

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 2007, 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 9:35 a.m., Friday, February 23, 2007.

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II. INVOCATION

Commissioner David M. Gellatly 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: Priscilla Peay, a Sophomore at Memorial Day School, and Kathryn Pickney, a Sophomore at Groves High School.

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V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. EXPLANATION OF VOLUNTEER INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SEE ATTACHED STAFF REPORT).

Chairman Liakakis said, we have the information on that. Mr. Abolt or whoever is going to present it for the County.

County Manager Abolt said, I'd like to have Mr. Kaigler come forward and also in partnership with the Step-up Program, Mr. Daniel Dodd. This is a great benefit to a certain number of our employees and to Mr. Kaigler and Mr. Dodd and his — Mr. Kaigler's staff, I appreciate what they're doing to provide this service to folks in need.

Mr. Michael Kaigler said, good morning, Mr. Chairman and Commissioners. We just wanted to come before you this morning to kind of kick off our participation in the volunteer income tax preparation program. This is a national program that allows employers and other agencies to provide income tax services to their lower income employees. This program is beneficial. It allows people who make lower incomes — \$30,000 or less — to come in and we'll do their income taxes for them free of charge, and it also allows us to electronically file those taxes. It's supported by the IRS. The IRS provides training and the software to put this program on. We've got with us today Daniel Dodd with the Step-up and Mr. Edward Chisholm. Mr. Chisholm kind of heads up the local coalition of employers and groups that are participating in this program, and I'm going to let Daniel [Dodd] and Edward [Chisholm] kind of give you a little bit more information on the program.

Mr. Daniel Dodd said, good morning. You all have supported with work force and have worked with us with this construction apprentice program and you know how we work with employers, with Homebuilders Association being a main partner with that, and today I would really like to commend the County for really stepping up as an employer to work with addressing this issue, which is very important, just as important as work force development, which is asset development, and certainly the earned income tax credit which Mr. Chisholm, under his very capable hands, the coalition really has taken it to a new level working with volunteers in the community. And I'm going to actually pass it on to him, but I really would commend the Chatham County for really stepping up and hopefully this will set a precedent for other employers in our County to do the same. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis asked, Ed [Chisholm], would you like to say something.

Mr. Edward Chisholm said, good morning, Chairman Liakakis and Commissioners. Just to put this in the context, between ten and twelve million dollars a year go unclaimed in Chatham County for people that are eligible for the EITC, but they just don't claim it. We've been doing this for the last five years. There are twelve sites now. We did about 17,000 returns last year, about \$2.1 million of total returns, about \$1.2 million in EITC, but still that is a drop in the bucket of what's out there that should be coming to our families, especially our working families. Twelve million dollars is a lot of money, I don't have to tell you that, but we've been doing this for the last five years, so over the last five years you're talking about \$50 million that this community is now realizing. So we certainly thank you for becoming a part of the coalition. Thanks to Mr. Kaigler and the County for stepping forward and being a part of this, and anything that we can do to help, we're here to help. We do give out to the IRS, who's supplied the software. There's a \$2,000 investment, so that's \$2,000 times twelve, so they're putting in their funds. So we were certainly thankful to step up as well for their support and leadership.

Chairman Liakakis said, Ed [Chisholm], thank you very much. We appreciate you and Daniel Dodd for doing, you know, helping the citizens with this service to them. And, of course, we thank Michael Kaigler, who is the Human Resources Manager, that does an excellent job in these outgoing things that the County is involved in. And we hope, you know, this will be reported in the news media and hopefully that those people that are not taking advantage of this will come on board and it will be a good thing for them also. Thank you. Mr. Chisholm said, thank you.

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2. PROCLAMATION FOR ABILITIES UNLIMITED. RHONDA LANGFORD AND SOME OF THE ATHLETES WHO COMPETED IN THE WINTER WORLD SPECIAL OLYMPICS WILL BE HERE TO ACCEPT THE PROCLAMATION.

Chairman Liakakis said, right now I feel honored and privileged to have a proclamation for our Abilities Unlimited group because what they did was — recently was outstanding. In fact, I think our Abilities Unlimited group were top in the entire State of Georgia.

Chairman Liakakis said, this I'm going to read this proclamation now and I'd like for the coach there, the main coach to come forward right now, Rhonda Langford, so I can present this to her and, of course, if you'll stand up there also, Howard Cohen. Chairman Liakakis read the proclamation as follows:

WHEREAS, Chatham County is fortunate to have talented citizens that face challenges they overcome with triumph. Today, we salute Abilities Unlimited, a group of individuals that have brought pride to Chatham County as well as themselves; and

WHEREAS, Abilities Unlimited is designed to target local individuals who are physically and/or mentally challenged to give them the opportunity to enjoy the mental, physical, and social benefits of exercise; and

WHEREAS, in September, 2006, Coach Rhonda Langford was inspired to involve exceptional students from Savannah-Chatham County Public Schools with the President's Challenge - Physical Fitness and Sports Program and after communicating with the President's Challenge staff, Coach Langford's dream became a reality; and

WHEREAS, 24 athletes of Abilities Unlimited participated in the Special Olympic 2007 Georgia State Winter Games held in Marietta, Georgia, and performed outstandingly, earning the team 28 gold, 37 silver and 3 bronze medals.

