

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 2005, 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 Pete Liakakis called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m., Friday, December 16, 2005.

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II. INVOCATION

Commissioner Helen Stone 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

Chairman Liakakis said, I'd like a motion on the floor to excuse Commissioner David Gellatly. He is at the Pentagon today, and if we could have a motion on the floor. Commissioner Farrell said, so moved. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Liakakis said, it has been moved and seconded to excuse Commissioner Gellatly. Go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Pete Liakakis, Chairman
 Dr. Priscilla D. Thomas, Vice Chairman, District Eight
 B. Dean Kicklighter, Chairman Pro Tem, District Seven
 Helen L. Stone, District One
 James J. Holmes, District Two
 Patrick Shay, District Three
 Patrick K. Farrell, District Four
 Harris Odell, Jr., District Five

Absent: David M. Gellatly, District Six

Also present: Russell Abolt, County Manager
Jonathan Hart, County Attorney
Sybil E. Tillman, County Clerk

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YOUTH COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Liakakis welcomed the following Youth Commissioners who were in attendance: Jasmine Gusby, a Junior at Jenkins High School, and Whitley Hawthorne, a Junior at Beach High School.

Chairman Liakakis said, they had a great 13th year celebration last night over at the Telfair Art Academy. It was a great turnout and we had Priscilla Thomas there, who had the vision to start this Youth Commission, and of course our County employee and one of our people that are in management, Van Johnson, and it was a great affair and we had some testimonials and we can see how successful that the Youth Commission has been, not only here but around the county. We see where other cities and counties want to emulate what has been done here in Chatham County because it's been so successful, and many of the graduates have gone to bigger and better things since their graduation from the Youth Commission.

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V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. PROCLAMATION FOR MS. RUBY S. WIGFALL ON HER RETIREMENT FROM CHATHAM COUNTY JUVENILE COURT.

Chairman Liakakis said, I'd like to call on Commissioner Farrell for this proclamation for Ms. Ruby S. Wigfall on her retirement from Chatham County Juvenile Court. And, Judge, if you and Ms. Wigfall would come up front.

Commissioner Farrell said, at this time I'd like to present this proclamation and read as follows:

WHEREAS, Ruby S. Wigfall was born in Augusta, Georgia, received her undergraduate degree from Savannah State University in the field of Sociology, and began her career in Juvenile Justice in Chatham County, Georgia;

WHEREAS, Ms. Wigfall was employed by Chatham County in May of 1971 as a counselor in the Chatham County Juvenile Detention Center at a time when the Detention Center was funded and operated by the County;

WHEREAS, Ms. Wigfall was a pioneer and an instrumental part of the process of eliminating segregation in the Chatham County Juvenile Detention Center;

WHEREAS, Ms. Wigfall was promoted to the position of probation officer in 1976 where she has worked with children and families to reduce delinquency, child abuse, child neglect, truancy, and conflict between parents and children; has handled and processed every imaginable referral that has run the gamut from the most serious felony criminal conduct to simple misunderstandings; has counseled over 12,000 children and custodians from all walks of life and every level of socioeconomic background; has demonstrated a love of people whether rich or poor, educated or illiterate, downtrodden or uplifted; and has been a beacon of hope and light to children who need a door opened to the possibilities of unmet potential; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Wigfall has been active in her community, is active in her church and is Communion Minister at the Resurrection of Our Lord Catholic Church;

WHEREAS, many parents, victims, and children have praised Ms. Wigfall for her compassion, sensitivity, understanding, and guidance through difficult experiences and her co-workers will be saddened by her departure; and

WHEREAS, Ruby S. Wigfall now has the most seniority of any staff member at the Juvenile Court having completed 34 years of service, is ready for retirement, is planning a wedding for one of her children, and is desirous of having more time to spend with her twin grandchildren;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Pete Liakakis, Chairman, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby salute:

Ruby S. Wigfall

for 34 years of dedicated service to the citizens of Chatham County.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed on this, the 16th day of December 2005.

Pete Liakakis, Chairman

ATTEST:

Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

Ms. Wigfall said, Mr. Liakakis and County Commissioners, I'm really not prepared to make a speech, but I want to thank you all and want to know that this has been —, I hope that I'm going into a better life

as far as continuing what I've done thus far to a greater extent, and I want to say thank you for all of your kindness this morning. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, Ms. Wigfall, we want you to know we appreciate your service to the juveniles and the other people in our community since 1971. You've been dedicated and loyal to your job and to the people, and because of your counseling and other things that you have done in the juvenile area, we see that some young people's lives have been turned around because of your work out there, and that's wonderful because you've shown your care for them, not just being a person as an employee, but going beyond that, and we thank you for that. Ms. Wigfall said, thank you.

Judge Beam said, and this is the lamp that the Commission presents to our employees who have at least as many years as you have, Ruby [Wigfall]. I will miss her great sense of humor. She has been a real friend for the 25 years I've been out there, and she does exemplify the kind of people that you folks hire, and I greatly appreciate your recognizing her today. Thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, Mr. Chairman, I'd just like to say congratulations, and I now it's been a long, long time and I know you're looking forward to your retirement, but I would be remiss not to say something in that I've worked very closely with Ms. Wigfall with the youth of this County, and I can tell you that she has been able to work with us in talking to turn around so many of our youth who were on the wrong track, and instead of being incarcerated these young people were put into the youth challenge programs and their lives have been turned around, and I just want to thank you so very much for being there and motivating these young people and helping them to understand that there was a better way of doing things and that they did have a life, you know, ahead of them. Thank you so very much.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you very much. Commissioner Farrell said, thank you.

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VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

1. LIBRARY BOARD SALARIES.

Chairman Liakakis said, Karl [Bohnstedt], would you come forth.

Mr. Bohnstedt said, good morning. Holiday greetings from the Library Board. Chairman Liakakis said, Karl, identify yourself for the record please. Mr. Bohnstedt said, my name is Karl Bohnstedt. I am the Chair of the Live Oak —, Board of Trustees for the Live Oak Public Libraries. Again, good morning and holiday greetings from the Live Oak Public Library Board and Trustees. I would like to share with you recent Library accomplishments. They will demonstrate — to demonstrate how hard your Library staff has been working to provide a backdrop for one of a — for our request today. A sheet has been distributed to looking like this that lists some of our recent accomplishments. They represent steps that have been taken with funds you allocated to us to help fight literacy and improve the education level of all our citizens. They are impressive and, again, you help us with this.

Mr. Bohnstedt said, I would like to focus on one very recent event. During the week of November 14th the Library held the Second Annual Savannah Children's Book Festival. On November 19th it estimated 8,000 people braved what promised to be very inclement weather to attend festivities at Forsyth Park. This is a significant increase from the prior year when we had 5,000 attend. Our festival this year featured authors and storytellers from around North America. They included Wally Amos, who is the founder of Famous Amos Cookies, who launched a national literacy initiative while at the event. Our festival is become one of the more successful events in the County and one of the only events that the entire family can enjoy. Successful Library events, such as the Savannah Children's Book Festival, our Annual Vacation Reading program, and other programmings throughout the year, have given the Libraries a high profile, a very positive image in the community. I would wager —, I would wager that we have probably one of the higher profiles and images within our County functions. I would wager. My conclusion is supported by the results of a survey conducted by Dr. Barbara Bart from the Savannah State University Survey Research Center. Respondents made it clear — made it clear that they value Library services so much that they are even willing to pay more taxes for them. I understand that. And that is what we are requesting today. First, I would like to publicly applaud the Commission for the way you devised your budget this year. I have been involved with organizations where we had to devise budgets using limited funds, and I know it is not an easy task. I have recommended the method you used every time because I feel it is the most logical approach. I also admire your courage in raising the millage in order to address some critical items that the County needs that have arisen in the past few years. But your allocation for the Library represents only a \$19,000 increase or about 35/100ths of a percent increase over our prior year budget. That does not — that does not keep pace with inflation. It's difficult if not impossible for Libraries to keep pace with increased costs of doing business. Specifically, one of our crucial decision packages did not receive funding, and I ask you to consider funding that decision package now.

Mr. Bohnstedt said, I have been reminded that we have a Memorandum of Understanding with the County that gives us control over where we send our allocations. As that line of reasoning goes, it's a matter of us deciding our priorities and funding them. In actuality, I see our Memorandum as an agreement that recognizes our unique relationship between the County and the Library. It allows the Library to exercise better control over all of its resources. It does not speak to but also does not place limits on the need to adequately fund Library operations. The funding needs to keep pace with the increasing cost of doing business. I would also like to point out one thing that I —, a point I would like to emphasize in that in 2002, when a previous Commission was faced with a \$9,000,000 deficit, we gave up \$536,000 to help with that crisis. In subsequent years, as the Commission had trouble balancing its budget, the Library participated in reduced funding along with all of the County departments. So as the County —, so as this County's fiscal picture improves as with this year, we need to share in that restoration. I think that would only be equitable. In closing, it's been mentioned to me that many County facilities are now requiring expensive renovations to get them back into proper condition. Specifically mentioned are parts of this historical courthouse building and putting recreation facilities. It was pointed out that if proper maintenance had been done all along, the taxpayers would have been spare the higher capital expenditures required now. The Libraries are the same way. I have been trying to —, I have tried to paint a picture of our Library system using funds that the County has provided to provide —, to produce outstanding programming that has earned the Library an admirable reputation. You could adequately fund the Libraries today to maintain the excellent programming the taxpayers of this County have expressed they value so greatly. The returns are great. The price of deferring, however, may be so much greater. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you, Karl [Bohnstedt]. Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, I have one question. You said one decision package did not get funded. What decision package was that? Mr. Bohnstedt said, it was a —, it was our decision package for a cost of living adjustment. Commissioner Stone said, thank you.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, we appreciate the job that you do. We appreciate the volunteers. I assume you're one of the volunteers also. Mr. Bohnstedt said, yes. Commissioner Kicklighter said, that actually have been chartered to basically run the operations of the —, and pass policies and everything else for the Library. What's kind of taken place here, and I'll just put it bluntly, is the buck's being passed to us, the blame —, whatever you want to call it —, where at this point basically the reality is that the Library in the past asked for the board and the governing to be structured in a way that did not allow the County Commission to micro-manage. The board itself wanted to run it and submit basically —, basically all we do is give the money. It's up to your board to prioritize how you deem necessary and pay the people what you feel is important, and in my experience sitting up here through the times in the past with the bad financial times we've been through, my thought was always to try to take care of the employees and, considering what we came through, as far as it goes, we did a pretty darn good job of that. I really —, I'm really kind of shocked, I guess, that this coming in front of us and it looks like making us like we're the bad guys when we've poured tons of money into the Library recently and in recent years. And, you know, again you asked to be basically independent, so be independent. Structure your budget how you deem necessary to pay your employees what they deserve, and with that I'll call for a motion to deny the request.

Commissioner Thomas said, Mr. Chairman, may I ask a question. Commissioner Kicklighter said, sure. Commissioner Thomas said, again thanks for everything that the Library has done. I think you've done a really good job. Outside of Chatham County I know that it has the title of Live Oak? Mr. Bohnstedt said, this is correct. Commissioner Thomas said, and that encompasses how many other counties? Mr. Bohnstedt said, Chatham, Effingham and Liberty Counties. Commissioner Thomas said, okay. Do these other three counties have any financial input into it? Mr. Bohnstedt said, yes, they do. They all fund their own operations independently. With the same —, in the same manner as we are now operating. Commissioner Thomas said, okay, so everybody wants to be independent. Mr. Bohnstedt said, correct.

Commissioner Kicklighter asked, so how do we fund the Director's position? Okay, if you want a raise from —, if you want us to provide a raise, how are we going to provide the raise for, let's just say, the Director when there's two other counties involved? Three other counties involved. Mr. Bohnstedt said, it's a mixture in that I'm sure for cost allocation purposes, the Director —, our Director's salary is set. We receive our funding. We set that budget based on what funding we have. And I would like to —. Commissioner Kicklighter asked, did you go to the other counties and ask for an increase in the salaries for this administrator's task? Mr. Bohnstedt said, not specifically for that person, but rather we asked for a budget —, we make a budget request similar to here and to the Chatham County, and make — and go through the same process. Commissioner Kicklighter said, but what I'm saying is your —, is your current request with all of the counties involved, or are you just asking this one county to fund the entire increase? Mr. Bohnstedt said, no. No, we've —, let me make sure I understand what you're asking, and

again it costs a certain amount of money to operate our libraries, and Effingham County will cost a certain amount. That includes a portion of the salary of the folks who work here in Chatham County, our Director and certain staff folks. Commissioner Kicklighter said, but that's what I'm saying. There's going to be some people I'm sure involved that would deserve the raise that actually act in a manner which benefits the entire program, and have you contacted the other counties to ask for their portion to share this raise? That's why you asked a while back to be structured in a manner where we do not micro-manage. We do not get involved, and that's the very reason because we can get technical and dive into every little area, and that's what passing this buck off on us would do, but I believe that this group agrees with our decision of the past, or the Commission's decision of the past, to deny the request and leave the Library Board running like it has recently; let you make the decisions on your personnel, let you do what, thank goodness, you volunteer to do. It's your duty to structure policies and pay the employees what you deem necessary. And, you know, again I've made a motion to deny the request and I would like a second, if possible.

Chairman Liakakis asked, is there a second? Commissioner Holmes said, second. Commissioner Odell said, I'll second. Chairman Liakakis said, all right. It's been seconded. Now for discussion. James Holmes first.

Commissioner Holmes said, yes. County Attorney Hart asked, was the question called? Commissioner Holmes said, no. Commissioner Odell said, no. He made the motion and the motion was just seconded.

