

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 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 9:06 a.m., Friday, December 17, 2004.

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II. INVOCATION

Commissioner Jeff Rayno 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 (arrived approximately 9:13 a.m.)
 Jeffrey D. Rayno, District One
 Joe Murray Rivers, District Two
 John J. McMasters, District Three
 Harris Odell, Jr., District Five
 David M. Gellatly, District Six
 B. Dean Kicklighter, District Seven

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: Garth Marchant, a Junior at Beach High School, and Ashley Washington, a Junior at Jenkins High School.

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V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. OUTGOING COMMISSIONER RECOGNITION (THIS INCLUDES ACKNOWLEDGMENT BY THE YOUTH COMMISSION).

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman and fellow Commissioners. This is a very solemn time for us. We have five Commissioners who will be leaving us after today and we would like to pay homage to them in terms of recognizing them for the services that they have rendered over a number of years to this County. But first let me acknowledge the Youth Commission, and I'm going to call on them first to make some special presentations at this time and then I will follow with the other.

Youth Commissioner Stephen Watson said, I'd just like to recognize —. The Clerk asked, please identify yourself. Youth Commissioner Watson said, my name is Stephen Watson with the Youth Commission. Commissioner Thomas said, Steve Watson. Youth Commissioner Watson said, I'd just like to recognize Jeff Rayno for the help with

the Youth Commission, for his support and being a Commissioner and looking over us, and I'd just like to present you this plaque. Commissioner Rayno said, thank you very much. That's very kind, very nice. Thank you all very much. We appreciate all you do as well.

Youth Commissioner Chantel Flowers said, good morning. My name is Chantel Flowers and I'm a Junior at Alfred E. Beach and this award is going to be present to John McMasters on behalf of the Chatham County Youth Commission. Commissioner McMasters said, thank you so much and keep up the good efforts.

Youth Commissioner Jhamia Allen said, my name is Jhamia Allen. I'm a Junior at Jenkins High School, and this award is for Commissioner Frank Murray, who isn't here today, but if he were I'd like to thank him for all that he has done for the Youth Commissioners.

Youth Commissioner Kirsten Pratt said, good morning. My name is Kirsten Pratt and I'm a Sophomore at Jenkins High School and I want to present this to Joe Murray Rivers. Thank you for all your support you've done for Chatham County Youth Commission. Commissioner said, thank you. I appreciate it. I'm hoping that one of you will take my place one day.

Youth Commissioner Catherine Cornelius and I'm a Senior at Jenkins High School and I would like to present this award to Chairman Billy Hair for his support for the youth in the community and Chatham County Commission. Chairman Hair said, thank you very much. Over the last eight years the Youth Commission has provided great guidance and leadership for us actually, and we all owe a great deal of gratitude to our dear friend, Dr. Thomas, who started this in giving you folks the great opportunity. But I appreciate this very much. Thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, as I forestated, this is a very solemn time because we have five, five Commissioners whose last day is today. I'm going to miss each and every one of you. We've had some good times and we've had some bad times, but I believe the good times outweigh the bad times and it was a pleasure serving with each and every one of you, and I do hope and pray that those of you who are leaving that your future will continue to be bright. I'm going to ask Commissioner John McMasters if he would please come forward, and I'm going to make the presentations and ask that you return to your seats and then when I'm finished, then you will come back in that order and then you can make whatever remarks you would like to make. Okay. And I tell you, I don't know if I'm going through all of this because we'll be here until about ten o'clock tonight. But I just —, I'm just going to pick out a few of the achievements since he has been here. It says:

John J. McMasters
Board of Commissioners of Chatham County
2002-2004

In recognition of your leadership as Chatham County Commissioner, District 3, during an era of project and achievement unparalleled in the history of one of Georgia's oldest county governments.

Commissioner Thomas said, and just some of the things that John [McMasters] has participated in: the financial management policies, chart of accounts compliance, the best value contracting, the Ash Street funding, the W. W. Law Archives, King-Tisdell Cottage Renovation, Mosquito Control Complex, and the list goes on and on and on. Commissioner McMasters asked, does it say good government policies on there? Commissioner Thomas said, and —, yes, yes it did, it did. And —, well, we just want to say thank you so very much, John [McMasters], for all that you have done for the County government. Commissioner McMasters said, thank you, Dr. Thomas. Commissioner Thomas said, thank you so very much.

Commissioner Thomas said, Commissioner Rayno, each plaque says the same thing with the exception of many of the contributions that they have rendered, and there are so many of them, and as I said, we'll be here all day. But, Jeff [Rayno], you certainly added a lot of spark to the Commission, and rightly so in many ways because you brought before the Commission many things that we really needed to deal with, and I appreciate your friendship, I appreciate all that you have done to try to make this County better, and some of the things that Jeff [Rayno] participated in is the Mighty Eighth and the Henderson bond retirement, the EMS privatization, the Julie Backus Smith Trail Memorial, the Civil Rights Museum, the Telfair Arts Center funding, the Humane Society, and most importantly you really looked at the welfare of the people of Chatham County in terms of budgeting and some other things. But for those reasons we'd like to thank you and bid you God speed. Commissioner Rayno said, thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, oh, he has arrived. Commissioner Murray, please come forward. Good Lord. I mean, oh, man. While Commissioner Murray is coming, I'm going to just let you see the long list of accomplishments that he has attained. Commissioner Murray asked, did we have this in the budget? Commissioner Thomas said, you know, during his reign here on the Board of Commissioners. Frank [Murray], it certainly has been a wonderful pleasure working with you these few years. You've been very supportive and, as I said earlier, we've had some good times and we've had some bad times, but the good times outweigh the bad times. We've had many differences, but then you were always a person that was able to —, that you can reason with and I appreciate all of that. I just want to say that your contributions are many and we appreciate everything that you have done, and we hope that whatever you decide to do when you leave office today, that they will be as meaningful as what you have contributed here in Chatham County. Commissioner Murray said, thank you very much. Commissioner Thomas said, thank you. You can make your comments afterwards.

Commissioner Thomas said, Joe Murray Rivers. I'm still angry with him. He told me four years ago, "Priscilla, don't leave me." I was getting ready to leave. "Don't leave me, we're going to go out together." Then he sneaks out. But anyway, Joe [Rivers], you certainly have provided the leadership for this County for 20 years, and 20 years of service recorded here, and I'm not going to name all of these things that he has done, but, you know, he was one of the main

persons behind the Hutchinson Island project over there, the women's health care, the various SPLOST's that we've had. He's worked with the Local Preference Policy and Disparity Study, and the list goes on and on and on and on, and for those reasons, Joe [Rivers], we want to say thank you so very much for 20 years of productive service to Chatham County and we wish you the best in the future. Commissioner Rivers said, thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, Dr. Billy Hair. While Dr. Hair is coming, Dr. Hair and I go way back. We were both in education. We worked very closely together, and then when he came on board as Chairman of the Chatham County Commission, it was really a pleasure working with him. I mean, this man stands tall. He has done so many things and we are so appreciative of what you have done, Billy [Hair], it will never go unnoticed and we just want to say to you thank you for eight years of just excellent leadership and we know that whatever you decide to do after today, that it's going to be well done, and we'd like for you to bring remarks a little later, okay. And the list goes on and on with him as well. Thank you so very much.

Commissioner Thomas said, I did not take the time to add up all the years between all five of them, but I'm sure they are many, and I'd like to now ask that you come back in the order in which you received your plaques and make your statements. Thank you and God speed.

Commissioner McMasters said, it's true there's been good times and it's true there's been bad times, but on balance the things that I have felt were my primary responsibility was representing the constituents of the Third District, which I feel that I have labored intensely to do. As part of that effort I have always advocated transparent, good government policy. I did that prior to entering politics, I've done that during my elected tenure, and I promise you that I will continue to do that post public service, but in a different way and a different fashion with just as much diligence and vigor as I've brought to this. But I've enjoyed working with all of you and I'll continue to be working with you in one way or another. Thank you very much.

Commissioner Rayno said, I've liked both the good times and the bad times because I do believe that there's strength in diversity and if you want diversity, you have to take all of the things that come with it, which means differing ideas, and when you battle those ideas out in the public arena and other people chime in, you come out with a stronger conclusion, I believe. If everything is just one-sided, then you get a government that kind of runs awry after a period of time, and so I'm proud of the fact that we did have to butt heads once in a while to move forward. And if you think about it, we moved that first year from a twelve million dollar deficit into today a ten million dollar surplus in our fund balance just in the M&O budget, and the SSD budget continued to climb year after year despite the fact that we butted heads over the course of those years, and that's something I'm very proud of, the fact that we went from nothing to something, and I hope that because of the policies we've set under the leadership of Linda Cramer I think we'll continue down that path. Otherwise, in four years we'll be right back where we started, and we can't do that in this County because this County is growing and the region depends upon this area as the anchor for growth, and we need to continue down that path. I'd also like to say that I came into office, you know, from the streets and I hope I brought that perspective to the County Commission and I did learn something in the process. I learned that I didn't know as much as I thought I knew and I learned a lot from department heads and from my fellow Commissioners, and for that I'll always be very appreciative and I will take that knowledge back to the streets again and build up probably one of the most powerful regional groups that's going to watchdog governments to make sure that we're held accountable because we need that for each other so that we don't do the wrong things. We need to look over each other's shoulders all the time, and I think together working in cooperation we will have a stronger area, a stronger region and stronger governments, and I look forward to standing in this well pleading with you to do certain things, whether we agree or disagree, and moving forward. It's been an honor to serve with each and every one of you and I wish you all a very merry Christmas. Thank you.

Commissioner Murray asked, how much time do we have because I'm going to go back 16 years and take each year at a time; is that all right? Well, first of all I'd just like to really thank the citizens of the Fourth District over the past 16 years. Y'all have made it an honor and a privilege for me to have served you, and that's what I considered as a servant and not as a politician. I feel like we've accomplished an awful lot of things in the Fourth District over the years. We've seen that district change quite a bit size-wise and other ways, but I want to thank you as the citizens for being involved and staying involved. I'm sure Marianne [Heimes] is going to be sitting up at every one of the meetings in the future also. I don't know that I will, but I do want to say I have no regrets on what I've done in those 16 years and I certainly don't have any regrets over the campaign. I wish the incoming Commission well. If the incoming Commission does well, Chatham County's going to do well and we as the citizens will do well, and I think we all have to stand behind them to move this County forward and certainly hold them accountable. You held us accountable and that's what it's all about. But I would like to really thank my family, my wife Kathryn and my son Gray, because they have stood there and been through this whole process with me and they've been totally involved in it. Some say the good times and the bad times, I really don't remember bad times. I know we've had some differences and that's what it's all about. You've got nine people with nine different personalities and nine different ideas and the way to get things done. The hard part is being able to bring those people together and make sure you have a consensus and you can move it forward, whichever way it goes. Once that's over with, it should be over and we should move on. Over the years I think most of us have been able to do that. I know Joe Rivers and myself have been on —, really enemies on certain issues. Not many, but on certain ones. When the issue's over with, we were able to get up, walk out shaking hands, laughing and still be friends, and that's what it's all about. It's not about personalities. It's about doing the job the best for Chatham County, and I think that each person coming on this Commission, certainly the four that are returning plus the five new members, hopefully y'all will do that and the community will be proud and y'all will be proud because 16 years serving up here and serving the people is really something that you can't explain to somebody unless you go through it yourself. It gives me a great feeling of accomplishment and also a great feeling of knowing that we did some good things for Chatham County, and a lot of good things that have happened during this time that not just me but the whole Commission played parts in. So, again, thank you. I don't regret it. I'm going to enjoy sitting back and I may even watch part of it on TV from time to time, but I have enjoyed it. The staff —, I'd like to thank the staff because there have been things over the years that

they have supported me on, that they have gotten the information on and, again, we didn't always agree on things, but we were able to talk through them and still remain friends. And Pat Monahan, I don't know how much more Russ [Abolt] is going to give you to do. If he gives you much more, you'll be in his position, but you've got people like Pat [Monahan]. We have a good staff and we have good employees for Chatham County, and I'd also like to apologize for not being able to be at the luncheon this week. My son was having surgery and I was there, so —, but I do apologize for not being there because I was looking forward to it. But again, thank you. It's been a good 16 years and I look forward to the future. Thank you.

