

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 2004, 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 9:30 a.m., Friday, March 26, 2004.

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II. INVOCATION

Alderman Van Johnson 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 Jeffrey D. Rayno, District One John J. McMasters, District Three Harris Odell, Jr., District Five David M. Gellatly, District Six B. Dean Kicklighter, District Seven
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ABSENT:	Joe Murray Rivers, District Two
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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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YOUTH COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Hair introduced the following Youth Commissioners who were in attendance: Iris Miller, a Sophomore at Groves High School and representing Southeast Campaign for Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention; and Jessica Morse, a Junior at Jenkins High School.

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V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. **PRESENTATION BY GEORGIA GFOA PRESIDENT KAY LOVE FOR OUTSTANDING PREPARATION OF THE COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT (19 YEARS IN A ROW) AND THE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING BUDGET PREPARATION (15 YEARS IN A ROW).**

County Manager Abolt asked, Mr. Chairman, would you come forward? Chairman Hair said, certainly.

Georgia GFOA President Kay Love said, good morning. It's a pleasure to be here today to present two awards to Chatham County, the National GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting and also this Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. The certificate program was established back in 1945 to recognize and encourage excellence in financial reporting by state and local governments. In order to qualify for this award a government must publish an easily readable and efficiently organized Comprehensive Annual Financial Report which satisfies not only generally accepted accounting principles, but the legal requirements. This is the 19th consecutive year that Chatham County has received this award and this is for the year ending June 30, 2002. So I'd like to present this award.

Chairman Hair said, thank you very much. On behalf of the staff we appreciate you recognizing us for the work that our staff has done.

Ms. Love said, and we don't have the physical award for the budget presentation yet, but the Budget Presentation Award is another program established by the National GFOA in 1984 to recognize exemplary budget documentation —, presentation by state and local governments, and the budget is reviewed by staff and using evaluation criteria checklist to ensure that the budget document meets proficiency in four major categories, and those categories are the budget is a policy document, the budget is a financial plan, the budget is a communication device and the budget is an operations guide. And this is the 15th consecutive year that Chatham County has received this award. This award is for the budget year beginning July 1, 2001 —, I mean, July 1, 2003.

County Manager Abolt said, thank you so much. Dr. Hair, Dr. Thomas, gentlemen, the reason I had asked the Chairman to be here is because certainly for now going on eight years he and those of you who have been on the Board have seen this progression and succession of truly outstanding staff work. We've gone through some very difficult times in the Finance Department, while at the same time in going through that and solving those problems, a core group of staff, many of who are in front of you right now, have achieved this. This is something certainly that I know that Ms. Cramer and Ms. Deariso will continue during their tenure and in their time of responsibility, but I must remind you that all of this came about when there was a great deal of anxiety and uncertainty within that Finance Department. There's one gentleman who's not here today, and I don't know why, but I think it just again shows his modesty, but the person who led that department during these difficult times for which we've received these awards is Reese White. Is Reese [White] here? Ms. Cramer said, he's here. County Manager Abolt said, he's so far in the back. Reese [White], thank you. I would like to turn it over to Linda [Cramer]. The presentation was made by the Georgia GFOA and the immediate past president is Ms. Cramer, but also I want to report, and you can see in your staff report, it isn't just one award that we've got, it's a series of awards and we're in very rarified company not just in the state but nationwide because of the string, consecutive string of awards of which you see arrayed on the wall.

Ms. Linda Cramer said, thank you. I did want to recognize our staff that's here today who participated in all these awards. We have —, let's see —, of course, Cheryl [Deariso]. Cheryl and I were not here for the CAFR Award, and there's 19 years for the CAFR Award, which interestingly enough I've been married 19 years this week. It's kind of a coincidence. Lynn Stennett, who's our Investment Officer; Chris Morris, he's in our Budget area; Estelle [Brown] there, in our Budget area; and Joyce [Prescott] and Rhonda [McCullough] and Nancy [Curry] in the back; Lesha Lanier; Read DeHaven in our Budget area; Sherri Cadman, who is our Payroll Administrator; and then we have Connie [Bright] here and —, who else? Chairman Hair said, we have our Auditor. County Manager Abolt asked, Rick [Tindol], do you want to say something? Ms. Cramer said, Rick Tindol is here. County Manager Abolt said auditors are all shy.

Mr. Rick Tindol said, I think I've said enough in the past, but just briefly. Again, this is a very prestigious award, one that the County is to be commended for and very few counties get the award one time much less 19 times. So again this is a tribute to your fine staff and leadership. Thank you.

Ms. Cramer said, and we have, of course, submitted for the CAFR Award again for our most recent CAFR, so hopefully we'll have some more good news for you. Thank you very much.

Chairman Hair said, thank you for the great work you do.

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2. PRESENTATION BY THE FRIENDS OF COASTAL GARDENS AND MS. JACKIE OGDEN ON THE FUTURE OF THE BAMBOO FARM (SEE ATTACHED).

Chairman Hair said, Ms. Ogden, I'll call on you first.

Ms. Jackie Ogden said, good morning, Commissioners. On behalf of the Chatham County Extension Service, of which I'm the County Coordinator, we do thank you for allowing this to come before you this morning. We also thank you for those of you that took time out of your schedule to meet with the Friends of the Coastal Gardens earlier this week to actually see the Bamboo Farm and Coastal Gardens to review some of the programs and activities there. At this time I'm refreshing your memory that back on November 7th Dr. Mel Garber from the University of Georgia came before the Commission citing financial assistance and help in the coming fiscal '05 year. Major cuts that affected the University would impact the future of the Bamboo Farm and Coastal Gardens. We are asking for \$120,000, which

would take care of the employee salary and benefits for four individual employees and \$50,000 of operating expenses beginning July 1 of '05, carrying forward. At this point in time we ask for your support, your help and any questions that you might have.

Chairman Hair asked, any Commissioners would like to make any comments? Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, yes. We've got —, Russ [Abolt], you sent us in our packets another letter that came in —. County Manager Abolt said, from Dr. Garber. Commissioner Murray said, yes. And in that it was a little difficult to understand exactly what he was saying because what I read in it was that the County would still put the money in, but we could only do it —, it would be guaranteed for one year at the time basically, which means they would —, the University of Georgia would have control and say-so on what takes place and we would be funding it. Now, when we met with y'all this week the discussion was that we would have to have something in writing for this Commission where we will be protected and the citizens of this community will be protected putting tax dollars into it like that. I support the project and I support doing that, but until we get the proper paperwork that we can live with as a Commission, I cannot support the way it came in to us. But I will support it if they can get the mechanics of it worked out where it protects this County from the financial standpoint of control over that property if we in fact are going to do it. I don't want to be in there —. Ms. Ogden said, right. Commissioner Murray said, — one, two or three years until the State gets their financial self back in shape and then they pull it back and say, "Oh, we're going to take it back over again," and we've lost all this investment and the time we're trying to do something with it. But I support the project and the concept of it, but I just want to make sure that we have everything in place that protects this County before we sign off on it.

Chairman Hair said, I think it's a great effort and this —, Bamboo Farms [sic] is a wonderful asset for our community and, I mean, I think that it's just one of those real unknown secrets out there that very few people know about, but certainly I think this County should support it, and I agree with Commissioner Murray that, you know, we obviously have to have the protections, but I think that's something we can work out with the University of Georgia. I don't anticipate any problem. Commissioner Murray said, I think so too. Chairman Hair said, and, you know, we'd be glad to, you know, negotiate that.

Ms. Ogden said, if I may, Commissioner Hair —, Chairman, I mentioned this to you, Dr. [sic] Murray, and the fellow Commissioners that the way the Cooperative Extension Service works, I think you're aware that we're in a cooperation agreement. This is the only property situation that we have. Of course, the land is in the ownership of the Board of Regents and the Board of Regents have placed this land in —, under the College of Ag and Environmental Sciences. The College of Ag and Environmental Sciences, of course, has given it to the Extension Service. At this point in time we have been told with 100% guarantee as long as the Cooperative Extensive Service is at the helm of leadership that that property is protected; however, I can surely understand your legal and —, concern for the citizens and taxpayers of this community. Dr. Garber did amend his letter. I'm sure he will do whatever else it will take and —, if you'll tell us what you need us to do and henceforth we will comply to —.

County Manager Abolt said, what will happen —. Commissioner Murray said, I would think —, I think Russ [Abolt] and Jon Hart are working with them —. Chairman Hair said, yeah, I think that's the way to do it. County Manager Abolt said, yes sir. This is —, if this serves as a consensus, what we'll do is I'll ask the Attorney to work with the UGA staff to do just that. I'll put in what amounts to my Level 2 budget the \$170,000 so you'll have that choice. Coincidentally, those that were at the briefing, if I remember, there was some discussion as to plans by UGA to send out what amounts to layoff notices to those employees. In conversation with Dr. Garber, and it again was the consensus that I picked up from those present at the Bamboo Farms [sic], he's agreed to delay that until what amounts to layoff on the 1st of August, fully appreciative of the budget process we must go through and your need to make decisions.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Rayno.

Commissioner Rayno said, I share the concerns of Commissioner Murray and I wanted to thank you for taking us around the other day. It was a wonderful tour of the facility and the strawberries were delicious. I appreciate that very much. Has there ever —, we received a fax anonymous, and I don't put a lot of credence with anonymous faxes about things because you should really sign your name to something if you're making all kinds of accusations, but it does raise a point that puts a question in my mind has there ever been an audit of the facility that we can have access to? Ms. Ogden said, yes. And, Commissioner Rayno, I'm glad you brought that question up in fact. We just learned of this just minutes really before this meeting, and I can assure you that we have the audit reports that show that everything is in compliance with State as well as University of Georgia guidelines and College of Ag guidelines. The investigation occurred in 1999 with a complete report from the University of Georgia auditors, completely separate from the College of Ag and Environmental Sciences, which found no improprieties whatsoever, and we also at this very time, Tony Tyson [phonetic] would be here in chambers with you, who is our district head who you had on Wednesday, but he is awaiting that fax because we felt that you might want that clarification to show that we're —, that we have all of those documentations to show that we did complete audits. Being a unit of the University of Georgia, in fact, you might like to know this that Chatham County Extension Service just underwent our audit with the State and with the University system earlier this year and I'm happy to report that the Chatham County Extension Service got glowing reviews and at the same time met all qualifications of the University system, and this is also an audit done separately from Chatham County. Commissioner Rayno asked, will you provide us with those —? Ms. Ogden said, we will be delighted, sir, to provide you with all of that documentation and anything else that might help the Commission in the decision. The fax that we received as well did not have any names and it was an anonymous piece and I can tell you in quickly reading it, some of the concerns there. I really haven't read it in its entirety and really examined every word of it, but I would

feel very comfortable to tell you that there are no improprieties. Commissioner Rayno said, I am sure that that would raise our comfort level a great deal if we had those in hand to make our decision. Ms. Ogden said, and you should have them before this meeting is over this morning, sir. Commissioner Rayno said, okay, thank you.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Kicklighter and then Commissioner Odell.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you. I guess I'm going to say unpopular things. I just —, you know, I think this is a great project, but I'm truly disappointed in the State of Georgia dropping the ball on this and it being thrown over to us. When I took office and many of you took office in here, we had a \$12,000,000 deficit. We had to face people walking up here that were blind. We cut the money to the nonprofits for blind people. We cut money for non-profits for Rape Crisis Center. We cut money for all kinds of worthy, worthy agencies that needed the money like the Bamboo Farms [sic] needs it now. And, you know, now that we've started back on a responsible path to establishing some type of fund balance, it just worries me that here we are taking up the slack from the State of Georgia when we can't even get the State to pass our own district lines. We have people that don't even know where they're running right now, and, you know, we have representatives playing politics with the citizens of Chatham County for no other reason than just political reasons right now. And, you know, again this is a worthy project. The State of Georgia or the Board of Regents have been funding this position, and I'm not saying whether I would want to vote for or against right now because it's very worthy, but I would not want this conversation today to be misconstrued that it is some kind of consensus unless we actually vote on it that we will take, you know, and fund the entire thing without coming back in the future, you know, and that's up to this body up here, and seeing if you've satisfied all of their questions. But, again, it's a worthy project and I appreciate everything y'all, you know, you do. But, again, this is just opening the doors because when Rape Crisis stands up here, that's a worthy nonprofit that if we're going to open the doors again, there's tons of other ones out there that's every bit as worthy to receive the funds, and I'm just passing the warning on. If this group wants to start spending down the reserves again and raise taxes in the future, I think let's open the door and let's fund all these worthy projects. But the State of Georgia I think it's time that they accept responsibility and quit passing the buck and they come through and do something that they're supposed to do. I'm just tired of the State right now passing on everything, and that goes to the Board of Education, they're passing on unfunded mandates. They're cutting at the Board of Regents and having —, then come to us. They're passing policies on taxes, which makes us the bad guys. They're just passing the buck on and on and on, and I just think us taking this up at this time is the wrong sign. I think the sign should be some type of resolution asking the State to do their job and fund this. I just don't see where we need to open that can or worms right now. And, again, that's unpopular because y'all are a very worthy great group doing a good job, but I just don't see the State —, us allowing the State to pass it on. They need to pay us to house the prisoners in our jails right now. They need to pay us for a lot of things that they're not doing, and here we are picking up the ball again for the State of Georgia if we go through with this. So I just —, you know, I encourage everybody to think about it and once this comes back with the Commissioners have asked to look at here, you know, let's decide then, but I really don't want to see a decision made right now. That's it.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Odell.

Commissioner Odell said, thank you. I had the opportunity to come to the luncheon and there are the Friends of the Bamboo Garden [sic] here, you have some representatives? Ms. Ogden said, yes, we do. We have Sandy Beals a, who is the President of Friends, and several —, Ellis Wooten, he's the Vice President, as well as —. Commissioner Odell asked, would you have them just to stand. Ms. Ogden said, yes, I will be glad and thank you for giving us that opportunity, Commissioner Odell. Chairman Hair said, we appreciate y'all being here. Ms. Ogden said, this is our Executive Committee and we did asked anyone else that could get off work or could come to be a part today as well. Commissioner Odell said, yeah, I wanted to thank you for the good work that you're doing and I tend to think of the Bamboo Farm as a quality of life issue. As of now we cannot put a dollar and cent on people who come and get off of the interstate and one of the primary reasons they get off is to come by and see the historic Bamboo Farm and Gardens. We have soccer fields, baseball fields, every kind of fields if you're younger than 18. I'm over 50 and the Bamboo Farm and Gardens is extremely attractive not only to me, but to my 13-year-old daughter and my little basketball team, and we're coming out there to go fishing. Ms. Ogden said, [inaudible]. Commissioner Odell said, to me this is a quality of life. We cannot compel the State of Georgia to do through the Regents what it should do, but because they fail to do the right thing is no excuse for us not doing the right thing. It would be a historic tragedy if we were to allow this to slip through because it benefits this community, it benefits all of us. It's one of those issues that I see as making this community more attractive to those of us who've raised children, who've paid Board of Education taxes, and who'd like to go there and pick strawberries with a grandchild. I tell you, unless —, and this is in David's [Gellatly] district —, I support the Garden. I came to a luncheon because I supported the Garden. I will continue to support the Garden. I think it's an excellent idea. I dread the thought that there would be condos and a new little subdivision out there that would displace efforts that have gone on for over a hundred years. We, as a community, cannot allow those kinds of things to happen. This is a treasure, we must treat it as a treasure, and I would like for us to approach the Board of Education and the City of Savannah towards whether or not they would be interested in making a contribution. And the reason I say that is that when we were out there, we saw so many school kids who come through there, and it is an educational jewel. I'd like to see the Board of Education —, and I think Jeff [Rayno] and I when we were riding around looking at the strawberry patches, indicated that. I'd like to see what the Board of Education would do and what the City of Savannah is willing to do as far as assistance in funding. But whatever they elect to do, I think we have to ensure that it remains here, that it remains financially stable because this is a treasure and I would regret if five years from now we look back and we had lost this treasure. And I thank each one of you, and I'm going to hold you to your pledge that you will work with me to get other volunteers as organized as your group is. Is that agreeable? Ms. Ogden said, yes. Commissioner Odell said, she said it in public. Chairman Hair said, we have it on tape. Commissioner Odell said, thank you.

Ms. Ogden said, thank you, Commissioner. I do want to say that the Friends have been wonderful and, more importantly, the Extension Service will be glad to do any kind of workshops in the community in terms of trying to help organizations in any of those arenas.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, yeah. Just to clear up a couple of things, and a lot of people don't know this, but it's not just free to go out there. Even the school children when they go out on their tours, we were told on our visit this week, they're charged \$2 per student to go through the facilities. It's a great educational tool. The community needs it. The other part of that is we just paid a good bit of money for the Litchfield Tract right across the road, and once that tract is filled, the fill dirt's taken out that we need to take out for these projects and the trees are cut and the timber is sold, then that facility at some point in the future is going to be a real nice facility for people to build like a passive park type thing that goes all the way back to the river, and these two projects together will tie into each other and it just makes a win/win, I think, for everyone. So, I'm confident when we can get the paperwork like we need it to protect us, and I certainly will support the project also because I think it's a need, and I don't believe that we need to let it go and, as we were talking out there the other day, it would be a developer's field day. It's a beautiful tract of land that a lot of people benefit from and the Friends group does have money, they are financially sound, and the only expense we would be picking up right now would be the cost, if I'm not mistaken, of the employees that would be full time out there. And there's a possibility we would not need all of that, but we should have something like that in the budget just to make sure it stays sound if in fact this Commission does it, and I feel like the support is on this Commission to do that.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner McMasters.