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

ABILITIES UNLIMITED

for being the proud winners of 68 medals from the Special Olympics and for being Chatham County's champions. We urge all citizens to support Abilities Unlimited and the dynamic team that work with this group and let them know that they are special in our hearts as well as in the Olympics.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 23rd day of February 2007.

Pete Liakakis, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

Chairman Liakakis said, and if we can see out in the audience, members of Abilities Unlimited. I have been there a number of times out at the Center. I have seen them perform. They really beam. When you see people that have some restraints in their abilities and all, and they get up there and start lifting weights or do something else in the exercise program, you see it's made a difference to them. And how great they are because I think they've won more, if I'm not mistaken, that they have won more medals than any other team in the State of Georgia. Ms. Langford said, that's right. Chairman Liakakis said, and I appreciate them. [Applause.] Chairman Liakakis said, we want you to know that the Chatham County Commission and I'm sure all the citizens of Chatham County really, you know, support you and we want you to know that we are proud of you and thank you very much because you have brought another title to Savannah and you're working hard in your area of Abilities Unlimited and we're going to do the things that we want to continue to do to support you. We thank all the loved ones of yours, the families, the friends and your supporters for coming today and all, and what I'd like to do now is present this proclamation to the great coach, Rhonda Langford, who's done an outstanding job. If you go out to that facility and you see what happens out there, you'll be proud also. In fact, sometimes you can be

emotional with it when you see their accomplishments and how hard they work and the things they do, and I want you to know, Rhonda [Langford], we love you and we thank you very much for that. Rhonda, why don't you come up to the podium and make a statement please.

Ms. Langford said, this is a great honor for me to be here this morning with my team, which I'm honored to be the coach of. We couldn't do this without the support of our community, and it just shows the diversity of interest as our Chatham County Commissioners, and we appreciate this. I appreciate my athletes because without them there's no Abilities Unlimited, of course, and Chatham County, the things that they do for us, they have provided for us some vans for transportation, which really lightens our load when it comes to travel because we are self-supporting as far as that goes. Thank you and thank the parents, too, of these athletes because — and the care-givers. Without them it just would not be possible. I've never been turned down from any of the parents at all, anything I've ever asked them to do. Thank y'all so much for this honor. I'll display this at our gym as soon as I finish showing it off, and thank you, guys — all of you for coming. Thank you very much.

Mr. Howard Cohen said, I would like to thank the County Commissioners for all their support for our weightlifting facility. A number of years ago, after trying very hard to get a building established, we were able to have the Chatham County Commissioners agree to build our facility, and it was actually built for the group Team Savannah and it was a weightlifting facility, and through the years we have expanded it beyond just Olympic Weightlifting and we have a program there for all types of exercise, and after we were there for a couple of years, I had trained the Special Olympic Group and Rhonda [Langford] worked with me and I contacted Rhonda and asked her would she like to come to our facility, which is Chatham County's facility naturally, and work with the Special Olympics and she agreed to do that, and she's taken it way beyond the Special Olympics. You know, she talks about Abilities Unlimited. This is not just the Special Olympians. These are the people that have physical handicaps that cannot compete, cannot be here, but can go to the facility. We have places for them to work out, we have people to work with them, and I just can't tell you the great job that Rhonda Langford has done with those. She has raised it up until it's known all over Georgia, Chatham County and her group are known all over Georgia. Anyway, thank you very much for all your support and thank you, Rhonda [Langford].

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you again.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Youth Commissioner Kathryn Pickney.

Youth Commissioner Pickney said, I just wanted to say that their achievements are an inspiration to so many. People shouldn't let anything stop them from pursuing their potentials, and I think that just serves as a further reminder.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you. And, of course, again to you, Rhonda, and to your other coaches, we thank you very much because you're doing a vital service and helping many people in our community, and we thank you again for that. And let me say this now, I know that some of the athletes and all and the family members have to — have other engagements and all, so if you'd like, you can go ahead and leave right now because we've got an agenda here and we wouldn't want to keep you. You have the ability to leave now. Thank you.

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

Chairman Liakakis said, before we get to the next item, Van Johnson, who is the Director for our Youth Commission, the Chatham County Youth Commission, he has a report to make because he has another engagement for the County that he has to get to right away. So, Van [Johnson].

NOTE: Agenda Item XIII-3 was taken out of order and was heard at this point on the agenda.

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VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS**1. BOARD DIRECTION ON CIP AND DECISION PACKAGES. (PLEASE NOTE RELATED AGENDA ITEM IX-7 AND A REQUEST TO DRAW DOWN \$175,000 FOR JUVENILE COURT SEWER UPGRADE.)**

County Manager Abolt said, you reminded them in the pre-meeting, but I think you want to remind them in the official meeting regarding your suggestion that as far as capital improvements from each member of the Board, as well as thoughts on decision packages, I heard you say in the Green Room you'd like to have that submitted to you not later than the 5th of March. That would allow you then some time probably on the 23rd of March to make your decision as to how you wish to allocate those funds. Also you had the reminder, which I think you want to do publicly at this meeting because it is an official meeting of the Board, to announce that you'll be meeting with the Savannah City Council at eleven o'clock on Tuesday next week to be briefed by the Police Executive Research Forum and folks from UGA about an analysis of the Police Department.