Mr. Bohnstedt said, it's my ability to respond to —. Chairman Liakakis said, just a minute. Mr. Bohnstedt said, — Mr. Kicklighter's —. Chairman Liakakis said, Karl [Bohnstedt], if you'll just hold just a moment. The Commissioners and then we'll call, you know, have you respond to anything you'd like to say. Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Holmes.

Commissioner Holmes said, one question I want to ask you, Karl [Bohnstedt], how long have you been with the Library? Mr. Bohnstedt said, I have been on the board since 2000 —, I think it's the year 2000. I am in the chair —, I have been occupying my current chair since July. Commissioner Holmes said, okay. Did you know that the board asked to be independent? Mr. Bohnstedt asked, did I know that we operate independently? Yes. I was a part of the board when we signed the Memorandum of Understanding. Commissioner Holmes said, okay. Thanks.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Odell.

Commissioner Odell said, Pete [Liakakis] keeps forgetting my name. Good morning. How are you doing? Mr. Bohnstedt said, I'm fine. Commissioner Odell said, I read through your proposals and I appreciate your presentation. It's perhaps one of the most comprehensive that's been before us. We have a —, we tried to solve a major financial problem because we had things that would be coming up that's going to take more money than we were currently generating from our taxpayers. I wish this proposal had been —, and you said that it was in the original budget, but that was a part of the decision package that was not approved. Mr. Bohnstedt said, this is correct. Commissioner Odell said, and I regret that and the reason is that as of this point, midstream, we've already earmarked the balance of any unallocated funds with that .678 —, the millage increase. Mr. Bohnstedt said, .6—. County Manager Abolt said, .67 and change. Commissioner Odell said, .67 and change. And I'm not certain from a

realistic standpoint at this point where we would obtain the funds. That gives me concern. I realize that you all operate autonomy and that doesn't concern me, but what does concern me is that if we transfer this money from our General Fund, where will we get it from? And I haven't seen where there is sufficient unallocated funds for us to do that. I regret that I did not see that this decision package was not in the original —, that we didn't at least debate it, at least, and I think this is an excellent proposal that we might need to consider in the upcoming budget process, if that is at all possible. But I thank you for your comprehensive presentation.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Farrell.

Commissioner Farrell said, two-part question. One, besides the Chatham County Commission, what other entities provide funding for your budget for the Live Oak Library? Mr. Bohnstedt said, we receive a certain amount of State money for very limited purposes. Chatham County provides an allocation to us, as does Effingham and Liberty Counties, and I believe Liberty County's School District provides us with a certain amount of funding, and I believe perhaps the City of Midway. Commissioner Farrell said, okay. The second part of my question, do you have a rough idea of what percentage of your budget is funded by this Commission for the Live Oak system? Mr. Bohnstedt said, not off the top of my head, though it is —, I will tell you that it is the majority. A vast majority. Commissioner Farrell asked, over 50%? Mr. Bohnstedt said, yes.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, maybe this is a question for the staff. Would this type of funding set a precedent for other organizations, such as the MPC, that are funded in the same way, to come back midstream and readjust their budget? I mean, would this set a precedent for opening the door for other —. County Manager Abolt said, it's sets untold precedent. You mentioned MPC, MPC is budgeting based on our fiscal year, but the City of Savannah just began —, will begin a new fiscal year. Consideration of this subject in the context is very unfair to you all. I think it has to be addressed when you address the budget, but it's like you said, there was a conscious decision a number of years ago to go independent and there were some reasons. The Library Board chose to be independent, they hired their own personnel officer, they hired their own finance director, they hired their own maintenance people. I mean, they are a separate entity. This is a wonderful organization. Mr. Kruse is doing a super job, but the incongruity —, this organization, who is independent, is now coming to you and wants to be semi-dependent. Commissioner Stone said, so this should be handled in the budget process, just as the other organizations? County Manager Abolt said, that's correct.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Shay.

Commissioner Shay said, the budget presentations that we heard last Spring went on for days, and I think it was the first time in several years that each of the entities that we fund through the General Fund had the opportunity to come forward and make presentations on what their priorities were and what they wanted to do, and I'm not anywhere near as good at keeping the minutes as our County Clerk is, but I do keep a record of what people ask for. When y'all came forward in May, the Library's top priority, because I remember asking this question, was that you wanted \$300,000 for collections, the collections meaning books, that was included last year a one-time charge to be made permanent and recurring, and that was the top priority that was presented to us when we were asked to consider all the decision

packages. We were unable to fund in the context of our deliberation of the entire budget all \$300,000 of that, but we did fund \$150,000 of that request. And my recollection was that we did so because that was the top priority that was presented to us within the context of the decision packages. So I just want to point out that we have gone over and above what was included in the Manager's budget, and we did address at least 50% of what the Library Board identified as their top priority. I'd also like to ask and, you know, I'm like Harris [Odell], I think in the context of next year's budget deliberations if this is brought forward and you present to us your overall budget that's something that we can evaluate as we look at the entire County budget, but because you have independent budget authority I would like to just suggest that you make sure that your future SPLOST allocations —, you know, you do get capital dollars, I think, that come through these same doors —, that they're spent very wisely considering your staff demands because as those facilities are built, then you will be —, the design of the buildings to some extent will drive how much staff it takes to operate and maintain those buildings and that also you would stop and be very careful about how they're designed in terms of things like energy consumption. I think when you look at your budget and we look at our budget over the next five to ten years, one of the greatest challenges that we're going to all be facing is it's going to take a whole lot more energy and the energy is going to be a whole lot more expensive to maintain these buildings, and that is going to far exceed deflation in terms of where you're at. So because you're an independent budget authority, unlike when I was on the Commission the last time where we built libraries and there was not this feedback into your own budget, so you'll say we'll build libraries however much staff it takes, we'll go back to the County and ask for more money, looking ahead so that you don't find yourself and your successor as the voluntary and very generous leader of the Library Board, don't paint yourself into that corner on a going forward basis with the new monies that are being allocated for SPLOST. You want to have a great library on the Southside, you want to have a great library on the Westside, but this will help maybe to serve as a reminder that you're to some extent designing your own future when it comes to these budget allocations. But we did, in closing, fund at least some of the highest priorities that the Library Board presented to us in the budget deliberations. I'm sorry that it didn't include the salaries that perhaps you're now under pressure to come back and ask us for, but only to the extent that it wasn't identified as the highest priority.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, basically, not being structured to micro-manage y'all, we don't tell the board line item by line item how to spend your money. We approve additional monies and it was basically at your discretion of how to dispense that, and, you know, there's certain areas that we have told line item by line item by line item that you have to spend it and then, you know, for the most part we don't, and that's the part and, again, you know, I appreciate everything y'all do. You do a great job, but this truly today was a mistake on the board's part of coming in front of us because this is not our —, it's not the way it was structured for you to be here asking for money in the middle of the, you know, time. And, but again, I don't mean that disrespectfully. There's just no nice way to tell you that, but having said that, if you're finished speaking, I'll call for the question. Are you finished?

Mr. Bohnstedt said, I would like to have the opportunity to address you, your question, Commissioner Kicklighter. Commissioner Kicklighter said, please do. Mr. Bohnstedt said, we are not asking to cede any control over our budget process back to you. We're not asking you specifically to give us money for that purpose. Rather looking at things from the larger prospective, when the smoke clears we are \$19,000 ahead of where we were last year. That's a brief —, that's 35/100ths of a percent increase

versus inflation, which is running at 2½ to 3%. So we aren't standing still, we're falling back. I'm not asking you —, and it's perhaps unfortunate that the agenda item specifically is titled the way it is because really what we're looking at is —. Commissioner Kicklighter asked, how much more money did you say you're ahead this year of last year's —? Mr. Bohnstedt said, the specific allocation was about \$19,000 ahead. Commissioner Kicklighter asked, when did you become aware of this? Mr. Bohnstedt said, back in —, back when the budget was passed. Commissioner Kicklighter asked, okay. Where you aware before the budget was passed that that was the package proposed or whatever? Mr. Bohnstedt said, we were, I believe, made aware of the structure of the way the budget was going to be considered just before you all starting considering it. Other than normal. Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. Well, why were we not aware of really any of that? Mr. Bohnstedt said, I cannot answer that. Commissioner Kicklighter said, until now. Mr. Bohnstedt said, I cannot answer that. Commissioner Kicklighter asked, well, as the board chartered to set policy and oversee, I would suggest that y'all come up with some kind of a game plan for the future where with your independent structure you have a good communication system open to let us know when you foresee a problem because again, coming after it's done, making us look like the bad guys, I mean, it looked like we —, as far as I knew, everyone was pleased with this past budget. I mean, we had —, money came in and, you know, there was a small tax increase and at the time it appeared that no one was really upset with what took place. And, you know, again I wish again that —, I believe the Commissioners over here said, I wish that we would have known that, you know —. So —. Mr. Bohnstedt said, and I applaud your efforts and, again, I think the structure of the way you did it was excellent. I think it was very well done. It is the way that I have —, the way that I, as an accountant, would approach this particular issue, the way of doing this. Commissioner Kicklighter said, let us know —. Mr. Bohnstedt said, and I —. Commissioner Kicklighter said, — next time and we'll see what we can do, but as of now there's nothing that we can do, and I'll yield if you'd like to go and then I'll call the question.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Shay.

Commissioner Shay said, real quickly, you said you had \$19,000 more in the budget that you're operating under now than you had the previous year. Does that include the \$150,000. Mr. Bohnstedt said, that's if you look at our total allocation from the County in FY'05 of \$5,335,000 total. Commissioner Shay said, yes. Mr. Bohnstedt said, the total allocation of what received is \$19,000 higher than that. Commissioner Shay said, including the \$150,000? Mr. Bohnstedt said, yes. Commissioner Shay said, but the year that you're pointing to and saying that was our benchmark from the year previous, there was a \$300,000 one-time allocation for additional books, and so then, you know, we get into this dilemma where, you know, you present a budget and we say there's an item that is one time, and then after the one time happens, the next year we benchmark against it and say, wow, we didn't get as much money as last year. Well, of course not. You asked for some money that was one time. You see what I'm saying? Mr. Bohnstedt said, yes, I do. Commissioner Shay said, yes, I do.

Commissioner Odell said, I think the bottom line is your being an accountant you can certainly understand. We appreciate the struggle the Library Board is going through. I understand your request. Unfortunately, as of the this point, we don't have the money, and we are not going to continue robbing Peter to pay Paul. Your budget, your request will be thoroughly considered during the upcoming budget year. We cannot consider it now. I don't speak for anyone other than myself, but I will join Commissioner Kicklighter in his motion and it's unfortunate, but I will call for the question. Commissioner Kicklighter said, second. Commissioner Odell said, I'm sorry —.

Chairman Liakakis said, the question's been —. Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, well, I just wanted to make one quick comment. This is a difficult dilemma. Our library provides a very valuable service to this community. I don't know what we can do at this point.

Chairman Liakakis said, it's been —, a motion has been made to call for the question — call for the vote, and it's been seconded. Let's go on the board. Commissioner Shay asked, this is the motion to call the question or the motion —? Chairman Liakakis said, call for the question. The motion carried unanimously. NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present at the time this vote was taken.]

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay, so now we're voting to regretfully deny the request. Chairman Liakakis said, right. Commissioner Shay said, so your motion was to deny? Commissioner Kicklighter said, deny. Commissioner Shay said, a vote for yes is actually a vote —. Commissioner Kicklighter said, yes. If you vote yes, it denies the request. Chairman Liakakis said, okay, go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present at the time this vote was taken.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

Chairman Liakakis said, Karl [Bohnstedt], we want you to know, as Commissioner Stone mentioned, the Library is an important part of our community. I mean, the functions and the necessity of a Library, we need that, but it's not like we want to penalize the Library in any way, but we just have certain amount of monies to fund out and you've heard the suggestions that are made this time, and you work it in your budget when you present it to us for the next fiscal year, and we thank you very much and we thank you and Christian [Kruse] and all of the employees that are doing a good job for our citizens.

Mr. Bohnstedt said, thank you for your consideration and, again, we wish you a happy holiday. Chairman Liakakis said, thank you. Commissioner Thomas said, same here.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

1. Commissioner Kicklighter moved to deny the request by the Library Board for additional funds for a cost of living increase for their employees. Commissioners Holmes and Odell seconded the motion.
2. Commissioner Odell moved to call the question. Commissioner Kicklighter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present at the time this vote was taken.]
3. A vote was taken on the original motion to deny the request of the Library Board. The motion to deny carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present at the time this vote was taken.]

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VII. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS

1. STATUS OF CHARLIE BROOKS PARK (COMMISSIONER FARRELL).

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Farrell.

Commissioner Farrell said, as you all know, we have been working very diligently and very hard out at Wilmington Island to transform Charlie Brooks Park into a premier athletic field, and at this time I would ask that County Manager to give us all a briefing on our current status and how we're looking in the construction.

County Manager Abolt said, in talking to Mr. Drewry, who was out there yesterday during all the rain, I believe we have some reasonably glowing expectations to get the field open, and I would defer to Mr. Drewry to give the specifics.

Mr. Robert Drewry said, good morning. I think if you go out there right now you will see a lot of progress has been done and is progressing well. We've got the fencing is going up, the grading of the field is essentially done. As a matter of fact, yesterday the subcontractor was hauling in the limestone base for the parking lot and the roadway. Sports lights are up and, permit me of this forum to give you guys a head's up. Sometime early next week, perhaps maybe Tuesday, they're going to burn those lights for 24 hours. They have to have a 24-hour burning period, so we may get calls those lights were on all night, but please be advised that's the burning period and that is required to give us a chance to assess any problems they have. So that should be coming up we're hopefully expecting Tuesday.