Youth Commissioner Allen said, Commissioner Murray, I'd like to present this to you for all that you have done for the community and for the Youth Commission. Thank you. Commissioner Murray said, thank you, and I sure hope this Youth Commission continues as it is. I see y'all are growing quite a bit. Thank you. Youth Commissioner Allen said, thank you.

Commissioner Rivers said, good morning again everybody. First let me thank God for allowing me to serve 20 years. That's a milestone. It has been a good run and I want to thank my constituents for electing me five consecutive terms. I think I've gained more than I've given. I want to thank the folks for the international interaction that I've had on a political state, also for my service on the national and state. I've been actually involved and I've seen a lot of this country, I've seen a lot of bills, I've interacted with Congress, I've interacted with the State Legislators. These were all good experience for me. I also had a great experience and a wonderful thing that the Youth Commission did when I was chairing the Steering Committee. They were there, they participated, and I want to congratulate you guys on all that you do because really I think the last time that I was up in Washington with the Youth Commission everybody wanted to know who you were and how you participated made me feel real proud. So I want to thank y'all. Again, I want to thank my constituents for allowing me to serve 20 years, I want to thank my fellow Commissioners for putting up and tolerating me, I want to thank all the staff for all that they did to make me the Commissioner that I am. The Finance people or the —, there's been some wonderful staff over the years. I can't say too much. I think —, I've got a request of you guys. There's going to be a sign put up on the door: Commissioner Emeritus. And, you know, Superior Court Judges have Judges Emeritus over there, and I understand that they get \$100 a day and they show up two hours or three hours and they still get \$100 a day. So that's my request from me to you guys that y'all put me in that status so I —, and I promise you I'll be here every day. But it has been a good run. I want to thank you, Russ [Abolt] and your staff and all the department heads and all the constitutional elected officers, everybody throughout. This has been a great, great run. But I want to let you know something else, aside from that emeritus status I'm going to be the sixth man out here, or you could say the tenth man, but the sixth man in basketball is normally sometimes a crowd, but there's only five that can be on the floor at one time and I'm going to be that sixth man for this new Commission. I'm going to be around. I'm not going anywhere. I'm not going to promise you like anybody else, John [McMasters] is going to act in some capacity, but I want to maintain that little room in there so you'll see me on a regular basis. I thank all of you for all that you have done for me, and again I thank God that he has allowed me to serve my constituents for 20 years. I know I'm going to be involved, I want to get away, but I don't think you guys are going to let me get away. So thank you, I appreciate all that you have done.

Chairman Hair said, I want to start out by thanking our staff. I happen to believe after eight years on this Commission that we have the finest County Manager anywhere in this country, and I honestly believe that. And he certainly has surrounded himself, and I think that's a sign of a true leader is you surround yourself with good people, and he's made some excellent hires. And, Pat [Monahan], as Commissioner Murray said, I don't know what else Russ [Abolt] is going to give you to do, but whatever it is, it will be done well. And to my fellow Commissioners, it's been a good ride and I have really enjoyed it and I'm going to miss it, but there's one other person, before I get into my real remarks that I want to recognize. Gail [Gordon], would you come forward please. Gail Gordon has been actually an inspiration to me. Over the last eight years we've been a good team, Gail, and I can't tell you how much I appreciate your friendship and all the things that you've done for me. Ms. Gordon said, I enjoyed it. Chairman Hair said, thank you. To our County Attorney, he's been with us a long time. He's got a wealth of experience. I think he's done an outstanding job. He has served us well and I hope the new Commission will consider that when they go to consider the County Attorney's position. Sybil [Tillman], I know you get tired of —, you're not tired of me bugging you, are you? Or are you? Ms. Tillman said, no, I'm not. Chairman Hair said, oh, okay. Sybil [Tillman], you know, she's got one of those jobs that sort of, you know, she does it well and it's sort of like we talk about a referee, you know, the best referee is when the game is over they didn't know the referee was there, and I think that's the role that Sybil [Tillman] has played. She's kept us on track many, many times and, Sybil [Tillman], we've had our little banter back and forth that we do on a daily basis, but I've enjoyed working with you.

Chairman Hair said, when I was leaving church last Sunday I began to think about the last eight years and this time right now when I was going to have to make my final remarks, and in our church we're going through the Seasons of Advent right now and, of course, we celebrate those Seasons of Advent for a much higher and much more powerful reason than our service here on earth, but as I began to think about the seasons it really reflected my feelings over the last eight years, and of course the first Season of Advent is the Season of Hope and I'm very hopeful for the future of Chatham County. I think this new Commission is going to do an outstanding job, and because of that the future is bright, and that makes me very hopeful. The second Season of Advent is that of Peace. I am very much at peace for two reasons. One is that over the last few years I've had many opportunities to succumb to the sins of retaliation and revenge and through again someone much higher than me I was able to resist that temptation, and for that I'm at peace. The second reason I'm at peace is that I know in my heart of hearts, regardless of the critics, that I have done the very best job that I am capable of doing, and I sleep well at night and I'm at peace. The third Season of Advent is that of Joy. I'm extremely joyful today. I live in the best city and the best county and the best country in the world, but another reason I'm joyful is that the citizens of this County gave me the high honor and privilege of serving as Chairman of the Chatham County Commission for the last eight years, and for that I'm both joyful and extremely appreciative. And the last Season of Advent is that of Love. If there's anything politics will teach you, it will teach you what's important in life, and what's important in life is your family and your friends. I love my friends and my friends love me. And when you think about people who get depressed in life, they don't get depressed because they don't

have \$100 in their pocket, they get depressed because in their mind nobody loves them and nobody cares about them. I have people that love and care about me and I have people that I love and care about, and it doesn't get any better than that. May God continue to bless this County and this country.

Vice Chairman Thomas said, thank you, gentlemen. Chairman Hair said, thank you, Dr. Thomas.

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Commissioner Kicklighter asked, may I say something to all of you? Chairman Hair said, certainly. Commissioner Kicklighter said, I just want to say that I'm honored to work with each and every one of you. The disagreements throughout the last four years, I never took personally whatsoever because I believe that although we had —, we have nine very strong personalities that clashed at times, I truly believe that every one of you that's outgoing you stood up, you fought, you raised cane, you did whatever you felt necessary to accomplish the cause that you truly, sincerely believed in, and I have no problem and I'm honored to have worked with all of you because you are sincere people that all did the best, like you said, that you can do. I admire all of you. It's a hard thing and a lot of people don't realize this, when you're in politics you have to accept the fact that basically half the people they're going to like you out there and half will just absolutely for some reason they don't, and that's a tough thing, but I admire you and I appreciate every one of you for sticking yourselves out there and accepting that and fighting for what you all believed in throughout the years, and I'm honored and I've learned a lot from every one of you, and I appreciate the time that we've all worked together and I appreciate all of the good examples you've given me and hopefully I can take some from each and every one of you and move forward and do a good job for the County there. Thank you.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Commissioner Kicklighter. I'll recognize Mr. Pierce.

Mr. John Saxon "Piccolo" Pierce said, well, Billy Hair and John [McMasters], I'm sorry I've [inaudible] —, but you've done a good job for the country, the United States. I wish you good luck and all the power and wherever you go may God be with you, and I can say something else about you. You've done a good job. You cooperate with us, all of them, the secretaries, Russ [Abolt], and all of you, and I thank you. Wherever you go, I'll pray for you and may God bless you.

Chairman Hair said, thank you.

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2. RETIREMENT RECOGNITION FOR JUDGE ANDRE, MAGISTRATE COURT.

Chairman Hair said, we now have the retirement recognition for Judge Andre of Magistrate Court. Judge, join me down front. Judge, come here and stand next to me. Judge John Andre said, now I come to get a rocking chair. Somebody told me —, somebody told me that when I came here today to get recognized, they were going to give me a rocking chair. Chairman Hair asked, he's going to get his rocking chair, right? Judge Andre said, all right, okay. I just want to make sure I get my rocking chair. Chairman Hair said, Judge, you can sit in your rocking chair and read this, okay, but I'm going to read it first, Judge. Judge Andre said, okay. Chairman Hair said, if you'll stand and face the cameras. Chairman Hair then read the following proclamation into the record:

WHEREAS, it takes a person of great integrity and high moral values to serve as Judge, today we recognize an individual of this caliber, Judge John W. Andre, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Judge Andre began his public service to the citizens of Chatham County in 1976 when he was elected to the Chatham County Commission representing the 6th district and held that office until 1980; and

WHEREAS, in 1985 Judge Andre was elected to the office of Chief Magistrate of Chatham County, where he dutifully served with distinction, his "grass roots" method of campaigning earning him accolades throughout the county; and

WHEREAS, his dedication to the Magistrate Court and the citizens of Chatham County has earned him tremendous respect from the community and his peers.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Dr. Billy B. Hair, Chairman, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim Friday, December 17, 2004 as:

"JUDGE JOHN W. ANDRE, JR. DAY"

in Chatham County and extend to him our sincere gratitude and appreciation for services rendered during his tenure as Chief Magistrate as well as congratulations upon his retirement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia, to be affixed this the 17th day of December, 2004.

Dr. Billy B. Hair, Chairman

Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

Judge Andre said, thank you. After hearing Dr. Hair give such an eloquent speech, I feel kind of flustered by the fact that I don't think I can keep us with what he said and the eloquent way that he said it. I do want to say this though. I worked for Chatham County for 24 years and I could not have ended up working for a better employer. I really sincerely mean that. I've met a lot of people here. I knew a lot of people, most of you, personally including Russ Abolt, Joe Murray Rivers, Billy Hair, Harris Odell and Priscilla Thomas. I know them personally. The rest of you I've seen, I've had occasions to listen in on the channel where it's broadcast and I've kept up with most of the things that go on here. I was so fortunate myself in having served on the County Commission from '77 through '80. I believe this was the room, I believe at the time I served this was a courtroom that they used on the meeting day to have the County Commissioners here. This same room I believe, if I'm not mistaken, was the same room we started off in. They originally after that we went to the —, I'm not sure, was it the sixth floor that we went to in the new —, in the new courthouse, and then y'all eventually came back here. So I've watched the progress of Chatham County and the Commissioners and I want to say was I'm real honored to have served as a County Commissioner. I really am. I can't —, you know, not everyone gets to reach the goal of serving the public, and I've always considered it a great honor to have served as a County Commissioner for the Sixth District. I've truly, truly always considered it an honor to be a Judge, the Chief Magistrate of Chatham County. If I've ever done anything and accomplished anything it's that, and it has been an honor and an honor to know everyone in this room who has come and I'll never forget the time you took to honor me here. Thank you.

