was increased funding, one was reduced hours, and one was, as Commissioner Rivers suggested, a merging or lessening of management, and those three issues are being —, I guess they'll be presented to our board for their discussion. Chairman Hair said, well, that being the case, I don't think we should act on this item today until we get —. Two weeks I don't think is going to make any difference. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Jackel said, yes. Look, the Library people have come up here. They've got a sound proposal. There are no people in place. No people in place, as Commissioner Odell brought out. I mean, you people were ready to say just axe this thing and he got up here and asked a question are these people in place. We can save money by having these part-time people instead of full-time people. They also came up here and showed us in response to his question —, I mean, they showed us how they're going to save money. They showed us how it fits into their staffing scheme. Now without

even listening, y'all are ready to axe that proposal. This thing make a great deal of sense, and the other thing is, we're getting ready to go on a very, very slippery slope when we start micro-managing everything that the Library does. They've got an Executive Director over there, they've got a board. They just didn't grab these numbers out of a hat. I'm sure they discussed these things and came forward with it, and without even asking the questions that Commissioner Odell asked that needed to be asked, we're prepared to micro-manage this and everything over there. We've got to be real careful before we jump on that slope and start sliding down that slope, and I suggest that this thing makes sense. It's going to save us \$8,000, and that we approve it.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner DeLoach and then Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner DeLoach said, I'm just putting my plug in. Y'all are doing a lot of managing and moving people around. I'm still waiting for an answer back on the two people I have at Port City that y'all are studying and y'all were going to get back to me and y'all haven't gotten back to me, and we've gotten letters concerning transferring those people out when they do not want to be transferred out. I'm still waiting for answers and it's been, what, two months. Ms. Frawley said, I'm not aware of it. Commissioner DeLoach said, he's —, the gentleman with you there is aware of it, and I still do not have the answer and if you get your executive man up here, I'll be glad to find out. I'll speak to him, but for some reason he's not showing up now, but I'm interested in finding out about two ladies at Port City who've —.

Chairman Hair said, to reinforce what Commissioner DeLoach is saying, we actually passed a motion, if I recall —. Commissioner DeLoach said, yes. Chairman Hair said, asking for a direct response and we still haven't gotten a response. Commissioner Thomas said, yes we did. Commissioner DeLoach said, we're still waiting on a response. Chairman Hair said, so —. Ms. Frawley said, I will get that for you. Commissioner DeLoach said, please do.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Thomas and then Commissioner Saussy.

Commissioner Thomas said, I wanted to ask a question about your Sunday hours. Are there any hours —, are they being open on Sunday? If not, then —. Ms. Frawley said, at this point we are doubling the Library's opening hours over the next week. We are moving toward rapidly increasing the hours as we bring in some of the new employees who have had offers made. If I were to say a projected date, I would be held to it and I'm not the one to make those decisions, but it is in the very near future that we feel we'll be up to full operating hours. Commissioner Thomas said, well, I think that the Library needs to be open on Sundays. That will give parents an opportunity to be with their children, and I would think that you would have it open anyway around —, between one to six, something like that, to accommodate these parents and children. Not to have it open, I can't foresee that, and I hope that you all would consider that.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Saussy and then myself.

Commissioner Saussy asked, can you explain to me exactly what is happening here? Ms. Frawley asked, what's the question? Commissioner Saussy said, on these restructuring, I mean, as far as the hours go and so forth going from the four. Ms. Frawley said, basically we have four —, three full-time positions. They are all 40-hour positions. Some of them we want to reduce in classification, which would be less because there is not a need for higher classifications in some of these positions. Some of them we just want to reduce in the number of hours so that we can more effectively meet our scheduling needs so in the end it gives us a few more bodies that can be at different locations so we don't waste time and money in travel. Commissioner Saussy said, so actually in essence we're not cutting anything as far as hours go, we may be improving them. Ms. Frawley said, maybe —, yes. That's correct. Because of the travel time, it's not —, that won't be necessary any more. Commissioner Saussy said, frankly, I think we ought to go ahead and pass this. It's not going to hurt the proposal that the Second District representative has proposed, and I make a motion that we approve this. Commissioner Jackel said, and I second it.

Chairman Hair said, all right, we have a motion and a second. My suggestion is going to be that we do pass this, but we put the Library Board on notice that we are not going to pass any other additional staffing changes until we get a comprehensive staffing issue and until Commissioner Rivers's proposal is addressed directly by the Library Board, we're not going to entertain any more staffing decisions after we pass this one until we get a comprehensive report. That's going to be my suggestion. Commissioner Price said, and a response to Commissioner DeLoach's request. Chairman Hair said, that's part of it. Let's go in order please. Commissioner Odell and then Commissioner DeLoach and then Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Odell said, I talked to Dr. Dickerson yesterday and my major concern is that some of our questions have not been answered, and I'm not certain if some of the fault or a lot of the fault lays at the feet of the Commission also, but I would ask my fellow Commissioners, and I'll even try to do it myself, and that is that people who come before the Commission, we should exercise a higher level of civility, and this is not trial by accusation, and I make no assumption that I am the only one who can do the right and honorable thing. My independent review of this proposal is that it's an attempt to adjust the staffing to meet a need that staff has defined. I think the staff's in a better position than Harris Odell to make a determination as to what the staffing needs are. I support the change. I do not think that it impacts on Commissioner Rivers's position and in that they are not current positions, I don't think it impacts on Eddie's [DeLoach] position.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner DeLoach and then Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner DeLoach said, I don't have a problem with that. I mean, I don't think it impacts either. I want to make sure that we're not talking about the people that are already working in these positions and then we're moving towards reducing the hours so that when we reduce the hours, we force these people out of positions that they are already operating in in another capacity. If these are brand new positions, that's great, but —, and I understand what Harris [Odell] is saying, but make no —, I want to make it clear. There's no doubt in my mind that y'all understood what I asked when I said I wanted to know the status of those people. There was no misunderstanding, there's —, whether you can run a staff better than I can, I don't —, you know, that's fine, but when I ask specifically about two people and I ask for answers and I don't get them over a two month period, there's no excuse for that. I don't care who's running the board. So I have a problem with that issue right there not being —, because this is people's lives you're dealing with and you've got an Executive Director up there who is screwing around with people's lives and I don't like it. I do not like what you're doing to these people because they're sitting in limbo and they don't know what to do. So I'm asking —, no, I'm demanding that we get an answer and I would hope the Commission would not further fund you, do anything for you until you get whoever is responsible up there to give us an answer. That's all —, I mean, I'm not asking for a lot. I'm asking to take care of two people. Ms. Frawley said, we'll get you an answer. Commissioner DeLoach said, and I want an answer on these two people because I've asked for two months. Not yesterday or not between meetings or anything, this has been for two months and I have not got an answer.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Jackel and then Commissioner Rivers.

Commissioner Jackel said, I think it's all been said pretty much. We need to focus on what's in front of us now that they're asking for people and they've justified what they want to do, and that's what we're dealing with right now.

Chairman Hair said, all right, Commissioner Rivers and then we're going to vote. We have a motion and a second on the floor.