Mr. Drewry said, as you know, this project hasn't been without its share of challenges. We met with all three prime contractors and the subcontractor [inaudible] yesterday. We believe that we've overcome most of those challenges. The biggest challenge now left remaining is the weather. As far as the progress, I think the best analogy I can give you, and again if you'll permit me, use a baseball analogy, we're probably in the seventh inning stretch with a lead right now. Things are looking very well. Like I said, the biggest challenge right now is the weather. We are expecting to be able to play baseball at the beginning in March. Any questions?

Chairman Liakakis said, Robert [Drewry], we'd like to thank you and Al [Lipsey] for, you know, overseeing these particular projects in our recreation area because we know how important recreation is. You know, we've got 30-plus ball fields, we have tennis courts, we have fishing areas, and all of that in recreation, and we have the weightlifting center, the Olympic Weightlifting Center, the Aquatic Center, you know, many things in the recreation area that's vitally needed for our citizens, whether it's for physical therapy, for exercise, or to play games and those kinds of things, and we do appreciate it, and we want the citizens to know. Unfortunately, the last number of years it was not funded and we've had a lot of problems, but we were able to with this budget to put some extra money in and in the next few years we should have our recreation area, some of the best in the State of Georgia. We have the pledge from yourself and from Al [Lipsey] to make sure that occurs, you know, with the monies that we can allot you, and we do appreciate that. Mr. Drewry said, well, I appreciate your support. Thank you.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, there's one unsung hero that when you name Al and Robert, I also would ask you to include Harry McDonald. Harry McDonald isn't assigned to any one department other than he's available to Mr. Monahan. He does a wonderful job on so many projects, but it was our affectionately referred to "Junkyard Dog" that got into this thing and along with Al and Robert communicated in no uncertain terms to the contractor that we want this project done and we want it done on time.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Farrell.

Commissioner Farrell said, I would like to point out to everyone the unique challenges of reconstructing and building on a landfill, and it adds a lot of uncertainty to the process and a lot of unique challenges that have to be met and overcome in a sufficient manner and fully understand some of the problems that have come up along the way, and I feel confident that they have been met and dealt with appropriately. So, thank you.

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2. DEVELOPING A COMPREHENSIVE MAINTENANCE AND USE PLAN FOR CHARLIE BROOKS PARK (COMMISSIONER FARRELL).

Chairman Liakakis said, Commissioner Farrell, you wanted to discuss the maintenance and the comprehensive plan.

Commissioner Farrell said, yes, that's correct. I have high anticipation that we are going to have a premier first-class athletic complex presented to the public of Chatham County to be used at some point this Spring, and it's my recommendation that at this time, when we still have a few months out from ribbon cutting time, that staff and —, collaborate with our current contractors that are installing the turf, the maintenance people in the Public Works Department that will be maintaining that turf, that we consult with our recreation staff that will be managing the people that are actually playing on the field that we include our County Extension Agent for their expertise in all things that grow, which will be mostly grass out there, that we perhaps even contact our Master Gardeners if they would like to do some additional landscaping projects, perhaps to enhance the overall esthetics. I know the University of Georgia has "in between the hedges" and perhaps we could have some trademark for that field also. And one last consideration that we also consult the Metropolitan Police Department for security, and make sure that we don't spend all this money from the taxpayers to build a most premier facility just to have it vandalized by a very small minority of people that like tear things up instead of build things up.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay.

Ms. Jackie Ogden said, I would just say on behalf of the Chatham County Extension Service, we're delighted to be able to offer our services. Dave Linvill, our County Agent, is already investigating best practices around the State that will be used in other municipalities, but more importantly our Masters Gardeners, Commissioner Farrell, we commend you for your leadership and the Commission's vision for protecting these new facilities and we stand ready and are doing our homework to assist with any information that we have from research-based agricultural information that we can bring back to the County. I might add to your fellow Commissioners that Commissioner Farrell, I know, had conversations

with Dave Linvill, our County Agent, and there has been a workshop that has been planned, and it is for the 10th of January, and it will be bringing forth really all of the professionals in the area and that have any responsibility for athletic fields. Our hopes that during that training will allow a greater awareness in terms of not only protecting our athletic field here in the County, but also other organizations that have athletic fields so that we can have even a better premier site and uses of these facilities throughout the entire County. That's on the 10th. It's at the Bamboo Farm & Coastal Gardens, and in addition our Master Gardeners are very excited about this and about all of you that they are delighted to see how they might be able to help with this. In addition, the University of Georgia, as you mentioned, also has Best Practices Through Research, and we will be sharing that with —, while you're working collective [inaudible]

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you, Jackie [Ogden], thank you, Robert [Drewry], thank you, Al [Lipsey], and thank you, Harry [McDonald].

Commissioner Farrell asked, do we —, can we get a presentation or something before the ribbon cutting to —? County Manager Abolt said, what we will do just for the ease of it every month we give you the recreation action plan. You're next one is due on the 13th. I was going to ask Mr. Drewry, and I'll do it now, to make sure in our recreation action plan every month we'll give you a status report on where we are. I thin that one's name that was not mentioned, and I realize that it's not an immediate priority as far as right now, but in my conversation with Commissioner Farrell, I think one of the benefits of all this is that it will involve exposure and informing the coaches, the participants, because part of this maintenance and usage must be dependent upon the number of times teams are allowed to go on the field. We can have the most beautiful field with the most beautiful landscaping, and if there is this tendency which we saw with the soccer complex, to want to be using it and want to be practicing on it, and one might imagine in a few short weeks, it won't look as nice as it was when we cut the ribbon.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, thank you very much.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A comprehensive maintenance and use plan for Charlie Brooks Park was received as information.

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VIII. TABLED/RECONSIDERED ITEMS

Unless action is contemplated at today's meeting, staff report and file material has not been duplicated in your agenda packet. The 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 APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING: (1) A SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT CONTINGENCY TRANSFER OF \$52,725 TO THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION STAFFING, (2) AN AMENDMENT TO THE GENERAL FUND M&O TO INCREASE REVENUE FOR COMMISSIONS FROM THE BOARD OF EDUCATION BY \$236,000 AND APPROPRIATE \$236,000 TO THE PUBLIC DEFENDER'S BUDGET, (3) TRANSFERS WITHIN THE VARIOUS DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS IN THE SALES TAX IV FUND TO SET UP THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS: CHEVIS CANAL/AIRPORT \$800,000; NORWOOD AVENUE DRAINAGE \$500,000; GOLDEN ISLES DRAINAGE \$600,000; DRAINAGE/FLOOD HAZARD MAPPING \$400,000; AND RESERVE FOR UNINCORPORATED COUNTY DRAINAGE PROJECTS \$900,000, (4) AN AMENDMENT TO THE MULTIPLE GRANT FUND TO RECOGNIZE AWARDS OF \$50,000 TO THE DUI COURT FOR FY2006 AND \$125,000 TO THE CHATHAM EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY FOR COASTAL PLANNING, AND (5) A TRANSFER OF \$3,800 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP) CONTINGENCY TO THE OLD COUNTY COURTHOUSE AIR VENTILATION PROJECT.**

Chairman Liakakis said, do we have a motion on the floor to approve these? Commissioner Shay said, Mr. Chairman, I want to —. Chairman Liakakis asked, do you want to comment first? Go ahead, Helen.

Commissioner Stone said, well, I think Commissioner Shay had his hand up first, but I would like to comment, yes.

Commissioner Shay said, I make a motion that we adopt Item 1 and then I'd like to reserve some discussion if there's a second. Commissioner Farrell said, I'll second.

Commissioner Shay said, the first item, the contingency transfer to the Metropolitan Planning Commission for historic preservation staffing, and so that we can have the ability to start up the preservation program for the unincorporated area, and I think this is a great thing and I hope that the Commissioners will support this. It's a very important program to our community, but I'd like to make sure that the money is held in reserve this year until there's actually expenditures from the MPC. I want that program to get staffed up, and we certainly don't have any problem with money being spent once staff is in place, but we're sort of in the infancy stage right now. One of the things I think we're going to be taking up later on today is starting to make appointments to that commission, so I certainly think that I would add that discussion.

Chairman Liakakis asked, all right. Do you want —, you said we have a motion on the floor and it's been seconded to approve all of those items under Item 1, but you want to add the hold off —. Commissioner

Shay said, just the allocation of the \$52,725 be basically appropriated but held in reserve until there are actual expenditures. Chairman Liakakis asked, do we have —, the second, do you —. Commissioner Odell said, I'll second. Chairman Liakakis asked, — agree with that? Commissioner Farrell said, yes. Chairman Liakakis said, okay, that's been approved also. Go ahead.

Commissioner Stone said, and then I just wanted to make the comment that I made in the pre-meeting and Mr. Grevemberg did come up to me after the pre-meeting and talk about the drainage in the Whitfield Avenue/Montgomery area with the \$900,000 for the unincorporated County drainage project.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, we have the motion on the floor. It's been seconded on Item 1 of the Individual Actions. Go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Gellatly and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Shay moved that the Board approve the following: (1) a Special Service District contingency transfer of \$52,725 to the Metropolitan Planning Commission for Historic Preservation staffing but held in reserve until there are actual expenditures, (2) an amendment to the General Fund M&O to increase revenue for commissions from the Board of Education by \$236,000 and appropriate \$236,000 to the Public Defender's budget, (3) transfers within the Various Drainage Improvements in the Sales Tax IV fund to set up the following projects: Chevis Canal/Airport \$800,000; Norwood Avenue Drainage \$500,000; Golden Isles Drainage \$600,000; Drainage/Flood Hazard Mapping \$400,000; and Reserve for Unincorporated County Drainage Projects \$900,000, (4) an amendment to the Multiple Grant Fund to recognize awards of \$50,000 to the DUI Court for FY2006 and \$125,000 to the Chatham Emergency Management Agency for Coastal Planning, and (5) a transfer of \$3,800 from the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) contingency to the Old County Courthouse Air Ventilation project. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Gellatly and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-1

AGENDA DATE: December 16, 2005

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R.E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Linda B. Cramer, Finance Director

ISSUE: To request approval of the following: (1) a Special Service District contingency transfer of \$52,725 to the Metropolitan Planning Commission for Historic Preservation staffing, (2) an amendment to the General Fund M&O to increase revenue for commissions from the Board of Education by \$236,000 and appropriate \$236,000 to the Public Defender's budget, (3) transfers within the Various Drainage Improvements in the Sales Tax IV fund to set up the following projects: Chevis Canal/Airport \$800,000; Norwood

Avenue Drainage \$500,000; Golden Isles Drainage \$600,000; Drainage/Flood Hazard Mapping \$400,000; and Reserve for Unincorporated County Drainage Projects \$900,000, (4) an amendment to the Multiple Grant Fund to recognize awards of \$50,000 to the DUI Court for FY2006 and \$125,000 to the Chatham Emergency Management Agency for Coastal Planning, and (5) a transfer of \$3,800 from the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) contingency to the Old County Courthouse Air Ventilation project.

BACKGROUND:

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

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The Historic Preservation Ordinance will require additional funding for the Metropolitan Planning Commission. This expenditure was not included in the adopted budget. A Special Service District contingency transfer of \$52,725 is requested. A copy of correspondence is attached.
2. The Tax Commissioner collects a commission for collecting taxes for the Board of Education. The revenue budget for this source can be increased by \$236,000, based on the final tax digest and millage rate for the Board of Education. These funds are available to fund the next phase of the Public Defender's budget. A budget amendment has been prepared. An excerpt from the minutes of the October 21, 2005 meeting is attached.
3. The County Engineer has requested transfers within the Various Drainage Improvements in the Sales Tax IV fund to set up the following projects: Chevis Canal/Airport \$800,000; Norwood Avenue Drainage \$500,000; Golden Isles Drainage \$600,000; Drainage/Flood Hazard Mapping \$400,000; and Reserve for Unincorporated County Drainage Projects \$900,000. Copies of correspondence are attached.
4. Chatham County has been awarded grants of \$50,000 from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety to the DUI Court for FY2006 and \$125,000 from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration to the Chatham Emergency Management Agency for Coastal planning, response and recovery from tropical hazards. An amendment to the Multiple Grant Fund has been prepared. Copies of correspondence are attached.
5. The contract for the Old County Courthouse Air Ventilation project requires a change order. A transfer of \$3,800 from the Capital

Improvement Program (CIP) contingency is requested. Copies of correspondence are attached.

FUNDING:

Funds are available within the Special Service District and Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funds for the contingency transfers. The budget amendments will establish funding in the General Fund M&O and the Multiple Grant Fund. Funds are available within the Sales Tax IV fund for the project transfers.

ALTERNATIVES:

(1) That the Board approve the following:

SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND

a contingency transfer of \$52,725 to the M PC for Historic Preservation staffing.

GENERAL FUND M&O

an amendment to increase revenue for commissions from the Board of Education by \$236,000 and appropriate \$236,000 to the Public Defender's budget.

ONE PERCENT SALES TAX IV (2003-2008) FUND

transfers within Various Drainage Improvements to set up the following projects:

Chevis Canal/Airport \$800,000; Norwood Avenue Drainage \$500,000; Golden Isles Drainage \$600,000; Drainage/Flood Hazard Mapping \$400,000; and Reserve for Unincorporated County Drainage Projects \$900,000.

MULTIPLE GRANT FUND

an amendment to recognize awards of \$50,000 to the DUI Court for FY2006 and \$125,000 to the Chatham Emergency Management Agency for Coastal Planning.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUND

a transfer of \$3,800 from contingency to the Old County Courthouse Air Ventilation project.

