

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 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, September 8, 2000.

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II. INVOCATION

Commissioner Priscilla Thomas 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:	R. E. Abolt, County Manager R. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney Sybil E. Tillman, County Clerk
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V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. PROCLAMATION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 10-16, 2000, AS "TRY TRANSIT WEEK" IN CHATHAM COUNTY.

Chairman Hair said, I guess –, Mr. Lansing, who’s going to receive this? If you will join me down front. Good morning. How are you? I saw that fancy bus out there. Is this related to that fancy bus out there? Are we going to get to rid in the bus? Mr. Scott Lansing said, if you get done in a hurry. Chairman Hair then read the following proclamation into the record:

WHEREAS, increased public investment in transit services provides the potential to create jobs and enhance business prosperity; and

WHEREAS, public transportation is vital to the quality of life and economic well-being of the citizens of Savannah, Chatham County, Georgia; and,

WHEREAS, workers, school children, senior citizens, people with disabilities and those unable to afford an automobile use public transportation to gain access to jobs, schools, medical facilities, and other fundamental services; and,

WHEREAS, the nation, our communities and our citizens face the risks to health and the environment that are brought on by automobile exhaust emissions; and,

WHEREAS, traffic congestion which wastes productive time can be alleviated through the increased availability and use of public transportation and other forms of high-occupancy, shared-ride services; and,

WHEREAS, on Wednesday, September 13, 2000, Chatham Area Transit sponsors **TRY TRANSIT DAY** as a way to introduce the transit system to occasional and non-riders and encourage their patronage by offering a 25¢ fare; and,

WHEREAS, the Chatham County Commission, the Chatham Area Transit Authority, the American Public Transportation Association, the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Federal Transit Administration, the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, the Association for Commuter Transportation, the Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations, the National Association of Counties, Community Transportation Association of America, the National League of Cities, National Governor's Association, the Surface Transportation Policy Project, and the U.S. Conference of Mayors, have declared September 10 – 16, 2000, to be **TRY TRANSIT WEEK** and have called upon all citizens to join in a nationwide effort to promote transit’s benefits, honor transit employees, and encourage new riders.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Billy B. Hair, on behalf of the Chatham County Commission and the Chatham Area Transit Authority, proclaim September 10 – 16, 2000, as **TRY TRANSIT WEEK** in Chatham County, Georgia, and call upon all citizens to examine their personal travel choices, to commute via transit or share the ride during **TRY TRANSIT WEEK** and to become more active in education and advocacy efforts to promote the vital role of public transit in Chatham County and across the United States.

Dr. Billy B. Hair, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Sybil Tillman, Clerk of Commission

Mr. Lansing said, Mr. Chairman, I think you said it all with this proclamation, but I want to appreciate –, express our appreciation to the County Commission for their efforts in this and declaring next week Try Transit Week and declaring Wednesday, September 13th, as Try Transit Day, when we’ll have fares available for a quarter, and we also do this to honor our employees, some of whom we have before you today, and I dare say, bar none, this is the best damn transit employees in the world, and I’m very proud of the job that these men and women do every day for this community, and I hope the people out there take a moment to give them a token of appreciation as well. Thank you very much.

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2. PROCLAMATION TO DECLARE SEPTEMBER 2000 AS “BUY LOCAL MONTH” IN CHATHAM COUNTY.

Chairman Hair said, our next proclamation is to celebrate “Buy Local Week” [sic]. Do we have a representative? Okay. If not, we will just hold onto that one then.

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Chairman Hair said, I'm going to ask Commissioner DeLoach if he'll join me down front. He serves on the Buy Local Committee, so I'm going to read the proclamation and give it to Commissioner DeLoach. Chairman Hair then read the following proclamation into the record:

WHEREAS, locally owned businesses engender pride and community spirit; and

WHEREAS, locally owned businesses have local management; and

WHEREAS, locally owned businesses make decisions locally; and

WHEREAS, locally owned businesses are service oriented; and

WHEREAS, locally owned businesses are important to our community as they provide employment and keep earnings in the local community through employment compensation, promotions and capital investment; and

WHEREAS, the month of September 2000 has been designated "BUY LOCAL MONTH" by the Savannah Area Buy Local Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dr. Billy B. Hair, Chairman, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2000 as:

BUY LOCAL MONTH

in Chatham County all urge all citizens in the community to continue your generous support and assistance in supporting locally owned businesses.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 8th day of September 2000.

Dr. Billy B. Hair, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

ATTEST: _____
Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

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3. SWEARING IN CEREMONY FOR YOUTH COMMISSION.

Chairman Hair said, the next thing on the agenda is to swear in the Youth Commission. Chairman Hair recognized Mr. Van Johnson.

Mr. Johnson said, Dr. Hair, Dr. Thomas, gentlemen, this morning we are pleased to present to you Chatham County's greatest asset, our youth. The Chatham County Youth Commission is a result of the vision of Dr. Priscilla Thomas and with definitive commitment to factor youth into the equation to address today's challenges. Through your moral and financial commitment to this organization, you have successfully conspired to plant seeds of promise and cultivate the possibilities of opportunity. The 2000-2001 session of the Chatham County Youth Commission represents the best of the best in this County. Representing all ends of the County, representing all faiths, representing all Commission districts and municipalities, representing all secondary learning institutions in this County, we have discovered that the only way to solve problems is to solve them together. There are over 200 alumni of the Chatham County Youth can be found all over the country doing great things and making a difference wherever they are. This year's Youth Commission is no different. I submit to you that in today's group sits a future President of the United States, a future Congressman or Congresswoman, a future Commission or Council member, all because of the experience and opportunities that will be presented to them during the next year. We'd also like to take a moment before we swear in these fine young people to salute and introduce the wind beneath the wings of these fine young people, and we would like all of the parents, guardians and loved ones of our superstars to please stand and be recognized. [Applause.] I'll introduce the co-chairs of this year's Youth Commission: Brianne Draffin, a senior at St. Andrew's School, and Tiffany White, a senior at Beach High School, for brief remarks.

Ms. Brianne Draffin said, County Commission, we thank you very, very much for your continued support of the Youth Commission. It couldn't happen without you and, Dr. Thomas, we thank you so much. This is just a wonderful program and a great opportunity for all of us, and we also thank our advisers, Mr. Johnson and everyone else, that put in so much time and effort into making this Youth Commission happen. We thank you all very much.

Ms. Tiffany White said, good morning, Commissioners. I would first like to say thank you for your continued support, and to Dr. Thomas, our founding mother, without your love and support we would not be here. We are the County's best of the best and we will prove you no wrong. We will succeed and we will make you proud. Thank you.

Chairman Hair said, thank you very much.

Mr. Johnson said, we'd certainly like to as well salute the Human Resources staff. Ms. Roberts is here to the right, Ms. Allen and Ms. Copeland, who is somewhere preparing for the brief reception afterwards, our Director, Mr. Kaigler, for making this Youth Commission work. We would like for you to come down at this time, Dr. Hair and Dr. Thomas, and any Commissioners who would care to join us as we swear in our Youth Commission. And I don't believe I have the swearing in documents with me.

Chairman Hair said, raise your right hands. The Youth Commissioners repeated the following oath presented by Chairman Hair: I solemnly swear to uphold all the rights and privileges of the Chatham County Commission [sic] in the State of Georgia, and hereby pledge that I will faithfully carry out the duties of the Youth Commission as assigned. Chairman Hair said, congratulations.

Mr. Johnson said, at this time we will have –, please come up when your name is called. Dr. Thomas if you would assist.

Commission Officers:

- Ms. Brianne Draffin, St. Andrews School, Senior, serving her third term on the Youth Commission;
- Ms. Tiffany White, representing the Port City BPW Little Sisters, Senior, third term;
- Mr. Henry O'Neal, Vice Chair, representing Educational Talent Search, Senior, Beach High School, third term;
- Ms. Sumati Gupta, Secretary, representing the Indian Association Youth Group, Junior, Jenkins High School, second term;
- Mr. Joseph Geffen, Executive Member, representing the Jewish Educational Alliance, Senior, Savannah Country Day, second term;
- Ms. Shraddha Subramaniam, Executive Member, representing the Indian Association Youth Group, Senior, Jenkins High School, second term;
- Mr. L. Carvell Allen, Savannah Arts Academy, Junior, third term, and he serves as Parliamentarian.

Commission Members:

- Mr. Dwayne Allen, Savannah Arts Academy, Junior, second term;
- Ms. Renee Bellino, Savannah Country Day, Junior, second term;
- Ms. Bridgette Bess, representing Jack & Jill, Senior, first term;
- Ms. Esther Bonam, representing Jenkins High, Senior, first term;
- Ms. Shantell Boyd, representing Beach High School, Sophomore, first term;
- Mr. Eric Brown, representing MLK Observance Day Association, Senior, second term;
- Ms. Hannah Carter, representing Calvary Baptist, Junior, second term;
- Ms. Kelie Connor, representing St. Vincent's Academy, Junior, second term;
- Ms. Niavona Daniels, representing Upward Bound, Sophomore, first term;
- Ms. Lauren Dunant, representing Calvary Baptist, Senior, second term;
- Ms. Brooke Fortson, representing the Savannah Runaway Home, Senior, second term;
- Mr. Frank Frazier, representing Upward Bound, Junior, first term;
- Ms. Jenna Gardner, representing Groves High School, Junior, first term;
- Ms. Katie George, representing Savannah Christian, Senior, second term;
- Mr. Jimmy Groover, representing Memorial Day School, Senior, second term;
- Mr. Justin Heddleson, representing Groves High School, Senior, second term;
- Mr. Amro Idris, representing Windsor Forest, Junior, first term;
- Mr. Corey Jackson, representing Beach High School, Sophomore, first term;
- Ms. Te'Erica Johnson, representing Summer Bonanza, Sophomore, first term;
- Ms. Beth Layer, representing Providence Christian, Senior, second term;
- Mr. Frederick Lindsay, representing Johnson High School, Senior, second term;
- Mr. Christopher Lowe, representing St. Andrews, Senior, second term;
- Ms. Lauren McCraw, representing Providence, Senior, second term;
- Ms. Renekia Mewborn, representing Jenkins High School, Junior, first term;
- Ms. Lindsey Porter, representing Bible Baptist, Senior, second term;
- Ms. ZaDonna Slay, representing Girl Scouts, Junior, second term;
- Mr. Wilbert Smith, representing Leadership Savannah, Senior, second term;
- Mr. Slade Thorpe, representing Savannah Country Day, Junior, first term;

- Ms. Stephanie Tillman, representing St. Vincent's Academy, Junior, first term;
- Ms. Aminata Traore', representing Savannah Arts Academy, Junior, third term;
- Ms. Katie Ussery, representing Jenkins High School, Junior, second term;
- Ms. Lynn Vassar, representing Johnson High School, Senior, first term;
- Ms. Christina Watts, Beach High School, Junior, first term;
- Ms. Lydia Williams, representing Savannah Christian, Senior, second term;
- Ms. Krystal Wise, representing Savannah High, Sophomore, first term.