Commissioner McMasters said, thank you, Dr. Hair. Ms. Ogden, thank you for the invitation. I apologize for not being able to attend the other day. I had a conflict in my schedule. I want you to know that I support the Bamboo Farms [sic]. I've been to the last two wild game dinners there with my neighbor and friend, George Eaves, who constantly just brags on and on about all the great things that go on out there. Ms. Ogden said, thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner McMasters said, I want to commend my colleague, Harris Odell, for recommending that we work together to build a collaboration of interested parties between the City and the School Board. You certainly have our commitment to work in that direction. We'll do what we can. One thing that I would like to address, however, as Commissioner Kicklighter suggested, the fact that we weren't funding the Rape Crisis Center. I'd like to point out for everyone in the audience and at home that we've sort of taken a different direction with SPLOST in '04 to [inaudible] in the new SPLOST and with the leadership of our friends at the Chamber and the City of Savannah we really have helped many, many organizations with I think over \$12,000,000 in County tax proceeds to assist them since we decided to make that change in funding streams, and I think the Rape Crisis Center, if I'm not correct, has a \$500,000 certain allocation. So for the record I just wanted to put that out.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Gellatly.

Commissioner Gellatly said, thank you. I would again like to say I appreciate the quality time that I spent with you and I was very, very impressed with the tour of the Bamboo Farm. It's obviously very well organized and has a very strong group of dedicated people and I appreciate that. It's well run and well organized. I think that —, and obviously it's right in the middle of my district, so it's near and dear to me that we preserve and protect this treasure. I think the issues that we have to consider and deal with, as has already been pointed out, is the control issue. If we were to fund it, why, we'd certainly want to have a say-so of what's going on out there. We're not just going to throw money at it. I don't think that anyone would expect us to do that. The funding, I think that we're going to have to look very hard and find that funding somewhere, but I think it's nice to have all this fuzzy, feel good talk right now, but at some point in time this Commission is going to have to deal with a Level 2 budget, which basically means that there's —, it will be \$5,000,000 worth of requests and only \$3,000,000 in the pot. So there are decisions that have to be made, so I think it's very important that we look at other people that are willing to assist financially to support this, and I think it can be done. I think it's doable and I think certainly the people on your board have the energy and the will to do that, and I would pledge to you as your Commissioner that I will work very hard with you to find that funding, but as I told the group before, I will do anything I can to help you success and find the funding short of raising taxes.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. I, too, want to go on record as saying that this is a very excellent organization. I have been a part of not only the Bamboo Farms [sic] for a number of year, but a very close part of the Cooperative Extension Agency, which has served, oh, my goodness, I don't know how many children. I, too, have carried many, many of the Summer Bonanza children and other community children not only to the Bamboo Farm, but also I would like to say that Ms. Ogden and her staff also worked with the Summer Bonanza children in workshops, and this has been to me very vital, and I do support this very heartily and I also would like to say I think the direction that we are suggesting in terms of collaboration is very worthwhile and I think we need to pursue that. Ms. Ogden said, thank you, Commissioner. Commissioner Thomas said, and I commend you for a job well done. Ms Ogden said, thank you.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I think Commissioner Odell's idea was great. That's exactly what I was talking about. I just don't think that we need to take, you know, and pay everything on that. If you can get money from other places, I'd be more than happy to try to help out, you know, financially. It's just sitting in this chair when I first went in office,

it's a scary thing to know you have 25,000-30,000 people sitting out there and you're doing everything you can not to raise their property taxes, and, you know, that thought has not left me, so if y'all can get help from somewhere else and possibly the State also, you know, I know we can assist. And, again, you're doing a great job out there and I hope I didn't give the wrong impression in the beginning there, but Commissioner Odell's right on target and I would be glad to vote to assist in whatever way possible also.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Jackie [Ogden]. I want to —, I also missed the lunch, but I talked to Sandy [Beals]. She called me and I told her I had a work conflict and I couldn't be there, but my dear friend Lois Wooten's out there and I've always been, you know, way before I got in politics been a supporter of Bamboo Farm. We appreciate y'all being here today.

Ms. Ogden asked, Chairman Hair, may I quick add —, make one more statement if possible. Chairman Hair said, yes. Ms. Ogden said, and I think this might answer too some of your questions. The College of Ag and Environmental Sciences funds the Cooperative Extension Service here in Chatham County. Also, the United States Department of Agriculture. So that you know, \$350,000 from Federal and other State sources come into Chatham County annually. At the same time, the \$170,000 we're talking about, of course, is out of the College of Family —, excuse me —, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. The whole reason that this has even come up to the table is because of the cuts through the State back to the College of Ag and Environmental Sciences, which then of course has to look at what facilities they can keep open. They have kept this place open to the very, very bitter end, and as I just make a closing statement, know that by August —, really today, really April 1 is the date that I'm supposed to give a signal back to say that we do have funding or we don't. This is no pressure, but from the standpoint we have asked them to wait a little bit longer, but at some point in time we will by July 1 need to know if we, you know, can keep the doors open. Thank you for your time and your support.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Jackie [Ogden]. We appreciate everyone being here. Ms. Ogden said, and we do have that document, Commissioner Rayno. Chairman Hair said, make sure all the Commissioners get —, just give it to the Clerk there and she'll make sure we get copies of it. Thank you.

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3. PROCLAMATION FOR BUILDING SAFETY WEEK, APRIL 5-9 – GREGORI ANDERSON WILL BE PRESENT TO ACCEPT.

Chairman Hair read the following proclamation into the record:

WHEREAS, the safety of the buildings we occupy daily is essential to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the world, and among the world's most fundamental laws are those which provide safety standards for the construction of buildings in which people live, work and play; and

WHEREAS, Building Safety Week is observed nationally from April 4 -10, 2004 and is promoted through building and fire prevention code enforcement by the International Code Council; and

WHEREAS, Chatham County Department of Building Safety and Regulatory Services will participate by the erection of an information display at their office during that week which will provide information assisting building owners with maintenance, construction and life safety elements and techniques to achieve and maintain building safety.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dr. Billy B. Hair, Chairman, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the week of April 4 - 10, 2004 as:

“BUILDING SAFETY WEEK”

in Chatham County and urge all citizens to participate in activities to help promote building safety, to create awareness as to the importance of construction and building codes, and to spotlight the role of the dedicated code official in administering those codes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 26th day of March, 2004.

Dr. Billy B. Hair, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

Mr. Gregori Anderson said, thank you, Dr. Hair, gentlemen and madam. Thank you for the opportunity to have this observance. During the April dates indicated we encourage you, as well as the public, to come out and get some information about building safety. We will have information booths at our site, 1117 Eisenhower Drive. Please come by. Thank you for your support. Chairman Hair said, thank you.

Commissioner McMasters said, Gregori [Anderson], I just want to say thanks for your enforcement activities and inspection. You're doing a great job in bringing forward the sort of changes that the Commission had hoped for. So, thank you.

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4. PROCLAMATION FOR EARTH DAY – JACKIE JACKSON AND ELISE ZADOR WILL BE PRESENT TO ACCEPT.

Chairman Hair read the following proclamation into the record:

WHEREAS, Earth Day was established in 1970 to have a national demonstration of environmental concern and to force environmental issues onto the agenda of national priorities; and

WHEREAS, April 22nd is recognized internationally as Earth Day; and

WHEREAS, the environment is key to our economy, prosperity and quality of life, and future generations rely on current generations to conserve natural resources for their well-being; and

WHEREAS, children are open-minded and can learn at an early age the importance of sustainable living habits; and

WHEREAS, Earth Day 2004 in Chatham County will foster environmental awareness and provide a wholesome family atmosphere in which to learn about natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the theme of Earth Day 2004, "Paving a Path to the Future" is a celebration of our environment and ways that each of us can promote environmental stewards in our communities to make a difference for our future.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dr. Billy B. Hair, Chairman, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby recognize and support:

EARTH DAY 2004

to be held April 3, 2004.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 26th day of March 2004.

Dr. Billy B. Hair, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

Ms. Jackie Jackson said, I just want to tell everybody thanks for the proclamation and basically give you an open invitation to the Earth Day celebration. Again, it is on Saturday, April 3rd, and we're looking for approximately over 10,000 people to come out within a four hour period this year. It's been going on for a number of years and each year it has grown in the amount of folks that are showing up, and we've got over nine new exhibitors at this point and, again, looking for about 10,000 people so we invite you to come out and join us. It should be a great event.

Chairman Hair said, it's a great event. Is the bike ride a part of y'all's —, or is that separate? Ms. Jackson said, we actually have a family fun run, a 5-K family fun run and then we have and then we have a simultaneous bike event. Chairman Hair asked, but that's a part of y'all's? Ms. Jackson said, yeah. Chairman Hair said, I have a friend that rides in that, so —. Ms. Jackson said, it's a great event and thank you very much.

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VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

1. G-8 FUNDING.

Chairman Hair said, I would ask my fellow Commissioners this morning to support an allocation of \$25,000 to support a Chatham night for the G-8 participants. Well over half of this funding is being provided by the business community in this —, in Savannah and Chatham County and the surrounding area. The City of Savannah is putting up \$25,000, the Port's putting up \$25,000 and the Airport's putting up \$25,000, I believe, and I also think the Trade Center, so I think it's a reasonable request that we support G-8 and allocate \$25,000. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Odell.

Commissioner Odell said, I make a motion to approve. Commissioner Kicklighter said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, yeah. I would like to ask if possibly Steve Green could come up and explain to us what this is so we aren't just —, and the general public will understand a little bit more about it before we vote on it.

Mr. Steve Green said, Mr. Commissioner [sic] and members of the Commission, I appreciate the opportunity to speak with you. The City's been —, the City and County have been approached by the G-8 Host Committee to host one of the three nights the G-8's here. The other two nights will be hosted by the City of Atlanta and Coca-Cola. We've been fortunate to get the inaugural night, the opening night of the festivities, which will maximize, you know, the media coverage that we'll get. I spoke with Bill Cathcart and asked him to give me some estimation of what it would cost us to buy paid advertising to equate to what coverage we're going to get, and he said just for the eight domestic networks that are going to be here it would cost us in excess of nine million dollars. That discounts the international TV, all the radio, print media, internet coverage. So it's an extraordinary opportunity for us to showcase the City and the community and encourage favor with the over 3,000 journalists and foreign dignitaries that are in our effort to promote the community and also to sell the mega site, which is the prime effort we're going to be putting forth during this three days. It's going to be a public/private joint venture. We've already raised \$85,000 from the business community. We have a meeting today with the CEO Council to raise the rest of it. As the Chairman has already said, the City has dedicated \$25,000 and we think it's an opportunity that only comes along once in a lifetime.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner McMasters.

Commissioner McMasters said, thank you, Dr. Hair. Mr. Green, the Trade Center's putting in \$25,000? Is that correct? Mr. Green said, yeah, that's my understanding. Commissioner McMasters said, your understanding. I think the concept is a very valid and noble effort. I'm going to have to vote against this, and I'd like to make an explanation of why. Part of my district incorporates the downtown area where, of course, much of the media attention and activities will be occurring, and many of those constituents have a great degree of anxiety about G-8. They feel that it was something they had very little say in. I think we would all agree with that. It sort of just descended on us, and to keep my pledge to my constituents I can't in all good conscience advocate spending tax money to throw a party, a cocktail party and fireworks exhibit to kick off G-8, but I applaud your efforts to generate funds from other governments and authorities as well as the private sector, but please understand my decision.

Chairman Hair said, okay, we have a motion and second to approve. All those in favor of the motion vote yes, opposed no. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Murray, Odell, Gellatly, Kicklighter and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner McMasters voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of six to one. [NOTE: Commissioners Rayno and Rivers were not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes. Thank you, Mr. Green. Mr. Green said, thank you very much. Chairman Hair said, we appreciate you being here, Mr. Hubbard and [inaudible], appreciate you being here.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved that Chatham County allocate \$25,000 to support a Chatham night for participants of the G-8 Summit. Commissioner Kicklighter seconded the motion. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Murray, Odell, Gellatly, Kicklighter and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner McMasters voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of six to one. [NOTE: Commissioners Rayno and Rivers were not present when this vote was taken.]

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2. PRESENTATION OF BLUE RIBBONS FROM THE R.O.C.K. GROUP. APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS MONTH. COLETT BALDER AND KENNY HILL WILL BE MAKING PRESENTATIONS.

Ms. Colett Balder said, good morning. Thank you for letting me be here this morning.

Chairman Hair said, I'm going to hold you up just a second. Mr. Nichols can you help the —. Mr. Pete Nichols said, that's something that Mr. Thompson is working on in the back. Chairman Hair said, okay, I guess we're going to have to live with it until we get it fixed. Okay, go ahead, Ms. Balder.

Ms. Balder said, good morning. I'm happy to be here even though we're not on television, that's okay. I'm the Director of an organization called the R.O.C.K. Group. R.O.C.K. is an acronym for Raising Our Children Kindly, and we are Chatham County's largest nonprofit organization devoted to the prevention of child abuse and neglect as our only mission, and currently we have about 70 agencies, organizations, individuals and businesses that are members of the R.O.C.K. Group collaborative. We are also the charter council of the State chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America. So technically we are Prevent Child Abuse America for Chatham County. April is National Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month and those of you that have been on the Commission for a few years know that this is my fifth time to appear before you and present you all with blue ribbons. Blue is the color associated with child abuse prevention because of the black and blue bruises of physically abused children. So I'm here this morning to give you your blue ribbons for the Fifth Annual Chatham County Blue Ribbon Campaign. And I've got some interesting news to share with you. As I said, this is our fifth annual campaign. In the last five years in the State of Georgia the rate of child abuse and neglect has risen by over 50%. Unbelievable. Chatham County is not following that trend. In the last five years, the reports of child abuse and neglect are continuing to drop. Not significantly, but they are not on the rising end, they are on the dropping end. Those of us that are in prevention we'd like to say maybe we're doing a good job of raising awareness and maybe we're doing a good job of helping families nurture and raise their children, or maybe we're doing a really lousy job of telling the community how to report child abuse and neglect. But I tend to be on the optimistic standpoint. Last year in Chatham County there were 1,286 children involved in child abuse and neglect allegations. We know that statistically for every report we get, there are three to five cases that we don't have a clue about. So even though our numbers in Chatham County are dropping, and I'm excited about that and I'm pleased to share that with you, we believe the only acceptable number of abused and neglected children is zero, and that's what we're working toward to wipe out child abuse and neglect in Chatham County. This year —, we always kick off the ribbon campaign with a press conference in Johnson Square and, Dr. Hair, you've participated and, Dr. Thomas, you've participated, and this year we're doing something completely different. We're having a rally for kids and families at Grayson Stadium also on April 3rd, which I think will coincide nicely with families doing something for Earth Day with their children, and we've invited a very special guest to Chatham County who has never been here before and that's Spiderman. Spiderman has been a spokesperson for the prevention of child abuse and neglect under a contract with Marvel Comics since 1990 and he'll be delivering a message on bullying, which is a really hot topic in our public schools among all our children, our private schools too, and also on the prevention of child abuse, and he'll be signing autographs and posing for pictures and just spending some good, nice family time with families and children, and the entire event is free and we've got games and activities and lots of things going on. So we certainly hope that you will come out and meet Spiderman and help out. We don't have any advertising dollars, of course, we're nonprofit, but we hope you'll help spread the word and if you know families with children or grandchildren that would like to come out and meet Spiderman, we'll be glad to have them. So that's what's going on. At the end of the month we're having a Community Leaders Luncheon on April 28th and I hope you will all —, you'll all get an invitation and I certainly hope you'll come and support the community and support children and families. So thank you for being here.

Chairman Hair recognized Youth Commissioner Morse.

Youth Commissioner Jessica Morse asked, can you repeat the date that y'all are having that event? Ms. Balder said, uh huh, April 3rd, Grayson Stadium, 10:00 to 3:00. Youth Commissioner said, thank you.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter asked, Russ [Abolt]? County Manager Abolt asked, sir? Commissioner Kicklighter asked, would it be appropriate or could we possibly help by somehow listing the date and what's going to happen on our government channel? County Manager Abolt said, you'd better believe it, sir. Chairman Hair said, yeah. Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay, if you'll get with staff —. County Manager Abolt said, I'll have Mr. Nichols see —, as soon as he stops this roar here, we'll make sure he —. Commissioner Kicklighter said, we can help with some advertisement. Ms. Balder said, that would be great, and Pete Nichols already has the information —. Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. Ms. Balder said, — so he knows the information, so if you can spread that.

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PROBLEMS WITH SOUND SYSTEM

Commissioner Rayno asked, can we take a five minute recess until they just —? Chairman Hair said, I think we just need to turn it off. He's probably not going to be able to fix it. Mr. Abolt, would you have Fred [Thompson] just turn it off? County Manager Abolt said, yes sir. Chairman Hair said, just tell him to turn it off. That's good. Commissioner Murray said, whatever he did works. Chairman Hair said, that's fine, just turn it off.

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Chairman Hair recognized John Saxon "Piccolo" Pierce.

Mr. Pierce said, I think the Library is more important to us. We must support the Library because this was our ---. Before you got history, you got Abraham Lincoln, George Washington, Joe Lewis, and all that you will find under history. Black history, white history. It don't make no difference. As long as —, how many of y'all can support the Library? How many of you?

Chairman Hair said, that's on our agenda in a few minutes, Mr. Pierce.

Mr. Pierce said, yeah, I know you can support it. How many —, I know Mrs. Thomas will support it. So let's get together and let's support it. Thank you.

Chairman Hair said, okay, thank you, Mr. Pierce.

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3. EMERGENCY AUTHORIZATION TO PURCHASE AND REPLACE A CHILLER AT THE DETENTION CENTER.

Chairman Hair recognized County Manager Abolt.