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

Commissioner Rivers said, I just want to thank you for all the things that you've done over the years and for the friendship that we have had, but I also want to thank you for allowing and teaching politicians how to stand on the corner and wave at folks in the morning. An unidentified person said, he's the one to blame. Commissioner Rivers said, he's the one that started it off, but in addition to that you and I are going out. We're leaving somebody. We've got to get Spencer [Lawton], man. Spencer [Lawton] can't stay around here like that, him and the Sheriff, man. We've got to get them guys going with us. Judge Andre said, there you go. Commissioner Rivers said, we all got to go fishing together and do the chicken dance. Judge Andre said, I'm looking to get my rocking chair. I want to sit down and do some good rocking, that's what I want to do. Commissioner Rivers said, well, I'm going to put them on notice, too. I want one too. If you get one, I want one. Judge Andre said, there you go.

Commissioner Odell said, Judge, after all that exercising you've been doing, you look too good for a rocking chair. I mean, you're walking two miles a day. I told Russ [Abolt], I said, the Chief Judge has been out walking two miles a day, we can save that rocking chair for someone who needs it. Now that I see that you want it, we're going to do it right. You're getting your rocking chair. Judge Andre said, Billy —, Chairman Billy Hair said this, but this is true. I'm at peace with myself. I don't need anything else. I am truly at peace with myself. I'm happy I don't have any regrets of having resigned and giving someone else the opportunity to serve and have the honor that I've had for the past 24 years and, believe me, I have no regrets at all. Commissioner Odell said, well, you look good, Judge. Judge Andre said, thank you.

Chairman Hair said, thank you. We appreciate you being here, sir.

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NOTE: See Item V-1 for additional comments that were made at this point relative to that item.

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3. DEBUT GOVERNMENT 101 (PETE NICHOLS).

Chairman Hair recognized Mr. Pete Nichols.

County Manager Abolt said, this is pretty neat stuff, Mr. Chairman, Dr. Thomas and gentlemen. I'm very proud of a suggestion that came first from Commissioner Kicklighter and then with the creativity of someone like Pete [Nichols] who amazes me each day I work with him, but also you're going to meet a new video personality, and I submit to you what you see now is going to be the start of something big, and the person you're about to see is going to make it big, I know, because not only is he wonderful, but he does an outstanding job and he's going to build a viewing audience. So we're now debuting something that's very special.

Mr. Pete Nichols said, thank you, Russ [Abolt]. And, gosh, how to follow the retirement ceremonies of not only the Commissioners, but Judge Andre. It kind of fits in with what I'm going to do here. Local Government 101, this is an idea that came from Commissioner Kicklighter quite a while back and then he reinforced it, I think, a couple of months ago. A great idea, but how to do it? I looked at a couple of different formats and finally through Mr. Abolt he was able to introduce me to a political science professor at Savannah State, Dr. Willie Johnson. Unfortunately, Dr. Johnson isn't here today because his holiday travels have taken him out of town. He will hopefully join me at future meetings when we get more segments going. But the one thing when I first met Dr. Johnson, who is a wonderful personality, the one thing we wanted to focus on was local government, and as he pointed out to me, nowhere in our founding documents, the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Federalist Papers, does it stipulate anything for

formation of local governments. We were pretty much left to start up on our own. It's kind of interesting right now when you look at the world's situation today as democracy is spreading through new Europe, Eastern Europe, through the Middle East and Afghanistan and in Iraq, elections are coming up in Iraq, they just had an inauguration in Afghanistan. Their form of democracy has started from the ground up, the exact opposite of what we're doing. So, anyways, what we will do is put together different segments. This one, Introductory, is about eight minutes long. We'll be looking at all the different aspects of local government, we'll be going into the different branches of it, we'll be going into the judicial branch, the constitutional officers, we'll be looking at the tax structure, we'll be looking at infrastructure. We're open to all sorts of ideas. This is still a work in progress as I don't have the opening music set up yet, but if I could ask Mr. Thompson to press play.

"My name is Dr. Willie Johnson. I'm Professor of Public Administration and Political Science at Savannah State University. Welcome to Government 101. I'm standing in the office of the Chairman of the Board of Commissioners Billy Hair as we do this first segment. This show is a first in a series on the many aspects of learning more about our local government. What we want to do today is to give you an overview and introduction to local government.

Most citizens, political leaders, the media and scholars tend to think about government in terms of big government. The political institutions that we find in Washington, DC, and in our state capitals and large cities, it is their performance and their behavior that we think shape the American image of government, but the reality is that most Americans obtain government services from the government communities in which they live, i.e., smaller governments, towns, suburbs, communities beyond metropolitan areas and even rural counties. It is these governments that have ultimate responsibility for the quality of life in their respective communities. The responsibility has grown in magnitude over the past 10 to 20 years, particularly as the national and state governments are forced by shrinking budgets and fiscal entrenchment to reduce their level of support for local governments and ask local governments now to do more with less. Imagine that. Approximately 95% of all U. S. cities serve fewer than 25,000 people and 74% of our counties serve populations under 50,000.

Now let's turn to a brief historical foundation of local governments and counties and trace their roots and we can trace that to the English shire of 8,000 years ago. Counties serve as a dual function. The shire acted as the administrative arm of the national government on one hand and on the other hand the shire also acted as a arm for the local citizens' government. The structure form of a shire was adopted along the eastern seaboard of North America by the colonists and adapted to suit the diverse economic and geographic needs of each of the colonies. Now that our national government was formed and the framers of the Constitution was putting this document together, they did not provide for local governments. Rather, they left the matter up to the states. Local governments are referred to as creatures of the state.

After World War I and the population growth, suburban development, the government reform movement, which launched the good government movement where we were taking politics out of government, where we wanted to move away from machine politics and corrupt government where leaders would be elected and appointed to office based on qualifications and not popularity. Those developments set the stage for post-World War II urbanization, changes in structure, greater economy from the states, rising revenues and stronger political accountability. This is what citizens are looking for even today. This was ushered in in this new era for county government. The counties began providing an ever-widening range of services. These trends continue today and we'll talk about some of those trends in future segments.

Forty-eight of the fifty states have operational county governments. Alaska and Louisiana call their county-type governments boroughs and parishes respectively. So we want to make sure you have that understanding. Hawaii and Delaware have the fewest counties, which is they only have three, and Texas has the most with 254. We have 159 counties here in the State of Georgia. There are 3,034 counties in the United States. There are 34 city/county governments, which are consolidated government functions with their surrounding counties [sic]. An example of that is our neighbor to the south, Jacksonville/Duval County, which is one of the largest counties area wise in the United States. My county where I grew up, L.A. County, is the largest in population [inaudible].

Now we have to move now to one of the other areas that we want to look at in this segment, and here we want to give you some of the future sessions that we will cover, and I know I timed this right [inaudible], but just let me say some of the things that we will cover in future segments. One of the things that we will cover is we know that county governments, as we've learned just from this short segment, carries many hats. We'll look at the basic forms of county government, we'll look at some of the county characteristics, we're going to look at the office of the county manager, and we'll look at planning and zoning and develop—, economic development, and we will look at some of the constitutional officers which many people are not aware of as we discuss this. [Inaudible] we suggest to name a few of what we'll do.

I have so enjoyed this segment and I look forward to meeting you in future segments of Government 101. Thank you so much.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yeah, I just want to thank Pete [Nichols] and thank Russ [Abolt] and thank Dr. Willie Johnson. That's excellent, and you're off to a great start there and I would love and be honored to, if I could, assist

— Mr. Nichols said, be glad to. Commissioner Kicklighter said, — in the future with a few ideas with this, and I think it's great. Eventually we'll be able to help the people out throughout the area and just explaining to them who provides each service, and I think —, I think that's —, you're just off to a great start, and I really do appreciate your work and, Russ [Abolt], I appreciate you coordinating everything with Pete [Nichols] and Dr. Johnson there, and, you know, thanks a lot for all your work. Mr. Nichols said, it's a pleasure, Mr. Kicklighter. As I said, it's a work in progress. We're open to suggestions. You know, I think I —, we've got the potential to do a lot of segments here and, who knows, once we get them all together we'll put together a DVD box set for Christmas.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Pete [Nichols]. A job well done.

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VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

- 1. REQUEST FROM THOMAS AND HUTTON, ENGINEER FOR SOUTHBRIDGE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, TO RECORD THE SUBDIVISION PLAT FOR SOUTHBRIDGE, PHASE F-2A, ACCEPT THE SUBDIVISION AGREEMENT AND FINANCIAL GUARANTEE AND COMBINE THIS PHASE WITH THE EXISTING STREETLIGHT ASSESSMENT DISTRICT. [DISTRICT 7.]**

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rivers moved to approve the request from Thomas and Hutton, engineer for Southbridge Development Company, to record the subdivision plat for Southbridge, Phase F-2A, accept the subdivision agreement and financial guarantee and combine this phase with the existing streetlight assessment district. Commissioners Kicklighter and Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and Gellatly were not present when this vote was taken.]

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VII. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS

- 1. ED PULKINEN (COMMISSIONER KICKLIGHTER).**

Chairman Hair said, I'll call on Commissioner Kicklighter to introduce Ed Pulkinen, I believe is his name.

Commissioner Kicklighter asked, is Ed [Pulkinen] out in the audience here today? Okay, he's not here so we'll just move on.

Chairman Hair said, okay.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

There was no discussion on this item because Mr. Ed Pulkinen was not present.

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- 2. PARK SELF-HELP PROGRAM (COMMISSIONER RAYNO).**

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Rayno.

Commissioner Rayno said, thank you, Dr. Hair. One of the first items I put on the agenda for my first meeting back in 2001 was the Park Self-Help Program and staff put together a package of past ideas we had at that time and dusted it off and brought it to the Commission for their consideration. After that time what happened was unanimous approval of the conceptual idea of the Park Self-Help Program, and I'd like again today to ask my fellow Commissioners to consider sending a resolution to the Recreation Authority asking them to provide funding of \$80,000 for a pilot program for park self-help, giving \$10,000 to each Commission district and then what staff would do, would identify people within the neighborhoods who may wish to apply for park self-help and we would use all the same ideas that I presented four years ago and bring that forward. And I would just ask for your consideration. I believe it's a worthwhile program. I know the Recreation Authority has the money to do it and it would be with the understanding it's not a recurring program unless it's very, very successful, and people should not look upon it as a permanent solution but maybe a thing to get them started, to also maybe look for corporate sponsorships as well, and then eventually if funding issues become a problem in the future, it may be an alternative to recreation [inaudible] working in these parks. So —.

Commissioner Kicklighter asked, is that a motion? Vice Chairman Thomas said, it's a great idea.

Commissioner Rayno said, I'd like to make a motion we pass a resolution for the Recreation Authority to put funding of \$80,000 to fund the Park Self-Help Program. Commissioner Kicklighter said, second. Vice Chairman Thomas asked, any discussion? All in favor of the motion let it be known. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioners Odell and Gellatly were not present when this vote was taken.] Vice Chairman Thomas said, the motion is carried. Thank you.