Commissioner Rivers said, let me say this too, and sometimes we get up here and we look over these things and we think that, yes, everything is hunky-dory, and it's not necessarily so because you don't look anything as to where the position is, where the money comes from that funds that position or anything else, or what impact it's going to have on any of the Libraries. Now what I want to know is where are these vacancies, where do these vacancies come from, where are they at? Ms. Frawley said, with the notes I have, one is at Oglethorpe Mall Branch, one is at Thunderbolt and I'm not sure if I have the information on —, they are all vacant. I'm sorry, I don't have the other two answers. Commissioner Rivers asked, do you know how long these positions have been vacant? How long have they been vacant? Ms. Frawley said, a minimum of 90 days. Commissioner Rivers said, okay. Let me ask you one other question. Now, if we did this and vacated those positions and made them part-time positions, where do these people —, where are they placed? Ms. Frawley said, these are vacant positions. Commissioner Rivers said, I'm saying where are you going to place them. Ms. Frawley said, they will be, as I said, one's at Oglethorpe Mall and one is, I believe, at Thunderbolt and I can't say from my notes where the other two are right off hand. Mr. Vickers said, most likely at Bull Street. Ms. Frawley said, yes, most likely at Bull Street. Commissioner Rivers said, at Bull Street. Ms. Frawley said, most likely. Commissioner Rivers said, so you're taking two part-time people to Bull Street, one part-time person to Oglethorpe Mall, one part-time person to Thunderbolt. Okay. Commissioner DeLoach said, nothing wrong with that.

Mr. Vickers said, part of the problem with staffing is that we try to be open as many days of the week as possible. Some of those days we're only open half a day on a Saturday or a Sunday, so to have full-time people work six days a week to make 40 hours is kind of unfair to the people who we're asking now to [inaudible], so that's where part-timers can come in and help out.

Commissioner Rivers said, let me ask you this. Cutting full-time people, when you come back to your normal hours what happens then? Mr. Vickers said, these people are still part of the big plan, of the big picture. I'm sorry that you're obviously not getting the information that some of us at the Library work hard on, but we do have a staffing plan for every branch and what positions are at these branches and what positions we can maybe, you know, not fill right away and what positions we need, and I apologize that the communication between the Library staff and the Board's no what it should be when questions are asked, and the staff tries its best to come up with answers and they don't get back to you. Commissioner Rivers said, so what I'm understanding now, I want to be clear, that you no longer will need these four full-time positions now or in the future with this elimination. Ms. Frawley said, we will no longer need them as full-time positions in our plan that we have. Commissioner Rivers said, I would like to see a copy of that long-term plan. I'm going to have no objections to going on and approving it, but I would like to see —, and I'm not trying to micro-manage the Library, but I do have some concerns because when we sit up here and we do things, I'll guarantee you come July y'all are going to be in a whole lot of trouble and going to be running back up here for more money and it's going to be as the result of a whole lot of things that's done that people just do and don't really understand the repercussions, but I'll guarantee you that and you enter that into the minutes and I'll bet you, mark my words, you'll be back here in July talking about money —.

Chairman Hair said, we have a motion and a second on the floor to approve the item. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion passed unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes. Thank you.

#### **ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Saussy moved to approve the request from the Library to restructure three vacant full-time positions into four part-time positions. Commissioner Jackel seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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## **X. ACTION CALENDAR**

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

Chairman Hair said, Action Calendar. Who would like to pull what off of there? Staff's already pulled, by the way, E. 21-E is pulled by the staff, so we won't have to deal with that issue.

Commissioner Jackel said, how about 4, 6. Chairman Hair said, wait a minute, just a second; 4, 5, 6, okay. Commissioner DeLoach asked, did somebody say 5? Chairman Hair said, yes, we've got five. Commissioner Murray asked, wasn't 14 pulled? By the Attorney, didn't y'all pull 14, qualifying fees? County Attorney Hart said, yes. Commissioner Murray said, that's already been scratched, right? County Attorney Hart said, correct. Commissioner DeLoach said, I make a motion for approval. Commissioner Jackel said, and CC. Mrs. Hilda Whitaker said, Z. Chairman Hair asked, C or Z. Commissioner Price said, Z. Chairman Hair asked, who's going to pull Z? Commissioner Price said, I'll pull it. Commissioner Jackel said, okay, how about CC. Commissioner Murray said, wait a minute, I've got some too. Commissioner Jackel said, like CC-rider. Mrs. Whitaker said, W. Chairman Hair said, wait a second. Please, only Commissioners can pull items, okay. Let's make that very clear. So please respect that. Commissioner Murray said, H, S, and W and CC. Chairman Hair said, he's been sitting too close to Martin [Jackel]. Chairman Hair said, it's finally catching up with him. What was after S? Commissioner Murray said, S —, was W. Chairman Hair said, okay. That's it? Commissioner Murray said, and CC I think had already been pulled. Chairman Hair said, that is correct, by Commissioner Jackel.

Chairman Hair said, okay, I'll entertain a motion to approve the balance of 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. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.]

### **ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve Items 1 through 21-BB of the Action Calendar, with the exception of Items 4, 5, 6, 14, 21-A, 21-E, 21-F, 21-H, 21-S, 21-W, 21-Z and 21-CC. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.]

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

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### **1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ON DECEMBER 17, 1999, AS MAILED.**

#### **ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on December 17, 1999, as mailed. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.]

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### **2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD DECEMBER 9, 1999, THROUGH JANUARY 5, 2000.**

#### **ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Thomas moved that the Finance Director is authorized to pay claims for the period December 9, 1999, through January 5, 2000, in the amount of \$35,170,883. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.]

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**3. CONFIRM MEETING DATES AND TIME OF MEETINGS FOR COMMISSION MEETINGS IN 2000.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Thomas moved to confirm meeting dates and time of meetings for Commission meetings in 2000 as follows: 9:00 a.m. on the second and fourth Fridays January through September and on the first and third Fridays October, November and December. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.]

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**4. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE THE NOTE RESOLUTION FOR THE COUNTY TO ISSUE SHORT-TERM DEBT TAX ANTICIPATION NOTES (SHORT TERM BORROWINGS, 2000) FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2000 FOR UP TO \$28 MILLION.**

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Jackel said, I'd just like to know a little bit more about this other than what's in the report. County Manager Abolt said, you authorized us to go out and issue, in effect, seek debt to cover our cash flow problems which we've done every year now for several years. Commissioner Jackel said, so this is what we've been doing then? County Manager Abolt said, unfortunately, yes. With no fund balance this is what we have to do. Commissioner Jackel asked, have we been doing it at that level though? At \$28 million? County Manager Abolt said, no sir, it gets more and more each year. That's the function of no fund balance.

Chairman Hair said, the Chair will entertain —. Commissioner Jackel said, move for approval. Commissioner Murray said, second. Chairman Hair said, 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 Jackel moved to approve the Note Resolution for the County to issue short-term debt Tax Anticipation Notes (short term borrowings, 2000) for calendar year 2000 for up to \$28 million. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**5. REQUEST BOARD ADOPT A RESOLUTION TO IMPLEMENT FREEPORT EXEMPTION AT THE 100% LEVEL EFFECTIVE IN CALENDAR YEAR 2001.**

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Odell.

Commissioner DeLoach said, so moved. Commissioner Price said, second.

Commissioner Odell said, said, just by way of discussion, Russ [Abolt], the impact of freeport is financially what? County Manager Abolt said, well, there's no impact this year —. Commissioner Odell said, I understand that, but if we did not have freeport, then the impact would be what? Commissioner DeLoach asked, what's the tax savings?