Mr. Johnson said, ladies and gentlemen, the 2000-2001 session of the Chatham County Youth Commission.

Commissioner Thomas said, I would just like to say congratulations to our newly installed Youth Commissioners. I know that they're going to excel as they have in the past, and I'd like to thank the parents for being here this morning because you, too, are very special. Thank you very much.

Chairman Hair said, I'm going to recognize Commissioner Murray. On behalf of the entire Commission, I'd like to welcome the Youth Commission members. We look forward to working with you over the next year, and particularly the parents, I know you're very proud of these young people. This has been an outstanding program and it all started with the --, as the young lady said, with the vision of Dr. Thomas, so we all owe Dr. Thomas a great deal of thanks. Okay, I'll recognize Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, I'd just like to say I'm sorry I was not able to attend the function to meet each one of you personally. I was out of town and not able to attend, but I think this community is very fortunate to have youth such as yourselves that are willing to get involved and do the things and learn about government and about your community and what can be done to improve what we do. I look forward to working with each one of you. Congratulations to each of you and your schools that you represent and the organizations you represent.

Chairman Hair said, thank you.



VII. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

1. RESCHEDULING COMMISSION MEETING ON THE 22ND OF SEPTEMBER TO THE 29TH (CHAIRMAN AND COMMISSIONER PRICE).

Chairman Hair said, we need a motion to reschedule the September 22nd meeting to September 29th. This is --, the reason we have to do this is because our attorneys are --, all of our attorneys are going to be Athens at a seminar and we do not have legal representation. So I'll entertain a motion to move the meeting from September 22nd to the 29th.

Commissioner Murray said, I move for approval. Commissioner Odell said, second. Chairman Hair said, motion and second. Any discussion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. Commissioner Jackel said, that's going to put two meetings --. Chairman Hair said, two meetings --, that is correct, we will have two meetings back to back. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved that the Board reschedule the next Commission meeting from September 22, 2000, to September 29, 2000. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.



2. SET MEETING WITH LEGISLATIVE DELEGATION.

Chairman Hair said, the next thing on the agenda we need to change --, we originally had our legislative delegation meeting scheduled for September 13th, and we have had a request from the Dean of the delegation, Anne Mueller, to reschedule that because of some conflicts with the legislative delegation. We don't have a new date yet, but I will notify you as soon as we get a new date, but it will not be held on September 13th as we originally had planned.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Received as information.

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3. DEVELOPMENT FEES AFFECTING RELATIVELY SMALL ISSUES (CHAIRMAN AND COMMISSIONER MURRAY).

Chairman Hair said, I would like to start off by saying this was brought to my attention by a local property owner. When we reestablished the development fees, we had certain situations to occur where very small pieces of property, and the example that I'll give you was an actual example, where a person wanted to transfer a \$1,500 piece of property and the development fee, the registration fee, or whatever you call it was going to be \$1,350, and it just doesn't make sense to have those kinds of fees apply to very small purchases. The staff, along with the MPC, has investigated that and they're going to bring a proposal back to us on September 29th that will address this problem, and I think we'll alleviate the situation where we have very small pieces of property transferred. Commissioner Murray, do you want to make any comments?

Commissioner Murray said, yes, the same individual had contacted me and I had talked with several people prior to that about the same problem. I think what we were trying to do is make sure that everyone paid their fair share and the citizens in the community on their tax bills did not have to pick up developers and other people's large pieces of property that were being developed, and that was the intent of it. However, during that process we overlooked part of that ordinance and we need to make some changes, and I think your comments are there and from what I understand the County Manager and the County Attorney will take it back and rewrite it and come back to us, and the final approval will be the first meeting in October if I'm not mistaken.

Chairman Hair said, right. We'll have to –, when we change it, we'll have first reading on September 29th and then the second reading. This is something that needs to be addressed, and so we will do that. We appreciate very much the citizen bringing that to our attention.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Received as information. The ordinance setting development fees will be rewritten and brought back for first and second readings on September 29th and October 6th respectively.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

Chairman Hair said, the next item is just an announcement. In the chambers here on September 13, Wednesday, at twelve o'clock, we're going to have a meeting of the Governor's Highway Office of Traffic Safety, and this is going to be cosponsored by Summer Bonanza, which again is one of Dr. Thomas' brain child's, and I just wanted to make sure the public's aware that the meeting will take place here in the chambers on twelve noon, September 13th. We encourage the public and anyone who'd like to attend.

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VI. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS

1. PAYMENT TO CHAMBER FOR AIM PARTICIPATION (COMMISSIONER MURRAY).

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, the only reason I bring this up, and I don't think there's a whole lot we can do about it, but I was not affected with it but there were several people with different offices they were running for this past year that you had some of the top people on the board of the Chamber of Commerce went to them and talked to them, they were incumbents, and if they did not do and vote as they wanted they wanted them to, they would put all their money and support behind their opponents, which I don't think is right. I don't think that's what the Chamber is designed for. I'm not going to mention names right now, I don't think it's necessary to mention their names, but I just want the Chamber to understand that we have the

authority to pull any funding we do to the Chamber, if necessary, if this type thing continues, and that's the only reason I put it on the agenda. So if there's anybody out there that wants to comment on it that's from the Chamber, that's fine, I'll be glad to listen to it.

Commissioner Price asked, was anybody at the Chamber notified that this item was on the agenda? Commissioner Murray said, I have no idea whether they were or not. I certainly didn't, I wasn't here, but we weren't notified when they went after these people either, and I don't think that's what the Chamber is designed for. I think they do a great job with the businesses and trying to do things to improve our community and enhance business to come into the community, but this is not the way to go about it, and whether it's me or whether it's someone else they go after is beside the point. I think individuals have the right to run for an office, and I think people have the right to get behind those individuals and support them, but at the same time an organization like the Chamber of Commerce, in my opinion, should not be doing that type thing, and I will state that if it continues and it comes up again, I will vote against any funding for the Chamber of Commerce.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Price.

Commissioner Price said, I think you've got a very valid point, Frank [Murray]. I would like to ask if the Chairman would be willing to talk to Mr. Hubbard about this, and at least, you know, more directly voice our concerns about that type of behavior and actually give them an opportunity to respond as well.

Chairman Hair said, if the Commission so desires, I will be happy to take responsibility and meet with Mr. Hubbard, if that's -- Commissioner Murray said, that's fine. Chairman Hair said, if there's no objection to that.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner DeLoach.

Commissioner DeLoach said, I would like to know, in the process of that, give me an update on what we're talking about so -- Chairman Hair asked, you mean after I meet with him? Commissioner DeLoach said, tell me what we're discussing. Chairman Hair said, I think that's --, that's very appropriate. I will try to set a meeting up with Mr. Hubbard and I will discuss this issue and then I will report back to the Commission the result of the meeting.

Commissioner Rivers asked, could somebody at some time give me an initial update on this? Commissioner Murray said, yes, I'll be glad to tell you, I just don't think we need to get into names right now because that's not the point. The important thing is to send the message out.

Chairman Hair said, yes, and I will also discuss this with Commissioner Murray too. I want to have all the facts before I go to do that. So we will try to do that, but I appreciate your bringing that to our attention.

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2. MARY ELLEN SPRAGUE, LIBRARY (COMMISSIONER SAUSSY).

Chairman Hair said, the next item is Commissioner Saussy is going to introduce Ms. Sprague, who is going to make a presentation on the Library. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Saussy.

Commissioner Saussy said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mary Ellen [Sprague] called me the other night to put her on the agenda to speak to us about certain things in the Library.

Ms. Mary Ellen Sprague said, thank you. I just wanted to come and thank the County Commission for their continued support of the library system. I know a lot of you have been very involved and I appreciate your support as does the rest of the Board in the library system. Margaret [Williams] has some upcoming events and items that she wants to present to you. Chairman Hair said, thank you.

Ms. Margaret Williams said, good morning, Dr. Hair and Commissioners. We have in front of you several pieces of information the Library is recently disseminating to the public and I want to share with you some good things that we've got going on at C-E-L. First of all, by October 1st we look to have Bull Street at a full compliment of 70 hours. We're very happy about that, and as we speak the Foundation, the C-E-L Foundation Board is meeting to award our first scholarship to librarians or assistant librarians who wish to go back to school to get their certification to become a full librarian. The Foundation has funded that avenue for the librarians, and they're making that decision this morning, so we'll announce who will be awarded that scholarship. This Summer we held our Summer Reading Club Program. We were very excited. We were partners with the Learning Odyssey. You probably saw a lot of information about open a book and jump in, and we had 35% increase in the number of kids actually coming out and registering for the program. We had 112% increase in the number of students who read eight books or more. We opened with our team program this Summer. It was an excellent program partnered with the Chatham County Extension Service and offered some programs on Manners Are a Must, Social Survivor Skills, and we had over --, we had approximately 1,252 students to enroll in those programs. We've also hosted over 148 programs with over 4,000 students participating in them, and our Wrap-Up the Summer Reading

Club, which we gave away a computer and a TV set, brought over 5,000 people into the Bull Street Library, so we're very excited about that. Our teen program, called Teens Advisory Group, and you have a brochure in front of you, offers some wonderful programs for our youth between the ages of 12 and 18. We have a compliment of students, much like your Youth Commission, who advise our young adult librarians with some of the programs and things that they like to see happening at the library system. It's available on our website, if you're interested, which is www.celrl.org. Coming up this Fall, we're going to host our Children's Literary Festival to be sponsored by Gulfstream. You have that brochure, which is a draft, in front of you. We're inviting authors and illustrators from around the country to come in and talk with our young people about the importance of reading, writing, it's going to have a science flavor to it because we recognize the need for science and math in our schools. We're going to invite schools into the library to look at some of these programs, and we're going to wrap up with a major celebration. This —, on October 5th, we'll have our second quarterly report, the C-E-L Book Report, which will be in the *Savannah Morning News*, and we'll detail more of these programs and give you some more information about our volunteer program and other information and things going on with the C-E-L Regional Library.