Chairman Liakakis said, as was mentioned, we have some \$4,500,000 for CIP – Capital Improvement Programs. Approximately it has been mentioned about a million, a million and a half dollars for recreation, the different areas of the community, and also that we have less than \$400,000 now for the decision packages. Now, as we spoke about it in the pre-meeting, I'd like for all the Commissioners to have their input on the CIP and the decision packages back to me by March 5th concerning that so that we can move on and get it right on the agenda so that we can vote on those items. It's important that we get those voted on as soon as possible. Once receiving that, we'll tally them, we'll have a meeting on it, and then we'll have the voting.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Chairman Liakakis requested the Commissioners to have their thoughts on the CIP and the decision packages back to him by March 5, 2007.

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2. ANNOUNCE TIME AND PLACE FOR JOINT BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS/ SAVANNAH CITY COUNCIL BRIEFING BY PERF ON POLICE MATTERS.

Chairman Liakakis said, the second item, the time and place for the joint Board of County Commissioners and City Council members to come together for a briefing by PERF and the University of Georgia on their recommendations for the police, that will be held at the Coastal Georgia Center at eleven o'clock this coming Tuesday. So we want that in the records.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Chairman Liakakis reminded the Commissioners of the joint meeting with the members of the Savannah City Council on Tuesday, February 27, 2007, at 11:00 a.m., at the Coastal Georgia Center.

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VII. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS

1. NAMING OF TATEMVILLE OVERPASS (COMMISSIONER ODELL).

Chairman Liakakis said, I'd like to call on Commissioner Harris Odell for this item, naming of Tatemville Overpass.

Commissioner Odell asked, Miriam Pelote, would you come forward? Before I introduce Miriam — and Reverend. For many years a former Commissioner, who is now deceased, from the Fifth District, Commissioner Deanie Frazier labored and toiled for the Fifth District and there are many people of that district who have not forgotten the good things that she did, and there were many, many good things that Deanie [Frazier] did. And for those of you who did not have an opportunity to meet Deanie or know Deanie publicly, it was an absolute delight and pleasure. She was a character and would give you her very last, a very generous person. Mr. Law, Richard Law came to me about a little after Christmas and talked to me about many years ago the overpass in Tatemville was named the Deanie Frazier Overpass, and then her name was stricken from that, and he was forming a petition, going around talking to folks about having that named after former Commissioner Deanie Frazier. I should note that Mr. Law is a minister and like most ministers he teaches forgiveness and love, and he also teaches that there are so many more good things that came from Deanie's representation than the one thing that unfortunately will continue to come up. Having said that, I made a request based on Ms. Pelote's calling me and asking if I would have it put on the agenda. At that point, just by way of history, we wrote Mr. Abolt requesting the following. One is the overpass, it's my understanding, is maintained by the City of Savannah. County Manager Abolt said, yes sir. Commissioner Odell said, okay. Armed with that information, I'm going to turn it over to Ms. Pelote. I'm not certain if we have the authority — and Jon [Hart] is shaking his head like we don't — to name, but I do think that we have the authority to present a resolution to the City of Savannah. If your comments could be less than the ones I've made, that would be great.

Ms. Miriam Pelote said, okay. Come now, let us —. The Clerk said, would you identify yourself. Ms. Pelote said, I am Miriam Pelote and I live in the Fifth District. Come now, let us reason together. I'm reminded that let all things be done decently and in order and you will have that. To Judge Pete Liakakis and our distinguished County Commissioners, we'd like to thank you for the opportunity of coming before you to speak on behalf of concerned citizens for putting history back in its place by placing the name of Deanie Frazier to the overpass on Staley Avenue. Who is Deanie Frazier? I have a few — to the new Commissioners, I have a few accolades for you to remember or to know who she really is. May I have your permission to pass these out to the nine? Thank you. Today we humbly come before you to put history back in the books to the beautiful structure that you so diligently worked for with the late Deanie Frazier. When a structure is built and the ground is all clear away with debris and rubbish, even the memories we hold dear. We start anew where all is well for a firm foundation to build on for history to tell. From the plans to the blueprint, a structure is named and it's all good. You've spent the taxpayers' dollars as you should. The shovels are ordered, sometimes silver or glittered in gold. You've worked for the County citizens as the work unfolds. We then marvel at the handiwork that we hope will last. We forget all that happened underground in the past. The citizens of Chatham County is [sic] proud. There's a dedication with prayer that's sent by the crowd. The Commissioners of Chatham County, Georgia, we come fresh and new to correct this decision brought before you. When a structure is named, common educational sense at the most, where plans are made and sought out by you and the Chairman the host. When driving over the structure a sigh of victory is won. Chatham County Commissioners with Deanie, well done, well done. She's resting with her Lord and Savior, but we're here to see a correction from this Commission from the course of history. It is usually a custom we look to a leader that is God-fearing or with letters behind the name, and if that isn't the case, lack of knowledge was the blame. But you are a body of folks that make decisions and answer in self-defense. You do your homework and the best of your ability you use common sense. Let's use common sense today because history is already there, transferring the responsibility to someone else for a burden you bear. When in the course of history do you name a structure and then take it back we ask. From the vote to dedication and repair to reconstruction, the name will last.