County Manager Abolt said, this was an item —. Thank you, Dr. Hair, Dr. Thomas. We briefed you in the pre-meeting. It literally came up as a surprise and a hurdle to overcome just about 24 hours ago. With full cooperation of Sheriff St. Lawrence and his staff, Mr. Kaigler and Ms. Cramer, we have a resolution to the problem. This is an unfunded issue on your CIP totaling approximately \$140,000. It's critical for you to authorize the emergency purchase of this equipment and do so prior to two o'clock. Absent that type of decision we have reason to believe that our facility will be very uncomfortable for reasons of hot, hot cells.

Chairman Hair said, I'll call on Commissioner Odell for a motion.

Commissioner Odell said, Al [St. Lawrence], I read your staff report. I don't think we have an option on this. Sheriff St. Lawrence said, I don't think we have either because, you know, when the facility was built, it was built with safety and security in mind. We don't have no windows that open and shut. If you break a window out, you can't get through it anyway, but there's no air circulation other than you've got with the chillers and the heating system, but they have patched and re-patched this unit to the point they can't patch it no more unless you want to spend \$95,000 to try to fix this one. That's no guarantee it's going to go any further. So —. Chairman Hair said, maintenance —. Sheriff St. Lawrence said, so it's —, and yet the problem we've got, we've got a chiller coming off the line that's compatible with this on Monday at —, that's a Trane, and it will be shipped from California. The next one coming off the line ain't until the 20th of April, it's 45 tons larger and will require, as I understand from our maintenance people, a great deal of additional electrical work. Commissioner Odell said, Al, I'm going to —. Chairman Hair said, we've got motion. Commissioner Odell said, make the motion. Commissioner Murray said, I'll second it. Commissioner Kicklighter said, second.

Chairman Hair said, all those in favor of the motion vote yes, opposed no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes. Thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to authorize the emergency purchase and replacement of a chiller at the Chatham County Detention Center for approximately \$140,000. Commissioners Murray and Kicklighter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.]

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PROBLEMS WITH SOUND SYSTEM

Chairman Hair said, let's turn it [sound system] off please. Fred [Thompson], just turn it completely off and leave it off please.

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RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING COMMISSION DISTRICTS

Chairman Hair said, the next item is a resolution on Commission districts. I'm going to call on Commissioner Murray to make a motion.

Commissioner Murray said, yes. We have received information that the Commission districts which were submitted along with the School Board districts, the School Board districts were approved last year and the School Board ran last year based on those new districts have not been signed yet. We have an election —, well, qualifying for this election is the last week of April, the primary is in July and the general election is in November, and we have people running for office right now that don't even know where their districts are going to be. I would request that we do a resolution to our State delegation that they go ahead and approve the same districts the School Board is in right now and it's done before they leave session this year.

Chairman Hair asked, do I have a second? Commissioner Kicklighter said, second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor of the motion vote yes, opposed no. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Rayno, McMasters, Murray, Gellatly, Kicklighter and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Odell voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of seven to one. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes. Thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved that the Board adopt a resolution to be sent to the State delegation asking that they adopt the same Commission districts as the School Board districts and that they adopt the new Commission districts prior to the end of the current legislative session.

WHEREAS, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners at its regularly scheduled meeting of March 26, 2004, unanimously adopted this Resolution and directed that it be sent to the Legislative Delegation of Chatham County; and,

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners that local legislation shall be passed before the end of the 2004 legislative term making the Chatham County Board of Commissioners' districts the same as the districts of the members of the Savannah-Chatham County Board of Education.

NOW THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Chatham County Board of Commissioners hereby unanimously requests and strongly recommends to the Legislative Delegation of Chatham County that it pass before the end of the 2004 legislative term making the Chatham County Board of Commissioners' districts the same as the districts of the members of the Savannah-Chatham County Board of Education.

ADOPTED this _____ day of _____, 2004.

CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

By: _____
 Dr. Billy B. Hair, Chairman
 Chatham County Commission

Attest: _____
 Sybil Tillman, Clerk
 Chatham County Commission

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

Chairman Hair said, the next item we moved up in pre-meeting is the Budget Analyst.

[NOTE: By a consensus of the Commissioners, Item IX-2 was taken out of order and was heard at this point on the agenda.]

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VII. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS

1. REPORT ON YOUTH COMMISSION TRIP TO NACO CONFERENCE, IN WASHINGTON, DC, FEBRUARY 29–MARCH 4, 2004 (COMMISSIONER THOMAS).

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll be very brief. First of all, let me thank you, the Commissioners, for your continued support of the Chatham County Youth Commission. I want to say to you that the trip was very successful. We were able to get there safely and to return safely. That was the most important thing. I want to also thank Mr. Van Johnson, Alderman, who serves as the Director of this program, even though I'm the Executive Director, but much of the planning for this trip really comes under his tutelage, and I'd like to thank Debra Allen, Connie Roberts and Mr. Pete Nichols for their continued support. I'm going to call Mr. Johnson and the Youth Commissioners at this time and then at the end I'd like to make a special presentation to Ms. Connie Roberts, who has served with us for a long time.

Mr. Van Johnson said, thank you, Dr. Hair, Dr. Thomas, ladies and gentlemen. It has once been said that life is made up of experiences and experiences last a lifetime. I thank you this morning for giving the youth of Chatham County an experience that will last a lifetime as they embarked upon their fifth annual trip to Washington, DC, and New York City. This trip lasted 4 days, 102 hours, 6,120 minutes, 367,200 seconds, and covered over 1,700 miles through 9 states. Youth from this community sat on the floor of the United States House of Representatives in the very same seats where this nation's most power leaders sit and debate this nation's interest. Youth from this community represented Chatham County admirably during the National Association of Counties Annual Legislative Conference where one of our youth were featured in the *Washington Post* for a comment that she had made during one of the sessions. Youth from this community saw Air Force One and witnessed the inner operations of the nation's most elite helicopter squadron on Andrews Air Force Base. Youth from this community were featured twice on national TV, first on BET's 106 and Park television show and then the next morning on Fox and Friends, youth from this community gave the nation their view on Super Tuesday's results the day before. We especially thank Dr. Thomas, who, in spite of her physical pain, traveled with us; my super team of colleagues, who give of their personal time and effort to share with our youth, Ms. Debra Allen, Ms. Connie Roberts, Mr. Pete Nichols, Ms. Sandra Smalls. We especially thank Representative Max Burns, who flew from Georgia to Washington to specifically give our youth an exclusive after-hours tour of our nation's capital; our friends at Greenbriar Children's Center and Summer Bonanza Partnership, Four Seasons Travel, Excursions Unlimited, Savannah Communications, and those that are especially so supportive of us not only during our annual trip, but all year long, and that is including our County Manager, Russ Abolt, our Human Resources and Services Director, Mr. Michael Kaigler. And as they say, the proof is in the pudding, I would like for you to hear from those who directly benefitted from your generosity. I present to you this morning Ms. Iris Miller and Ms. Jessica Morse.

Youth Commissioner Iris Miller said, good morning. I'm Iris Miller. My experience to Washington, DC, and New York was great. I had a chance to be better acquainted with my fellow Youth Commissioners and with organizations I never heard of. To me this trip was an honor and a privilege. The first day was February 29, 2004, we took a tour of the National Air and Space Museum and other historical locations, such as the Holocaust Museum. We saw the Wright Brothers, the simulation airplane, and we watched a movie on how Hitler's movement began. Afterwards we went to see the White House. It looked so small to me. On top there were CIA snipers on the roof. I felt safe. Visiting the Holocaust Museum changed my identity. I then became Helen Katza Wohlfarth. I had to go through the museum to find out facts about myself. I saw very graphic pictures of how the Nazis put people in gas chambers to kill them, also how they gave the women different medications to impregnate them. To me that was very horrible and I wonder would they do that to their mothers. I also saw pictures of people being slaughtered. We later took a tour of the United States Capitol with Congressman Max Burns. That was a great honor. There I saw how things work and the different rooms where different processes went on. What caught my eye was a statue with four heads. One was missing, representing a woman president not yet served.

Youth Commissioner Miller said, on Monday, March 1, 2004, we went to the NACo Conference, which stands for the National Association of Counties. There I attended a course called Earned Income Tax Credit. I learned about various ways a mother, single or married, can get medical information for her child or children. Next we went to the Andrews Air Force Base, which was fun and education [sic]. I had a chance to see how John F. Kennedy died. Mr. Johnson and other Youth Commissioners sat in the chair and was spun around to see how their eyes move from the elevation. Mr. Johnson said, you weren't supposed to talk about that.

Youth Commissioner Miller said, Tuesday, March 2, 2004, we went to Ground Zero. There I was shocked and the same time I felt sorry for the families who lost a loved one. That showed me how cruel people can be in general. To get our minds off of things, we went shopping. There I got lots of clothing and hand bags. There was 106 and Park. I had a great time meeting celebrities. It was a great experience for me. I had a blast. Thank you, Dr. Thomas —, no. Mr. Thomas, Dr. —, Dr. Priscilla Thomas, Mr. Johnson and the Commissioners for this opportunity. Thank you.

Chairman Hair said, thank you.

Youth Commissioner Jessica Morse said, good morning. On February 29, 2004, the Youth Commission set out on their annual New York trip. On this trip we were going to receive education as well as have a good time. While learning we laughed, met others, and enjoyed ourselves from the ride up on Sunday to Washington, DC, to the ride back to Savannah on Thursday. On Sunday, we were to spend most of the day in Washington, DC, and our first stop was the National Air and Space Museum. After getting our partners, the group split up to explore everything the museum had to offer. Not only having an IMAX theater, but the museum had live spacecraft, information, manikins, videos, tours, and all sorts of things. There was something for everyone of any age. I had the pleasure of noticing an exhibit about the first black airmen on a certain aircraft and also seeing an exhibit dealing with the first man on the moon, Neil Armstrong. After exploring the museum, the kids decided that we wanted to give George Bush a visit and we toured Washington, DC, and took pictures in front of the White House. We had one more stop to make before we got to the prime part of our day and that was to the Holocaust Museum. There we saw a reality check for many of the Youth Commissioners because we got to see the real events that happened during the Holocaust. Now for the most vital part of our day, we had our tour of the Capitol with our Congressman, Max Burns. Max Burns flew in from Georgia back to Washington, DC, to give your Youth Commissioners a tour of our nation's capital. With him we got to take a deep look inside our government, we got to learn and see things that most teenagers don't get to do, and the most memorable, we got to sit in our House of Representatives chairs. We got background information about statues and paintings and we were honored to have Congressman Burns be our tour guide. There we also sat in the most important chairs where not only important and famous, but critical and vital keys to our nation got to make decisions that determine our lives. After our tour we got something to eat at ESPN Zone and there most of the sports fans were entertained with all the games.

Youth Commissioner Morse said, the next day was Monday, and this is where most of our education came in. The Youth Commission was about to attend the National Association of Counties, also known as NACo. We were the only youth group there and so we represented for all children around. We got there and met many other Commissioners from all over the country. I had the privilege of sitting at the table of one of the Commissioners from Iowa. In the general session we were brought up about different ideas being pitched to our nation, one being an idea called Safe T, proposed by our own Secretary of Transportation. After that we split up into different workshops and I attended the workshop called Medicare Modernization Act of 2003. In this workshop we basically talked about different Medicare plans being formed, such as the HSA in the upcoming years. Many of our Youth Commissioners shocked some of them by asking questions, one to be put in the Washington paper and another to be announced to the whole association. All in all, the Youth Commission represented America's youth very well, and so well that they have asked us to prepare a workshop of our own teaching other counties how to create and organize a Youth Commission of their own. After agreeing, we headed for New York to get rest for the next day.

Youth Commissioner Morse said, Tuesday was New York. We got to sightsee, shop and go to one of the best television shows around, 106 and Park. Our first stop was Ground Zero. This is where our nation's Twin Towers used to stand. Here we got to see the reality of what happened on September 11th. Most of us were really shocked because seeing on TV is one thing, but to actually see in real life is another. After that we went to one of the most famous dessert restaurants of all time called Juniors. There most of the Youth Commissioners purchased their famous cheesecake. Finally, the part that everyone was anxious for: 106 and Park. Most of us wanted to be surprised and not know whom the guest were, so because of that we were real anxious to get inside. Because some of us didn't meet age requirements, the deal was that while some were inside, others got to do real good shopping, which was only fair. At 106 and Park the Youth Commissioners represented Savannah, Georgia, very well, got to meet many celebrities, got to laugh, sing and dance our hearts out. And to end a perfect day, we had a great time eating and enjoying laughter at Applebee's on Times Square.

Youth Commissioner Morse said, now for the last day. We got to be on another show, only this time we got to act as politicians. Fox and Friends were speaking out after Super Tuesday and asked some of our Youth Commissioners their opinions. So since we were asked, we paid a visit to Fox and Friends and Kyle Burnsed from Savannah Arts Academy and Patrick Callahan from Windsor Forest told their opinions on who should be elected in office. Kyle spoke from the Republican view while Patrick opposed and spoke from the Democratic view. To add a surprise, the anchor-man asked for someone who liked sports, and our very own Alex Salter came to the front and gave his enthusiastic opinion about the steroid situation. We were then given a tour of the studio, asked to return next year, and we left to head back to Washington, DC, for one more thing, and that was shopping. Now was a chance for everyone to shop. Well, we did make a temporary stop for a little education at the Arlington Cemetery and to visit the memorial for the Vietnam War. After that we headed to the Potomac Mills to spend about three hours shopping. The three hours didn't seem like long enough because once you got started on one side, you never made it to the end on the other side. Bags of all sizes and colors came back to the bus and not a single person came back empty handed. Now that we had learned, laughed, sang, danced, ate and shopped, we were heading back to Savannah, Georgia. We had gotten sleep on the way up, so most of the way back people talked about what they bought, talked about the experience we had, and sooner or later everyone fell asleep again. We had a lot of fun and we have the Chatham County Commissioners to thank for that. These were all opportunities that not every student gets a chance to do, and for you all to give us this opportunity, we show much appreciation. We would like to thank you for supporting us as we went on this wonderful life-changing experience. We are honored to be called the Chatham County Youth Commission.

Commissioner Thomas said, I'm going to ask Ms. Connie Roberts to come forward and I'm going to ask Ms. Allen to join here. I'm having to take it slow. I dropped a —, I mean, I didn't drop it, but it fell off the wall at my church, a fire extinguisher, and I didn't get a broken foot or anything but it's pretty well banged up. Commissioner Odell said, Dr. Thomas, we handle those kind of cases. Dr. Thomas asked, you do? Well, thank you, thank you very much. I know my pastor and the church people would not want to hear that. But this is very important and kind of sad to me in a way too because Ms. Roberts has served with the Chatham County Youth Commission ever since its inception, and she is moving on now to another job in another area and probably will not be working with us in the future. So I wanted to, on behalf of the Chatham County Commissioners, to present to here this certificate for dedicated service to and support of the youth of the Chatham County Commission. You have really served us well and I want to say that these are all volunteer hours, and walking those halls early in the mornings, two and three in the mornings, to make sure that no one goes into anybody's room and that kind of thing. You know, while I slept they were walking the halls to ensure, you know, that everything went fine, and it takes a lot of dedication and you have to have a love for this kind of thing in order to keep the rigid schedule that Mr. Johnson makes up. So on behalf of the Chatham County Commission and the Youth Commissioners, we would like to present to you this certificate, and thank you so very much and we wish you God speed in your new endeavor.

Ms. Connie Roberts said, I'd just like to thank Dr. Thomas, Mr. Johnson, Ms. Allen, Mr. Nichols, the Chatham County Commission for allowing me to serve in such a great capacity with these youth, and as they always say, once a Youth Commissioner, always a Youth Commissioner. Once a Youth Commissioner advisor, always a Youth Commissioner advisor. Thank you. Chairman Hair said, thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you very much. One last thing, Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission, I'd like to ask Mrs. Montine Earls if she would come forward. She shared something with us at the last meeting and I thought it was very good and I think it's very appropriate that she share this with you at this time. Thank you so very much.

Ms. Montine Earls said, Montine Earls. I had asked about attending one of their meetings, and I've been sitting here watching these young people. So I was really amazed. These people are the future. I want them supported 100%.

They do it in a very friendly, happy, fun atmosphere, but they are learning every step of the way. So please —, I sat there and I watched them and I want to tell you, they judge their peers. At that meeting there were some of the kids that they had to make a decision on whether they would continue to be on that Commission. So they each one had to come up before the others and explain what had been going on with their life to put them in that position. Then they voted on each one of them. So they are making the decision on whether these kids should continue on, and I was just amazed the way they did it. I'm proud of them. Please support these kids and this Youth Commission. Thank you.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Ms. Earls. We appreciate that very much. Commissioner Thomas said, thank you very much.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Reports on the annual trip of the Youth Commissioners to Washington, DC, and NACo, and to New York City were received as information.

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2. DESIGNATING A SECTION OF JOHNNY MERCER DRIVE BETWEEN BRYAN WOODS ROAD AND THE SPENCER GRAYSON BRIDGE AS THE "PAUL BAXTER MEMORIAL MEDIAN" IN RECOGNITION OF HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COMMUNITY (COMMISSIONER MURRAY).