County Manager Abolt said, well, in fact, in practice it's supposed to be neutral. When the County Commission approved the freeport and it was voted on by the people a number of years ago, it was always with the understanding it would be implemented when there was an equal growth in the digest to compensate for the freeport write-off. That's the way it works. Back in the Fall of this past year you were approached by the Economic Development Authority saying that they had a firm that wanted to come to town with certain assurances as to when freeport would be available. You all had some very difficult budget problems for this year and looking at the fiscal year 2001, you wanted to maximize the amount of money you would have to solve those problems. Okay, and if I may answer on point here, it's \$2.8 million in SSD and three-quarters of a million dollars in —, excuse me, that's M&O and three-quarters of a million dollars in SSD, with \$22,000 in CAT.

Commissioner Odell said, and basically the growth elsewhere in the County has compensated for that loss. County Manager Abolt said, that's the principle behind it, yes sir, and that's how you —, and each year —. Commissioner Odell said, and if we did not have freeport we would have that additional amount of money. Correct? County Manager Abolt said, yes sir. That's correct, and what you did back in about the early 90's the County Commission said this is workable with the understanding it would be phased in incrementally. Each year when Mr. Udinsky gives you the digest, he always says whether or not you have in effect exceeded or pierced that next 20% increment. His last digest said you're there. You did not do it though for fiscal year 2000 because of the budget problems, and you're now delaying it until fiscal year 2001. Commissioner Odell said, my point, and Russ [Abolt], it's not directed at you, is that I know of no other county and municipality that can exist solely on new growth, and it —, without making some budgetary adjustments. You add to that list the fact that we have freeport, and freeport is an inventory tax which at one time we did not charge. We went to a gradation, and that is we went from now it's proposed at 100, a year or so it was 90 and, you know, at one point it was 10. The point being is that that's a substantial financial impact. We have obviously documented the financial benefits of that as far as attracting industry into the community, maintaining industries in the community because I know some companies at one point around inventory time were moving things over to South Carolina just to avoid the tax so I think that is an A-plus for County government's ability to manage.

Chairman Hair said, we have a motion and a second. Commissioner Odell said, I make a motion. Commissioner DeLoach said, we've already got it. 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 DeLoach moved to adopt a resolution to implement Freeport exemption at the 100% level effective in calendar year 2001. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**6. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2000, THROUGH JUNE 30, 2001, BUDGET CALENDAR.**

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Jackel said, this looks real good but I would propose now that we have a goal session in there as suggested and we get a date for that as soon as we can. County Manager Abolt said, it's up to y'all.

Chairman Hair asked, do I have a motion to approve. Commissioner Jackel asked, can we do this with an amendment that we have a goal session? Chairman Hair said, well, it's in there already, it's just a matter of having a date for it. Commissioner Jackel said, well, let's let the staff know that we're in favor of it. Chairman Hair said, well, we've already let the staff know that. Chairman Hair said, I'll entertain a motion to approve. Commissioner Price said, so moved. Commissioner DeLoach said, second. Chairman Hair said, 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 Fiscal Year July 1, 2000, through June 30, 2001, Budget Calendar. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**7. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE GRANT FROM THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR AID IN CONSTRUCTION OF TRUMAN LINEAR PARK, EXTENDING THE DEADLINE FOR COMPLETING THE PARK. [DISTRICT 2.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve an amendment to the grant from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources for aid in construction of Truman Linear Park, extending the deadline for completing the park. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.]

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8. **REQUEST FROM THOMAS & HUTTON, AGENT FOR SAVANNAH QUARTERS, TO RECORD THE FINAL PLAT FOR STEEPLE RUN AT SOUTHBRIDGE PHASE 14, LOTS 21, 23, 25, AND 27.  
[DISTRICT 7.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the request from Thomas & Hutton, agent for Savannah Quarters, to record the final plat for Steeple Run at Southbridge Phase 14, Lots 21, 23, 25, and 27. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.]

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9. **REQUEST FROM HUSSEY, GAY, BELL AND DEYOUNG, AGENT FOR FOREST COVE PARTNERSHIP, TO RECORD THE FINAL PLAT FOR FOREST COVE, PHASE 9, TO COMBINE THE STREETLIGHT ASSESSMENT DISTRICT WITH THE EXISTING DISTRICT, TO APPROVE CONSTRUCTION OF THE IMPROVEMENTS, AND TO BEGIN THE 12-MONTH WARRANTY PERIOD.  
[DISTRICT 6.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the request from Hussey, Gay, Bell and DeYoung, agent for Forest Cove Partnership, to record the final plat for Forest Cove, Phase 9, to combine the streetlight assessment district with the existing district, to approve construction of the improvements, and to begin the 12-month warranty period. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.]

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10. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL FOR THE INSTALLATION OF A STREETLIGHT ON WILD HERON ROAD AT THE CURVE NEAR FAWCETT CANAL.  
[DISTRICT 6.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the installation of a streetlight on Wild Heron Road at the curve near Fawcett Canal. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.]

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11. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO DECLARE AS SURPLUS AND OFFER FOR SALE CHATHAM COUNTY'S INTEREST HELD BY A PROPERTY TAX DEED AT 626 RUBEN COURT IN THE CITY OF SAVANNAH AND ABATE A PORTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE (TAX) FEES TO ASSIST IN THE PROPERTY'S SALE.  
[DISTRICT 8.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the request to declare as surplus and offer for sale Chatham County's interest held by a property tax deed at 626 Ruben Court in the City of Savannah and abate a portion of administrative (tax) fees to assist in the property's sale. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.]

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12. **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 AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS OF COLT ROAD.  
[DISTRICT 5.]**

**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 and drainage improvements of Colt Road. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.]

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13. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO TERMINATE THE EXISTING SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF SAVANNAH'S DEAN FOREST ROAD LANDFILL SITE.  
[ALL DISTRICTS.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Thomas moved to terminate the existing solid waste disposal agreement with the City of Savannah's Dean Forest Road Landfill Site. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.]

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14. **REQUEST BOARD FIX AND PUBLISH THE QUALIFYING FEES FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS TO BE FILLED IN THE 2000 ELECTIONS. *NOTE: On January 13, 2000, request was made by the County Attorney to pull this item from the agenda. It will appear on the January 28, 2000, agenda.***

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

This item was pulled from the agenda at the request of the County Attorney.

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15. **REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZE THE CONVEYANCE BY QUIT CLAIM DEED OF A REMNANT OF PARCEL 5-R AT THE CORNER OF MARGERY AND GRAHAM STREETS, BAY/GRAHAM PROJECT.  
[DISTRICT 8.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Thomas moved to authorize the conveyance by quit claim deed of a remnant of Parcel 5-R at the corner of Margery and Graham Streets, Bay/Graham Project. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.]

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- 16. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE A CORRECTION TO THE MINUTES OF JUNE 11, 1999, TO CLARIFY THAT AN AMENDMENT TO THE ZONING ORDINANCE ALSO AMENDED THE SUBSEQUENT SECTION.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve a correction to the minutes of June 11, 1999, to clarify that an amendment to the Zoning Ordinance renumbered Section 4-6.613 Variances as Section 4-6.614 as a result of the insertion of a new Section 4-6.613. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.]

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- 17. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE A CORRECTION TO A ZONING BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION FOR A ZONING DECISION MADE IN 1980. [DISTRICT 1.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve a correction to the minutes of May 2, 1980, to clarify a zoning boundary description for a zoning decision made on property identified by PIN 01-0407-02-007, 00L, on May 2, 1980, to read as follows: Beginning on a point located at the intersection of the centerline of Ferguson Avenue and Skidaway Road, thence proceeding in a southwesterly direction along the centerline of Ferguson Avenue a distance of approximately 802 feet to a point, thence easterly along a line South 74 degrees 45 minutes East to its intersection with the centerline of Diamond Causeway, thence in a northwesterly direction along the centerline of Diamond Causeway back to the point of beginning. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.]