We ask you today to look at what may perhaps be placed in the City's hand, let's present to them a correction and make a positive stand. If a proposal to City Council is what we need, then this Commission should take initiative and plant the seed. We may not always understand, but on this proposal may we unite for a common bond to history and make it right. From an old cliché, give me my flowers while I can smell them, I quote, let's continue on a positive note. This bridge gave the surrounding community much, much more. Let's settle this matter and then close that door. This historical structure shows God's handiwork in all it's glory, and a sit by the fireplace and tell the grandchildren about the 50's-to-now story.

We would like to thank you for taking the time to hear the voice of the people, far and near. I'm sorry can be avoided, this is something you won't have to say when your voted conscience is clear as you work out here today, and we'll be proud that you sit in that chair that we voted for a Commission that's humble and fair. We'll truly say without fear, this Commission is strong-willed, honest and to what they hear. We are convinced that you'll do the right thing to correct the problem when before you an issue we bring. You'll smooth out the curves and make it straight, while waiting out the evidence and please, please don't hesitate. This is also due to Deanie's family. They've done without her as she worked for her constituents — you and me. They have endured her long hours, dedication, all of this. Let's give back

for the time they've missed. Besides being a Commissioner, so much she gave. Food to the homeless and a prayer of hope for lives to save. We owe her adult children and the grands a course in Georgia history, where she took a positive stand. Black history is celebrated in February with passion, compassion and love. Let's embrace her work as a tight-fitted glove by honoring the name, the Deanie Frazier Overpass, back in history. Let's forget the negative and remember may the work I've done speak for me. Thank you.

The Rev. Dr. Leonard Small said, quickly, gentlemen, I was here when it was named for her. I'm Reverend Dr. Leonard Small and I am a member of the Fifth District and a lifelong friend of Deanie Frazier. Among those — there are several of us here — among those, my mother who was a recent honoree for the Martin Luther King Day Parade, Mrs. Mamie Williams. I was here when it was named for Deanie. I was here protesting when they took her name off. Now I've heard that there's a glitch in whether we can do this or not. There was no such glitch when they took her name off. It was voted among the Commissioners here in this very place. The key is this. It's a wound that won't go away in our community. We opposed it at the time. We oppose it now. We'll probably oppose it in the future if it's not done because it was wrong. It wasn't fair. We have items in this community that would bother all of us. The tallest monument in the City of Savannah is a Confederate memorial. I'm a black man. I haven't asked that it had to be taken down or moved away. It's a shame for me. Had those efforts been successful, I might very well be standing here a slave. We have schools named after Confederate generals, Francis Bartow among them. But we don't take these things [inaudible]. The very bridge we travel over to go to South Carolina is named for a man that opposed integration with venom. But we have not protested it coming down. But somehow, somehow, this happened. It's a good thing for this Commission, particularly those who I know who are here, who are conciliatory, who are men who try to make things right, to take this opportunity to heal a wound, to soothe a cancer, to allow some peace and harmony to be put back in our community. The people of this district are among those who feel this care. We went in Liberty City — I grew up there — if we got sick and had to go to Memorial Hospital on Staley Avenue, many times we would run into a train. A pregnant woman might have to turn and go back around and have a baby on the way to the hospital. Deanie understood it. She fought for it tooth and nail and she stood next to some of you guys on that day when they actually dedicated that bridge. So we ask you to consider this by resolution or proclamation, but please get it done. Thank you.

Mr. Chester Dunham said, good morning. My name is Chester Dunham and I wear a group a hats. One is that I'm proud of and that's President of the Local Chapter of the A. Phillip Randolph Institute here, which is a national organization, and I do have a radio talk show now that I'm proud of and pushing that, but what I want to say is that I was involved with Ms. Pelote and Rev. Small and other groups at that time when we were trying to get support in order to name the bridge, the overpass. But to the Bible scholars here — 'm just going to say this and I'm going to sit down — and I thought this morning about in Biblical terms, we have the Old and New Testament of the Bible, and if we think about the Old Testament, which I would say it's a lot of history, and the laws and things that they had in the Old Testament none of us would have never be able to get to heaven or inherit internal life according to the scripture. But it was Jesus who came in the New Testament and changed all of this, and I thought about one portion of the scripture where — and He's not talking about what type of sin, but in sin, He's just talking about sin — and it was one place in the Bible where Jesus writing on the ground and a group of Pharisees and other men came to him and said, "Master, we have cut this woman and she was involved in an adulterous situation," and the Master continued writing on the ground as the scripture said, and He said, "Well,

where are thine accusers?" As He continued to write, they couldn't find the accuser and He said to them, He said — well, at that time the situation like that they would stone you to death, and he just continued to write and He said, "He without sin cast the first stone." And what happened is the scripture said that everybody else went away sorry, you know, and they were sorry, but I was saying that because I know you are a group of individuals, we think about all of these things. So whatever happened we definitely want your support because this community, of all of our victims — it belongs to all of us as a part of this community. What affects one, affects the other. Thank you very much.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Youth Commissioner Pickney.