Ms. Williams said, Carnegie Library is a great project that we're looking forward to starting soon. There's a task force that's been put together that's made up of representatives from the Historic Savannah Foundation, from MPC, from the City of Savannah, and the past and present president of Dixon Park Neighborhood Association, as well as library staff and board members, have reading over the last few years, talking about the Carnegie Library, and at this point we've reviewed the document from the consultant. It is on its way back for final revision and we look to have that document back, and we'll be looking for a architecture [sic] in the coming months ready to start that project in January 2001. The most recent and biggest award is the Gates Foundation gave us over \$260,000 to upgrade public access for the community for computers in the library. At this point we're installing 84 computers in all of our branches except the Mall and the Islands, and so you will hear about intermittent library closings one or two days while they get those computers installed. Once they get those computers installed, staff trained, we will be offering classes to the community on how to use the Internet and homework, we're working on something called Hyper Homework to work with our young people on how to use the resources available to the Internet to get their homework done and do more research. Those are some of the things that we've been doing —, some of the good things we've been doing at the library system, and we just wanted you to be aware.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Murray has a question and then Commissioner DeLoach.

Commissioner Murray said, just one question. Why were the Mall and Islands facilities left out of the computer situation? Ms. Williams said, the Gates Foundation had criteria that was based on the poverty or mileage of the library branch, and the Mall and Islands was too rich for Gates. Commissioner DeLoach said, the Islands is too rich. Chairman Hair said, too rich. You live in a rich district out there. Commissioner Murray asked, well, Tybee and some of these other areas got one? Ms. Williams said, yes. Commissioner Murray said, that's all the same area. Ms. Williams said, according to the mileage and —. Ms. Sprague said, we actually did those [inaudible]. Ms. Williams said, that was the question we asked.

Mr. Bill Johnson said, Commissioner, the Gates Foundation actually determined which branches would receive computers and how many computers each branch would receive, and it was based on the number of households under the poverty threshold within a one mile radius of the actual location of the branch. We had no choice in the matter. Commissioner Murray said, I just wanted everybody to understand when it comes around to tax time again, understand that the people in the 4th District pay over 50% of the property tax. So y'all just keep that in mind the next time something comes up, here. Ms. Sprague said, well, it's the Gates Foundation. It's not the library. Commissioner Murray said, well, I'm just making another point along with that. Ms. Sprague said, I know.

Chairman Hair said, point well taken, Commissioner Murray. Commissioner DeLoach and then Commissioner Price. Commissioner DeLoach said, I want to touch base on the police situation out at the —, the security and all that. Can you just kind of go over that so we'll calm some folks down as far as the library is concerned? Mr. Johnson said, yes sir. Where we are right now is the Chatham County Police Department is working on an assessment of our situation to tell us a number of things, their professional opinion about the severity of our problem, what the appropriate response is, and what procedures we need to change or put in place. Commissioner DeLoach said, I just wanted to make sure we recognize it as a proactive approach on this thing. Mr. Johnson said, yes sir, we're not ignoring it by any means.

Commissioner Thomas said, I would just like to offer one thing that you might look at if you haven't already done so. To think about the zero tolerance, you know, program or policy that the Board of Education has. I think that would be very fitting to adopt such a policy as well. You know, zero tolerance, and I think that might be one of the things you might want to look at. Ms. Sprague said, when you talk about zero tolerance I know that [inaudible] when you're talking about guns and knives and drugs. Are you saying that we ought to have the same kind of policy if they walk [inaudible] —? Commissioner Thomas said, well, similar. Yes, similar. It would be something that —. Chairman Hair said, it at least needs to be looked at. Commissioner Thomas said, it's something that you can look into, you know.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Price has a question or a comment.

Commissioner Price said, I wanted to ask a question about this fee schedule, but I wanted to comment on what Frank [Murray] was saying about the Gates Foundation and ask a question basically. When did this grant program, when was it initiated by the Gates Foundation? How long ago, do you know? Mr. Johnson said, it was initiated about two and a half years ago, and this is the second iteration of the grant and it changed between first and the second. Commissioner Price

asked, how did it change? Mr. Johnson said, initially it was a much more competitive type of grant program. They would go into a State and library districts would compete for a certain amount of money, and with the second iteration basically the Foundation determined how much money was available and would be made available to each library, and the library merely had to apply. It wasn't --, it wasn't an entitlement. There are libraries who applied who did not get it. Commissioner Price asked, on the second iteration was it also more keyed to the demographics, to the --? Mr. Johnson said, absolutely. Commissioner Price asked, on the second iteration? Well, what's apparent in that is that this is some of the negotiations that are going on between the Clinton administration and Microsoft and their antitrust suit, and --, I mean, that's very clear what that's about. I mean, I've read about that and I've seen that, and you don't look a gift horse in the mouth on one hand, but on the other hand I agree with what Frank [Murray] is saying and very clearly people of all socio-economic levels use the main branch --, I mean use the main branch, what should have been the main branch, the Oglethorpe Mall branch. The highest usage branch. They use that regardless of who they are. People who work at Oglethorpe Mall, people who work in all kinds of capacities, and I just --, I have a problem with that, but I'm not going to look a gift horse in the mouth. I'm not going to complain too loudly because I don't want to threaten our chances of getting any more of that money, but I do have a problem with the national policy maybe of that Foundation in regards to that. Mr. Johnson said, just in response, both for you and Commissioner Murray, we have a technology plan that, among other things, we determined what the capacity of each branch and every branch in the system was for public access computers and we have pretty much reached that now in every branch. The Gates Foundation just helped us do it with a little --. Commissioner Price said, okay. Mr. Johnson said, less local money. Commissioner Price said, okay, so that --, there's nothing we can do about that now. We've certainly taken it and benefitted from the grant. The fee schedule in the brochure. This is a general brochure about the library, I'm assuming. Mr. Johnson said, yes sir. Commissioner Price said, okay. What is a paperless transaction that cost \$2.50 per item? Could you explain what that --? Mr. Johnson said, this is when someone wants something faxed or E-mailed to them. Commissioner Price said, so if I called the library and I'm looking for information and I may not have a computer, or if I have a computer, I wanted just to have E-mailed to me that information, you're saying that there's going to be a charge of \$2.50 per item to do that? Commissioner DeLoach said, that's what it says. Mr. Johnson asked, can I get back to you, sir? Commissioner Price asked, how would you collect that? Mr. Johnson said, we would charge it to your library account. Commissioner Price said, so you'd have to have an established library account to do that. Ms. Sprague said, if you have a library card you have a library account. Commissioner Price said, all right, what about --, getting back to the Gates Foundation, what about these people in the impoverished areas that have access to computers and a computer is --, the cost of computers is coming down greatly, so more and more people can afford it. Are you saying people are going to be charged the same amount? I mean, is it universal in that regard? Mr. Johnson asked, the fee schedule? Commissioner Price said, yes. Mr. Johnson said, the fee schedule is universal. Commissioner Price said, okay. I think --, you know, information, information to the public is my main concern here. Providing information to the public that pay taxes to support the library and then we charge another fee on top of that, I have a concern about that. Mr. Johnson said, well, let me get back to you on that particular fee. In general, what we would have done recently and in terms of fees is we've done away with overdue funds. Commissioner Price asked, sir? Mr. Johnson said, we've done away with overdue funds. We no longer charge overdue funds, and we've gone to a concept that's much closer to a user fee. We don't charge you a user for anything unless that user causes us to spend money. So if the user causes us to have to send them an overdue notice, rather than charging them overdue fees, we charge them for the notice, and that's the general concept that we've gone toward.

Ms. Sprague said, I think you might be a little confused about this, the \$2.50. If you sitting at the computer and you get an E-mail, you're not charged \$2.50. That's not what that's about. I mean, is that not right? It's not \$2.50 when you use the computer.

Commissioner Price said, E-mail is a paperless transaction. Chairman Hair said, well, he said he'd get back with us. Mr. Johnson said, I not in a position to respond to that right now, but I will get you an explanation. Commissioner Price asked, what is this --, is this already in place this schedule of fees? Mr. Johnson said, yes sir, but --. Commissioner Price asked, how long have you had it in place? Mr. Johnson said, it's been in place about six months. Commissioner Price said, okay. Mr. Johnson said, the fee schedule, I should say also, is being revisited right now. Ms. Sprague said, there's some other problems with that fee schedule.

Chairman Hair said, maybe at your next update you can give us the information on that. If you'll make a note of that. Commissioner --, I'm going to get to everybody. Commissioner Odell, Commissioner Rivers, Commissioner Saussy and Commissioner Murray, and then Commissioner Odell.

Commissioner Odell said, just a couple of quick points. One is the Gates Foundation and the allocation of funds utilized for computers, that's not a determination that this library board made? Mr. Johnson said, no sir. Commissioner Odell said, so as far as distribution between districts, you had absolutely no control over that? Mr. Johnson said, right. Commissioner Odell said, and --. Ms. Sprague said, we're not picking on anyone. Commissioner Odell said, it's the Gates money and they spend it with the strings that they think are necessary, and the second point is that the library should not be --, the main branch should not be in the 6th District. It should be exactly where it is. Commissioner Price said, the Mall isn't --, the Oglethorpe Mall is in the 1st District by the way, okay. Commissioner Odell said, close enough. But along those lines, we do need substantial facilities greater than the capacity that we have now on the southside, on the westside, in Frank's [Murray] area, and then when you come back to us we will see how jealous this Commission is as far as potential funding. There's no doubt that we need the services. We need expanded services in the areas that are expanding, but we cannot

do that without a cost. Ms. Sprague said, we will be back with you about southside. Commissioner Odell said, it was a very good update. Thank you.

