

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2006, 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, February 10, 2006.

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**II. INVOCATION**

Commissioner Patrick Shay read Luke 10:25-38, the Parable of the Good Samaritan, and gave the Invocation.

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**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

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**IV. ROLL CALL**

The Clerk called the roll.

- Present:                   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
- 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: Arnecia Newton, a Junior at Jenkins High School, and Brittanie Odum, a Senior at Groves High School.

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**V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

**1. PROCLAMATION FOR JIM DRINNON OF THE COASTAL HEALTH DISTRICT, FOR HIS RECOGNITION BY THE GEORGIA PUBLIC HEALTH ASSOCIATION AS ENVIRONMENTALIST OF THE YEAR.**

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Stone to present this proclamation.

Commissioner Stone read the following proclamation into the record:

**PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, Chatham County citizens need health environments to live health lives and the Environmentalist of the Public Health Department for Education, Monitoring and Enforcement of Regulations of Restaurants, beaches, swimming pools, land use, chemical hazard, and more; and

**WHEREAS**, James R. Drinnon has dedicated his career to ensuring a safe and health environment for Georgians by working with the State of Georgia Environmental Health Division for more than 30 years before retiring in July; and

**WHEREAS**, Jim Drinnon has worked at all levels of environmental health from a Chatham County Environmental Specialist to State Director to District Environmental Health Director of the Coastal Health District, including Chatham County; and

**WHEREAS**, Jim Drinnon was recently named Environmentalist of the Year by the Georgia Public Health Association, recognizing his outstanding achievements and service in the field of Environmental Health. His accomplishments also include coordinating the Environmental Health Program during the G8 Summit, sharing the Golden Hammer Award with Fulton County Health Department for Vice President Al Gore for working during the 1996 Olympics,

participating in the Tropical Storm Alberto response of 1994 and Palm Sunday Tornado response, and working on the County Emergency Operation Center during the 1999 evacuation from Hurricane Floyd; and

**WHEREAS**, Jim Drinnon has also served our community in the military and is a retired U.S. Army Reserve Lieutenant Colonel decorated with numerous badges, medals and ribbons.

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

**JAMES R. DRINNON**

for 34 years of service to the State of Georgia and the citizens of Chatham County, sharing his expertise and skills to protect our communities and keep us healthy.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia, to be affixed on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of February 2006.

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Pete Liakakis, Chairman  
Chatham County Commission

**ATTEST:**

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Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, guests, it's an honor to be recognized by your peers as having a career —, if you read —, if you heard what all was in the proclamation, it sounds like wherever I go, disaster follows. But that's not the truth, but it's just a matter of being in the right place at the right time or the right place at the wrong time, depending your position. But it is a special honor to be recognized by this Commission. The latter years of my career were spent here in Chatham County and I could not have picked a better community to end a public health career. I'm not gone though. I'm still working in public health as a trainer for biological emergency preparedness. But I do want to thank the Commission for the support that they've given the public health over the years. We've had some outstanding members from the Commission representing us on our Board of Health — Joe Murray Rivers and now Harris Odell, Jr. —, that care about your community and that made my job so much easier when I was there. So thank you very much for this honor. I'm very humbled by it.

Chairman Liakakis said, Jim [Drinnon], thank you very much on behalf of the Chatham County Commission for what you've done to help protect the health of our citizens in this area and we do appreciate your long service to us. Mr. Drinnon said, thank you, sir.

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**2. PROCLAMATION FOR MELODY NELSON ON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT AFTER 25 YEARS WITH CHATHAM COUNTY.**

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Shay to present this proclamation.

Commissioner Shay read the following proclamation into the record:

**PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, there comes a time when an employee decides to retire and pursue other dreams; in that respect, we salute Melody Nelson, a dedicated employee of the Chatham County Finance Department; and

**WHEREAS**, Melody Nelson began her career with Chatham County on January 26, 1981 as an Account Clerk, moved up to the level of Principal Clerk, then became an Accounting Tech I and progressed to Senior Accounting Tech. She will retire from the Finance Department on February 15, 2006 and will begin a new career with the Public Defender's Office; and

**WHEREAS**, Ms. Nelson took great pride in her duties and became a dedicated and valuable member of the Finance Department. She kept a positive attitude and strived to meet any challenges that were placed upon her. She responded well to the increasing and continuous workload required of her; and

**WHEREAS**, during her years of service, being multi-talented, Ms. Nelson also volunteered on numerous occasions to interpret for the County with sign language and volunteered to sing at various County functions. She was not required to do this nor was she compensated; and

**WHEREAS**, she strived to continue her education and obtained a 2-year degree in Accounting from Savannah Technical

College where she made the Dean's List and also obtained a 2-year degree from Floyd College in Interpreting/Human Services.

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

**MELODY NELSON**

upon her retirement and express sincere appreciation for over twenty-five years of dedicated service to the Chatham County Finance Department and extend best wishes for a long, happy, healthy retirement and success with her new endeavors. She will be greatly missed.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of February 2006.

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Pete Liakakis, Chairman  
Chatham County Commission

**ATTEST:**

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Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

County Manager Abolt said, ladies and gentlemen, one's life less experience and the opportunity to witness God's talents as he shares them with his creation. This woman, as Commissioner Shay has said so well, is just more than just a traditional employee. Her talents are varied, her talents have been shared with many of all ages and all groups throughout this —, not just this County, but also in the State Capitol, I know for one, where we made a presentation, as Dr. Thomas will remember, for All American Community Competition. She has always given. She is a person of great humility, but also great sincerity and a wonderful spirit of can do. I'm going to miss her.

Ms. Linda Cramer said, I was teasing Melody [Nelson] a few minutes ago and told her I was on the Pension Board and, yes, we could change the number of years you had to have before you retire, but this is hard for me. This is the first employee I've seen walk out the door with her retirement, and we're going to miss her very much. As had been said, she is multi-talented. She brings a lot of new aspects into our department. She does the sign language, the singing. She's also a ballroom dancer, so every now and then I'm watching a demonstration when they come around the corner, some new move. She's also a very good cook. We have wonderful breakfasts

and lunches just because of Melody's initiative and hard work. So we really appreciate her and will miss her. We hope she'll come back and see us without working, and here's your lamp.

Ms. Nelson said, thank you very much. Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, County Manager, and the Finance Department and guests, thank you very much for this opportunity to stand here and say I realize how very blessed and fortunate I am to have made 25 years in one organization in the same department. That's a rarity, but it seems as if I blinked and 25 years have passed. It went by that fast. I'm very grateful to God for the opportunity to meet, work and learn from the all the people that I've had the pleasure of meeting over the past 25 years. If I had the opportunity to change it, I wouldn't change a thing. It has been a very good ride, and I feel that God uses circumstances, people and situations to refine us and to groom us and to cultivate us, and I believe I'm the person that I am today because of the 25 years of being with all these people, all our little quirks and rubbing each other, it just made me tough. It's been charactering me, and I'm very, very grateful for it. Now just because I'm leaving, don't think you can't call me back to sing, okay. I still sing. Commissioner Shay said, good. Ms. Nelson said, all right. Commissioner Shay said, that's great. Ms. Nelson said, and as they said, there's no mountain high enough, no river wide enough, no valley low enough to keep me from getting to you.

Chairman Liakakis said, Melody [Nelson], thank you again from the Chatham County Commission. We appreciate your hard work, your dedication, your loyalty to the people of this County for those many years of service that you have given to them.

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**3. PROCLAMATION DECLARING WEEK OF FEBRUARY 5, 2006, AS AMBUCS WEEK. AMBUCS CLUB PRESIDENT KEVIN SHEEHAN AND ANN JOHNSON, MEMBER, WILL BE PRESENT TO ACCEPT THE PROCLAMATION.**

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Farrell to present this proclamation.

Commissioner Farrell said, good morning, Mr. Sheehan. Commissioner Farrell read the following proclamation into the record.

## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, AMBUC members are dedicated to creating independence for people with disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the recognition of AMBUCS as an organization making an important difference in communities across the United States is a noteworthy event; and

**WHEREAS**, the Savannah chapter of AMBUCS is celebrating 65 years of dedicated service to all citizens of Chatham County; and

**WHEREAS**, AMBUCS displays a proud record of providing scholarships for training young people as therapists for people with disabilities; and

**WHEREAS**, the Savannah chapter has greatly enhanced the quality of life for our citizens through community service projects such as the AMBUC stadium at Daffin Park where thousands of children have participated in various sports since 1959, the Trustees Gardens school for children with cerebral palsy, the Fresh Air Room on Tybee Island which serves underprivileged children, the Exceptional Bowlers League which has provided recreation and socialization for disabled citizens since 1965, the AMBUC Park Complex where thousands of children have participated since 1978, the Tree of Lights which the AMBUCS sponsored for three years and the AmTryke program for children with disabilities.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Pete Liakakis, Chairman, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the week of February 5, 2006 as:

**“AMBUCS WEEK”**

in Chatham County and urge all citizens to become more aware of the altruistic service and the wholesome up-building of communities they render.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 10<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2006.

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Pete Liakakis, Chairman  
Chatham County Commission

**ATTEST:**

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Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

Mr. Kevin Sheehan said, I am Kevin Sheehan. I'm President of AMBUCS and it is truly an honor. As a child I played in AMBUCS Stadium on Victory Drive, and as a young adult I coached in

AMBUCS Park over on Sallie Mood, and I didn't know at the time the sweat equity that was put into both of those facilities by the AMBUCS. They weren't just —, our name wasn't put on them, we had AMBUCS members who built them. We had a meeting Friday —, excuse me, Monday night —, and I was telling the guys, and they probably don't realize it —, and the ladies, we do have some lady members now —, the tens of thousands of children that we've been able to benefit just by a little effort on our part, and we certainly appreciate the honor of being recognized. We don't do what we do to be recognized, we do what we do to make a difference, and it makes us feel better. We've had a bowling league, like he said, since '65 and if you could come out, we do it on Saturday mornings at Victory Drive or Victory Lanes from 10:00 to 12:00, and we've got some bowlers that started bowling with us in 1968 that still bowl. I told my group that if we ever chose to stop the bowling league, we'd have to be like the Colts and leave town every night because they'd never forgive us. I mean, we don't bowl during the Summer and the lady that directs our league gets a call the first Saturday we're not playing, wanting to know when we're starting back up. But again, it is an honor for me to stand in front of you and to be recognized by Chatham County and to have a week named for AMBUCS, and I thank you for this proclamation. Chairman Liakakis said, Kevin [Sheehan], thank you very much on behalf of the Chatham County Commission because all of us know and many people in the community the great projects that the AMBUCS has done working for charitable ideals and helping out in many, many ways with y'all's contributions and volunteer work. We really do appreciate that. And, again, thank you. Mr. Sheehan said, thank you.

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## **VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS**

### **1. ALLOCATION OF \$25,000 FOR INC. 500 GATHERING.**

Chairman Liakakis said, we'll come back to that shortly. We're waiting on some presenters on that particular item.

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Chairman Liakakis said, I'd like to call the representatives from SEDA and the Convention Bureau to come forth and do their presentation and explain to the County Commission about this particular project, to not only the County Commission but the citizens also. Okay, Scott [Center].

Mr. Center said, thank you. I'm Scott Center. I'm a board member of SEDA and, as he said, on March 30<sup>th</sup> *Inc. Magazine*, which each year publishes the Inc. 500, what that is that is the 500 fastest growing companies in America and each year they have a conference, and this year we're incredibly lucky they have chosen Savannah. Who is invited to this conference are these 500 companies plus the alumni companies. These companies are the fastest growing in America, they're usually very innovative people who own these companies. One thing —, they're a lot of knowledge-based companies, but one thing every one of these companies has in common is next year they're going to be hiring a lot of people. They need to add people to [inaudible] their

mission and they're also the kind of companies that are very fluid and dynamic. A person who comes to this conference is somebody if they like the community, they have the power to move those companies, and those are the exact kind of companies we've been trying so hard to get to Savannah. These are higher wage jobs, these are a lot of knowledge-based jobs, so what the State is really driving this. They wanted to —, they wanted Savannah to have a nice reception for them, go out to Fort Jackson, have people in antebellum skirts and that sort of thing. But Brynn Grant, who's head of Marketing for SEDA, said is that really the perception we're trying to give these hard-driving executives of this community, and instead we wanted to try and show Savannah that we want them to see: a place that's great to do business, a place that's innovative, a place that has forward-thinking people. We've got business tours that are arranged. Chairman Liakakis had a great idea that we're going to try and get people to get on helicopters and view all of our assets. These are the kind of things that are going to make a big impression. Actually, trying to throw a bit over the top because we have a very limited window of making an impression on these people and we want to take maximum advantage of it. On Friday night what we're going to do is we're going to have, and we believe it will be a thousand or more people, to have like an exposition of Savannah. They're going to start in the square and then go from one square to another, culminating in Forsyth Park where SCAD has a big exposition for them and there will be a dinner. All of the squares, all of the businesses and the homes and even the places of worship around the squares are going to be open, and that's a thing that most visitors to Savannah they don't get to see. They don't get to go in the private homes and businesses and places of worship. So we are really glad that you're considering being a partner with us and the State. We're also asking from the City and many private businesses throughout the State. Brynn [Grant] is going to tell you more about the logistics of how this is all coming together.

Ms. Brynn Grant said, I think it's important to know that —. Chairman Liakakis said, excuse me. Identify yourself for the record please. Ms. Grant said, certainly. Brynn Grant, Director of Marketing and Public Relations at the Savannah Economic Development Authority. I think it's important to note that while SEDA has been in the forefront of this activity today, that it really —, that we're acting on behalf of a partnership including the Chamber and he mentioned the Visitor's Bureau and, of course, all of the entities involved in attracting this very important conference to our City, the Trade Center, the Westin, and the CVB, but also the State of Georgia through Governor Sonny Perdue's office, the Georgia Department of Economic Development and the Georgia Allies. The Georgia Allies are contributing \$80,000. Georgia Allies are private —, a group of businesses separate from the State that supports State [inaudible], and it includes Coca-Cola, Bell South, Georgia Power, some of our largest corporations at the State level. The State sees the value of 500 Conference, and even though it's been held exclusively in Savannah, Georgia, they're invested greatly. They are the official sponsor, but they are looking to our community to step up and get involved as well. SEDA has, the Chamber has, CVB certainly has having been very involved in getting [inaudible] in the first place, and we invite the County to join the partnership.

Chairman Liakakis said, Tony Schopp, would you come forward and give us an overview on it.

Mr. Tony Schopp said, I'm Tony Schopp. I'm the President of the Convention and Visitor's Bureau. It's all about looking forward, it's all about what this means potentially for economic

development. Tourism is generally speaking the first step in economic development. Here's what we have here in terms of the event itself. It is a typical corporate meeting of about a thousand people coming here. We're talking about a billion dollars in direct expenditures and we can let the college academicians tell you what that means in terms of the multiplier circulator. What we know is the spending on this coming into our economy is a million dollars, and that translates into roughly \$120,000 in tax revenue. That's the immediate. The real essence of this meeting is, as Scott [Center] mentioned, the potential for additional business first coming in for travel and tourism. The major —, there are 20 national sponsors, 20 major corporations in the United States who are the national sponsors of this event. They will all be here in addition to this ladies and gentlemen who represent these fast-growing companies. We're also talking about some of the heads of industry, the captains of industry of our State being here. Bernie Marcus [phonetic] is definitely committed to come here. There will be other captains of industry from Georgia coming into Savannah. So we have an opportunity for people to experience our community and to see what it is like to have corporate meetings here. That's the realization of our convention center, that's where your vision was years ago when you started talking about having the center here, and so it is an excellent opportunity for us in the immediate; with that million dollar expenditure, it is an unlimited opportunity for us in the future in terms of potential business, not only for travel and tourism, but also for the growth of the business industry in the area. So we're very excited about this and we are certainly hopeful that you are going to be joining in this effort. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Liakakis said, I would like to call on Howard Morrison, who's on many boards. As you know, his participation in Savannah Technical College, how he has been outspoken, all over the State of Georgia for Chatham County. He's recognized by the Governor and many all over the State of Georgia where he has done not only for us but across the State of Georgia, and I know that we really appreciate all of your effort, and you understand this particular project also, Howard [Morrison], so I would appreciate some comments from you.