Youth Commissioner Pickney asked, for my reference I would like to know what year the former Commissioner Frazier served. Does anyone recall? Commissioner Odell said, I think it's in the book that passed and I'll give you a copy of this. Youth Commissioner Pickney said, okay. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis asked, Priscilla [Peay], did you want to comment?

Youth Commissioner Peay said, yes. I was wondering why did Deanie Frazier's name get stricken from the —. Commissioner Thomas asked, the what?

Chairman Liakakis said, why was her name stricken. Well, what occurred was there was a accusation that she had sold drugs and she pleaded in court. It was not a felony, but it was a misdemeanor that she was being charged with. Well, the person that testified that brought accusations against her, you know, in court and whatever with the authorities, and so she got convicted and spent a short time in the Federal system. Well, shortly thereafter when she went there, they found out that the woman who testified, you know, who accused her about selling drugs was lying, and she went to jail for perjury. She went to jail, the person accusing her of selling drugs. So we want all the community to know that because that is not known countywide, you know, in that situation. So that's the thing that was a sad state that someone would come up and, you know, and accuse somebody of something and telling a lie in a Federal Court, you know, against an individual. But Harris [Odell] and then — Priscilla [Thomas], go ahead.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission. You said part of what I wanted to reiterate because the truth has to be told and understood. It was not the decision of the Commission at that time to come up with that decision to have her name removed. It was removed because of the statement that this person had given through the judicial system. And that was the reason why that was done. Having said that, I want to also — and it's not petty, but I'd just like to say to Dr. Small — you addressed the Commissioners as gentlemen. The Rev. Dr. Small said, I apologize. Commissioner Thomas said, I'm sorry, I am a woman. The Rev. Dr. Small said, I thoroughly apologize. Commissioner Thomas said, and we have another woman over here, and I will not let you get by with that because, you know —. The Rev. Dr. Small said, yes ma'am. Commissioner Thomas said, okay, let's clear that up. Thank you. The other thing is that I had the pleasure of serving with former Commissioner Deanie Frazier. When I first came on board in 1990, I met this young woman who was so exuberant and everything that I heard from her, she was working hard, "my people, I want to make sure my people get what they deserve," and there was not a meeting that she wasn't working hard to try to make sure that something was brought back to her people, and she also gave me a lot of information. She helped me in a lot of ways, and I appreciate that fact. So what I'm saying here this

morning is that a lot of times misinformation, miscommunication has caused a lot of people to go down on a negative side as opposed to the positive side. So now what we need to do is to right the wrong, look at it from a positive standpoint and go forward, and that's what I wanted to say.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Odell.

Commissioner Odell said, Dr. Thomas, in a few moments I'm going to make a motion that we change the name or name the Tatemville Overpass in honor of former Commissioner Deanie Frazier. Would you be so kind as to second —. Commissioner Thomas said, I'll second it. Commissioner Odell said, when I make —. Having said that, I agree with what Dr. Small said. You know, people want us to have their heros. I think we have an obligation to pick our own heros, and Deanie is the only person I think in South Georgia who's ever been convicted of a misdemeanor marijuana charge who spent four months in prison. I mean, when I handled drug cases I've had people to come in with carloads of drugs. They were given probation. Deanie Frazier was not treated fairly and the Fifth District has always been a kind of —, I mean, we are spicy. We are a spicy district, and Deanie was spicy. But Deanie said some things that needed to be said. Now we come off as if we're equal, but we have not always been equal, we've not always been treated fair. The institutions which protected everyone else did not protect us. We needed people like Deanie to make bold statements, who was unafraid, who was arrested during the civil rights movement, and the fact that she had this contrived charge misdemeanor which she did four months in prison for I think is appalling. I think we all should be ashamed that this happened. Miriam [Pelote] and I talked for an extended period of time and Deanie and I — Deanie in fact convinced me to running — to run for political office. I was more content to sue the County than be part of the policymaking, and Deanie and I were in TJ Maxx and I think Deanie had a fresh pack of chewing gum. She was working it, and she convinced me while looking at blue jeans that I needed to run for public office and you needed to forget about yourself and your family, that we are all one another's brothers and sisters. We are our brothers and sisters. That was Deanie Frazier, and the fact that she had this blemish to me does not change the overwhelming good that she did. I'm not daunted. I had been instructed that if I do this it will be political suicide. But news flash! I never thought about being a politician forever to start with. This is not me. I have a life independent of this. I refuse not to do that which is just, just for the benefit of being re-elected. It can be taken and shoved. I think what happened to Deanie was unfair, unjust. I'm offended that she spent four months in jail when real hardened criminals did not. She was treated unfairly because she spoke up, and let it be written, I'm making a motion that we change the name to the Deanie Frazier Overpass, and if we are without authority to make that change because it's now maintained by the City of Savannah, then I move that this motion be converted to a resolution to be sent to the Mayor and City Council so that they will know. This lady is dead. Isn't it time that we start to forgive? She did some good things and for those people who knew here, you couldn't be — you had to be passionate about Deanie. Deanie made you passionate about issues and I'll make the motion —. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Commissioner Odell said, Dr. Thomas second.