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

Commissioner Rivers said, two questions. The Mall branch and the other branch that doesn't have computers –. Ms. Sprague said, they have computers. Commissioner Rivers said, okay, they don't have –, they're not adequately –. Ms. Sprague said, they have computers. Mr. Johnson said, no sir, that's not the case. We're working our technology plan in every branch. The Gates Grant simply took some of the burden off of us in –. Commissioner Rivers said, so you had a little bit of [inaudible] going on. Okay, that's good. Secondly, I received a letter in the mail in reference to staffing, in talking about staffing in order to make this computer grant work. What was that all about? Mr. Johnson said, we're going to come back to you at your next meeting with what we think is good news. I hope you'll think it's good news, but we're not prepared to discuss it before that. Commissioner Rivers said, I'm looking for great news because –. Ms. Sprague said, we'll do our best. Commissioner Rivers said, I was about to tell you guys that we have suggested some things where y'all can find some money, and you really need to tap in to see how you can get some money there. Ms. Sprague said, we're doing our best to try not to come back to you asking for money. Commissioner Rivers said, Odell is going to write you guys a check. It'll be his personal check because this Commission doesn't have any money, and I want to reiterate that: we do not have any money for staffing or anything.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Saussy.

Commissioner Saussy said, I just want to commend the Library Board and the staff for bringing all these things to us. We have not had this in the past and that's part of the problem we have had, and I just want to commend you to come to us at least once a month or maybe two months and let us know what's going on because communication is what it's all about, and we're finally doing that and I really do appreciate it.

Chairman Hair said, thank you. Commissioner Murray and Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Murray said, while we're on the computers and the Internet and all that, and I know we got an explanation a while back on this, but I have a real problem with people being able to go in the library, in a public facility, and pull up some pornography and stuff they pull up on computers. Are y'all doing anything to stop that and, if so, what? Ms. Sprague said, we addressed that about six months ago, we have filtered. The board almost unanimously voted to put filters on all our computers, so they are filtered and we are adamantly opposed to any pornography being pulled up on our computers. So we have addressed that problem, and I'll be glad to send you the policy. Commissioner Murray asked, has that been stopped then at this point? Mr. Johnson said, sir, we're doing everything we can and we are very adamant about it and we do have a zero tolerance policy on this matter. We have a policy that it's absolutely forbidden. If we catch someone, we throw them out of the building. We do filter all of our computers. We have software in place that attempts to prevent anybody from accessing any pornography. People find a way. Commissioner Murray asked, how often do y'all update that? Mr. Johnson said, it's updated daily. Commissioner Murray said, okay. Ms. Sprague said, it's a system that actually finds websites that are bad news and then filters those off for us constantly, so they're constantly looking and finding them. Mr. Johnson said, but no filter is perfect. Commissioner Murray said, oh, I understand that. Mr. Johnson said, so when we catch them we ask them to leave.

Chairman Hair said, I'll recognize Commissioner Jackel and then Commissioner Rivers and let's wrap it up.

Commissioner Jackel said, I just have a question about those filters. Suppose, as I understand how they work, they're key worded –. Mr. Johnson said, ours is not. Commissioner Jackel asked, it is not key worded? So someone is doing a legitimate research and they run into a filter –, they would not run into a –? Mr. Johnson said, it's not key word based. Commissioner Jackel asked, it's not key word based at all? Ms. Sprague said, it's site based, so if you want to do research on breast cancer, you would be able to find research on breast cancer. Commissioner Jackel said, okay. I'm not sure about some of these fee schedules myself. This interlibrary loan per request for postage and handling, I thought if your branch didn't have a library [sic], you could get that book without any –. Mr. Johnson said, that's true within our system. Interlibrary loan refers to when we have to go outside of our system. Commissioner Jackel said, okay. All right, and y'all are just not sure about this paperless transaction? Ms. Sprague said, we're going to come back to you on that. Commissioner Jackel said, okay. I'm just curious how that gets in your brochure with the three of y'all not knowing what it's about. I mean, who makes the –, how did this –, how does the process work where this gets in the brochure where you, as head of the library, and you as Acting Director, don't know what it is? Mr. Johnson said, it's just not something that we deal with every day so I can't tell you exactly how it's applied, but we will explain it. Chairman Hair said, I think that they have a right to explain it. I mean, you could ask the County Manager and he'd have to go check his staff. He wouldn't know either, and I think that's a large organization, I think that's very appropriate for them to have time to –.

Ms. Williams said, I'd like to answer Commissioner Jackel. That fee schedule was gone over by Diane Wilhelm, who is our Public Services Coordinator, who went over it three to four times to make sure –, because I had the same questions you had and she was very competent with it. Now since it's gone to publication, the board and the administration has said they're going to look at it, but it was already in the print process.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Rivers, and then we'll wrap up.

Commissioner Rivers said, I have one suggestion, and I don't know, you might have already addressed it, but several weeks ago when you were having a disturbance out [inaudible] the library, and you had a bunch of young people gathered around one computer playing games, and I think if you eliminate [sic] a computer to one person, that will eliminate all of the noise and that ruckus that they had up there that day. Mr. Johnson said, yes sir, but it's two people. Ms. Sprague said, we allow two people. Commissioner Rivers said, two, okay.

Chairman Hair said, again, we'll have to take one final question from Mr. Earls and then we'll wrap this discussion up.

Mr. Ken Earls said, I'll just do it from back here. It says the fee schedule's been in --, been active for six months. Have things been collected during that six months? Mr. Johnson said, I can't --. Mr. Earls asked, if so, how? Mr. Johnson said, yes, they have been collected.

Commissioner Price asked, how are you doing it? I guess he's asking, how you're doing it on the Internet? You have to have this library power cards, is that what you have to have? Mr. Johnson said, you have to have a library card to use the library. When you incur fees, the fees are charged against your account. Commissioner Price said, so you bill them. Mr. Johnson said, essentially yes. Commissioner Price said, okay. Ms. Sprague said, and if you don't pay up, they don't let you take out any more books. Commissioner Price said, okay. We need answers on that.

Chairman Hair said, thank you very much. We appreciate y'all coming today.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Received as information.

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3. JOHN NASWORTHY REGARDING THE GREENTREE NURSERY SITE (COMMISSIONER MURRAY).

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, yes, we've got a site on Wilmington Island, the old Greentree Nursery, and there's a person trying to purchase that property and update it to do some other things with it. Mr. John Nasworthy still owns the property and has requested to come before the Commission today and express some concerns with that.

Mr. John Nasworthy said, this is kind of a strange thing because it goes, all the board zoning and all that other stuff is involved, but I need to let y'all know what's going on on Wilmington Island, as I've already discussed with Mr. Murray. Mr. DeLoach, you should be interested in this because it seems the County is fighting new progress, new business. Property that we own ran for seven years. There's been no site change, no buildings added to it. As a matter of fact, one has been taken away. The parking, we have a parking lot that was used as a parking lot, and it's been denied, and we don't understand why. We think that you need to know that across the street from us is a restaurant, bar, laundromat that's built on a wetlands, literally. If you step off of the walkway that's built above the wetlands, you're into wetlands, and that's one of the rights of the committee, whoever reviewed this for the lady, is made. The other one is on the other side of our drainage ditch that's been there and has not been cleaned out that we know for 15 years, you're considering that wetlands, but there's a service station and they've had to put monitoring wells on their side and on our side, but this is an environmental impact. I don't understand this. If we run a business for seven years and somebody else applies for --, to open up a business without structural change in any manner, this County is saying no.

Chairman Hair asked, is it a business license request or is it --? Mr. Nasworthy said, it's a business license request from a nursery, plant nursery. Chairman Hair said, so it's not a rezoning request. Mr. Nasworthy said, not a rezoning at all. Chairman Hair said, it's a business license request. Mr. Nasworthy said, exactly, and the people at wherever she's gone, have told her it's going to take six to eight months. Chairman Hair said, Mr. Abolt has a --.

County Manager Abolt said, we'll get you a complete report. Mr. Bungard's out of town, but I was approached by the lady who's attempting to buy it. She was requesting that she would not be required to hire an engineer, and that was the level I got involved in it. I reviewed it with Mr. Bungard, who gave me a detailed analysis, much the way the gentleman has spoke. There are some challenges with the property. We certainly want to see the development go through. The only issue I was aware of, at the time she was choosing or wishing to forego the expense of a private engineer. Because the property is so challenged, as described, we need guarantees for the general interest of the public the development would not be any more intrusive than already exists there. I'm not aware of anything that would prohibit it. There are just some engineering questions that must be addressed.

Chairman Hair asked, why would you have an engineering question on a business license? County Manager Abolt said, sir, it's not a business license. It's a redevelopment. Chairman Hair said, but you just said -. Mr. Nasworthy said, but it's not being redeveloped. The property's not being changed at all. Chairman Hair said, okay. We probably -, we appreciate -, I think we probably need to have the County-. Mr. Nasworthy said, you need to look into it-. Chairman Hair said, we will. Mr. Nasworthy said, especially since you're involved in this because I've opened up three businesses in Chatham County, and I've had a hassle every time I've gone to the Courthouse to get a permit. It's just -, it's as if the County is saying, if you're from out of state, yes, or if you're big bucks, yes, but if you're local, to hell with you, we're going to fight you tooth and nail. You need to look into that, Mr. DeLoach.

Chairman Hair said, we will look into it, and I can -. Mr. Nasworthy asked, will you let me know through Mr. Murray? Chairman Hair said, absolutely. We will certainly communicate that. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, I'd just like to make a comment on it, and the part that concerns me, Russ [Abolt], is when I got some of the engineer reports back that came to me on it was the parking issue. You've got a restaurant across the street that from what I understand is getting ready to expand. There's not adequate parking there now for that restaurant, but they can expand. That ground is lower than the ground where this nursery is. Where the facility is built is raised up on a hill. I understand the lady owner wants to go in and do the nursery, but put a small café in that nursery, and they have on property parking facilities to park on. Mr. Nasworthy said, there are 22 parking spaces. Commissioner Murray said, so they do have ample parking for what they want to do. We have ordinances within the County that say you have to have so many parking spaces for different type businesses and so much square footage, and we hold people to that and some we don't hold to it on others, and I think we've got a real problem with the process we go through in order to do this, and I think we need to look at that and look at it real close. County Manager Abolt said, sure.

Chairman Hair said, we will have -, Mr. Nasworthy, we appreciate you being here. We'll have the staff look at it and the County Attorney look at it, and we'll get back with you, sir. We appreciate you bringing it to our attention. Mr. Nasworthy said, thank you. Chairman Hair said, thank you. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Saussy.