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**18. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF GRANTS-IN-AID RECOMMENDATIONS FROM THE HUMAN SERVICES AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS TASK FORCES FOR THE TRANSITION SIX-MONTH BUDGET FOR 2000.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the Grants-in-Aid recommendations from the Human Services and Cultural Affairs Task Forces for the transition six-month budget for 2000. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.]

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**19. REQUEST FOR A NEW BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR RETAIL LICENSE FOR 2000. PETITIONER: EDESEL ORISE BRAZELL, JR., D/B/A CHRIS'S BEVERAGE, LOCATED AT 1040 KING GEORGE BOULEVARD, SUITE 40. [DISTRICT 6.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the request of petitioner: Edsel Orise Brazell, Jr., d/b/a Chris's Beverage, located at 1040 King George Boulevard, Suite 40, for a new beer, wine and liquor retail license for 2000. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.]

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**20. REQUEST FOR A NEW BEER AND WINE RETAIL LICENSE FOR 2000. PETITIONER: ROBERT DEAN HATHAWAY, D/B/A FOOD LION, INC., #1618, LOCATED AT 1040 KING GEORGE BOULEVARD, SUITE 20. [DISTRICT 6.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the request of petitioner Robert Dean Hathaway, d/b/a Food Lion, Inc., #1618, located at 1040 King George Boulevard, Suite 20, for a new beer and wine retail license for 2000. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.]

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

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
A. Final renewal option to the annual contract to provide financial advisor services	Finance	A.G. Edwards and Sons, Inc.		Funding for this service will be derived from individual bond issuances
B. Change Order No. 1 to the contract to provide and install a telephone system for the direct dial lines to run through fiber instead of copper	SPLOST	Bell South	\$1,474.62	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Trade Center (FF&E budget)

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
C. First renewal option to the annual contract to provide welding and metal fabrication	Fleet Operations	H & H Steel Company	\$16.50 per hour	General Fund/M&O - Various
D. Confirmation to extend, on a quarterly basis, the contract to provide risk management services in conjunction with the Owner Controlled Insurance Policy (OCIP)	SPLOST	Construction Safety Experts	\$28,000 per quarter	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Trade Center
E. Industrial equipment	SPLOST	•Carlton Company •Prime Equipment •Dougherty Equipment	•\$29,072 •\$58,623 •\$16,194	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Trade Center - (FF&E budget)
F. Final renewal option to the annual contract to provide food and soft drink concessions	Parks and Recreation	Moonwalk of Savannah d/b/a Fun Time Parties	N/A	Revenue Producing
G. Change Order No. 1 to the contract to provide and install a security system to add an employee access control system	SPLOST	ADT Security Services	\$9,680	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Trade Center - (FF&E budget)
H. Annual contract, with renewal options for two additional one-year terms, for the operation and management of the Aquatic Center	Aquatic Center	The Champion Corporation	\$279,500	General Fund/M&O - Aquatic Center
I. Change Order No. 1 to the annual contract to provide various high volume paper and chemical products to recognize a manufacturer-imposed price increase on foam trays	Detention Center	Paper Chemical supply Company	\$12.67 per case	•General Fund/M&O - Various •SSD - Various
J. First renewal option to the annual contract for cable and conduit installation	Various	Delta Electric Company	Same terms and conditions	•General Fund/M&O - Various •SSD - Various
K. Annual contract, with renewal options for two additional one-year terms, to provide electrical maintenance and repair services	Various	•SAMCO, Inc. •Joyner Electric Company	Varies by service required	•General Fund/M&O - Various •SSD - Various •CIP - Various
L. Confirmation of emergency purchase and installation of carpet and cover base	Assessor	Ardley Carpet	\$11,944	General Fund/M&O - Building Maintenance and Operations (1999 budget)
M. Confirmation of emergency action to provide floor and wall repairs at the Tybee Branch Library	Library	The House Doctor of Savannah	Not to exceed \$16,000	General Fund/M&O - Library (1999 budget)
N. Contract for the installation of two outside air intake ducts at the Judicial Courthouse Annex	Building Maintenance and Operations	York International, Inc.	\$17,489	Bond Issue

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
O. Declare surplus and sell by sealed bid, inoperable, obsolete and unserviceable computers, computer components and assorted electronic equipment	Purchasing	N/A	N/A	Revenue Producing
P. Annual maintenance agreement for the book theft detection systems in the various Libraries	Library	3M Detection Security Service	\$12,935	General Fund/M&O - Library
Q. Declare as surplus, and authorize the sale at public auction old trucks, sedans and other equipment	Fleet Operations	N/A	N/A	Revenue Producing
R. Model year 2000 Ford Focus sedan	Assessor	J.C. Lewis	\$11,785	Vehicle and Equipment Lease
S. Stripe machine	Public Works	Transafe	\$33,233.90	Vehicle and Equipment Lease
T. Software and hardware	EMS	•EMS Consultants •Codoram Corp. •Dell Marketing	•\$32,000 •\$17,970 •\$14,184	General Fund/M&O - EMS (1999 Funds)
U. Confirmation of emergency purchase and installation of new carpet	Library	Ardley Carpet	\$11,872.80	General Fund/M&O - Library (1999 Funds)
V.63 software license upgrades	Library	SIRSI (sole source)	\$12,757.50	Vehicle and Equipment Lease
W. Change Order No. 1 to the contract to for the Whitfield Avenue/Diamond Causeway widening project to perform additional design for signalization and intersection improvements on US 80 at Whitemarsh Island Drive and vicinity	SPLOST	Thomas & Hutton	\$45,453	SPLOST (1985-1993) - Islands Expressway Flyover
X. Annual agreement for Natural Gas Aggregation Service	Various	Georgia Municipal Association	Varies	General Fund - M&O SSD
Y. 65 computer printers	CEL Regional Library	Entré Computer	\$17,885.54	Vehicle and Equipment Lease
Z. Confirmation of professional services contract to expedite full operation of the Bull Street Library	Library	Sharon Wixom	Not to exceed \$750.00	General Fund M&O - Library
AA. Confirmation of an emergency purchase to upgrade new chillers and to provide enhanced cooling and lower electrical consumption	Judicial Courthouse HVAC Replacement Project	The Trane Company	\$55,800	Bond Proceeds-HVAC Replacement

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
BB. Confirmation of a deductive change order to the Judicial Courthouse HVAC replacement contract	Judicial Courthouse HVAC Replacement Project	Erickson and Associates	(\$61,798)	HVAC Replacement Project
CC. Change Order No. 6 to the contract for engineering and design of Phases III, IV and V of Truman Parkway	SPLOST	Jordan, Jones and Goulding/ Stevenson and Palmer	\$1,174,706.31	SPLOST (1985-1993 - Contingency)

**Items 21-B through 21-BB, except E, F, H, S, W and Z:**

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve Item 21 except subparagraphs A, E, F, H, S, W, Z and CC. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.]