Chairman Liakakis asked, do you accept the change in that —. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Any other comments? Do you want to comment?

Commissioner Gellatly said, I'll go last if someone else wants to comment. Chairman Liakakis said, well, I wanted to speak up, but I'll hold it for you. Commissioner Gellatly said, well, I knew — Deanie Frazier

was one of the first people that I ever met when I came to Savannah as a new Chief of Police, and Deanie was not a perfect woman. She was a woman at times that when I knew I had a meeting with her, I'd rather go to hell than meet with that woman. But after saying all of that, I would have to tell you that there was never a more dedicated person to her community, to her entire community — the white and the black community. She was a woman that totally supported the police department even when it wasn't popular to do so, even — Reverend, you can remember when we had some shootings that we got a lot of headlines on. She was one of the first ones there wanting to know how the officer that did the shooting, how he or she was doing. She always supported me personally. I know that she always supported Sheriff St. Lawrence very strongly when he was Chief and then Sheriff. I found that she was certainly a woman of high energy and certainly not a woman that I always agreed with, but there was no mistake she had the best interest of her community, and again I say the entire community. She did lots of good things in the white community. She really didn't make that distinction, and she was a personal friend of mine, I think and I know, and she always supported the right thing to do, even when it wasn't popular to do. I will support this resolution.

Chairman Liakakis said, and I knew Deanie for many years and I remember her when we would have some kind of thing where there was a hurricane somewhere, where there was flooding or there was some other charitable things in our community. Deanie was not a rich person, but she was an outgoing individual that really helped people and she would go out and ask people for donations or contributions to help somebody that was homeless, somebody that was poor, people that really needed help in her community, and she had an untiring effort in doing those things to help those people, especially those that could not help themselves. We can see, you know, from her history about how outgoing she was and, as Commissioner Odell was saying, you know, we're our brother's keeper. She really believed that and it wasn't nothing just only in the African-American community but all. She served all the people in this community while she was there and even not on the Commission, and she was a very loving individual. I know her personally and in fact I ate a number of times in her restaurant she had on Barnard Street. You know, she made some of the best crab cakes that you could ever have, and I see some people in the back there I think, you know, in the back another elected officials where we ate her crab cakes that she had.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, Mr. Chairman, I just wanted to make a couple of quick comments. When I read this on the agenda, I was very concerned. I thought, you know, what kind of a precedent is this going to set if someone who has served time in prison and we're naming this overpass or renaming this overpass for them. It was a concern of mine; however, I always consider myself a person with an open mind, and coming into this meeting today it's true, I did not know Ms. Frazier. I did know that she sat on the Commission, but in listening to all the facts you have overwhelmingly convinced me that this is the right thing to do. I was worried about it, I was worried of what message we're going to send, but the information that you all have taken the time to put together and listening to my fellow Commissioners here today, I think you made some very valid points and I will support this resolution and I thank you for the information.

Chairman Liakakis recognized County Attorney Hart.

County Attorney Hart said, yes. I, like you, frequented Frazier's restaurant more than I care to admit, the same point that you always came out full. Commissioner Odell said, yeah, we knew you'd go over there, Jon [Hart]. County Attorney Hart said, I have a lot of fond memories, but Commissioner Odell has put his finger on a point, a legal point that I would be remiss if I didn't bring to the attention of the Board, which is this overpass now rests within the jurisdiction of the City of Savannah and it would be long-term somewhat awkward to say the least if municipalities in the County started naming facilities in each other's jurisdiction. Traditionally we have honored that and so have all the municipalities. I think a resolution from this Commission would certainly be appropriate, if that's the will of the Commission, and then submit that to the City of Savannah for their appropriate consideration.

Commissioner Odell said, that's agreeable, but we want to make certain that Deanie was one of us. She was on this Commission and I think one of her dearest friends was Susan Weiner and Al St. Lawrence. Although she was a Democrat, Deanie had as many Republican friends as she did Democrat. She was a people's person who generally loved people. Whatever we need to do, if it's by way of resolution then let it be resolved that we are submitting it to the City with the hopes that they will put it on their agenda to be voted up or down and to allow public discussion and discourse. I mean, that's the fair thing to do. We built that overpass with SPLOST money, but because the overpass now is maintained by the City and it's within the City's jurisdiction, what we're going to do is to send a resolution to the Mayor and City Council recommending that the name be changed to the Deanie Frazier and if they'll — and I'll say it for the record — I know that we're going to have some opposition from maybe one or two people on City Council, but I'll be happy to come as a member of the Commission or just as Harris Odell, the Fifth District Commissioner. I think it's time that we buried the hatchet and we espouse a lot of Christian doctrine, but it's not what you say, it's what you do, and we need to do the right thing by this lady and her family. Are any of — is Deanie, any of her children here? Can you stand up? And what is your name? Ms. Frazier said, my name is Jeannine Frazier and I'm her daughter-in-law, married to her own son, David Frazier. Her daughters are in Atlanta and my husband works for the Sheriff's Department and I'm here for the family.