Commissioner Saussy said, let me ask -, not of you, Mr. Nasworthy, but this stuff is really -. Mr. Nasworthy said, I'll stay here just in case you need something. Commissioner Saussy said, it gets to me sometimes when some of these things happen. It's just like the situation with the mobile home out there at [inaudible]. You know, we said it's supposed to be moved, and the guy comes up and he gets another person in there. I don't think that's right, and I still haven't heard the end of that. I'd like to find out what's happened on it.

Chairman Hair said, we'll, let's do that as a separate issue. Commissioner Saussy said, right, but -. Mr. Nasworthy said, well, the thing is, this lady can't wait eight months to get this operation in progress because if she does, she's not going to buy the property. I'm not happy with that. Mr. DeLoach is going to look into it, I'm sure because he's a small business interest and local. Mr. Murray, I'm looking to you to look after my interest. Thank you. Chairman Hair said, thank you, Mr. Nasworthy. We appreciate you bringing it to our attention.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

The Board requested staff to look into the complaint made by Mr. Nasworthy regarding difficulties the potential purchaser has encountered in attempting to obtain a new business license for the Greentree Nursery site.



CHATHAM COUNTY TRANSIT AUTHORITY

The meeting recessed at 9:55 a.m., as the County Commission and convened as the Chatham Area Transit Authority.

The meeting of the County Commission reconvened at 10:17 a.m.



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. **INDIGENT DEFENSE LAWYERS.** At meeting of August 11, 2000, Board requested this be referred to the Tripartite Committee with a report back in time for the August 25, 2000, Commission meeting.

Chairman Hair said, the first one where we were going to discuss the –, we had referred the indigent defense lawyer situation to the Tripartite Committee. Mr. Erb, who's on that Tripartite Committee, called me yesterday and has asked for an additional two weeks. There's still some things they want to touch base with all the judges and the court administrators, and he's asked that we not deal with that today. He said he would be prepared to have a report for us on our meeting on the 29th, so we will delay that until the 29th.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

This item remains on the table and will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

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2. **DISTRIBUTION OF 1998-2003 SPLOST FUNDS FOR "OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECTS" (ARTS, CIVIC AND CULTURAL ALLOCATIONS).** At meeting of August 25, 2000, Chairman asked that this item be brought back to the next meeting on September 8, 2000.

Chairman Hair said, we're ready to take that off the table, I believe. I'll entertain a motion to take that off the table. Commissioner Price said, so moved. Chairman Hair asked, second? Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

Chairman Hair said, okay. Do you remember, we had a discussion, we had a rather lengthy discussion of this item at the last meeting, and we agreed to table it to this meeting and then we'll take a vote today, but basically as outlined in our last meeting, it would be a proposal to release the first year money for all of the projects in the five-year cycle, and I think it's important to stress to the public that this would in no way jeopardize any funding for, you know, roads and drainage, and then we would look at it again next year to see if we wanted to release another year of the funding assuming that we had funds in the bank. I think it's a good idea to go ahead and release the first year funding for these projects, and I would recommend that to my fellow Commissioners.

Commissioner Price asked, is that alternative number one in the report? County Manager Abolt said, two. Number two. Commissioner Price asked, number two? Chairman Hair said, yes. Commissioner Price said, I move for the approval of number two. Commissioner Odell said, second. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. Any discussion? Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, I just wanted to bring to everybody's attention, in case you didn't read through the writeups on this, item five under writeups [sic]. It says: "At the March 26, 1999, meeting, the Board established a policy for the distribution of funds for Chatham County's share committed to 'Arts, Civic and Cultural Allocations.' The Board voted not to begin distribution until Chatham County had collected the funding for all other projects. In essence, this would mean that no distribution of funding of the \$9,900,000 would begin until Chatham County collected \$196,518,00 (the sum of drainage, roads and open space). Based on the policy that the Board adopted March 26, 1999, distribution of these proceeds would not begin until July 2003."

Chairman Hair said, okay. Any further discussion? All right, we have a motion and a second. All those in favor of the motion vote –.

Commissioner DeLoach said, we've got items to talk about here. I just want to –, based on the numbers that are projected by the Finance Department, we see no reason why this won't take them to –. County Manager Abolt said, we're okay. Commissioner DeLoach said, this policy does not in any way jeopardize us, and at the time we passed this originally we wanted to make sure going into the elect –, to vote that the people knew that the monies to fund the drainage and the roads would be taken care of first. I feel like, based on what the projections are from the Finance Department now, that we are –, we will do that, and this just enables us to help those cities and other cultural activities ahead of time, and it's not jeopardizing any of that money. Chairman Hair said, that's correct. Commissioner DeLoach said, I know we originally

voted on that to make sure to have it, you know, they were –. They were concerned originally, and I want to make sure we realize that we're not in any way jeopardizing our drainage.

Chairman Hair said, that is correct. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Jackel said, I want to mention too that it's not just the projections any more. We have the actual figures. Chairman Hair said, right. Commissioner Jackel said, we have a history now of what –, how much money's come in. When we did what was in paragraph five, it was just purely projections, and now we have actual figures and I think that's the big difference. Chairman Hair said, very good. Commissioner Jackel said, and that's why I can vote for this.

Chairman Hair said, very good point, Commissioner Jackel. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray asked, how many years have we been collecting on this particular –? County Manager Abolt said, the first money came in October of '98. Commissioner Murray said, okay, so we have –. County Manager Abolt said, it was a big year. You're okay and then plus the Chairman's proposal, very conservative. You're actually doing a year after. So, I mean, you're in control. And you're not making any commitment to these folks. Heaven forbid the economy went flat, you're not guaranteeing them they're going to get what they want. When all is said and done, you still have control, the priority is drainage and roads. Commissioner Murray asked, so in other words, just for an example, you're saying Tybee Marine Science Center will get their total \$50,000, since it was allocated the first year, is that right? County Manager Abolt said, Tybee Marine will get \$50,000. Chairman Hair said, that's correct. Commissioner Murray said, that will be the first year. Chairman Hair said, that's correct. Commissioner Murray said, so right now they will have the total allocation? County Manager Abolt said, yes sir. Those agencies that might ask you questions, just direct them to page four of the staff report.

Chairman Hair said, all those in favor –. Commissioner Murray said, we'll look at this every year, is what you're saying? Chairman Hair said, that's correct. That's correct. Next year we'll look at it, if the funds are available, we'll request –.

Commissioner Murray said, everybody talks about the economy being so great now, and yes it is, but it's on a downswing. Chairman Hair said, I think the County Manager's assessment is appropriate. I think is a very conservative approach. It only releases what's there and it does not permit anything else beyond that. So the Commission will take a look at it that time next year, and if they want to do it again, we could. If we don't, we don't have to.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Price moved to authorize the distribution of funds, pending agreements in place acceptable to the County Attorney, for agencies qualified under Chatham County's share of the 1998-2003 SPLOST "Other Capital Outlay" for Year 1, requiring a distribution of \$1,980,000 as follows: Greenbriar \$290,000, King Tisdell \$290,000, Lucas Theatre \$190,000, Telfair Museum \$190,000, Tybee Marine (Science Center) \$50,000, Tybee Lighthouse \$70,000, Ogeechee Canal \$190,000, Library (limited to technology purchases only), Senior Citizens \$50,000, and \$480,000 would be allocated for public safety equipment, but some procedure must be used to determine priorities by fire department, CEMA and EMS. Commissioners Odell and 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 SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT CONTINGENCY TRANSFER OF \$26,200 FOR THE CRIME STOPPERS PROGRAM, A TRANSFER OF \$200,000 FROM THE 1985-1993 SPLOST JIMMY DELOACH PARKWAY TO GULFSTREAM ROAD AT STATE ROUTE 21, AND A CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM CONTINGENCY TRANSFER OF \$35,000 FOR PURCHASE OF SECURITY EQUIPMENT.**

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

Commissioner Murray said, I'd like to know exactly what this Crimestoppers Program is and how long are we obligated to contribute to that since we're taking \$26,000 out of the Special Service District for this. County Manager Abolt said, yes sir, I can only speak in generalities, and I apologize for that. We'll get you more specifics, but Crimestoppers was an effort initially funded through the Metropolitan Planning Commission. It has been certainly high profile in the challenge this community faces. It has been very active. The funding shifted here about a year or so ago. We're splitting it down the middle the City of Savannah. We were –, they were not able to –, we were a little late in receiving the invoice. We're trying to make up the difference. As far as evaluation of the program, I'll have to come back with you all, involve Chief Sprague and other law enforcement. Commissioner Murray asked, what does the program do? County Manager Abolt said, it's essentially involved in bringing forth public awareness, bringing forth witnesses, bringing forth –. Commissioner DeLoach said, it used to be Silent Witness, didn't it? County Manager Abolt said, yes, it was. Chairman Hair said, yes. County Manager Abolt said, it's more than that. [Unintelligible comments were made when several individuals began speaking at the same time.] County Manager Abolt said, I apologize for not being –, it's kind of like the Chairman said a while back, I don't have the specificity on this one. I'll have to come back to you on evaluation.

Chairman Hair recognized Mr. Ken Earls.

Mr. Ken Earls asked, when the \$26,000 is removed from SSD, how much will be left in the –. Commissioner Murray said, not much. Commissioner Murray said, no sir, we're –. That's a relative term, not much. I don't want to argue on that. We did have, remember with the grant-in-aid contracts there was a shift. Currently our SSD Contingency is \$178,620. Chairman Hair said, so roughly \$150,000. County Manager Abolt said, \$150,000.

Chairman Hair asked, does that answer your question, Mr. Earls? Thank you. I'll entertain a motion to approve. Commissioner Odell said, we already have a motion. Chairman Hair said, we already 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 Odell moved to approve the following: a Special Service District Contingency transfer of \$26,200 for the Crime Stoppers Program, a transfer of \$200,000 from the 1985-1993 SPLOST Jimmy DeLoach Parkway to Gulfstream Road at State Route 21, and a Capital Improvement Program Contingency transfer of \$35,000 for purchase of security equipment. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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2. REPORT ON STATUS OF GEORGIA GREENSPACE PROGRAM AND THE COUNTY'S SUBMITTAL. Note: This may very well be in draft form pending approval of each municipality in the County before submitted to the State by the end of September.