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. REPORT ON CIP YEAR 1 UNFUNDED PARKS AND RECREATION NEEDS
COUPLED WITH A STRATEGY TO FIND DOLLARS.**

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, this was prompted by your discussion at your last meeting. There was concern by Commissioner Kicklighter particularly when it looked at the bids received and the fact that staff had come up with a way in which we could fund \$200,000 more in Triplett Park. He was desirous of doing more at that same time. Other members of the Commission said there were projects in their respective districts for which they would like to have created a discussion. Staff was charged, and this is what we've delivered to you today, with an analysis of funds that are available now and the only thing of any consequence we've come up with as referenced is about \$146,000 under the control of the Recreation Authority. The Board may wish to some time in the reasonably near future go back to them because there's a lot of competing interest for that though, and I think one of your priorities may very well be given your past discussion that some of that money might be used, if the Recreation Authority allows, to go into a very ambitious program of what they refer to as naming rights. This is —, we'll see it, I know, in March of next year when we look at the Telfair —, the Jepson Center of the Telfair Museum, but the way in which so many facilities in the public domain have been funded or the cost deferred for the maintenance is by soliciting individual identities bases on some form of corporate sponsorship. Commissioner Shay, who's walking back in the room now, was the leader in this. This was discussed during your goals session. We have a proposal, an RFP proposal on the streets right now that are soliciting that type of intermediary, that type of service that will allow that to happen. Those are a lot of words to say \$146,000 right now in my estimation should be appreciated as being there. We can't touch it until the Recreation Authority says yes, but I would not recommend until you explore this other opportunity that you obligate it for any one project. Now what does all that mean? That means on the 13th of January, when you next meet, you will have the full CIP proposal from staff. I would suggest you look at the entire CIP. Maybe schedule workshops on just CIP commencing some time in February and go from there. For Commissioner Kicklighter's benefit, you will note that that one aspect of the Triplett Park project was not bid —, not was awarded I should say. The bridge that is held there and he has —, you all have until the first of March to make your decision on that. That how long that bid is, but a big challenge, an exciting challenge, and I think it's a legitimate maturity of the way in which in which you approached the budget last year. Last year so much was done to focus on the operating budget and I think by and large you're seeing that the issues are well defined and you're in control of that situation. Now you want to go to chapter two looking at CIP. You can begin that process in late January, early February.

Commissioner Odell asked, we don't need to vote on this? County Manager Abolt said, this was just prepared to give you information and you recall —, because I know you were the leader on —, you wanted to see the data. You've got the data now and plus unfortunately after the holidays you're going to have to deal with this and budget very quickly. Commissioner Odell said, I say it again, we've got the best County Manager in Chatham County. County Manager Abolt said, thank you, sir, and again, as I

said, the Commissioner from the Fifth District has the nicest tie I've ever seen from a Commissioner from the Fifth District.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A status report was given as information by the County Manager on CIP Year 1 unfunded Parks and Recreation needs, coupled with a strategy to find dollars.

AGENDA ITEM: IX-2

AGENDA DATE: December 16, 2005

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R.E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Linda B. Cramer, Finance Director
Robert W. Drewry, Director, Public Works & Park Services
Patrick C. Monahan, Assistant County Manager

ISSUE: To provide information regarding CIP Unfunded Parks and Recreation Needs coupled with a strategy to find dollars.

BACKGROUND: On February 4, 2005 the Board received the 2005 Chatham County Capital Improvement Program Workbook which identified the County's capital improvement program (CIP) needs. In June 2005 the Board issued bonds to provide \$12 million in funding for various facilities. On December 2, 2005 the Board discussed the need to develop a long-term strategic plan for County parks and recreation needs. Staff was asked to summarize currently identified CIP needs and explore available funding options.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. On December 2, 2005 during the pre-meeting session, the Board discussed development of a strategic plan to meet recreational needs across all districts. The County Manager then directed staff to identify current unfunded CIP projects and explore funding strategies.
2. A summary of five-year unfunded parks and recreation projects identified in the 2005 CIP Workbook is shown as Attachment I. The Attachment breaks out project needs by year. For example, FY05/06 needs are shown on page 1, FY06/07 needs on page 2, etc.
3. During the pre-meeting the Board referenced two additional project needs — a bridge at Tom Triplett Park and a Westside Community Center. These items are listed on Attachment I, page 1.
4. The Sales Tax IV referendum funded several parks and recreation projects as shown in Attachment II, page 6. Included on this list are

three projects specifically discussed at the pre-meeting: Tom Triplett Park, Tatumville Community Center and Mother Matilda Beasley Park.

5. The Chatham County Recreation Authority is a potential funding source for recreation projects. The Authority's bank balance as of 11/30/05 was \$145,526.
6. The Board may wish to identify and pursue state grant funding for some of the projects. Another funding strategy may be to award naming rights to County facilities, and staff is currently developing a request for proposals (RFP) document for this purpose.
7. While facility and equipment needs may be met through public finance opportunities or the use of non-recurring revenues, maintenance and operational expenses should be met by operating revenues.
8. In January 2006, the 2006 Capital Improvement Project Workbook will be provided to the Board. The 2006 Workbook will provide updated information to the projects listed in the 2005 Workbook and add new project needs.

FUNDING: N/A

POLICY ANALYSIS: The Board should evaluate capital project needs annually in association with the budget process, and priority projects should be determined.

ALTERNATIVES: N/A

RECOMMENDATION: For information only.

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3. UPDATE ON THE PROJECT TO REPLACE THE DOME AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS AT THE AQUATIC CENTER.

County Manager Abolt said, I want to refer to another jewel in the crown, a gentleman who's a master of trivia and also a close friend of mine. As Mr. Monahan gets up, please I would ask Mr. Monahan not to keep his comments any more but just on the Aquatic Center and no trivia please.

Mr. Patrick Monahan said, thank you, Mr. Abolt. We had hoped to appear before you today and make a recommendation on the design/build team that will fix all of the goblins that continue to haunt the Aquatic Center. We are not quite that fortunate, but we are fortunate in that through the request for proposal process, which took a unique approach in two respects. First of all, it was a design/build, which means we have both the designer and the contractor on board at the same time and, secondly, we told the teams, we told them up front, the County has \$3.4 million dollars; tell us how we get the most bang for the buck. And at that point we thought we would primarily be getting a replacement on the Aquatic

Center roof going to a hard-top structure, but we found out through competition that we are able to get much more. The County received seven proposals —, design/build proposals —, of which we have eliminated it down to two, two exceptional teams, two local teams with local design firms as well as local contractors presenting proposals that will include a new hard-top structure made out of creative aluminum structures with steel reinforcing that will not only provide the hard top that we're looking for but provide the insulation factor, allow us to get rid of the negative pressurized dome and also provide for an upgrade in the mechanical system that should eliminate a lot of the other problems that you hear about — fluorination, the heavy moisture that's causing the damage to all of the equipment, the constant need to repaint the interior because of the moisture —, so we think we're well on the way to finding a solution that will not only make the facility more enjoyable to those who attend, but also in terms of lower cost for the County because we're expecting some savings both on the energy side as well as the long term maintenance. So that's very good news. We're hoping that we come back to the board for recommendations, probably the second meeting in January.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Farrell.

Commissioner Farrell said, you mentioned using aluminum and steel. Have you looked —, have you given consideration for the corrosive atmosphere of the mixture of humidity and chlorine and —? Mr. Monahan said, yes sir. Commissioner Farrell said, — and how those products will stand the test of time? Mr. Monahan said, both of the roofing systems are well regarded, well used in many, many other areas. The use of aluminum is resistant to the corrosiveness of the chlorine. The steel —, any steel that would be used, it's not used extensively, but it would be used with an epoxy coating. So, yes, both of the firms that are providing the roof structures themselves are well experienced in the area and have done a number of other jobs. Commissioner Farrell asked, what kind of life expectancy do we expect to —? Mr. Monahan said, we're still —, in the second round we're going more into detail both in the R-factor to do a comparison of the R-factor. It's one thing to accept a verbal commitment during proposal. It's like hearing a salesman say, yes but it's different when we put it in writing. Both of the roofs —, I specifically asked the questioned, and I couched it in these terms: "The County is issued bonds with a 20-year life. How long will the roof last?" And if the answer is not 20 years, they didn't make the cut. So we know we've got a useful life of 20 years. We're checking the warranties on both. One roof has a warranty of 10 years. I can't recall the other, but I think they're both very similar in quality. And, of course, the advantage of the aluminum is they can be prefabricated specifically to this job so that we're going to have a minimum of closing time of the pool, but when I say minimum it looks as though it could be three months. So we're trying to schedule the work so that it will be closed during the warm Summer months so that swimmers can look at other opportunities in the community.

Commissioner Odell said, thank you, Pete [Liakakis]. Is it possible, prior to our receipt of the bid, for you to get with David [Gellatly], who's not here today, because the Aquatic Center is very close to his heart, and with Commissioner Stone in that it seems —. Helen [Stone], that's in your district? Commissioner Stone said, yes. Commissioner Odell said, and determine any questions that they have prior to coming back to us. Mr. Monahan said, absolutely. I will do that. Commissioner Odell said, I would greatly appreciate it.

Commissioner Farrell said, I would also like to be included on that? Mr. Monahan said, yes sir. Commissioner Odell said, because he knows steel and chlorine.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Shay.

Commissioner Shay said, well, I want to thank you for the efforts to date and it's music to my ears when I hear that energy efficiency is a top priority. I mean, the fact that we have a huge building out there that's heated and air conditioned and that roof, in addition to being a problem to maintain, also has a basically minimal insulated value. Mr. Monahan said, probably about an R-2. Commissioner Shay said, yeah, so it's —. Mr. Monahan said, one of the systems we're looking at, just off the top of my head, it's an R-19. Commissioner Shay said, right. So there's a tremendously improved energy efficiency of that building. It's possible, I think, without spending much money if any to actually forecast what the energy savings will be, and one of the things —, and I do not necessarily mean be a part of this group that's going to review other questions, but I think it would be very educational for us to understand that at the end of the day, whichever system is selected, what a reasonable energy savings, even based on today's rates, might be on an annual basis. Mr. Monahan said, I have already asked that question. That's part of the second round as well. Commissioner Shay said, that's great. As always, you're one step ahead of me. And also the fact that we're talking about local design/build teams is again music to my ears and I thank you.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, I just would like to thank Mr. Monahan because \$3.5 million is a lot of money. We need to get it right this time. Mr. Monahan said, absolutely. We understand that goal.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A status report was given as information by Mr. Monahan on the proposed dome replacement and other improvements at the Aquatic Center.

AGENDA ITEM: IX-3

AGENDA DATE: December 16, 2005

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Patrick Monahan, Asst. County Manager
Robert W. Drewry, Director, Public Works & Parks Services

ISSUE:

To provide an update on the project to replace the roof and other improvements at the Chatham County Aquatic Center.

BACKGROUND:

In June 2005, the Board issued bonds through the 2005 DSA Bond Series for four major CIP projects, including replacing the roof at the Aquatic Center. Use of bond funds not only addressed the need to replace the

inflatable roof as it neared completion of its useful life but also the added value of full funding for a possible upgrade to a rigid roof with a minimum 20-year useful life.

FACTS & FINDINGS:

1. Staff developed a "Request for Proposals" (RFP) to seek design and construction proposals which would resolve the inherent problems of the existing inflatable dome. Not knowing the range of available solutions, the RFP left to competition the response of creative solutions in design, engineering and materials which have worked in similar aquatic center projects.

2. The staff evaluation team (Asst. County Manager, Director of Public Works & Parks Services, Deputy Director, Special Projects and Facilities Manager with the addition of an independent mechanical engineering consultant) received seven proposals, reviewed them and interviewed each firm to obtain full details. The seven proposals could be divided into four major categories:
 - Two proposals offered fabric roofs; unlike the existing roof, the proposals offered high-tech, new generation fabrics with a useful life of more than 20 years. However, given the option of rigid roof structures, especially those that could offer solutions within budget, assume mechanical improvements and meet limited schedules of closing during construction, other proposals provided more bang-for-the-buck.
 - Two proposals offered conventional roof designs with steel structure framing and elastomeric exterior. Because of the higher expense of steel-structure framing (which did not allow any balance of funds for mechanical improvements) and the time required to complete this type of engineered solution, other proposals offered better solutions.
 - One solution offered a double-layer polycarbonate roof design attached to a light-weight metal frame; however, it did not meet the insulating factor of other solutions. Furthermore, this project would represent the largest project ever completed by the company, which handles design and construction.
 - Two proposals offered solutions which used aluminum panels as the main roof structure. Because of the lower cost compared to conventional roof designs, sufficient funds would remain to address the secondary problems related to mechanical failures. In addition, this category matched the least amount of time needed to close the pool for construction (about three months).

3. Because the aluminum panel systems offer a solution within budget, provide solutions which include funds to resolve mechanical issues,

can be completed within a minimal amount of time as compared to conventional roof designs and meet higher wind load and energy efficiency, staff intends to select only this option. Both project teams will be asked to provide additional details, and staff intends to make a recommendation in January after full evaluation.

Both of the design-build teams in the final step of competition are local architectural/engineering firms and local contractors with ample bonding capacity. Both project teams are also highly regarded based on initial reference checks.

FUNDING:

The 2005 DSA Series Bonds provides \$3.5 million in funding for the Aquatic Center project.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

State law provides authority for counties to use a competitive selection process for design-build proposals.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

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4. UPDATE ON THE ANIMAL CONTROL SHELTER PROJECT AND RECOMMENDATION FOR A SITE.

Chairman Liakakis said, Assistant County Manager Monahan will also comment on this.

