

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, MAY 26, 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, May 26, 2000.

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II. INVOCATION

Commissioner Frank G. Murray gave the invocation.

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III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

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IV. ROLL CALL

The Clerk called the roll.

PRESENT: Dr. Billy B. Hair, Chairman
Dr. Priscilla D. Thomas, Vice Chairman, District Eight
Frank G. Murray, Chairman Pro Tem, District Four
David L. Saussy, District One
Joe Murray Rivers, District Two
Martin S. Jackel, District Three
Harris Odell, Jr., District Five
Ben Price, District Six
Eddie W. DeLoach, District Seven

IN ATTENDANCE: Patrick Monahan, Assistant County Manager
R. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney
Barbara B. Wright, Acting County Clerk

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V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. RECOGNITION OF YOUTH COMMISSION CLASS OF 2000.

Chairman Hair said, our first item this morning is the recognition of our Youth Commission Class of 2000. I'm going to call on Dr. Thomas and Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Van Johnson said, Dr. Hair and Dr. Thomas, gentlemen, this time of the year brings renewed joy and hope to the Chatham County family as we live in a time where the youth of this society are often both victimized and demonized. We have the assurance that there are youth in this County that have high standards and on the way to achieving higher heights. The 1999-2000 term of the Chatham County Youth Commission has been most successful to date. Under the vision and guidance of Dr. Thomas, there

are now two other Youth Commissions formed using Chatham County's model. You're familiar with the one in Fulton County in Atlanta, Georgia, and [inaudible] County in Gainesville, Florida. These young people distinguished themselves at the 2000 Legislative Conference of the National Association of Counties where they were the talk of Washington, DC. These young people impressed the Speaker of the House Dennis Hastert during his visit to Savannah recently. These young people sponsored the Back to School Jam at Tybee Island that featured national recording artists and had more than 5,000 attendees without one incident. These young people sponsored their Third Annual Countywide Youth Rally and spread the theme of non-violence to youth across Chatham County. These young people met with world renown motivational speaker Dr. Dennis Kimbrough and were inspired to reach their goals. These young people met with Public School Superintendent Virginia Edwards and her staff to address concerns of public school students. These young people also participated in the Martin Luther King, Jr. Observance Day Association Activities, the World AIDS Day Observance, and Victory Over Violence Festivities, all in one school year. We thank you for making this opportunity possible, we thank you for allowing us to make a difference by attacking tomorrow leaders. We would like to particularly thank Dr. Thomas for her wisdom and encouragement, Mr. Abolt and Mr. Kaigler for their support of our efforts, we thank the County Departments that always assist us whenever we call on them, and we also have to thank the parents of these fine young people for entrusting their treasures to us for a few years. I would particularly like to thank our team of advisers who always go the extra mile, who come in early and often stay late and who work on some weekends in spite of an increasing workload so that our investment in our youth may be maximized, and they are Debra Allen, Connie Roberts, Louise Copeland and Wanda Meier. We have grown to know these young people, we have watched them grow, we have watched them face adversity, and we have watched them triumph. We have grown to know their parents and families, and they have become an extension of our Chatham County family. It is now my pleasure to present to you the Chatham County Youth Commission Class of 2000, and they are —, and we're going to ask that the parents come up as well when we call their names:

Leontyne Jones is a Senior at Jenkins High School. She is a four-term Youth Commissioner, and served as Chairman for three of those years, and she will be attending Clark Atlanta University, and she's the daughter of Ms. Hazel Jones.

Yen-Chieh Tseng is a Senior at Windsor Forest. He served as an Executive Member of the Chatham County Youth Commission. He is another four-term Youth Commissioner. He is the Valedictorian of Windsor Forest High School, and he will be attending the University of Chicago. He's the son of Mr. and Mrs. Tseng.

Alonzo Alston is a Senior at Savannah Country Day. He serves as the Parliamentarian of the Chatham County Youth Commission. He's a three-term Chatham County Youth Commissioner. He will be attending the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is the son of Dr. Esther McAlpine.

Brandon Brown is a Senior at Savannah High School. He's a two-term Youth Commissioner and he's the son of Ms. Sadie Brown and he will be attending Florida A&M University.

Stephen Crawford is a Senior at Benedictine Military Academy. He's the son of Mr. and Mrs. Elliott Crawford, he's a two-term Youth Commissioner and he will be attending the University of Georgia.

Dana Roberts is a Senior at Windsor Forest High School. She's a two-term Youth Commissioner. She's the daughter of Ms. Teresa Roberts and she will be attending Savannah State University.

Lee Ann Sikes is a Senior at Bible Baptist. As you well know, she was a Heisman Trophy recipient for this community, and she's a two-term Youth Commissioner, and she will be attending Georgia Southern University. She's the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Doug Sikes.

Bonita Taylor, who is a Senior at Windsor Forest High School, she's a two-term Youth Commissioner, she is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Taylor, and she's sporting a new haircut today, and she will be attending the very prestigious appointment to the United States Air Force Academy.

Ladies and gentlemen, the 2000 Class of Chatham County Youth Commissioners. [Applause.] Dr. Hair, if you will come down and with Dr. Thomas and make the presentation of our token of appreciation.

Dr. Thomas said, congratulations and we hope that you will continue to be very successful. I do have a letter that I'm going to present to each one of you and I'm going to read it when we finish making the presentations because I'm so full this morning because it's like losing your family, you know, and these my children. I claim them, and it has been just a joy to work with them and to see them grow and do great things. Have a good year in your new endeavors.

Chairman Hair said, congratulations.

[NOTE: Chairman Hair and Dr. Thomas greeted each Youth Commissioner individually.]

Commissioner Thomas said, each one of them will receive one of these letters. It's supposed to have a monetary gift in here, but it hasn't arrived yet. But please stop by Mr. Johnson's office a little later. We hope that it will be here, but it says to —, and I'm just going to read Ms. Jones':

Dear Youth Commissioner Jones:

For the past several years I have really enjoyed working with you as a distinguished Commissioner of Chatham County have brought pride, dignity, joy and respect to our community, state and nation as a proven leader. As you prepare to graduate from Jenkins High School remember life is full of new beginnings and graduation from high school is one of the best. I would be remiss if I didn't ask you to thank your parents or guardians, principal, teachers and counselors for allowing

you to participate in a sincere leadership program, for being a Youth Commissioner, a program dedicated to you and our youth. We know how hard you worked for this, the goals you had to set, the things you learned, respect you earned, and the challenges you met. We are very proud of all you've done and wish you much success as you pursue the hopes and dreams that lead to happiness. Keep growing and striving to choose the best way. Find something to celebrate every day. Take stock of the talents and skills you possess, continue to believe in your dreams and you will find a lifetime of success and happiness. Congratulations on this your special day.

Mr. Johnson said, we also have several other Youth Commissioners who couldn't be with us today, and some are represented today, Crystal Boggs from St. Vincent's Academy, Marisa Drexel from St. Vincent's Academy, Stephen Crawford from BC, and Countney Edwards also from St. Vincent's Academy, and some parents might be here as well, and we'd like to recognize them as well. We have also two special presentations at this time. Two Youth Commissioners were with us their entire high school careers since the Youth Commission was reconvened in 1996. The first presentation is to Yen-Chieh Tseng at Windsor Forest High School. We want to give just a token of our appreciation for hanging in with us all of this time. We've watched this young man grow up, and we really appreciate everything. The second presentation is to another Youth Commissioner who not only served her entire high school career with us but, as fate would have it, she has served as Chairperson for the past three years. She has certainly been accessible and available to represent the youth of Chatham County, and she's done admirably so with distinction. We want to thank you.

Ms. Leontyne Jones said, to Dr. Hair, Dr. Thomas and members of the Chatham County Commission, we thank you for all your help and support. We thank you for giving the youth in this County a voice in government. We thank our advisers and all the —, for all of their support. We thank our principals and teachers for supporting our participation in the Chatham County Youth Commission. We thank our parents for standing by us every step of the way. We are

Chatham County Youth Commissioners and will represent Chatham County wherever we go. We will not let you down. We especially thank Dr. Thomas for believing in us. We thank you for your care and concern. We thank you for your motherly love. We thank you for taking time out of your busy schedule to go out of town with us and spend time with us. We love you, and on behalf of this graduating class of the century, we want to show you our love. As each of us are different, we come together to make a great Youth Commission, we present you with these different colored roses, they're still a beautiful bouquet. We love you.

Commissioner Thomas said, all I can say is thank you and to the Commissioners who have helped to make this possible, because without their support and help none of this would be possible. Thank you so very much.

Chairman Hair said, I would like to also personally thank the staff, Van [Johnson], and the other folks on the staff that work with this, but we all owe a deep debt of gratitude to Dr. Thomas because this really is her project, and she puts innumerable hours in this project and it's a wonderful thing, and, Dr. Thomas, we appreciate what you do. I'd also like to recognize Kellie Connor, who's our Youth Commissioner today. She's a sophomore at St. Vincent's Academy. We're glad to have you today, and as we go through the proceedings, if you'd like to say anything, raise your hand and we'll be glad to recognize you.