County Manager Abolt said, Dr. Hair, Dr. Thomas, gentlemen, this is near completion. We wanted to bring you up to date on this because it has involved the participation of all municipalities through their respective managers, administrative staff. We are on target for being able to submit to the State by the end of this month hopefully the premiere application for greenspace utilization of all the counties in the State. It does reflect the priority of this Board to deal with the absence of sufficient parkland in the Islands area, it recognizes your priority on this. It also would maximize full participation by each municipality and the unincorporated area with the great and fervent hope that the greenspace program from the State's participation will continue for many, many years. This truly is intergovernmental cooperation patterned after our successes in the past on the drainage program, and now it's just draft because not all of the cities and their respective staffs have had a chance to sign it, but when you meet on the 29th, we will have a document hopefully in the same flavor and content of what you have in draft form that you'll be act upon and forward to Atlanta.

Vice Chairman Thomas recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray asked, when could we expect to submit this to the State and receive funding and, if so, how much funding will we receive? County Manager Abolt said, the deadline is the end of the month. The funding is –. County Attorney Hart said, it's a million four is the total –, million one total package, and if you jump through all the hoops as fast as you can jump through all the hoops, the earliest we would see this money would be late December. Commissioner Murray said, the reason I asked that question is we've been working on this since the Governor first came out with the announcement he was going to request that, and the Legislature approved it in January. County Attorney Hart said, yes sir. Commissioner Murray said, I think it's a great program and I think what we're trying to do with it and the funding, where we will utilize that funding, will certainly pay off and it'll be something that the citizens will certainly appreciate also because it will continue to keep greenspace from now on. It cannot be changed to anything else, so –, and there are strict guidelines that they're using that they're going by, and I understand they changed as this went on, and that was one of the reasons that the process has taken so much longer. County Attorney Hart said, yes sir. We were about 85% there when the act got passed because we had spent so much time, the MPC had, in trying to develop a greenspace plan, so we were probably 85% in compliance with the statute at that time, and we got in compliance with it within a matter of weeks and thought we were going to be in good shape and as soon as the opening day where you could submit your applications we'd be on their

doorstep. Well, you know, a week or so before the opening day is they come out with –, the Department of Natural Resources came out with a whole new set of regulations that, you know, we had to change the format. This plan before you is really going far beyond the statute, and I think it's got some great things in it because the way this thing's going to work is the division of money is going to be spread out by population means and, of course, we've got a number of municipalities in town that don't have a tremendous amount of population but have a tremendous amount of greenspace need, so under this plan it gives –, if it's signed off on by everyone in the community, it's going to allow municipalities to do much better and much greater detailed planning on their greenspace, and it gives them some flexibility in foregoing funding for a particular year and banking that money so that they can do maybe three years from now a major project by accumulating that money. So there's a lot of features in this that a number of other jurisdictions have already requested that we send them copies to see how they wanted to do it. So I think the MPC and County Manager and staff have done a very good job of trying to put this together.

Vice Chairman Thomas recognized County Manager Abolt.

County Manager Abolt said, Dr. Thomas, thank you, gentlemen also. I would like to compliment Mr. Newton and his staff. This is not obviously our first venture into intergovernmental cooperation. It started with House Bill 489 and also resulted in our drainage program, and I truly have a great deal of respect, as expressed by the County Attorney, on the work of the Metropolitan Planning Commission. This is being put together quietly by all the government staff, and intergovernmental relations in my estimation is at an all-time high, but for the benefit of the taxpayer, if the County Commission, let's say hypothetically, were to wish to go forward in 2003 with another vote on sales tax, and if you wish to put forward more money for greenspace, which you had the courage certainly to do in 1998, it will no longer be just those dollars generated locally. We'll have something patterned after what the highway money does for us, namely local dollars invested in partnership with the State, and that's a win/win for everyone.

Commissioner Price said, I move for approval. Commissioner Price said, you can't –, no sir. We can't –, not yet, sir. It's not in final form. This was just bringing you up to date. When you meet on the 29th, that motion will be in order.

Chairman Hair said, I would also like to add, I had a conversation earlier this week with a reporter from the *Atlanta Constitution*, who's doing a statewide story on the greenspace program from the State, and he actually said to me, he's in the latter stages of his research for this article, and he stated to me that Chatham County was far ahead of most other counties in the greenspace planning and how we were doing it and that he had received good comments from both the Governor's office and the DNR's Commissioner's office about what Chatham County is doing for greenspace. So apparently we are ahead of the curve with our sister counties of all 159 counties in Georgia, and I think that's probably good news. He said he would send an article –, a copy of the article to me. He did not know when it was going to be printed, but it's going to be a statewide article on the greenspace program. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, yes, I'd like to –, following up on what you said, and see if there's any way that the Commission would agree to invite the Governor down once all this is closed out and show him what we have done with it and the piece of property that we have purchased with it or used some of the funds to purchase it with once we can make all that public.

Chairman Hair said, I also said to Mr. Williams when he was –, the reporter that I was talking to, that we were very pleased that with both the Governor's office and Commissioner Barrett's office, that they had really worked well with us and had supported us, and that their concept of leaving a lot of the decisions to the local governments was the way it should be done, and I complimented the Governor and Commissioner Barrett to Mr. Williams, but I thought it was encouraging that he said that we –, you know, he just volunteered that we were far ahead of the other counties in greenspace planning, which I think is a tribute to all of us.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Received status report as information. Final documents will be presented on September 29th for approval.

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3. BOARD CONSIDERATION TO INCREASE THE BUDGET FOR A RECENTLY HIRED LIBRARIAN AT BULL STREET TO HER ACTUAL SALARY.

Chairman Hair said, I'll entertain a motion. Commissioner Jackel said, I'll move to approve. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, motion and second. Any discussion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. Commissioner Murray said, yes. Commissioner DeLoach said, whoa, whoa, whoa. The Clerk asked, what is the motion because this is Board consideration? Chairman Hair asked, pardon? Commissioner Price said, it's Board consideration. County Manager Abolt said, our recommendation is alternative number one, which would be to allow it to happen by a transfer from a line item called "Other Vendor Fees" within the library budget to cover the difference. Commissioner DeLoach said, if it's not an increase in their budget, that's all I wanted to know. Chairman Hair said, no, it's a shift. It's a shift within their budget.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, well, my question is I read Mike Kaigler's letter based on the recent hiring of librarians and it's not the first time this has happened. If we've got a process we're supposed to go through, why is the process not being followed? Somebody from the library might want to address that. County Manager Abolt said, I am optimistic the recent changes will make this history. Commissioner Murray said, okay. Chairman Hair said, I think that's appropriate. Commissioner Murray said, well, we won't get into it if that's what it is.

Chairman Hair said, all right. Any further questions? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes. Thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Jackel moved to approve a budget transfer of \$6,695.92 from Other Vendor Repairs for a recently hired librarian at Bull Street to increase the budget to her actual salary. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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4. RECOMMEND BOARD DENY A FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION ORDINANCE VARIANCE REQUEST FROM THOMAS A. DAVIS, JR., FOR LOT 54, COMMODORE POINT, 199 COMMODORE DRIVE. [DISTRICT 4.]

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, Dr. Thomas, gentlemen, this is unfortunately an item that is singular in subject matter to what we've addressed in the past. Staff brings forward our recommendation to deny, but we also candidly admit that even though our determination does not show the final outcome, we did not handle this well. Certain steps have been taken to correct that. We also have FEMA coming down and they're going to do an extensive public information program with the developers and our staff, but in this particular case we come forward with the recommendation and also say mea culpa because staff did not do the job it should have done at the time construction was far enough along for us to determine certain things.

Chairman Hair said, all right, I'm going to recognize --, before we get into discussion of the actual issues, I'm going to recognize Commissioner Murray and Commissioner Odell and then we'll have responses from --.

Commissioner Murray we had several months ago, probably before this property was even under construction, discussion about a similar type thing that happened. There were recommendations made from the Commission to set up a different policy to stop this and prevent it from happening. It came back to the Commission, then staff looked at it, and that would not work. It would have stopped what has happening today with this one if you'd have done that. Now you can say what you want to, I still say there needs to be something put in place with our Inspections where they go out and they look at the foundation before the construction is allowed to go any further and that would eliminate this. We've had it in the past and we have it again, and nothing's been done. It keeps coming up more current. Now something's wrong with the system and we need to correct it and we need to correct it now, and we can't that. I don't see how we can deny it when a mistake was made in the County's process.

County Manager Abolt said, that's why I said what I said in the introduction. I'd like Mr. Anderson to come forward. The procedure is a good procedure. If it's not followed, that is the reason why certain actions were taken.

Chairman Hair said, before Mr. Anderson I'm going to recognize Commissioner Odell first and then. Commissioner Odell said, I'll wait. Chairman Hair said, you'll wait, okay. All right, Mr. Anderson.

Mr. Gregori Anderson said, yes, thank you very much, gentlemen and lady. Yes, staff did err on this. We're the first to come forward and tell you that we did put a policy in place. The policy was not adhered to. Certainly as indicated in the staff report, the staff individual has been counseled and reprimanded for not doing what he was supposed to do. Certainly I do take into consideration Commissioner Murray's comments and we did look at our process to keep this from happening, if the process is not adhered to then it doesn't work.

Chairman Hair said, well, I can --, I totally concur with Commissioner Murray's --, I have an up close and personal experience with this problem, and to me this is not rocket science. I mean, to me, you know, you shoot the elevation at the time the foundation's done, then you won't have this problem. Mr. Anderson said, right. Chairman Hair said, you don't wait until after it's built to do it, and I stated this at the time and I just thing this is certainly something that I would hope we don't see again, but I certainly agree with Commissioner Murray. There's no way in the world to deny the variance that this gentleman in my opinion is entitled to.

Commissioner Murray said, I think you also need to say even though yours was approved, you went back, your contractor did, and fixed the problem so he is not with a waiver right now. Chairman Hair said, that is correct. Mine has –, that's been corrected. We did raise the floor, and I'm not –, don't need the variance now. Commissioner Price said, at the contractor's expense. Chairman Hair said, yes. The contractor paid to correct my problem, and so I don't –, I'm at normal flood insurance now because I'm not below the plane anymore, but, you know, I just think that we need to fix the problem once and for all, but I certainly think we certainly cannot deny this gentleman the variance. Does anybody else want to comment on this or I'll entertain a motion. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner DeLoach.