Mr. Monahan said, excuse me for the technical part of this presentation, but —. One of the words you don't like to use in government, but it's crooked. County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, please keep him on track, okay. Mr. Monahan said, well, you'll get the basic idea. This is about the location of the Animal Control Shelter and just a couple of presentation points. I only have five slides, it shouldn't take but a couple of minutes. But we looked at the general requirements based on the specific needs of Animal Control as well as siding. We evaluated several sites throughout the County, included publicly-owned property by the City and the County, and then we have some general recommendations. Now, here's our existing site, and you have this within your package this same drawing, but just to give you an indication, some general geographic —. Here's Sallie Mood Drive, Eisenhower would be to the north. Here's where the Health Department's located. Here's the Humane Society. This is, of course, the entry road. Now, Animal Control is actually several buildings within this facility. We have —, right now we have the inadequate kennel space for the 5,000 animals that are impounded annually. That's approximately 2,500 dogs, 2,100 cats and 400 others, but this little building here is the shelter and it's less than 2,000 square feet. In addition to that, we've got the hodgepodge arrangement of trailers for administration. Here's the little administration trailer, storage and also it's a little bit cumbersome for citizens to access this site, and we also have a lot of confusion with the Humane Society as well with the drop-off of animals. And, finally, because of the antiquated site, we've got problems with the cleaning and handling of the waste disposal from the animals. So our goal is to try to, through this site, develop

a location that's going to provide the space that's adequate to remedy the problems. So we're basically looking at a site to handle a 9,000 square foot facility, including a 6,300 square foot kennel with outdoor runs located —, by preference of the Police Department located near Chatham Parkway where we have the existing Police Annex or near the Citizens Service Center on Eisenhower. And that's principally not only for coordination with the police services, also the ease of payment for citizens when they've got to pick up their animal. A buffer of a quarter of a mile from residential or commercial uses, and as you see as I go down this list, the number of sites become narrower and narrower, and also available sewage for planned drainage and grinder system, which will be connected to floor drains which will ease the problem with waste disposal. And finally available water supply —, not only for the cleaning, but this facility will have an automated water supply for the animals. So the site availability, we looked at two private kennels. One was for sale, the other one I thought was for sale but when I knocked on the door, it was not. We also evaluated a privately-owned site on Montgomery Crossroad, which would have been close to the existing facility, out on Chatham Parkway and U.S. 17 near Chatham Parkway. The difficulty in these sites that they were valued between \$150,000 and \$300,000 an acre. We also looked at some other properties, including the former Mosquito Control. Of course the problem there is we do have —, everyone forgets there's a residential use at the rear side of the property, which would have been a conflict. We also talked to the City of Savannah about any City-owned properties that might be available and we also evaluated some other County-owned properties in the Bacon Park area, and if I may show you the Bacon Park area quickly. Just to give you an orientation again, this is Sallie Mood, here's the Health Department and the soccer fields. You can tell all this area is backed in tightly. Here's the Humane Society, here's the Animal Control Complex, this is soccer parking, Public Works and Frank Williamson Lake. Now this property is approximately twelve acres in size. This is the last large portion of the original Bacon Park area that the County acquired in 1889. Sorry, Mr. Abolt, I just want that little trivia there. The front portion is approximately one acre, to this point is approximately five acres, but the problem with this property is, one, it was always held in the master plan that recreational uses would continue to the south, including the potential for additional soccer fields, and the other is that it's very low. This is an AB-14 area, which means that the finished floor elevation would have to be above 14 feet, and this area is at three to four feet. Because not only is it low, but because of the type of soil, when the County constructed the parking lot, we did a lot of mucking in that area, so it's probably for recreation use but little else.

So now we're back looking at the redevelopment of the existing area because the best site appeared to be under our noses all the time. Now, it is going to require some work, but there are certain advantages to it. One, we're locating it in an area that the community always know where Animal Control is located. It also provides sufficient area to meet the existing needs plus future needs. In this area there's approximately three acres of land. That's an old records storage building and when the County finishes its second building at the Eisenhower Complex, all those records will be relocated and that building is scheduled for demolition. This building where we keep our surplus equipment is already leaking and has some mold problems that needs to be demolished as well, so we would probably develop it at the rear of the property, which then allows us to continue the existing services at this location until the completion of these buildings. And then the older buildings can then be demolished.

We have existing utilities for the approved cleaning and waste disposal and, finally, we just recently paved this road, so the road's in good condition. We also improved —, approved some signage at this location similar to the signage at the Citizens Service Center so that when citizens drive by, one, they'll

recognize the differentiation between the Humane Society and the Shelter property, but also will provide clearer directions of how to get to the Animal Control Shelter.

So, in conclusion, site approval now will enable design selection by February with preference to local architectural firms. Construction should be completed by the end of 2006. The new facility will improve conditions for dogs and cats, working conditions for employees, and accessibility for citizens. New signage will approve service recognition and, finally, we are talking about some other modernization to enable internet access so that —, let's say a citizen loses an animal, the first —, rather than calling Animal Control and trying to describe it over the telephone, I lost my 60-pound Boxer dog, a citizen would be able to get onto the internet and then take a look at the pictures of the dogs that have recently been impounded and make a determination. I think Commissioner Stone calls it mutt shots instead of mug shots. Of course, if it was a certain breed of animal, it would be a pug shot. So this is our —, I hope that the facility —, this is our hope that the facility —, this is actually the Glynn County facility, which you've already seen earlier, but it does provide an entry that greets citizens with respect for the type of service there as opposed to the ramshackled conditions that Animal Control currently works in. Here's the picture of their kennel, and I didn't want to show a comparison of the pictures of our kennel, but there are separated cages. You can't see it, but they do have the floor drains. They also have the automated watering system and they also have the exterior dog runs for the exercise area for the animals. So with that, I've completed.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Well, Pat [Monahan], thank you very much for your hard work, but talking to some of our staff people to that location to do it right there, we'll save money on it. It's a better location because they're people —, when you keep it by the Humane Society, too, what you're going to be able to do is not send people to two different places. A person might come to the Humane Society and then they go somewhere else to the Animal Shelter —, Animal Control area, but this, looking at all the data and all, this seems to be the best thing for Animal Control because unfortunately what has happened in the past and happens now is some of the animals, you know, they suffer because of the heat or the cold and the cleanliness. Our staff do an excellent job as far as the resources they have to try to clean it out and to operate it properly, but we really need a better Animal Control facility for many, many reasons and we really appreciate, you know, your hard work on that, and hopefully, like you say, by the end of 2006 we will have a modern, up to date Animal Control Shelter that's good for the employees and, of course, good for the animals, too.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Commissioner Stone said, this is long overdue, not just for the animals but for the employees. They have put up with a lot working in the trailer out there and the conditions for the animals have been less, much less than satisfactory. My question would be if we do not have to buy the land, would that money then go back into the equipments for the shelter on that site? Mr. Monahan said, absolutely. Because of count, the issue bonds—, every dime of the bonds allocated for the Animal Control Project must be spent for the Animal Control Shelter and offices. So, yes, that's so —, essentially what —, by remaining on this site the Commission just saved itself \$250,000 because that's what we had allocated for property acquisition that would go into the shelter. So that's going to provide a better shelter and a larger facility. Commissioner Stone said, and I don't know if —, and I see Mr. Lee with the Humane Society is here —,

if there could be some joint signage —. Mr. Monahan said, oh, yeah. We would definitely —, it would be similar to the signage at the Citizens Service Center where we've also got the State Department of Motor Vehicles Licensing listed on the same sign. So, yes. Commissioner Stone said, thank you. Thank you for what you've put into this. Mr. Monahan said, well, it's —, I don't want to take all the credit for this. Lt. Boulware and Lynn McClarty also provided a lot of suggestions on sites and they would e-mail me with a site and then I would go take a look at it. Unfortunately, because of the pricing and the location of some of the sites, they didn't work out, but I think we were all trying as a team as opposed to just me. Commissioner Stone said, I appreciate then their efforts.

Chairman Liakakis said, I'll entertain a motion to approve the present site for the new facility.

Commissioner Odell said, move for approval. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Liakakis said, it's been moved and seconded —. Go ahead.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, if anybody needs more info, they can catch Mr. Monahan at Dangerfield's in New York on Saturday night. County Manager Abolt said, please don't encourage him.

Chairman Liakakis said, let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to approve the redevelopment of the current site as the site for the Animal Control Shelter. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-4

AGENDA DATE: December 16, 2005

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: Patrick Monahan, Asst. County Manager

ISSUE:

To provide an update on the project to replace the Animal Control Shelter.

BACKGROUND:

In June 2005, the Board issued bonds through the 2005 DSA Bond Series for four major CIP projects, including replacing the Animal Control Shelter.

FACTS & FINDINGS:

1. Based on general location preferences which the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department recommended, and in concert with the Animal Control Unit, staff visited five sites for construction. None of them could be considered either because of the acquisition cost of the land or because of proximity to residential areas.
 - 1.1 The Police Department suggested a site within proximity of the locations where citizens make payments to retrieve lost dogs and cats (i.e. Citizens Service Center on Eisenhower or West Chatham precinct). (see Attachment 1 on page 3)
 - 1.2 The Animal Control Unit suggested a five-acre site with a 1/4-mile buffer from the nearest residential/commercial area, with high visibility and preferably within proximity of other police facilities. (see Attachment 2 on page 4).
2. Given the limited options of property, the best course may be for the Animal Control Shelter to remain at its current site but with a reconfiguration of the property. This meets all site requirements and keeps the facility within proximity of the Humane Society.
3. By developing within the existing site, a new state-of-the art shelter could be constructed but enable the existing facilities to remain open until completion. Ample funds remain not only to construct the new facility but also provide new entry, signage and separation from other county uses (i.e. warehouse, Soccer Complex) on the same site. Signage would help distinguish the sometimes confusion between the Animal Control Shelter and the Humane Society.
4. The attached drawing shows a proposed location of the new Animal Control Shelter on the existing site (see Attachment 3 on page 5).
5. Based on the Board's concurrence, staff will proceed in January with an RFP to select an architect to design a facility to meet the Animal Control Unit's needs for the new shelter. Considering design time, a new shelter would be under construction and likely completed before the end of 2006.

FUNDING:

The 2005 DSA Series Bonds provides \$950,000 in funding for the Animal Control Shelter project.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

Site location remains more difficult for locating the Animal Control Shelter because of maintaining the balance between adequate buffer requirements

from other uses and keeping the facility within proximity to ensure convenience to citizens. Redevelopment of the current site meets all requirements set forth by the Police Department and can be developed to overcome the disadvantages of the existing location.

RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

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5. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF A PLAN TO RESTRUCTURE THE IN-HOUSE CONTRACTING PROGRAM, WHICH WOULD RESULT IN CONVERTING FOUR TEMPORARY POSITIONS INTO FOUR FULL-TIME POSITIONS.

Chairman Liakakis recognized County Manager Abolt.

County Manager Abolt said, yes. Very quickly, this again comes from Mr. Monahan. We have in addition to Mr. McDonald, under Pat's [Monahan] direction, is our in-house contractor; Gary Redman, he does what we refer to —, not day laborer. We have workers on call that are not on the payroll. These are high-quality craftsmen. Some of them have been on our payroll for a number of years. In the spirit of best value contractor, we cannot treat one of our aspects of construction any different than we're asking private contractors to do, so we're asking to make these positions permanent by your action. It's covered by the budget.

Commissioner Odell said, move for approval. Commissioner Kicklighter said, second. Chairman Liakakis said, go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved that the Board approve a plan to restructure the In-House Contracting Program as follows: (1) Add two Construction Supervisor positions as Range 22 based on comparable responsibilities of existing classifications (Construction Foreman), to be filled from existing long-time workers from the contract pool; (2) add two Construction Worker positions as Range 9 (Maintenance Worker I), to be filled from existing workers in the contract pool; (3) the positions would be filled with Chatham County's Equal Opportunity policy; and (4) acknowledge that the Construction Manager will coordinate with the Poverty Reduction Initiative to create a pool for unskilled or semi-skilled workers for use on county projects, as appropriate (based on specific needs of each project), and provide training for positions to learn skills, which could be applied to future public or private employment. Commissioner Kicklighter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-5**AGENDA DATE: December 16, 2005**

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Patrick Monahan, Asst. County Manager

ISSUE:

To approve restructuring the County's In-House Construction Program, which would convert four full-time labor pool positions to permanent status.

BACKGROUND:

In the early 1990s, Chatham County created an In-House Construction Program to manage and complete smaller-sized construction projects. This approach allows Chatham County's construction manager, a full-time employee, to use a labor pool and, depending upon the unique needs of each project, subcontractors to complete lesser-valued projects based on the specific needs of each project. The program generally saves from 15 percent to 40 percent of construction cost since it avoids excessive overhead expense and does not mark-up for profit, and Chatham County does not pay sales tax. Each project gets charged back to the benefitting department. Because of the qualifications of the construction manager and the quality of the work, the scope of projects has evolved to include more complicated projects. Recent examples include extensive courtroom renovations, additional courtroom and panel room for Juvenile Court, Records Court chambers, Records Center and new offices for Building Safety, Driver's Licensing, Board of Equalization, Elections and Voter Registration. Because of the consistent volume of work, and the prospects for additional work during the next several years, the conversion of four construction workers into permanent employees would provide a core base of workers and provide benefits them with benefits.

FACTS & FINDINGS:

1. The In-House Construction Program has used a core employment level of a Construction Manager, a county employee, but the balance of work force comes from a combination of pool employees and subcontractors. Of the pool employees, the workload requires two supervisors and two laborers, who are not county employees and who do not receive any county benefits. For example, one skilled supervisor has worked for 11 years without any health benefits nor paid annual leave; and another for more than three years.