Commissioner Rayno said, thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved that the Board send a resolution to the Recreation Authority asking them to provide funding of \$80,000 for a pilot program for Park Self-Help, designating \$10,000 each for the County's eight districts. Commissioner Kicklighter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioners Odell and Gellatly were not present when this vote was taken.]

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3. RECOMMENDING ORDINANCE FOR TIMELY DEMOLITION OF DESTROYED HOUSES (COMMISSIONER MURRAY).

Vice Chairman Thomas said, I don't have an updated list. Is there another item? County Manager Abolt said, yes. Commissioner Murray said, number three. County Manager Abolt said, Commissioner Murray. Vice Chairman Thomas said, read it for me please because I don't have that in front of me. Frank [Murray], read it for me.

Commissioner Murray said, it's recommending ordinance for timely demolition of destroyed houses. The reason I put this on the agenda, and it's strictly a recommendation to the incoming Commission to address and hopefully create an ordinance since I don't believe we have one, and these things don't happen too often, but as most of you are aware we had a home in Battery Point a month or so back that exploded and burnt up. The Health Department gives them 120 days to have something done. I don't know what the process is after that 120 days, but being right in the middle of a residential neighborhood, there needs to be some way that this property would have to be cleaned up, and I would assume the insurance company, if insurance was on that property, is going to do it, and there should be a more timely manner in which these properties are cleaned up, especially for the other people that live in the neighborhood. I know when you have something like that happen, it's a tragedy, but at the same time they need to be cleaned. So I'm asking that the incoming Commission and whoever —, I assume the County Attorney at the present time anyway could start looking at that and I know you would have to have two meetings to do it, but it would be something where it could be done quicker than that 120 days if possible and at least the debris and stuff picked up.

Vice Chairman Thomas asked, any further discussion? Do you need a motion for that? Commissioner Murray said, I don't think so, I think we could run into the same type thing with the Williams Seafood situation, so, I mean, it just sits.

County Manager Abolt said, you might make a motion, sir. Commissioner Murray said, yeah, I make a motion that we request this to be looked at. Commissioner Rayno said, second. Vice Chairman Thomas asked, discussion? Vice Chairman Thomas recognized Youth Commissioner Ashley Washington.

Youth Commissioner Washington asked, is this for —, is the demolition just for the houses in district —, in a certain district or is it for all of Savannah? Commissioner Murray said, it won't be all of Savannah, it will only be the unincorporated area of Chatham County because that's all we have jurisdiction over. The City of Savannah has, I think, some ordinances that are in place right now that do a lot of things as far as they've got some now they just implemented with the blight neighborhoods and things like that, so the City is moving forward with it. I'd just like to see the County move forward, and this would only affect those properties in the unincorporated area of Chatham County.

Vice Chairman Thomas asked, any further discussion? All those in favor of the motion. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioners Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.] Vice Chairman Thomas said, the motion is carried.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Murray moved to recommend that the 2005 incoming Commission address and hopefully create an ordinance for the timely demotion and clean up of destroyed homes in the unincorporated area of Chatham County. Commissioner Rayno seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioners Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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VIII. TABLED/POSTPONED ITEMS

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

None.

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IX. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL ACTION

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

1. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVE THE FOLLOWING: TRANSFER OF \$250,000 FROM THE GRANGE ROAD CANAL PROJECT TO THE ST. IVES CULVERT REPLACEMENT DRAINAGE PROJECT, AND A TRANSFER OF \$600,000 FROM THE HARDIN CANAL PROJECT TO THE HALCYON BLUFF DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT IN THE 1998-2003 SPLOST FUND; AN AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT BUDGET TO RECOGNIZE \$127,515 REVENUE FROM INSURANCE PREMIUM TAXES AND APPROPRIATE \$127,515 TO TRANSFER TO THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUND; AND AN AMENDMENT TO THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUND TO RECOGNIZE THE TRANSFER IN FROM THE SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND AND APPROPRIATE \$127,515 FOR REPAIRS TO THE FAYE DRIVE BRIDGE.**

Commissioner Rayno said, move for approval with just a moment for a comment. Commissioner Rivers said, second. Vice Chairman Thomas asked, discussion?

Commissioner Rayno said, yes, I just wanted to thank Engineering for finding the money from the Hardin Canal Project to help the residents of Halcyon Bluff that have been suffering from some drainage problems for a number of years that needed to be taken care of and also thank Finance for finding the money for the Faye Drive Bridge Project, which is of great concern to Mr. Lewis and the surrounding neighbors out there on Burnside Island. Thank you very much.

Vice Chairman Thomas said, it's already been seconded. Please vote. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioners Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.] Vice Chairman Thomas said, the motion is carried.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved to approve the following: Transfer of \$250,000 from the Grange Road Canal Project to the St. Ives Culvert Replacement Drainage Project, and a transfer of \$600,000 from the Hardin Canal Project to the Halcyon Bluff Drainage Improvement Project in the 1998-2003 SPLOST fund; an amendment to the Special Service District budget to recognize \$127,515 revenue from Insurance Premium Taxes and appropriate \$127,515 to transfer to the Capital Improvement Program fund; and an amendment to the Capital Improvement Program fund to recognize the transfer in from the Special Service District fund and appropriate \$127,515 for repairs to the Faye Drive bridge. Commissioner Rivers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioners Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-1
AGENDA DATE: December 17, 2004

DATE: December 8, 2004
TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R.E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: Linda Cramer, Finance Director

ISSUE:

To request approval of a transfer of \$250,000 from the Grange Road Canal project to the St. Ives Culvert Replacement drainage project, and a transfer of \$600,000 from the Hardin Canal project to the Halcyon Bluff Drainage Improvement project in the 1998-2003 SPLOST fund; an amendment to the Special Service District budget to recognize \$127,515 revenue from Insurance Premium Taxes and appropriate \$127,515 to transfer to the Capital Improvement Program fund; and an amendment to the Capital Improvement Program fund to recognize the transfer in from the Special Service District fund and appropriate \$127,515 for repairs to the Faye Drive bridge.

BACKGROUND:

Board approval is required for budget amendments and transfers between organizational units.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- (1) The County Engineer has requested a transfer of \$250,000 from the 1998-2003 SPLOST Grange Road Canal project to the St. Ives Culvert Replacement drainage project. A staff report is attached.
- (2) The County Engineer has requested a transfer of \$600,000 from the Hardin Canal project to the Halcyon Bluff Drainage Improvement project in the 1998-2003 SPLOST fund. A staff report is attached.
- (3) The actual revenue from Insurance Premium Taxes in the Special Service District (SSD) fund has exceeded the amount budgeted. There is an identified need in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) to fund repairs to the Faye Drive bridge. An amendment to the budget to recognize the additional revenue in the SSD fund, appropriate the funds for transfer to the CIP fund, and appropriate the funds in CIP for repairs to the Faye Drive bridge would address this need. A copy of correspondence is attached.

FUNDING:

Funds are available in the 1998-2003 SPLOST Fund for the transfers. The budget amendments will establish funding in the Special Service District Fund and Capital Improvement Program Fund.

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1) That the Board approve the following:

1998-2003 SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX FUND

- a) a transfer of \$250,000 from the 1998-2003 SPLOST Grange Road Canal project to the St. Ives Culvert Replacement drainage project.
- b) a transfer of \$600,000 from the Hardin Canal project to the Halcyon Bluff Drainage Improvement project.

SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND

A budget amendment to recognize \$127,515 in revenue from Insurance Premium Taxes and appropriate \$127,515 to transfer to the Capital Improvement Program fund.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUND

A budget amendment to recognize the \$127,515 transfer in from the Special Service District fund and appropriate \$127,515 for repairs to the Faye Drive bridge.

- 2) Amend or deny the request.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

State law grants the Board authority to transfer funds within the budget during the year as it deems necessary.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve Alternative 1.

Prepared by: Read DeHaven

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2. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE YEAR END FUND BALANCE RECONCILIATIONS BASED ON AUDIT, BUDGET AMENDMENT AND BUDGET ADOPTIONS FOR ENCUMBRANCES, INCOMPLETE PROJECTS/ EQUIPMENT PURCHASES AND FUND BALANCE RESERVES AT YEAR END 2004 FOR THE GENERAL FUND M&O, SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS, ENTERPRISE FUNDS AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUNDS.

Commissioner Rivers said, so moved. Commissioner Rayno said, second. Vice Chairman Thomas asked, any discussion? All in favor of the motion please vote. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioner Odell were not present when this vote was taken.] Vice Chairman Thomas said, the motion is carried.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rivers moved to approve the year end fund balance reconciliation based on audit, budget amendment and budget adoptions for encumbrances, incomplete projects/equipment purchases and fund balance reserves at year end 2004 for the General Fund M&O, Special Revenue Funds, Enterprise Funds and Capital Improvement Funds. Commissioner Rayno seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioner Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-2**AGENDA DATE:** December 17, 2004

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R.E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: Linda Cramer, Finance Director

ISSUE:

To present year end fund balance reconciliations based on Audit, Budget Amendment and Budget Adoptions for Encumbrances, Incomplete Projects/Equipment purchases and Fund Balance Reserves at year end 2004 for the General Fund M&O, Special Revenue Funds, Capital Improvement, and Enterprise Funds.

BACKGROUND:

The FY2005 Chatham County budgets were adopted on July 9, 2004. Subsequently, an independent financial audit was performed which provided audited fund balance information including reservations of fund balance. Outstanding balances of purchase orders and contracts (encumbrances) were also provided during the audit. Except in the General M&O Fund and the Special Service District, unrestricted fund balance is considered an operating resource. Therefore, this report amends fund budgets to show potential use of the fund balance where appropriate. This report also amends the General M&O Fund budget for the appropriation of restricted fee reserves related to various court fees. Fund budgets have also been amended to show outstanding encumbrance balances as of June 30, 2004 ("carry forwards"). Although a budget amendment to account for year end encumbrances is not a requirement of enterprise funds, enterprise funds are included in this report to facilitate effective management planning.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- (1) The Chatham County General Fund M&O budget amendment increases the budget by \$888,310 Fund Balance Reserve for year end encumbrances and \$460,967 for restricted fees. The encumbrances and restricted fees total \$1,349,277.
- (2) The Chatham County Special Service District Fund budget amendment increases the Special Service District budget by \$463,241 Fund Balance Reserve for year end encumbrances.
- (3) The Chatham County Emergency Telephone System budget amendment increases the budget by \$1,024,082. The appropriations are increased to provide funds for purchase of equipment and services in accordance with Georgia State Law.
- (4) The Chatham County Confiscated Special Revenue Fund budget amendment increases the budget by \$83,034 audited fund balance to a total of \$458,834 to be distributed \$1,867 Sheriff, \$217,807 Police, and \$239,160 CNT.
- (5) The Chatham County Land Disturbing Activities Ordinance Special Revenue Fund budget amendment increases the budget by \$352,775 audited fund balance. The appropriations are increased for expenditures in accordance with the resolution.
- (6) The Land Bank Authority Special Revenue Fund budget resolution increases the budget by \$19,960 audited fund balance. The appropriations are increased for expenditures in accordance with the resolution.
- (7) The Chatham County Sales Tax Road Program Fund (1985-1993) budget amendment decreases the budget by \$1,058,642. The latest revised budget detail is available in the Finance Department as stated in the resolution.
- (8) The Chatham County Sales Tax Extension Fund (1993-1998) budget amendment decreases the budget by \$960,259 in audited fund balance. The latest revised budget detail is available in the Finance Department as stated in the resolution.
- (9) The Chatham County Sales Tax Fund (1998-2003) budget amendment decreases the budget by \$3,690,059 in audited fund balance. The latest revised budget detail is available in the Finance Department as stated in the resolution.
- (10) The Chatham County Sales Tax Fund (2003-2008) budget amendment increases the budget by \$11,974,027 in audited fund balance. The latest revised budget detail is available in the Finance Department as stated in the resolution.
- (11) The Chatham County Capital Improvement Fund budget amendment increases the budget by \$1,187,100 for audited fund balance. The appropriations are adjusted for expenditures in accordance with the resolution.