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2. PROCLAMATION FOR BETTY HODGES ON HER RETIREMENT FROM CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT.

Chairman Hair said, our next item is a proclamation for Betty Hodges on her retirement from the Superior Court. Ms. Hodges, if you will come forward. I'm going to ask Commissioner Odell and Commissioner Jackel to join me down at the front. Commissioner Price asked, Billy [Hair], are they your legal representatives? Chairman Hair said, they're my legal representatives. I feel safe with two lawyers.

Chairman Hair read the following proclamation into the record:

WHEREAS, Chatham County is privileged to have dedicated employees of high caliber and in that regard we recognize Betty Hodges, an employee of the Superior Court Clerk's Office; and,

WHEREAS, Betty Hodges began her employment with Chatham County as a seasonal worker in the Tax Commissioner's Office on February 1, 1988. She became a permanent employee on April 11, 1988; and,

WHEREAS, after several promotions in the Tax Commissioner's Office, she transferred to the Superior Court Clerk's Office on January 1, 1995, where she worked in the Real Estate Division providing much needed assistance to the taxpayers.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Billy Hair, Chairman, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby salute Betty Hodges for over twelve years of service to Chatham County and extend best wishes for a long, happy and health retirement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Chatham County, Georgia, to be affixed this the 26th day of May, 2000.

/s/ Billy B. Hair
Dr. Billy B. Hair, Chairman

Chatham County Commission

ATTEST: /s/ Gail F. Gordon
Gail F. Gordon
Assistant to the Chairman

Ms. Hodges said, well, I'm glad that I did have the opportunity to work for Chatham County, and thank you for the recognition.

Ms. Susan Prouse said, we really hate to see Betty [Hodges] leave us. She's brought such dignity and just a wonderful —, she has a wonderful personality and has meant so much to our office staff, and I feel like with us losing her, we're losing a big part of our family and I feel like that she will have a wonderful retirement, and I wish her all the best, but we really hate to see her go. But she's a great person and has been a great employee. Thank you.

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VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

None.

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VII. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS

1. BETH WOLFE-COX, LOT 72 BREVARD POINT, FLOOD ZONE (COMMISSIONER MURRAY).

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, yes, Ms. Wolfe-Cox. I received a call approximately a week and a half or two weeks ago about the flood zoning and Brevard Point, and I think, if I'm not mistaken, y'all are in the process of constructing a home now. Ms. Wolfe-Cox said, well, we were going to start after we found out where we stood. We're not going to have [inaudible]. Commissioner Murray said, and there were some conflicts in the records. The County's records show that it's one zone and I think FEMA, from what you told me, said that it was another zone, and so what we really want to do is give you an opportunity to go ahead and present what you have. Did you get the message yesterday or —? Ms. Wolfe-Cox said, yes. Commissioner Murray said, if we could get that and run copies so —. Ms. Wolfe-Cox said, I've got copies, one for everybody.

Ms. Wolfe-Cox said, what I included was a letter showing the history of how this all happened so it's very clear for everyone, and I included a plat of the lot, and this is what I was given when I bought the house —, I bought the lot. In fact, I was given a stack of these plats and I could choose which lot I wanted and they all said, you know, either A or B, depending. I've included a flood hazard certificate, a very poorly done map of —, a poorly copied map of the —, the FEMA map of our area, and some backup information from the map reader company, Charles Jones. They gave me some congressional edicts and some explanations and extra bits that I don't quite understand, but I thought I'd just throw them out into the wind and see what happens.

Chairman Hair asked, Frank [Murray], is there specific action that we have to make? Commissioner Murray said, what I would like to do today is let the County Attorney and also the County Engineering Department have a copy of this. They can look at it and have a report back to us by the next meeting so we can —, if there is a conflict, we can resolve that conflict and from that point —.

Ms. Wolfe-Cox said, I've got an extra one if you want, unless you just want to make copies. It's up to you. Is this good enough or do I need to speak all of this out too? Commissioner Murray said, if you want to speak, that would be fine.

County Attorney Hart asked, has the construction been actually performed or are you trying to construct? Ms. Wolfe-Cox asked, excuse me? County Attorney Hart asked, is the building built or are you trying to build? Ms. Wolfe-Cox said, no. We would like to build but before we can build we need to know which way to design the foundation. We don't want to be just spending money frivolously. County Attorney Hart said, I understand.

Chairman Hair said, you're certainly welcome to speak. It might be more appropriate though when we come back two weeks from now to speak at that time and that way we will have comments from the attorney and comments from the staff, but always feel free to say whatever you want to say.

Ms. Wolfe-Cox said, oh, no. All I wanted to do is propose it. You have me as Beth Wolfe-Cox. This is Jim Cox, the backbone of the group here, and —.

Commissioner Murray said, also, if anything comes up, if y'all would correspond back and forth with them so they will know what's going on too and then at our next meeting we can make a decision on what's [inaudible]. Okay? Ms. Wolfe-Cox said, okay.

County Attorney Hart asked, do we have your address on any of the information? Commissioner Murray said, the address, phone number and everything's on this.

Chairman Hair said, thank you very much. Ms. Wolfe-Cox said, thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Received as information. The County Attorney and County Engineering Department were directed to review the material furnished by Ms. Wolfe-Cox and report back to the Commission at the next meeting.

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2. OSTEEN ROAD (COMMISSIONER DELOACH).

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner DeLoach.

Commissioner DeLoach said, Osteen Road. We've got a problem out on Osteen Road that we need to look at concerning the width of the road there that the County's maintaining at this time. We're needing to add some right-of-way and we're going to ask the people to donate this right-of-way, and if we can get that donation we want to see if we can't open this road up a little wider. Right now it's a little too narrow for cars to pass and there's been some accidents and some concern for the citizens out there and we want to make sure whatever Shot [Hart] says, we need to do, we need to try to go with that. I just wanted to let y'all know what was going on and see what y'all thought about it if there was any concern. I'd address it now, but it's just a situation where the road's too narrow. We've got buses going back here, and it's a dangerous situation and —, but we want to go forward with this and I wanted to get y'all's approval on it before I did.

Chairman Hair asked, does anybody have any objection? Then we'll proceed. Thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Received as information. Consensus of the Board that this project should proceed.

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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 (*).

None.

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IX. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL ACTION

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

- 1. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVE THE FOLLOWING: A GENERAL FUND M&O BUDGET AMENDMENT TO REFLECT REVENUE OF \$42,220 FROM RESTRICTED REVENUE AND \$2,410 FROM EFFINGHAM AND LIBERTY COUNTIES AND TO APPROPRIATE \$42,220 TO ELIGIBLE AGENCIES AND \$2,410 TO THE LIBRARY; A SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT CONTINGENCY TRANSFER OF \$11,000 FOR THE 4TH OF JULY FIREWORKS ON RIVER STREET; A SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT BUDGET AMENDMENT TO RECOGNIZE \$194,950 REVENUE FROM RESTRICTED INSPECTIONS REVENUE AND \$23,100 IN GRANTS FUNDS, AND TO APPROPRIATE \$194,950 FOR TRANSFER TO THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUND AND \$23,100 TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT; A CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT TO RECOGNIZE \$194,950 TRANSFER FROM SSD AND TO APPROPRIATE \$194,950 FOR RENOVATION OF THE AIR NATIONAL GUARD FACILITY; AND A TRANSFER OF \$20,000 FROM THE 1993-1998 SPLOST TRIPLETT PARK PROJECT TO THE NO WAKE PROJECT.**

Commissioner Price said, so moved. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, motion and second. We have —, Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, yes. The \$2,410, is that money that Effingham is giving to us and we have distributed to the Library? So that's not something coming directly out of our budget then? [No audible response.] Commissioner Murray said, okay. County

Manager Abolt said, this is reimbursement to this County since their employees are employees from the Library. They're not Librarians, might receive their five percent cost-of-living increase effective the first of May. Commissioner Murray said, okay. The other question I've got is on the \$11,000 for the fireworks. What is the total cost of those fireworks or that fireworks display? County Manager Abolt said, I'll have to defer to Mr. —.

Chairman Hair said, \$22,000 and we're splitting that with the City 50/50. The City's —, Mr. Varnadoe is here and he could address any questions about it, but this is something that we've done. It's a great asset to our community. Commissioner Murray said, okay. Who is —, who's sponsoring this? Mr. Varnadoe said, Savannah Waterfront Association. Commissioner Murray asked, are y'all putting any money into it? Mr. Varnadoe said, yes sir. Commissioner Murray said, okay. All right, that answers my questions.