**Item 21-A:**

FINAL RENEWAL OPTION TO THE ANNUAL CONTRACT TO PROVIDE FINANCIAL ADVISOR SERVICES; DEPT.: FINANCE; SOURCE: A. G. EDWARDS AND SONS, INC.; FUNDING: FUNDING FOR THIS SERVICE WILL BE DERIVED FROM INDIVIDUAL BOND ISSUANCES.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, the only reason I pulled that out is I would make a motion for Ben [Price] to be recused from voting on this since it's his employer. Commissioner DeLoach said, second.

Chairman Hair said, we have a motion and a second to recuse Commissioner Price. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes. Commissioner Price said, thank you, Frank [Murray]. Chairman Hair said, all of us know, but is it required for the record that we give a reason for recusal, I believe it is. County Attorney Hart said, it states in there. Chairman Hair said, okay, it's just the record requires that.

**Item 21-E:**

INDUSTRIAL EQUIPMENT; DEPT.: SPLOST; SOURCE/AMOUNT: CARLTON COMPANY \$29,072, PRIME EQUIPMENT \$58,623, DOUGHERTY EQUIPMENT \$16,194; FUNDING: SPLOST (1993-1998) - TRADE CENTER - (FF&E BUDGET).

This item was pulled from the agenda by staff and was not considered by the Commissioners.

**Items 21-F and 21-H:**

F. FINAL RENEWAL OPTION TO THE ANNUAL CONTRACT TO PROVIDE FOOD AND SOFT DRINK CONCESSIONS; DEPT.: PARKS AND RECREATION; SOURCE: MOONWALK OF SAVANNAH D/B/A FUN TIME PARTIES; AMOUNT: N/A; FUNDING: REVENUE PRODUCING.

H. ANNUAL CONTRACT, WITH RENEWAL OPTIONS FOR TWO ADDITIONAL ONE-YEAR TERMS FOR THE OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF THE AQUATIC CENTER; DEPT.: AQUATIC CENTER; SOURCE: THE CHAMPION CORPORATION; AMOUNT: \$279,500; FUNDING: GENERAL FUND/M&O - AQUATIC CENTER.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, my only question is, and I don't have a problem with renewal on either one of these. My question is that the Aquatic Center does their own concessions. Is that correct? It's not covered under this contract that F would be? Mr. George Lynch said, no, it is not included in —. Commissioner Murray said, they do their own concessions at the Aquatic Center. Is that correct? Mr. Lynch said, they have —, the concessionaire, Kathy [White], confirm that. Ms. White said, he has opted not to provide concessions at the Aquatic Center. Commissioner Murray said, all right, but what I'm saying is that the Aquatic Center handles their own. Ms. White said, yes. Commissioner Murray said, all right, and my point being we're being told that we cannot take a particular group, and I'll use Charlie Brooks Park for an example, and let the group down there handle the concessions to try to get money to put back into that particular athletic field or park, that everything else would have to come under this contract. That's my question, why can we do it at one, but we can't do it at others? I mean, this question came up when we had a public meeting down at the community center on the Islands and the question was asked could they do their own concessions at the Charlie Brooks Park to help get funds in to help proceed forward with some of the improvements that are needed, and the answer automatically is given no we can't do that, but yet we're doing it with the Aquatic Center, and that's my only question. I mean, I'm going to vote to approve both of these right now because the man has another contract extension coming up, and that's fine, but I think staff needs to look at it and come back with a legitimate answer to us why we can do it at one facility and we can't do it at another facility. The intent is to put the money back into the facility where the money's being taken in.

Chairman Hair said, that's a good question. We need to —, we do need to look into —. Commissioner Murray said, and I'll move for approval on F and H. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, all right, we have a motion to approve Items F and H and a second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

**Item 21-S:**

STRIPE MACHINE; DEPT.: PUBLIC WORKS; SOURCE: TRANSAFE; AMOUNT: \$33,233.90; FUNDING: VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT LEASE.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, Russ [Abolt], the only reason I pulled that, has that machine been ordered yet? County Manager Abolt said, we're awarding the contract now. There were some problems initially. Commissioner Murray said, the reason I asked that, several months ago I had somebody call me and wanted to know why the striping wasn't down because the equipment we had was broken down and they couldn't fix it, and I was told then that we had purchased a new machine and now I see it on the agenda where the machine hasn't been purchased yet. I just wonder why I was told and that —. County Manager Abolt said, I had the same question and Mr. Lynch can answer it.

Mr. George Lynch said, it has not been ordered. This approval will give the basis for the order. Commissioner Murray said, well, I guess my problem with this is I was told it had been ordered and it would be in any day when I questioned it several months ago, and I called back and told the concerned citizens the same thing that I was told, and now I'm made out to be a liar because it hasn't been ordered, and I don't like that. I mean, if I'm told something from staff, I expect it to be right and I expect when I tell my citizens that I represent that that's a fact, that it's right and I don't have something coming back several months later like this. I move for approval. 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.

**Item 21-W:**

CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 TO THE CONTRACT FOR THE WHITFIELD AVENUE/DIAMOND CAUSEWAY WIDENING PROJECT TO PERFORM ADDITIONAL DESIGN FOR SIGNALIZATION AND INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS ON US80 AT WHITEMARSH ISLAND DRIVE AND VICINITY; DEPT.: SPLOST; SOURCE: THOMAS & HUTTON; AMOUNT: 45,453; FUNDING: SPLOST (1985-1993) - ISLANDS EXPRESSWAY FLYOVER.

Commissioner Murray said, I pulled this for several reasons. We've got a couple of people that want to speak, but before they do, I don't know how many Commissioners are aware, but I had a meeting, Engineering staff was at the meeting last Thursday night down at the community center on this subject. All the citizens are in favor of the traffic signal going in and going in as soon as possible. Their concern, they have one concern and that concern is the frontage road that would be opened up from the shopping center to come down Kim Drive [sic] to Debbie to the traffic signal. As we explained at that meeting, that is not our decision, that's the decision that DOT makes and it's out of our control. I would also say that I'm going to move to approve this because I don't think this signalization needs to be stopped any further. It needs to go ahead further because this is funding just for the design work, but in that design —, I've already talked with the County Engineer, Al Bungard, and he said that he would also look at whether it would be feasible not —, if this road ends up going in, that whether they block those three roads coming into Debbie Drive [sic] or not, so that's going to be part of this motion when we approve, but —, and there was another meeting on Monday night held about the same thing and I'm not sure whose meeting that was, although I ended up with most of the conversation, not by choice either, but the same conversation we had at the Thursday night meeting and the same answers because we, as a County Commission, can not control what the DOT does, and we've got three citizens here from the Gray's Subdivision would like to speak and have some requests. Whoever wants to come speak —.

Vice Chairman Thomas said, give your name.