- (12) The Chatham County Capital Improvement - Series 1999 DSA Revenue Bond Fund budget amendment decreases revenue by \$219,524 in audited fund balance. The latest revised budget detail is available in the Finance Department as stated in the resolution.
- (13) The Chatham County Water and Sewer Fund budget amendment increases the revenue by \$340,747 from net assets to be appropriated for encumbrances.
- (14) The Chatham County Solid Waste Management Fund budget amendment increases the revenue by \$14,142 from net assets to be appropriated for encumbrances.
- (15) The Chatham County Parking Garage Fund budget amendment increases the revenue by \$28,607 from net assets to be appropriated for encumbrances.
- (16) The Chatham County Emergency Management Special Revenue Fund budget amendment increases the budget by \$40,418 audited fund balance. The appropriations are increased for expenditures in accordance with the resolution.
- (17) The Chatham County Street Lighting Special Revenue Fund budget amendment increases the budget by \$10,886 audited fund balance. The appropriations are increased for expenditures in accordance with the resolution.
- (18) The Chatham County Street Paving Special Revenue Fund budget amendment increases the budget by \$265,102 audited fund balance. The appropriations are increased for expenditures in accordance with the resolution.

FUNDING:

Funds are available in Fund Balance Reserves, Undesignated Fund Balance and/or Net Assets for all funds.

ALTERNATIVES:

- (1) That the Board approve the following:

GENERAL FUND M&O

- (a) A budget amendment in the amount of \$1,349,277 Fund Balance Reserve for year end encumbrances and restricted fees.
- (b) Appropriations in accordance with the attached resolution.

SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND

- (a) A budget amendment in the amount of \$463,241 Fund Balance Reserve for year end encumbrances.
- (b) Appropriations in accordance with the attached resolution.

EMERGENCY TELEPHONE SYSTEM FUND

A budget amendment in the amount of \$1,024,082 to be appropriated for E-911 expenditures consistent with state law.

CONFISCATED SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

A budget amendment to increase the fund by \$83,034 audited fund balance for funds available to the Sheriff, Counter Narcotics Team, and Police.

LAND DISTURBING ACTIVITIES ORDINANCE SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

A budget amendment in the amount of \$352,775 audited fund balance.

LAND BANK AUTHORITY SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

A budget amendment in the amount of \$19,960 audited fund balance.

ONE PERCENT LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX (1985-1993)

A budget amendment decreasing the fund by \$1,058,642 in fund balance. The latest revised list of projects is available in the Finance Department as stated in the resolution.

ONE PERCENT LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX EXTENSION (1993-1998)

A budget amendment decreasing the fund by \$960,259 in audited fund balance. The latest revised budget detail is available in the Finance Department as stated in the resolution.

ONE PERCENT LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX (1998-2003)

A budget amendment decreasing the fund by \$3,690,059 in audited fund balance. The latest revised budget detail is available in the Finance Department as stated in the resolution.

ONE PERCENT LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX (2003-2008)

A budget amendment increasing the fund by \$11,974,027 to an audited fund balance of \$5,383,570. The latest revised budget detail is available in the Finance Department as stated in the resolution

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUND

- (a) A budget amendment increasing the fund by \$1,187,100 in audited fund balance.
- (b) Appropriations in accordance with the attached resolution.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT - SERIES 1999 DSA REVENUE BOND FUND

A budget amendment decreasing the fund by \$219,524 in fund balance. The latest revised list of projects is available in the Finance Department as stated in the resolution.

WATER AND SEWER ENTERPRISE FUND

A budget amendment in the amount of \$340,747 net assets for year end encumbrances.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ENTERPRISE FUND

A budget amendment in the amount of \$14,142 net assets for year end encumbrances.

PARKING GARAGE ENTERPRISE FUND

A budget amendment in the amount of \$28,607 net assets for year end encumbrances.

CHATHAM EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

A budget amendment in the amount of \$40,418 audited fund balance.

STREET LIGHTING SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

A budget amendment in the amount of \$10,886 audited fund balance.

STREET PAVING SPECIAL REVENUE FUND

A budget amendment in the amount of \$265,102 audited fund balance.

- (2) Amend the transfers and budget amendments.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The State Code grants the Board of Commissioners the authority to amend the budget as it deems necessary during the fiscal year.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve Alternative 1.

PREPARED BY: Read DeHaven

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3. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO WAIVE THE HIRING FREEZE FOR THE FOLLOWING POSITIONS:

• DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE - TWO (2) ADMINISTRATIVE II POSITIONS

Commissioner Kicklighter said, move for approval. Commissioner Gellatly said, second. Vice Chairman Thomas asked, any discussion? All in favor of the motion. Vice Chairman Thomas and Commissioners Rivers, McMasters, Murray, Gellatly and Kicklighter voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Rayno voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of six to one. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioner Odell were not present when this vote was taken.] Vice Chairman Thomas said, the motion is carried. Thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve the request by the District Attorney's office to waive the hiring freeze for two (2) Administrative II positions. Commissioner Gellatly seconded the motion. Vice Chairman Thomas and Commissioners Rivers, McMasters, Murray, Gellatly and Kicklighter voted in favor of the motion. Commissioner Rayno voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of six to one. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioner Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-3

AGENDA DATE: December 17, 2004

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

/ FROM: Michael A. Kaigler, Human Resources and Services Director

ISSUE:

To request the Board of Commissioners approval to waive the hiring freeze and authorize Human Resources to fill the following position(s): **District Attorney's Office - two (2) Administrative Assistant II positions.**

BACKGROUND:

On November 5, 2004, the Board of Commissioners enacted a full hiring freeze for all Chatham County M & O tax supported positions, except for public safety, Child Support and positions. The Board of Commissioners on January 26, 1996, adopted a policy that all requests for waivers of a hiring freeze be submitted to the Board for approval.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The District Attorney's Office wishes to fill **two (2) Administrative Assistant II** positions. These positions will become vacant on December 31, 2004 due to two resignations in the Superior Court Division.
2. The two (2) Administrative Assistant II positions provide effective and efficient management of court cases (see attached documentation from Department Head).

FUNDING:

No additional funding is required.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the hiring freeze waiver for the positions referenced.
2. Do not approve the hiring freeze waiver for the positions referenced.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The Board of County Commissioners for the past several years has implemented a hiring freeze for designated positions. This action was done to generate salary savings where possible. Approval of the waiver is consistent with the Board's policy to allow positions to be filled where it is deemed more costly to freeze the position for a period of time than to allow the position to be filled.

RECOMMENDATION:

Board consideration.

Date: December 7, 2004
 To: Michael Kaigler, Human Resources Director
 From: Spencer Lawton, Jr., District Attorney
 Subject: Request to Waive Hiring Freeze - Two Administrative Assistant II Positions

The purpose of this memorandum is to request hiring freeze waivers for two Administrative Assistant II positions. These position vacancies will be created on December 31, 2004 with the resignations of two current Superior Court Division Administrative Assistant. Hiring freeze waivers for these two positions are requested so that we may continue to manage cases effectively and efficiently. Filling these positions immediately is critical to support our efforts to move our casework along as quickly as possible.

Funds are budgeted to continue staffing the referenced positions. Please do not hesitate to contact Gwen Robbins if you have questions or need additional information. Your assistance with this request is very much appreciated.

=====

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.)

County Manager Abolt said, Dr. Thomas, we would ask that as you make the motion on the entire calendar that you do remove from the Purchasing report item number 11-D. Vice Chairman Thomas said, 11-D. Okay. Item 11-D has been requested to be removed. Any further items? If not —.

Commissioner Rayno said, I make a motion that we pass the balance of the Action Calendar. Commissioner Rivers said, second. Vice Chairman Thomas said, it has been properly moved and seconded that we pass the balance of the Action Calendar with the exception of 11-D. All in favor of the motion please —.

Commissioner Murray said, I can't believe that there's not something being pulled off of this calendar. We've never had it like that. Vice Chairman Thomas said, well, okay. Commissioner McMasters said, I'm going out quietly. Commissioner Rayno said, it's a Christmas present. Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, thank you.

The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioner Odell were not present when this vote was taken.] Vice Chairman Thomas said, the motion is carried.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved that the Action Calendar be approved in its entirety with the exception of Item 11-D. Commissioner Rivers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioner Odell 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 DECEMBER 3, 2004, AS MAILED.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved to approve the minutes for the pre-meeting and regular meeting of December 3, 2004, as mailed. Commissioner Rivers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioner Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

=====

2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 24 THROUGH DECEMBER 7, 2004.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved that the Finance Director is authorized to pay claims for the period November 24, 2004, through December 7, 2004, in the amount of \$2,249,119. Commissioner Rivers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioner Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

=====

3. REQUEST BOARD TENTATIVELY SET MEETING DATES FOR 2005. THIS WILL BE CONFIRMED AT THE FIRST MEETING IN JANUARY.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved to tentatively set meeting dates for 2005 as follows: To immediately follow 9:00 a.m., pre-meeting on the second and fourth Fridays in January and February; second Friday in March; first, third and fifth Fridays in April; second and fourth Fridays in May through September; and first and third Fridays in October. Commissioner Rivers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioner Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

=====

4. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL FOR AMENDMENT TO THE CONTRACT BETWEEN THE CHATHAM COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT DRUG COURT AND THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved to approve an amendment to the contract between the Chatham County Superior Court Drug Court and the Georgia Department of Human Resources to address minor changes in the wording of the original contract. Commissioner Rivers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioner Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-4

AGENDA DATE: December 17, 2004

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Fran Arnsdorff, Deputy Superior Court Administrator

ISSUE: To have the Board of Commissioners affirm the Chairman's signature for the amendment to the contract between the Chatham County Superior Court Drug Court and the Georgia Department of Human Resources.

BACKGROUND:

The original contract between the Drug Court and the DHR's Division of Mental Health was approved by the Commission at the meeting held June 25, 2004.

FACTS & FINDINGS:

1. The amendment addresses minor changes in the wording of the original contract only. The funding level has not been affected.
2. The contract amendment has been reviewed by the County Attorney.
3. If the contract amendment is not signed the grant will be terminated.

FUNDING:

No new funding will be required.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. To affirm the Chairman's signature on the amendment to the contract between the Chatham County Superior Court Drug Court and the Georgia Department of Human Resources.
2. To not affirm the Chairman's signature on the amendment to the contract between the Chatham County Superior Court Drug Court and the Georgia Department of Human Resources.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

In the past the Board of Commissioners has accepted funding which assisted in defraying the cost of services.