Chairman Hair said, thank you. I have one question too. On this \$20,000 from the Triplett Park Project, that in no way is going to reduce any —. County Manager Abolt said, no —. Chairman Hair asked, what we're going to do in that park in any way? County Manager Abolt said, no sir, not at all. There was —. Chairman Hair asked, or any of our commitments to that park. County Manager Abolt said, for the ease of administering the budget, there were so me additional funds available, and just for the want of a place to put it they were for the short term put in Triplett Park and now we're moving \$20,000 out so we can finish the park. Chairman Hair asked, but it's not going to diminish what we said we'd do? County Manager Abolt said, no sir, and I'm guaranteed from Mr. Bungard, we will not have any diminished —. Chairman Hair said, I think it's —, I just wanted to make sure of that. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Jackel said, I also had that concern, but in addition we're spending \$32,280 on these signs. County Manager Abolt said, that's correct. Commissioner Jackel asked, how many —, do we have any idea —, give me some idea of how many signs that produces. County Manager Abolt said, I'll defer to Mr. Bungard on that. We have a fairly massive no-wake program that was funded through SPLOST in 1993 before the Olympics and it proved very successful. Now we're going back and making some changes because there was some deterioration and a need for further construction, but the actual number of signs, I'll have to defer to Mr. Bungard.

County Engineer Bungard said, there were a multitude of problems with about eight signs being replaced and we need some spares. They were mounted too low some time ago. We're redoing the fasteners and this cost is to rebuild —, remake signs, new signs, put new poles in, new fasteners, and it does include a few extra signs, as I mentioned. Commissioner Jackel said, what —, then it —, there's a great disparity in the bids. Are you satisfied that that's —? County Engineer Bungard said, yes, we looked at that very closely and it's —, I believe the reason for that —, well, the one that got it has done it before. They were the ones that got the contract several years ago. I just think they sharpened their pencil more. County Manager Abolt said, we'll have the opportunity in the purchasing report to go to that in detail.

Commissioner Jackel asked, are they the ones that placed them too low? County Engineer Bungard said, no, no. They were put according to standards, I believe, but over the time they're closer at the high level and the storm and the tidal surge all of this caused some damage. Probably during the —, from the hurricane.

Chairman Hair said, while we're on the subject of no-wake, and this is not your bailiwick, Mr. Bungard, but we need also for the Chief to hear, we need increased enforcement of these no-wake zones. It doesn't do any good to put signs up and people fly through them and nothing happens, so we —, I get complaints about that all the time about enforcement of these no-wake zones that it's not as good as should be. So we would appreciate any effort that can be put forth there.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to approve the following: a General Fund M & O budget amendment to reflect revenue of \$42,220 from restricted revenue and \$2,410 from Effingham and Liberty counties and to appropriate \$42,220 to eligible agencies and \$2,410 to the Library; a Special Service District contingency transfer of \$11,000 for the 4th of July fireworks on River Street; a Special Service District budget amendment to recognize \$194,950 revenue from restricted Inspections revenue and \$23,100 in grants funds, and to appropriate \$194,950 for transfer to the Capital Improvement Program fund and \$23,100 to the Police Department; a Capital Improvement Program fund budget amendment to recognize \$194,950 transfer from SSD and to appropriate \$194,950 for renovation of the Air National Guard facility; and a transfer of \$20,000 from the 1993-1998 SPLOST Triplett Park project to the No Wake project. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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2. BOARD CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FROM BENJAMIN S. EICHHOLZ REGARDING LOT 40 SHEFTALL BLUFF FORMALLY KNOWN AS WEATHERWOOD SUBDIVISION. (NOTE: THIS ITEM PULLED AT THE REQUEST OF MR. EICHHOLZ.) **[DISTRICT 1.]**

Chairman Hair said, the petitioner has asked that that be removed from the agenda, so we'll remove it from the agenda.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

This item was removed from the agenda at the request of petitioner.

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X. ACTION CALENDAR

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

Chairman Hair asked, does anybody want to remove anything from the Action Calendar? Commissioner Jackel said, I have several. Chairman Hair said, okay. Commissioner Jackel said, 6. Chairman Hair said, 6, okay. Commissioner Odell said, 7. Chairman Hair said, okay. Commissioner Jackel said, 10, X-10. Chairman Hair said, 10, okay. Commissioner Jackel said, 11. Chairman Hair said, okay. Commissioner Jackel said, A. Chairman Hair said, okay. Commissioner Jackel said, I and M. Chairman Hair asked, are you sure that's all? Commissioner Jackel said, that's it. Chairman Hair said, okay. Anybody else? All right. I'll take a motion to approve the balance of the Action Calendar.

Commissioner Saussy said, so moved. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, motion and second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Saussy moved that the Action Calendar be approved in its entirety with the exception of Items 6, 7, 10, 11, 12-A, 12-I and 12-M. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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

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1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ON MAY 12, 2000, AS MAILED.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Saussy moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on May 12, 2000, as mailed. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD MAY 4 THROUGH MAY 17, 2000.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Saussy moved that the Finance Director be authorized to pay the claims against Chatham County for the period May 4 through May 17, 2000, in the amount of \$5,065,739. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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3. REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN AND CLERK OF COMMISSION TO SIGN AN APPLICATION REQUIRED BY GDOT THAT STATES CHATHAM COUNTY WILL ACCEPT MAINTENANCE AND ENERGY COSTS FOR A TRAFFIC SIGNAL ON SR 204 SPUR AT KING'S WAY ROAD AND HALCYON DRIVE.

[DISTRICT 1.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Saussy moved to authorize the Chairman and Clerk of Commission to sign an application required by GDOT that states Chatham County will accept maintenance and energy costs for a traffic signal on SR 204 Spur at King's Way Road and Halcyon Drive. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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4. REQUEST BOARD ACCEPT A RIGHT-OF-ENTRY AND PERPETUAL EASEMENT FROM THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING CERTAIN

**ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS FOR THE MONTGOMERY CROSS ROAD/MIDDLEGROUND WIDENING PROJECT AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN, COUNTY ATTORNEY, COUNTY CLERK AND COUNTY ENGINEER TO SIGN THE DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO IMPLEMENT THIS ACTION.
[DISTRICTS 5 AND 6.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Saussy moved to accept a Right-of-Entry and Perpetual Easement from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for the purpose of constructing certain roadway improvements for the Montgomery Cross Road/Middleground Widening Project and authorize the Chairman, County Attorney, County Clerk and County Engineer to sign the documents necessary to implement this action. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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5. REQUEST BOARD ACCEPT A REFUND OF \$1,260 FROM THE COASTAL GEORGIA LAND TRUST, INC., AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN FOR THE DISBURSEMENT ON BEHALF OF CHATHAM COUNTY.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Saussy moved to accept a refund of \$1,260 from the Coastal Georgia Land Trust, Inc., and authorize the Chairman to sign for the disbursement on behalf of Chatham County. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**6. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE A PROJECT PLAN FOR DEVELOPING THE COASTAL GEORGIA GREENWAY TRAIL, INCLUDING AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND TO ASSEMBLE THE TRAIL PATH AND BEGIN PRELIMINARY WORK FOR ACQUISITION AND APPLY FOR A STATE GRANT TO PROVIDE ADDITIONAL FUNDING OF THE PROJECT.
[ALL DISTRICTS.]**

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Jackel said, I just wanted to put that out there so everybody knows that we are working on this and we are moving forward and this is a project we'll need to do and it'll be a great benefit for our community once it's completed. And so I just thought it needed to be brought out and mentioned that we are moving forward with this big project providing a coastal greenway path that will not only impact our area, but it stretches for quite a ways and we'll improve the recreation and health of our citizens.

Chairman Hair said, okay. Is there a motion to approve? Commissioner Price said, so moved. Commissioner Saussy said, second. Chairman Hair said, motion and second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to approve a project plan for developing the Coastal Georgia Greenway trail, including award of a contract to the Trust for Public Land to assemble the trail path and begin preliminary work for acquisition and apply for a state grant to provide additional funding of the project. Commissioner Saussy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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7. REQUEST BOARD AFFIRM THE CHAIRMAN'S EMERGENCY AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT THE PEDESTRIAN SAFETY AWARENESS MINI-GRANT FROM THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND TO AMEND THE 10441 POLICE BUDGET BY \$23,100 TO REFLECT THE GRANT REVENUE.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Odell.

Commissioner Odell asked, is the Chief here? County Manager Abolt said, yes, he is. Chairman Hair said, Chief, come forward please. Commissioner Odell said, Tom [Sprague], on number seven, the mini-grant —. Chief Sprague said, yes sir. Commissioner Odell said, from the Governor's Office, could you just give us an overview of what that is.

Chief Sprague said, well, we were contacted by the Governor's Office. They were having a State-wide campaign on promoting pedestrian safety. We applied for the grant and received it. The Chairman signed the emergency, but the way we intend to do it is to enhance pedestrian safety throughout the County using, among other things, our Community Outreach Policing Officers to post appropriate signs that we'll have made up from grant monies, any kind of crosswalks or areas of schools, et cetera, that will increase and enhance pedestrian safety, mainly through a public awareness campaign.

Chairman Hair said, I move for approval. Commissioner Price said, second.