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, I'd like to ask if anybody in the audience that came for this if you would come forward also please. A number of years ago when Johnny Mercer Boulevard was widened, there was one particular median from Bryan Woods Road down to the bridge in front of Turner's [inaudible]. This was planted, palm trees were planted and the palm trees died and they were replanted and they died. That was named the Dead Palm Tree Median and we got a lot of flack for that as a Commission for not doing something about it. We worked with the Islands Citizens for Logical Growth, one person in particular, Paul Baxter, who is deceased now, who spearheaded this project and they came and they planted, they raised the funding and also put a sprinkler system in and it's a lot nicer now than anything, and there was a request from the citizens to name this the Paul Baxter Memorial Median since he was so instrumental in getting the project done, and I have a proclamation that I would like to read. If y'all can get this to Mrs. Baxter, I know she's in Virginia now if I'm not mistaken. The proclamation reads:

WHEREAS, the landscaped median on Johnny Mercer Boulevard from Bryan Woods Road to the Spence Grayson Bridge serves as a reminder of how the volunteer spirit of citizens can make a difference in the betterment of a community; and

WHEREAS, Islands Citizens for Logical Growth (ICLG) assumed replanting of the median in the early 1990s as a project because of its importance as a major gateway to Wilmington Island and its importance to the beauty of Johnny Mercer Boulevard, a nationally-designated scenic highway; and

WHEREAS, as a member of ICLG, Paul Preston Baxter, a long-time resident of Wilmington Island and well-respected civic activist, assumed leadership of the project; and

WHEREAS, through his dedication to the success of the project, Mr. Baxter exercised noteworthy leadership in obtaining support from Chatham County government and donations from the business community and civic organizations to complete a landscaping project that not only complements the surrounding pristine setting of marsh and the beauty of tree-lined Johnny Mercer Boulevard but also provides an irrigation system that enables the trees and flora to flourish.

NOW, THEREFORE, while Mr. Baxter died August 2003, the project for which he provided exemplary leadership remains as a testament to the power of citizen volunteerism, and it would be appropriate and proper to remember the significance of his personal contribution by designating the median on Johnny Mercer Boulevard from Bryan Woods Road to the Spence Grayson Bridge as "The Paul Baxter Memorial Median."

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this designation be memorialized by appropriate bronze markers, which will be funded through private donations, and unveiled at a ceremony to be scheduled; nothing herein prohibits designation by other appropriate public highway signage, which shall be placed in conformance with uniform traffic codes.

ADOPTED THIS 26th day of March, 2004, by the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County.

Dr. Billy B. Hair, Chairman

Attest:

Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

Commissioner Murray said, we appreciate it and if we'll make sure that his wife is available for that unveiling of the plaques.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Murray, it might be appropriate just to make it official if you want to actually vote on it since we haven't voted on it before.

Commissioner Murray said, yeah, I would move that we approve of the resolution that we just read. Chairman Hair asked, second. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved that the median on Johnny Mercer Boulevard from Bryan Woods Road to the Spence Grayson Bridge be designated as "The Paul Baxter Memorial Median" and that this designation be memorialized by appropriate bronze markers, which will be funded through private donations, and unveiled at a ceremony to be scheduled. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present.]

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3. FRIENDS OF THE LIVE OAK LIBRARIES, SIGMUND HUDSON AND GEORGE HUBBY—PRESENTATION NOT TO EXCEED 5 MINUTES (COMMISSIONER THOMAS).

Chairman Hair said, I'll call on Dr. Thomas to introduce it.

Commissioner Thomas said, yes. We have two speakers that will come before us this morning, and would you please introduce yourselves.

Mr. George Hubby said, absolutely. Mr. Chairman and Commissioners, every year at this time we come here. I, myself am [inaudible] of the Friends of the Live Oak Public Libraries. You've seen me before and probably will see me again. We're going to move through our part of the agenda very crisply in the interest of time. You have a handout in front of you I believe. First, just to remind you of who the Friends of the Library are, I don't need to talk about everything on the slide, but the most important thing is that we are independent of the management of the library, we're a group of citizens from the three county area, and so we're here at this time outside of the budget time to talk about our view of what's going well at the library and one thing that isn't going so well. I direct your attention to this graphic chart. This has to do with the thing that is not going so well. It's the funding for books and materials. Books and materials are the books, the videos, the CD-ROM's, the licensing of any database used at any library in Chatham County. That is, everything the public touches, uses and checks out, except for the computers themselves. The top line on here is the spending per citizen for other libraries of a similar size to our own. The bottom line, which is considerably below the top one obviously, is our own spending in Chatham County by the Commission-approved budgets on books and materials. There are two conclusions you come to from this chart. Number one, the County is spending significantly less per each citizen than the average of similar libraries in the United States. In fact, less than 25%. The second conclusion you come to is this is a saw-toothed curve. It's going up and down and up and down, and I would guess that this is driving librarians nuts because they can't count on a stable budget and they also can't count on any increase in it. So my summary on this chart is to remember this chart at budget time and do your best within the constraints you have to do two things: Increase the amount on the materials that are used by the public and do so without the up and down jerky movement from year to year. The second thing I want to comment on is something very positive. It's the Business Center that's at the Oglethorpe Mall Branch, and I have several brochures in here describing it and some testimonials, but I also have in writing my comments, which are on a page that looks like this, so I don't need to say everything that's on the page. Suffice it to say that the center at the Oglethorpe Mall Branch is focused on helping small business. It has networking going on with the four or five organizations at the bottom of the page to provide help to small business in growing itself, being successful, adding to the tax base, et cetera. And attached in this packet is a newspaper article, which looks like this with a big kind of semicircle on it, which has written testimonials from users of the Business Center at the Oglethorpe Mall Branch, but I always think that it's one thing to look at a piece of the media, it's another to have a live testimonial so I'd like you to meet Al Burnsed.

Mr. Al Burnsed said, Commissioner Hair, co-Commissioners, I'm Al Burnsed and I'm an independent business owner here in Savannah, Chatham County, and I'm here just to speak on behalf of the Business Center there at Oglethorpe Mall and the benefit this database has been for me and other business people that I've seen using that there in the library. Being in sales I need to know information about businesses and who's the decision makers, size of the business and employees and things like that. I've been able to use those databases to some advantage, great advantage, one particular called Reference USA. As I understand in talking with the librarians out there, it is a very expensive database that is the most useful database that —, of any that they have out there as far as business people, I think. Now, I've talked to other business people that have said the same thing. I had gotten used to using that at one point, and because of the budget crisis or the lack of funding there, they had to cease using that, and I'm telling you, it was quite a difference in being able to operate without the access to that database versus having it. The other thing, it was online so that you could access it remotely from the library, and when it went away, it was a real mess. But when it came back, they brought it back in a limited fashion, but also without remote access. And I'm just here to speak in support of that and hoping if you can give enough funding that —, possibly that it could be restored to remote access and the reason being, as you may know, a salesperson, if you're not in front of a prospect, you're really unemployed,

and the only time that you can access that, being in the library during library hours, I find that I have to take productive time to be in the library to access the database, where if it was on remote I could do that at off hours. You may say, "Well, the library's open until nine o'clock. Why don't you go out at night?" Well, just the biggest problem there, you allocate thirty minutes use on the computer, and I understand that as being a restraint, and when you go after school gets out in the afternoon, they've got a lot of students doing research and things like that using computers, so you really can't utilize that time. So I just speak very highly for the efforts that those guys out there at the Small Business Center are doing to help the small business people here in Savannah, Georgia, and I encourage your support in any way that you can there for that, and I appreciate the opportunity to speak to you.

Chairman Hair said, thank you. We appreciate you being here. Anybody else want to make a comment? Chairman Hair recognized Youth Commissioner Morse.

Youth Commissioner Morse said, I have a question. What was the name of the database that he used? Chairman Hair asked, what's the database name again? Mr. Burnsed said, Reference USA. Chairman Hair said, Reference USA. Mr. Burnsed said, Reference USA.

Mr. Sigmund Hudson said, I'm Sigmund Hudson, Vice President of Friends. I just want to say a few words about the computer classes. Library users today have a —, need to have an elementary familiarity with computers. For example, the card catalog where you stood and searched for books and authors and topics is only available with computers. You've just heard about the use of computer databases at the Oglethorpe Mall Branch. Users of the Genealogy and History Room at the Bull Street Branch make heavy use of computers in their tools for searching, and so many libraries across the United States have provided computer classes for the public. At our Live Oak Public Libraries there are a variety of computer classes. You can see those on your handouts. Here are some of the typical users of these classes. There are the beginners. Some and many of these are senior citizens. Beginners take courses on the library catalog or take the class on the Internet and E-mail, thereby becoming better library users. This catalog course teaches users how to get to the library website from their home or elsewhere, how to search the online catalog for various topics, how to renew a book that they've already checked out, how to get on a waiting list for a very popular book, or how to locate a branch where a particular book is located. And then we have users who are people in the job market. They wish to increase their job skills and they take mainly Microsoft Office classes. We have volunteers. Volunteers work for nonprofits and many nonprofits use computers to help with their membership lists and with their financial management. There are the high school and college students. They can take classes on Galileo. That's the Georgia online database consortium. There are classes that they can take for learning skills, for taking the Georgia high school graduation test. One of our teachers, Mark Darby, has just appeared before a number of parent groups and before the Board of Education. And then there are the genealogy and Georgia history researchers. These could be either beginners or experts and the genealogy staff teach their own courses. Today we have with us a user of some of these computer classes. Here is Mildred Rivers.

Ms. Mildred Rivers said, good evening or afternoon. My name is Mildred Rivers. I recently relocated to Savannah from New York and the Bull Street Library is far superior in computer classes and lab than the one on Fifth Avenue and 40th Street in New York. I was in the library one day and I asked a library staff person how to use the catalog on the computer to look up information. She told me she knew nothing about it. Fortunately, a person overheard my question who were taking the computer classes and gave me the information and told me to join. In December I started taking whatever class I could get in because you have a waiting list and the hours are not where it can accommodate so many people. Now I'm able to use E-mail, PowerPoint, Excel, Travel, sit in my home and order my tickets from the Civic Center and pick my seat. I'm banking online. This is something I said I would never do. And these classes have made my life a lot easier. I don't even buy as many stamps anymore. I pay bills by mail [sic]. Now in these classes there is a guy —, there's two instructors that I know by name, Mark and Al. There is nothing that I could tell you —, they're superior. They're loving, they're kind and they teach with a passion, and understand they're both visual and verbal. Every question is answered. Friday is what I call potluck day. That's from two to six and you can work on whatever is the preference to you and, of course, you might have twelve people with different problems, but they take their time with each one. Now what is learned in a Saturday class, which is from two to six? Usually it's introduction, intermediate and advanced. When you finish that class you can go home and use that program immediately because of the instruction. This —, what they give you on Saturday usually takes in most places two to six weeks —, six to eight weeks. This is from two to six and you can go home and use it. More class hours are needed. It is important that anyone who would wish to take the opportunity to learn these classes has that opportunity. Everything you do now has some computer function. It should be mandatory that all staff personnel take these classes in order to help the users. More classes, I say again, are needed and especially like the Friday class where you have so many people with different topics. There was —, I would like to give an example of that. On one Friday there was a young man that came in that needed to pay a bill by five and, therefore, he wouldn't have to pay \$30 extra. They took the time to help this guy. He paid that bill and left in five minutes, and I'm going to tell you, he was so ecstatic he immediately signed up for a class. The other thing is election day. There are so many seniors, and which I am one, that are afraid of a computer, and I noticed on election day they would come out and they said they lost their vote. They lost their vote because they were afraid of computers. With this kind of service that the Bull Street Library offers, they wouldn't have that fear because they would go there and know that they can't hurt the computer, which I had to learn. So I just want to thank you for this opportunity and I would ask that if it's all possible that you would make it where we could have more hours and more classes. Thank you very much.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, ma'am. That was very good.

Mr. Sigmund Hudson said, I have thirty seconds of summary. With its present resources the Live Oak Public Libraries have staff management programs that are struggling to bring needed and desired information and knowledge to the citizens of Chatham County. And, secondly, the materials [inaudible] budget, which provides most of what the public

can get their hands on, has been underfunded and in an erratic manner in the five years that the Friends have been tracking it. The Friends urge you to provide for fair and responsible funding. In closing, we remember the anniversary just a few days ago, that was March 12th, when in 1901 Andrew Carnegie gave New York City five million dollars to construct 65 libraries. He had just sold Carnegie Steel Company and had decided to retire to give away his money. He later gave away money to create 2,500 libraries across this country. Carnegie said, "The man who enters the library is in the best society this world affords. The good and the great welcome him, surround him and humbly ask to be allowed to become his servants." Thank you.

Chairman Hair said, thank you. We appreciate y'all being here today and I'm sure that this Board will carefully consider those comments at budget time. Thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you very much.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Several members of the Friends of the Library spoke regarding the need for additional financing for the Live Oak Public Libraries. Their testimonials were received as information.

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VIII. TABLED/POSTPONED ITEMS

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

1. **QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE REGARDING THE MID-YEAR BUDGET REPORT. AGAIN, IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF STAFF WOULD RECEIVE THESE QUERIES IN ADVANCE OF THIS MEETING.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

This item was not untabled and placed before the Commissioners for consideration.

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2. **RECEIVE PROPOSED CASH FLOW PLAN FOR CURRENT SPLOST AS INFORMATION AND BE PREPARED TO MAKE A DECISION ON THE 12TH OF MARCH. *Tabled at meeting of February 27, 2004.***

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

This item was not untabled and placed before the Commissioners for consideration.

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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 APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING: A SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT CONTINGENCY TRANSFER OF \$30,000 TO THE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT TO FUND A CONTRACT FOR THE FINAL UNINCORPORATED CHATHAM COUNTY STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN; AN APPROPRIATION OF \$31,450 PARKING GARAGE FUND NET ASSETS FOR COMPUTER EQUIPMENT, AN AMENDMENT TO THE CHILD SUPPORT RECOVERY FUND TO RECOGNIZE \$226,170 IN REVENUE AND APPROPRIATE \$226,170 FOR INDIRECT COST ALLOCATION (IDC) PAYMENTS TO THE GENERAL FUND M&O; AND AN AMENDMENT TO THE GENERAL FUND M&O TO RECOGNIZE \$226,170 IN REVENUE AND APPROPRIATE \$226,170 TO RESTRICTED CONTINGENCY, AND A GENERAL FUND M&O CONTINGENCY TRANSFER OF \$50,000 TO THE TEMPORARY LABOR POOL.**

Chairman Hair said, I'll entertain a motion. Commissioner Odell said, move for approval. Chairman Hair asked, second? Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner McMasters.

Commissioner McMasters said, Russ [Abolt] —. County Manager Abolt said, yes sir. Commissioner McMasters said, let me apologize in advance for not getting these questions to you earlier. In the Facts and Findings it says that a letter dated September 4, 2003, from the EPD notified Chatham County that the current Stormwater Management Plan does not meet new requirements. When were the new requirements enacted? County Manager Abolt said, I would have to defer to staff on that. This is something we have been working through MPC with. Bill [Uhl], come forward please.

Mr. Bill Uhl is our stormwater expert, but we've had to do this on a regional basis for all the right reasons and now with MPC leadership we're finally sharing the burden, as we should. Mr. Uhl said, yes, good morning. I'm Bill Uhl. I work with the Engineering Department for you folks. Yes, this is pretty much a complete revamp of the existing Stormwater Management Plan that we've been operating under. We received a letter last September from EPD informing us of that requirement. We shared that information with MPC, as did other municipalities, and came to the conclusion of the best way to approach this requirement. All the other municipalities have to update theirs also. And the big issue here is that all these Stormwater Management Plans have to be individualized. Before, it was kind of a common plan for all municipalities and the County together, but now it has to be individualized with specific components that the County or each municipality have to be identified and essentially seven different plans. I think that's right. The MPC worked with the County and municipal staff and came to the conclusion that the best way to do this was to hire a consultant to develop a model plan that all municipalities and the County could use to basically fill in the blank and create individualized plans. They're doing that and that draft plan is about ready. The next step would be to take the draft plan and complete it, and right now the staff doesn't have time or expertise to do that.

Chairman Hair said, Bill [Uhl], I don't think that addresses Commissioner McMasters' question. I think he just needs the answer to his questions. That's all —, that's nice, well and good, but that's not the answer to his question. Mr. Uhl said, I'm sorry.

Commissioner McMasters said, I'll restate the question, Mr. Uhl. When were we first informed about the new requirements? Mr. Uhl said, September. Commissioner McMasters said, so the September 4th letter is the first notification —? Mr. Uhl said, about the —, yes. Commissioner McMasters said, okay. It says that the —, to assist the County to comply with these new requirements the Metropolitan Planning Commission contracted with a consultant to prepare a Model Stormwater Management Plan. Mr. Uhl said, yes. The Clerk asked, can you speak up because the mikes aren't —? Commissioner McMasters said, yeah, I'm sorry. The Clerk said, thank you. County Manager Abolt said, we have no audio at all. Commissioner McMasters said, I presume from this Facts and Findings information that the Metropolitan Planning Commission hired someone to start this work. Mr. Uhl said, that's correct. Commissioner McMasters said, okay. This \$30,000 is that part of the funding that's needed to pay for the work that MPC's contractor —? Mr. Uhl said, no sir —. Commissioner McMasters asked, that's separate? Mr. Uhl said, no sir, that money was separate. It was already paid to MPC under, I think, the educational programs. That's money already sent to MPC for the draft. Now this \$30,000 is in addition. This is for our [inaudible]. Commissioner McMasters said, okay. Let's keep working through this. It says when the model's completed, it's to be used by local governments, and I presume Pooler, Port Wentworth, Bloomingdale —. Mr. Uhl said, yes sir. Commissioner McMasters said, — Tybee, Thunderbolt. Mr. Uhl said, correct. Commissioner McMasters said, my question is are we going to give that to those municipalities free of charge or are they participating in the cost? Mr. Uhl said, the model plan that MPC is doing will be given to each community. The individual plan we are doing only for the County. Pooler will do their own individual plan, Bloomingdale will do their own. Commissioner McMasters said, well, the language here says that we're going to give it to the other municipalities, and I know you didn't prepare this. This is Mr. Bungard's document. Mr. Uhl said, the \$30,000 is for a consultant to work directly and only for Chatham County. County Manager Abolt said, unincorporated Chatham. Commissioner McMasters said, unincorporated Chatham County. Mr. Uhl said, yes. Commissioner McMasters said, okay. It says in the third Facts and Findings, staff believes the consultant most qualified to perform this work is the consultant currently under contract with the Metropolitan Planning Commission and was hired by the Metropolitan Planning Commission. Mr. Uhl said, that's correct. Commissioner McMasters asked, was there —, to your knowledge was there an RFP issued originally? Mr. Uhl said, yes sir. Commissioner McMasters asked, there was? Mr. Uhl said, yes sir. Commissioner McMasters said, okay. Do you know if this firm, Integrated Science & Engineering, is a Chatham County firm? Mr. Uhl said, they have an office in Chatham County. Commissioner McMasters said, okay. Do you know how much the Planning Commission by chance paid for their original contract with this firm? Mr. Uhl said, I believe the number was \$30,000. Commissioner McMasters said, so it's just an identical —, just coincidence that it's an identical number to the amount that we're looking for for the unincorporated Stormwater Management Plan. Mr. Uhl said, yes, it is. Commissioner McMasters said, oh, thank you.