Mr. Howard Morrison said, first of all, I'd like to thank you, Mr. Chairman and all of the Commissioners for being willing to at least entertain the opportunity for this event. As I think most of you know, I grew up in Savannah. I had to go away for awhile, but I've always wanted to come back. And when I came back, I came back to try to make a difference, and maybe I do and maybe I don't but at least I tried. When Tony Schopp approached me about Inc. 500, *Inc. Magazine* came to the State of Georgia and said we want this annual conference and awards banquet in Savannah. They didn't say they wanted it in Augusta, they didn't say they wanted it in Athens or Macon or any other city. They said we want to come to Georgia, *quid pro quo* we want to be in Savannah. So I've worked diligently with Tony [Schopp], the Chamber and the Convention and Visitor's Bureau, and Brynn Grant and SEDA, and basically went to the Department of Economic Development and was able to persuade Craig Lesser, who is the Commissioner, to give us the \$50,000 from them. I sat down with the higher board of the Georgia Allies, which is that group of 16 major businesses in Georgia and made the sales pitch to them. They've come forward, as Brynn [Grant] said, with the \$80,000. I think it's an interesting opportunity for us to partner. We've got a number of businesses in the community that have already agreed to be partners. We're doing a tour at Gulfstream, we're doing a tour at the Georgia Ports Authority, we're doing a tour at Savannah College of Art and Design, and we're

doing a tour at the Global Ship Systems. The one that's probably the most interesting to me is that we're doing a tour at both of the cancer centers that are in our community, and the cancer centers in our community are actually reaching out to those companies that have an interest in the life science of [inaudible]. They're not saying just come to the Memorial Anderson Cancer Center and they're not saying just come to the Candler/St. Joe Lewis Cancer Center, they're saying come to Savannah, we're a team in Savannah and we want to show you both of our cancer centers. And so I think what we're doing with this thing is we're reaching out specifically to companies telling them that we work together well as a team, telling them that we have some real assets to shown them. As Tony Schopp mentioned, the real benefit is these people having a great impression of Savannah. It's a wonderful community, a loving community, a place to come back to visit and if people come back to visit, guess what? Sometimes they do move their businesses, so it's an opportunity to light the make the first impression. So I would just like to again thank all of the members of the Chatham County Commission for at least considering whether or not you'd like to be a partner in this with the State and many others. I'll be happy to respond to any questions, Mr. Chairman, you might care to ask of me.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Shay.

Commissioner Shay said, I'd just like to add onto something the initial present, Scott Center, said when he said that we were very lucky to have Inc. 500 coming here. Sometimes it's better to be lucky than good, but we're also very, very good. Last year we were able to host the biggest part of the G-8 Summit. We proved to the entire world that Savannah, Chatham County, and our convention center are capable of having an over-the-top good meeting in that we are in that class, and that's a truth of the promise that was made 10, 12 years ago during the campaigns to attract the public to invest their SPLOST dollars in the construction of that facility. At that time it was being promoted as a trade center — it still is —, built for the express purpose of providing a place buyers to meet sellers. I remember then-Mayor Susan Weiner making that speech over and over again on the stump, and it was something that was very, very compelling. This is an example of how we can spend at this Commission \$25,000 that probably will not be able to purchase a full page ad in *Inc. Magazine* to reach the readers of *Inc. Magazine* instead to actually have face-to-face sales opportunities with the top CEO's in the developing companies in the United States. They bring energy, enthusiasm and potentially could bring great-paying knowledge-based business jobs to this community. So I think it's a very sound investment of public dollars to be part of this team that's hosting these people to come to our community and look at our community as a place where their buyers can meet sellers.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I personally am just excited about this great opportunity because I remember several years ago when I represented the Chatham County Commission on the Convention and Visitors Bureau Board one of the things that we were looking at at that time was just exactly the same thing here. We —, as a member of the Coalition of Black Leading Planners, of which I am an independent meeting planner, one of the things that they were concerned about is that we did not have the facilities here in Savannah, just as the convention and trade center, and we did not have the additional hotel space that we now are enjoying, so I

am passionately excited about what is, you know, about to happen. And, for me, this is going to not only tell me, but you're going to giving these companies an opportunity to now we are showing you what we have and what we are all about. So congratulations on your efforts and everything and I hope that we will be a part of this.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to thank all of you for coming out here so quick today. I appreciate it, the public appreciates it. Great explanations of the benefits that we'll experience from this. I just want to make a couple of comments. Basically, as far as — and I'll lay it out there, always do — there was a Commissioner outside when I drove up this morning with a bucket — Commissioner Shay said, I believe he's a former Commissioner. Commissioner Kicklighter said, former Commissioner with a bucket talking about SEDA asking for money and ringing a bell. Basically, it pretty much disturbed me. Thanks to some quick research, I've got a couple of things here that's gone through in the past that there's really not a difference in. Back when — March 26 of '04, the County — we donated \$25,000 towards G-8 Funding. This particular Commissioner that was standing outside with his bell and all this morning, he said, "I think the concept is a very valid and noble effort." Now he went on to say, "I'm going to have to vote against this and I'd like to make an explanation of it," and he went on with some talk, but then finally in the end he did vote against it, but he said, "I applaud your efforts to generate funds from other governments and authorities as well as the private sector, but please understand my decision." The motion carried by a vote of six to one and it says: "Note: Commissioners Rayno and Rivers were not present when the vote was taken." So they undoubtedly had to step out for whatever reason. At another time this was a wonderful thing that we did. Back on September 26 of 2003 we voted to spend \$10,000 from the M&O Contingency for celebration of the 3rd Infantry Division when they returned home. Something great that we needed to do. They protect us, they upkeep our freedom here, but again there was no financial return or anything on that. It was just the right thing to do then. And basically this particular Commissioner that's outside causing a little stir, seconded the motion to spend the \$10,000 for this return celebration and it passed unanimously and it says: "Note: Chairman Hair was not present." So again in the same line of promoting the growth of this County as far as more, bigger, better businesses and doing the right thing, this is a great thing for the City of Savannah and, as the Commissioner said down there, you can't get a full page ad in that magazine for \$25,000 much less bring the top 500 fastest growing businesses to this City and show them what we have to offer. And let's not forget, we have a mega-site sitting out there, which I hope is about to —, something's going to land on it here shortly, but if not who better to bring in than the top 500 fastest growing companies around, and I believe someone mentioned the alumni, which, you know, so how many thousands of top businesses will we bring, how many times will we get the opportunity? We hear the community constantly crying that we need more jobs. They're right. Who provides jobs? The companies. We're going to look out for the people with this vote today of this City, this County, and it's the right thing to do, and I just don't like hypocritical stances which I witnesses this morning.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, having said that, I'll make a motion to approve the money. Commissioner Gellatly said, second. Commissioner Thomas said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Discussion? Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, I just —, I wanted to thank all of you all for the amount of time and research that you've put into this. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring these people to our home and show them our beautiful Savannah. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, over a million dollars that's going to be spent, you know, when you have a thousand or more people who come here for this. You know, even Bill Gates will be here. You know, you're going to have the Governor will be here to speak out. The Governor's all enthused over this. And, you know, \$120,000 come in for tax returns, 38% of our SPLOST funding is going to be paid out of that money that we'll get it back here in Chatham County. Nobody even thought of that. So the \$25,000 investment that we make we'll get it back in sales tax money, you know, in revenue. So this is really good for our community. The other thing, too. This is a once in a lifetime situation. We used to have the Red Carpet when business and industry would come here, they'd bring 20 or 30 people, but right now we're talking 500 of the top, the alumni, it could be well over a 1,000 people that's coming, and what I've done also, I've talked to the Garrison Commander from Hunter Field to get the military helicopters, I've talked to General Poythress [phonetic] in Atlanta earlier this week to request the helicopters from the Air Force. I've also talked to another person last evening to get the National Guard Army helicopters also because a couple of months ago when we had the appropriations people from the Senate and the House of Representatives, when they got on those helicopter rides along with our County Manager, they were so impressed. They had no idea how great our port is, our medical facilities, Gulfstream, the mega-site and all of that, because these people, when they see the mega-sites, they see what all the other business sites that we have in our community and all of the wonderful things we have here, it's going to make an impression on them. And so I heartedly support this. I've looked at it long and hard, and I do appreciate your efforts because we're going to be helping hopefully all the citizens in Chatham County on this endeavor.

Chairman Liakakis said, now — any other discussion? Everybody go on the board please. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes unanimously. Thank you very much for your presentation. Mr. Center said, thank you.

#### **ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve an allocation of \$25,000 for Inc. 500 gathering to be held the end of March 2006 in Savannah, Georgia. Commissioners Gellatly and Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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## **VII. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS**

- 1. RECOGNITION OF THE PASSING OF CIVIL RIGHTS LEADER CORETTA SCOTT KING (COMMISSIONER THOMAS).**

Chairman Liakakis said, I'd like to call on Commissioner Thomas for recognition of the passing of civil rights leader, Coretta Scott King.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. it is my deep honor and pleasure to have this opportunity to make this presentation in the loss of one with whom we have shared all of this past week, Mrs. Coretta Scott King. This proclamation I'm asking that the wording be placed in the records of Chatham County and a copy of it be sent to the family. And I would like to thank the County Commissioners for their support. I would like to read the proclamation. It says:

## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Chatham County shares in the loss of Coretta Scott King, one who continued the fight for equality, social justice and peace after the death of her husband, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.; and

**WHEREAS**, born April 27, 1927 to Obadiah Scott and Bernice McMurry Scott in Marion, Alabama, Coretta Scott King entered the world stage in 1955 as the wife of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. during the Montgomery Bus Boycott; and

**WHEREAS**, prepared by her family, education and personal commitment for a life dedicated to social justice and peace, she played an important leadership role in the American Civil Rights Movement; and

**WHEREAS**, after her husband's assassination in 1968, instead of retreating with her young children into her grief, Coretta Scott King stepped out into the forefront to continue her husband's legacy; and

**WHEREAS**, she was the recipient of more than 50 major awards and doctorates from over 40 colleges and universities and she authored "My Life with Martin Luther King, Jr. She has founded and co-founded and served on boards of numerous social change organizations.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Pete Liakakis, Chairman, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby pay honor and respect to the memory of:

CORETTA SCOTT KING

a phenomenal woman who touched the hearts, souls and lives of many with her calm demeanor that helped shaped these United States.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 10<sup>th</sup> day of February 2006.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pete Liakakis, Chairman  
Chatham County Commission

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

Chairman Liakakis said, I'd like a request that was made by Commissioner Thomas to place this wording in our minutes and to distribute that to the family. Commissioner Odell said, move for approval. Commissioner Gellatly said, second. Chairman Liakakis said, and it's been seconded. Let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Odell moved to approve the request of Commissioner Thomas that the proclamation recognizing the passing of civil rights leader Coretta Scott King be entered in the minutes of this meeting and that a copy of the resolution be sent to Mrs. King's family. Commissioner Gellatly seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**2. PROCLAMATION TO DECLARE FEBRUARY AS "BLACK HISTORY MONTH" IN CHATHAM COUNTY (COMMISSIONER THOMAS).**

Chairman Liakakis said, we have another proclamation to declare February as Black History Month in Chatham County, also by Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission. I again am deeply honored to have the privilege of making this presentation, having been a part of the Civil Rights Movement all of my life. I'm very happy to have with us today to receive this proclamation Ms. Shirley James, who is Chairwoman of the Black History Festival and President of The Links, Inc., Savannah Chapter. Ms. James, will you come forward?

Commissioner Odell asked, is she related to that distinguished gentleman —? Commissioner Thomas said, yes. Commissioner Odell said, — the President of Carver State Bank? Commissioner Thomas said, yes. And I want you to know also that The Links, Inc., Savannah Chapter, has taken partnership with the Summer Bonanza children, 200 of them, and they are providing the reading of the Literacy Program for those children during the Summer, and they provide all the books for the children and do workshops with them and et cetera. So we're very happy about that.

Commissioner Thomas said, all right. I shall read the proclamation:

## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Americans have recognized black history annually since 1926, first as "Negro History Week" and later as "Black History Month." Black History had barely begun to be studied or even documented when the tradition originated; and

**WHEREAS**, we owe the celebration of Black History Month, and more importantly, the study of black history, to Dr. Carter G. Woodson. Born to parents who were former slaves, he spent his childhood working in the Kentucky coal mines and enrolled in high school at age twenty. He graduated within two years and later went on to earn a Ph.D. from Harvard. The scholar was disturbed to find in his studies that history books largely ignored the black American population and when blacks did figure into the picture, it was generally in ways that reflected the inferior social position they were assigned at the time; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Woodson, always one to act on his ambitions, decided to take on the challenge of writing black Americans into the nation's history. He established the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (now called the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History) in 1915, and a year later founded the widely respected Journal of Negro History; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1926, he launched Negro History Week as an initiative to bring national attention to the contributions of black people throughout American history. He chose the second week of February for Negro History Week because it marks the birthdays of two men who greatly influenced the black American population, Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Pete Liakakis, Chairman, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the month of February 2006 as:

### BLACK HISTORY MONTH

in Chatham County and urge all citizens to take part in local activities as the nation celebrates and acknowledges the many contributions made by Blacks.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 10<sup>th</sup> day of February 2006..

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Pete Liakakis, Chairman  
Chatham County Commission

**ATTEST:**

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Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

Commissioner Thomas said, congratulations. Thank you so very much.

Ms. Shirley James said, Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Vice Chairman, to other Commissioners, to our County Manager and staff, I am indeed honored to have been selected to receive this proclamation on behalf of the citizens of Chatham County, and I do recognize that I am in a very distinct position this morning, and I do also encourage all of our citizens who are a part of a very wonderful multi-ethnic county in Chatham County, to join us in activities through the Black Heritage Festival, which are currently going on, and learn and expose yourselves to those kinds of contributions to the activities, to anything that is taking place to help you to understand the contributions that African-Americans have made to this country and especially to Savannah and Chatham County. I also encourage us, as we go throughout the year to also participate in other ethnic festivals that take place in the City because we all need to be educated, we all need to learn to respect, and we all need to enhance ourselves in terms of learning about each other so that we can be the kind of community and continue to grow in a positive way, as we are in Chatham County. So on behalf of the Black Heritage Festival, which is sponsored by the City of Savannah and presented by Savannah State University, on behalf of the Savannah Chapter of The Links, which also participates in that festival, and in reference to other kinds of activities that we try and promote in the County and throughout our service area, I do accept this on behalf of the citizens again, and again I am indeed honored to have been the person selected to represent Chatham County and its citizens in declaring February as Black History Month. Thank you again.

Chairman Liakakis said, Shirley [James], thank you again for your hard work in many activities all over the community that you have participated in, and we can see by your message just now about all the citizens of Chatham County, but thank you also for our leadership and bringing this history and the black heritage activities to our citizens and the things that you have done to make it successful over the last few years also. Ms. James said, thank you very much.

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**CHATHAM AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY**

Upon motion made by Commissioner Commissioner Stone, seconded by Commissioners Odell and Thomas and unanimously approved, the Board recessed as the County Commission at 9:59 a.m., and convened as the Chatham Area Transit Authority.

Following adjournment of the Chatham Area Transit Authority, the Board reconvened at 11:20 a.m., as the County Commission.

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**[NOTE: At this point the Commission considered Item VI-1, which had been delayed awaiting the arrival of presenters.]**

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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 files are available from the Clerk. Those on which staff is requesting action are indicated by asterisk (\*).

- \*1. BRIEFING FROM DR. DIANE WEEMS, CHAIR, SAFETY NET PLANNING COUNCIL, ON LEGISLATIVE ISSUES REGARDING INDIGENT HEALTH CARE. REQUEST IS MADE FOR BOARD TO ADOPT RESOLUTION REINFORCING THE DIRECTION AND CONTINUED SUCCESS OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY SAFETY NET PLANNING COUNCIL (SEE ATTACHED). *Resolution #3 was tabled for two weeks at meeting of January 27, 2006.***

Chairman Liakakis said, you have an attachment to that and, of course, we passed two other resolutions at the last County Commission meeting. Resolution #3 was tabled for two weeks at the meeting of January 27, 2006.

County Attorney Hart said, we need a motion to take it off the table.

Chairman Liakakis said, a motion to take this off the table. Commissioner Shay said, Mr. Chairman, I move that we remove this item from the table. Commissioner Thomas said, Mr. Chairman, I second. Chairman Liakakis said, let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes. Dr. Weems, would you come forward and whoever else would speak on this?

Dr. Diane Weems said, than you. Dr. Diane Weems, Chair, Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council. I want to begin by expressing my gratitude to the Commissioners for their time and consideration and especially to Commissioner Holmes who provided the Safety Net Council an opportunity to go back and discuss this with Attorney Jonathan Hart and redraft this resolution based on some of the concerns that we heard at the previous Commission meeting. So we thank you for that opportunity. I think what we have done over the last couple of weeks has heard the concerns, we've heard from this Commission, and tried to address those via the change in the resolution and, if I could have just a couple of minutes, would like to address some of the issues I've heard over the last couple of weeks.