2. The workload during the next several years suggests it would be unfair to the core workers in the Construction Program to continue to work without benefits. The Construction Program will be need to be ramped up, especially with the quality of pending work. For example, the tenant (county)-improved finishes for the renovated South Annex (old jail) and Courthouse will last for several years. In addition, Chatham County can use the construction manager on other related projects, such as the Behavioral Health Center, CAT Transit Center and the Southwest Library. Any direct expenses for these services would be handled as a charge back to the benefitting department.
3. To restructure the Construction Program, the Board would need to authorize funding to reclassify one position and add four additional positions (two skilled supervisors and two laborers). Limiting the program to four employees would provide a sufficient core group to complete the many construction projects but without burdening the program with unnecessary expense.
4. This action would not result in any additional funding since these positions would be charged to SPLOST, 2003-2008, Courthouse, since they would be otherwise as contract positions. Any work on other projects would then be charged to those projects. This would enable the four positions to receive full county benefits.
5. As part of restructuring the Construction Program, a new labor pool will also be created in concert with the Poverty Reduction Initiative. As the need arises on projects for unskilled or semi-skilled workers, the Construction Manager will coordinate use of these workers on county projects. This will not only provide hourly wages and training for skilled work but also provide potential permanent employment.

FUNDING:

Construction Management Services would become a department within the CIP Fund, and as projects are assigned, costs would be handled as journal entries to the specific job.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board approve the restructuring of the Construction Management Program, as follows (as recommended by Human Resources and Services Department):
 - 1.1 Add two Construction Supervisor positions as Range 22 based on comparable responsibilities of existing classifications (Construction Foreman). These would be filled from existing long-time workers from the contract pool.

- 1.2 Add two Construction Worker positions as Range 9 (Maintenance Worker I). These would be filled from existing workers in the contract pool.
 - 1.3 The positions would be filled consistent with Chatham County's Equal Opportunity policy.
 - 1.4 Acknowledge that the Construction Manager will coordinate with the Poverty Reduction Initiative to create a pool for unskilled or semi-skilled workers for use on county projects, as appropriate (based on specific needs of each project). This would also provide training for positions to learn skills, which could be applied to future public or private employment.
2. That the Board not authorize the restructuring of the Construction Program but maintain the existing structure of a Construction Manager exercising use of the labor pool for core worker needs.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

As with Best Value Contracting, a restructured In-House Construction Program recognizes the value of a workers who receive pay, health and employment benefits consistent with the work they perform, but the number of core workers would remain manageable for the large number of pending projects.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.

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6. **REQUEST BOARD CONFIRM THE CHAIRMAN'S SIGNING OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF THE APPLICATION AND ALL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES RECREATIONAL TRAILS PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100,000 TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE SAVANNAH-OGEECHEE CANAL SECTION II-F. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APPROVED SAVANNAH-OGEECHEE CANAL CORRIDOR MASTER PLAN, ADOPTED JUNE 29, 2001, AND REQUEST THE BOARD TO APPROVE \$40,000 FOR FUNDING THE NECESSARY ENGINEERING DESIGN SERVICES.**

Commissioner Kicklighter asked, Mr. Abolt, is this the plan on June 2001 that we passed that actually allowed the residents living along Bush Road to have the access with all the negotiations and all that took place? Is this that plan? County Manager Abolt said, yes, it is. Commissioner Kicklighter said, so the access will be retired and the —? County Manager Abolt said, yes. Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. County Manager Abolt said, we're just now taking advantage of the [inaudible] when you apply for grants. The Chairman, which I appreciate very much, gave it with the Board and in fact the position

just now to confirm his already executive decision to sign the grant application. Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay.

Commissioner Odell said, move for approval. Commissioner Farrell said, second. Chairman Liakakis said, let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved that the Board confirm the Chairman's signing of a resolution authorizing the submission of the application and all documents related to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Recreational Trails Program in the amount of \$100,000 to make improvements to the Savannah-Ogeechee Canal Section II-F. in accordance with the approved Savannah-Ogeechee Canal Corridor Master Plan, adopted June 29, 2001, and approve \$40,000 for funding the necessary engineering design services. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-6

AGENDA DATE: December 16, 2005

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Patrick Monahan, Asst. County Manager
Robert W. Drewry, Director, Public Works & Parks Services

ISSUE:

Request Board confirm the Chairman's signing of a resolution authorizing the submission of the application, and all documents related to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Recreational Trails Program (RTP) in the amount of \$100,000 to make improvements to the Savannah-Ogeechee Canal Section II.F. in accordance with the approved Savannah-Ogeechee Canal Corridor Master Plan, adopted June 29, 2001, and request the Board to approve \$40,000 for funding the necessary engineering design services.

BACKGROUND:

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources is currently accepting applications for its Recreational Trails Program. The U.S. Congress first authorized the Recreational Trails Program (RTP) in the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991 (ISTEA). It was re-authorized in 1998 under the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century (TEA-21), and again in 2005 under the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU). The purpose of the program is to provide and maintain recreational trails and trails-related facilities

identified in, or that further a specific goal of the Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), as required by the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund Act (LWCT).

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Chatham County has previously applied to the Georgia Department of Transportation for a \$400,000 grant, and was awarded \$200,000 to construct a trail between Tom Triplett Community Park and Dean Forest Road. Design is nearing completion.
2. This grant will provide additional funding for the design of drainage structures and wooden pedestrian/bicycle bridges.
3. The grant requires a \$25,000 local match from Chatham County.
4. Funding for the local match, and the requested amount for engineering design services is available in SPLOST III.

FUNDING:

Proceeds from the RTP Grant in the amount of \$200,000 if awarded. The balance of funding is available in SPLOST III 1998 - 2003 for the Savannah-Ogeechee Canal.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. The Board confirms the execution of a resolution and all documents related to the Georgia Natural Resources Trails Program (RTP) application in the amount of \$100,000 to make improvements to Savannah - Ogeechee Canal Section II.F. in accordance with the approved Savannah - Ogeechee Canal Corridor Master Plan, adopted June 29, 2001, to include funding for the local match and additional engineering design services.
2. The Board not confirm the execution of all documents related to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Recreational Trails Program (RTP).
3. The Board provides staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

It is consistent with Board policy to authorize the Chairman to sign all documents related to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Recreational Trails Program (RTP).

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

Commissioner District: 7

The County of Chatham
 Georgia



Resolution

WHEREAS, Chatham County has previously funded and adopted the Savannah-Ogeechee Canal Corridor Master Plan that calls for a paved trail to be developed within Section II.F between Tom Triplett Community Park and Dean Forest Road; and

WHEREAS, this trail section, when completed, will become part of the Coastal Georgia Greenway and the East Coast Greenway; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners has authorized Chatham's sponsorship and participation in the Coastal Georgia Greenway Steering Committee.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners hereby resolve to authorize submission of a project application for a \$100,000 Recreational Trails Program Grant for funding construction of 14 drainage structures and two wooden pedestrian/bicycle bridges within the Savannah-Ogeechee Canal Corridor, Section II.F, to be known as "Savannah-Ogeechee Canal Trail, Section II.F Improvements."

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners further resolves to commit \$25,000 within a period of 24 months from Georgia Department of Natural Resources Notice to Proceed with the project.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Chairman to execute all agreements related to the application of the Recreational Trails Program Grant from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Parks, Recreation and Historic Division.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 16th day of December 2005.

Pete Liakakis, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

ATTEST:

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X. ACTION CALENDAR

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

Chairman Liakakis said, Action Calendar. Do we have a motion on the floor to approve the Action Calendar, 1 through 13 and alphabetical through Item M. Do you have any items that you'd like to discuss? Commissioner Kicklighter said, just pull 9 for me. Chairman Liakakis said, 9, okay. Any other items? Okay. Commissioner Odell said, 12. Commissioner Thomas asked, 12? Chairman Liakakis said, 12. Okay.

Commissioner Odell said, I make a motion to approve the balance of the calendar minus 9 and 12. Commissioner Stone said, second, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to approve Items 1 through 13-M, except 9 and 12. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.]

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[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 2, 2005, AS MAILED.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of December 2, 2005. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.]

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2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 22 THROUGH DECEMBER 7, 2005.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to authorize the Finance Director to pay the claims against the County for the period November 22, 2005, through December 7, 2005, in the amount of \$5,592,598. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.]

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3. REQUEST BOARD TENTATIVELY SET MEETING DATES FOR 2006. THIS WILL BE CONFIRMED AT THE FIRST MEETING IN JANUARY.**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Odell moved to tentatively set meeting dates for 2006 as follows: Second and fourth Fridays in January through March; first and third Fridays in April; second and fourth Fridays in May through September, and first and third Fridays in October, November and December. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-3**AGENDA DATE: December 16, 2005****TO:** Board of Commissioners**FROM:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager**ISSUE:**

To tentatively set the days and time for regular Commission meetings for 2006. The Board will be asked to confirm adoption of the calendar at the first meeting in January.

BACKGROUND:

The County's Enabling Act requires the action be taken during the first meeting of the Board each year.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The Enabling Act states:
The Board of Commissioners shall hold two regular meetings each month except as may otherwise be determined by the Board of Commissioners, at the County seat for all matters requiring action of an administrative or policy nature, and for all matters advertised or scheduled for hearing in which the public will be asked to speak for or against the items under consideration, which meetings shall be

open to the public. At the first meeting of the Board of Commissioners in January of each year, the Board of Commissioners shall set the days and the time when it will hold its regular meetings. Meeting hours for the public hearings may be changed by action of the Board of Commissioners and may be held at such hour as stated in the public notice of the date and time of such hearing. Special or additional meetings may be held as necessary upon call of the Chairman or any five members of the Board of Commissioners, provided all members of the Board of Commissioners have been notified at least 24 hours in advance of such special or additional meeting, and such notice shall specify the subject matter to be considered.

2. The Commission has met on the second and fourth Fridays in the past except for November and December (Thanksgiving and Christmas). The meetings in November and December are usually held on the first and third Fridays to allow for the holidays. There are five Fridays in September 2006. By changing to first and third Fridays in October this will allow two weeks between meetings for the remainder of the year.
3. The NACo Legislative Conference will be March 4 - 8, 2006, in Washington, D.C. This will not conflict with the second and fourth Friday schedule.
4. In 1998 the Board asked that in future years meetings not be scheduled on Good Friday. Good Friday will be April 14, 2006, and does conflict with the second and fourth Friday schedule. Because March 2006 has five Fridays, changing to first and third Fridays in April will still allow two weeks between meetings.
5. The ACCG Annual Meeting will be April 22 through 26, 2006, in Chatham County. This will not be a conflict (see item 4 above).
6. The NACo Annual Conference will be August 4 through 8, 2006, in Chicago. This will not conflict with the second and fourth Friday schedule.
7. The ACCG Fall Policy Conference will be September 25 through 27, 2006, in Atlanta. This will not conflict with the second and fourth Friday schedule.
8. Currently the pre-meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. to be followed immediately by the regular meeting, generally at 9:30 a.m.
9. A calendar is attached showing County holidays for 2006 and tentative Commission meeting dates.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Set meeting time to immediately follow 9:00 a.m. pre-meeting and set dates for the second and fourth Fridays in January through March; first and third Fridays in April; second and fourth Fridays in May through September; and first and third Fridays in October, November and December, schedule to be confirmed at first meeting in January 2006.
2. Set meeting time and dates as designated by Commissioners, schedule to be confirmed at first meeting in January 2006.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

Compliance with the Enabling Act.

FUNDING:

Not applicable.

RECOMMENDATION:

Alternative #1.

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4. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE A RESOLUTION TO PROVIDE FOR THE USE OF THREE (3) BOARDS OF EQUALIZATION AS AUTHORIZED BY GEORGIA LAW.**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Odell moved to approve a resolution to provide for the use of three (3) Boards of Equalization as authorized by Georgia Law. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-4

AGENDA DATE: December 16, 2005

TO: Chairman and Members of the County Commission

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Gail F. Gordon, Administrative Assistant to the Chairman

ISSUE: Board of Equalization

To present for the County Commission's approval a resolution to provide for the use of three (3) Boards of Equalization as authorized by Georgia Law.

BACKGROUND:

Approval of a resolution for Chatham County's use of three (3) Boards of Equalization is a matter of routine. Under Georgia Law (O.C.G.A. § 48-5-311), the county governing authority must adopt a resolution authorizing this procedure.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. That Chatham County is entitled to three (3) Boards of Equalization.
2. Georgia Law (O.C.G.A. § 48-5-311) states that the county governing authority must adopt a resolution authorizing this procedure.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Adopt the resolution that would allow Chatham County's use of three (3) Boards of Equalization.
2. Do not adopt the resolution allowing Chatham County's use of three (3) Boards of Equalization.

FUNDING:

Funding for the Boards of Equalization is included in the 2005 budget.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

It is the policy of the Commission to adopt a resolution each year allowing the use of three (3) Boards of Equalization.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve Alternative 1.

The County of Chatham Georgia

Resolution

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 16th day of December, 2005.

Pete Liakakis, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

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5. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE SAVANNAH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (SEDA) TO REIMBURSE THE LOCAL MATCHING FUNDS TO THE COUNTY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A SIGNALIZED INTERSECTION ON STATE ROUTE 21 AT THE ENTRANCE TO THE NEW MULBERRY PLANTATION BY SEDA AND THE GEORGIA PORTS AUTHORITY.
[DISTRICT 7.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to approve an agreement with the Savannah Economic Development Authority (SEDA) to reimburse the local matching funds to the County for the construction of a signalized intersection on State Route 21 at the entrance to the new Mulberry Plantation by SEDA and the Georgia Ports Authority. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-5

AGENDA DATE: December 16, 2005

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: A. G. Bungard, P.E., County Engineer

ISSUE: To approve an agreement with the Savannah Economic Development Authority (SEDA) to reimburse the local matching funds to the County for the construction of a signalized intersection on State Route 21 at the entrance to the new Mulberry Plantation by SEDA and the Georgia Ports Authority (GPA).