Mr. Robert Railey said, I'm Robert Railey, Whitmarsh Island. I've never been up here so y'all bear with me. Like he said, our community is definitely in support of this light. We have already had one killed, one of my neighbors was killed at the light, we've had numerous wrecks down there and, yes, this light would benefit my community. Our kids cross this street, but it would be more beneficial for this light to go in across the way. We have a lot of shops out there. Wal-Mart's over there, Publix, numerous restaurants and two schools, two churches —, three schools, excuse me, and this light is definitely needed. I mean, we will not argue with anybody. In fact, we would like to argue with somebody why we haven't already had it. Maybe somebody would be alive, but that's neither here nor there. Our main concern is to get this light, well, we feel like we've been being held hostage, and that's not a bad —, a good feeling, but they want to cut a road, which is Kim Street, and I'm not sure what the original name of the road was, but it probably dates back probably pre-60's. That road comes through there, my area, turns and went through —, there used to be an old bridge over there on Richmond Creek out on —, I guess this road probably goes back to the early 60's. It's very narrow, and if you —, if this street is allowed to be opened up, it will cause —, and it'll have to be widened. Now if it goes one way, you're going up to people's houses. If it goes the other way towards the highway, which looks like there's room, there's a ditch there. Something would have to be done with the ditch. We have flooding problems now down there. This ditch cannot handle the runoff now. We also

have in this area where Kim Street is and where they're going to put the —, Kim Street runs this way parallel to Highway 80, and they're going to put the light here at Debbie. If this is opened up as a service road, we have a daycare center located right there on the corner. Let's see, that would be the northwest corner, the daycare center, and it's used by everybody on the Islands and probably some of the people in your districts. We can't have anything affect this daycare center. These people down there are adamant. These young women, when something was mentioned at the meeting that it might affect this, they were scared to death because they love this community —, this center. You know, these working women depend on this thing. They've got to have it, and also right here is where they gather the kids up to cross the street. When I made the turn this morning to come up here, on the northeast corner there were two cars parked there and this road is narrow enough that when it does, you try to drive around, but this is a neighborhood, you understand. No problems. Which was the crossing guards, they gather up six or seven kids right here and that's what they do every morning, they carry anywhere from six, ten, fifteen or more and they walk across Highway 80. And also as I made the turn there was a State Patrol sitting there on the —, watching the highway, which we appreciate. But right now, I talked to Mr. Lindell myself. I called him on the phone and I talked to him, and his idea was that he wanted to give people that would be exiting the small shopping center, which is on the north side of 80, an opportunity to turn right, go 1,000 feet, and then turn left at the light. Now if the —, the original proposal, it come back to this light several years ago, entailed the blocking of the median between shops. In other words, anybody come out of either side of the shopping center, would not be able to cut up all the way across traffic. Now if this were still in the proposal, you would not see me up here now. I would not like the road, but you understand things, but the way it is now I don't see any justification for the road. It's either one of two things. Be there. If they put the road in, it's not going to be used and it's a waste of our taxpayer's money because anybody coming out, you're not going to drive a thousand feet at 25 miles an hour, which is supposed to be our speed out there, go down to a light, which the time sequence definitely you're going to wait longer crossing that road than you are on Highway 80. You would pull out on Highway 80 to make a —, if you think you couldn't make a left —, a safe turn all the way across, you would make us go 55 miles an hour down to the light and make a U-turn. We all do it on Victory Drive, Abercorn Street and I don't know how many other streets, so there's something else. My feelings is a piece of property located on the west side of the shopping center, which is now zoned residential, there are houses there, there are people living there, it's been —, already been turned down for rezoning to commercial. This seems like a backdoor approach that we're going to do to get the property rezoned and maybe even provide a free access, road and everything. Now that's wrong, and if that happens, yes, then we will get the traffic in our area which will disrupt our community. This is Catch-22, and I guess I feel like David versus Goliath, and I'm under a higher power and I guess we could go to our State representatives, but y'all are our first level, and we'd appreciate any help you can give us on this. We would love that. I know Mr. Murray probably wouldn't want to get into another meeting out there, but we would —, if any of y'all would like, I can arrange it or this lady or this lady can arrange y'all to come out there, two or three, where you won't meet with no 50 people. It'd be two or three, and we won't call the news media if y'all won't. That's entirely up to y'all, but let us walk down through there and show you what we're up against, and we'd appreciate it. We —, we're just an average community and probably this is the first time you've ever seen any of us up here, I don't know. I know it's the first time I've ever done it, and we just —, we enjoy our community. Our community is just about built up. There's very few lots left out there that can be built on. Then it's all —, I think on my street it might be one or two lots, and it's a very close-knit community and we just don't understand why this is happening to us. We need a light, we needed a light years ago, and there's so many questions that we just don't have answers for and nobody's given them to us, and we sure don't won't this light stopped. Please don't stop this light. In fact, if you can, hurry it up for us. We've got six more months of school out there. Those are our kids and maybe some of y'all kids going over there, and this needs to be done, but don't turn around and hurt us by doing this. I know we're up against DOT and I know it's supposed to be a bad [inaudible] and they're all gods, but I don't think that's it. Y'all are our first level. We appreciate the help from y'all, to our State Senators and whoever [sic] we need to do to get this changed. We appreciate it.

Chairman Hair said, thank you very much, sir. We appreciate you being here. Anybody else?

Ms. Mary Jo Strickland said, hi. My name is Mary Jo Strickland and I also live in the community of Gray's Creek Subdivision. Mr. Murray, I'll thank you again for having come to our meetings, and we have appreciated that. Okay, I just do not understand why anyone would think that an access road into our neighborhood would not create a problem. People will not wait in line for this light. They'll get impatient, traffic will become even more impatient and they will continue to go all the way down the road, which will make our road more of a menace to our citizens in our community. I've been in my community for 22 years. I love it there. We've enjoyed this nice quiet road. It might sound like a very tiny issue to some of you but to us it is very important. I told Mr. Murray and I've told other people that we enjoy the privilege of having a nice quiet neighborhood. People get out after work in the evening hours, they jog, they walk. We bypass our neighbors, hello, goodbye, you know, and we just enjoy that kind of a surrounding, and the Islands have always been a nice area to live in, quiet and, you know, we just enjoy that type of neighborhood, and we would like it to stay that way. We're afraid for our citizens that, you know, people will get into more accidents this way, people will get run over. The children are involved, they ride bicycles, and we just feel that we should not —, we should not have to tolerate having an access road put into our neighborhood. We don't see how that's really going to help anything. So, I mean, it's very important that you think twice about this before you do it, and also what has happened to the American way of being able to vote for what you want in your neighborhood. It goes all the way back to the British, okay, and we —, it does really. When we overthrew the British, no represen—, no taxation without representation. Why can't we have a citizens' vote on what we wish to have in our neighborhood? I mean, it's as simple as this. Why can we not do that? I mean, we don't want this. We just don't want it. I mean, it's important to us, you know, to have what we want and not to have what we don't want. Chairman Hair said, thank you. Ms. Strickland said, I mean, that's all I have to say. Chairman Hair said, thank you. Ms. Strickland said, I appreciate you listening to us and I hope that we haven't bored you, but we just feel that our community is very important. We're not

Long Point and we're not some of the more exclusive areas, but let's face it. We're all hard workers and nobody gets what you have without working for it. Okay? We've worked hard to have our community, we've worked hard to have our homes, and we do treasure them. We treasure our neighbors, we have wonderful neighbors. Lots of kids in the area, and we're really thinking about the children. The kids are important. We have to take care of them. Okay? Chairman Hair said, thank you. Ms. Strickland said, thank you very much.

Chairman Hair said, thank you for being here. We appreciate all of you being here. We, you know, I think we just need to be honest and, you know, we —, there may not be anything we could do to help you, but I think at least we can try. We have a similar situation up on Eisenhower Drive, a very similar situation, and so far we've not been able to convince DOT not to do it, but we —, I mean, I think all of us clearly understand your issues, and it is important to your neighborhood and we understand that.