Commissioner Kicklighter asked, would you read the new resolution out loud first? Dr. Weems asked, you want me to read the whole resolution or the bottom-line statement? Commissioner Kicklighter said, just the entire resolution.

Dr. Weems said, okay. Dr Weems read the proclamation as follows:

**WHEREAS**, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners authorized the formation of a group known as the Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council that is a coalition of public healthcare service providers dedicated to maximizing access to and efficient use of community healthcare resources, and;

**WHEREAS**, the Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council has identified priority issues that should be addressed in the current legislative session, as they could potentially impact access to care by the uninsured/under-insured, resulting in detrimental impact and increased cost to the local community.

**WHEREAS**, Chatham County recognizes that denying preventive and primary healthcare to any population, including undocumented immigrants, will result in increased healthcare costs to the county and to local healthcare providers;

**WHEREAS**, denying preventive and primary healthcare access to any population poses a serious public health risk;

**WHEREAS**, providing front-end primary and preventive care has been shown to be the most effective means of meeting community healthcare needs in a cost-effective manner.

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, in conjunction with the Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council do hereby unanimously resolve that a resolution be sent to all representatives of Chatham County and other representatives serving on committees or subcommittees of the State legislature responsible for public healthcare issues more particularly as follows:

The governing body of Chatham County wishes to ensure that legislation would not create the conditions which threaten the health of Chatham County residents by restricting preventive and primary health care or treatment to any individual or population which may harbor a contagious disease.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you.

Dr. Weems said, one of the concerns we've heard was that benefits —, a concern that benefits available to citizens and non-citizens are the same and that we're advocating that they be the same. An example I gave is that if two individuals walk into the Health Department, one a citizen and one not, both can access immunization that prevent vaccine-preventable diseases, they can both access screening and treatment for communicable diseases, like Tuberculosis, family planning services, pregnancy test kits, and basic nutritional services for pregnant women and infants. However, the individual who's a citizen would also be access for and referred, if eligible, for other benefits, including full scope Medicaid, the children's health insurance program known as Peach Care, a local program known as Health Key, which can help families eligible for Peach Care actually pay the premium for their children's insurance for up to a year, temporary aid assistance to needy families, Medicaid Part A, which is hospitalization, worker's comp disability, HUD Public Housing and Section VIII programs. Individuals who are not citizens are not eligible for any of those programs or the benefits that those programs open the door for. They are eligible for a very basic set of core primary and preventive healthcare services. Access to preventive and primary care services allow for early detection and treatment of diseases. They thus protect the public health and protect the health of every individual in this community, citizens and non-citizens. From a cost perspective, they avoid more costly emergency room care later in the disease process. Emergency rooms in our community, if you've visited one lately — and my family seems to only injure themselves on Sunday afternoon when the emergency rooms are the only source of care — are already overcrowded. If emergency rooms are in fact the only source of care for individuals who can't get care on the front end for their diabetes or hypertension, they will be more overcrowded and make it difficult for everyone of us and our family members to access that care, not to mention the increased cost of providing care in an emergency room setting that ultimately everyone of us pays for.

Mr. Robert Bush said, my name is Robert Bush and I'm the Chairman of the Advocacy Committee of the Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council. I just want to briefly state that what we were —, the question we're respectfully presenting to you today is what is in the best interest of Chatham County. The Safety Net Planning Council was appointed by this body. It comprises all the hospitals, public health, private physicians, representatives from the City and the County. This is medical expertise in our community and governance in our community, and this is the recommendation that we are making that this resolution be passed. What makes the best sense for Chatham County to allow the segregation of a population regarding healthcare services to the detriment of our local citizens so that persons insured or uninsured may not be able to access services through the emergency department or which may create a public health risk, or does it make more sense to pass this resolution and to send a message that these kinds of measures by the persons who have the ability to make changes to immigration law and to health care that this is no substitute for meaningful healthcare reform or immigration reform and that we are aware that the consequences of their focusing on those issues and the way that they are will only increase our cost a greater healthcare burden and a greater —, and a worse healthcare [inaudible] for our local community. This is being discussed in terms by our State and Federal officials simply as the cost of Medicare is rising. We've got to cut those costs. Well, one of the reasons they're risking is because of the need for healthcare is growing. They need to begin discussing why America pays more per capita for healthcare than any other nation in the world and yet we rate 28<sup>th</sup> in healthcare out-costs. That low. Until we have that discussion, we're not going to have full healthcare reform. Until immigration is taken seriously by the Federal Government, then we're not going to have any immigration reform. What can we do here? We can protect our citizens and our County, and I submit that passing this resolution would be a set towards seeing that sequence.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Odell.

Commissioner Odell said, Robert [Bush] and Dr. Weems, just a couple of questions. I basically support this, but I can understand why some Commissioners would be concerned that what we're doing is to — whether we intend to or not — indicate that we are providing healthcare services for undocumented illegal aliens. This recommendation comes from a board that was created by this Commission. Is that true? Dr. Weems said, correct. Commissioner Odell said, okay. And you all, therefore, have a board of directors? Dr. Weems said, we have a roster of membership and the executive committee is —, as well, and we can provide that to the Commissioners. Commissioner Odell said, but you have leadership from this organization which we created, right? Dr. Weems said, correct. Commissioner Odell said, and you all have meetings and what have you? Dr. Weems said, every month. Commissioner Odell said, okay. And — do you need our approval to — for you to send a position on, which you've outlined as a resolution, to the Legislators from this Board? Dr. Weems said, no, we do not. Commissioner Odell said, okay. Then my thought is it might be just from a time standpoint, if we appointed you to look at what's in the best interest of healthcare for the citizens, because of the unnecessary political implications, why don't you all just send a letter and say we've been appointed and this is it. Here's some concern, and I've really thought about it since our last meeting, and trying to be sensitive to fellow Commissioners and your views, which we're obligated to do, that if you don't need us to do this and we've appointed you to do this, if you bring it to us then what happens is

it encourages every other board and organization to float through here and ask us to do things which we've appointed them to do. Do you follow what I'm saying? Dr. Weems said, yes sir. Commissioner Odell said, I understand from a public health standpoint that a penny worth of prevention is worth more than a pound of cure in that if someone, whoever that person is, if that have some contagious disease, that it is overall in society's best interest for those people to be able to be seen and for that communicable disease to be identified and controlled rather than having no pipeline for them to been seen for whatever the condition is. And if that be the case, then it simply spreads unchecked through this community. So it's kind of like a friend of the people who says "I'm going to protect so that no Georgia taxpayer's dollars be spent for illegal aliens," but on the flip side the impact of which is that if we don't do things like this, then we're going to have substantial diseases which go unchecked.

Commissioner Odell said, my position is that this Commission tries to resolve things without regard to party but based upon reason, and we have a very diverse group of people from different backgrounds. If you don't need us to do it, then I'm not certain if we need to get to the issue. If we appointed you all to do it, you need to go out and do it. Okay? Do you follow what I'm saying? Because our resolution says —, it has —, it does not have the effect of law. So it simply what we would think to someone else who might have a decision-making role. We put you all in that role. We have said to you all go forth, look at the healthcare needs. So I don't think that this Commission needs to even get to that issue. That should not be an issue that we need to address. Y'all address it, and then it cuts down for us so that we can be judicial in the things that we need to do, and if you all were appointed by this Commission, I'm certain that we have the absolute utmost confidence in your wisdom and your dedication, and you all are trained to do this. We are not. We don't want to send the image, or some of us don't, that I personally don't care that we're supporting undocumented people in this country because it does cost and we don't want to do that, but we don't need to get to that issue. Y'all need to withdraw this, go forth, settle with it. Y'all contact them.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Gellatly.

Commissioner Gellatly said, I would like to second everything that he said. I totally agree with that, that this is something that we appointed you as responsible people to this board, and in your letter you can start out and use our good name that you are appointed by the Chatham County Commission, and I would request that you do that. And also for the record, I'd like to say that I had the opportunity to meet with Dr. Weems and her staff and I was very impressed by her dedication to this, and she thoroughly understands what the problem and all the concerns are, and I do appreciate that, but I agree with Commissioner Odell that you're putting us in a terrible position, and especially some of us maybe more than others that we politically and in some cases personally have very strong feelings about people that are undocumented people that are in our country today. And so I would suggest, strongly suggest, that you consider this. I don't think you're going to get a unanimous resolution from this group anyway and, you know, I'd just take a second for myself personally, I'm the first member of my family that was born in the United States and when my father came from Dundee, Scotland, in the late 1920's he first had to have a sponsor, had to have a permit to come into this country. He had to have an identified skill, which in his case was a certified public teacher, and after all of that he came to a lovely place

known as Ellis Island in New York City, and at that point in time they determined whether he had any communicable diseases right there, and then after that he had to ultimately pass a test for United States citizenship, which took well over a year to accomplish, and then and only then was he entitled to the rights of an American citizen. This is a big problem in our country today, it's something that's going to have to be addressed by the Federal Government at some point in time. It's just absolutely not fair to the taxpayers of this country to have to support people that have no legal right to be here to begin with. I'm looking at a two-page document that someone put on here of rights — take a look at — taken rights of undocumented people that are in our community now. You know, like their right to public education, their right to colleges, and the list just goes on two pages. And, you know, I'm sorry, I personally don't think that they have any of those rights and they don't have those rights until they go through the —, they need to come into this country legally and properly and, after that, in due time they may be entitled to rights. And I know you don't have an issue with this either. You know, your issue is specifically from a health standpoint and I know that and I appreciate that, but I also strongly recommend that you have all the authority that you need right now to write a letter based on your own qualifications and the fact that you have been empowered by this Board, and you need to state that in your letter. You don't need a resolution because there's some of us that just could not in good faith vote for it.

Chairman Liakakis said, go ahead, Dean [Kicklighter].

Commissioner Kicklighter said, first of all, I want to thank you also and I agree with both. You were appointed to do nothing but specifically look at what's best for healthcare, and in doing so we didn't want you to be political, we didn't want you to think of money, we didn't want you to think of anything but healthcare. On the other hand, we're elected and we have to look at the entire spectrum. We have to look at whether somebody's breaking a law, whether, you know, the expense of something, we have to look at everything affecting the public healthcare. I mean, everything we have to look at, but you were appointed simply to look out whatever you deem is the best for our health, public safety with healthcare. And I commend what you're doing there, and it removes the politics out of it, but like on the flip side of that, what Commissioner Gellatly says here, it's, you know, and I'm happy too. I heard this specific bill was changed and now that children will be allowed to go in and be immunized —, receive their immunization to go to schools and not be affected, that's great. It's not a child's fault, you know, it's not their fault at all. If their parents bring them over here, they shouldn't be punished. They should —, you know, I'm all for those children if their —, you know, if they can't catch their parents, the kids should get an education here, but, you know, basically and this piece of paper here and again with respect to what y'all are doing, even in the resolution, the word —, wording in there says including undocumented immigrants, and to me that word undocumented is a deceptive word basically for illegal. And again as elected politicians that has to look at everything, I was sworn to uphold the law and costs, expenses, all that stuff, to me does not even come into play when it comes to punishing people that break the law. I've heard, you know, many people say, you know, oh, it costs so much to have a prison and it's so much to keep them in a prison for a year, per day, or whatever, if someone's ever had a family member killed, you don't care how much it costs to keep a person in prison. And, you know, so expense really does not even come into my thoughts on anything. My thoughts on that is breaking the law, and I'm sworn to uphold the law, and undocumented to me is a fancy word for illegal, and I cannot in any way, shape or form ever support an illegal

activity. But, again, for what you're chartered to do, do what's best for healthcare, you know, that's what you have to do and we appreciate your efforts. And I appreciate everything, but I would like to just see it pulled off because y'all are looking at healthcare and there's no way when I'm elected to uphold the law I can support anything that has a break of the law in it. So thank you very much for your work.

Mr. Bush said, just very briefly, I just want to establish that the green paper we are not associated with, it does not come from the Safety Net, so I'm not certain how they got on here —. Commissioner Kicklighter said, I know. Mr. Bush said, — but we want to thank you for your expression of confidence in us today, and we are very grateful for the actions taken two weeks ago by passing our first two resolutions.

Chairman Liakakis asked, so are you withdrawing? Dr. Weems said, yes, we will withdraw and take the advice of the Commissioners and go ahead and send our letter noting that we are authorized by the Commission.

Commissioner Odell said, and you will copy our Clerk with the letters that you send just so that it becomes part of our record on your appointed organization. Dr. Weems said, that's fine, Commissioner Odell. We appreciate that suggestion.

Commissioner Shay said, before we leave this issue, I was rereading the minutes of the last meeting night before last and something sort of leapt off the page. You said in the last meeting, and it didn't strike me as fully as it should have, it said in there that something like 30% of all of these immigrants may be infected with tuberculosis, and I just want to know so that our citizens will know out there, what is it that given the fact that this immigrant population exists in Chatham County and given that maybe as many as 30% of them may be infected with tuberculosis, what is it that a citizen can do to protect themselves from tuberculosis? What is it that we as individuals should do in order to protect ourselves from tuberculosis? Dr. Weems said, well, actually, you depend on public health for that because the truth of it is we don't know if someone has tuberculosis. That's our job, Public Health, to detect the disease and then work with that individual to contact close family contacts and coworkers, people who have been in close contact. That becomes our job. We're the disease enforcement officers out there because you wouldn't necessarily know that, and just to clarify, that is a correct statement — 30% —, but that is not just undocumented. That's just immigrants from foreign countries, many who come in here legally, many of our foreign countries have a high instance of TB, much higher than we do here, but you really depend on Public Health and that access to Public Health to detect and then not only the individual who's infected, but those who may have been potentially exposed. Commissioner Shay said, so you have no way of knowing whether you've been exposed yourself unless the person that exposes you is revealed to the Health Department? It's not like just washing your hands or wearing —. Dr. Weems said, or they tell you themselves, but often they will not do that. Often they've moved on because they may have been infected for two months, worked in a restaurant, they're not going to think to go back and tell all their coworkers, that's our job. Commissioner Shay said, okay. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you, Doctor. We appreciate you and Robert [Bush] coming today to, you know, talk to us about this health situation, and we appreciate your work on this Safety Net Committee because it's important that we have that for the protection of our citizens in our County. Dr. Weems said, thank you very much. Chairman Liakakis said, you're welcome.

Commissioner Odell said, Mr. Chairman and, Diane [Weems], if you determine that someone has worked in a restaurant and had been infected with TB, can you at least let us know? Dr. Weems said, we'll let those who are at risk —. We do a good job of getting ahold of those contacts. Commissioner Odell said, thank you very much.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank y'all very much.

#### **ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

1. Commissioner Shay moved to take this item from the table and place it before the Commissioners for consideration. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.
2. Dr. Diane Weems withdrew this item from consideration by the Commissioners and advised that the Safety Net Planning Council will send the resolution to the Legislators for their consideration.

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2. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVE A REQUEST FROM MR. W. DARREL LEE FOR THE COUNTY TO DECLARE UN-OPENED PORTIONS OF EAST BOULEVARD RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW), BETWEEN LOTS 94/95 AND 94A/95A, WILMINGTON ISLAND PLEASURE AND IMPROVEMENT COMPANY SUBDIVISION (PINS: 1-0099 -08-011 AND 1-0099- 11-011) AS SURPLUS AND TO QUITCLAIM THE ROW. *At meeting of January 27, 2006, item was tabled until meeting of February 24, 2006.***  
**[DISTRICT 4.]**

#### **ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

This item was not removed from the table for discussion by the Commissioners.

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3. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVE REQUESTS FROM J. WARREN BLACKMON AND LISA ANNE MURDOCK/GREG EVANS FOR THE COUNTY TO DECLARE UN-OPENED PORTIONS OF EAST BOULEVARD RIGHT-OF-WAY (ROW), ADJACENT TO THEIR PROPERTIES AS SURPLUS AND TO QUITCLAIM THE ROW. MR. BLACKMON'S PROPERTY IS MARSH LOT 93A, WILMINGTON ISLAND PLEASURE AND IMPROVEMENT COMPANY SUBDIVISION (PIN: 1-0099 -11-012). THE MURDOCK/EVANS PROPERTY IS LOT 93, WILMINGTON ISLAND PLEASURE AND IMPROVEMENT COMPANY SUBDIVISION (PIN: 1-0099 -08-008). See historical file attached. *At meeting of January 27, 2006, item was tabled until meeting of February 24, 2006.***  
[DISTRICT 4.]