Vice Chairman Thomas recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, the MPC, if I understood you correctly, will be giving this plan to all the municipalities. Is that correct? Mr. Uhl said, absolutely. Commissioner Murray asked, are the municipalities paying anything to MPC for this? Mr. Uhl said, they have all contributed to MPC as —. Commissioner Murray said, okay, that answered my question because the MPC is funded by the unincorporated area's budget and by the City of Savannah and that's why I just wanted to make sure that we weren't funding that out of the unincorporated area.

Vice Chairman Thomas asked, any further questions. One further question? Commissioner McMasters said, not a —. Vice Chairman Thomas said, there's a motion and a second —. Commissioner McMasters said, well, there's another item within this block of information that has to do with the temporary pool funds transfer. Chairman Hair said, go ahead. We have a motion and a second to approve the whole thing, so go ahead.

Commissioner McMasters said, okay. I'd like to know if this transfer of funds was budgeted. Was this amount budgeted in FY04 for temporary help? County Manager Abolt said, you budgeted \$172,000 approximately, which is

a fairly a flat figure. Where this comes about is that there are certain departments and subsets of departments that there's a funding below the recommendation, and I'll give you an example, which is very illustrious of the situation. Administrative Services. It's somewhat of an innocuous title, but in this particular case, as we all know, it does all of the filing of information, records for the courts, and they have had to, because the work load will not diminish, in fact increase, rely heavily on this temporary pool. Not only does it drain the money, but we also cannot retain people that eventually know how to do the job and must move on, but it is critical for us. This is one area, and I will highlight it again in my budget request to you come May-June, Admin Services particularly and some other departments are very thin from the standpoint of how they can respond and right now the job does not diminish, people are not there to do the job when we want them to be there for a variety of reasons and we dip into temporary pool. Commissioner McMasters said, my question is are we going to be over budget in the temporary —? County Manager Abolt said, if you do not make this shift, yes, you will. You have about \$171,000, \$172,000 that's been budgeted. In anticipation of the pool drying up, we're asking to replenish the money now. Commissioner McMasters said, so we're short in FY04? Commissioner McMasters said, no sir. If we continue to spend with the appetite we have to use the temporary pool, we're going to run out of money before the end of the year. This move is to put the money in before we do that. If the money is not there, the pool goes away and then we have real problems. Commissioner McMasters said, I understand that we can move money around, Russ [Abolt], but originally in FY04 there were budgets established, and correct me if I'm wrong here, for temporary pool. County Manager Abolt said, yes sir. Commissioner McMasters said, and we're —. County Manager Abolt said, but the budget was put together with certain assumptions and the assumptions are that we would have at the level that the department might recommend funds within that department to do the work. When the budget were finally adopted, there were several changes made, and those changes —, and I'll give you the example again, Mr. Leonard's Admin Services —, there were some cuts made beyond the level that we had recommended. We certainly adhere to that, but we have the situation we cannot control the volume of work and when the work has to be done, the only fallback position we've had over the years is temporary labor. The temporary labor was not up when the budget was adopted because there were cuts elsewhere. The idea was within the means that we had in front of us we would nurture every penny we had in there, but the work load is not diminishing, witness Admin Services. We see a need to continue some level of substituting with temporary people to get the job done. Absent that, Mr. Leonard cannot do his job, and that's only one example. Commissioner McMasters said, well, it's not Mr. Leonard, it's Administrative Services —. County Manager Abolt said, which is Mr. Leonard. Commissioner McMasters said, — Court Administrator, Detention Center, District Attorney, Engineering, Facilities Maintenance, Finance, Human Resources, Probate Court, Purchasing and Voter Registration. All of those departments —. County Manager Abolt said, well, some of them are not departments, they're subsets of departments. Commissioner McMasters said, well, forgive me. All of those groups have the need because they could not manage the work that naturally came to them to hire above and beyond —. County Manager Abolt said, yes, that's a fair statement. Also, they might have, and I'd like, for example, my office. You might have a very lean staff, you might have a person that is ill, you have a need to keep the office open, so you rely on temporary pool, and you have no way of forecasting that. Commissioner McMasters said, thank you.

Chairman Hair said, motion and second. All those in favor of the motion vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to approve the following: a Special Service District contingency transfer of \$30,000 to the Engineering Department to fund a contract for the final Unincorporated Chatham County Stormwater Management Plan; an appropriation of \$31,450 Parking Garage fund net assets for computer equipment, an amendment to the Child Support Recovery fund to recognize \$226,170 in revenue and appropriate \$226,170 for indirect cost allocation (IDC) payments to the General Fund M&O; and an amendment to the General Fund M&O to recognize \$226,170 in revenue and appropriate \$226,170 to Restricted Contingency, and a General Fund M&O contingency transfer of \$50,000 to the Temporary Labor Pool. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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2. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL FOR A MPD BUDGET ANALYST AS PROVIDED IN THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR JOINT POLICE SERVICES.

Chairman Hair said, I'll entertain a motion. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, I move to put it on the table. Chairman Hair said, it's on the table. Chairman Hair said, it's on the table. Commissioner Murray said, I mean move to untable it. Chairman Hair said, it's not tabled. Commissioner Murray said, oh, it's not. Chairman Hair said, we just moved it. That's all we did. Commissioner Murray said, oh, okay. Chairman Hair said, it's not [inaudible]. I'll call on you. Commissioner Murray said, well, I would make a motion to approve it first, but with some discussion. Chairman Hair said, okay. Did we get a second? Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, okay, I got a second.

Commissioner Murray said, at our last meeting there were concerns, and I certainly understand both sides of this and those that had concerns about hiring another persons and those of us that supported hiring this person. There were some questions asked. We've never really received a lot of information other than it was needed. And, Russ [Abolt], I'd like to ask a question of you. County Manager Abolt said, yes sir. Commissioner Murray asked, barring any emergencies or unforeseen expenses that come up, if this position is hired and we approve it, can you tell us at that

point that we would stay in line with our budget, if that is —, barring the —? County Manager Abolt said, yes sir, I can, and I will further go on record as saying I had this similar conversation with Chief Flynn, who is also saying this. Commissioner Murray said, that's all I have.

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

Commissioner Odell said, you've got —? Chairman Hair asked, yes? Ms. Jeanne Valentine asked, would you all speak up because we're having trouble hearing? Chairman Hair said, okay. Ms. Valentine said, when you hit 29 —. Chairman Hair said, we'll try to do that, ma'am. Commissioner Murray said, I thought it was 26. Chairman Hair said, nobody's ever accused me of speaking softly in the past. You're the first. I do, I really do appreciate that compliment.

Ms. Montine Earls asked, what was the motion? Commissioner Murray said, the motion was that we approve the —. Chairman Hair said, a Budget Analyst and it passed unanimous. Okay.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to approve a MPD Budget Analyst as provided in the intergovernmental agreement for joint police services. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Rivers was not present.]

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3. REQUEST BOARD CONFIRM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SIGNATURE ON A GRANTEE-SUBGRANTEE AGREEMENT TO ACCEPT A HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT FROM THE GEORGIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY.

Chairman Hair said, I'll entertain a motion. Commissioner Murray said, move for approval. Chairman Hair asked, second. Commissioner Gellatly said, second. Chairman Hair asked, any discussion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to approve the request that the Board confirm the signature of the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners on a Grantee-Subgrantee Agreement to accept a Homeland Security Grant from the Georgia Emergency Management Agency. Commissioner Gellatly seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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X. ACTION CALENDAR

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

Chairman Hair said, I'll entertain a motion to approve the balance of the Action Calendar minus Items 12, 14, G and I. Commissioner Rayno said, so moved. Commissioner McMasters said, second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved that the Action Calendar be approved in its entirety with the exception of Items 12, 14, 16-G and 16-I. Commissioner McMasters seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

[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 FOR THE PRE-MEETING AND REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 12, 2004, AS MAILED.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved to approve the minutes for the pre-meeting and regular meeting of March 12, 2004, as mailed. Commissioner McMasters seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

=====

2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 4 THROUGH MARCH 17, 2004.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved that the Finance Director is authorized to pay claims for the period March 4, 2004, through March 17, 2004, in the amount of \$2,370,323. Commissioner McMasters seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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**3. REQUEST FROM ENGINEER FOR THE DEVELOPER, HGB&D, TO RECORD THE SUBDIVISION PLAT FOR LEGACY SQUARE PHASE 2B, ACCEPT THE FINANCIAL GUARANTEE, AND RECOMBINE THIS PHASE INTO THE EXISTING LEGACY SQUARE STREETLIGHTING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT.
[DISTRICT 7.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved to approve a request from engineer for the Developer, Hussey, Gay, Bell & DeYoung, to record the subdivision plat for Legacy Square, Phase 2B, accept the financial guarantee, and recombine this phase into the existing Legacy Square Streetlighting Assessment District. Commissioner McMasters seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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**4. REQUEST FROM HGB&D, ENGINEER FOR THE DEVELOPER, JAMES CORDE COMPANY, TO ACCEPT THE PAVING AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS AT VILLAGE GREEN SUBDIVISION, PHASE 4, FOR COUNTY MAINTENANCE.
[DISTRICT 7.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved to approve a request from Hussey, Gay, Bell & DeYoung, engineer for the developer, James Corde Company, to accept the paving and drainage improvements at Village Green Subdivision, Phase 4, for County maintenance. Commissioner McMasters seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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**5. REQUEST FROM HGB&D, ENGINEER FOR THE DEVELOPER, JAMES CORDE COMPANY, TO ACCEPT THE PAVING AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS AT THE VILLAGE GREEN SUBDIVISION, PHASE 5, FOR COUNTY MAINTENANCE.
[DISTRICT 7.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved to approve a request from Hussey, Gay, Bell & DeYoung, engineer for the developer, James Corde Company, to accept the paving and drainage improvements at Village Green Subdivision, Phase 5, for County maintenance. Commissioner McMasters seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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**6. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT #2 BETWEEN THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (GDOT) AND CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE WHITFIELD AVENUE WIDENING PROJECT AND TO APPROVE A CONTRACT FOR ACQUISITION OF RIGHT-OF-WAY.
[DISTRICT 1.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved to approve Supplemental Agreement #2 between the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and Chatham County for the Whitfield Avenue Widening Project and to approve a contract for acquisition of right-of-way. Commissioner McMasters seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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- 7. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE SUPPLEMENTAL AGREEMENT #2 BETWEEN THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (GDOT) AND CHATHAM COUNTY FOR TRUMAN PARKWAY, PHASE 5, AND TO APPROVE A CONTRACT FOR ACQUISITION OF RIGHT-OF-WAY. [DISTRICT 1 & 6.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved to approve Supplemental Agreement #2 between the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and Chatham County for Truman Parkway, Phase 5, and to approve a contract for acquisition of right-of-way. Commissioner McMasters seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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- 8. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE CONTRACTS FOR ACQUISITION OF RIGHT-OF-WAY WITH THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (GDOT) FOR THE ABERCORN STREET (SR 204) INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS AT APACHE AVENUE, LARGO DRIVE, TIBET AVENUE, OGLETHORPE MALL AND DERENNE AVENUE. [DISTRICTS 1, 5 & 6.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved to approve contracts for acquisition of right-of-way with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) for the Abercorn Street (SR204) Intersection Improvements at Apache Avenue, Largo Drive, Tibet Avenue, Oglethorpe Mall and DeRenne Avenue. Commissioner McMasters seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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- 9. REQUEST BOARD DECLARE AS SURPLUS A SUBSTANDARD-SIZED VACANT LOT IN THE CITY OF SAVANNAH AT 1805 LEGRAND STREET AND AUCTION THE COUNTY'S INTEREST IN THIS PROPERTY HELD BY TAX DEED. [DISTRICT 2.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved to declare as surplus a substandard-sized vacant lot in the City of Savannah at 1805 LeGrand Street (PIN 2-0064-15-011) and auction the County's interest in this property held by tax deed, as provided by Georgia law, including the issuance of a quitclaim deed. Commissioner McMasters seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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- 10. REQUEST BOARD CONVEY CHATHAM COUNTY'S INTEREST IN A VACANT LOT AT 921 WEST 37TH STREET TO THE CITY OF SAVANNAH. [DISTRICT 8.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved to authorize staff to convey Chatham County's interest in a vacant lot at 921 West 37th Street (PIN 2-0067-13-026) to the City of Savannah. Commissioner McMasters seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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**11. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE EXECUTION OF A UTILITY EASEMENT ON COLEMAN BOULEVARD IN POOLER AS PART OF THE PROJECT TO EXTEND SEWER SERVICE TO TOM TRIPLETT COMMUNITY PARK.
[DISTRICT 7.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved to approve the execution of a utility easement on Coleman Boulevard in Pooler as part of the project to extend sewer service to Tom Triplett Community Park to allow Chatham County to install and maintain a four-inch force main to connect Chatham County's sewer system at the Savannah Port Authority Industrial Park to restrooms at Tom Triplett Community Park. Commissioner McMasters seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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12. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING OF THE OPERATION OF LIVE OAK PUBLIC LIBRARIES, CHATHAM COUNTY LIBRARY BOARD AND REGIONAL LIBRARY BOARD.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner McMasters.

Commissioner McMasters said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. In reading this, I —, the basic essence of this, Mr. Johnson, is that the Library would like to receive its funding from the County on a quarterly basis. Is that correct? Mr. Bill Johnson said, yes sir. Commissioner McMasters said, help me understand, what problems have you encountered doing it the way we're currently doing it? Mr. Johnson said, well, from the Library's point of view we have a seven and a half million dollar budget, five million of which, approximately, four point nine million of which is countered on a separate set of accounts that we don't control and we don't have good access to. It creates a lot of confusion for us. I think particularly at the close of the year, it creates confusion for County Finance because of the need to meet maintenance of effort requirements there's always some question at the end of the year as to how much money the Library actually has left to spend. It's just —, it's not an efficient way to do things. County Manager Abolt said, permit me, this is one of the innovations recommended in the budget message we want to get in place, similar to what we do for CEMA, MPC and other agencies. Commissioner McMasters said, yeah, I want to support this, I just want to understand the history versus the recommendation, and it —, essentially your own finance people have some challenges with funding as committed in the budget from the County either at year end or whenever you all are doing your books. Mr. Johnson said, there's always a challenge for us formulating just how much money we have left. Commissioner McMasters said, although Budget had originally budgeted —. Mr. Johnson said, yes. Commissioner McMasters said, so there's shortfalls. Mr. Johnson said, yes. Commissioner McMasters said, maintenance of effort. Mr. Johnson said, yes. Commissioner McMasters said, I mean, that was a shortfall. Mr. Johnson said, that has occurred. Commissioner McMasters said, the concept of moving our committed budgets over to you quarterly makes a lot of sense. I wonder if there's any sound reason that perhaps your SPLOST allocations, which are dedicated to the Library, should not also be moved. Would that have any —? Mr. Johnson said, we —. Commissioner McMasters said, I mean, you have your own Finance —. Mr. Johnson said, when SPLOST allocations come to us, they come to us under an intergovernmental agreement, a separate intergovernmental agreement that governs that SPLOST money, and that —, the provisions of that agreement can vary. When we did —, well, the Bull Street Library, for example, we had State money involved in the project. The State required that the money be turned over to the Library in a lump sum at the beginning of the project. There was no problem doing there. There's nothing in this agreement, and Mr. Hart can correct me if I'm wrong, but I think there's nothing in this agreement that prevents that kind of arrangement in the future. County Attorney Hart said, it's flexible. Paragraph 17 was designed in that agreement to ensure that, you know, there was the right of the Library to participate in capital improvement programs for SPLOST and, you know, as we do with any other organization that has somewhat of an arms length from us, we require an operating agreement with them that pretty much says you're going to abide by the SPLOST rules, and then as they have a project, we fund them according —, based on cash flow.

Commissioner McMasters asked, as the SPLOST funds accumulate for Library projects, is all of the interest money that accrues in those accounts spent on the Library? County Attorney Hart said, that's beyond me. I don't know. Mr. Johnson said, that varies by project, Commissioner. The Bull Street project, again the money came to the Library in a lump sum at the beginning of the project. The interest that accumulated on that went to the benefit of the project. We currently have some technology money in SPLOST that we're spending down over time very slowly, but that money remains here and we don't receive the benefit of the interest on that. So it varies by project and the agreement governing the project. Commissioner McMasters said, well, let me just kind of conclude by saying that if the Library Board wanted to take full control of their assets, including SPLOST funding and interest, I see no reason why that wouldn't be profitable. Mr. Johnson said, well, the Library Board certainly would not object to that.

Chairman Hair asked, any other questions? Commissioner McMasters said, well, the only other thing is I would —, I know that you've got two libraries on the boards that are funded in the '04-'08 SPLOST, and I would just ask as a courtesy if you would carry the message to the Board about possibly considering looking at best value contracting to keep that SPLOST money in Chatham County with the sort of firms that are local and providing all the things that [inaudible] audit provides, so that's just a personal message to carry to the Board on the subject of SPLOST on funding, whether it stays here or moves over to your house. Mr. Johnson said, we'd be happy —.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray and then Ms. Morse. Commissioner Murray said, I didn't have anything. Chairman Hair said, oh, I'm sorry. Chairman Hair recognized Youth Commissioner Morse.