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 Odell moved to affirm the Chairman's emergency authorization to accept the Pedestrian Safety Awareness Mini-Grant from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety and to amend the 10441 Police Budget by \$23,100 to reflect the grant revenue. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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8. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL FOR CHAIRMAN TO SIGN THE FY2001 APPLICATION FOR GEORGIA INDIGENT DEFENSE FUNDS FROM THE GEORGIA INDIGENT DEFENSE COUNSEL.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Saussy moved to authorize the Chairman to sign the FY2001 Application for Georgia Indigent Defense Funds from the Georgia Indigent Defense Counsel. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**9. REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZE FINAL PAYMENT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF 5 EXECUTIVE CIRCLE, PROVIDE AN UPDATE OF ITS DISPOSITION AND APPROVE A DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS ONCE THE PROPERTY SELLS. (NOTE: THIS ITEM PULLED FROM AGENDA. BOARD ACTION NOT NEEDED AT THIS TIME.)
[DISTRICT 6.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

This item was pulled from the agenda.

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**10. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO QUIT CLAIM CHATHAM COUNTY'S INTEREST IN SURPLUS PROPERTY TO THE CITY OF SAVANNAH ON OR NEAR GRAPEVINE STREET.
[DISTRICT 8.]**

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Jackel said, this sounds like a worthy project, but it doesn't seem to be quite enough information here. Just —.

Chairman Hair recognized Mr. Monahan. County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Monahan will answer.

Mr. Pat Monahan asked, do you have a specific question? The —, I'll give you a summary. The City of Savannah requested that the County convey its interest in six properties near Grapevine Street, which is off 37th Street, for a redevelopment project. The County's only interest in the properties are unpaid taxes accumulating over several years that probably because of the value of the properties would not even exceed a couple of thousand dollars. Technically, the County doesn't really own the properties. We don't —, the County does not have marketable title. We just have an interest as established by the outstanding taxes.

Commissioner Jackel said, so whatever interest we have we going to —. Mr. Monahan said, we're just convey to the City because as another government the County can do that. Commissioner Jackel asked, and they've got a plan of redevelopment [inaudible]? Mr. Monahan said, yes sir. I don't know if you've ever seen that area. It's actually one of my favorite streets, I just like the name of it, but the —, it's in desperate need of some attention.

Commissioner Jackel said, I move for approval. Chairman Hair asked, do I have a second? Commissioner Odell said, second. 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 Jackel moved to approve the request to quit claim to the City of Savannah Chatham County's interest in surplus property on or near Grapevine Street identified as PIN 2-0066-21-016, PIN 2-0066-49-037, PIN 2-0066-49-039, PIN 2-0066-040, and PIN 2-0066-14-003. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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11. REQUEST FROM THE TAX COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE FOR THE BOARD TO WRITE OFF REAL PROPERTY TAXES FROM 1998 AND 1999 TAX DIGEST WHICH ARE UNDER \$5.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Jackel said, I think this is an excellent thing that we need to be doing and I think we probably even ought to consider possibly raising that limit because time we send out several notices that at the postage rate I think we're losing —, we're losing ground on this thing. So if they wanted to come back at a later date and raise that limit above \$5.00, I think that would be the appropriate thing to do.

Chairman Hair said, okay. I'll entertain a motion to approve. Commissioner DeLoach said, hey, I was —, did you notice what the total dollars we're going to write off is? A million dollars. Chairman Hair said, yes. Commissioner Jackel asked, I'm sorry? Commissioner DeLoach said, a million dollars. Chairman Hair said, Commissioner DeLoach is pointing out that even though —. He just wanted to make sure you read it. Commissioner Jackel said, I read it. [Unintelligible comments when several Commissioners began speaking at the same time.]

Commissioner Price said, motion to write off \$4,172.48. Commissioner Rivers said, second. 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 Price moved to approve the request from the Tax Commissioner's Office for the Board to write off Real Property taxes from 1998 and 1999 tax digest which are under \$5.00 in the total amount of \$4,172.48. Commissioner Rivers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
A. First renewal option to annual contract to provide Third Party Administrator (TPA) services and to recognize the firm's name change	Human Resources	USI Administrators (formally Jones, Hill and Mercer)	\$7.88 per employee per month	Internal Services Group Health Insurance Fund
B. Change Order No. 1 to the contract for the removal of asbestos from specified structures on the Truman Parkway right of way for asbestos removal from the Southside Fire Station building	SPLOST	E. C. Management Services of Georgia	\$1,000	SPLOST (1985-1993) - Truman Parkway - Phase III
C. Contract for "Idle Speed Only" sign replacement	SPLOST	Ansley and Sutton Construction	\$32,280	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Triplett Park Project (pending Board approval of transfer)

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
D. Change Order No. 1 to the contract for the demolition of specified structures on the Truman Parkway right of way for the demolition of the Southside Fire Station building	SPLOST	Atlas Sand and Gravel	\$5,250	SPLOST (1985-1993) - Truman Parkway - Phase III right of way
E. Purchase and installation of a 15 ton HVAC unit	Administrative Services	Boaen Mechanical Contractors	\$10,450	CIP - DSA Revenue Bond Proceeds
F. Confirmation of emergency rental of dump trucks	Solid Waste	Kelly Dukes, Inc. (MBE)	\$25,000	SPLOST (1985-1993) - Truman Parkway - Phase III
G. Declare various vehicles as surplus	Fleet Operations	N/A	N/A	N/A
H. 90 day extension to the annual contract for automotive repair parts	Fleet Operations	Brooks Auto Parts	Varies by item	General Fund/M&O - Inventory
I. Confirmation of emergency purchase of herbicide	Public Works	Red River Speciality	\$16,932	SSD - Public Works
J. Confirmation of the relocation of 14 live oak trees, removal of two dead live oak trees and other landscaping services at the Trade Center	SPLOST	Tropical Falls Landscaping and Maintenance, Inc.	\$50,000	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Trade Center - Miscellaneous Project
K. Confirmation for providing and delivering dirt to create an earth berm adjacent to Bryan Square bridge at the Trade Center	SPLOST	ARCO, Inc.	\$10,520	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Trade Center - Miscellaneous Project
L. Confirmation of the placing of dirt and construction of an earth berm adjacent to Bryan Square bridge at the Trade Center	SPLOST	Coastal Grading & Rental	\$4,157.50	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Trade Center - Miscellaneous Project
M. Amendment 1 recognizing final validated labor and materials cost adjustments to Change Order No. 7 to the contract for sewer lines on Hutchinson Island	Hutchinson Island Water and Sewer	Southern Champion Construction, Inc.	\$50,538	Hutchinson Island Water and Sewer Project (pending transfer June 9, 2000)

ITEMS 12-B THROUGH 12-L, EXCEPT ITEM 12-I:

Commissioner Saussy moved to approve Items 12-B through 12-L except Item 12-I. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ITEM 12-A:

FIRST RENEWAL OPTION TO ANNUAL CONTRACT TO PROVIDE THIRD-PARTY ADMINISTRATOR (TPA) SERVICES AND TO RECOGNIZE THE FIRM'S NAME CHANGE; HUMAN RESOURCES; SOURCE: USI ADMINISTRATORS (FORMERLY JONES, HILL AND MERCER); AMOUNT: \$7.88 PER EMPLOYEE PER MONTH; FUNDING: INTERNAL SERVICE GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE FUND.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Jackel said, all right. If we're going to have a five percent rate increase, I think we need justification for that.

Mr. George Lynch said, all right, sir. We did require that and the cost increases that they have sustained fully justify it based on examination both by Purchasing folks and the folks who work with them day in and day out in Human Resources. You recall when we first awarded that contract, we got them to accept a change order that dropped them by, as I recall, about 27¢ per employee. We cut them a little thin. Additionally, they have confronted the rising costs. It is well justified.

Commissioner Jackel said, all right, now you're telling us this is going to cost us 38¢ per employee. Is there any —, can we pass that on, do we absorb it, how does that work? Mr. Lynch said, we absorb. Commissioner Jackel said, we absorb that whole cost. Mr. Lynch said, I was just looking around to make sure that I was right, and I don't see one of my colleagues leaping up saying no, but we're absorbing that. Commissioner Jackel said, we have a 30% increase since '97 in claims. Do we have any idea why that has occurred? Mr. Lynch said, I would prefer to call on Mike Kaigler to address that. I think the reason is quite obvious that, if you take a look at the cost of the services, they have increased and we are reflecting that to some extent. Commissioner Jackel said, well, this doesn't —, this doesn't say that. This says the average number of claims per month have increased approximately 30%. Now is that the cost has increased 30% or the number —? Mr. Lynch said, claims processed in that case, sir. Commissioner Jackel said, okay, well, that's different than the cost so why are we having 30% more claims? Mr. Lynch said, I cannot answer that question. I'll be glad to get you the answer to it.