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

This item was not removed from the table for discussion by the Commissioners.

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4. **SECOND READING FOR REVISION TO CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE III, OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY CODE BOOK, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (CIVIL DEFENSE). *At meeting of January 27, 2006, item was tabled until meeting of February 24, 2006.***

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

This item was not removed from the table for discussion by the Commissioners.

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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) AN AMENDMENT TO THE MULTIPLE GRANT FUND TO REFLECT AWARD OF A \$9,755 GRANT FROM THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF GEORGIA FOR THE SAVANNAH-CHATHAM COUNTY DRUG COURT, AND (2)**

**CONFIRMATION OF A \$40,595 GENERAL FUND M&O CONTINGENCY TRANSFER FOR A COMPREHENSIVE CRIMINAL JUSTICE STUDY.**

Chairman Liakakis asked, do we have a motion?

Commissioner Odell said, moved for approval. Commissioner Farrell said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor and a second. Go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Odell moved that the Board approve the following: (1) An amendment to the Multiple Grant Fund to reflect award of a \$9,755 grant from the Judicial Council of Georgia for the Savannah-Chatham County Drug Court, and (2) confirmation of a \$40,595 General Fund M&O Contingency transfer for a Comprehensive Criminal Justice Study. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM: IX-1**

**AGENDA DATE: February 10, 2006**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** R.E. Abolt, County Manager

**FROM:** Linda B. Cramer, Finance Director

**ISSUE:** To request approval of the following: (1) an amendment to the Multiple Grant Fund to reflect award of a \$9,755 grant from the Judicial Council of Georgia for the Savannah-Chatham County Drug Court, and (2) confirmation of a \$40,595 General Fund M&O Contingency transfer for a comprehensive criminal justice study.

**BACKGROUND:**

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

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

(1) The Judicial council of Georgia Standing Committee for on Drug Courts has awarded \$9,755 to the Savannah-Chatham County Drug Court. An amendment to the Multiple Grant Special Revenue Fund is in order. Correspondence and a resolution are attached.

(2) The Board of Commissioners approved funding for a comprehensive criminal justice study at their meeting held January 27, 2006. The funding source cited in the staff report was the General Fund M&O Contingency account. Confirmation of the contingency transfer is requested.

**FUNDING:**

Funds are available in the General Fund M&O for the contingency transfer. The budget amendment will establish funding in the Multiple Grant Fund.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

(1) That the Board approve the following:

**MULTIPLE GRANT SPECIAL REVENUE FUND**

a budget amendment to recognize award of a \$9,755 grant from the Judicial Council of Georgia for the Savannah-Chatham County Drug Court.

**GENERAL FUND M&O**

A) a Contingency transfer of \$40,955 for a comprehensive criminal justice study.

2) Amend or deny the request.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

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

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board approve Alternative 1.

Prepared by: Read DeHaven

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2. REQUEST FROM THE TAX COMMISSIONER’S OFFICE FOR BOARD APPROVAL TO RETROACTIVELY ADJUST THE OVERSTATED FAIR MARKET VALUE OF THE 2002 THROUGH 2005 REAL ESTATE PROPERTY ASSESSMENT OF JONES-ASHWOOD PROPERTIES, INC., PIN 5-1011 -02-050 A/K/A 0000 PINE BARREN ROAD, TO A VALUE OF \$10, THEREFORE WRITING OFF THE TAXES FOR THE YEARS IN QUESTION.

Chairman Liakakis asked, do we have a motion?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, so moved. Commissioner Farrell said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion and a second on the floor. Go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve a request from the Tax Commissioner's office for Board approval to retroactively adjust the overstated fair market value of the 2002 through 2005 Real Estate Property assessment of Jones-Ashwood Properties, Inc., PIN 5-1011-02-050 a/k/a 0000 Pine Barren Road, to a value of \$10, therefore writing off the taxes for the years in question. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM: IX-2**

**AGENDA DATE: February 10, 2006**

TO: Board of County Commissioners

THROUGH: R.E. Abolt, County Manager

THROUGH: Daniel T. Powers, Tax Commissioner

FROM: Theresa C. Harrelson, Revenue Collector

ISSUE:

To present a request to the Board of Commissioners from the Tax Commissioner's Office to retroactively adjust the overstated fair market value of the 2002 through 2005 real estate property assessment of Jones-Ashwood Properties, Inc. PIN 5-1011-02-050 a/k/a 0000 Pine Barren Road to a value of \$10.00 therefore writing off the taxes for the years in question.

BACKGROUND:

There are taxes due on this property from 2002 forward. This property is part of the Ashwood Subdivision and was set aside as a detention pond according to the Subdivision notes on the 1999 Plat Map Book 19s Page 6a. This subdivision was developed in two phases with the second phase being recorded in 2001 in Plat Map Book 21s Page 5a. This property is considered common area and is usually not taxable or has a very reduced tax value usually \$10.00.

The Tax Assessor’s Office has the value for this “Detention Pond” as follows:

Tax Year	Number of Acres	Value per acre	Total FMV
2002	4.9	1 acre @ 15,000 = 3.9 acres @ 2,000	23,000
2003	4.9	1 acre @ 25,000 = 3.9 acres @ 5,000	44,500
2004	4.9	1 acre @ 30,000 = 3.9 acres @ 5,000	49,500
2005	4.9	1 acre @ 30,000 = 3.9 acres @ 5,000	49,500

I consulted with an appraiser in the BOA, and they stated that this property would remain at these values until the developer actually deeded the property over to the Homeowner’s association. I contacted the developer and explained that the BOA would not correct the value of this Detention Pond property until the property was deeded over to the Homeowner’s association. The developer, Mr. Jones, recorded a deed quit claiming the property to Ashwood Homeowner’s Association.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- (1.) This property should not be sold at a tax sale to collect the taxes because the property is a detention pond.
- (2.) The property has been deeded over to the Homeowner’s association and the fair market value is supposed to be \$10.00 for tax year 2006.

ALTERNATIVES:

- (1.) Approve the Tax Commissioner’s request to write off the overstatement of taxes on this property for tax years 2002, 2003, 2004 and 2005 totaling \$1,888.65.
- (2.) Do not approve the Tax Commissioner’s request.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

By writing off the overstated tax amounts the County will be working with an accurate Tax Digest and a valid record of the delinquent accounts receivable.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board approve Alternative 1.

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### **3. PRESENTATION OF FISCAL YEAR 2006 SECOND QUARTER REPORT DATED DECEMBER 31, 2005, TO THE BOARD FOR INFORMATION.**

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, this is a very good report on balance. It's certainly better than the first report you received a year ago at this time, and you are to be commended for creating a sense solvency in actuality as well as from hope. There are some challenges in the SSD Budget. I will refer to Ms. Cramer for the overall presentation. We're looking at a couple of things that I've already copied you with correspondence earlier relative to Recorder's Court revenue and we're also looking at the downturn on hotel/motel taxes. Please, Ms. Cramer.

Ms. Linda Cramer said, on whole the second quarter of the report is very favorable to the County. We use this report to really help us in developing our budget for the next fiscal year. It kind of ties right into what we're starting to do now in terms of the budget. So, we look for problem spots and try to solve those problems either in the current fiscal year or the next fiscal year. On the whole the M&O funds, the General Fund is doing very well on the revenue side. We're continuing to see a lot of local strengths in the economy from the revenues related to economy indicators, like the Local Option Sales Tax, the intangible taxes related to property sales, and [inaudible], so we're continuing to see a lot of positive activity there. Revenues were about \$72,000,000 and our expenditures were about \$60,000,000 so we're up from the year. That's normal again because most of our property tax revenues come in in November and December, so that's reflected in these numbers. Interest income was also very favorable. We're looking at the impact of fuel prices on our departments right now and, as you will recall, we did set up a fuel contingency account in the budget. Preliminary —, the preliminary numbers I saw last week indicated that we'll be coming back to you to move some money into a lot of the departments because they are down at 80% of their fuel budget for the end of December, so it has a big impact on our departments. We'll also be looking forward to getting the final numbers from the City in the next couple of months on the police merger activities for calendar year 2005. The City's in the middle of their audit right now. They'll be quantifying all those expenditures and comparing that to what we've been paying them in, plugging that into the cost formula model under the agreement. So we may be coming back to you in the next few months to get more money then for police cost budget overruns or maybe have some favorable news in relation to that of a positive nature. We don't know that yet.

Ms. Cramer said, we are also looking at the Sheriff's overtime. Through the end of December, the Sheriff's overtime was already pretty well utilized because of some high profile court cases that he's been working on. He's had to have a lot of deputies covering, I guess, the folks that are on trial. So we're going to look at that situation also in relation to the deputies. He's providing to the City right now for the police activities, and we'll be coming back to you with a recommendation on that as well.

Ms. Cramer said, on the SSD side we have revenues of about \$14,000,000 and our expenditures were higher. They were about \$16,000,000 but most of that variance was because we moved some money from SSD over to the CIP fund, and when we get into CIP workshops with you later

in the year, we're going to ask you how you want to spend that money. So that takes care of most of the variance there. We're seeing a little bit of —, overall the revenues are favorable, but we did have a little shortage on Recorder's Court revenue and we're inquiring of the court about that. That revenue decline really started in September and continued through the end of the year. So we're curious as to that and we're looking forward to a response from the court in relation to that.

Ms. Cramer said, also what we've seen on hotel/motel tax, particularly after Katrina, was just a real slowdown. Many of our hotels are on the interstate and they're serving travelers that stop in every night on their way, you know, from somewhere else to somewhere else. So, we saw a real slump and we're hoping that was a [inaudible], but we're keeping an eye on it.

Chairman Liakakis said, Linda [Cramer], let me ask you about that particular subject. How do we audit them? How do we check to make sure that those monies are coming into us? Ms. Cramer said, we look at variances from year to year. If we see a particularly unusual variance we will ask them for the audit, the Internal Audit Department to go out and work with the hotel. Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Thank you. County Attorney Hart said, it should also be noted that under the Hotel/Motel Tax Provisions, people who were displaced out of their homes through a natural disaster are not subject to pay the hotel/motel tax. So that may account for some of your slump.

Ms. Cramer said, I have noted in the report our areas of concern. There are some things that we'll be looking at. We're going to try to resolve those concerns and hopefully come back to you with better news, greater news. If you have any questions, I'll be glad to —.

Chairman Liakakis asked, any questions? Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, just a quick question. When you said that in the SSD the reason for a small deficit was moving the money into the CIP. For the CIP, does the monies come out of M&O as well as SSD or is it just SSD? Ms. Cramer said, well, primarily right now because of our reserve situation we did not have as much money to move out of M&O. I think we moved about a half a million dollars M&O. So we were trying to keep that one month fund balance built up in M&O. What we had in SSD was we had a higher level of [inaudible], so we were able to recommend a higher level of movement. County Manager Abolt said, this is good news. Commissioner Stone said, I was just curious as to why it left the SSD sort of unbalanced when you took it out for the CIP and why would it have come out of the M&O if the M&O is looking pretty good. County Manager Abolt said, you wouldn't commingle funds. Remember, you have a policy that when your reserves get to a certain amount, you want to commit those to CIP. That's all she saying. At the end of the year everything will balance out but in effect this is an accounting session and mid-year grades is the situation, which is not something to be worried about. Commissioner Stone said, okay, I was just curious as to why.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, Linda [Cramer], we appreciate that report and, of course, all the good work you and your staff in keeping us in good financial status.

Commissioner Farrell asked, do we need to move on that? County Manager Abolt said, no sir. Commissioner Odell said, no. County Manager Abolt said, information.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

A copy of the Fiscal Year 2006 Second Quarter Report, dated December 31, 2005, was presented to the Board for information. No action was required.

**AGENDA ITEM: IX-1**

**AGENDA DATE: February 10, 2006**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** R.E. Abolt, County Manager

**FROM:** Linda B. Cramer, Finance Director

**ISSUE:** To present the Fiscal Year 2006 Second Quarter Report dated December 31, 2005 to the Board for information.

**BACKGROUND:** Financial reporting conveys information concerning the position and activities of the County to its citizens and other interested parties. Interim financial reports generally are prepared for use by professional government managers and board members. Such reports monitor levels of year-to-date operations and determine compliance with budgetary limitations.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

- 1) The Second Quarter Report covers various county funds and presents budget-to-actual comparisons. Adopted and amended fund budgets are presented as well as variance data. Prior year numbers are presented for comparison on the General Fund and Special Service District Summary reports.
- 2) The Second Quarter Report reviews year-to-date financial activities for the funds and activities listed on the attached table of contents. Overall revenue trends were positive during the second quarter in the M&O and SSD Funds.
- 3) Items noted during the Second Quarter review include the following:

General Fund M&O

- The General Fund received revenues of \$72.2 million during the first half of 2006 and expended \$60.5 million.
- Year-to-date revenues were at 62% of annual budgeted amounts. Since a high amount of property taxes are collected in November and December, the high revenue percentage is characteristic for this time of year.
- General property taxes of \$55.7 million were received in the half of the year. General property taxes are the fund's main revenue source constituting 75% of the budget. Real and personal property taxes showed high collection activity during the second quarter. In addition, the Intangible Recording Tax and the Real Estate Transfer Tax continued to post strong collection activity.
- Expenditures are paid more evenly throughout the year, and the year-to-date expenditures of over \$60 million represent approximately 50% of budgeted expenditure amounts.
- Local option sales tax collections were approximately 56% of budget, reflecting continued strength in the local economy.
- Interest income was \$131,881 or 66% of the annual budget, continuing the improved revenue trend in this category.
- Housing prisoner billings were below budget; however, there is a timing lag in the billing of these revenues which stabilizes as the year proceeds.
- The impact of fuel prices are under analysis by staff, and a recommendation will be forthcoming later in the third quarter regarding usage of the fuel contingency account by departments.
- During the third quarter, the City and the County will reconcile calendar 2005 expenditures for the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department. Upon reconciliation, budget adjustments in the M&O and SSD Funds may be required.
- Also during the Third Quarter, the impact of Sheriff's Overtime related to SCMPD assistance will be quantified for the M&O Fund.

#### Special Service District (SSD)

- Through the second quarter the SSD Fund showed revenues of \$14.2 million and expenditures of \$15.9 million.
- During December 2005, the SSD Fund transferred fund balance of \$3.8 million to the CIP Fund for capital needs. The transfer resulted in a high level of fund expenditures (60% of budget) at the end of the second quarter.
- Revenue collections were 68% of budget. Strong collections continued for property taxes, intangible recording

tax and real estate transfer taxes. Mid-year franchise taxes were 60% of adopted budget.

- The fund's cash balances remained positive and investment earnings of \$231,259 exceeded budgeted amounts.
- On October 21, 2005 the budget for MPC fees was moved back to the SSD Fund. At mid-year, fee collections totalled \$204,353, approximately 56% of budget.
- Two revenues sources may be causes for concern. Transfers in from the Hotel Motel tax fund were at low, reflecting a post-Katrina slump in hotel-motel revenues. On an annualized basis, revenues may only bring in 89% of budget. Also, Records Court revenue was low in comparison with budget (37%) and prior year activity. The Finance Department has asked Records Court to analyze the variance, and will forward this information to the Board upon receipt.

#### Emergency Communications Fund

- The County paid out some fiscal 2005 reserves to the City in the first part of FY06, resulting in high expenditures levels in comparison to revenues.

#### Multiple Grant Fund

- Quarterly grant drawdowns should eventually offset the difference between fund revenues and expenditures.

#### Hotel/Motel Tax Fund

- Hotels and motels have until the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month to remit their tax returns and checks to the County. This report only reflects five months of activity. However, on an annualized basis, revenues may only approach 89% of the budget. Lower collections would be passed on to the Trade Center, Convention & Visitors Bureau, and the Special Service District.

#### Land Bank Fund

- Continued fund operations are dependent on property sales. A January property sale should eliminate the 2005 deficit fund balance shown in the 2005 CAFR. Future property sales are required to offset 2006 expenditures. Staff may approach the Board for an interfund transfer later in the year if sales do not materialize.

Henderson Golf Club

- When the budget was prepared for Henderson, staff had anticipated that the fund would be under an operating lease during fiscal 2006. However, the lease is still under negotiation. Amended budgets will be prepared in the Third Quarter to reflect the fund's activities, and an interfund transfer may be required. The loan to Henderson approved last year still remains outstanding.

Building Safety & Regulatory Fund

- Building permit revenues increased for the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, resulting in mid-year revenues approximating 50% of budget. Staff continues to monitor the fund for budgetary solutions.

Health Insurance Fund

- Medical costs are currently running close to budget, and revenues and expenses are roughly even at mid-year.