RECOMMENDATION:

To accept alternative 1.

=====

5. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVE REQUEST FROM THE TAX COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE TO WRITE OFF UNCOLLECTIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE PERIOD 1997 THROUGH 2004 WITH AN ADDITIONAL REQUEST THAT THE BOARD INSTRUCT THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE NOT TO CREATE A SUBSEQUENT ASSESSMENT OF THE SAME PROPERTIES.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved to approve a request from the Tax Commissioner's office to write off uncollectible personal property taxes for the period 1997 through 2004 with instructions that the Tax Assessor's office not create a subsequent assessment of the same properties in the total amount of \$90,448.99 consisting of 280 accounts and 575 receipts. Commissioner Rivers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioner Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-5

AGENDA DATE: December 17, 2004

TO: Board of Commissioners

THROUGH: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

THROUGH: Daniel T Powers, Tax Commissioner

FROM: Robert E. Johnson, Chief Deputy/Delinquent Tax Administrator

ISSUE:

To present a request to the Board from the Tax Commissioner's office to write off uncollectible Personal Property taxes for the period 1997 through 2004. With an additional

request for them to instruct the Assessor’s Office not to create a subsequent assessment of the same properties.

BACKGROUND:

During the period of 1997 through 2004 numerous personal property tax accounts on the County’s Tax Digest remained uncollected. These accounts are uncollectible for many reasons such as the owner(s) cannot be located; the owner(s) have moved; the owner(s) are deceased; the business is no longer in operation or has no assets or a bankruptcy judgement has paid less than 100 cents on the dollar. Therefore, the balance outstanding in these accounts cannot be collected.

The amount of uncollectible personal property taxes determined thus far for the period of 1997 through 2004 total \$90,448.99 that consist of 280 accounts and 575 receipts years as summarized bellow:

Tax Year	Total Tax Due	County Portion
1997	\$ 9,468.61	\$ 3,730.05
1998	11,727.48	5,242.67
1999	11,274.78	4,286.27
2000	14,024.65	5,158.82
2001	12,577.72	4,677.35
2002	15,082.91	5,690.37
2003	10,797.04	3,968.75
2004	<u>5,495.50</u>	<u>2,935.21</u>
Totals	\$90,448.69	\$34,790.49

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- (1) When yearly audits are performed by both External and State Auditors, as well as periodical audits by Internal Auditors, it has been there recommendation to write off these uncollectible accounts.
- (2) A copy of the schedule listing all the accounts is attached.

ALTERNATIVES:

- (1.) Approve the Tax Commissioner’s request to write off these uncollectible accounts.
- (2.) Do not approve the Tax Commissioner’s request.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

By writing off these uncollectible personal property tax accounts the County will be working with an accurate Tax Digest and valid delinquent accounts receivable records.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board approve Alternative 1.

=====

6. REQUEST FROM MR. RANDALL L. DAVIS AND MS. BILLIE PAULINE WOODS FOR THE COUNTY TO DECLARE PORTIONS OF LADONNA DRIVE RIGHT-OF-WAY ADJACENT TO THEIR PROPERTIES ON WILMINGTON ISLAND AS SURPLUS AND TO QUITCLAIM PORTIONS OF THE RIGHT-OF-WAY. [DISTRICT 4.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved to declare as surplus portions of the 30-foot wide, unopened LaDonna Drive right-of-way adjacent to Parcel 1-0076-01-007, and quitclaim the larger L-shaped portion of the surplus right-of-way to Mr. Randall L. Davis and quitclaim the smaller rectangular portion to Ms. Billie Pauline Woods, Parcel 1-0076-01-10, upon the petitioners paying to the County the fair market value for said right-of-way to be determined by a professional appraisal, and providing the necessary appraisals, deeds and plats at their expense; however, should either of the two petitioners fail to complete the quitclaim transaction within 60 days of receipt of notice that the County Commission approved the quitclaim, then the other petitioner will be allowed an additional 30 days to acquire the remaining right-of-way between the two properties. Commissioner Rivers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioner Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

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7. **REQUEST FROM JERRY KONTER, DEVELOPER, THROUGH HIS ENGINEER, HUSSEY, GAY, BELL & DEYOUNG, TO APPROVE THE CONSTRUCTED IMPROVEMENTS FOR LEGACY SQUARE, PHASE 2B, INITIATE THE WARRANTY PERIOD, AND REDUCE THE FINANCIAL GUARANTEE.**
[DISTRICT 7.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved to approve the request from Jerry Konter, developer, through his engineer, Hussey, Gay, Bell & DeYoung (HGBD), to approve the constructed improvements for Legacy Square, Phase 2B, initiate the warranty period, and reduce the financial guarantee. Commissioner Rivers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioner Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

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8. **REQUEST FROM THE KONTER DEVELOPMENT THROUGH THEIR ENGINEER, HUSSEY, GAY, BELL & DEYOUNG, TO RECORD THE SUBDIVISION PLAT FOR SALT CREEK LANDING, ACCEPT THE SUBDIVISION AGREEMENT AND FINANCIAL GUARANTEE AND CREATE A NEW STREETLIGHT ASSESSMENT DISTRICT.**
[DISTRICT 7.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved to approve the request from Konter Development through its engineer, Hussey, Gay, Bell & DeYoung (HGBD), to record the subdivision plat for Salt Creek Landing, accept the subdivision agreement and financial guarantee, and create a new streetlight assessment district. Commissioner Rivers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioner Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

=====

9. **REQUEST FROM THE DEVELOPER, CIRCA PROPERTIES, INC., THROUGH THEIR ENGINEER, HUSSEY, GAY, BELL & DEYOUNG, TO RECORD THE SUBDIVISION PLAT FOR RIVERPOINTE TOWNHOMES, PHASE 2, AND ACCEPT THE FINANCIAL GUARANTEE.**
[DISTRICT 4.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved to approve the request from the developer, Circa Properties, Inc., through its engineer, Hussey, Gay, Bell & DeYoung (HGBD), to record the subdivision plat for RiverPointe Townhomes, Phase 2, and accept the financial guarantee. Commissioner Rivers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioner Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

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10. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVE A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR THE USE OF THREE BOARDS OF EQUALIZATION AS AUTHORIZED BY GEORGIA LAW.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rayno moved to adopt a resolution to provide for the use of three (3) Boards of Equalization as authorized by Georgia law. Commissioner Rivers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioner Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

WHEREAS, the General Assembly of the State of Georgia during the 1981 Session thereof provided for the establishment of County Boards of Equalization as set forth in the Georgia Laws of 1981, pp. 1554-1556, amended Ga. Laws 1991, p. 1122, 1128, § 4 [O.C.G.A. § 48-5-311(a)(1); and

WHEREAS, there are approximately 80,400 parcels of real property (tax accounts or property identification numbers) in Chatham County, Georgia, which necessitates the establishment of three (3) County Boards of Equalization pursuant to the provisions of the foregoing legislation; and

WHEREAS, Chatham County is entitled to three (3) County Boards of Equalization;
and

WHEREAS, Chatham County presently has three (3) Boards of Equalization.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County, Georgia, in regular meeting assembled, that there be three (3) County Boards of Equalization for Chatham County, Georgia.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that three (3) Boards of Equalization presently exist having terms which will expire December 31, 2005, December 31, 2006, and December 31, 2007 respectively, named and provided by confirmation of the Grand Jury in accordance with the laws of the State of Georgia, be and is hereby confirmed by the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County, Georgia.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia, to be affixed, this the 17th day of December 2004.

Dr. Billy B. Hair, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

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11. 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. Professional services contract for the Fawcett Canal Drainage improvement, Phase 2 - Red Fox Drive storm drainage project	SPLOST	Hussey, Gay, Bell & DeYoung	\$37,510	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Fawcett Canal
B. Construction contract for the St. Ives Culvert replacement drainage project	SPLOST	Sandhill ALS Construction (MBE)	\$208,360	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Georgetown Canal (pending Board approval of transfer)
C. Construction contract for the Halcyon Bluff drainage improvements	SPLOST	Sandhill ALS Construction (MBE)	\$801,850	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Halcyon Bluff (pending Board approval of transfer)
D. Annual contract with automatic renewal options for four additional one year terms to provide Insurance Agent/Broker services	Finance	Palmer & Cay of Savannah	\$40,000 for the first year and \$35,000 per year for the remainder of the contract term	Insurance and Surety Bond Premium Account
E. Engineering services contract for preliminary design services/concept development for the Interchange at Jimmy DeLoach Parkway and US Highway 80	SPLOST	McGee Partners, Inc./Ward-Edwards	\$311,386	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Jimmy DeLoach Parkway, Highway 80 Interchange
F. Annual contract with an automatic renewal option for one additional year for vehicle rental	Finance	Enterprise Rent A Car	Varies by rental	General Fund/M&O - Claims and Judgements
G. Annual contract with automatic renewal options for four (4) additional one-year terms to provide Worker's Compensation Third Party Administration Services	•Finance •Human Resources and Services	Underwriters Safety and Claims, Inc.	\$34,365	General Fund/M&O - Worker's Compensation
H. Change Order No. 1 to the annual contract for janitorial services at various "downtown" locations to add the Public Defender's office	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	Quality Cleaning Service (FBE)	\$1,950/month	General Fund/M&O - Public Defender

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
I. Change Order No. 1 to the annual contract to provide various inmate supply items to recognize manufacturer imposed price increases on selected items	Detention Center	•Bob Barker Company •ATD-American Company	Varies by item	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
J. Dondi-Swamp model rotary ditcher	Mosquito Control	U.S. Ditcher, Inc. (sole source)	\$21,264	General Fund/M&O - Mosquito Control
K. Garmin GNS 480 navigation system	Mosquito Control	Gulf Coast Avionics Corporation	\$15,415	General Fund/M&O - Mosquito Control
L. Construction contract for repairs to Faye Drive bridge	Public Works and Park Services	Ansley Sutton Construction	\$127,615.30	CIP Fund (pending Board approval of transfer)

As to Items 11-A through 11-L, except Item 11-D:

Commissioner Rayno moved to approve Items 11-A through 11-L, except Item 11-D. Commissioner Rivers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioner Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

As to Item 11-D:

Annual contract with automatic renewal options for four additional one year terms to provide Insurance Agent/Broker services; Finance; Palmer & Cay of Savannah; \$40,000 for the first year and \$35,000 per year for the remainder of the contract term; Insurance and Surety Bond Premium Account.

Vice Chairman Thomas said, we are back to 11-D, Mr. Chairman, for discussion. County Manager Abolt said, no, no discussion. Chairman Hair said, no, we just pulled it off. Vice Chairman Thomas said, oh, you just pulled it off completely. Okay.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

1. Commissioner Rayno moved to approve Items 11-A through 11-L, except Item 11-D. Commissioner Rivers seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioner Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]
2. Item 11-D was pulled from the agenda and was removed from consideration by the Commissioners.

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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. **AMENDMENT TO THE STREETLIGHTING ORDINANCE OF CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PURPOSES OF PROVIDING IMPROVED NOTICE AND OPPORTUNITY TO BE HEARD BY PROPERTY OWNERS WITHIN A PROPOSED STREETLIGHTING DISTRICT AND A PROCEDURE FOR PROVIDING SUCH NOTICE. [UNINCORPORATED AREA.]**

Chairman Hair said, I'll entertain a motion to approve.