Youth Commissioner Morse asked, what does the SPLOST stand for? Chairman Hair said, Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax.

Chairman Hair said, we don't have a motion. I need a motion. Commissioner Murray 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. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to approve a Memorandum of Understanding of the operation of Live Oak Public Libraries, Chatham County Library Board and Regional Library Board to provide needed clarity as to the roles and responsibilities of Chatham County and the Library and lays a foundation for a close, cooperative, collaborative and harmonious relationship. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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13. REQUEST BOARD FORMALLY APPROVE THE SETTLEMENT OF THE CLAIM OF DARCY LYNN DANIEL IN THE AMOUNT OF \$10,500.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved to formally approve the settlement of the claim of Darcy Lynn Daniel in the amount of \$10,500. Commissioner McMasters seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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14. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL FOR THE AWARD OF LOW BID FOR GOLF CARTS AND FINANCING ONCE BIDS ARE RECEIVED; WITH CONFIRMATION AT THE APRIL 16 MEETING.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner McMasters.

Commissioner McMasters said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're moving into a lease arrangement with Henderson? Mr. Patrick Monahan said, yes sir, we are doing that. That was part of the County Manager's budget message as an innovation to provide a guaranteed lease rate to the County, and I did intentionally know that the subject came up so Fact and Finding #1 is the fact that we would be able to sign the lease of these carts to the new lessee. Commissioner McMasters asked, is that new lease going to completely cover all operational costs to taxpayers of the facility? Mr. Monahan said, absolutely. Well, that's being done now, but yes, the new lease would do that, too, as well as provide a guaranteed rate. Right now the County, as the owner, assumes all the risks, but also all the reward. Under the lease arrangement, the County would just receive a flat payment regardless of how well the operator does. Commissioner McMasters said, let me ask you a question. When you factor in those costs as we did in a smaller model with the Tybee Pier and concessions, just as we have the OMB circular accounting where various department overheads are proportioned and applied —. Mr. Monahan said, right. Commissioner McMasters asked, — are those costs calculated within —? Mr. Monahan said, yes sir. Henderson is counted in the financial report as an enterprise fund. So, yes, that is true. Commissioner McMasters said, so all County department proportional overhead costs —. Mr. Monahan said, there is a —, yes sir, there's an administrative charge back to that enterprise fund. Commissioner McMasters said, so this golf course ultimately under this lease will have zero impact to taxpayers. Mr. Monahan said, as it does now. Commissioner McMasters said, okay.

Chairman Hair said, I'll entertain a motion. Commissioner McMasters said, so moved. Chairman Hair asked, second? Commissioner Murray said, second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner McMasters moved to approve the award of low bid for golf carts at Henderson Golf Club and financing once bids are received with a confirmation at the meeting on April 16, 2004. Commissioner Murray seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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15. REQUEST FOR A NEW BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR POURING AND SUNDAY SALES LICENSES FOR 2004. PETITIONER: ERICH CHRISTOPH, D/B/A BAJA CANTINA, LOCATED AT 3-A SKIDAWAY VILLAGE WALK. [DISTRICT 4.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved to approve the petition of Erich Christoph, d/b/a Baja Cantina, located at 3-A Skidaway Village Walk, for new beer, wine and liquor pouring and Sunday sales licenses for 2004. Commissioner McMasters seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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16. 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. Eleven (11) used vehicles	CNT	•Critz, Inc. •J.C. Lewis Ford •Fairway Lincoln Mercury •Savannah Toyota •O.C. Welch	•\$39,500 •\$15,000 •\$31,700 •\$30,300 •\$43,749 \$160,249	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Police Merger
B. Contracts to provide "as needed" instruction and supervision of youth under the jurisdiction of Juvenile Court in a community service work program which operates on Saturdays	Juvenile Court	•Chiquitta Blount •Scott Brown •Brenda Davis •Jerome Davis •Crystal Houston •Pilar Louis •Lisa Marion •Christa Roberson •Phillip Thompson	•\$14 - \$22.50 per hour	Supervision fees collected by Juvenile Court
C. Purchase and installation of new sirens and related equipment	CEMA	McCord Communications (sole source)	\$65,020	CIP - CEMA
D. Ethernet switches	Police	Stormwood, Inc. (state contract)	\$22,405.50	SSD - Police
E. 40 computers without monitors and 5 printers	Police	Prosys Information Systems	\$32,862	SSD - Police
F. Contract for engineering services for landfill monitoring	Solid Waste	WPC Engineering	\$57,332	Solid Waste Fund
G. Procurement of G-8 equipment	Sheriff	State Contract vendors	Not to exceed \$420,000	General Fund/M&O - G-8 receivable
H. Contract to provide the final unincorporated Chatham County Stormwater Management Plan meeting all requirements of the Georgia Environmental Protection Division	Engineering	Integrated Science and Engineering (sole source)	\$30,000	SSD - Engineering (pending Board approval of contingency transfer)
I. Contract to haul fill for the Concord Road Soccer Field	SPLOST	ABC Crushing	\$16,500	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Concord Road Soccer Field

As to Items 16-A through 16-H, except 16-G:

Commissioner Rayno moved to approve Items 16-A through 16-H, except Item 16-G. Commissioner McMasters seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

As to Item 16-G:

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner McMasters.

Commissioner McMasters said, I'll pass on this one.

Chairman Hair said, I need a motion. Commissioner Murray said, move for approval. Chairman Hair asked, second? Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

As to Item 16-I:

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner McMasters.

Commissioner McMasters said, thank you, Dr. Hair. This says as part of the improvements to the Concord Road Soccer Field, the field is to be raised and leveled. Is this on the Charlie Brooks site? Commissioner Murray said, no. County Manager Abolt said, south. The Concord Road immediately south. Commissioner McMasters asked, it's totally different? Commissioner Murray said, it's right on the corner —. County Manager Abolt said, it's south of St. Peter's. Commissioner Murray said, — St. Peter's Church. It's a piece of property that years ago the County was going to clear it so we could take advantage of the landfill and not have to haul [inaudible] across town, and at that time we allocated funds to seed it and do some drainage so they could use it as a practice field and that type of thing, and it's turned into a soccer field now. This is one that during the SPLOST referendum we allocated some funds on that and, if I'm not mistaken, it's the St. Joseph's group —, anyway, there's a group that's going to go in and work it and maintain it for us. Chairman Hair said, it's very much needed. Commissioner McMasters said, okay. Now I have three questions. This fill dirt is coming from Elba Island, is coming into Wilmington Island. Has this soil been tested for contaminants? Mr. Vincent Grevemberg said, not that I'm aware of, no. Commissioner McMasters asked, would you or staff recommend before we bring in soil from the LNG, Liquefied Natural Gas, site that such soil testing occur? Mr. Grevemberg said, it depends on where they've taken it from exactly. Not all of that site —, I don't know if any of the site is contaminated.

Mr. Patrick Monahan said, all that material is dredge material. The soil has been tested. County Manager Abolt said, if I may —. Mr. Monahan said, I can tell you it's been tested because we have looked at using it before for road material. It's not suitable for road material, but it would be suitable for the purposes of the base for the soccer complex. County Manager Abolt said, that's exactly what happened. Some of the Commissioners will remember, about five or six years ago there was a major dredging project —. Chairman Hair said, right. County Manager Abolt said, — of the Savannah River. That's where the spoil area was. Chairman Hair said, yeah. Commissioner McMasters said, okay, well it said fill dirt so I assumed that this was good quality, top soil dirt. It's in fact dredge spoil. Is that correct? Okay. I noticed that there's an asterisk under the or next to the firm of Kelly Dukes and the asterisk footnote has MBE. Is that Minority Business —? Chairman Hair said, yes. County Manager Abolt said, Enterprise. Commissioner McMasters said, Minority Business Enterprise. We're not prepared with our consultant to review this contract in that regard, so we're just kind of getting a heads up. Is that what this is? County Manager Abolt said, no sir. There's a matter of practice now for a number of years of Purchasing staff has always indicated to you via an asterisk if you have —. Chairman Hair said, yeah, that's right. Commissioner McMasters said, all right. Thank you. Commissioner McMasters said, I move the question.

Chairman Hair said, I'll entertain a motion. Commissioner Murray said, move for approval. Chairman Hair asked, second? Commissioner Thomas said, second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

1. Commissioner Rayno moved to approve Items 16-A through 16-H, except Item 16-G. Commissioner McMasters seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers, Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]
2. Commissioner Murray moved to approve Item 16-G. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]
3. Commissioner Murray moved to approve Item 16-I. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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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

1. **THE PETITIONER, TERRY COLEMAN, AGENT (FOR GREAT OGEECHEE RIVER PRESERVE, LLC, ROD SPANN, OWNER), IS REQUESTING REZONING OF 1401 FORT ARGYLE ROAD FROM AN R-A (RESIDENTIAL-AGRICULTURE) TO A PD-R-SM (PLANNED DEVELOPMENT-RECLAMATION-SURFACE-MINING) ZONING CLASSIFICATION AND APPROVAL OF A GENERAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN. THE MPC RECOMMENDED APPROVAL.**
MPC FILE NO. Z-040115063706-1
[DISTRICT 7.]

Chairman Hair said, I'll entertain a motion. Commissioner Odell said, I recommend approval. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Commissioner Gellatly said, second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to approve the petition of Terry Coleman, Agent (for Great Ogeechee River Preserve, LLC, Rod Spann, Owner), requesting to rezone 1401 Fort Argyle Road from an R-A (Residential-Agriculture- to a PD-R-SM (Planned Development-Reclamation-Surface Mining) zoning classification and to approve a General Development Plan. Commissioners Gellatly and Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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2. **AN AMENDMENT TO THE CHATHAM COUNTY SUBDIVISION REGULATIONS TO REQUIRE THAT FINAL PLATS BE SUBMITTED IN A DIGITAL FORMAT AND TO REQUIRE THAT PROPERTY IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS (PINS) BE PLACED ON ALL LOTS ON FINAL PLATS PRIOR TO RECORDING. THE MPC RECOMMENDED APPROVAL.**
MPC FILE NO. S-040121-35525-1

Commissioner Odell said, motion for approval. Commissioner Murray said, second. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to approve the amendment to the Chatham County Subdivision Regulations to require that final plats be submitted in a digital format and to require that property identification numbers (PINs) be placed on all lots on final plats prior to recording. Commissioners Murray and Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: XII-2
DATE: March 26, 2004

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
THRU: R. E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER
FROM: THOMAS L. THOMSON, P.E., AICP, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

LEGAL NOTICE/AGENDA HEADING:

An amendment to the Chatham County Subdivision Regulations to require that Final Plats be submitted in a digital format and to require that Property Identification Numbers (PINs) be placed on all lots on Final Plats prior to recording. The MPC recommended approval. MPC File No. S-040121-35525-1

ISSUE:

An amendment to the Chatham County Subdivision Regulations to require that Final Plats be submitted in a digital format and to require that Property Identification Numbers (PINs) be placed on all lots on Final Plats prior to recording.

BACKGROUND:

One of the budget goals set by the Chatham County Commission for FY2004 was to amend the Subdivision Regulations to require a digital submission of final subdivision plats. A key element for the digital plats concept to work properly and efficiently is that the new Parcel Identification Number (PIN) be recorded with the plat.

The MPC staff, representatives of the County Engineer's Office, and the Chief Appraiser for the Chatham County Tax Assessor's Office met with the Homebuilders Association and Developers Council and several engineering firms on January 14, 2004 to discuss the proposed amendments. The consensus was to support the amendments with the understanding that if they resulted in delays in the recording process, that further amendments would be implemented in a timely manner to eliminate the delays. At the request of the Planning Commission, the County Engineer's Office prepared a procedure to be followed in implementing the addition of PIN numbers to the final plat requirements. The Developers Council is in agreement with the procedure.

FINDINGS:

1. The proposed amendments will aid in tracking developments as they go through the review process.
2. The digital submittal will coincide with electronic data such as SAGIS and will make new streets and parcels available to interested parties, including the general public, in a more timely manner.
3. The assignment of the permanent PIN number in conjunction with issuance of a building permit will simplify the process and will eliminate possible errors that could occur when PIN numbers are assigned after a permit has been issued.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Amend the Chatham County Subdivision Regulations to require that Final Plats be submitted in a digital format and to require PIN numbers on all proposed lots on Final Plats prior to recording.
2. Do not amend the present regulations.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

Amending the Subdivision Regulations would facilitate the review process and benefit the general public.

RECOMMENDATION:

The MPC and Director of Building Safety and Regulatory Services recommend **APPROVAL** of a text amendment to the Chatham County Subdivision Regulations as attached:

**PREPARED BY: Charlotte Moore, AICP, Director
Development Services**

FEBRUARY 5, 2004

**Gregori Anderson, Director
BUILDING SAFETY AND REGULATORY SERVICES**

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Chatham County Subdivision Regulations be amended as follows:

REPEAL**Plan Requirements**702.01.1 **Existing Features:**

- a. The bearings and distances of the boundary lines of the property to be subdivided.
- b. The location of any streams, natural drainageways, and other waterways which exist on the property.
- c. When in the urban district, the distance and direction to public water lines and sanitary sewer lines.

- d. The name, location, and right-of-way width of existing streets eight on the property or on the land adjoining the property.
- e. Existing contours of the property in solid lines and at one foot intervals and based on Mean Sea Level datum.
- f. The name of subdivision or property owners adjoining the property.
- g. The location of railroads, of public or private rights-of-way or easements, and of parks or other public spaces either on the property or adjoining the property.
- h. All areas delineated as wetlands by the United States Army Corps of Engineers or Wetlands Consultant and/or areas established as Conservation Easements by the United States Army Corps of Engineers.

ENACT

Plan Requirements

- 702.01.1 Existing Features:
- a. The bearings and distances of the boundary lines of the property to be subdivided.
 - b. The location of any streams, natural drainageways, and other waterways which exist on the property.
 - c. When in the urban district, the distance and direction to public water lines and sanitary sewer lines.
 - d. The name, location, and right-of-way width of existing streets eight on the property or on the land adjoining the property.
 - e. Existing contours of the property in solid lines and at one foot intervals and based on Mean Sea Level datum.
 - f. The name of subdivision or property owners adjoining the property.
 - g. The location of railroads, of public or private rights-of-way or easements, and of parks or other public spaces either on the property or adjoining the property.
 - h. All areas delineated as wetlands by the United States Army Corps of Engineers or Wetlands Consultant and/or areas established as Conservation Easements by the United States Army Corps of Engineers.
 - i. **Existing parcel identification numbers (PINs) for all properties located within the proposed subdivision.**

REPEAL

- 703 Final Plat: Before a plat of subdivision is recorded with the Clerk of Superior Court of Chatham County and the lots thereon offered for sale, an original and eight (8) prints of a Final Plat showing the final design of the subdivision shall be submitted to the Metropolitan Planning Commission for review. Until a Final Plat of a subdivision has been submitted to and reviewed by the Metropolitan Planning Commission and approve and signed by the County Commissioners and Ex Officio Judges of Chatham County, the Clerk of the Superior Court of Chatham County shall not record the Plat of such subdivision, nor shall the owner or agent of such subdivision be authorized to transfer or sell any of the land within such subdivision by reference to a plat. For large subdivisions the Final Plat may be submitted for approval progressively in contiguous sections satisfactory to the Planning Commission.

ENACT

- 703 Final Plat: Before a plat of subdivision is recorded with the Clerk of Superior Court of Chatham County and the lots thereon offered for sale, an original and eight (8) prints of a Final Plat showing the final design of the subdivision shall be submitted to the Metropolitan Planning Commission for review. **A digital drawing of the Final Plat shall also be provided to the Metropolitan Planning Commission.** Until a Final Plat of a subdivision has been submitted to and reviewed by the Metropolitan Planning Commission and approve and signed by the County Commissioners and Ex Officio Judges of Chatham County, the Clerk of the Superior Court of Chatham County shall not record the Plat of such subdivision, nor shall the owner or agent

of such subdivision be authorized to transfer or sell any of the land within such subdivision by reference to a plat. For large subdivisions the Final Plat may be submitted for approval progressively in contiguous sections satisfactory to the Planning Commission.

REPEAL

703.01 Final Plat Requirements: The original copy of the Final Plat shall be drawn on eighteen inch by twenty-four inch (18" x 24") sheets of mylar or other material having equal properties, with black ink at a scale of not less than two hundred (200) feet to the inch. Where necessary, the Final Plat may be several sheets accompanied by an index sheet showing the entire subdivision. The Final Plat shall contain the following information:

ENACT

703.01 Final Plat Requirements: The original copy of the Final Plat shall be drawn on eighteen inch by twenty-four inch (18" x 24") sheets of mylar or other material having equal properties, with black ink at a scale of not less than two hundred (200) feet to the inch. Where necessary, the Final Plat may be several sheets accompanied by an index sheet showing the entire subdivision. **The digital drawing submittal shall meet the standards in the Digital Data Submission Standards set forth in the Chatham County Engineering Policy.** The Final Plat shall contain the following information:

REPEAL

704 Minor Subdivisions: Minor subdivisions may be submitted as Final Plats, and shall comply with the requirements of these regulations, including minimum finished floor elevation requirements, with the following exceptions:

ENACT

704 Minor Subdivisions: Minor subdivisions may be submitted as Final Plats, and shall comply with the requirements of these regulations, including minimum finished floor elevation requirements **and submittal of a digital drawing**, with the following exceptions:

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3. AMENDMENT TO THE CHATHAM COUNTY REVENUE ORDINANCE FOR 2004.