County Manager Abolt said, okay, we answer. We'll get you close to —, off the agenda with some written analysis as to our exposure in health care. We have an extremely good health program that's being used by our employees. It's a great benefit. One of your top priorities, of course, is to improve employee benefits, and we've looked at a variety of very commendable and effective ways to reduce our exposure. The intervent program, the variety of our wellness programs, and what have you, but, we have a very responsive health program. This is not atypical from what the private sector has experienced by way of cost to health programs. The program you have had is a very excellent benefit for our employees and it has been managed quite well in my estimation both by staff and also by our TPA.

Commissioner Jackel said, I know we have a good health plan and I know it's a good benefit to our employees. It just seems to me, and again we're not talking about cost, we're talking about we've had a 30% increase per month of claims of people who are using the program. County Manager Abolt said, yes sir, that's correct. Commissioner Jackel said, now that's some sort of red flag to me of something when anything would go up 30% like that, people going to their doctor 30% more than we had in the past. County Manager Abolt said, I believe it's since 1997 the issue is we have been marketing the service to our employees. We're trying to do early intervention to get at some serious problems of hypertension and other illnesses if they're allowed to continue can in effect be fatal, and so we're doing the best we can. I cannot from the top of my head make an analysis with the private sector, but because of the quality of our program we find ourselves in an area of employee benefits that's being used, and I can, with Mr. Kaigler's help if Mr. Kaigler's available, he can be more expansive than that, but that is the issue. It's not foreign to organizations of our size, public or private. Commissioner Jackel said, I think —, I think that needs to be looked into. I'd like to have an understanding of why that —, like you say, it may be a good thing because we're after prevention and other things, but I really think this is something that has to be looked at, and if this was our Maintenance Department and we had 30% increase in the cars being needed to be repaired, we'd say what is going on here, and I think that's the same thing that's true of our people.

Commissioner DeLoach said, but he's not saying they need repair. They might be going for a check-up. [Unintelligible comments when several Commissioners began speaking at the same time.] Commissioner Jackel said, but 30% increase with this is a significant figure that I'd like some explanation.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Odell and then Commissioner Saussy.

Commissioner Odell said, Russ [Abolt], my general impression is that if you increase the knowledge of the program, then you increase utilization, and over the last couple of years we've increased how we market a program, ergo more people are utilizing the program. County Manager Abolt said, this is —, you're absolutely right. We have marketed, at your direction, we've got involved through an ombudsman, we've made employees accessible to this night and day, we've used —. Mr. Kaigler, please come forward. Commissioner Odell said, and the wellness program, which attempts to identify the chronic illnesses, i.e., diabetes, high blood pressure. I think, and I'm not certain if Mike [Kaigler] would agree, that the more health care, as far as employee benefit, the more you market, the greater the utilization, and I think Mike [Kaigler] has set about marketing the program, which we want, and our early intervention, which we want, so that now you might have a maintenance on a high blood pressure individual of less than \$15 a month, whereas if they had a stroke, you'd be hit with a substantial claim. Commissioner Thomas said, it's a big difference.

Mr. Michael Kaigler said, and we have seen, we're privy to a lot of that increased of cost of higher utilization. As you remember, this Board's done a number of things over the last couple of years. We've increased physicals to employees, increased the benefits for mammograms and that kind of thing, so we've —, and we've also added some wellness components there. What we're doing now is we're going back and we're trying to do a detailed analysis of where our expenditures are going so we can pinpoint that. We've got a good health plan and what we're seeing is more families are migrating to our health plan. I'll give you an example. You may have a spouse that works at the Board of Education or another industry here locally, whereas that employee just had single coverage, but the County having a better plan with some good things, we're getting more families under that umbrella now, and that's where we've attributed to our increase in costs, but we're in the process now of doing a detailed analysis of that and we should have you a report on that in a —, very shortly.

Commissioner Jackel said, my question wasn't the increase in cost. My question was a 30% increase in usage. Mr. Kaigler said, and that's what we contribute it to, the increase in families coming under. You can —, we do a —, we count the number of covered lives. If you look at the 1,600 employees that we have, each one of those employees if they've got family coverage, they may have two or three covered lives under that, and that's where we're attributing the increase in costs, but that's something we can verify and we should have a report to you shortly.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Saussy, and then Commissioner Odell has one last question.

Commissioner Saussy said, I think the whole thing, you'll probably find out, most large companies are going to prevention situations, and that's the whole key to this whole thing. Commissioner Thomas said, exactly. Commissioner Saussy said, it may

be more utilization, but you're going to have in the long run, you have a lot less cost. I'm in this business and I know a little bit about it, so I think that's the whole key to it right there. Prevention is the answer.

Commissioner Jackel said, well, I agree with that, I'm just saying when it goes up 30% when you have almost a one-third increase of usage, we need to see exactly what's going on and not just guessing what's going on. Mr. Kaigler said, and we're concerned about that also. Our costs have escalated. All of the industry reports will tell you that if your costs are going up, so we're concerned about that also, and we're striving to get a handle on it so we'll know exactly what it is. If it's more utilization, then that's one thing. If it's just high costs, that's something else. So we're striving to look at that and we'll give you a report on it.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Odell.

Commissioner Odell said, just in closing, I think that would be good if you could share that with all of us. Mr. Kaigler said, yes sir. Commissioner Odell said, that report. I looked at that. I was not overly concerned knowing about your marketing program, increased utilization, wellness program, but some tests in the past were not approved and now they have been approved. I would move that this item be approved. Commissioner Jackel said, second. Commissioner Thomas 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. Thank you.

ITEM 12-I:

CONFIRMATION OF EMERGENCY PURCHASE OF HERBICIDE; PUBLIC WORKS; SOURCE: RED RIVER SPECIALITY; AMOUNT: \$16,932; FUNDING: SSD - PUBLIC WORKS.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Jackel said, I just wanted to know what type of herbicide we're using and if Commissioner DeLoach approves of it. Commissioner DeLoach said, it's called a sling blade. Commissioner Jackel asked, what are we using, is it environmentally safe what we're using? Mr. George Lynch said, oh, absolutely, sir. Commissioner Jackel asked, does Eddie [DeLoach] approve of what we use, does he know and does he approve? Mr. Lynch said, I'm sure he would intervene, sir, if he did not. Commissioner DeLoach said, he called me. Before he bought it he called me. Mr. Lynch said, okay. Commissioner DeLoach said, before he bought it he called me.

Chairman Hair said, I'll entertain a motion. Commissioner DeLoach said, I move to approve. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, we may have to institute some standards before removing things from the Action Calendar. I'm not sure that one would have met the test.

ITEM 12-M:

AMENDMENT 1 RECOGNIZING FINAL VALIDATED LABOR AND MATERIALS COST ADJUSTMENTS TO CHANGE ORDER NO. 7 TO THE CONTRACT FOR SEWER LINES ON HUTCHINSON ISLAND; HUTCHINSON ISLAND WATER AND SEWER; SOURCE: SOUTHERN CHAMPION CONSTRUCTION, INC.; AMOUNT: \$50,538; FUNDING: HUTCHINSON ISLAND WATER AND SEWER PROJECT (PENDING TRANSFER JUNE 9, 2000).

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Jackel said, well, that's another thing. All these things have been bugging me all along and this is Change Order No. 7. What's going on here? Mr. George Lynch said, Change Order No. 7, sir, was one that you approved on a cost and materials basis back in February, and what that involved, and it's going to take just a quick minute to explain this, is you will recall initially the plan was to have a causeway across the slip. Within that the plan was to put sewer lines. DOT came up with a change in approach and change in plans that saved approximately \$500,000. We're not being critical of them. To bridge as opposed to run the causeway. This created a situation where there had to be a relocation of the sewer lines on Hutchinson Island, and unfortunately when you're dealing with a gravity flow sewer situation, you can't make sharp turns. An easement was requested from CSX. CSX granted that. Champion, which, a local firm, done a great job for us in the sewer and water line extensions over there, laid the sewer in the easement. Now, subsequently, CSX was involved in construction on the clubhouse. Not the hotel, but the clubhouse. During that process, pilings were driven as close as two feet to the sewer pipe that had been laid properly. Obviously, that — I said, obviously, I'm not sure I should say that. Apparently, that had some effect on the problem. A series of engineers were brought in to look objectively at the cheapest way to fix it. The view was that if you put in some sheet pile, you go in and you do a total replacement. That's what you all approved on a cost and materials basis with Champion, and I want to make the point, Champion performed like champs. They are not the culprit. As a consequence, cost and materials, the estimate was \$350,000. That was \$50,000 too optimistic. This recognizes a reality of cost and materials after all. Have I responded?

Commissioner Jackel said, excellently. I move for approval. Commissioner Odell said, second. Chairman Hair said, all right, we have a motion to approve. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Saussy, Rivers, Jackel, Odell, Price, DeLoach and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Murray voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of eight to one. Chairman Hair said, thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

1. Commissioner Saussy moved to approve Items 12-B through 12-L except Item 12-I. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

- 2. Commissioner Odell moved to approve Item 12-A. Commissioners Price and Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- 3. Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve Item 12-I. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
- 4. Commissioner Jackel moved to approve Item 12-M. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Saussy, Rivers, Jackel, Odell, Price, DeLoach and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Murray voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of eight to one.