Commissioner Rivers said, move for approval. Chairman Hair asked, second? Commissioner McMasters said, second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Rivers moved to adopt an amendment to the Streetlighting Ordinance of Chatham County for the purposes of providing improved notice and opportunity to be heard by property owners within a proposed streetlighting district and a procedure for providing such notice. Commissioner McMasters seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Odell was not present when this vote was taken.]

~~AGENDA ITEM: XI-1~~

~~AGENDA DATE: December 3, 2004~~

AGENDA ITEM: XII-1

AGENDA DATE: December 17, 2004

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: R. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney

ISSUE:

An ordinance to amend the Street Lighting ordinance of Chatham County for purposes of providing improved notice and opportunity to be heard by property owners within a proposed street lighting district and a procedure for providing such notice.

BACKGROUND:

The Planters Common subdivision has attempted to create a special service district under the Street Lighting Ordinance for purposes of providing a street lighting project within the subdivision and portions of contiguous areas. The administrator of the ordinance, with the assistance of property owners, has attempted to receive notices of 51% of the property owners of the proposed special service district. While returned notices overwhelmingly desire the creation of a street lighting project, notices have been returned "undeliverable" or other designation demonstrating the mail was returned unopened. The return of this mail has impacted the ability to obtain the 51% requirement for notice. The purpose of the amendment sets forth a procedure to better identify property owners to improve delivery of notification. The procedure sets forth that upon being followed by return receipt mail, if a notice should be unreturned, it shall not be counted as a "yes" or "no" vote for joining in the petition for street lighting project, or for purposes of calculating the total number of owners within the street lighting district.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The notification procedure of the Chatham County Street Lighting ordinance results in many notices being returned marked "undeliverable" or other designation, demonstrating the mail was returned unopened.
2. The ordinance needs an amendment to provide a means by which an administrator can send a second notice certified mail return receipt requested to provide greater opportunity for property owners to have notice and opportunity to be heard.
3. Should the re-mailed notice having been sent certified mail return receipt requested, be returned undeliverable, the particular property shall not be counted as a "yes" or "no" vote for joining in the petition for a street lighting district and shall not be included for purposes of calculating the total number of owners within the street lighting district.

FUNDING:

N/A. For ordinance change only.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Amend the Chatham County Street Lighting ordinance to create an improved procedure for property owners to have notice and opportunity to be heard.
2. Do not amend the Chatham County Street Lighting ordinance to create an improved procedure for property owners to have notice and opportunity to be heard.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The proposed amendment to the County's Street Lighting ordinance provides fair means to notify property owners and to determine the required number of owners within the street lighting district.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.

Proposed Amendment to Streetlighting Ordinance of Chatham County

Article 12, Section 1201, et seq. of the Streetlighting Ordinance for unincorporated areas of Chatham County, Georgia, should be amended so as to delete Section 12-1203(1)(f) in its entirety and insert in lieu thereof the following language:

(f) The administrator of this Ordinance shall assist and cause notice by First Class Mail to be sent to property owners in the proposed streetlighting assessment district, the notice of which consists of information required under Section 12-1203(1)(c) to determine should the property be included in the petition for the streetlighting project. In the event that any notices are returned marked "undeliverable" or other designation demonstrating that the mail was returned unopened, the administrator shall assist and cause said notification and information under 12-1203(1)(c) to be re-mailed by certified mail, return receipt requested. The administrator, prior to re-mailing the notice and information by certified mail, return receipt requested, shall exercise reasonable diligence to determine an address so that said notice and information have an opportunity for delivery. Should the re-mailed notice sent certified mail, return receipt requested, be re-retuned marked undeliverable or such other designation that the mail was returned unopened, then said notice and information as related to a particular property shall not be counted either as a yes or a no vote for joining in the petition for the streetlighting project and said notice to property owner shall not be included for purposes of calculating the total number of owners within the streetlighting district, or for purposes of determining the majority of property owners within said district for purposes of calculating a majority within the petition.

APPROVED on second reading, this ____ day of _____, 2004.

Dr. Billy B. Hair, Chairman
Board of Commissioners of
Chatham County, Georgia

ATTEST:

Sybil E. Tillman, County Clerk

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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: December 17, 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>
One (1) 800mhz portable radio with charger and battery	Police	Motorola, Inc. (sole source)	\$4,684.95	SSD - Police
Miscellaneous office furniture	Magistrate Court	Mason's, Inc.	\$5,247	General Fund/M&O - Magistrate Court
One (1) used 2004 Ford Focus	Engineering	Fairway Lincoln Mercury, Inc.	\$8,900	Land Disturbing Activity Ordinance
Rotary nozzle and nozzle tachometer to be installed on the helicopter	Mosquito Control	Micronair Sales and Service (sole source)	\$2,555	General Fund/M&O - Mosquito Control
Two (2) office furniture workstations and accessories	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	National Office Systems	\$3,534.68	General Fund/M&O - Facilities Maintenance and Operations
Paint and body work to wrecked Police vehicle	Fleet Operations	Savannah Auto Painting	\$7,145.74	General Fund/M&O - Fleet Operations
Topographic survey and compilation of property located along Wild Heron Road	SPLOST	Thomas & Hutton	Not to exceed \$7,170	SPLOST (1985-1993) - Fawcett Canal
Asbestos removal on County owned properties located on Blue Jay Avenue	SPLOST	Southern Tri (MBE)	\$3,000	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Westlake Drainage Improvement
Demolition of County owned property located on Westlake Avenue	SPLOST	American Clearing and Hauling (MBE)	\$3,700	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Westlake Drainage Improvement
Detailed concept cost estimate for West Bay Street	SPLOST	McGee Partners, Inc.	Not to exceed \$9,500	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Bay Street Widening

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3. ROADS AND DRAINAGE REPORTS.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Written reports were received as information.

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-3 Roads
AGENDA DATE: December 17, 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 allocations of funds among the Congressional districts and balancing of the Chatham Urban Transportation Study (CUTS) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The current TIP and Long Range Transportation Plan

(LRTP) were approved by the CUTS Policy Committee on September 22. Key milestone events are summarized in the attached table.

FACTS AND FINDING:

1. Truman Parkway.
 - a. Phase 4. Main effort is on interchange at Whitfield Avenue (widening, ramps and signals). This phase should be complete by November 2005.
 - b. 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 will be over \$25M. Approval of the VE Study is pending. 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). Another revised Final EA with a Finding of No Significant Impact (EA/FONSI) was forwarded to the GDOT on September 15, 2004, and is still pending FHWA approval. This project was re-programmed to 2007 in the TIP update.
3. US 17, Ogeechee River to SR 204: Under construction. Projected completion is Oct 2005.
4. Middleground Road/Montgomery Cross Road Widening. Despite the past performance in Chatham County, the GDOT awarded the contract to APAC in May 2004. Clearing of the right of way continues. Placement of plastic storm drain piping has begun along the Montgomery Cross Road section of the project. Scheduled completion is May 2006.
5. Stephenson Avenue. The contract completion date was November 30, 2004. Liquidated damages are assessed as of December 1, 2004, at the rate of \$450 per day. This will continue until the project is substantially complete. A significant work force is on the project now. An APAC superintendent advised that they will be working seven days a week in an effort to complete the job.

As a result of their failure to stay on schedule, the County Engineer continues to refuse to grant a retainage reduction request from 10% to 5% (\$123,536 reduction not granted) of the completed work. Until such time as they can catch up to the schedule, the retainage will remain at 10%.
6. Skidaway Widening: The FHWA approved the Draft EA on March 5, 2003, for advancement to public hearing. The public hearing was held May 13. The Final EA with a FONSI was forwarded to the GDOT on November 26, 2003. The Final EA is pending FHWA approval.
7. Whitfield Avenue Widening. The FHWA approved the EA/FONSI on February 13, 2004. The County is now authorized to proceed with preliminary design. When the preliminary design is approved, right of way plans can be prepared. The consultant completed preliminary design in June. By letter dated June 30, 2004, the GDOT is now requiring that the preliminary design include the landscaping impacts before scheduling the Preliminary Field Plan Review (PFPR).
8. 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. This amendment to the TIP was approved at the CUTS Policy Committee meeting on July 23, 2003. Staff was advised on November 13, 2003, that the FHWA sent the Draft EA to the U.S. Coast Guard for coordination. Apparently the Draft EA was misplaced by the Coast Guard. In September the County sent another copy to the Coast Guard. At the request of GDOT, a neighborhood meeting was held October 26, 2004, with the Pin Point residents to discuss the possibility of a noise wall. Another Draft EA was submitted on December 4, 2004. Approval by the FHWA to advance to public hearing is pending.
9. US 80/SR26
 - a. Lynes Parkway to Victory Drive. GDOT is preparing the EA. Their schedule shows a public hearing in 2005 and award of a construction contract in 2007.
 - b. Bull River to Lazaretto Creek. GDOT is working on the EA. Programmed in 2010.
10. White Bluff/Coffee Bluff Road. After many reviews and revisions to the Draft Environmental Assessment over the last seven years, the FHWA questioned the Need and Purpose for the project, suggesting it does not warrant the extent of the improvements originally proposed. In the opinion of County staff, the traffic analysis indicated that safety improvements are warranted due to the narrowness of the existing pavement and some intersection improvements are needed. No four lanes are warranted anywhere. A Public Information Open House (PIOH) was held on August 12, at the Windsor Forest Baptist Church to solicit public input on the project. The turn out was good approximately 200 attended. GDOT is finalizing the written responses.
11. 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.

12. 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 has been revised to reflect the changed terminus from Deerfield Road to Largo Drive and was sent to GDOT on June 28, 2004. This project is affected by two other projects currently under design. This project is being coordinated with the other projects to improve the intersections at Largo Drive and the Abercorn widening project from King George Blvd. to Rio Road.

13. Bay Street Widening from I-516 to Bay Street Viaduct. Consultant and County staff hosted coordination meetings on December 10 and 11 with City of Savannah staff and sub-consultants. Letters were sent to potentially affected property owners. 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. A Public Information Open House was held on for August 24 at the Moses Jackson Community Center. A Concept Team meeting was held 19 October. The consultant is preparing the recommendation for a Preferred Alternative for review by the GDOT. Collection of field survey, property and utility location data continues. The preparation of the Concept Report is proceeding well and is on schedule.

14. Local Roads

a. Benton Boulevard, Phase 2 Extension (Spur 21). Complete. This project is being funded by a County Contract with GDOT. The local matching funds were provided by the Branigar Organization. The County is providing administrative services only. Sidewalks, paving, sign erection and grassing are complete. Final inspection is scheduled for December 10, 2004.

b. Central Avenue (West), Leghorn, Billings, Ridgewood and Fallowfield Drive. All of the streets are substantially complete. Final inspection are pending scheduling.

c. Southwest Middle School Entrance Road from U.S. 17. Being built by County Contract with the GDOT. By Intergovernmental Agreement, the construction costs are being paid by the School Board and the GDOT. The County is managing the contract. Due to power pole relocation delays, grading on the roadway was delayed. The graded aggregate base was recently placed in preparation for paving. The sidewalk construction is nearing completion. The estimated completion date is January 2005.

RECOMMENDATION: For information.