Chairman Hair said, I'll entertain a motion. Commissioner Murray said, so moved. Chairman Hair asked, second? Commissioner Odell said, second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to adopt an amendment to the Chatham County Revenue Ordinance for 2004. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

Listing of Revenue Ordinance Changes

Following is a list of changes to the Revenue Ordinance for the various specified reasons. These changes range from editions due to: (1) name changes of business, department, organization, etc., (2) State mandated changes to fees, and (3) Previously approved Revenue Ordinance Amendments that have never appeared in the printed version of the Revenue Ordinance.

Also included are requested changes from the affected department in order to keep revenues in line with costs associated with services. Each change specified below has a brief description of the type of change and the reason.

Not listed are various minute changes made for typographical, punctuation and grammatical errors that occurred during previous printings of the Revenue Ordinance. These changes are not for the intention of changing the meaning of the Ordinance, simply to correct and/or further describe.

Article A General

Section 4 - Payments Requirements

The fee charged for a returned check is being raised from \$25.00 to keep in line with the State-approved rate of \$30.00.

- Article E Alcoholic Beverage Excise Tax**
Section 2 - Malt Beverages
 Additional wording was added as way of explanation – Conforms with the same wording as that used by the City of Savannah in their Revenue Ordinance.
- Article I Public Utility Taxes**
Section 1 - License Required; Application; Issuance
 Names and list of Cable Companies were edited to reflect name changes and delete company no longer doing business.
- Article K Court System of Chatham County**
Section 12 - Juvenile Court
Item 1 - Fees were changed from \$5 minimum to \$10 minimum and from \$100 maximum to \$200 maximum
Item 2 - Fees were changed from \$1 minimum to \$2 minimum and from \$15 maximum to \$30 maximum
- Article L Reimbursements**
Section 1 - County Reimbursements
Item c - DFACS Reimbursement – This item was deleted per Read DeHaven, Budget Officer – Finance Dept.
Item g - Federal Financial Participation Items 1 & 2 were deleted and replaced with Item 1 – which includes current data.
- Article N Voter / Election Revenues**
Section 3 - Sale of Voter List
 This section was updated and expanded as per State mandates
Section 4 Other Fee - was deleted per Sandra Williams – Voter Registration; no longer valid section
- Article P Other Revenues**
Section 8 was added to capture SAGIS users fees
- Article R Police Administrative Fees**
 Deleted Original **Section 6 - Bar Cards** – per Police Department as no longer valid
 Deleted Original **Section 7 - EMS** – per Police Department as no longer valid
- Inserted New Sections numbered:
Section 6 - Video / Audio Tapes Copying Fee - These are not new fees, they are currently being collected; they have never appeared in the printed compilation of the ordinance.
Section 7 - Copying & Enlargement Fees of Photos – These are not new fees, they are currently being collected; they have never appeared in the printed compilation of the ordinance.
Section 8 - Records Unit Fees – These are not new fees, they are currently being collect; they have never appeared in the printed compilation of the ordinance.
- Article T Recreation Facilities & Program Fees**
 Previously recreation fees appeared here – They have expanded and been moved to Appendix F
- The fees that appear in Appendix F represent some changes in current fees, some new fees and some include an expanded description of fee structures
- Article U Inspection Fees**
Section 1 - Building Inspection Fees
 These fees are not new, they are currently being collected; they have been edited to reflect changes made by approval of the Board of Commissioners.
- Section 9 - Docks**
 These fees are not new, they are currently being collected; they have been edited to reflect changes made by approval of the Board of Commissioners.

- Article V Appeals, Rezoning, Development & Review Fees**
All sections were updated to reflect changes previously approved by the Board of Commissioners.
- Article W Solid Waste Operations**
Deleted Original **Section 1 - Refuse Collection Fees** – per department, no longer valid.
Deleted Original **Section 2 - Refuse Dumping Fee** – per department, no longer valid.
- Inserted New Sections numbered
Section 1 - County Host Fee - These are not new fees, they are currently being collected; they have never appeared in the printed compilation of the ordinance.
Section 2 - Commercial Disposal Fees for County Drop-Off Centers – These are not new fees, they are currently being collected; they have never appeared in the printed compilation of the ordinance.
- Article X Water & Sewer Service Charges and Fees**
Section 1, 2 & 3 were updated – These are not new fees, they are currently being collected; they have never appeared in the printed compilation of the ordinance.
- Article Y** Originally listed as Street Paving – This section has been moved to Article Z.
New Article Y refers to Public Works Fees. These are not new fees, they are currently being collected; they have never appeared in the printed compilation of the ordinance.
- Article Z** Originally listed as Street Lighting – This section has been moved to Article AA.
- Article AA** Originally listed as Abandoned Motor Vehicles – This section has been moved to Article BB
- Article BB** Originally listed as Alcoholic Beverage Licenses – This section has been moved to Article CC.
- Article CC** Originally listed as Business / Occupational Tax – This section has been moved to Article DD.
- Article DD** Originally listed as Reserved – has now been used for the Business / Occupational Tax
- Article EE** Section 5 - Was edited to reflect anticipated 2004 adoption date of Revenue Ordinance
- Appendix A Superior Court Filing Fees**
This appendix was updated to reflect State mandated fees.
- Appendix B Probate Court**
This appendix was updated to reflect State mandated fees.
- Appendix C Magistrate Court**
This appendix was updated to reflect State mandated fees.
- Appendix D Recorder's Court**
This appendix was updated to reflect State mandated fees.
- Appendix E State Court of Chatham County**
This appendix was added to reflect the different fee structure the State Court now works from. In the past they followed the same fee structure as Superior Court.
- Appendix F Recreation Fees**
This appendix was added due to the expansion of the wide variety of fees collected in connection with the various recreational facilities under the County's jurisdiction within Chatham County.

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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:

A written report was received as information.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A written report was received as information.

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-2
DATE: March 26, 2004

List of Purchasing Items between \$2,500 and \$9,999
 That Do Not Require Board Approval

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
Annual rental of ductline for fiber optic connections	ICS	Savannah Electric and Power (sole source)	\$7,050	General Fund/M&O - ICS
300 tons crushed stone	Public Works	Carroll and Carroll, Inc.	\$3,900	SSD - Public Works
Engineering services for upgrade at Wilmington Island drop off center	Solid Waste	Hodges, Harbin, Newberry and Tribble, Inc.	\$8,500	Solid Waste Fund
Install emergency electrical outlets in the hangers	Mosquito Control	All Electric and Specialty	\$3,150	General Fund/M&O - Mosquito Control
Two (2) catch basin chemical dispensers	Mosquito Control	Adapco, Inc.	\$5,600	General Fund/M&O - Mosquito Control
Paint and body work to damaged Sheriff's department vehicle	Fleet Operations	Rainbow Paint and Body Shop	\$2,558	General Fund/M&O - Fleet Operations
Paint and body work to damaged Public Works and Park Services vehicle	Fleet Operations	Savannah Auto Painting	\$2,800.88	General Fund/M&O - Fleet Operations
One (1) used 2003 Ford Focus	Tax Commissioner	OC Welch Ford	\$8,949	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Vehicle Replacement
Miscellaneous office furniture	Police	VIP Office Supplies (FBE)	\$6,147.76	SSD - Police
911 relocation study	Police	Barnard and Associates Architects	\$5,181.59	E-911 Funds
Cleanup debris, fencing and concrete slab at 23 mobile home lots	SPLOST	Ace's One Construction (MBE)	\$8,700	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Middleground Road widening project
Section 106 documents for categorical exclusive	SPLOST	Hussey, Gay, Bell and DeYoung, Inc.	\$7,490	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Eisenhower Drive widening project

ITEM	DEPT.	SOURCE	AMOUNT	FUNDING
Installation of "No Trespassing" signs in and around the County mitigation site	SPLOST	T Clearing	Not to exceed \$3,400	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Hardin Canal
Design of City's force main for the Wilmington Park Phase II project	SPLOST	Thomas & Hutton Engineering	Not to exceed \$9,890	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Wilmington Park
Four (4) computers without monitors and one (1) computer with monitor	Voter Registration	Dell Marketing (state contract)	\$4,864.60	General Fund/M&O - Voter Registration
Five (5) Motorola radios	Detention Center	Savannah Communications	\$4,250	General Fund/M&O - Detention Centers
Annual chiller inspection and repairs to chiller	Detention Center	Boaen Mechanical Contractors, Inc.	\$3,110	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Annual maintenance agreement on fingerprint system with printer	Detention Center	Identix, Inc. (sole source)	\$7,819.75	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center

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3. ROADS AND DRAINAGE REPORTS.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A written report was received as information.

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-3 - Roads
 DATE: March 26, 2004

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: A. G. Bungard, P.E., County Engineer

ISSUE: To provide information on the status of Chatham County road projects.

BACKGROUND: The schedules for construction are dictated by the GDOT, the allocations of funds among the Congressional districts and balancing of the CUTS TIP. "Let" dates are estimates as to when projects should be ready for bidding. "CST" dates reflect when funds are programmed by the GDOT. Key milestone events are summarized in the table attached to this report.

FACTS AND FINDING:

1. Truman Parkway.
 - a. Phase 3. The intersection improvements at Eisenhower and Skidaway are substantially complete. A ribbon cutting ceremony for the main line from Derenne Avenue to Eisenhower was held March 19. GDOT is coordinating a new schedule with the contractor to complete Phase 3 from Eisenhower to Montgomery Cross Road.
 - b. Phase 4. Construction continues on the bridge at Montgomery Cross Road and on the roadway to Whitfield Avenue. GDOT is working on establishing a new contract completion date.
 - c. Phase 5. The Local Government Project Agreement (LGPA) was approved by the GDOT on September 11, 2001. Design is underway. Based on an analysis of alternatives for terminating Phase 5 at Abercorn, the Concept Report was revised to tie into Abercorn with an at-grade intersection instead of a bridge over Abercorn. The concept team meeting was held on September 24, 2003, in Atlanta. In the meantime, the FHWA required that GDOT conduct a Value Engineering Study (VE) because the project cost is over \$25M. Staff review comments are pending. GDOT will not meet goal of having approved Concept Report in March. Staff has asked for a projected timeline. In accordance with the Plan Development Process, an approved Concept Report is a prerequisite to finalizing the Preliminary Design and Right of Way plans.

2. Jimmy DeLoach Parkway, Phase 2 (I-16 to US 80). The Final EA with a Finding of No Significant Impact (EA/FONSI) was forwarded to the GDOT on November 10, 2003, and is pending forwarding to the FHWA for approval. The project is presently programmed in the CUTS TIP for construction in FY 2005, but will likely go to FY 2006 due to the delay in approval of the FONSI.
3. Pooler Parkway Ph 2 and Interchanges at I-16 and US 80: The interchange at I-16 and the roadway from Quacco Road to Pine Barren Road are open to traffic. Construction continues on the road from Pine Barren Road to US 80 and on the interchange at US 80. Most of the asphalt is down covering the mainline, shoulders and the ramps on the interchange between Pine Barren Road and U.S. 80. Signal lights are being erected on U.S. 80 at the interchange. GDOT now estimates the completion may be in April 2004.
4. US 17.
 - a. SR 204 to Dean Forest Road: GDOT projects that it may be done by the end of March 2004.
 - b. Ogeechee River to SR 204: The scheduled completion date is September 30, 2004.
5. Middleground Road/Montgomery Cross Road (Ph 2 widening). ROW acquisition is complete. The roadway, drainage and water/sewers designs are complete. A change order to reestablish survey controls and to add fiber optics for traffic signals is pending. The GDOT has scheduled the bid opening for a construction contract in May 2004.
6. Stephenson Avenue. Under construction. Main effort currently is installing storm drainage and an 8 inch water line on Stephenson Avenue. Relocation of gas lines that were shown on the plans is complete. The gas company has completed the extension of their gas lines. Grading and temporary paving on the south side of Stephenson to improve drainage is complete. This work will allow the construction of the north side roadway. Storm drain work is 70% complete and water line work is 90% complete. Utility delays and other unexpected conflicts have delayed construction progress. Curb & gutter work is underway and is about 50% complete. Approximately 50% of the new driveways have been installed on the north side of the road and 30% of the graded aggregate base is in place.

The project has also been delayed due to problems encountered with the traffic control staging plan. Several plan revisions have been evaluated. The GDOT has reviewed the proposed plan changes and the prices the contractor submitted for modifications to the staging plan. The traffic staging plans in the original design would not work without a large amount of additional temporary paving that would have to be torn out later. This occurred due to a failure to consider a big grade differentiation between the originally proposed temporary widening to accommodate a traffic shift and the elevation of the new paving. The current proposal will be faster and less expensive than the temporary paving widening, and all paving will remain as part of the new roadway. Either method used would increase the cost of construction. In the meantime, pay item price negotiations for the changes are ongoing and will be addressed with a staff report soon. The utility delays, other unexpected conflicts and the significant staging problem delay will require a time extension. GDOT is managing the project for the County and will calculate the required additional time. It is now estimated that it will take until November, 2004, to complete the project.
7. Skidaway Widening: After many revisions, the FHWA approved the EA on March 5, 2003, for advancement to public hearing. The public hearing was held May 13. The GDOT mailed responses (undated) to citizens comments in December 2003. The Final EA with a FONSI was forwarded to the GDOT on November 26, 2003. The next step is to get FHWA approval.
8. Whitfield Avenue Widening. The FHWA approved the EA/FONSI on February 13, 2004. The County is now authorized to proceed with preliminary design. There is a new requirement that the County do a soils investigation as part of the preliminary design. When the preliminary design is approved, right of way plans can be prepared. Staff expects to complete preliminary design in May.
9. Diamond Causeway Widening. Consultant submitted a revised Draft EA to GDOT on October 24, 2002. The GDOT endorsed the EA to the FHWA for review on November 19, requesting comments by December 31, 2002. Received minor review comments from FHWA dated March 7, 2003, part of which required an amendment to CUTS TIP to comply with the justification for logical termini. The amendment to the TIP was approved at the CUTS Policy Committee meeting on July 23, 2003. Staff is awaiting comments or approval by the FHWA to advance to public hearing. Staff was advised on November 13 that the FHWA has sent the Draft EA to the U.S. Coast Guard for review.
10. US 80/SR26
 - a. Lynes Parkway to Victory Drive. The GDOT is doing the EA and working with the City of Savannah on the impacts of the project in the vicinity of the Springfield Canal. In the meantime, the County has completed all early acquisitions and removed improvements on the properties.
 - b. Bull River to Lazaretto Creek. GDOT is working on the EA. Programmed in Long Range.
11. White Bluff/Coffee Bluff Road. After many reviews and revisions ... the GDOT forwarded the Draft EA to the FHWA for review on September 30, 2002. Staff received lengthy comments from FHWA on January 22, 2003. The concept for the project was to improve White Bluff Road from near Windsor Road to Old Mill Subdivision to be a four lane divided roadway and to improve Coffee Bluff from Old Mill Subdivision southward to near the Little Ogeechee River to be a three lane section. The need and purpose for the project are based on capacity and safety improvements, and to provide an improved hurricane evacuation route. A teleconference was held with the FHWA, GDOT and County on April 15, 2003. It was agreed that the proposed improvements south of Old Mill Subdivision would be reevaluated for need. Based on the reevaluation and the coordination with

FHWA staff, it was determined that widening to three lanes south of Felt Drive was not warranted. The project does propose improvements to the two lane section south of Felt Drive. After concurrence by the City of Savannah in August, the County's consultant revised the Need and Purpose Section of the EA and resubmitted to GDOT on October 16, 2003, and forwarded to the FHWA in December 2003.

12. Eisenhower Widening from Abercorn to Truman Parkway. The original concept report was prepared based on project termini in the CUTS TIP. On December 21, 2001, Board approved extending the scope of the project from Waters Avenue to Truman Parkway. The concept meeting with GDOT and City of Savannah was held September 16, 2002. A revised concept report was submitted for review to the GDOT on July 25, 2003. The field surveys and property research are complete. A revised Concept Report was sent to GDOT on January 15, 2004.

13. Abercorn Widening from Largo Drive to Rio Road. The concept meeting with GDOT and City of Savannah held September 16, 2002. When the concept report is approved, preliminary design can start. The Concept Report is pending revision to reflect a revised terminus from Deerfield Road to Largo Drive. This project is affected by two other project currently under design. This project is being coordinated with the projects to improve the intersection at Largo Drive and at the terminus of Truman, Phase 5, at Abercorn.

14. Bay Street Widening from I-516 to Bay Street Viaduct. Consultant and County staff hosted initial coordination meetings on December 10 and 11 with City of Savannah staff and sub-consultants. Letters have been sent to potentially affected property owners and collection of survey and property data is now underway. Follow-up meetings were held on January 7, 2004, with City of Savannah staff to coordinate the public involvement process and begin the concept development process. On February 24 the County's consultant and City and County staffs met with residents of Hudson Hill, the West Savannah Community and representatives of local businesses.

15. Local Roads

a. Georgia Tech Campus. By Intergovernmental Agreement, the construction costs are being paid by GDOT, SEDA and City of Savannah. The project is substantially complete. The final inspection was held and a punch list has been provided to the contractor.

b. Benton Boulevard.

(1) Phase 1 Extension (Spur 21). Constructed by County contract. The project is substantially complete. A punch list is pending for corrective work. Staff was advised after-the-fact that a large amount of unsuitable material was encountered and removed on the project. Staff was told that an inspector under contract with GDOT told the contractor to take the action. County staff was not notified of the need for the action or consulted regarding negotiating a price for same. Staff is conferring with GDOT about the apparent breakdown in the normal process for review and approval of an action that may have significant cost associated with it. The justification for the removal has yet to be provided to staff. There will not be any authorization for payment unless this is provided. The road was opened to traffic on March 15, 2004. Final acceptance pending review of final pay request.