Risk Management Fund

- While the fund is positive at mid-year, workers compensation costs are 73% of budget.

**FUNDING:**

N/A

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** Interim financial reports provide revenue and budgetary oversight by comparing actual receipts or expenditures against budgeted amounts.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

N/A

**RECOMMENDATION:**

For information only.

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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. We have Items 1 through 12 and then Item 13 has Items A through I. Do we have any items here that you would like to pull? Commissioner Odell said, Item 6 just for information. Chairman Liakakis said, Item 6 for information. Any other items? Okay, do we have a motion on the floor to approve Items —. Commissioner Odell said, so moved. Chairman Liakakis said, — 1 through 12, Items and 13-A through I, to whole out Item 6. Commissioner Thomas said, second, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Liakakis said, all right, we have a second. Let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Odell moved to approve Action Calendar Items 1 through 13-I, except Item 6. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were 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 JANUARY 27, 2006, AS MAILED.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commission Odell moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 27, 2006. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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**2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 19 THROUGH FEBRUARY 1, 2006.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Odell moved to authorize the Finance Director to pay the claims against the County for the period January 19, 2006, through February 1, 2006, in the amount of \$3,431,557.

Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

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- 3. REQUEST FROM KERN-COLEMAN, ENGINEER FOR THE DEVELOPER, COASTAL GEORGIA DEVELOPMENT GROUP, TO RECORD THE SUBDIVISION PLAT FOR MILLS RUN, PHASE 3, ACCEPT THE SUBDIVISION AGREEMENT AND FINANCIAL GUARANTEE AND CREATE A NEW STREETLIGHT ASSESSMENT DISTRICT. [DISTRICT 5.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Odell moved to approve the request from Kern-Coleman, engineer for the developer, coastal Georgia Development Group, to record the subdivision plat for Mills Run, Phase 3, accept the Subdivision Agreement and Financial Guarantee and create a new Streetlight Assessment District. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-3**  
**AGENDA DATE: February 10, 2006**

**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 Mills Run, Phase 3, accept the subdivision agreement and financial guarantee and create a new streetlight assessment district.

**BACKGROUND:** Coastal Georgia Development Group, through their engineer, Kern-Coleman, requests that the County approve the final plat for recording, accept the subdivision agreement and financial guarantee and create a new streetlight assessment district.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

- 1. Mills Run Subdivision is a single-family residential community. Phase 3, consists of 17 lots on 5.5 acres. It is located on Louis Mills Boulevard. Water and sanitary sewer will be maintained

by the City of Savannah. Paving and drainage will be maintained by Chatham County.

- 2. Staff approved construction plans and issued a permit. Construction of the improvements is underway.
- 3. The developer has submitted a letter of credit issued by Queensborough National Bank & Trust Company in the amount of \$415,956.90, which is 100% of the completion cost of all improvements.
- 4. Approval will create the Mills Run Streetlight Assessment District. This phase will provide four 100 watt lights. The estimated annual energy cost is \$402.25. According to Chatham County's Streetlights Rate Code, the annual streetlight assessment is \$30 per lot.
- 5. An Environmental Site Assessment was conducted on the subdivision in accordance with the Subdivision Ordinance. No environmentally unsafe conditions were found on the site.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

- 1. To approve the recording of the subdivision plat for Mills Run Subdivision, Phase 3, accept the subdivision agreement and financial guarantee, and create a new streetlight assessment district.
- 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 5

**PREPARED BY:** Suzanne Cooler

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**4. REQUEST FROM KERN-COLEMAN, ENGINEER FOR NORTH GODLEY DEVELOPERS, TO RECORD THE SUBDIVISION PLAT FOR VILLAGES AT BERWICK PLANTATION, PHASE 2A, ACCEPT THE SUBDIVISION**

**AGREEMENT AND FINANCIAL GUARANTEE AND RECOMBINE THIS  
PHASE WITH THE EXISTING STREETLIGHT ASSESSMENT RATE  
DISTRICT.  
[DISTRICT 7.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Odell moved to approve a request from Kern-Coleman, engineer for North Godley Developers, to record the subdivision plat for Villages at Berwick Plantation, Phase 2A, accept the Subdivision Agreement and Financial Guarantee and recombine this phase with the existing Streetlight Assessment Rate District. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-4**

**AGENDA DATE: February 10, 2006**

**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 Villages at Berwick Plantation, Phase 2a, accept the subdivision agreement and financial guarantee and recombine this phase with the existing streetlight assessment rate district.

**BACKGROUND:** The engineer, Kern-Coleman, for the developer, North Godley Developers, Inc., requests that the County approve the final plat for recording, accept the subdivision agreement and financial guarantee and recombine this phase with the existing streetlight assessment rate district.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The Villages at Berwick Plantation is located in Berwick Plantation. This phase of the Villages consists of 74 lots on 29.81 acres. Paving and drainage improvements will be maintained by the County. Water and sewer will be maintained by Consolidated Utilities, Inc.
2. Staff approved construction plans and issued a permit. Construction of the improvements is underway.

- 3. The developer has submitted a letter of credit issued by BB&T in the amount of \$1,268,904, which is 100% of the cost of improvements.
- 4. Approval will recombine this phase with the existing Villages at Berwick streetlight assessment district. This phase will provide twenty-three 150 watt lights. The estimated annual energy cost is \$3,204.36. The annual streetlight assessment for this district is \$54 per lot.
- 5. An Environmental Site Assessment was previously conducted on the subdivision in accordance with the Subdivision Ordinance. No environmentally unsafe conditions were found on the site.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

- 1. To approve the recording of the subdivision plat for the Villages at Berwick Plantation, Phase 2, accept the subdivision agreement and financial guarantee and recombine this phase with the existing streetlight assessment rate district.
- 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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- 5. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL FOR THE CHAIRMAN AND CLERK OF COMMISSION TO SIGN AN APPLICATION REQUIRED BY THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION THAT STATES CHATHAM COUNTY WILL ACCEPT MAINTENANCE AND ENERGY COSTS FOR A TRAFFIC SIGNAL ON U.S. 17 AT COTTONVALE ROAD.  
[DISTRICT 7.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Odell moved to approve the request for the Chairman and Clerk of Commission to sign an application required by the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) that states Chatham County will accept maintenance and energy costs for a traffic signal on U.S. 17 at Cottonvale Road. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-5****AGENDA DATE: February 10, 2006****TO:** Board of Commissioners**THRU:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager**FROM:** A. G. Bungard, P.E., County Engineer

**ISSUE:** To authorize the Chairman and Clerk of Commission to sign an application required by the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) that states Chatham County will accept maintenance and energy costs for a traffic signal on US 17 at Cottonvale Road.

**BACKGROUND:** A&R Engineering completed a traffic engineering study at the intersection of US 17 at Cottonvale Road to determine if installation of a traffic signal is warranted. The new signal installation is in response to construction of the new shopping center on the Berwick Plantation which will make the intersection of US 17 at Cottonvale Road a four-way intersection. The results of the study indicate traffic volumes warrant the installation of the traffic signal. In order to proceed with this new signal, the County must sign this application whereby the County accepts the annual maintenance and energy costs of the traffic signal.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS**

1. Chatham County will be responsible for the maintenance and energy of the traffic signal. The traffic signal will have LED signal heads which use 40% less energy than the typical bulb heads. Also, LED heads have fewer maintenance needs than the bulb heads.
2. Traffic signals that have bulb heads cost approximately \$1200 to \$1800 dollars per year. The estimated annual cost of energy for this signal will be \$700 to \$1100.

3. Traffic signal components and installation will be funded by the developer.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. To authorize acceptance of maintenance and energy costs for a new traffic signal at US 17 at Cottonvale Road by signing the Permit Application.
2. To not approve Alternative 1.

**FUNDING:** Funding for the cost of operation and maintenance of the traffic signal is available in Special Services District - Utilities (Fund # 2701577, OB. Code #53.12901).

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** The Board must approve intergovernmental agreements.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Board approve Alternative 1.

District 7

Prepared by: Nathaniel E. Panther  
Civil Engineer I

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**6. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO ADD TWO SIDEWALK PROJECTS (ISLE OF HOPE AND LAMARVILLE/LIBERTY PARKWAY) TO THE UNFUNDED CIP LIST. [DISTRICTS 1 AND 5.]**

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Odell.

Commissioner Odell said, Item 6, Request Board approval to add two sidewalk projects (Isle of Hope and Lamarville/-Liberty Parkway) to the unfunded CIP list. This would cover District 1 and District 5. I don't know what you have, but my Lamarville for [District] 5 came as a result of a neighborhood association meeting and a request. I just wanted the general public to know that, and we did in fact take action on it, and it's on and set in line with all of the other CIP lists.

County Manager Abolt said, what that means too is then as you have your CIP workshops, as staff always tries to do, we give you a universe of needs. So when you devote your time to look at them, it's like Commissioner Odell said, you look at all the projects and decide what you want to fund, if you want to fund any of them.

Commissioner Odell said, and I'll make the motion for approval. Commissioner Stone said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, on Item 6. Commissioner Odell said, yes sir. Chairman Liakakis said, it's been a motion made and seconded. Go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Odell moved to approve the request to add two (2) sidewalk projects (Isle of Hope and Lamarville/Liberty Parkway) to the Unfunded CIP List. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-6****AGENDA DATE: February 10, 2006****TO:** Board of Commissioners**THRU:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager**FROM:** A. G. Bungard, P.E., County Engineer**ISSUE:** To add two sidewalk projects (Isle of Hope and Lamarville/Liberty Parkway) to the Unfunded CIP List.**BACKGROUND:** On January 13, 2006, the Board of Commissioners was presented the CIP Workbook for the fiscal years 2007-2011.**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The general scope of the Isle of Hope project is to construct a sidewalk along Skidaway Road between Sandfly (Ferguson Avenue) and Isle of Hope (Paxton Avenue). It includes a footbridge over a section of canal and marsh. It assumes that it can be done within the existing right-of-way. Estimated cost for the project is \$200,000.
2. The general scope of the Lamarville/Liberty Parkway project is to construct sidewalks along the main thoroughfares (ACL Boulevard, Westlake Avenue and Liberty Parkway). Estimated cost for the project is \$120,000.

- 3. The Community Association also requested streetlights be installed along Liberty Parkway from the I-516 overpass to ACL Boulevard. This would be done under a separate action.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

- 1. That the Board approve including these two projects in the Unfunded CIP.
- 2. That the Board not approve adding the projects to the Unfunded CIP.

**FUNDING:** No funds have been established in the CIP List for FY 2007-2011.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** By past precedent, the Board approves additions to the Unfunded CIP.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Board approve Alternative #1.

Districts 1, 5

Prepared by Allan R. Black

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**7. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE AN AGREEMENT FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF SPECIAL PURPOSE SALES TAX PROCEEDS FROM THE 2003-2008 SPLOST TO THE SOUTHSIDE FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECTS.  
[UNINCORPORATED AREA.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Odell moved to approve an Agreement for the Distribution of Special Purpose Sales Tax Proceeds from the 2003-2008 SPLOST to the Southside Fire Department for Capital Outlay Projects. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-7**  
**AGENDA DATE: February 10, 2006**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager

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

**ISSUE:** That the Board approve an Agreement for the Distribution of Special Purpose Sales Tax Proceeds from the 2003-2008 SPLOST to the Southside Fire Department for Capital Outlay Projects.

**BACKGROUND:** As authorized by Georgia law, the County called an election which was held on March 18, 2003, to request voter authorization which was approved for a special purpose local option one percent sales and use tax to be imposed for a period of five years for the purpose of raising \$276,627,433 for funding road, street, and bridge improvements, drainage system capital improvements, open space projects, public safety and emergency facilities and equipment, and other capital outlay projects.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The Resolution approved by referendum provided for the distribution of a portion of the proceeds to the Southside Fire Department for capital outlay project purposes. The proceeds shall be used to enhance, upgrade, and procure the necessary equipment to maintain the ongoing emergency operations of Southside Communities Fire Protection, Inc.
2. The Resolution provides that the organizations that receive SPLOST funds shall enter into separate agreements with the County upon such terms as appropriate to ensure that funds will be used for SPLOST eligible projects and meet the requirements of the law. These requirements include audits, retention of records and certifications of how the funds are used.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. That the Board approve an Agreement for the Distribution of Special Purpose Sales Tax Proceeds from the 2003-2008 SPLOST to the Southside Fire Department for Capital Outlay Projects.
2. That the Board not approve executing the agreement with the Southside Fire Department.

**FUNDING:** Based on the FY 2006 budget adopted by the Board On July 8, 2005, the Southside Fire Department is projected to receive \$160,000 during fiscal year 2006 (2003-2008 SPLOST). Funds will be disbursed as funds become available for appropriately certified capital outlay projects.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** The Board must approve interagency agreements.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Board approve Alternative 1.

Districts: Unincorporated

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**8. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE AN AGREEMENT FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF SPECIAL PURPOSE SALES TAX PROCEEDS FROM THE 2003-2008 SPLOST TO THE ISLE OF HOPE FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR CAPITAL OUTLAY PROJECTS.  
[DISTRICT 1.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Odell moved to approve an Agreement for the Distribution of Special Purpose Sales Tax Proceeds from the 2003-2008 SPLOST to the Southside Fire Department for Capital Outlay Projects. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-8**

**AGENDA DATE: February 10, 2006**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager

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

**ISSUE:** That the Board approve an Agreement for the Distribution of Special Purpose Sales Tax Proceeds from the 2003-2008 SPLOST to the Isle of Hope Fire Department for Capital Outlay Projects.

**BACKGROUND:** As authorized by Georgia law, the County called an election which was held on March 18, 2003, to request voter authorization which was approved for a special purpose local option one percent sales and use tax to be imposed for a period of five years for the purpose of raising \$276,627,433 for funding road, street, and bridge improvements, drainage system capital improvements, open space projects, public safety and emergency facilities and equipment, and other capital outlay projects.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The Resolution approved by referendum provided for the distribution of a portion of the proceeds to the Isle of Hope Fire Department for capital outlay project purposes. The proceeds shall be used to upgrade and procure the necessary equipment to maintain the ongoing emergency operations of Isle of Hope Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.

2. The Resolution provides that the organizations that receive SPLOST funds shall enter into separate agreements with the County upon such terms as appropriate to ensure that funds will be used for SPLOST eligible projects and meet the requirements of the law. These requirements include audits, retention of records and certifications of how the funds are used.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. That the Board approve an Agreement for the Distribution of Special Purpose Sales Tax Proceeds from the 2003-2008 SPLOST to the Isle of Hope Fire Department for Capital Outlay Projects.

2. That the Board not approve executing the agreement with the Isle of Hope Fire Department.

**FUNDING:** Based on the FY 2006 budget adopted by the Board On July 8, 2005, the Isle of Hope Fire Department is projected to receive \$20,000 during fiscal year 2006 (2003-2008 SPLOST). Funds will be disbursed as funds become available for appropriately certified capital outlay projects.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** The Board must approve interagency agreements.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That the Board approve Alternative 1.

Districts:1

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**9. REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO SANCTION THE SUBMISSION OF A JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT FOR THE SAVANNAH-CHATHAM METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT VIA AN ONLINE APPLICATION.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Odell moved to authorize the Chairman to sanction the submission of a Justice Assistance Grant for the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Planning Commission via an online application. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-9****AGENDA DATE: February 10, 2006****TO:** BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**THRU:** R. E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER**FROM:** WILLIE LOVETT, INTERIM CHIEF OF POLICE**ISSUE:**

To have the Board of Commissioners authorize the Chatham County Chairman to sanction the submission of a Justice Assistance Grant for the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department via an online application.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) application is being filed jointly on behalf of the City of Savannah and Chatham County. This is the second year of the JAG which is a formula-based grant. Last year the JAG was used to purchase mapping software that was integrated into the E-911 software to plot on a map the exact location of 911 calls to include cellular calls, thereby informing Dispatchers and Call-takers the exact location of emergencies.

**FACTS & FINDINGS:**

1. The Fiscal Year 2006 Savannah-Chatham allocation under the Justice Assistance Grant is \$123,517 based on a formula distribution. There are **no matching funds** required for this grant.
2. The filing deadline for this application is March 2, 2006.
3. The funds allocated from this grant will be used to budget the full amount of three (3) Community Service Specialists (CSS)

and associated costs including salaries, benefits, and equipment. Community Service Specialists are civilian employees of the Police Department who have some training in police work and law enforcement. CSS personnel are trained in law enforcement techniques and procedures to assist sworn Officers. The use of CSS personnel relieves sworn Officers from the more mundane job functions allowing them more time to patrol the streets enforcing the laws and protecting the citizens of Chatham County. The three (3) Community Service Specialists will be responsible for monitoring the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department close circuit TV video surveillance system.