Ms. Cindy Christie asked, so what should we do and where should we go? Chairman Hair asked, pardon me? The Clerk said, state your name please. Ms. Christie said, Cindy Christie. County Manager Abolt said, if I may, in answer to these citizens, Mr. Chairman and members of the Board, it is obvious to you all, maybe not so much to the community, when they come up for the first time, this County Commission has an excellent reputation in record of dealing with the Department of Transportation. My suggestion to you, Mr. Chairman, is you allow the design to proceed. Staff is fully aware and supportive of what these folks are saying. As the design moves on, if we still continue to have some difficulties at the GDOT level with staff, it may be necessary, just all y'all did with the flyover on Johnny Mercer and U.S.80, to interject your feelings, and I want to assure them, even though these folks cannot dictate how it will finally come out, these folks have been excellent in the way in which they have been ambassadors, and certainly at another meeting if y'all wish, fine. I feel at this point another meeting will just formulate confrontation at a time in which possibly it's not necessary. Allow the design to proceed, let's see how it shapes out with GDOT staff. If there is not a satisfactory solution, then we come back. Chairman Hair said, thank you.

Commissioner Murray said, there's one thing I wanted to clarify though, and you've said that the rezoning requested had been denied. It has not been because it has not been before us yet. Mr. Railey said, well, it's already been denied by MPC. Commissioner Murray said, MPC recommended denial, but it's never reached the County Commission and we're the ones who will say whether it be rezoned or not rezoned. We can either accept that recommendation or we can approve the rezoning, but that is only a recommendation from the MPC so that is not a dead issue and it possibly will come up again. If it does, y'all will certainly be notified because it would affect your neighborhood.

Mr. Railey asked, can I ask a question? Chairman Hair said, certainly. Mr. Railey said, on this area down here, I noticed that there's a Huddle House right over here in this little shopping center. Now they've got a fence that goes around it. Now if this road is cut through there like GDOT wants, will they or the County pay for and maintain a fence or something there that will provide a buffer between what they're going to open up on that shopping center if this property is done, they going to be —, open it right up to the shopping center once this road is cut in because it's going to take out the trees that act as a buffer now? Chairman Hair said, there is a precedent that if —, generally GDOT has been very good about providing noise attenuation and buffers for situations where neighborhoods are impacted. I can't guarantee you they would do it in this particular project, but it is something that —. Mr. Railey asked, well, if they wouldn't, would the County do it? I understand that some of our money might —. Commissioner Murray said, the only way the County could do it is if it was on County property. We couldn't do it on private property. Chairman Hair said, yes, but again, I think that's part of —, I think you raised a good point, and that's part of the design process that we could —, that's where we could have input in the design process that we suggest to GDOT that they put that in there if they are going to go forward, that they put that in there as maybe a wall or some kind of a —. Mr. Railey said, well, if they did it on one section, you wouldn't want to run it all the way down or else the road would intersect with what's [inaudible] and block the view, but there is a section of property, 100 feet there that —. Chairman Hair said, that's the kind of impact that we could have —. Mr. Railey said, that's going to make a severe impact until this is done. Chairman Hair said, yes, that's the kind of impact that we could possibly have on this.

Ms. Christie asked, okay, am I clear that what you're saying is go ahead along with whatever the plan is to open the road up and put the red light there, and then if that don't work out to suit us, then we'll go back and change it. Is that what you said? Commissioner Murray said, no. Chairman Hair said, no, that is not what he said. Ms. Christie said, okay.

County Manager Abolt said, we want to proceed with the design. Failing that, there will be no signal. We realize the design process must consider a variety of variables. Mr. Bungard and his staff and his predecessor are very familiar with what these folks are saying. We will do all that we can in the design process to continue to work with GDOT staff. If we come to a point in which GDOT is about ready to award the contract on the signal or whatever and we find ourselves still at cross purposes, then it may be necessary for members of the County Commission to discuss it with those higher up in GDOT.

Chairman Hair said, and we would be glad to do that. I'll be glad to do it. We've had a couple of discussions —. Mr. Railey said, I would appreciate it, and like I said, if any of y'all want to look at this, we'll be happy to meet with y'all, two or three. No, you know, hundred people arguing, but just fifteen minutes to walk out there during the day where you can see. Chairman Hair said, right. Mr. Railey said, and look at what we're talking about because it's hard for us to explain it to you

up here and I know it's even harder for y'all to understand, but we appreciate it. Chairman Hair said, well, we appreciate y'all coming. Mr. Railey said, thank you very much.

Chairman Hair said, all right, I need a motion to approve.

Commissioner Murray said, I will, but, Al [Bungard], I wanted to ask you one question too, and I could be wrong with this, but I was told the other night by one of the citizens that if the access road does go in as part of the project, that it would not be brought up to County specs. County Engineer Bungard said, oh, no. Any road we build will be built to County specs. Commissioner Murray said, that's what I wanted to clarify. County Engineer Bungard said, my friend the County Attorney reminds me continually about involving case law that says if you don't build something to County specifications [inaudible] standards, which we go by, then we assume —. Commissioner Murray said, I just wanted that clarified because some people evidently misunderstood what would take place. County Engineer Bungard said, I think they were talking though in that context about Kim Street, about possibly widening that. Now I have to tell you, that is beyond the scope of this change order. We'll have to come back at you. Once we start this design the process for the signal and the access road, we'll take a look at the impacts on Kim Street and then I'll have to come back because that will get into right-of-way acquisition and probably other design issues, and that will be another change order, but we will consider that as a part of the design process initially. Commissioner Murray said, okay. I move for approval. Commissioner DeLoach said second.

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

**Item 21-Z:**

CONFIRMATION OF PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT TO EXPEDITE FULL OPERATION OF THE BULL STREET LIBRARY; DEPT.: LIBRARY; SOURCE: SHARON WIXOM; AMOUNT: NOT TO EXCEED \$750.00; FUNDING: GENERAL FUND/M&O - LIBRARY.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Price. Commissioner DeLoach said, I move for approval.

Commissioner Price said, I'll second that, but of course for discussion. What does the —, what does this do to actually expedite the full operation of the Library? I mean, I don't understand —, you know, what is the service being provided and didn't they already have this type of professional services in place?

Mr. George Lynch said, fundamentally, sir, in answer to your question, it gives you more hours in your reference branch that would not otherwise be available. This lady normally works in tech services, and she continues to 40 hours each week receiving, cataloging, distributing the books. The need now is to make sure you have somebody available at your reference location, which is key during the hours that the Library is open. They're short of librarians. They haven't been able to hire them. So what they have done is to go out, talk to the professional librarian staff, try to get them to agree to provide additional hours of service. This happens in some cases. They were able to work it out on a comp time basis. In this case, it was worked through this contract. In other words, the lady's not doing the same thing she does 40 hours a week. She still does that, but she serves at the reference desk also.

Commissioner Price asked, how many —, how much time is it expected that this is going to take? Mr. Lynch said, I do not have the answer. Let me ask Candy Frawley. Ms. Frawley said, 30 hours. Mr. Lynch said, 30 hours. Commissioner Price asked, when do we expect to have the Library in full operation? Mr. Lynch said, I cannot answer that question, sir. Ms. Frawley said, soon, but I can't give a date. I'm not the one to give a date. Commissioner Price said, but not 30 hours. Ms. Frawley said, not 30 hours. Commissioner Price said, okay. I call the question.