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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. **A TEXT AMENDMENT TO CLARIFY THE DEFINITION FOR “BOARDING OR ROOMING HOUSE.” THE MPC RECOMMENDED APPROVAL.
MPC 00-267-C
NO DISTRICT/TEXT AMENDMENT/UNINCORPORATED AREA**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Read into the record as first reading.

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- 2. **AMEND THE COUNTY BUSINESS/OCCUPATIONAL TAX ORDINANCE TO RESPOND TO THE LATEST OPEN RECORDS PROVISIONS MANDATED BY THE STATE AND TO ADD PROVISIONS FOR THE REGULATION OF FLEA MARKETS WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED AREA.
NO DISTRICT/TEXT AMENDMENT/UNINCORPORATED AREA**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Read into record as First Reading.

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XII. SECOND READINGS

- 1. **AMENDMENT TO THE LAND DISTURBING ACTIVITIES ORDINANCE (LDAO) TO DELETE THE FEE SCHEDULE FROM THE LDAO WITH A NEW SCHEDULE FOR FEES TO BE CHARGED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING.**

County Manager Abolt said, Dr. Hair, number one and number two relate to an issue, I believe you received communication requesting a delay of two more weeks. You may wish to —.

Chairman Hair said, yes. Both of these —, let me go ahead and read item number two into the record. [Chairman Hair read item number two into the record. For balance of discussion and motion, see discussion under item number two below.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to table the proposed amendment to the Land Disturbing Activities Ordinance (LDAO) to delete the fee schedule from the LDAO with a new schedule for fees to be charged by the Department of Engineering. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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2. AMENDMENT TO THE CHATHAM COUNTY REVENUE ORDINANCE, ARTICLE S, ENGINEERING FEES AND ARTICLE V, APPEALS, REZONING, DEVELOPMENT AND REVIEW FEES.

Chairman Hair said, I had some discussion this morning with the County Attorney and also reviewing a letter we had from the Homebuilders Association. I believe it would be appropriate at this time to table this for two weeks and —, with the stipulation that we have staff communicate a letter to the Homebuilders asking for their specific requests and also having the County Attorney review it.

Commissioner DeLoach said, so moved for approval. Commissioner Jackel said, and then —. Commissioner Murray said, well, I think we need to find out a little bit further if that letter is faxed out to the Homebuilders today that they need to respond by next Friday—. Chairman Hair said, that's correct. Commissioner Murray said, and that is the cutoff date for it, and at the next meeting we will vote it up or down —. Chairman Hair said, that is correct. Commissioner Murray said, after the County Attorney's received it.

Mr. George Boyd said, excuse me, if I may, I'm George Boyd. I'm the attorney for the Homebuilders. I'm here today for the day and I'd be more than happy to meet and we can forego, and if you're needing a letter I'll be happy to sit down with the County Attorney and —.

Chairman Hair said, we have some other issues that we think need to be resolved and we'll table the issue for two weeks. Now, as Commissioner Murray said, we will vote on this in two weeks, okay, so any —, the letter that you're going to receive today will ask that you put everything very specifically in writing that you need, okay, any information, and that you give that back to us within one week. That gives us one week to respond back to you prior to us voting on it in two weeks.

Mr. Boyd said, I'm going to give you two weeks, Chairman. I'm get you my —, I'll return the letter today if you get that to us.

County Attorney Hart said, Mr. Chairman, what we —, from the staffing standpoint we would like to know exactly what it is that we're asking to be provided. Chairman Hair said, that's what the letter —. County Attorney Hart said, what your letter is. Chairman Hair said, right, the letter will ask you to give us specifically what you need, okay, any —. The letter from the Homebuilders that we received says you asked for some things you didn't get, so we need to know specifically what you did not get and those types of things, okay, and that way we can clarify it and vote on it. County Attorney Hart said, and we would also ask from a staffing standpoint that there be a response to that that if there is criticisms of this program or criticisms of the intent of this program, that they be made known so that, you know, I don't like something doesn't get us very far. Chairman Hair said, right. County Attorney Hart said, we have criticism of Point A, B and C and here's why. That's something that staff can address and you folks can make a reasonable decision about.

Chairman Hair said, okay. Thank you, thank you very much.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to table to the next meeting the proposed amendment to the Chatham County Revenue Ordinance, Article S, Engineering Fees, and Article V, Appeals, Rezoning, Development and Review Fees. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**3. PETITIONER, TOM HANSEN, AGENT (FOR ELIZABETH A. JOHNSTON, OWNER) IS REQUESTING TO REZONE A 20,000 SQUARE FOOT PARCEL FROM AN R-1-A (ONE-FAMILY RESIDENTIAL) CLASSIFICATION TO A R-A (RESIDENTIAL-AGRICULTURAL) CLASSIFICATION TO ALLOW A MOBILE HOME TO REMAIN ON A SITE. A MOBILE HOME WAS ALLOWED ON THE SITE UNDER THE MEDICAL HARDSHIP PROVISIONS OF THE COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE APPROXIMATELY 15 YEARS AGO. AT THE PRESENT TIME THE HARDSHIP PROVISIONS DO NOT APPLY. THE MPC RECOMMENDED THAT THE REQUEST BE DENIED BASED ON ITS INCONSISTENCY WITH RECENT REZONING ACTIONS FOR THE HARROCK HALL AREA AND THE ADVERSE PRECEDENT THIS WOULD ESTABLISH IN THE AREA.
MPC FILE NO. 00-219-C
[DISTRICT 1.]**

Chairman Hair recognized Mr. Bill Saxman.

Mr. Saxman said, to give you a summary, the petitioner is asking to amend the ordinance to change the zoning in the Harrock Hall area. If you recall, approximately a year ago the County Commissioners did rezone that area at the request of the citizens to a more restrictive zoning classification as far as density. If the petitioner's request is approved, they would be in contrast to the action taken by the Commissioners about a year ago to increase the intense —, reduce the intensity of development in that area. It was rezoned from an R-1 to an R-1-A classification, which was far greater square footage per dwelling unit. In this particular situation, the ordinance does allow hardship for mobile homes when an individual comes in and has a doctor's certificate showing that there are hardships that someone needs to be nearby to take care of someone's loved one, and the code does allow the Zoning Administrator to amend —, to vary that standard to allow mobile homes as a second use only as a one-year —, to one-year review. Each year it has to be renewed. This mobile home's been in there 15 years. At the present time there's no hardships that we are aware of and were not asked for on this particular property. The main issue was that there were a couple of trees that had grown up since the mobile home was put in there 15 years ago and they'd have to remove the trees to get the mobile home off the site. Staff and the Planning Commission and the County staff feels that that would be in violation of the policy that the County Commissioners adopted recently, and to rezone it to a R-A classification would open up a number of uses, such as dog kennels, mobile homes as a permitted use, and reduced the lot size which right now they require 21,000 square feet down to 6,000 square feet. In summary, the MPC is recommending denial of petitioner's request.

Commissioner DeLoach said, move for approval. Commissioner Price said, second.

Chairman Hair said, we have a motion and a second to deny. All those in favor vote yes —. Yes sir? Please state your name for the record.

Mr. Tom Hansensaid, I'm Tom Hansen, speaking for my sister with this petition. We've got a situation that the trailer's been sitting there for 15 years and we —, 15 years ago we were approved for a hardship. My dad died nine years ago, my mom died this past May. The situation has changed. It's not that we don't want to move the trailer, it's a situation that we can't. The people next door have sold the property, who allowed us to come across to install it originally, and he refuses to let us go across his property to remove it, and the trees in question that have to be moved are palm trees on the County's property. Not that they've grown up, they've been there. That's why we couldn't come in that way originally. My niece, who moved in with my mom and dad 15 years ago, is presently still living in the trailer. That's her —, been her home for 15 years. The only other alternative we have is to, as far as I understand, is to tear the trailer down, and I just find it hard to believe that we can't have a spot zoning. We're not asking to open up trailer parks or anything like that. There's more room on our property between the sites than there is in this subdivision directly across the street, so the density is not, you know, is not there. The property value has not gone down, it's gone up in value like everybody else's has in the area. We have fishing. The neighbors have not said anything about it being there. They've signed a petition allowing —, asking you all to approve the —, our recommendation, and so we would like for you to take that into consideration. It's not that we don't want to move it, it's a situation that also the gentleman that came out to look at said it had to be —, been sitting there for 15 years he can't guarantee that it in fact can be moved without it, you know, coming apart.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Price and then Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Price asked, Russ [Abolt], has anybody with the staff or MPC gone out and viewed the site and been able to confirm that what he's saying is so? County Manager Abolt said, I'll have to defer to MPC staff on that, sir.