4. Currently, Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department has ten (10) video surveillance cameras; however, the video feeds from these cameras are not monitored but are stored on digital recording devices for potential recall. The SCMPD is in the process of procuring and placing fifteen (15) more cameras in high crime locations which will bring the total number of surveillance cameras to twenty-five (25). The data feeds from these cameras will be monitored by the three (3) Community Service Specialists positions funded by this grant and will allow the system to be monitored seventy (70) percent of the time.

#### **FUNDING:**

The Justice Assistance Grant will fully fund three (3) Community Service Specialists positions to monitor the close circuit television video system at a cost of \$123,517 for the first year. Costs will entail personnel, benefits, and required equipment. No matching funds are required for this grant.

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. To have the Board of Commissioners authorize the Chatham County Chairman to sanction the submission of Justice Assistance Grant for the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department vial an online application.
2. To not have the Board of Commissioners authorize the Chatham County Chairman to sanction the submission of Justice Assistance Grant for the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department via an online application.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

With the ability to monitor the video camera system, the Community Service Specialist will be able to view and direct Officers to scenes of suspicious activity or an actual crime in progress. Using Community Service Specialists personnel in these positions will provide additional eyes for sworn Officers at a lower cost to the citizens of Chatham County and allow sworn Officers to perform street duties. Providing real time monitoring of the video surveillance system enhances the system's ability to deter crime in our community.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

To accept Alternative 1.

Prepared by: Major Craig S. Hopkins  
Information Management Division

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- 10. REQUEST FOR RENEWAL OF SUNDAY SALES OF BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR POURING FOR 2006. PETITIONER: CARL JONES, AGENT FOR RESTAURANT CONCEPTS II, LLC, D/B/A APPLEBEE'S NEIGHBORHOOD GRILL AND BAR, LOCATED AT 5460 AUGUSTA ROAD. [DISTRICT 7.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Odell moved to approve the petition of Carl Jones, Agent for Restaurant concepts II, LLC, d/b/a Applebee's Neighborhood Grill and Bar, located at 5460 Augusta Road, for renewal of Sunday sales of beer, wine and liquor pouring for 2006. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-10**

**AGENDA DATE: February 10, 2006**

**TO:** BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**THROUGH:** R. E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER

**FROM:** GREGORI S. ANDERSON, DIRECTOR OF BUILDING SAFETY AND REGULATORY SERVICES

WILLIE LOVETT, INTERIM CHIEF OF POLICE

ISSUE:

Request approval for renewal of Sunday sales of beer, wine and liquor pouring for 2006, Carl Jones, agent for Restaurant Concepts II, LLC, d/b/a Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar, located at 5460 Augusta Road.

BACKGROUND:

Mr. Jones requests approval for renewal of Sunday sales licenses in connection with an existing restaurant.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The application was reviewed by the Police Department for compliance of the applicant and separation 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 Regulatory Services recommend approval.

District 7

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11. **REQUEST FOR RENEWAL OF SUNDAY SALES OF BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR POURING FOR 2006. PETITIONER: CARL JONES, AGENT FOR RESTAURANT CONCEPTS II, LLC, D/B/A APPLEBEE'S NEIGHBORHOOD GRILL AND BAR, LOCATED AT 4705 U.S. HIGHWAY 80 EAST. [DISTRICT 4.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Odell moved to approve the petition of Carl Jones, agent for Restaurant Concepts II, LLC, d/b/a Applebee's Neighborhood Grill and Bar, located at 4705 U. S. Highway 80 East, for renewal of Sunday sales of beer, wine and liquor pouring for 2006. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-11**

**AGENDA DATE: February 10, 2006**

**TO:** BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**THROUGH:** R. E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER

**FROM:** GREGORI S. ANDERSON, DIRECTOR OF BUILDING SAFETY AND REGULATORY SERVICES  
WILLIE LOVETT, INTERIM CHIEF OF POLICE

**ISSUE:**

Request approval for renewal of Sunday sales of beer, wine and liquor pouring for 2006, Carl Jones, agent for Restaurant Concepts II, LLC, d/b/a Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar, located at 4705 U.S. Highway 80 East.

**BACKGROUND:**

Mr. Jones requests approval for renewal of Sunday sales licenses in connection with an existing restaurant.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The application was reviewed by the Police Department for compliance of the applicant and separation 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 Regulatory Services recommend approval.

District 4

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**12. REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF BEER AND WINE RETAIL PACKAGE LICENSE FOR 2006. PETITIONER: MELISSA BAILEY, D/B/A SAM'S CLUB #8202, LOCATED AT 3609-A OGEECHEE ROAD. [DISTRICT 8.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Odell moved to approve the petition of Melissa Bailey, d/b/a Sam's Club #8202, located at 3609-A Ogeechee Road, for transfer of beer and wine retail package license for 2006. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-12**

**AGENDA DATE: February 10, 2006**

**TO:** BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**THROUGH:** R. E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER

**FROM:** GREGORI S. ANDERSON, DIRECTOR OF BUILDING SAFETY AND REGULATORY SERVICES  
 WILLIE LOVETT, INTERIM CHIEF OF POLICE

ISSUE:

Request approval for transfer of beer and wine retail package license for 2006, Melissa Bailey, d/b/a Sam's Club #8202, located at 3609-A Ogeechee Road.

BACKGROUND:

Ms. Bailey, a new manager, requests approval for transfer of retail package license for beer & wine in connection with an existing discount merchandise supercenter store.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The application was reviewed by the Police Department for compliance of the applicant and separation requirements and approved.
2. The returned application was reviewed by Building Safety. The County Fire Inspector has inspected and approved the structure for compliance of the applicable codes this year.
3. The applicant and business meets the requirements of the Chatham County Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance.
4. The applicant has been notified for the date and time of the meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

Police Department and Regulatory Services recommend approval.

District 8

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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. Confirmation emergency sole source purchase of data and telephone systems at the new CNT facility	CNT	•Annixter, Inc.  •Layer3 Communications  •Telcove Communications	•\$11,162  •\$56,056  •\$1,875	2005 DSA Bonds - CNT Headquarters
B. Garmin GNS 480 GPS/VAV/COM navigation system	Mosquito Control	Gulf Coast Avionics	\$14,551	General Fund/M&O - Mosquito Control
C. Replacement auxiliary fuel tank	Mosquito Control	Fargo Manufacturing Company (Sole Source)	\$12,200	General Fund/M&O - Mosquito Control

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
D. Upgrade and maintenance of the existing access control system and upgrade and repair of the high security lock system	Police	McCarthy, Inc. (Sole Source)	\$35,968	SSD - Police
E. Confirmation emergency award of a contract to remove, furnish and install carpet and cove base at the new CNT facility	CNT	A & R Flooring Company	\$27,342	2005 DSA Bonds - CNT Headquarters
F. Confirmation emergency award of a contract to provide all labor required to paint interior of new CNT facility	CNT	Dan J. Sheehan Company	\$14,457	2005 DSA Bonds - CNT Headquarters
G. Extend on a "month to month" basis, the revenue generating lease agreement for the lease of a multi-purpose room located at the Chatham County Aquatic Center	Public Works and Parks Services	Starfish Aquatics Institute of Savannah, aka Champion Corporation	\$1,000 per month	N/A - Revenue Generating
H. Contract for the construction of George Lynch Connector Road	SPLOST	Bryco, Inc.	\$540,397	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Unincorporated County Roads, Seawright Drive Connector
I. 2006 Ford Explorer SUV	Engineering	J. C. Lewis Ford	\$22,923	SSD - Engineering

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Odell moved to approve Items 13-A through 13-I, both inclusive. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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## XI. FIRST READINGS

Proposed changes to ordinances must be read or presented in written form at two meetings held not less than one week apart. A vote on the following listed matters will occur at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

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 is to be taken on one of the following listed items.

### 1. AMENDMENTS TO COUNTY CODE ARTICLE II, SECTION 20-201 THROUGH 20-214 TO REFLECT THE CURRENT STATE MANDATED CONSTRUCTION CODES AND ADD A CONSTRUCTION CODE ADMINISTRATION SECTION.

#### ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Chairman Liakakis read this item into the record as the first reading.

AGENDA ITEM: XI-1

AGENDA DATE: February 10, 2006

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

THROUGH: R. E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER

FROM: GREGORI S. ANDERSON, DIRECTOR OF BUILDING SAFETY AND REGULATORY SERVICES

#### ISSUE

Amendments to County Code Article II, section 20-201 through 20-214 to reflect the current State mandated construction codes and add a construction code administration section.

#### FACTS AND FINDINGS

1. The Department of Community Affairs adopts and administers the construction codes program throughout the State. The construction codes are adopted with State initiated amendments. One of the amendments deletes the adoption of the administration section of each construction code. Local Governments are required to adopt an administrative section that outlines the regulations for enforcement of the code provisions at the local level.

2. The State Safety Fire Commissioner adopts and administers the Fire and Life Safety codes throughout the State. The Fire and Life Safety Codes and Standards are adopted with amendments initiated by the Safety Fire Commissioners rules and regulations.

#### FUNDING

Not Applicable

#### ALTERNATIVES

1. Adopt proposed amendments to the County Code
2. Provide direction to staff

#### POLICY ANALYSIS

The proposed amendments are intended to bring the County Code in line with the State statute. The adoption of an administrative section for the enforcement of the codes will continue compliance with the Department of Community Affairs.

The proposed amendments will also address the changes in the regulations and rules of the Safety Fire Commissioner.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Alternative #1, Adopt Proposed Amendments

### **AMENDMENT TO THE CODE CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA**

An ordinance to amend the code of Chatham County, Georgia 1989 amended to provide administrative provisions of the construction codes; and for other purposes.

**Be it ordained**, by the Chatham County Commissioners in regular session as follows to wit.

#### Article II Adoption Of and Amendments to Technical Codes

**20-201** Adoption of Standard Codes. The regulations and administrative procedures of the following Standard Codes recommended and published by the International Code Council, and the National Fire Protection Association in book form are hereby adopted as the regulations governing the construction of building and other structures in the County; and section Viii,

Article 4 Land Disturbing & Tree Protection Requirements for Certificates of Occupancy; and Section IX., Article 5, Requirements for Certificate of Occupancy and Article 6, Withholding the Certificate of Occupancy of the Chatham County, Georgia Land - Disturbing Activities Ordinance; and it shall be unlawful to erect or construct any building or structure on the county in violation of, or without complying with, these regulation:

1. International Code Council "I - Codes" as adopted mandatory State Codes and Amendments by the State Department of Community Affairs
2. NFPA Codes and Amendments as adopted by the State Safety Fire Commissioner
3. NFPA Standards as adopted by the State Safety Fire Commissioner
4. Standard Swimming Pool Code, 1994 Edition

**20 - 202** National Electric Code. Delete without substitution

**20 - 203** Standard Building Code Amendments. Delete

**20 - 203** Construction Code Administration

1. IBC Chapter One, as amended by this ordinance.

## CONSTRUCTION CODE ADMINISTRATION

**101.1 TITLE.** Delete entire paragraph

**101.1 TITLE.** These regulations shall be known as the Chatham County Construction Code Administration Section The International Building Code 2000 Edition, Chapter One Represents the Base Document.

**101.2 Scope - Unchanged**

**Exception:** Detached one and two-family dwellings and multiple single-family dwellings (townhouses) not more than three stories high with separate means of egress and their accessory structures shall comply with the *International Residential Code*.

**101.2** Unchanged

**101.3** Unchanged

**101.4** Unchanged

**101.4.1 Electrical.** The provisions of the ICC **National** *Electrical Code* shall apply to the installation of electrical systems, including alterations, repairs, replacement, equipment, appliances, fixtures, fittings, and appurtenances thereto.

**101.4.2** Unchanged

**101.4.3** Unchanged

**101.4.4** Unchanged

**101.4.5 Property Maintenance.** Delete paragraph in its entirety

**101.4.6** Unchanged

**102.1** Unchanged

**102.3** Unchanged

**102.5** Unchanged

**101.4.7** Unchanged

**102.2** Unchanged

**102.4** Unchanged

**102.6 Existing structures.** The legal occupancy of any structure existing on the date of adoption of this code shall be permitted to continue without change, except as is specifically covered in this code, the *International Property Maintenance Code* or the *International Fire Code*, or as is deemed necessary by the building official for the general safety and welfare of the occupants and the public.

**103.1** Unchanged

**103.2** Unchanged

**103.3 Deputies.** In accordance with the prescribed procedures of this jurisdiction and with the concurrence of the appointing authority, the building official shall have the authority to appoint a deputy building official, the related technical officers, inspectors, plan examiners and other employees. Such employees shall have powers as delegated by the building official. For the maintenance of existing properties, see the *International Property Maintenance Code*.

**104** Unchanged

**105.1** Unchanged

**105.1.1 Annual permit.** Delete entire paragraph

**105.1.2 Annual permit records.** Delete entire paragraph

**Building:**

1. One story detached accessory structures used as tool and storage sheds, playhouses and similar uses, provided the floor area does not exceed 120 square feet (11.15m<sup>2</sup>).
2. Fences not over 6 feet (1829mm) high.
3. Unchanged
4. Unchanged
5. Unchanged
6. Unchanged
7. Unchanged
8. Unchanged
9. Prefabricated swimming pools accessory to a Group R-3 occupancy, as applicable in Section 101.2, which are less than 24 inches (610) deep, not to exceed 5,000 gallons(19 00L) and are installed entirely above ground **with no circulating pump or heat.**
10. Unchanged
11. Unchanged
12. Unchanged
13. Unchanged

**106** Unchanged

**107.1** Unchanged

**107.2** Unchanged

**107.3 Temporary power.** The building official is authorized to give permission to temporarily supply and use power in part of an electric installation before such installation has been fully completed and the final certificate of completion has been issued. The part covered by the temporary certificate shall comply with the requirements specified for temporary lighting, heat or power in the National Electrical Code.

**107.4** Unchanged

**108** Unchanged

**109.1** Unchanged

**109.2** Unchanged

**109.3** Unchanged

**109.3.1** Unchanged

**109.3.2** Unchanged

**109.3.3 Lowest floor elevation.** The elevation certification required in Section 1612.5 shall be submitted to the building official.

**109.3.4** Unchanged

**109.3.5 Lath or gypsum board inspection.** Delete the entire paragraph  
**Exceptions:** Delete the entire paragraph.

**109.3.6** Unchanged

**109.3.7 Energy efficiency inspections.** Inspections shall be made to determine compliance with International Energy Conservation Code IECC Chapter 13 and shall include, but not limited to, inspections for: envelope insulation  $R$  and  $U$  value, fenestration  $U$  value, duct system  $R$  value and HVAC and water heating equipment efficiency.

<b>109.3.8</b>	Unchanged	<b>110</b>	Unchanged
<b>109.3.9</b>	Unchanged	<b>111</b>	Unchanged
<b>109.3.10</b>	Unchanged	<b>112</b>	Unchanged
<b>109.4</b>	Unchanged	<b>113</b>	Unchanged
<b>109.5</b>	Unchanged	<b>114</b>	Unchanged
<b>109.6</b>	Unchanged	<b>115</b>	Unchanged

**20-204 Plumbing Code Amendments.** Delete without substitution

**20-205 Gas Code Amendments.** Delete without substitution

**20-206 Mechanical Code Amendments.** Delete without substitution

**20-207 Fire Prevention Code Amendments.** Delete without substitution

**20-208 Reports of Fires.** Delete without substitution

**20-209 Arson Reports.** Delete without substitution

**20-210 National Electrical Code Amendments.** Delete without substitution

**20-211 CABO 1 & 2 Family Dwelling Code Amendments.** Delete without substitution

**20-212 Standard Housing Code Amendments.** Delete without substitution

**20-213 Approval of Site for Wells and Septic Tanks.** No building permit shall be issued for construction, nor shall any building or structure designed or intended for permanent use, occupancy or dwelling, except fences and minor outbuildings, be erected, nor shall any proposed division be approved for development upon any land in the County, outside the limits of any municipality located therein unless and until the site shall have been approved by the County Engineer, upon adequate showing having been made

by the applicant that said land has adequate draining facilities or possesses such physical characteristics as to make adequate drainage possible without imposing an unreasonable obligation upon the County. All plans for the erection of buildings or structures filed with the application for a building permit which shall contemplate the installation and use of either septic tanks or wells shall require the approval of the Chatham County Health Department, prior to the issuance of a building permit thereon by the Director of Building Safety.