BACKGROUND: On August 12, 2005, the Board authorized a County Contract with the Georgia Department of Transportation for the construction of a signalized intersection on State Route 21 at the entrance to the new Mulberry Plantation development by SEDA and the GPA.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. By this agreement, the County will assist SEDA, at no cost to the County, with project bidding, awarding and management of said construction contract for a fee of five percent of the total of the construction contract. SEDA will agree to reimburse any County costs associated with right-of-way acquisition and utility relocations.
2. The GDOT requires local matching funds to pay for the construction costs. SEDA will reimburse the County the locally funded portion of the County Contract and any needed change orders for construction.
3. As with all County Contracts with the GDOT, the Department will reimburse the County for its participation upon satisfactory completion of the contract.
4. On December 2, 2005, the Board approved an Agreement with the City of Port Wentworth whereby the City will acknowledge and accept local responsibility for the maintenance and energy costs for the new signal upon completion. This Agreement has not yet been approved by the City of Port Wentworth.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. To approve an agreement with the Savannah Economic Development Authority (SEDA) to reimburse the local matching funds to the County for the construction of a signalized intersection on State Route 21 at the entrance to the new Mulberry Plantation development by SEDA and the Georgia Ports Authority.
2. To not approve the agreement.

FUNDING: No funds are required to approve the agreement.

POLICY ANALYSIS: The Board must approve intergovernmental agreements.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board approve Alternative No. 1.

District 7

Prepared by Kirk Thomas

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6. REQUEST FROM SOUTHEAST ENGINEERING AND ENVIRONMENTAL, ENGINEER FOR THE DEVELOPER, REGAL BUILDERS, TO RECORD THE SUBDIVISION PLAT FOR GEORGETOWN PLACE TOWNHOMES, LOT 7. [DISTRICT 7.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to approve a request from Southeast Engineering and Environmental, engineer for the developer, Regal Builders, to record the subdivision plat for Georgetown Place Townhomes, Lot 7. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-6

AGENDA DATE: December 16, 2005

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: A. G. Bungard, P.E., County Engineer

ISSUE: To record the subdivision plat for Georgetown Place Townhomes, Lot 7.

BACKGROUND: The engineer, Southeast Engineering and Environmental, for the developer, Regal Builders, requests that the County approve the subdivision plat for recording.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- 1. Georgetown Place Townhomes is a private townhome development (multi-family residential) on the east side of King George Boulevard, north of State Route 204. The paving, drainage, and streetlighting will be privately maintained by a homeowners association. The water and sewer improvements will be maintained by the City of Savannah. This phase consists of 7 lots on 3.37 acres.
- 2. A performance guarantee for all required improvements was previously accepted by the Board.
- 3. An Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) was previously conducted on the subdivision in accordance with the Subdivision Ordinance. No environmentally unsafe conditions were found on the site.

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1. Approve the recording of the subdivision plat for Georgetown Place Townhomes, Lot 7.
- 2. Do not approve the request.

POLICY ANALYSIS: This action is consistent with the subdivision regulation regarding the creation of lots through plat recording.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commissioners adopt Alternative No. 1.

District 7

PREPARED BY: Suzanne Cooler

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7. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE A CONTRACT FOR ACQUISITION OF RIGHT OF WAY, STATE-AID OR FEDERAL-AID PROJECT, REIMBURSABLE, WITH THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY, FOR THE TRUMAN PARKWAY, PHASE 5.

[DISTRICT 1 AND 6.]**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Odell moved to approve a contract for Acquisition of Right of Way, State-Aid or Federal-Aid Project, Reimbursable, with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), and a Resolution of the County, for the Truman Parkway, Phase 5. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-7**AGENDA DATE: December 16, 2005**

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

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

ISSUE: To approve a Contract for Acquisition of Right of Way, State-Aid or Federal-Aid Project, Reimbursable, with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and a Resolution of the County, for the Truman Parkway, Phase 5.

BACKGROUND: The Local Government Project Agreement (LGPA) between the GDOT and County for Truman Parkway, Phase 5, was approved by the Board on August 10, 2001, and signed by GDOT on September 11, 2001. The LGPA provided that the County was responsible for engineering, right-of-way acquisition and utility relocations. GDOT would be responsible for funding construction and supervising the construction.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Supplemental Agreement 1 approved April 12, 2002, provided that construction plans would be done in metric units and the right-of-way plans would be done in dual units - English and metric.
2. Supplemental Agreement 2, approved March 26, 2004, provided that GDOT would reimburse the County for up to \$14,000,000 to acquire right of way and easements associated with the project along State Route 204 (Abercorn Street Extension).
3. The Contract for Acquisition of Right of Way specifies in further detail the responsibilities of the GDOT and the County in acquiring properties and the procedures for reimbursement. Reimbursable costs include land and improvement costs, relocation expenses and contracted property management costs. Non-reimbursable costs include manpower, appraisal,

administrative, attorney fees and any in-house management. The Contract includes a detailed Memorandum of Instructions on acquisition procedures.

a. The County has the authority to approve a counter offer or administrative settlement up to \$10,000 or 10% above the approved FMV, whichever is greater regarding all properties abutting State Route 204.

b. Deeds will be prepared in the name of the GDOT for properties that abut State Route 204. The GDOT will prepare all Condemnation Petitions in the name of the GDOT for property that abut State Route 204, file the condemnation petitions and defend them in court.

c. The County will be responsible for the demolition and removal of all buildings, walls, fences, gates, underground storage tanks, signs or other improvements within the right of way.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. To approve a Contract for Acquisition of Right of Way, State-Aid or Federal-Aid Project, Reimbursable, with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and a Resolution of the County, for the Truman Parkway, Phase 5.

2. To not approve the Contract.

FUNDING: No funds are required to approve this Contract for the reimbursement of right of way acquisition costs. The funding for the County's costs will be from the 1985-1993, 1998-2003 and the 2003-2008 SPLOST, Truman Parkway, Phase 5.

POLICY ANALYSIS: The County is authorized to enter into this contract by virtue of Sections 32-3-3, 32-4-41, 32-4-42 and 32-4-61 of the O.C.G.A.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board approve Alternative No. 1.

Districts 1 & 6

Prepared by Allan R. Black

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8. REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZATION TO APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS TO EFFECT CHATHAM COUNTY'S OWNERSHIP OF THE TIDEGATE PROPERTY.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to approve a Memorandum of Agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to effect Chatham County's ownership of the Tidegate property. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-8**AGENDA DATE: December 16, 2005**

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Patrick Monahan, Asst. County Manager

ISSUE:

To approve a Memorandum of Agreement with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to effect Chatham County's ownership of the Tidegate property.

BACKGROUND:

Based on approved federal legislation, the United States of America has agreed to convey to Chatham County a 12-acre tract on Hutchinson Island. The conveyance would return the property to Chatham County, which deeded it in 1970 to the federal government for the Back River tidegates. Since the tidegates no longer are operational, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers may return the surplus property back to Chatham County as long as certain conditions can be met. The Memorandum of Agreement presents these conditions, especially that Chatham County must use the property for recreation or can exchange the tract for other property that serves purposes of recreation or greenspace.

FACTS & FINDINGS:

1. The Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is attached. Notable provisions include the following:
 - 1.1 Chatham County would agree that the property must be used consistent with the federal legislation which authorized the deed (i.e. for recreation or may exchange the property for other land that would be used for recreation or greenspace).
 - 1.2 Chatham County will be responsible for all costs of the transaction.
 - 1.3. Chatham County would agree to maintain public access to the property and maintain an access easement to ensure that the COE can continue to maintain the rock revetment used to stabilize the river's edge.

2. Chatham County intends that the property would be exchanged for other property on Hutchinson Island for use as mitigation credits for the development of Slip 1. This exchanged property would be placed in greenspace, which would remain in a natural state.
3. Per the federal legislation, the Secretary of the Army must review and approve of the final terms of the deed.
4. Besides the 12-acre site, Chatham County has also received state legislative approval for the adjoining five-acre site, which the State of Georgia owns. Based on the legislative authorization, the State of Georgia's deed includes a restriction that the property must be used for recreational purposes or exchanged for property which would be used for recreational purposes.

FUNDING:

Not applicable (pending the final conveyance, Chatham County will pay for transfer costs).

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board approve the Memorandum of Agreement and authorize the proper execution of the document.
2. That the Board approve the Memorandum of Agreement but subject to amendments as adopted.
3. That the Board not take any action on the Memorandum of Agreement.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The Memorandum of Agreement would provide by policy a procedure to effect the return of the tidewater property to Chatham County. Although the agreement by itself does not return the property, it sets a course toward working to effect this important transaction that will assist in the development of major public and private projects.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.

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9. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR THE CITY OF SAVANNAH TO MANAGE THE ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES FOR THE VIDEO CAMERA ENFORCEMENT SYSTEM AT ABERCORN AND KING GEORGE BOULEVARD.**

Chairman Liakakis recognized County Manager Abolt.

County Manager Abolt said, this just consummates the procedure the Board passed several months ago approved where, in effect, as opposed to duplicating what another government does, we have reached out and the City of Savannah has agreed to provide this same service to you. There is in the agreement draft, you'll notice there's a fee structure, which amounts to approximately seven percent of money collected, and this revenue, as you all know, we plan to designate nearby to offset the cost of construction of the police precinct on the Westside.

Commissioner Kicklighter asked, how long is the agreement, Russ [Abolt]? Mr. Patrick Monahan said, it basically runs concurrent with the operation of the system. We are hoping since it is a public safety tool at some point that the number of violations will decrease to the point that it will no longer be needed. So we've set it up basically on a sliding scale so that if the number of violations decrease, then of course the work load by the City of Savannah processing the violations would decrease and, therefore, at some point it may not be necessary at all. Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. Mr. Monahan said, and it can be terminated with 30 days notice by either party. Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, move for approval. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Liakakis said, go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve an Intergovernmental Agreement for the City of Savannah to manage the administrative procedures related to any violations of the video camera enforcement system at Abercorn Street and King George Boulevard. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-9

AGENDA DATE: December 16, 2005

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Patrick Monahan, Asst. County Manager

ISSUE:

To approve an agreement with the City of Savannah to handle the administrative procedures related to the Video Traffic Enforcement system at Abercorn Street and King George Boulevard.

BACKGROUND:

As part of the install of a video traffic camera at Abercorn Street/King George Boulevard, plans called for the City of Savannah to handle administrative

procedures for violations. This would eliminate Chatham County's need to duplicate the requirements of processing violations, notifications, payments or appeals.

FACTS & FINDINGS:

1. The proposed agreement is attached. In summary, the City of Savannah would handle all administrative procedures related to any violations of the video traffic enforcement system at Abercorn Street/King George Boulevard. This becomes easier because of the City of Savannah's existing procedures and the advantage of a merged police department; however, the City of Savannah will incur additional costs in adding personnel and materials necessary to process violations.
2. Under the program, the City of Savannah would deduct the administrative costs of handling violations. Because state law provides any deduction based on percentages, fees would be based on workload. As the number of cases increases or decreases from the base amount, administrative costs would be increased or decreased.
3. The City of Savannah would process payments, deduct administrative costs and then distribute the net amount to Chatham County. Because each infraction will be coded by intersection, no confusion would result from the City of Savannah's administration of infractions.
4. After a 30-day trial period, enforcement of violations began December 5.
5. Besides the administrative costs, Chatham County will also need to reimburse the Savannah Economic Development Authority for the up-front capital costs.

FUNDING:

Administrative costs will be deducted from the collected fines. The net amount will be distributed to Chatham County from the City of Savannah.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board approve the agreement with the City of Savannah to handle all administrative procedures related to any violations of the video traffic enforcement system at Abercorn Street/King George Boulevard.
2. That the Board amend the agreement.

3. That the Board take no action and direct staff to implement a program to handle the administrative procedures necessary to process violations, handle payments and establish an administrative appeal process.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

By contracting with the City of Savannah and accessing an existing system, Chatham County would eliminate the need to duplicate the requirements of processing violations, notifications, payments or appeals.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.

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- 10. REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF BEER AND WINE POURING AND SUNDAY SALES, AND TO ADD NEW LIQUOR POURING LICENSE FOR 2005. PETITIONER: WILLIAM CHARLES RHANGOS, JR., D/B/A BONNA BELLA YACHT CLUB, LOCATED AT 2740 LIVINGSTON AVENUE. *Note: Item was pulled at the meeting of December 2, 2005, at the request of the petitioner.***
[DISTRICT 3.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to approve the petition of William Charles Rhangos, Jr., d/b/a Bonna Bella Yacht Club, located at 2740 Livingston Avenue, for transfer of beer and wine pouring and Sunday sales and to add a new liquor pouring license for 2005. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-10

AGENDA DATE: December 16, 2005

DATE: December 2, 2005

TO: R.E. Abolt, County Manager

THROUGH: Gregori S. Anderson, Director of Building Safety & Regulatory Services

FROM: Carolyn Kimmer, Administrative Assistant, III

SUBJECT: Postponement of scheduled Agenda Item
 Bonna Bella Yacht Club

Mr. Rhangos requested to postpone agenda item referenced above that is scheduled for the December 2, 2005 Commissioners Meeting.

Notification letter was sent on November 18, 2005. Mr. Rhangos is unable to attend this meeting because of business out of town. He requested that we reschedule it for the next meeting in December.

District 3

~~AGENDA ITEM: X-9~~
~~AGENDA DATE: December 16, 2005~~
AGENDA ITEM: X-10
AGENDA DATE: December 16, 2005

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

THROUGH: R.E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER

FROM: GREGORIS. ANDERSON, DIRECTOR OF BUILDING SAFETY AND
REGULATORY SERVICES
DANIEL W. FLYNN, POLICE CHIEF

ISSUE

Request for transfer of beer and wine pouring and Sunday sales, and to add new liquor pouring license for 2005, William Charles Rhangos, Jr., d/b/a Bonna Bella Yacht Club, located at 2740 Livingston Avenue.