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

**Item 21-CC:**

CHANGE ORDER NO. 6 TO THE CONTRACT FOR ENGINEERING AND DESIGN OF PHASES III, IV AND V OF TRUMAN PARKWAY; DEPT.: SPLOST; SOURCE: JORDAN, JONES AND GOULDING/STEVENSON AND PALMER; AMOUNT: \$1,174,706.31; FUNDING: SPLOST (1985-1993) - CONTINGENCY.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Jackel said, I just wanted everybody to know we're moving ahead and spending \$1.7 million to move this project ahead. Hopefully we'll start seeing it —, something down there on the ground.

Chairman Hair said, I'll entertain a motion to approve. Commissioner Saussy said, so moved. Commissioner Price said, the County Engineer is dying to tell us something. County Engineer Bungard said, I'm waiting for Commissioner Price [inaudible]. The Clerk asked, did we have a second on that? Commissioner Price said second. Commissioner DeLoach said, second. Chairman Hair said, go ahead and say whatever you're going to say briefly.

County Engineer Bungard said, well, I'm optimistic. At last report we were hoping to get some stuff started in December. A lot has happened since the last report. We received, as you know, the final EIS. We —, I received right-of-way plans last Friday. I hope to have approved right-of-way plans by Tuesday. I'm meeting with the County Attorney on Tuesday to sit down then with the City Attorney to go over all the parcels we hope to acquire from the City to get started. The only hiccup was I did get a letter from the State after Christmas about that pile of dirt that we needed to surcharge there on the other end of DeRenne. The State Engineer met with all the directors, and I'm told Commissioner Shackelford, and decided they did not want to do that. It wasn't worth the extra effort. There were concerns of liability of having two contract the same job. They'd rather focus their efforts on the final product, in other words, the big contract, but in the meantime I was out there the other night and said I didn't realize the pile was as big as it was now that the foliage is gone, and yesterday I have a key to that dirt pile and Public Works will start removing it on Tuesday, I think, maybe Wednesday, for the various landfills, and contrary to what Joe Shearouse said in the paper about the golf course, this will be the first visible sign of work from the highway about Truman Parkway Phase 3. In the meantime, we've tested for asbestos and those homes we acquired by early acquisition, Purchasing is currently working with us on the demolition contract so that electric is relocating the substation at Georgia Regional so we can bulldoze the two buildings we have to do there. I hope to have that in progress next month. Savannah Electric is working full bore on relocating or designing the relocation of that huge power line that starts there around Eisenhower. I got a commitment from at least GDOT that they will —, we will shoot for a June authorization of the contract. I have to have four things done primarily by then. I have to have the 404 permit. The Corps of Engineers notified me yesterday. I hope to have even that. That will set a record on getting a 404 permit. I've got one hiccup —, Fish and Wildlife Service. That —, we hope to have that resolved next week. They've filed an objection, you may recall, about Phase 4 and 5. We've resolved that through the EIS, but it also has to be addressed through the 404 permitting process with the Corps. I have to have the utility agreements done with Savannah Electric. I already —, and the City of Savannah. I already have one I'm reviewing from the City, and as soon as Savannah Electric completes their analysis for the relocation, I will have theirs done, and the fourth, of course, item in that list is the final plans, and we're on track to do that. The most nervous person right now, I think, is our right-of-way consultant because it's a very ambitious schedule. GDOT did add a significant chunk of work to us, for us, down at the intersection where Skidaway and Phase 3 come together because of the traffic problems, so we are going to have now a separate contract for those. It impacts another 30 to 40 parcels, and —, but we're going to break that out as a separate contract and have it working hopefully simultaneously with the big project for Phase 3. So a lot is going on, you just don't really see a dust cloud yet, but hopefully you'll see some mud coming out of that dirt pile on DeRenne next week.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Al [Bungard].

Commissioner Price said, thank you, guys. I want you guys to know, and I know you know this, but how lucky we are to have Al Bungard as the County Engineer. Mrs. Hilda Whitaker said, amen.

Commissioner Murray said, Al [Bungard], if you get that from Hilda Whitaker, you better [inaudible].

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Rivers.

Commissioner Rivers said, on that right-of-way, do we have any houses that we can salvage? Mr. Bungard said, I don't think so. Most of them are slab on a grade, particularly those in Magnolia Park, and in those is our biggest concern for the citizens. We have six displacees that we acquired for early acquisition. We're working on those, but I don't think we're going to be able to salvage very much, not out of these.

Chairman Hair said, okay, we have a motion and a second to approve. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes. Thank you, Al [Bungard]. That's great.

#### **ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

1. Commissioner Thomas moved to approve Item 21 except subparagraphs A, E, F, H, S, W, Z and CC. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.]
2. Commissioner Murray moved to recuse Commissioner Price from voting on Item 21-A because Commissioner Price is employed by A. G. Edwards and Sons, Inc. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
3. Commissioner Murray moved to approve Item 21-A. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Price was recused from voting on this item.]
4. Item 21-E was pulled from the agenda by staff.
5. Commissioner Murray moved to approve Items 21-F and 21-H. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

- 6. Commissioner Murray moved to approve Item 21-S. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- 7. Commissioner Murray moved to approve Item 21-W. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- 8. Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve Item 21-Z. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- 9. Commissioner Saussy moved to approve Item 21-CC. Commissioners Price and DeLoach 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.

- 1. **AMENDMENT TO THE CHATHAM COUNTY LAND DISTURBING ACTIVITIES ORDINANCE TO INCLUDE TWO-FAMILY DEVELOPMENT UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE ORDINANCE.  
[ALL DISTRICTS.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Read into the record as first reading.

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**XII. SECOND READINGS**

None.

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**XIII. INFORMATION CALENDAR**

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

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Report received as information.

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

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Report received as information.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

On motion made by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Price and unanimously approved, the Board recessed at 10:40 a.m., to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation, land acquisition, and personnel.

Following adjournment of the Executive Session, the meeting of the Board of Commissioners was reconvened at 11:20 a.m.

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**ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**1. AUTHORIZE SETTLEMENT OF CHATHAM COUNTY V. SAVANNAH SECURITIES (HILLCREST CEMETERY), TRUMAN PARKWAY, PHASE II (JONATHAN HART).**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner DeLoach moved to authorized the settlement of Chatham County v. Savannah Securities (Hillcrest Cemetery), Truman Parkway, Phase II. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**2. APPROVE SETTLEMENT OF ROBERT AND EVA AMBROSE CONDEMNATION BY MEDIATION (JONATHAN HART).**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Murray moved to approve settlement of the Robert and Eva Ambrose condemnation by mediation. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**3. AUTHORIZE CONDEMNATION OF CERTAIN STAGECOACH ROAD PARCELS FOR IMPROVEMENT SO AS NOT TO EXCEED ORIGINAL PROJECT ESTIMATE (COMMISSIONER DELOACH).**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner DeLoach moved to authorize the condemnation of certain Stagecoach Road parcels for improvement so as not to exceed the original project estimate. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**4. AUTHORIZE THE SETTLEMENT OF THE CLAIMS OF STACEY L. BROWN AND KRISTIE MICHELLE JENKINS (JONATHAN HART).**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner DeLoach moved to authorize the settlement of the claim of Stacey L. Brown in the amount not to exceed \$3,500 and settlement of the claim of Kristie Michelle Jenkins in an amount not to exceed \$7,000. Commissioner Saussy 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 Rivers moved to authorize the Chairman to execute an affidavit that the Executive Session was held in compliance with the Open Meetings Law. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**APPOINTMENTS**

None.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Chairman Hair declared the meeting adjourned at 11:23 a.m.

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APPROVED: THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2000

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

SYBIL E. TILLMAN, COUNTY CLERK