Chairman Hair recognized Mr. Saxman? Mr. Saxman said, the staff has gone out and they did talk to one of the property owners and the tree would have to be removed. It is a palm tree so there are ways you can dig up palm trees. It would cost you money, but Mr. DeLoach might be able to address that. It's on the City —, County right-of-way, as far as the expertise that he has as far as digging up those type of trees because you see them planted all over the community. They're palm trees so [inaudible].

Commissioner Price said, so it is, it's on County right-of-way. Mr. Saxman said, the palm trees are, right. Commissioner Price asked, who maintains that? The Public Works Department? Mr. Saxman said, right. Commissioner Price said, I mean I —, I guess what I'm asking is, he's in a bind in one sense. I mean, are we going to work with him? If we're going to require him to move this mobile home, are we going to work with him in moving that palm tree out of the way so he can get out of there? County Manager Abolt said, we'd be glad to. Commissioner Price said, okay. So that —, at no cost to him? County Manager Abolt said, it's in the right-of-way, sir, it'd be our cost. Commissioner Price said, okay.

Chairman Hair said, okay, we have a motion and a second on the floor to deny. All those in favor of denial will vote yes, opposing will vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

Commissioner Odell said, Dana [Braun], you had something on this. Mr. Braun said, pardon me. Commissioner Odell said, you stood up. Mr. Braun said, yes, I stood up, but I'm not going to say anything. And I just want to say —. Commissioner DeLoach said, you better write that down too if he's not going to say anything. Mr. Braun said, no, I just want to say —. Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Odell doesn't have the right to recognize someone. Commissioner Odell said, I'm sorry.

Mr. Braun said, he made a mistake. Three quick points, Dr. Hair. One, the neighbors are not opposed to a trailer remaining. They are opposed to the rezoning, and that's been the issue because we worked very hard on rezoning last year, and it was —, it's been less than an year, it was in October of '99 that this Board approved —. Chairman Hair said, it was in '99 anyway. Mr. Braun said, right, and the neighbors aren't against it, but there is a petition here from a hundred neighbors saying that they do oppose this rezoning, and y'all voted in that favor and I appreciate it. I want to certainly thank Commissioner Saussy, who's been very cooperative and listened to us and has been a pleasure to work with on this issue. Thank you.

Chairman Hair said, thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to **deny** the petition of Tom Hansen, Agent (for Elizabeth A. Johnston, Owner), requesting to rezone a 20,000 square foot parcel from an R-1-A (One-Family Residential) classification to a R-A (Residential-Agricultural) classification to allow a mobile home to remain on a site, which was allowed on the site under the medical hardship provisions of the County Zoning Ordinance approximately 15 years ago. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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4. A TEXT AMENDMENT TO THE CHATHAM COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE TO ENACT A WAREHOUSING PARKING SPACE STANDARD UNDER SECTION 6. OFF-STREET PARKING AND LOADING REQUIREMENTS, SUBSECTION 6-3. OFF-STREET PARKING REQUIREMENTS. THE MPC RECOMMENDED APPROVAL OF THE TEXT AMENDMENT. MPC FILE NO. 00-181-C [NO DISTRICT/TEXT AMENDMENT - UNINCORPORATED AREA.]

Chairman Hair recognized Mr. Bill Saxman.

Mr. Saxman said, in summary, we reviewed the City-County parking requirements for warehousing. We're having these real large warehouses, 800,000 square feet or larger, coming in and in reviewing the ordinances, the City ordinance was too restrictive in some cases and the County ordinance wasn't restrictive enough, and since our program is to try to make sure both ordinances are compatible, we did a research and looked at other communities throughout the Southeast, and have recommended a new set of standards for large scale warehousing, and this would amend the County's off-street parking requirements for warehousing. We do have a sliding scale. The larger the warehouse, the lower the square footage —, the number of parking spaces you'd have to have per square footage, and this is in line with what the SEDA group were working with with the development they're working in out on the west part of the County.

Chairman Hair said, I'll entertain a motion to approve. Commissioner Odell said, so moved. Commissioner Price said, second.

Commissioner Jackel said, I'm just curious why it switched from number of employees to square feet. Mr. Saxman said, well, right now a lot of the units that are being built, they don't know who's going in there. It's spec building, so you have no standards which you can judge it on to start off with.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, if I understand this right, that's what set the parking spaces required for commercial development, is that correct? Mr. Saxman said, for warehousing, right. Commissioner Murray said, for warehousing. Not just storefronts or restaurants or anything like —. Mr. Saxman said, no, no, this is just for the warehousing, the large warehousing that's going in and the —, just basically we're setting up a new warehouse because the County does not have a warehouse parking [inaudible]. It's under manufacturing and industrial, that's the reason it's based on employees, and warehousing, a lot of these warehouses have 800,000 square feet and they may only have maybe 20 or 30 employees because they use forklifts and they run everything up and down there —. Commissioner Murray said, okay, but I also think we need to go back and look at the one where we have these small shopping centers and areas that have restaurants and all these other little stores in them. We've got several in the Islands area that have no parking spaces. A lot of people park on the roads and everything else. We've got other places where they're parking on the bike trails, and I just think that we need to look at it from a different standpoint, not just this one area. Mr. Saxman said, well, we do go back periodically and do an analysis of each area. We do have periodic reviews of these parking standards, and that one of them that are looked at. Parking is not necessarily sometimes to standards. If they get in an established shopping center and as they expand their use that requires more parking, sometimes that gets through the cracks and that's [inaudible] the issues. Commissioner Murray said, I'll tell you one, just as an example, and that's the one across the street from Kroger on Wilmington Island Road. And if I'm not mistaken, a waiver was given to those people when they built it because they said they were only going to have certain things in there. Mr. Saxman said, I think that started off with a drug store, I believe, and then converted into a restaurant and that's a different —. Commissioner Murray said, no, no, no. That's not a drug store. You've got a lot of things, you've got a Subway, you've got the Oyster Bar and you've got other little stores, take-out food restaurants and everything else in there.

Chairman Hair said, maybe you should just take a look at it. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to approve a text amendment to the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance to enact a warehousing parking space standard under Section 6, Off-Street Parking and Loading Requirements, Subsection 6-3, Off-Street Parking Requirements. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.]

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- 5. **TEXT AMENDMENT: THAT SECTION 3-7. VISION CLEARANCE AT INTERSECTIONS OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY ZONING REGULATIONS BE AMENDED TO PROVIDE FLEXIBLE VISION CLEARANCE STANDARDS TO OBTAIN ADEQUATE VISION CLEARANCE BASED ON THE PHYSICAL CONDITIONS OF THE INTERSECTION AS APPROVED BY THE COUNTY ENGINEER. THE MPC RECOMMENDED THAT THE REQUEST BE APPROVED.
MPC FILE NO. 00-150-C
[NO DISTRICT/TEXT AMENDMENT - UNINCORPORATED AREA.]**

Chairman Hair recognized Mr. Saxman.

Commissioner Rivers said, so moved for approval. Commissioner Odell said, second.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rivers moved to approve a text amendment that Section 3.7, Vision Clearance at Intersections of the Chatham County Zoning Regulations be amended to provide flexible vision clearance standards to obtain adequate vision clearance based on the physical conditions of the intersections as approved by the County Engineer. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Saussy was not present.]

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XIII. INFORMATION CALENDAR

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Written report received as information.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Written report received as information.

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3. PRESENT TO THE BOARD THE COUNTY'S AUDITED COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999, AND THE CHANGES IN FINANCIAL CONDITION. THE AUDITORS WILL BE PRESENT. (NOTE: CAFR available for distribution at the end of the week.)

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, if you choose, on your Information Calendar you do have both the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and your management letter. The auditors have been invited and they are in the audience. As you know, each time when they complete their report it's very important that if members of the Board would like to ask them questions they would do so. The CAFR, as it's referred to, was delivered late because of some outside printing problems. We realize you did not receive this until yesterday afternoon. You may wish, if you want, to defer questions on the total audit, but if you'd like to ask questions on the management letter, or whatever your pleasure is —.

Chairman Hair said, because we didn't get it until yesterday, I got mine late yesterday afternoon, I think it would be appropriate for us, give us time to read it, and let's do it two weeks from now, and if it would be possible, ask them to come back. County Manager Abolt said, whatever you think. Chairman Hair said, I know it would be an inconvenience, but having just got it yesterday, I think, I haven't had a chance to look at it and I do think we need to look at it before we do that.

Commissioner Murray said, I've got a question on the other before me move on —. Chairman Hair said, okay. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray. Commissioner Murray asked, where do we stand on the reimbursement from the State for the money on the Trade Center?

County Manager Abolt said, that's one of the audit findings. Commissioner Murray said, I know that. I'd just like to know where the money is and when we're going to receive it. County Manager Abolt said, Pat [Monahan] is working with the properties people —, we lose people too quickly. I'll get Mr. Monahan. Commissioner Murray said, they evidently didn't anticipate any questions.