Commissioner DeLoach asked, how about the contractor? I don't see –, who's the contractor? Mr. Thomas A. Davis, Jr., said, the contractor was Eastside Construction. Commissioner DeLoach asked, where are they? I mean, I want to –. Mr. Davis said, we are going to go through the process with the insurance company who actually will at some point attempt to raise the house, but it's a little bit larger than your normal house, so the process is going to be difficult and obviously at the end of construction the money's a lot less than it is early in construction, so we have to go to the insurance company and, you know, it will take a little while to obtain that, and then eventually we will be comply. If I could have caught it earlier, I would have tried to comply now and I wouldn't be here asking for a variance, but it was too far along in the process. Commissioner DeLoach said, that was what I was just interested in.

Chairman Hair said, well, I discussed, you know, Mr. Davis called me and also Mr. Brannen. You know, the problem's really not the variance as much as that flood insurance. That's going to be the issue they may still have to face, and I explained that to them.

County Attorney Hart said, Mr. Chairman, for the record I'd like Mr. Brannen to speak for a minute as to why he believes he meets the criteria necessary for the variance so that this Commission can either decide that it's appropriate or inappropriate, but we need to have something on the record in regard to the reasons for –.

Chairman Hair said, certainly, I understand. Chairman Hair recognized Mr. Brannen.

Mr. Rob Brannen said, I'm Rob Brannen, I'm the attorney for Tom Davis. I'm with Inglesby, Falligant, Horne, Courington and Chisholm. I wanted to just speak to a couple of things dealing with the house. It was constructed by our contractor. He did make a mistake and, as was mentioned, the Inspections Department also made an error in this. I think one source of his mistake is it's an older subdivision and a lot of the other houses are at a lower elevation than this was required to be at, so when he was out there it wasn't something you could just look at and say this house is much lower than all the other houses there. So it's not something that was noticed initially. I passed a picture around that shows the house as constructed. It's 6300 square feet, three stories, and you can see it's a tremendous hardship to raise a house like that. We are investigating it, but we're concerned that it will cause structural problems with the house and we want to be very careful that we don't do anything to damage that. The house is finished, he's ready to move in. He's supposed to move in next week –. Mr. Davis said, in a week or two, yes. Mr. Brannen said, in a week or two, so that is why there's some urgency in getting this done now. We can't just raise the house now because we don't have the money, like he said. We do intend to pursue the contractor and the insurance company, and if we can –, if we're successful with that, then we will try to raise the house at a later date. We have raised the mechanical equipment, that originally our variance was asking for that also. We were able to do and they are getting that part raised. You know, the County has been very adamant in demonstrating to us that this has to be a special circumstance, it's not something that you can do every time, and that's why I'm speaking this way because I want you to really understand this is a true hardship situation. There's no way to resolve this without damage at this time.

Chairman Hair said, it's definitely a hardship, I can tell you. Commissioner DeLoach said, been there and done that, huh? Chairman Hair said, it's a hardship. Okay, Commissioner Odell and then I'll entertain a motion.

Commissioner Odell said, Jon [Hart], I'm fairly certain I don't have a conflict, but Rob Brannen has represented me in certain real estate ventures. County Attorney Hart asked, are the transactions concluded? Commissioner Odell there are no actions pending. County Attorney Hart said, then you have no problem. Commissioner Price said, sounds like he's a client of Harris' [Odell], so. Chairman Hair asked is there any conflict? County Attorney Hart said, no problem. Commissioner Odell asked, no problem? Chairman Hair asked, do we need to recuse him? Okay, there is no problem. Okay.

Chairman Hair said I'll entertain a motion. Commissioner Murray said, so moved. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, all right, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes. Thank you.

Mr. Davis said, thank you very much. My wife thanks you very much also. Chairman Hair said, thank you. Good luck with it. I know what you're going through. It's not fun.

Mr. Ken Earls said, I've got a question for you. Chairman Hair recognized Mr. Earls, certainly. Mr. Earls said, all that was done was move for approval. Yes, that's what y'all just said, move for approval. Chairman Hair said, approval to –. Mr. Earls asked, was that stated though? Commissioner Price said, you're probably right. Mr. Earls said, I did not hear anything about hardship.

Commissioner Murray said, I make a motion we move to approve the variance request for Mr. Tom Davis. Commissioner Price said, as a result of exceptional hardship. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, thank you, Mr. Earls. Mr. Earls said, I just wanted him to be covered. Chairman Hair said, he's covered, Mr. Earls. Thanks very much though.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to approve a request by Thomas A. Davis, Jr., Lot 54, Commodore Point, 199 Commodore Drive, for a Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance variance based upon exceptional hardship. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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X. ACTION CALENDAR

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

Chairman Hair asked, does anybody want to move anything off the Action Calendar? Commissioner Murray said, yes, 8 and 9-. Chairman Hair said, I'm sorry, I didn't get your first one, hold. Commissioner Murray said, 8. Chairman Hair said, 8, okay. Commissioner Murray said, 9-D, 9-J. Chairman Hair said, okay. Commissioner Murray said, and M. Chairman Hair said, okay. Anybody else? Okay, I'll entertain a motion to approve the balance of the Action Calendar. Commissioner DeLoach said, so moved. 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 DeLoach moved that the Action Calendar be approved in its entirety with the exception of Items 8, 9-D, 9-J and 9-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 AUGUST 25, 2000, AS MAILED.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on August 25, 2000, as mailed. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD AUGUST 6 THROUGH AUGUST 30, 2000.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to authorize the Finance Director to pay the claims against the County for the period August 6, 2000, through August 30, 2000, in the amount of \$5,893.604. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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- 3. **REQUEST FROM ENGINEER FOR THE DEVELOPER TO APPROVE THE PLAT, APPROVE THE CONSTRUCTION, ACCEPT A LETTER OF CREDIT AS A MAINTENANCE BOND AND INITIATE THE WARRANTY PERIOD FOR SOUTH HARBOR PHASES 2B AND 1F.
[DISTRICT 4.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the request from engineer for the developer to approve the plat, approve the construction, accept a letter of credit as a maintenance bond, and initiate the warranty period for south Harbor Phases 2B and 1F. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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- 4. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVE EARLY ACQUISITION OF THE PROPERTY OWNED BY ANGELA CHAMBERS, 1246 WEST VICTORY DRIVE, FOR THE WIDENING OF U. S. 80 (OGEECHEE ROAD) FROM I-516 (LYNES PARKWAY) TO VICTORY DRIVE.
[DISTRICT 8.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the early acquisition of the property owned by Angela Chambers, 1246 West Victory Drive, for the widening of U. S. 80 (Ogeechee Road) from I-516 (Lynes Parkway) to Victory Drive. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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- 5. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVE EARLY ACQUISITION OF THE PROPERTY OWNED BY MARY SUMNER AND LEOLA KING AT 7327 THOMAS AVENUE, TRUMAN PARKWAY PHASE IV.
[DISTRICT 1.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the early acquisition of the property owned by Mary Sumner and Leola King at 7327 Thomas Avenue, for Truman Parkway, Phase IV. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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- 6. **REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZE AN EQUAL EXCHANGE OF APPROXIMATELY 1.7 ACRES OF PROPERTY NOW WITHIN THE HENDERSON CONSERVATION COVENANT AND ADD A NET INCREASE OF 7½ ACRES TO IT FOR CONSERVATION PURPOSES.
[DISTRICT 7.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to authorize an equal exchange of approximately 1.7 acres of property now within the Henderson Conservation Covenant and add a net increase of 7½ acres to it for conservation purposes. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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- 7. **CONCEPTUAL APPROVAL FOR COUNTY TO PAY FOR APPRAISAL OF LAND ADJOINING BAMBOO FARM.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve a request that the County pay for an appraisal to determine the fair market value of 47 acres of land adjoining Bamboo Farm. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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- 8. **REFERRAL TO MPC OF AMENDMENTS OF MOBILE HOME ORDINANCE.**

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray asked, Jon [Hart], exactly what were you asking MPC to do with this? County Attorney Hart said, well, insofar as the Mobile Home Ordinance we were trying to come up with a way that there can be in some cases limited house use, occupational use within the Mobile Home Ordinance, and we've asked MPC prior to us coming back in to make some comments concerning that ordinance and I also wanted to alert them that we were looking at some exceptions to how you would allow people to have offices within their homes and operate because there's the potential that it's going to collect --, affect other zoning classifications throughout the County, R-1, R-2, Agricultural, whatever, and I don't want to get un in a situation where we create one set of standards for mobile homes and then through our other zoning classifications we have a broad range of other rules and regulations. So I'd like to have some uniformity in how we do --. Commissioner Murray asked, and that's all they're being asked to look it at this point? County Attorney Hart said, yes sir. Commissioner Murray said, I would like to go further than that. I'd like for them to look at the overall Mobile Home Ordinance. Commissioner Saussy said, yes, I would too. Commissioner Murray said, what they allow and what they don't allow, what is a mobile home. County Attorney Hart said, we can do that. Chairman Hair said, we can transmit that to MPC. Commissioner Murray said, well, let me go a little bit further with it because we have situations, and I've had them in the Fourth District several times, where what I consider a mobile home originally is no longer considered a mobile home. County Attorney Hart said, correct. Commissioner Murray said, and transferred it into something else, use it for something else. That needs to be defined and it's not.

Chairman Hair recognized County Manager Abolt.

County Manager Abolt said, please, make it part of the motion. I think it's very important for the record. Commissioner Murray said, I'd like to see them look at the whole ordinance.

Chairman Hair said, all right, make a motion, Commissioner Murray. Commissioner Saussy said, but I'd also like to see -. Chairman Hair asked, do you want to make a motion? Commissioner Saussy said, I'll make a motion, but I'd also like to see something in there to clarify this medical -. County Attorney Hart asked, medical hardship? Chairman Hair said, okay, so make a motion.

Commissioner Saussy said, I move that we -. Chairman Hair said, approval the referral. Commissioner Saussy said, approve the referral, including the motion to -. Chairman Hair said, medical hardship and also an overall review of the entire ordinance. Commissioner Saussy said, overall review of the entire ordinance. Commissioner Murray said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. Any discussion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Price was not present.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Saussy moved to approve the referral to the Metropolitan Planning Commission for an overall review of the entire Mobile Home Ordinance, including, but not limited to, a provision refining the definition of a mobile home and a provision clarifying medical hardship. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Price was to present.]