Commissioner Odell said, and Leonard [Small] you had indicated that your mom is here. The Rev. Dr. Small said, yes. Commissioner Odell said, okay. And you received an award from the Martin Luther King Day Committee? Mrs. Williams said, yes. Commissioner Odell asked, you were the —? Mrs. Williams said, the [inaudible] Marshal. Commissioner Odell said, you were Marshal, yeah. The Rev. Dr. Small said, Civil Rights Marshal. Commissioner Odell said, well, welcome. Mrs. Williams said, Civil Rights Marshal. Commissioner Odell said, Civil Rights Marshal. Mrs. Williams said, and Deanie was the youngest one working with us in the civil rights, but the [inaudible] Hosea Williams, she was the youngest person in that group. Commissioner Odell said, come up just and — I'm not going to belabor it, but come up just for a moment, okay. Commissioner Odell said, before you get started, I just have one question for you really. Can you move the mike down for her? The Rev. Dr. Small said, yeah, sure. Commissioner Odell asked, how did a beautiful lady like you have Reverend Small? Don't answer it, don't answer it.

Commissioner Odell said, you were saying that Deanie was one of the youngest —. Mrs. Williams said, she was the youngest one along with the civil rights with W. W. Law, Hosea Williams and Frances Bright, and all of those persons, Addie Byas, and all of those persons, but Deanie was the youngest one with the whole group. I was the person that going to school and hear — cool things down when they was

integrating the schools, and believe it or not I have the picture — Reverend Small was one of them — I have the picture where they was integrating Tybee Beach. I have the pictures of the fellows, the children. I have the pictures of what those persons, not just [inaudible], Ms. Garrison, W. W. Law, Bobby Hill, Addie Byas, especially Frances Bright because she would be the one to speak out so much in which they're having — and Hosea Williams really was one who helped open up all these things. Mr. Law did his part, but Hosea [Williams] did another part. Hosea was the won who brought Martin Luther King in Savannah. Commissioner Odell said, Frances Bright — Mrs. Williams said, I'm a member of the Savannah Beauty Conscious League. I was the President and we was the hostess to Rev. Martin Luther King. Commissioner Odell said, Frances Bright spent — Mrs. Williams said, yes. Commissioner Odell said, — 50 — she went to jail 56 times in marches right here in the City of Savannah. Mrs. Williams said, yes, she went to jail. A lot of kids went to jail. Nathaniel — Commissioner Thomas said, but Frances [Bright] was — Mrs. Williams said, Nathaniel Small and Rev. Small went to jail right along with Hosea [Williams], but they took them to the Juvenile and they took Hosea to the jail, and believe it or not Madam Cargo, she's the one helped bail them out. Of course, when I went for my two children to the Juvenile, Nathaniel Small and Leonard, they said they was having such a good time playing basketball, they wondered why I came there to get them out. But it's a good history. Commissioner Odell said, and we appreciate those comments. We've got one more?

Mr. Ernest Major, Jr., said, good morning, ladies and gentlemen. My name is Ernest Major, Jr., and I'm President of the Lamarville Association and I come in support of naming the bridge for Ms. Frazier because I experienced what a lot of people experience. I worked for the railroad for 38 years and a lot of people was telling me, "Mr. Major, y'all got to do something; the train be coming, the ambulance be coming and people be blocked up there. We need to do something." So I called Ms. Frazier on occasion when I was working for the railroad and asked her can we get an overpass over there and she said, "Mr. Major, I'm working on it; I'm going to do the best I can, but I promise you one way or another that overpass will be built," and she was always a woman of her word and when I called her or asked her for anything, Deanie would return your call, she would give you a good answer and if anything she could do to help you, she would, and she made the people of Lamarville and Liberty City that promise of that overpass and it was done. And I thank y'all very much.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you. Harris [Odell], would you like to change your motion for the resolution?

Commissioner Odell said, yeah, it was a conversion motion. Jon [Hart], do I need to amend the motion. County Attorney Hart said, not as long as it's understood y'all would — Commissioner Odell said, yeah, the motion was that if we had the authorization to do it, then the motion would move forward; if we didn't, then it converts to a resolution.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. All right, we have a motion on the floor and a second for this resolution to be sent to the City of Savannah. 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, okay, the motion passes. Commissioner Odell said, unanimously.