Chairman Hair said, let's go ahead and get the —. County Manager Abolt asked, do you want to do road report and then —? Chairman Hair said, yes, and then we'll come back and answer your question. Okay.

Mr. Pat Monahan asked, was there a question I missed, sir? Commissioner Murray said, yes. County Manager Abolt said, wait a minute, Al [Bungard]. Mr. Monahan's here. The question has to do with the \$17 million from the State. Mr. Monahan said, yes sir. It is —, I've finished the first draft, and I just need to get the Attorney's office to review it. It's a very difficult document. At this point it's almost 40 pages because it is the first time that the State of Georgia has allowed a county to do this. It's —, so it's just been a little bit complicated. Commissioner Murray asked, on our part or the State's part? Mr. Monahan said, no, no, no, on our part. We met with the Attorney General's office a couple of years ago and the Attorney General's office gave us some basic parameters that the agreement needed to follow, and I have tried to incorporate those, as many as possible. The other problem was that, as you might recall, when the project ran into the funding problems back in the Fall of 1998, the State's requiring us to deed a portion of the building over to the State of Georgia, that portion wherein the money would be spent, so in theory some —, there is some portion of the building, it's the loading bay, it's exhibit hall, actually will be titled in the name of the State of Georgia. That's a requirement of the bond issue. That was one of the requirements of the State of Georgia placed upon the project. And because of some of the changes in the design, we originally had an area outlined but then had to go back and change that. So there have been some changes related to the design issues as well as just getting the work done, and —. Commissioner Murray asked, any kind of time frame to when it will be complete? Mr. Monahan said, well, I was hoping to get it to the County Attorney by the end of this month.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Written report received as information. Because the Commissioners received the CAFR too late to sufficiently review it prior to the meeting, the auditors will be invited to attend the next meeting and the Commissioners will be given an opportunity to question the auditors at that time.

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4. PRESENT TO THE BOARD THE AUDITOR'S RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE INTERNAL CONTROLS AND ADMINISTRATIVE EFFICIENCY FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 1999, TOGETHER WITH STAFF RESPONSES TO THE AUDITOR'S COMMENTS.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Written report received as information.

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5. ROAD REPORT.

County Manager Abolt said, we also have, Mr. Chairman, again, if you would choose or like, Mr. Bungard can give you an update on the road program, if that would be your pleasure. Commissioner DeLoach said, yes, please.

Chairman Hair asked, briefing on road program? Commissioner DeLoach said, yes.

Commissioner Price said, I had the opportunity Tuesday past to speak, along with Al [Bungard], to the Southside Rotary Club and watch the Power Point presentation that was given to the State Transportation Board last week. I was very impressed with the —, after they finally got it to work, I was very impressed with the presentation, especially the latter part of it, which went over something of a favorite subject of mine, which is the GIS, and we will come to that, but I'll just that and tell you if you get the opportunity to look at this presentation given to the State Transportation Board, I encourage you to do that. County Manager Abolt said, it will be on TV. Commissioner Price said, great.

Commissioner DeLoach asked, you looking for questions? Pooler Parkway. County Engineer Al Bungard said, yes sir. Commissioner DeLoach said, I'm looking at time frame. County Engineer Bungard said, under construction. Probably at least two more years by the time both phases are done. Commissioner DeLoach asked, that means 2002? County Engineer Bungard said, yes. Construction is going very well. This dry weather is helping considerably. Commissioner DeLoach said, yes, it is in that area. Now is that —, is that the interchange there also? County Engineer Bungard asked, you mean the overpass? Yes, that's an overpass over Highway 80, interchange. Called trumpet. Actually, it will —. Commissioner DeLoach asked, that can tie to the same —, that's the same contractor, right? County Engineer Bungard said, yes, there'll be an overpass —, no, that's actually two contractor. Malphrus has the first, Douglas Asphalt has the second. They have the northern part.

Commissioner DeLoach said, extension on Jimmy DeLoach Parkway. County Engineer Bungard said, that's also about two more years to go. Commissioner DeLoach said, two years. County Engineer Bungard asked, you mean the interchange at State Route 21? Commissioner DeLoach said, well, I know that one, but the other one. County Engineer Bungard said, oh, phase two. Commissioner DeLoach said, yes, phase two. County Engineer Bungard said, phase two, the environmental assessment for that has been to GDOT. We've held a public hearing, we're addressing the comments, and have already initiated preliminary design and right now we hope to have the design ready by next fiscal year, but GDOT when they redid the TIP by Senate Bill 57 I referred to, they have it programmed out somewhere in 2003 or 4 right now.

Commissioner DeLoach said, 17 from 204 to Bryan County. County Engineer Bungard said, we are starting the right-of-way acquisition on that. We have 35 parcels to acquire. That will take approximately 120 days, so we're looking at a construction start probably about nine months from now. I think I put in the road report, I'm hoping, I might be optimistic, like January or February, but it will be next fiscal year for sure.

Commissioner DeLoach asked, what about Dean Forest to 204? County Engineer Bungard said, we're down to the last parcel. I hope to get that into the June advertising for a July or August award. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay. County Engineer Bungard said, there's one parcel, there's a pond right there and there was a —, GDOT's survey didn't take the cross-section out and didn't realize that they were actually into the pond, and so when I told them they needed a 404 permit, it was like whoops.

Commissioner DeLoach said, Southwest Bypass Interchange. I know it's under construction. What's the time frame on that? 18 months? County Engineer Bungard said, also my standard answer, about two years. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay. County Engineer Bungard said, by about 2002 we're going to see, like I said before, a lot of these things that are under construction now will be done and then we'll have a series more started.

County Engineer Bungard said, the latest news on Truman Parkway is that the Colonel from the district and I signed the 404 permit last Friday. It's already in the hands of Atlanta. We're down to a handful. I think like —, I think you saw the memo on the last few issues. The tough one is going to be —, it turns out the property from the Georgia Regional Hospital is managed by the State Properties Commission, which is chaired by the Governor, and as of yesterday it seems like we can't get him to a special meeting until the 26th of June, and it's my intent to try to have it certified by the end of June. This one's going to go right down to the wire. If not —.

Commissioner Murray said, just assure him the School Board won't be involved in it and we might be able to get something.

County Engineer Bungard said, so —, but barring that, it should be no question the month after that.

Commissioner Murray asked, what about the widening of Highway 80? I know it's a State project, from Bryan Woods to Bull River Bridge, or is that —, isn't that supposed to have a bike path or something on that that the County's responsible for? County Engineer Bungard said, according to the TIP, and I'm verifying it in the construction plan, the TIP shows a bikeway on both shoulders, quote, and I'm trying to verify now, as of the last couple of days ago, that it's back in the construction plans and Frank Sweat was out, so I haven't been able to do that. My understanding is yes. Commissioner Murray asked, are you going to patch the street that's caving in next to Russ' [Abolt] house?

County Manager Abolt said, I'd like to acknowledge that hole wasn't there until the neighbors moved in down the street. We had a good neighbor until then. Chairman Hair said, it's all that fancy furniture he had, I believe.

Commissioner DeLoach said, that interchange with —, you said that interchange at Jimmy DeLoach and 204 —, I mean, 21 is about two years out. County Engineer Bungard said, I'm going to give you the contract date.

Chairman Hair asked, any other questions? Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Rivers.

Commissioner Rivers asked, Al [Bungard], are we incorporating any lighting in this design that's going forth with Truman? That's the darkest highway I've ever seen. Commissioner Thomas said, it sure is. County Engineer Bungard said, in the design, yes, but GDOT has not yet approved funding the actual putting up of the lights. In other words, the conduit will be there and the various openings to pull the wires versus some sort of automotive traffic control system, lighting. I asked that that be added some time

ago. Commissioner Rivers said, let me ask this question. Do we have any conduits in —, will they —? County Engineer Bungard said, so you'll know the answer, no, that was not part of the design.

Chairman Hair asked, any other questions of Mr. Bungard? Okay.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Report received as information.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Hair said, I'll entertain a motion to go into Executive Session. County Manager Abolt said, personnel, litigation and land acquisition.

Upon motion made by Commissioner Rivers, seconded by Commissioner Saussy and unanimously approved, the Board recessed at 10:15 a.m., to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation, land acquisition, and personnel. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and Price were not present.]

Following adjournment of the Executive Session, the meeting of the Board of Commissioners was reconvened at 10:32 a.m.

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ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

- AUTHORIZE SETTLEMENT OF CHATHAM COUNTY V. 0.60 ACRES OF LAND AND SAVANNAH SHERATON CORPORATION, CIVIL ACTION NO. CV98-0077-MI (JON HART).**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Saussy moved to authorize the settlement of *Chatham County v. 0.60 Acres of Land and Savannah Sheraton Corporation*, Civil Action No. CV98-0077-MI, in the amount of \$16,800. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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- 2. 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 DeLoach moved to authorize the Chairman to execute an affidavit that the Executive Session was held in compliance with the Open Meetings Law. Commissioner Saussy 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 10:35 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