BACKGROUND

Mr. Rhangos, a new owner, requests approval for transfer of beer and wine pouring and Sunday sales licenses, and to add new liquor pouring license in connection with an existing marina and seasonal eating facility within the marina.

FACTS AND FINDINGS

1. The application was reviewed by the Police Department for compliance of the applicant and site distance requirements and approved.
2. The returned application was reviewed by Regulatory Services. The County Fire Marshall inspected the site for compliance with the commercial kitchen requirements and approved the facility.
3. The applicant and business meets the requirements of the Chatham County Alcoholic Beverage and Sunday Sales Ordinance.

4. The applicant has been notified in writing of the date and time of the hearing.

RECOMMENDATION

The Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department and Building Safety recommend approval.

District 3

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11. REQUEST FROM THE TAX COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE FOR BOARD APPROVAL TO WRITE OFF UNCOLLECTIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE PERIOD 1998 THROUGH 2005, WITH AN ADDITIONAL REQUEST FOR THE BOARD TO INSTRUCT THE ASSESSOR'S OFFICE NOT TO CREATE A 2006 ASSESSMENT AND/OR ANY SUBSEQUENT ASSESSMENT OF THE SAME PROPERTIES.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to approve the request from the Tax Commissioner's office to write off uncollectible personal property taxes for the period 1998 through 2005, and that the Assessor's office be instructed not to create a 2006 assessment and/or any subsequent assessment of the same properties. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-11

AGENDA DATE: December 16, 2005

TO: Board of Commissioners

THROUGH: Russell Abolt, County Manager

THROUGH: Daniel T. Powers, Tax Commissioner

FROM: Shirley F. Creel, Revenue Collector Deputy Ex-Officio Sheriff

ISSUE:

To present a request to the Bd for the Tax Commissioner's office to write off uncollectible Personal Property taxes for the period 1998 through 2005. With an additional request for them to instruct the Assessor's Office not to create a 2006 assessment and/or any subsequent assessment of the same properties.

BACKGROUND:

During the period of 1998 through 2005 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 1998 through 2005 total \$129,592.62, that consist of 222 accounts and 573 bills as summarized below:

<u>Tax Year</u>	<u>Total Tax Due</u>	<u>County Portion</u>
1998	\$ 7,816.57	\$3,304.59
1999	\$12,971.96	\$4,824.38
2000	\$16,801.98	\$6,119.94
2001	\$17,161.86	\$6,346.62
2002	\$17,128.60	\$6,576.99
2003	\$17,940.14	\$6,532.38
2004	\$16,727.54	\$6,292.29
2005	\$23,043.97	\$9,029.95
Totals	\$129,592.62	\$49,025.14

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- (1) When yearly audits are performed by both External and State Auditors, this has been their recommendation to write off these uncollectible accounts.
- (2) A copy of the schedule listing all the accounts are 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.

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12. REQUEST FROM THE TAX COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE FOR BOARD APPROVAL OF QUITCLAIM DEEDS.

Chairman Liakakis said, you've had that in your packet that was sent to you previously and, of course, these are — what are they saying —, these quitclaim deeds are necessary for the approval so that they can handle the procedure.

Commissioner Shay said, I'll make a motion for approval. Chairman Liakakis asked, do we have a second? Commissioner Kicklighter said, second. Chairman Liakakis asked, any discussion? Okay, anybody from the Tax Commissioner's office? Okay, let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Shay moved to authorize the Chairman to execute quitclaim deeds presented by the Tax Commissioner's office to correct a break in the title due to the absence of a recorded quitclaim deed at the time of actual redemption as follows: (1) Lambert & Logan Abraham & Carl, PIN 20019-04012, \$101.35; and (2) Clarence B. Mayfield, PIN 20066-44004, \$0.00. Commissioner Kicklighter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-12

AGENDA DATE: December 16, 2005

DATE: December 7th, 2005

TO: Pete Liakakis, Chairman

From: Beth R. Lewis
Assistant Delinquent Tax Administrator
Tax Commissioner's Office

Subject: Request for the approval by Commissioners of the attached Quitclaim Deeds to be put on the agenda for the next meeting of the Commissioners scheduled for December 16th, 2005.

The indebtedness of Chatham County has been satisfied on the delinquent taxes involved and it is recommended that the following Quitclaim Deeds be executed by the Commissioners at the next meeting to be held on December 16th, 2005.

These deeds are being issued to correct the break in the title due to the absence of a recorded Quitclaim Deed at the time of actual redemption.

<u>Name</u>	<u>P.I.N #</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
Lambert & Logan Abraham & Carl	20019-04012	\$101.35
Clarence B. Mayfield	20066-44004	\$0.00

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13. 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. Infrastructure network equipment	I.C.S.	Cisco Systems, Inc. (Sole Source)	\$58,562	CIP - Motorola Radio System Upgrade
B. Contract to develop a logistics and resources recovery plan	CEMA	Resource Specialists, Inc.	\$27,525	CEMA NOAA FY06 Grant
C. Terminate an annual price agreement and award to next low bidder to provide can liners and bleach to the various departments	Various	Terminate: Paper Chemical Award to: Coastal Sail	Varies by item	•General Fund/M&O - Various •SSD - Various
D. Change Order No. 1 to the construction contract for ventilation air upgrade for the Old Courthouse for additional work	CIP	Boaen Mechanical Contractor, Inc.	\$3,800	CIP - Building Maintenance and Operations (pending Board approval of transfer)
E. Engineering services contract for mapping services to update flood hazard maps in Chatham County	SPLOST	Post, Buckley, Schuh and Jernigan (Sole Source)	\$125,000	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Various Drainage Improvements

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
F. Dismantle and move four filing systems as part of the relocation of Voter Registration	CIP	Modern Business Systems (Sole Source)	\$12,670	CIP - Bond - Phase I Old Jail
G. Removal of metal sheeting from the side wall and roof of the metal building adjacent to the Records Center located at the Citizens Service Center	CIP	East Georgia Steel Structures	\$11,000	CIP - Bond Fund - Records Storage Facility
H. High density filing system and systems furniture for the on site records storage operations for the Clerk of Superior Court and Clerk of State Court	CIP	Modern Business Systems	\$175,150	CIP - Bond - Phase I Old Jail
I. One (1) 42" HP plotter with three year next day on site warranty	CEMA	CDW Government	\$12,604	CEMA NOAA FY06 Grant
J. Professional services contract to provide consulting services for computer programming	ICS	Darell Harris	\$40/hour	General Fund/M&O - ICS
K. Professional services contract to provide auditing services	Human Resources	Michael Burns	\$37 per hour for first 80 hours and \$27 per hour for any beyond 80 hours	Group Health Insurance Fund
L. Purchase, delivery and installation of one (1) 50kVA three phase uninterruptible power supply system	ICS	Savannah Communications and Electronics	\$55,850	CIP - Motorola Radio System Upgrade

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
M. Annual contract with automatic renewals for four additional one year terms to provide Emergency Medical Services (Zone 3 and 4)	Emergency Medical Service	MedStar One of Savannah	\$920,000Year 1 \$915,000Year 2 \$910,000Year 3 \$905,000Year 4 \$900,000Year 5 \$4,550,000Total	General Fund/M&O - Emergency Medical Service

Commissioner Odell moved to approve Items 13-A through 13-M, both inclusive. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.]

Chairman Liakakis said, one of the things that has been already approved is under Item #13-M is the annual contract for additional EMS Services for Zones 3 and 4, and that was awarded to MedStar, and there was a \$2,000,000 difference between the other bid, and we just awarded that to MedStar and the citizens saved some \$2,000,000 on that particular proposal. We appreciate that.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to approve Items 13-A through 13-M, both inclusive. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.]

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PERSONAL PRIVILEGE RE: AMBULANCE ON SKIDAWAY ISLAND (COMMISSIONER FARRELL).

Chairman Liakakis said, one of the items I'd like to talk about, too —, I'll ask Commissioner Farrell —, he wants to talk about what it would take to station an ambulance on Skidaway Island. This is —, we've already discussed and approved the others, but he wanted to talk about that particular item. County Manager Abolt, his question is what will it take to station an ambulance on Skidaway Island? Can we get that information? Commissioner Farrell said, just under Information Items, I'd like to discuss —. County Manager Abolt said, whatever you —, next meeting? Whatever your preference.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, the Chief would like to speak, Mr. Chairman. Commissioner Farrell said, if that's his zone.

Chief Wesley Meadows said, I appreciate the opportunity to appear before you today. I do a lot better sitting behind a desk than I do standing up in front of people. Chairman Liakakis said, identify yourself please, Chief. Chief Meadows said, Wesley Meadows, Chief and General Manager of Southside Fire/EMS. Currently, what we have on Skidaway, we have the highest level of response that you can receive of a first responder mode. We have an advanced life support engine. On that engine we carry everything that an ambulance carries. The only difference, we do not transport with it. We have just recently purchased an automatic pulse machine that does actual CPR on the patient. The only

difference, when you get a call to Skidaway Island, our fire engine responds with a paramedic, all the heart drugs, all the emergency items that you need for an ambulance, and our ambulance is dispatched simultaneously from our station out on Montgomery Crossroad. To place an ambulance out there, it would take about \$300,000 to \$350,000 a year to put one on there 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. There currently is not enough calls volume to warrant putting one out there. Southside's goal is to put ambulances at all our fire stations. As the citizens —, the infrastructure grows, we will want to have an ambulance at all fire stations. Currently, we have twelve. We have five 24-hour units that are based around the clock. We do not [inaudible]. What we do is a continuous same level management at three o'clock in the morning that you would have at three o'clock in the afternoon, but it would be about \$300,000 to \$350,000 to place an ambulance out there.

Commissioner Farrell asked, in your estimation at what level calls would it —? Chief Meadows said, it takes about 1,500 calls a year. Commissioner Farrell asked, 1,500 per year? Chief Meadows said, and then there would be no guarantee that the ambulance would be there 24 hours, and the reason we can't do that is because you're continuously moving on and off the Island. But we do a thing like what the fire service has been doing for years. It's called a roll-up. When you plead one area of your protected coverage, you'll move one of the other existing units, fire region and anyone to that location. Commissioner Farrell asked, is there anytime during the 24-hour period when the ambulance just on standby on Skidaway Island, or is it always at Montgomery Crossroads? Chief Meadows said, no, it's on Montgomery Crossroad, and the reasons, Mr. Commissioner, is that we have the 24-hour fire engine there that has all of the necessary equipment that an ambulance carries. The only thing that you have to patient prepped and ready for the ambulance when it gets there. And there are things you do. We just don't run in and scoop them up and them on a stretcher and take them out. There are certain codes that we follow. Commissioner Farrell asked, well, is there some data out there that would give me —, I'm kind of new at this and would like a little more information on perhaps that the response time for the first responders to a call on Skidaway Island. Chief Meadows said, I'd be more than happy to give you that. Commissioner Farrell said, and also, you know, a record of the response time for the actual ambulance to actually responds to that zip code. I know there's a lot of those figures, but they kind of blend into a whole zone, and I feel like with Skidaway Island being —, it's a big island and you could easily average ten miles from Montgomery Crossroad to get there and depending on traffic, I know that Truman Phase 4 is going to cut that response time a little bit, but I'd really like to look at the data just for that specific zip code. Chief Meadows said, if you will just give me a call, we'll pull that data together and we'll meet with you and let you go over it and explain all of it. We'd be more than happy to. Commissioner Farrell said, all right, I'd appreciate that. Chief Meadows said, sure.

Chairman Liakakis said, Chief Meadows, we'd like to thank you for your leadership of the Southside Fire Department. You're doing a great job and we appreciate the service that you have for EMS and for the County also. You know, sometimes you don't get that, but I saw where last weekend that y'all were able to contain a fire that was out at The Hammocks and, you know, a pretty good length of time that you were able to do that so it would not spread onto other apartments that are congregated out there. You did a really good job and we thank you. Chief Meadows said, I appreciate that, Mr. Chairman, and we appreciate the work that y'all do and we're extremely lucky to be able to work with people like you and especially people of the caliber of Russ Abolt and Pat Monahan. I think we're extremely lucky in the County to have them. Chairman Liakakis said, thank you very much. Chief Meadows said, thank you all and merry Christmas.

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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 apart. A vote on the following listed matters will occur at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

On first reading, presentation by MPC staff and discussion only by Commissioners will be heard.

Comments, discussion and debate from members of the public will be received only at the meeting at which a vote be taken on one of the following listed items.

None.

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XII. SECOND READINGS

None.

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XIII. INFORMATION ITEMS

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A status report was attached for review.

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- 2. LIST OF PURCHASING ITEMS BETWEEN \$2,500 AND \$9,999 (SEE ATTACHED). None for this meeting.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

No report was submitted for this meeting.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion being made by Commissioner Farrell and seconded by Commissioner Odell the board recessed at 11:02 a.m. to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation and personnel.

Following adjournment of the Executive Session, the meeting of the Board of Commissioners was reconvened at 11:55 a.m.

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ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. DISCUSSION REGARDING SETTLEMENT OF YVETTE GARCIA CASE (JONATHAN HART).

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Shay moved to waive the settlement regarding the Yvette Garcia case. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.]

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2. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE A MOTION TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE AN AFFIDAVIT THAT THE EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS HELD IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve a motion to authorize the Chairman to execute an Affidavit that the Executive Session was held in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present when this vote was taken.]

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

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APPROVED: THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2006

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

SYBIL E. TILLMAN, CLERK OF COMMISSION