**20-214 Approval for Permits by Health Department.** Delete without substitution.

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**2. AMENDMENTS TO COUNTY CODE ARTICLE III, SECTION 20-301 THROUGH 20-326 TO REFLECT THE CURRENT CONSTRUCTION AND TRADE PERMIT FEES AND ADD REFERENCES TO THE REVENUE ORDINANCE.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Chairman Liakakis read this item into the record as the first reading.

AGENDA ITEM: **XI-1**  
AGENDA DATE: February 10, 2006

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

THROUGH: R. E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER

FROM: GREGORI S. ANDERSON, DIRECTOR OF BUILDING SAFETY AND REGULATORY SERVICES

ISSUE

Amendments to County Code Article III, section 20-301 through 20-326 to reflect the current construction and trade permit fees and add references to the revenue ordinance.

FACTS AND FINDINGS

1. In 2005, the revenue ordinance was modified to include revised permit fees and construction valuation rates.

2. The current County Code sections reference antiquated construction codes and permit fees.

#### FUNDING

Not Applicable

#### ALTERNATIVES

1. Adopt proposed amendments to the County Code
2. Provide direction to staff

#### POLICY ANALYSIS

The change in the construction valuation rates and permit fees contained in the revenue ordinance must be consistent throughout the County Code. The proposed amendment will correlate the two documents.

The proposed amendment will also update the construction code, references and associate trade permit fees. The State mandated construction codes are adopted and administered by the Department of Community Affairs and Safety Fire Commissioner.

#### RECOMMENDATION

Alternative #1, Adopt proposed amendments

=====

## **XII. SECOND READINGS**

1. **SEE "TABLED ITEMS" FOR SECOND READING FOR REVISION TO CHAPTER 4, ARTICLE III, OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY CODE BOOK, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (CIVIL DEFENSE). *At meeting of January 27, 2006, item was tabled until meeting of February 24, 2006.***

#### **ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Action on this item was tabled until February 24, 2006.

**AGENDA ITEM: XII-2**

**AGENDA DATE: January 27, 2006**

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: R. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney and Phillip M. Webber, Director of CEMA

**ISSUE:**

To request that Board approve a revision to Chapter 4, Article III of the Chatham County Code Book, Emergency Management (Civil Defense).

**BACKGROUND:**

Chatham County's original Emergency Management (Civil Defense) Code was written in the 1980's with a single amendment in April 1998. Although extremely well written, with the increase in terrorism and the advent of man-made disasters, the requirements of the Emergency Management Agency have changed. Improved technology and disaster response procedures have caused a concurrent modernization of disaster recovery activities. With the expansion of threats has come added responsibilities; the Code's current contents do not accommodate adequate response to these threats.

**FACTS & FINDINGS:**

1. County departmental guidelines must be both current and accurate in order to ensure its Emergency Management Agency is prepared to respond to a possible disaster.
2. The existing County Ordinance is no longer current in terms of State and Federal emergency response standards.
3. The Agreement is attached.

**FUNDING:**

N/A

**ALTERNATIVES:**

- 1. Approve the Revision and have the County adopt same.
- 2. Do not approve Revision and have the County continue to operate under outdated procedures.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

By executing this Revision the County will be better aligned with current State and Federal operational standards in the event of natural or man-made disasters.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.

=====

**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 purchase items were attached for this meeting.

=====

### 3. ROADS AND DRAINAGE REPORTS.

#### ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Status reports were attached for review.

**AGENDA ITEM: XIII-3 (Roads)**  
**AGENDA DATE: February 10, 2006**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager

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

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

**BACKGROUND:** The schedules for construction are dictated by the GDOT allocations of funds among the Congressional districts and the balancing of funds in the Chatham Urban Transportation Study (CUTS) Transportation Improvement Program (TIP). The current TIP and Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) were approved by the CUTS Policy Committee on June 22, 2005. Key milestone events are summarized in the attached table.

#### **FACTS AND FINDING:**

1. Truman Parkway, Phase 5. Right of way plans were approved on June 30, 2005. The acquisition process has started and will take until the Spring of 2007, to complete (26 parcels acquired by early acquisition; 65 parcels to acquire). Design is underway.

2. US 17, Ogeechee River to SR 204: Work is at a standstill. GDOT has put the contractor on notice for non-performance. A video conference with GDOT Commissioner Linnenkohl regarding lack of progress was held December 6, 2005. The bonding company was notified subsequent to that meeting, and GDOT is negotiating with them to determine how the project will be completed. In the meantime, GDOT has put their in house forces on the project to rectify some of the problems created by the lack of progress. GDOT advised in a recent meeting that they will be meeting with the bonding company soon to try and resolve how the project will be completed.

3. Middleground Road/Montgomery Cross Road Widening. Under construction. Power lines, telephones and water/sewer facilities are being relocated along the three mile length of the project. GDOT is reviewing a fee proposal from the contractor for a change order as a result of a redesign for some of the storm drainage. The original contract amount for the project is \$13.6 million. The fee proposal from the contractor APAC for the change order is \$4.7 million (almost a 35% increase in project cost). As a result, GDOT is having to make a detailed review of the proposal to see if this increase is justified.

4. Stephenson Avenue. Substantially complete as of April 1, 2005. Liquidated damages totaling \$54,450 were assessed from December 1, 2004 to March 31, 2005. GDOT, in company with the County, City of Savannah and APAC performed the final inspection on June 14, 2005. A final punch list (129 items) was compiled by GDOT with input from the County and the City of Savannah. This was given to APAC on June 21, 2005. Punch list items remain to be corrected. Staff is reviewing claims by APAC for additional costs and a time extension. Due to lack of activity on APAC's part to complete the punch list items, the GDOT sent a letter dated October 7, 2005, to them demanding justification for inactivity. APAC was given 10 days to respond. They contacted the GDOT and set up a meeting with staff and GDOT on site on October 12, 2005. The remaining punch list items were reviewed with APAC. Many of the remaining items were corrective work that their subcontractor Dixie Excavating needed to do. Dixie Excavating worked on the project (one day) the next day October 13, 2005. GDOT advises that they told APAC to notify them when they would going to be on the project to work. Dixie Excavating resumed sporadic work on November 16 on corrective work for the water lines. Tony Robinson, the GDOT project manager, advises the water line corrective work is essentially complete. The corrective work for the storm drain manholes and sewer lines is essentially complete. Dixie Excavating, the subcontractor for the new water lines, is to notify the City of Savannah when that corrective work is complete and ready for inspection.

5. Whitfield Avenue Widening. The FHWA approved the EA on February 13, 2004, which authorized the County to proceed with preliminary design (completed in June, 2004). Staff was advised in January, 2005, however, that the widening of the median for landscaping and the proposed reduction in speed limit would require amending the previously approved Concept Report and Environmental Assessment. The wider raised median causes at least three additional residential displacements and increases the GDOT's right of way acquisition costs. The revised Concept Report was

submitted to GDOT on July 6, 2005. The GDOT asked for updated right of way acquisition cost which was provided to GDOT on October 21, 2005. Waiting for GDOT approval so the environmental document can be revised and a Public Information Open House be held.

6. Diamond Causeway Widening. The Draft EA was approved by the FHWA on February 25, 2005, for advancement to public hearing. A Public Information Open House (PIOH) was held on June 9. GDOT staff is re-looking design criteria (width of median and design speed of high span bridge) in the Draft EA. Guidance and decision by the GDOT is pending. In the meantime, the County offered to do the improvements on Skidaway Island by County Contract. The preliminary design for the portion on the Island is complete, and has been submitted to GDOT for review.

7. Bay Street Widening from I-516 to Bay Street Viaduct. The Concept Report was approved by the GDOT on February 9, 2005. The revised Draft EA was sent to the GDOT for review on December 12, 2005. Based on a request from the GDOT, additional information was provided in November 2005, regarding the Housing Authority of Savannah plans for Fellwood Homes (the HAS intends to begin demolition this Spring).

8. Jimmy DeLoach Parkway, Phase 2 (I-16 to US 80). Another revised Final EA with a Finding of No Significant Impact (EA/FONSI) was forwarded to the GDOT on September 15, 2004. The GDOT forwarded the EA to FHWA on December 14, 2004, for approval. On March 1, 2005, the FHWA issued six additional comments requiring changes and an update of the Conceptual Stage Study. The revised Conceptual Stage Study was delivered to the GDOT on May 12, 2005. An updated Relocation Study was submitted on July 12, 2005. It was revised and resubmitted to GDOT on September 14, 2005. GDOT forwarded the EA/FONSI, to the FHWA on October 20, 2005.

9. White Bluff/Coffee Bluff Road. A Public Information Open House (PIOH) was held on August 12, 2004. GDOT is still reviewing letters to respondents of the public meeting. The Need and Purpose has been revised to essentially create a 3-lane section from Willow Road to Cedar Grove (near entrance to Country Day School) and improve the two lanes (i.e. widen pavement to 12 feet wide travel lanes) from Cedar Grove to Rose Dhu Road, and was submitted to GDOT January 19, 2006. The project will include either sidewalks on both sides or a multi-purpose trail on one side.

10. Eisenhower Widening from Abercorn to Truman Parkway. The Concept Report was approved by GDOT on June 22, 2004, but was not received by the County until November 15, 2004. Because of the high estimated right of way costs (over \$22 million -- local cost), the City of Savannah, Chatham County and the consultants have reviewed the project and have proposed reductions in the project which was sent to GDOT October 28, 2005.

11. Abercorn Widening from Largo Drive to Rio Road. The Concept Report was revised to reflect the changed terminus from Deerfield Road to Largo Drive and sent to GDOT on June 28, 2004. This project is affected by other projects currently under design (intersection improvements at Largo, and Truman Parkway, Phase 5).

12. Skidaway Widening: The Final EA was approved by the FHWA on December 30, 2004. The County's consultant submitted a proposal (over \$750,000) which staff will need to evaluate for an amendment to the engineering services contract or a new contract to incorporate all new GDOT requirements known to date to complete the design. In accordance with the LGPA, the County is responsible for acquiring the necessary right of way. The GDOT has agreed to fund, award and manage the construction project. Due to reductions in state and federal highway funds, staff will look at the feasibility of requesting that GDOT break this project into several construction contracts.

13. Islands Expressway Bridge Replacement. LPA Group (consultant) is under contract with County to develop the Concept Report. A Public Information Open House was held on May 26, 2005, presenting three alternatives to construct high span bridges. Approximately 75 attended. The consultant has prepared responses to the comments received. The draft Concept Report needs estimated utility relocation cost from GDOT to complete it.

14. US 80/SR26

a. Lynes Parkway to Victory Drive. GDOT is preparing the EA. The GDOT schedule shows a public hearing in 2005 and award of a construction contract in 2007.

b. Bull River to Lazaretto Creek. GDOT is working on the EA. The GDOT hosted a PIOH on August 25, 2005, at the Tybee Island City Hall.

15. Local Roads

a. Fountain Road. Final plans and ROW plats have been sent to Moreland/Altobelli for right-of-way acquisition which is underway.

Due to the new alignment of the road, the USACE has determined that wetlands are impacted. Permit received July 12, 2005. GDOT executed the County Contract and gave notice to proceed (NTP) on February 9, 2005. The contract, however, was apparently lost in the mail and was only recently received after staff inquired about it. Staff expected the solicitations for bids for a construction contract to be out by the end of August, however, right-of-way negotiations required some plan changes which delayed this process. Right-of-way issues continue to delay solicitations for bid. There are title issues on one parcel that must be cleared up in court before it can be acquired. The title issues (now in court) have delayed the acquisition process longer than expected. Staff now expects to have the right-of-way acquired and plan changes completed to be able to bid the project for contract by March 2006.

b. Mobley Street, Yucca Place, Perkins Place, Stone Street. Final plans were provided to GDOT District Office in Jesup. The District Office sent the construction estimate to Atlanta for these four streets on October 14, 2005, for preparation of the County Contract. The executed Right-of-Way Agreement was returned to GDOT on November 16, 2005. Terry Gable, the State Aid Administrator in Atlanta, advised on February 1, 2006, that his first quarters allocation of State Aid monies had not yet been issued. As a result of this, he had delayed issuing the order to send the County Contract. He said, however, that he would now release the project documents for execution with the expectation the funds would be issued by the time the documents were executed. Staff estimates that the Notice to Proceed will be issued in March 2006. In the meantime, staff will proceed to advertise the project for bid.

c. Bond Avenue, Heather Street, Betran Avenue, Shore Road. GDOT executed the County Contract and gave NTP on August 19, 2005. It was projected earlier that solicitations for bids for a construction contract would be sent out during September, but right-of-way issues on these projects are also delaying the bid process. These issues now require more plan changes. Complications in the right-of-way negotiations and plan changes on Bond and Betran Avenues are going to take longer than originally believed. As a result of this, staff asked GDOT if Heather Street and Shore Road could be bid separately for construction. They agreed to allow us to do that, so we are proceeding to package those two roads for advertising for bid.

d. Dulany Road, Cramer Street, Palm Drive and Old Pine Barren Road. On May 27, 2005, the Board of Commissioners authorized entering into contract with the consulting firm of McGee Partners to

survey and design to pave these roads. The kick-off coordination meeting was held on June 23. The schedule calls for construction plans to be ready on Cramer Street and Palm Drive in June 2006. The consultant is finalizing plans, including co-ordination of right-of-way acquisitions, for Old Pine Barren Road and Dulany Road. Requests for County Contracts with the GDOT on Old Pine Barren Road and Dulany Road were approved by the Board approval on October 21. McGee Partners are coming to meet with staff on February 21, 22 & 23 to discuss plan development on Cramer Street, Palm Drive and other projects. During this visit a field trip to Cramer Street will be made to discuss concerns that property owners have there.

**RECOMMENDATION:** For information.

Districts: All

**SUMMARY OF ROAD PROJECT STATUS  
February 2006**

PROJECT	ELEMENT	MILESTONE FOR COMPLETION	AGENCY RESPONSIBLE	NOTES
Truman Parkway, Ph 5	Environmental ROW	Complete Dec 2006	County County/GDOT	EIS approved 8/12/99 Acquisition underway as of 7/1/05.
	Final Design Construction	Feb 2007 TBD	County/GDOT GDOT	COMMISSIONER STONE LR
US 17: Ogeechee Riv/SR204	Construction	Jan 2006	GDOT	GDOT has referred lack of progress to bonding company.
Middleground/Montgomery Cross Road Widening	Construction	May 2006	GDOT	Will be extended.
Jimmy DeLoach Pkwy, Ph 2	Environmental ROW Construction	Unknown	County County GDOT	COMMISSIONER STONE LR
Whitfield Avenue Widening	Environmental Design ROW Construction	Feb 2004	County County County/GDOT GDOT	EA/FONSI signed Feb 13 Preliminary plans on hold. ROW funded FY2005/06 COMMISSIONER STONE FY 2007

Diamond Causeway Widening and two bridges	Environmental Design ROW Construction	Unknown	County County GDOT GDOT	Draft EA signed Feb 05.  ROW FY 2007 COMMISSIONER STONE LR
Skidaway Road Widening	Environmental Design ROW Construction	Complete	County County County GDOT	Final EA signed 12.30.04 Change order or new contract needed for design to continue.
Bay Street from I-516 to Viaduct	Environmental  ROW Final Design Construction	Dec 2005  Feb 2007 Apr 2007 TBD	County  County County GDOT	Draft EA pending approval by GDOT.   COMMISSIONER STONE LR
US 80 Widening - Bull River to Lazaretto Ck - I-516 to Victory Drive	Environmental Environmental	Unknown Unknown	GDOT GDOT	COMMISSIONER STONE LR COMMISSIONER STONE FY 2007
White Bluff/Coffee Bluff	Environmental	Unknown	County	COMMISSIONER STONE LR
Eisenhower (Abercorn to Truman Parkway)	Environmental		County	Concept Report approved June 22, 2004.
Abercorn (Largo Drive to Rio Road)	Environmental		County	Concept Report pending approval.
NOTES: COMMISSIONER STONE = FY in which the projects are programmed for construction in the CUTS 2006-2008 TIP.				

**AGENDA ITEM: XIII-3 (Drainage)****DATE: February 10, 2006****TO:** Board of Commissioners**THRU:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager**FROM:** W. C. Uhl, P.E., County Drainage Engineer**ISSUE:** To provide information on the status of Chatham County drainage projects.**BACKGROUND:** For construction contracts that have been awarded, this report provides the latest scheduled completion dates. For projects pending

environmental permits, start dates are best estimates. All project scopes include varying degrees of canal widening, bank stabilization, larger bridges and culverts.