(2) Phase 2 Extension (Spur 21). Under construction. The scheduled completion in November 2003, was not be met. A time extension is pending. This project is being funded by a County Contract with GDOT and the local matching funds are being provided by the Branigar Organization. The County is providing administrative services only. The storm drain work is 90% complete. Grading on the roadway continues. Layout for the curbing is in progress. A change order is pending due to an alignment correction to match up travel lanes between the Phase I and Phase II.

c. Central Avenue (West), Leghorn, Billings, Ridgewood and Fallowfield Drive. Construction contract approved on October 11, 2002. NTP for Central, Ridgewood and Fallowfield was issued October 23, 2002. NTP on Leghorn and Billings was issued on September 23, 2003. Fallowfield Drive is substantially complete. Curbing and gravel base have been installed on Ridgewood Avenue and Central Avenue (West). Contractor has begun clearing on Leghorn and Billings. Estimated completion is June 2004.

d. Glade Street. Constructed by County contract. Project is complete. Awaiting final acceptance by the GDOT.

RECOMMENDATION: For information.

Districts: All

SUMMARY OF ROAD PROJECT STATUS
March 2004

PROJECT	ELEMENT	MILESTONE FOR COMPLETION	AGENCY RESPONSIBLE	NOTES
Truman Parkway, 3-A 3-B	Construction	Unknown Mar 2004	GDOT GDOT	Possibly October 2004
Truman Parkway, Ph 4	Construction	Unknown	GDOT	Possibly October 2005
Truman Parkway, Ph 5	Design Construction	Sep 2004	County GDOT	Let LR / CST LR

Pooler Parkway, Ph 2	Construction	Mar 2004	GDOT	
US 17 Widening - SR204 to SR307 - Ogeechee River to SR204	Construction Construction	Mar 2004 Sep 2004	GDOT GDOT	Slipping monthly.
Stephenson Avenue Widening	Construction	Nov 2004	County/GDOT	
Middleground/Montgomery Cross Road, Phase 2 (Widening)	ROW Design Construction	Feb 2004 Mar 2004	County County GDOT	Complete. Let 05-04/CST FY 2004
Jimmy DeLoach Pkwy, Ph 2	Environmental ROW Construction	Unknown	County County GDOT	Final EA at GDOT/FHWA Let 07-04/CST FY 2005
Whitfield Avenue Widening	Environmental Design ROW Construction	Feb 2004	County County County GDOT	EA/FONSI signed Feb 13 Staff preparing schedule Let FY 06/CST FY 2006
Diamond Causeway Widening	Environmental Construction	Unknown	County GDOT	Let FY LR /CST LR
Skidaway Road Widening	Environmental ROW Construction	Unknown	County County GDOT	Final EA at GDOT/FHWA Let FY 09/CST FY 2009
US 80 Widening - Bull River to Lazaretto Creek - I-516 to Victory Drive	Environmental Environmental	Unknown Unknown	GDOT GDOT	Let 07-04/CST LR Let FY ? /CST FY 2009
White Bluff/Coffee Bluff	Environmental	Unknown	County	Let ? /CST FY 2007
Eisenhower (Abercorn to Truman Parkway)	Environmental		County	Concept Report pending approval.
Abercorn (Largo Drive to Rio Road)	Environmental		County	Concept Report pending approval.
Bay Street from I-516 to Viaduct	Environmental	Mar 2005	County	
NOTES: CST = FY in which GDOT has currently programmed the project for construction based on balancing funding among the Congressional districts. Dates are from the GDOT database and CUTS 2004-2006 TIP. Where the GDOT datatrieve report does not provide a Let Date (indicated by ?), it is assumed to be the same as the CST FY date.				

AGENDA ITEM XIII-3 - Drainage
DATE: March 26, 2004

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: A. G. Bungard, P.E., County Engineer

ISSUE: To provide information on the status of Chatham County drainage projects.

BACKGROUND: For construction contracts that have been awarded, this report provides the latest scheduled completion dates. For projects pending environmental permits, start dates are best estimates. All project scopes include varying degrees of canal widening, bank stabilization, larger bridges and culverts.

FACTS AND FINDING:

1. Pipemakers Canal
 - a. Phase 1 (From the outfall at Savannah River to SR 21). Double channel size, replace bridges, replace tide gate, and provide maintenance access.
 - i. The County awarded the contract for construction to Phoenix Construction on July 25, 2003. Estimated completion is October 2004.
 - ii. Staff obtained the GDOT permit for construction access west of SR 25. Staff is pursuing additional rights-of-way for permanent access to the area west of SR 25.
 - iii. Poor soils in the area of the proposed access road are preventing its construction in accordance with the Contract Documents. Change Order No. 1 to accommodate this situation was given Board approval on February 27, 2004.
 - b. Phase 2 (From SR 21 to I-95).
 - i. Hydraulic analysis is complete. Revised construction drawings and right-of-way plats have been submitted by the consultant. Staff is reviewing these materials. Target date to begin early property acquisition in vicinity of SR 21 is March 2004. These acquisitions will be ahead of completing plans and permitting.
 - ii. Environmental permitting work is in progress, including the "Kahn Property" mitigation site.

- iii. Staff is drafting an Intergovernmental Agreement for realignment of a portion of the canal on the Savannah Airport property. The agreement with the Airport Authority will outline responsibilities and expectations.
 - iv. Rights of way plats for improvements in the area of SR21 have been completed and forwarded to the County's Right of Way Consultant for acquisition. Staff has requested a proposal from the design consultant to prepare contract documents for clearing, grubbing, and excavating in this area as part of an effort to expedite construction work.
- c. Golf Course (section of Phase 2 on Airport property). Widening of this section of canal completed in 2000. Construction of a golf cart bridge over the canal obstructed access to a section of the canal. Staff intends to include resolution of this issue in the Intergovernmental Agreement described above for relocation part of the canal.
- d. Kahn Mitigation Site. Design work is underway. The final mitigation package for Phase 2, which includes the Kahn Site, must be coordinated with the realignment request of the Airport Authority.
2. Hardin Canal
- a. Phase 1 (From SR 307 to I-16). Widen channel and replace bridge crossings.
 - i. ROW and construction plans are complete. Acquisition of canal ROW on hold pending details of SR 307 widening (12 parcels impacted).
 - ii. Formal permit application submitted to USACE in July 2001. In early December 2003 the USACE verbally notified the County that it had all necessary documentation to make a favorable determination for final permit approval. In a letter from the USACE dated December 19, 2003 the USACE informed the County that a permit would not be issued based on continuing formal objections by resources agencies. Staff considered options and directed the consultant to revise the plan to reflect a smaller channel, in hopes of circumventing agency objections.
 - b. Phase 2 (Crossing at SR307). Enlargement of crossing under Dean Forest Road (SR307) is included with the concept plan for widening SR307. Concept plan review with GDOT held on December 2. Pending approval by the GDOT.
 - c. Phase 3 (From I-16 to Pine Barren Road). Widen channel and construct a detention pond. No target construction date.
3. Westlake/Springfield Canal
- a. Phase 1. Crossing and channel improvements from Perimeter Road on Hunter Army Airfield downstream toward the Forest River.
 - i. Completed January 2002.
 - ii. Warranty corrective work was done in January 2004 and is awaiting final inspection.
 - b. Phase 2. This phase consists of acquiring flood-prone properties and the additional land needed to provide additional stormwater retention in the area.
 - i. Appraisal work has started on 35 parcels. Seven have been received and are being reviewed.
 - ii. The grant application to GEMA to defray a portion of the cost of property buyouts has been submitted. The determination by GEMA, originally expected in January and still not received, has Staff considering options including proceeding with the work without the grant.
 - iii. The design work on the CSX railroad undercrossing is underway. The consultant has preliminarily informed Staff that a single 10-foot diameter pipe may be sufficient to meet the hydraulic needs of the project, substantially smaller than earlier designs.
4. Placentia Canal
- a. Phase 1. Tidegate at Bonaventure Road. Completed February 1999.
 - b. Phase 2. Crossing and channel widening from Bonaventure Road to Shell Road in Thunderbolt. Completed October, 2002. A small contract for improvements to correct drainage in a side yard near Victory Drive. Work started in February 2004 and is expected to be finished in April 2004.
5. Atlantic Creosote/Phillips Canal. Widen/realign the canal, replace culvert, and replace tidegate. Project completed September 2002.
6. Conaway Branch Canal (tributary of Pipemakers Canal). Primarily widen channel with some road crossing improvements and a maintenance road. Project to be constructed in two phases.
- a. Phase I includes channel improvements and crossing upgrades north of Main Street to Pipemakers Canal.
 - i. Analysis and recommendations are complete. Public information meeting held on May 21, 2001. Design of improvements complete based on public comments. Staff has reviewed preliminary construction drawings and returned to the consultant for corrections.
 - ii. Preliminary right of way plans are complete. Title searches are underway. The consultant is proceeding with wetlands permitting, coordination with GDOT for the crossing at Highway 80, and preparation of final right of way plans.
 - b. Phase 2 includes improvements to system south of Main Street to Hardin Canal. The plan to improve drainage south of Main Street will require an Intergovernmental Agreement with Bloomingdale.
7. Little Hurst Canal. Improve crossings under SR 21 and railroad, and widen channel downstream of SR21. Hydraulic analysis and recommendations were completed in 1998. Review of these recommendations by a second consultant has been completed. Updated recommendations are under review by Staff.

8. Wilmington Park Canal.
 - a. Phase 1. (Construction of tide gate) Completed September 2002.
 - b. Phase 2. Widen channel and improve culvert crossings under Clarendon, Winchester and Wilmington Island Road.
 - i. Received permit from USACE on July 5, 2002. Title searches of affected properties are complete. Design revisions to include City's force main underway.
 - ii. Revised right of way plans to accommodate additional easements for City's force main are complete.
 - c. Phase 3. Project limits have been identified.
9. Louisville Branch Canal (tributary of Pipemakers Canal). Provide maintenance road downstream of US80. Some preliminary work for design and permitting has been done, but this project is not accessible until the right-of-way is acquired for the Pipemakers Canal.
10. Kings Way Canal. Widen channel and enlarge culverts east of Whitfield Avenue to Vernon River.
 - a. Improvements to crossing of the canal under Whitfield are being constructed as part of GDOT's Truman Parkway, Phase 4 project. Completion of the culverts is anticipated to be within one year.
 - b. A consultant hired by the County has started to design the remainder of needed improvements upstream and downstream of Whitfield.
11. Grange Road Canal. Coordination of the concept plan with GPA and Port Wentworth is on hold pending alignment and right-of-way issues on GPA property. Dedication of Savannah Electric power line easement along Grange Road has detrimental impact on the preferred route.
12. Talmadge Avenue Canal. Small project that will involve acquiring right-of-way to construct a maintenance road and to make minor improvements to the channel. Preliminary right of way plats were completed in 1997. Staff has reviewed the completed work. Staff has hired a consultant to evaluate the work in regard to current conditions and needs. A preliminary report is expected by April 2004. From this work, Staff will determine if right of way acquisition can be started or if there is a need for further engineering work.
13. Romney Place Drainage.
 - a. Phase 1. Improve drainage along Central Avenue. Completed October 2001.
 - b. Phase 2. Improve storm drains and road crossings. No target date.
14. Village Green Canal.
 - a. Phase 1. Upgrade culvert under Cambridge Drive. Completed October 1999.
 - b. Phase 2. Staff has accepted the consultant's recommendations for improvements. Staff has enlisted the help of Mosquito Control to establish project need and purpose to facilitate wetland permitting. Mosquito Control is currently investigating the site. Wetland delineation has been approved by the USACE. Staff is conducting a citizen drainage survey to further help establish project need and purpose for permitting.
15. Port Industrial Park. Increase the capacity of the crossing under State Route 307 and improve the channel downstream to Pipemakers Canal.
 - a. The crossing under SR 307 will be constructed by the GDOT as part of the project to widen SR307 from R.B. Miller Road to SR21. Design of the project to improve the canal from SR307 to Pipemakers Canal is complete. The wetlands permit has been signed by the County Engineer and was approved by USACE District Engineer on September 24, 2002.
 - b. Right of way plans for original design are complete.
 - c. Design changes requested by Staff, intended to improve the hydraulic function of the system over the previous design has been submitted to GDOT for approval. To expedite the project, the County proposes to let the construction contract for the crossing under SR 307 as a County Contract. GDOT is currently reviewing County's proposal.
16. Louis Mills Canal. Widen channel from Veterans Parkway downstream to outfall at Westlake Canal and improve crossing under Marshall Avenue.
 - a. Staff has accepted recommendations to return a portion of the Redgate Canal drainage system back into the Rahn Dairy Canal. This recommendation allows for reduced drainage capacity needs in the Louis Mills Canal system.
 - b. Wetlands delineation, permitting and preliminary design are underway.
17. Redgate/Rahn Dairy (part of Louis Mills). This drainage improvement project will intercept approximately 400 acres of drainage area from the Louis Mills Canal system, and divert the flow directly into the Salt Creek. Preliminary survey work has been completed. Engineering analysis and preliminary recommendations are anticipated to be completed by April 2004.
18. Diggs Avenue Drainage (part of Louis Mills). This drainage improvement project involves improving drainage at the east end of Diggs Avenue. Staff has concluded a preliminary analysis and determined that right of way is not available to perform needed improvements. Staff has directed the County right of way consultant to initiate the Title Searches.
19. Ogeechee Farms.
 - a. Phase 1. Improve internal collector system south of Vidalia Road. ROW acquisition is complete. The Board approved award of a construction contract on March 12, 2004.
 - b. Phase 2.

- i. Wetlands delineation approved by USACE on July 21, 2002. Wetland permit application has been submitted to the USACE. Public notice of application is complete. County is addressing USACE's project review comments.
 - ii. The design is being revised to incorporate changes including an additional road undercrossing in the project and installation of box culvert sections instead of multiple pipes.
 - iii. No target date for construction.
- 20. Fawcett Canal Phase 1. Widen channel and improve crossings from Georgetown downstream to crossing under Grove Point Road, and replace tide gate.
 - a. Drainage improvements completed August 2002.
 - b. The Construction Contract for the Georgetown Lagoon Improvements Phase 1 Project was approved by the Board on December 19, 2003. Notice to proceed has been issued to the contractor and work is anticipated to begin in March.
 - c. Staff has completed design of the second phase of the Georgetown Lagoon Improvements Project that involves the lagoons north and south of Dovetail Crossing. The Construction Contract for Phase 2 received no bids. Staff is considering options including negotiation of the work as a Change Order with the contractor that is doing Phase 1 of the work.
- 21. Quacco Canal. Improve Quacco Canal and associated road undercrossing capacity from Regency Mobile Home Park, near Interstate 95, beyond US 17 to marsh, including improvements to a private tidegate structure.
 - a. The County and Corps of Engineers are partnering on engineering and construction of improvements.
 - b. Staff has selected the preferred plan. The Public Notice period has been completed and responses to comments are being prepared by the USACE. The USACE is preparing the final Detailed Project Report.
- 22. Quacco/Regency Park. Storm collector improvements to relieve severity and frequency of flooding within community. The consultant has been issued notice to proceed with the work that includes an engineering analysis of existing conditions and improvement recommendations. Preliminary survey work was completed in January 2004. Preliminary engineering analysis is anticipated to be completed in March 2004.
- 23. Halcyon Bluff Subdivision. Storm collector improvements to relieve severity and frequency of flooding within community. The final design documents submitted by consultant have been reviewed by Staff. Staff is working with a consultant to ensure that the proposed drainage improvements and the Whitfield Road project are coordinated. The consultant's recommendations are under review by Staff.
- 24. Golden Isles Subdivision. Storm collector improvements to relieve severity and frequency of flooding within community.
 - a. Phase 1: Outfall improvements completed 1997.
 - b. Phase 2: Improvements to collector system. Staff review of consultant recommendations on original scope complete. Project scope expanded to address previously unknown flooding condition. Survey and design of additional area is complete. Staff review of recommendations underway.
- 25. Henderson. Channel and crossing improvements to alleviate flooding in the subdivision.
 - a. Canal 1: Crossing and channel improvements on the canal parallel to Brown Thrush Road, from Al Henderson Blvd. to Little Neck Road. Survey and analysis are complete. Review of consultant recommendations underway.
 - b. Canal 2: Provide maintenance road for canal from Gateway Blvd. to Little Neck Road, through wetlands. Wetland delineation has been approved by the USACE.
- 26. North Rice Mill. Right of way acquisition services to provide for drainage improvements to a local drainage system tributary to the Georgetown Canal. Staff has directed the consultant to begin acquisition of right of way and easements based on a preliminary design developed by the County. Staff will obtain the services of a consultant to prepare the final design and plans needed for construction.

RECOMMENDATION: For information.

Districts: All

Prepared by W.C. Uhl, P.E.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion being made by Commissioner Thomas, seconded by Commissioner Odell and unanimously approved, the Board recessed at 11:20 a.m., to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation, land acquisition, and personnel. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

Following adjournment of the Executive Session, the meeting of the Board of Commissioners was reconvened at 11:50 a.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 Murray seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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- 2. **REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZE SETTLEMENT OF CLAIM OF MS. BETTY WARNOCK, 202 LEWIS DRIVE (JON HART).**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Gellatly moved to authorize settlement of the claim for damages of Ms. Betty Warnock in the amount of \$600. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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APPOINTMENTS

- 1. **CHATHAM COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to rescind the appointment of Dr. Eugene B. McLaurin due to a conflict of interest and reappoint Dr. Lawrence Ruf to a term of 30 days or until a successor is appointed. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion. Chairman Hair and Commissioners Rayno, Murray, Odell, Gellatly and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner McMasters voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of six to one. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Chairman Hair declared the meeting adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

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APPROVED: THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2004

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

SYBIL E. TILLMAN, COUNTY CLERK