Districts: All

SUMMARY OF ROAD PROJECT STATUS
December 2004

PROJECT	ELEMENT	MILESTONE FOR COMPLETION	AGENCY RESPONSIBLE	NOTES
Truman Parkway, Ph 4	Construction	Nov 2005	GDOT	
Truman Parkway, Ph 5	Environmental Design ROW Construction	Complete Jun 2007	County County/GDOT GDOT	EIS approved 8/12/99 VE Study at GDOT FY 2005 CST LR
US 17 Widening - Ogeechee River to SR204	Construction	Oct 2005	GDOT	
Stephenson Avenue Widening	Construction	Nov 2004	County/GDOT	Est. completion. Feb. 05
Middleground/Montgomery Cross Road Widening	Construction	May 2006	GDOT	
Jimmy DeLoach Pkwy, Ph 2	Environmental ROW Construction	Unknown	County County GDOT	Final EA at GDOT/FHWA CST FY 2007
Whitfield Avenue Widening	Environmental Design ROW Construction	Feb 2004 Dec 2004	County County County/GDOT GDOT	EA/FONSI signed Feb 13 Preliminary plans. ROW funded FY2005/06 CST FY 2007
Diamond Causeway Widening	Environmental ROW Construction	Unknown	County GDOT GDOT	Draft EA at GDOT/FHWA FY 2008 CST LR
Skidaway Road Widening	Environmental ROW Construction	Unknown	County County GDOT	Final EA at GDOT/FHWA CST LR
US 80 Widening - Bull River to Lazaretto Creek - I-516 to Victory Drive	Environmental Environmental	Unknown Unknown	GDOT GDOT	CST FY 2010 CST FY 2007

White Bluff/Coffee Bluff	Environmental	Unknown	County	CST FY 2008
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 the projects are programmed for construction in the Proposed CUTS 2005-2007 TIP.				

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-3 Drainage
AGENDA DATE: December 17, 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 tidegate, and provide maintenance access.
 - i. The County awarded the contract for construction to Phoenix Construction on July 25, 2003 and Change Order No. 1 was approved by the Board in February 2004.
 - ii. Construction progress has been slowed by recent adverse wet weather conditions. The completion date is January 2005.
 - b. Phase 2 (From SR 21 to I-95).
 - i. Acquisition of rights of way for Phase 2 construction is underway.
 - ii. Design of the canal relocation on airport property under the terms of an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Airport Authority continues.
 - c. Golf Course (section of Phase 2 on Airport property). Widening of this section of canal completed in 2000.
 - d. Kahn Mitigation Site. The final mitigation package for Phase 2, which includes the Kahn Site. Design work completed to date includes the wetlands determination and the hydrologic report.
 - e. Phase 1a (isolated areas within GPA up to SR21). Project to provide canal improvements that were not included in the Phase 1 Contract. The work includes improvements to the canal in the vicinity of the City of Savannah's I&D water pipeline. This work was delayed until relocation of the water pipeline can be accomplished by the City. Design is underway and most rights of way have been acquired. Construction will begin after the I&D pipeline relocation work by the City is complete.
 - f. Bridge Removal and Sheet Pile Wall Modifications. A project to remove the existing bridge (with the tidegates) restricting the flow of drainage from Pipemakers Canal into the Savannah River. Staff is soliciting engineering qualifications for design of the improvements.
2. Hardin Canal
 - a. Phase 1 (From SR 307 to I-16). Widen channel and replace bridge crossings.
 - i. ROW and construction plans for the channel are complete. Revisions might be necessary as a result of negotiations for the permit from USACE, which is still pending.
 - ii. Right of way acquisition for the channel is in progress.
 - b. Phase 2 (Crossings at SR307). A project to enlarge the crossing under Dean Forest Road (SR307), included with the concept plan for widening SR307. Staff is pursuing a professional services contract for design of the crossings.
 - 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. Completed January 2002.
 - b. Phase 2. Acquire flood-prone properties and convert the acquired land into a storm water retention facility to provide greater protection to remaining properties in the area.
 - i. All appraisals are complete. The County has title to fifteen parcels and the remaining 21 parcels are pending closing.
 - ii. The CSX railroad undercrossing Final Design Report has been approved. The consultant has been issued notice to proceed with final design.
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.
 - c. Additional work to correct a drainage problem along Tennessee Ave. and to improve the appearance of the canal near the Bonaventure Bridge is underway. Staff has prepared a preliminary plan of improvements. Negotiations for the necessary rights of way and easements are pending.
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) Widen channel with road crossing improvements and a maintenance road.
- a. Phase 1 includes channel improvements and crossing upgrades north of Main Street to Pipemakers Canal.
 - i. Preliminary title searches are complete. The consultant is proceeding with wetlands permitting, and coordination with GDOT for the crossing at Highway 80. Review of revised construction plans and preliminary right of way plans is underway.
 - ii. Staff has approved recommended improvements of additional area requested by City of Bloomingdale. Consultant is working on preliminary construction drawings.
 - 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 undercrossings at SR 21 and railroad, and widen channel downstream of SR21. Hydraulic analysis and recommendations were completed in 1998.
- a. A revised analysis prepared in 2004 indicated that substantial improvement to the drainage system's capacity can be achieved by improving the underdrain capacity at a railroad.
 - b. Final design recommendations are under review by Staff and are being incorporated into an engineering scope of work for a design contract with a consultant.
8. Wilmington Park Canal
- a. Phase 1. (Construction of tide gate) Completed September 2002.
 - b. Phase 2. Widen channel and improve culvert crossings under Wilmington Island Road.
 - i. Received permit from USACE on July 5, 2002. Title searches of affected properties are complete. Staff has directed the consultant to make changes to reduce necessary utility relocations and property acquisitions. The changes will result in cost savings to the County while still attaining the drainage improvement needs of the community.
 - ii. Staff has negotiated fee proposal with Consultant for slope stabilization design at Wilmington Island Road.
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.
 - b. The Design Study Report has been approved. Preliminary design and rights of way drawings are under review by Staff.

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. Romney Place Drainage
 - a. Phase 1. Improve drainage along Central Avenue. Completed October 2001.
 - b. Phase 2. Improve storm drains and road crossings. A consultant has reviewed conditions and has provided recommendations for drainage improvements on Romney Place and along Parkersburg Road. The report is being reviewed by Staff.
13. 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 monitoring the site. Wetland delineation has been approved by the USACE. Compilation of citizen drainage survey to help establish project need and purpose for permitting is complete.
14. 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 is being coordinated with the GDOT SR 307 widening project from R. B. Miller Road to SR21. Design of the project to improve the canal downstream 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. GDOT has concurred with the County's proposal to include construction of the crossing under SR 307 as a County Contract. County is waiting on Letter of Agreement from GDOT to define County's project responsibilities and shall then proceed with obtaining a cost proposal for consulting services. Coordination with GDOT regarding alignment of the crossing is underway. Consultant has been directed to finalize design of remainder of project, to be possibly bid as separate project.
 - c. GDOT has approved new curb cuts at SR 307 to improve access to the canal for maintenance. Staff has directed Consultant to proceed with final ROW plans.
15. 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. Preliminary design and rights of way drawings have been reviewed by Staff and returned to the consultant for continuation of the design. The project will require acquisition of drainage easements and rights of way.
16. Redgate/Rahn Dairy A project to provide larger underdrains at several road crossings, canal widening and provisions for maintenance access. Staff has approved the design analysis and directed the consultant to begin preparation of construction documents and easement plats. Preliminary rights of way drawings are expected by January 2005.
17. Diggs Avenue Drainage (part of Louis Mills) This drainage improvement project involves improving drainage at the east end of Diggs Avenue. Plans for the needed rights of way have been prepared and are under review by Staff.
18. Ogeechee Farms
 - a. Phase 1. Improve internal collector system south of Vidalia Road. The project is substantially complete. Contractor is working on punch list items. An issue regarding unacceptable installation of some sections of the installed drainage piping is under review.
 - b. Phase 2.
 - i. The County has received the Section 404 wetlands permit from USACE. Final paperwork utilizing the County's new banking instrument for mitigation is complete.
 - 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.

19. Fawcett Canal
 - a. Phase 1. Widen channel and improve crossings from Georgetown downstream to crossing under Grove Point Road, and replace tide gate.
 - i. Drainage improvements completed August 2002.
 - ii. Project to improve the appearance and drainage function of the lagoons is about 90 percent complete.
 - b. Phase 2. Provide increased storm water drainage capacity in areas affecting Red Fox Drive and White Hawthorne Drive. Agreements are being made to secure needed easements from the City of Savannah. Staff has identified improvements and is soliciting engineering proposals to prepare construction documents.
20. Quacco Canal Drainage Improvements East of US17 (Formerly the Ecosystem Restoration Project) Improve Quacco Canal and associated road undercrossing capacities from US 17 to marsh, including removal of a private tidegate structure. The work is expected to reduce the 50-year flood level by about 2 feet at US17 and at the same time restore a salt marsh ecosystem to its original condition.
 - a. Contract Documents for project construction have been developed by Staff. Construction bids will be received in early January 2005.
 - b. Access agreements to the private property and development of rights of way drawings are underway and are expected to be substantially complete in time for construction to begin in early 2005.
 - c. Permits from USACE have been applied for.
21. Quacco/Regency Park Storm collector improvements to relieve severity and frequency of flooding within community. The draft Design Study Report has been reviewed by Staff. Staff is evaluating potential wetland permitting issues prior to making a final decision on the needed improvements.
22. Halcyon Bluff Subdivision Storm collector improvements to relieve severity and frequency of flooding within community. Award of a construction contract is pending Board approval on December 17, 2004.
23. 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 has completed review of preliminary construction drawings and ROW plans. Drawings have been returned to the Consultant for minor changes. Approval by Health Department to proceed with acquisition has been obtained.
24. Henderson Channel and crossing improvements to alleviate flooding in the subdivision.
 - a. Canal 1 (henceforth referred to as Brown Thrush Canal): 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. Staff's review of consultant's final report is complete. Staff is reviewing Consultant's fee proposal for design of recommendations.
 - b. Canal 2 (henceforth referred to as Henderson Canal): Provide maintenance road for canal from Gateway Blvd. to Little Neck Road, through wetlands. Wetland delineation has been approved by the USACE.
25. North Rice Mill Right of way acquisition services to provide for drainage improvements to a local drainage system tributary to the Georgetown Canal. Staff is pursuing property acquisitions required for construction and maintenance of the recommended improvements.
26. Georgetown Canal Upgrading roadway undercrossings to improve drainage capacity. Design for the replacement of the St. Ives undercrossing is completed. Award of a construction contract is pending Board approval on December 17, 2004.
27. Walthour Canal at Off Shore A small project to improve the undersized culverts under the entrance road to the Off Shore Subdivision. Final drawings are under review by Staff, to be returned for design completion by January 2005.
28. Wilmington Outfall A project to correct storm sewer drainage pipes between Wilmington Road and the Wilmington River. Staff is soliciting engineering proposals to evaluate existing drainage capacity and develop recommendations for upgrading the existing outfall pipe.

RECOMMENDATION: For information.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session was held at this meeting.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the Board, Chairman Hair declared the meeting adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

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APPROVED: THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2005

PETE LIAKAKIS, CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF
COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

SYBIL E. TILLMAN, COUNTY CLERK