**FACTS AND FINDING:**

- (1) Pipemakers Canal
  - a. Phase 1 (From the outfall at Savannah River to SR 21). Double channel size, replace bridges, replace tidegate, and provide maintenance access.
    - i. The construction work is complete and the new sluice gates are now able to function automatically.
    - ii. Substantial completion was achieved on January 24, 2006. The engineer is monitoring the system and making operational adjustments.
  - b. Phase 2 (From SR 21 to I-95). Double channel size and provide maintenance access.
    - i. The permit application package and drawings for this project were returned to the consultant for corrections in early June 2005. Staff is still waiting on the consultant for the revised documents in order to assemble the required application package.
    - ii. A contract to install an access road between Phase 1 and SR21. Work will start when weather conditions permit.
  - c. Kahn Mitigation Site. The final mitigation package for Phase 2, which includes the Kahn Site, is being designed concurrently with Phase 2 design. Staff is waiting on the consultant to provide the final project documents.
  - d. Bridge Removal and Sheet Pile Wall Modifications. A project to remove the existing bridge (with the tidegates) restricting the flow of drainage from Pipemakers Canal into the Savannah River. Design is underway. As a result of higher than expected construction costs, based on preliminary designs, staff is discussing options with the Georgia Ports Authority.
2. Hardin Canal
  - a. Phase 1 (From SR307 to I-16). Widen channel and replace bridge crossings.
    - i. Efforts to acquire necessary permits from the USACE are ongoing. As a result of strong objections from various review agencies, staff is preparing the necessary materials to reapply for a separate permit to cover only the crossings at SR307.
    - ii. Crossings at SR307. Enlarging the crossings under Dean Forest Road (SR307). Design work is in progress.
  - b. Phase 2 (From I-16 to Pine Barren Road). Widen channel and construct a detention pond. No target construction date.
3. Westlake/Springfield Canal

- a. Phase 1. Crossing and channel improvements from Perimeter Road on Hunter Army Airfield downstream toward the Forest River. Completed January 2002.
  - b. Phase 2. Acquisition and removal of flood-prone properties are complete. Plans to provide access, site security and improve the outfall will be assembled by staff into a project to be constructed in 2006.
  - c. The railroad undercrossing Final Design Report has been approved. Staff is negotiating for access onto Hunter Army Airfield property (required for project construction). Other easements for construction are being acquired under the Louis Mills Drainage Improvement Project.
  - d. Perimeter Road Repairs. Staff requested HAAF to reimburse the County for the cost of the repairs. HAAF subsequently denied any responsibility and has refused to reimburse the County. Staff is considering options.
4. Placentia Canal
- a. Phase 1. Tidegate at Bonaventure Road. Completed February 1999.
  - b. Phase 2. Crossing and channel widening from Bonaventure Road to Shell Road in Thunderbolt. Completed October, 2002.
  - c. Placentia Beautification Project: Correction of a drainage problem along Tennessee Ave. and to improve the appearance of the canal near the Bonaventure Bridge. Negotiations for the necessary rights of way and easements are pending. Staff is proceeding with fencing modifications to improve access for the Department of Public Works.
5. Conaway Branch Canal (tributary of Pipemakers Canal) Widen channel with road crossing improvements and a maintenance road.
- a. Phase 1 includes channel improvements and crossing upgrades north of Main Street to Pipemakers Canal.
    - i. Phase 1A extends from Pipemakers Canal to Conaway road. Preliminary construction and right of way plans have been returned to the Consultant for corrections. Coordination with GDOT for the crossing at Highway 80 is ongoing. Wetland delineation approval and a Provisional Wetland Permit have been received from the USACE. Staff has directed the Consultant to proceed with the required mitigation.
    - ii. Phase 1B extends from Conaway Road to Main Street. Construction of these improvements is subject to available funding.
    - iii. Phase 1C includes the area west of Maple Street. Construction costs are to be funded by the City of Bloomingdale. Recommended improvements have been provided to the City of Bloomingdale.
  - b. Phase 2 includes improvements to system south of Main Street to Hardin Canal. These improvements are the responsibility of the City of Bloomingdale.

6. Little Hurst Canal Improve undercrossings at SR 21 and railroad, and widen channel downstream of SR21. A project to establish necessary rights of way and easements, and to acquire the required permits is being developed by staff. A contract for these professional services will be presented for approval upon completion of negotiations with the consultant.
7. Wilmington Park Canal
  - a. Phase 1. (Construction of tide gate) Completed September 2002.
  - b. Phase 2. Widen channel and improve culvert crossings under Wilmington Island Road.
    - i. Received permit from USACE on July 5, 2002. Project is under design, incorporating changes to reduce cost while still attaining storm water goals. Surveying for alternative route is complete. Review of preliminary report and recommendations is underway.
    - ii. Repairs of a slope stabilization problem by County Public Works have achieved satisfactory results. Further work does not appear to be required at this time.
8. Kings Way Canal Widen channel and enlarge culverts east of Whitfield Avenue to Vernon River.
  - a. Improvements to crossing of the canal under Whitfield were constructed as part of the Truman Parkway, Phase 4 project.
  - b. The issue concerning existing easements and rights of way has been resolved. The consultant has been directed to proceed with completion of the design.
9. Romney Place Drainage
  - a. Phase 1. Improve drainage along Central Avenue. Completed October 2001.
  - b. Phase 2. Improve storm drains and road crossings on Romney Place and along Parkersburg Road. Final design drawings are 95% complete. Permitting and acquisition of rights of way and easements will begin when the drawings are completed.
10. Village Green Canal
  - a. Phase 1. Upgrade culvert under Cambridge Drive. Completed October 1999.
  - b. Phase 2. Staff has accepted the consultant's recommendations for improvements. Wetland delineation has been approved by the USACE. Compilation of citizen drainage survey to help establish project need and purpose for permitting is complete.
11. Port Industrial Park Increase the capacity of the crossing under State Route 307 and improve the channel downstream to Pipemakers Canal.

- a. Design of the project to improve the canal downstream from SR307 to Pipemakers Canal is complete. The extension to the wetland permit has been obtained from the USACE.
  - b. The parcel upon which the project resides has been acquired by a developer. Staff is working with Garden City staff to coordinate approval of the proposed development with the needs of the project.
12. Louis Mills Canal Widen channel from Veterans Parkway downstream to outfall at Westlake Canal and improve crossing under Marshall Avenue. Design is complete. Acquisition of Easements and ROW is underway. Easements at the downstream end of this project will be used and are necessary for construction of the Westlake Undercrossing project (See item 3.c. above). The permit from the USACE has been obtained. Acquisition of easements is underway.
13. Redgate/Rahn Dairy A project to provide larger underdrains at several road crossings, canal widening and provisions for maintenance access.
  - a. This project will reduce stormwater flows in the Louis Mills system as well as provide improve drainage in the existing canal.
  - b. Preliminary design is complete. Acquisition of easements and permitting is underway.
14. Diggs Avenue Drainage (part of Louis Mills) This drainage improvement project involves improving drainage at the east end of Diggs Avenue. The required ROW has been obtained. Staff intends to initiate work, beginning with site clearing as soon as possible.
15. Ogeechee Farms
  - a. Phase 1. Improve internal collector system south of Vidalia Road. The project is complete and was accepted by the County in December 2005.
  - b. Phase 2. Improve road crossings at various locations.
    - i. The County has received the Section 404 wetlands permit from USACE. Mitigation requirements have been met.
    - ii. Due to budget constraints, project scope has been revised to include crossing improvements at various locations. Staff has requested a fee proposal from the Consultant for design of additional problem areas identified by Public Works.
16. Fawcett Canal
  - a. Phase 1. Widen channel and improve crossings from Georgetown downstream to crossing under Grove Point Road, and replace tide gate. Construction completed in August 2002. Other work to improve the function and appearance of the lagoons completed in May 2005.
  - b. Phase 2. Provide increased storm water drainage capacity in areas affecting Red Fox Drive and White Hawthorne Drive.

Acquisition of easements from the City of Savannah is complete. Final drawings are under review by staff. Easement acquisition and permitting will begin upon completion of the design.

17. Quacco Canal Drainage Improvements East of US17 (Formerly the Ecosystem Restoration Project) Improve Quacco Canal and associated road undercrossing capacities from US 17 to marsh, including removal of a private tidegate structure. The work is expected to reduce the 50-year flood level by about 2 feet at US17 and at the same time restore a salt marsh ecosystem to its original condition.
  - a. Efforts to acquire the permit from the USACE continues. Additional information required by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has been provided and a release obtained by that agency. A permit from USACE is expected.
  - b. Acquisition of easements is underway.
18. Quacco/Regency Park Storm collector improvements to relieve severity and frequency of flooding within community. The final Design Study Report final report has been approved. Final design work is underway.
19. Halcyon Bluff Subdivision Storm collector improvements to relieve severity and frequency of flooding within community. Construction is underway. Progress has been slower than anticipated, partially due to the Contractor's inability to provide adequate manpower on the project. Other significant causes of delay include the weather and slow responses by utility companies to relocate their facilities. Staff continues to work with the Contractor to address these issues.
20. Golden Isles Subdivision Storm collector improvements to relieve severity and frequency of flooding within community.
  - a. Phase 1. Outfall improvements completed 1997.
  - b. Phase 2. Improvements to collector system. Approval by Health Department to proceed with the project has been obtained. Right of way acquisition is complete.
  - c. Options to provide access for maintenance of the outfall are being evaluated. Staff has requested Consultant for a fee proposal for surveying services to determine limits of drainage right-of-way.
21. Georgetown Canal Upgrading roadway undercrossings to improve drainage capacity at St. Ives Way. A final inspection of the work has been delayed by the slow response by utility companies. Staff expects final inspection will occur in February 2006.
22. Wilmington Outfall A project to correct storm sewer drainage pipes between Wilmington Road and the Wilmington River. Design work is underway.

- 23. Henderson Channel and crossing improvements to alleviate flooding in the subdivision.
  - a. Brown Thrush Canal: Crossing and channel improvements on the canal parallel to Brown Thrush Road, from Al Henderson Blvd. to Little Neck Road. Survey and analysis are complete. Staff will develop project scopes and solicit proposals for design of recommended improvements, beginning with replacement of the Little Neck Road culvert.
  - b. Henderson Canal: Provide maintenance road for canal from Gateway Blvd. to Little Neck Road through wetlands. Wetland delineation has been approved by the USACE.
  
- 24. Walthour Canal at Off Shore A small project to improve the undersized culverts under the entrance road to the Off Shore Subdivision. Final construction documents have been received. Efforts continue to secure the necessary permits for the project. Staff is working to address concerns raised by the Coastal Resources Division of the Department of Natural Resources over impacts to marshland habitat that has grown in the manmade Walthour Canal.

**RECOMMENDATION:** For information.

Districts: All

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

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**4. MONTHLY STATUS REPORT ON NEW RECREATION RESOURCES (RAP).**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

A status report was attached for review.

**AGENDA ITEM: XIII-4**  
**AGENDA DATE: February 10, 2006**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager

**FROM:** Robert Drewry Director, Public Works and Park Services

**ISSUE:** Provide Board a status update on RAP and provide Turf Maintenance and Operation plan for Charlie Brooks Sports Complex

**BACKGROUND:**

At the Board's request, staff has developed a Recreational Action Plan (RAP) that best utilizes the \$500,000 allocated to Parks and Recreation for FY 06. It is staff's overall commitment to improve the visibility of the recreation facilities and the quality of recreational programs for the citizens of this community.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. To provide Board with a status update on RAP
2. To address the Charlie Brooks Park Turf Management Program:
  - Staff from Ga. Extension Services and Park Services met on 1/30/06 to examine equipment to be used at Charlie Brooks. Extension Staff recommended a heavier Core Aerator.
  - The Contractor has installed all of the infield sod.
  - The Contractor will maintain the turf for thirty days after installation.
  - In addition, a fertilization injection pump schedule will be provided by the vendor that the pump was purchased from.
  - Extension Services provided a copy of the latest publication on maintaining Bermudagrass Sports Fields, and is in the process of developing a Use Operation Plan to minimize over use of the new turf.
  - When schedule permits, an instructional class will be given to management and those staff members that did not attend the session at the Bamboo Farm.
3. The RAP is as Follows:

I **Personnel**

**Tasks:**

**1. Purchase equipment for Carpentry Crew:**

Purchased additional carpentry tools. The crew has begun making repairs as noted further in the update.

II **Facility Repairs**

**Task:**

**1. Lake Mayer**

- A. Replace roof on large pavilion.

- Mandatory pre-bid is scheduled for 2/28/06 with bid opening on 3/9/06.
- B. Renovate restrooms
  - Staff has started to replace old petitions, removal of all old rotten boards, and enclose all exposed pipes to improve the appearance of the restroom.
  - Facilities Maintenance and Operations will provide assistance with electrical and plumbing requirements.
  - Construct a hard roof on restrooms to replace fiberglass paneling. (Completed)
- C. Repairs Made at Lake Mayer
  - Repaired broken post in parking lot - (Completed)
  - Repaired walkways leading to large pavilion and restrooms. (Completed)
  - Handicap ramps are being replaced by in-house carpentry crew. (Completed)
  - Staff met with the Chairman to finalize plans of utilizing volunteers to assist with the painting of the restroom floors once improvements are completed.

## **2. Ambuc Park**

- A. Renovate restrooms
  - Staff has secured the needed material for the restroom renovation, and will move to Ambuc from Lake Mayer.
  - Painting of the concession building exterior has been completed.
- B. Reestablish baseball infields
  - Staff has hired a contractor to professionally lay down baseball infield mix to grade. Work begun is expected to be completed prior to the end of the month.
- C. Install concrete walks at concession building. (Completed)
- D. A pre-bid conference is scheduled on February 7<sup>th</sup> to replace the back stop fencing, and wooden dugouts.
- E. Replace score clocks. Score clocks have been ordered and are expected at any time.

## **3. L. Scott Stell Park/Jim Golden Complex**

- A. Renovate restrooms
  - Staff is currently securing the material cost to begin construction.
- B. Reestablish baseball infields.
  - Staff has hired a contractor to professionally lay down baseball infield mix to grade. Work is expected to begin within a two-week period.

- C. Install concrete walks at concession building
- D. A pre-bid conference is scheduled on February 7<sup>th</sup> to replace the back stop fencing, and wooden dugouts.
- E. Replace score clocks. Score clocks have been ordered and are expected at any time.
- F. Ran new wire to two score clocks
- G. Painting of the concession building exterior has been completed.

#### **4. Memorial Stadium**

- A. Replacement of the Plexiglass in Press Box has been completed
- B. Rejected bids for replacing restroom and locker rooms roof. Purchasing has new bid specs to send out a new Request for Bid.
- C. Repairs to the electrical lights and outlets have been completed.
- D. Repaired to the concession stands and vents on both sides of the stadium are completed.

#### **5. Frank W. Spencer Boat Ramp**

- A. Repairs to restroom and fishing pier decks have been completed.

### **III. Recreational Programs**

#### **Task**

- 1. Create a local sports panel of select coaches, parents, volunteers.**
- 2. The panel will solicit and recruit more teams for the baseball/softball recreation leagues with particular emphasis in the unincorporated neighborhoods.**
  - The first meeting of the Sports Panel was held on 1/31 with seven coaches in attendance.
  - Two additional coaches were unable to attend.
  - Commissioners Holmes and Farrell also were in attendance.
  - Staff recommended and will prepare a ballot sheet for the panel to select a Chairman and Vice Chairman.
  - Recommendations will be submitted to the Chairman/Vice Chairman to be presented to the County Staff to jointly implement.
- 3. In baseball/softball programs, an open division will be offered along with the recreational league to create**

**opportunities for youth to complete within their own skills and abilities.**

- Five middle schools have signed up to play in the Select Baseball League.
- Meetings have been scheduled for all Baseball and Softball Recreation Leagues.

**4. Take advantage of public school facilities for programs such as basketball when available.**

- Staff has secured Benedictine School Gymnasium for a Basketball Tournament that is scheduled for the first weekend in March.

**Funding:**

N/A

**FOR BOARD INFORMATION ONLY**

Various Districts

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Upon motion being made by Commissioner Thomas and seconded by Commissioner Odell, the Board recessed at 12:20 p.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 1:03 p.m.

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**ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**1. SALARY OF DISTRICT ATTORNEY**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Shay moved to increase the salary of the District Attorney to \$137,000. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter 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 Shay moved to approve a motion authorizing 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 Kicklighter 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 1:05 p.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