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9. 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. Cab and chassis	Police	Roberts Truck Center	\$23,274	CIP - Vehicle Replacement
B. One (1) Ford Ranger	Mosquito Control	J. C. Lewis Ford	\$17,129.65	CIP - Vehicle Replacement
C. Lease agreement with options to renew for two additional one year terms on the building at 808 Pennsylvania Avenue	Central Services	Melaver, Inc.	\$6,000	General Fund/M & O - Central Services
D. Change Order No. 6 to the contract for the design of the Stephenson Avenue widening project to survey and design a new drainage outfall route and to revise the construction plans	SPLOST	Moreland Altobelli	\$72,873	SPLOST (1985-1993) - Stephenson Avenue Widening
E. Change Order No. 1 to the contract for the design of the new Inspection offices for the design of a column and beam configuration and expansion and enhancement of the computer and communication area for the ANG renovation	Inspections	Bazemore Mastrianni Wilson Architects	\$3,189	CIP - Air National Guard Renovation
F. Contract to perform sampling and testing services to determine the presence of asbestos containing materials within County owned building on property acquired for right-of-way	SPLOST	Air Safe Environmental	\$2,832	SPLOST (1985-1993) - Ogeechee Road; Abercorn Extension-Dean Forest Road

ITEM	DEPT.	SOURCE	AMOUNT	FUNDING
G. Change Order No. 3 to the contract for the demolition of specified structures on the Truman Parkway right of way to correct staff error in the dollar amount approved	SPLOST	Atlas Sand and Gravel	\$400	SPLOST (1985-1993) - Truman Parkway, Phase III - right-of-way
H. Contract for the design and engineering of the renovation of the Ralph Mark Gilbert Civil Rights Museum	SPLOST	L. Scott Barnard and Associates	\$16,300	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Civil Right Museum
I. Change Order No. 11 to the contract for HVAC replacement and renovation at the Judicial Courthouse to add back-up air to the fifth floor computer room	Building Maintenance and Operations	Erickson Associates, Inc.	\$21,849.21	Bond Proceeds - Judicial Courthouse HVAC Replacement
J. Change Order No. 1 to the contract for replacement and repairs to "Idle Speed Only" signs for the repair of a split piling	SPLOST	Ansley and Sutton Construction	\$500	SPLOST (1993-1998) - No Wake Zone
K. Change Order No. 2 to the Jimmy DeLoach Parkway Phase 2 contract for removal of an estimated 19,250 cubic meters of unsuitable soil from the Flonnel Connector on Jimmy DeLoach Parkway at SR21	SPLOST	R. B. Baker Construction, Inc.	\$139,370	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Jimmy DeLoach Parkway, Phase II
L. Change Order No. 1 to the contract for relocation of Army utilities on a Middleground Road widening easement adjacent to Perimeter Road on Hunter AAF	SPLOST	White Electric, Inc.	\$7,880	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Middleground Road/Montgomery Road Widening
M. Exercise third one-year renewal option to the contract for the acquisition of right-of-way for road and drainage projects, with all terms and conditions remaining the same	SPLOST	Moreland-Altobelli, Inc.	\$3,250 per parcel	SPLOST (1985-1993) (1993-1998) (1998-2003) - CIP - Road, Drainage and Other
N. Replacement security X-Ray and a walk-through metal detector for use at the Judicial Court House	Sheriff's Department	United Police Wholesale	\$34,000	CIP Contingency
O. Water Ferry Docks	SPLOST	TIC	To be determined (Depends on pending recommendations on "add alternatives.") Staff report will be distributed on Wednesday.	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Water Ferry Docks

As to Items 9-A through 9-O, except 9-D, 9-J and 9-M:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve Items 9-A through 9-O of the Action Calendar with the exception of Items 9-D, 9-J, and 9-M. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

As to Item 9-D:

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, my concern with this, how much more do we need to do before we'll actually see construction on Stephenson Avenue? This has been going on for a number of years.

Mr. George Lynch said, indeed it has. I'm going to refer that question to my engineering colleagues. Commissioner Murray said, as a matter of fact, about 10 or 12 years.

Mr. Al Black said, it's been around a long time. This should be the last item that we have to do for the right-of-way and it's all been acquired. The issue involved the outfall drainage and an issue with the City that we went back and forth on, and you've approve the [inaudible], so this implements that agreement. It will take about three months to do this additional survey, revise the plans and have them ready.

Commissioner Murray asked, and then we'll put out the contract with this? Mr. Black said, yes. Commissioner Murray said, okay. 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.

Commissioner Murray moved to approve Item 9-D. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Price was not present.]

As to Item 9-J:

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, I was looking at this, exactly what—, I mean, we've got a couple of split pilings on some of the —, where the signs go. Is that right? Mr. George Lynch said, that's correct. They were not identified, sir, when the contract was bid and was written. It's cheaper to go ahead and have the guy who's repairing the signs mobilize and go ahead and do it. The price is considered very reasonable. Commissioner Murray asked, but the signs are already up? I haven't seen them. Mr. Lynch said, yes sir, I believe they are.

Chairman Hair said, that is a very reasonable price. Commissioner Murray said, oh, I think so too. I'm not complaining about the price and all that. I just wanted to find out where we stood with all that. 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.

As to Item 9-M:

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, my question on this, this is the third one-year renewal. How many one-year renewals do they have in the contract? Mr. George Lynch said, this is the final. Commissioner Murray said, so next time it will have to go back out for bid? Mr. Lynch said, yes sir. Commissioner Murray asked, and that is next year? Mr. Lynch said, yes sir, it will be. We anticipate going out with the request for proposal on that probably about five months before the expiration of the contract.

Commissioner Murray said, okay. I move for approval. Chairman Hair asked, second? Chairman Hair said, second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

Item 9-O:

Commissioner Murray said, can I ask —. I know we've already approved Item O, but can I ask a question on that? Chairman Hair said, certainly. Mr. Lynch asked, Item O, sir? Commissioner Murray said, yes, Item O, brings up not necessarily the water ferry docks themselves, but it brings up what's going on with the Riverwalk. Where do we stand on that? Mr. Lynch said, let me see if Pat [Monahan] is here. Commissioner Murray said, I keep hearing a lot of conflicting —, I keep hearing conflicting stories from people in the community. Chairman Hair asked, are you talking about the repairs? Commissioner Murray said, I'm talking about the repairs and who's going to be responsible, and that type thing, and is our

insurance company the same as theirs? Is it all one? Mr. Lynch said, let me refer this to Pat [Monahan]. Commissioner Murray said, because if it is we're going to end up paying it anyway.

Chairman Hair asked, Pat [Monahan], can you answer that please?

Mr. Pat Monahan said, the Construction Manager has made a request that the builder's risk policy cover this particular damage. That is being reviewed. That builder's risk policy is Chatham County's, but that's a fixed contract. That will be an insurance claim subject to the review of the insurance company. So, to answer your question, no, that would not be an additional cost to the County.

Commissioner Murray asked, do you have any idea how much longer it will be before this is settled? Mr. Monahan said, well, we've been asking the question a minimum of once a week and probably writing letters at least once a month just to make sure that they know that we're still interested in the fix. Where it stands, the Construction Manager was reviewing four different alternatives on how it could be fixed, on how it could be repaired. Based on some testing that was done they dismissed all but one, but the problem with that one is it included a lot of --, it also excluded a lot of costs that needed to be considered. So they've asked that last proposal to proceed with repricing it. The --, since then, however, another proposal is being formulated by a local group, and I understand that may be the solid fix to it, but --. Commissioner Murray said, all right. Mr. Monahan said, but I cannot stand here and tell you when work will begin, and that troubles us greatly. Commissioner Murray said, all right. Let me ask you another question then. On the insurance policy, the County's insurance policy, do we have a deductible on that and, if so, what is the deductible? Mr. Monahan said, well, it would depend on the type of claim. There are some types of claims there would be a deductible, and I believe the one they're looking at now would be earth movement, something to that effect, changes in the earth --. Commissioner Murray asked, what kind of dollars on that deductible? Mr. Monahan said, that would be a two percent. Commissioner Murray asked, two percent of the total amount, and --, but I can't tell you that --, Zurich is reviewing it. I do know that Zurich has hired a professional engineering firm that has reviewed a price. I've got the studies, they're both in draft form. They've not reached a final conclusion yet. We attempted to set up a meeting this week with Zurich, Maritime Trade Center Builders and the County to review it, the status of it, but that meeting has been postponed. Commissioner Murray asked, so if in fact it is determined that our insurance company will pay it, Chatham County will be responsible for picking up that two percent? Mr. Monahan said, if it happens to be under that particular cause. There are other causes where there would be no deductible.

Commissioner Saussy asked, do we have --, do we have possible litigation there if --? Mr. Monahan said, I don't think we should talk about that here. Commissioner Saussy said, oh, right.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

1. Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve Items 9-A through 9-O of the Action Calendar with the exception of Items 9-D, 9-J, and 9-M. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
2. Commissioner Murray moved to approve Item 9-D. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Price was not present.]
3. Commissioner Murray moved to approve Item 9-J. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
4. Commissioner Murray moved to approve Item 9-M. Commissioner Odell 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.

None.

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XII. SECOND READINGS

None.

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XIII. INFORMATION CALENDAR

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Written report received as information.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Written report received as information.

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- 3. **STATUS REPORT ON CONSOLIDATION OF CITY AND COUNTY INSPECTIONS DEPARTMENTS.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Written report received as information.

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- 4. **INFORMATION REGARDING COUNTY'S RESPONSIBILITY AS A RESULT OF OBTAINING AIRPORT BADGES IN ORDER TO ENTER NON-PUBLIC AREAS OF THE AIRPORT PROPERTY FOR THE CLEANING OF THE PIPEMAKERS CANAL.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Written report received as information.

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- 5. **DETAILED ANALYSIS OF INCREASED HEALTH CLAIMS.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Written report received as information.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion made by Commissioner Rivers, seconded by Commissioner Thomas and unanimously approved, the meeting was recessed at 10:50 a.m., to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation, land acquisition and personnel.

Following adjournment of Executive Session, the meeting of the Board of Commissioners was reconvened at 12:07 p.m.

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ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 1. **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 Thomas 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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- 2. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVE SETTLEMENT OF PROPERTY DAMAGE CLAIM INVOLVING SHERIFF'S UNIT #773 (JONATHAN HART).**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner DeLoach moved to accept \$4,300 in settlement of the property damage claim involving Sheriff's Unit #773. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Commissioners, Chairman Hair declared the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.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