Chairman Liakakis said, the folks that came here today, I want you to know that Reverend Mitchell spoke to some of the Commissioners earlier this morning, but he had to attend a service and so I wanted to let you know he was here also.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved that the Board adopt a resolution to change the name of the Tatemville Overpass to the Deanie Frazier Overpass and that a resolution be sent to the Mayor and City Council of the City of Savannah. 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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VIII. TABLED/RECONSIDERED ITEMS

<p>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 (*).</p>

- 1. TO ADOPT A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE CHATHAM COUNTY PERSONNEL ORDINANCE AND PROCEDURES MANUAL, POLITICAL ACTIVITY, ARTICLE III-106, TO PROHIBIT A COUNTY EMPLOYEE FROM HOLDING ELECTED OFFICE. *Tabled at meeting of November 17, 2006. Re-tabled at meeting of December 15, 2006.***

Chairman Liakakis said, there is no motion to reconsider or take it off the table.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

This motion was not untabled for consideration by the Board of Commissioners.

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

Commissioner Odell said, Mr. Chairman, with the permission of you and the Commissioners, move Item 3 up because my baby daughter had surgery and I think she is going to be released from the hospital and I'd like to go pick her up and her mom, who's spent two days sleeping on a hospital cart, and take them home. And the item is Item 3, Board consideration of Tax Commissioner's budget needs.

Chairman Liakakis said, all right, that's Item 3 then. Commissioner Farrell said, I second that motion. Chairman Liakakis said, all in favor of moving Item 3 up, let's go on the board. The motion carried

unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

NOTE: Item IX-3 was taken out of order and was heard at this point on the agenda.

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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. TO REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING: (1) AMENDMENTS TO THE GENERAL FUND M&O BUDGET TO: A) TRANSFER \$13,000 FROM CONTINGENCY TO THE SHERIFF'S BUDGET FOR SITE IMPROVEMENTS AND B) TRANSFER \$114,140 FROM SPECIAL APPROPRIATIONS TO CONTINGENCY, (2) AN AMENDMENT TO THE CONFISCATED REVENUE FUND TO TRANSFER \$8,000 FROM THE POLICE DEPARTMENT CONTINGENCY FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE EMERGENCY DISPATCH CENTER, (3) AN AMENDMENT TO THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM TO TRANSFER \$100,000 FROM M&O CONTINGENCY TO THE CEMA WARNING SIRENS PROJECT, (4) A SALES TAX I FUND BUDGET AMENDMENT TO DISTRIBUTE FUNDS TO PROJECTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ATTACHED SCHEDULE, AND (5) AMENDMENTS TO THE SALES TAX IV FUND BUDGET TO (A) DISTRIBUTE FUNDS TO PROJECTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ATTACHED SCHEDULE AND (B) CREATE TWO CHILD SUPPORT SECURITY POSITIONS IN THE COURTHOUSE PROJECT, AND (6) AN AMENDMENT TO THE SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND TO TRANSFER \$5,100 FROM CONTINGENCY TO BUILDING SAFETY AND REGULATORY SERVICES FOR HVAC REPLACEMENT.**

Chairman Liakakis asked, do we have a motion on the floor for approval? Commissioner Gellatly said, motion to approve. Commissioner Stone said, second. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor to approve. Let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes, Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Gellatly moved to approve the following: (1) amendments to the General Fund M&O budget to: a) transfer \$13,000 from Contingency to the Sheriff's budget for site improvements and b) transfer \$114,140 from Special Appropriations to Contingency, (2) an amendment to the Confiscated Revenue Fund to transfer \$8,000 from the Police Department Contingency for improvements to the

Emergency Dispatch Center, (3) an amendment to the Capital Improvement Program to transfer \$100,000 from M&O Contingency to the CEMA Warning sirens project, (4) a Sales Tax I Fund budget amendment to distribute funds to projects in accordance with the attached schedule, and (5) amendments to the Sales Tax IV Fund budget to (a) distribute funds to projects in accordance with the attached schedule and (b) create two Child Support Security positions in the Courthouse project, and (6) an amendment to the Special Service District Fund to transfer \$5,100 from Contingency to Building Safety and Regulatory Services for HVAC replacement. Commissioners Stone and Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes, Odell and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-1**AGENDA DATE: February 23, 2007****TO:** Board of Commissioners**THRU:** R.E. Abolt, County Manager**FROM:** Linda B. Cramer, Finance Director

ISSUE: To request approval of the following: (1) amendments to the General Fund M&O budget to: a) transfer \$13,000 from Contingency to the Sheriff's budget for site improvements and b) transfer \$114,140 from Special Appropriations to Contingency, (2) an amendment to the Confiscated Revenue Fund to transfer \$8,000 from the Police Department Contingency for improvements to the Emergency Dispatch Center, (3) an amendment to the Capital Improvement Program to transfer \$100,000 from M&O Contingency to the CEMA Warning sirens project, (4) a Sales Tax I Fund budget amendment to distribute funds to projects in accordance with the attached schedule, (5) amendments to the Sales Tax IV Fund budget to (a) distribute funds to projects in accordance with the attached schedule and (b) create two Child Support Security positions in the Courthouse project, and (6) an amendment to the Special Service District Fund to transfer \$5,100 from Contingency to Building Safety and Regulatory Services for HVAC replacement.

BACKGROUND:

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

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- 1) The Sheriff has requested funds for site improvements to the firing range and training center. A General Fund M&O contingency transfer of \$13,000 is needed.
- 2) The Board of Commissioners approved a transfer of \$250,000 from General Fund M&O Contingency to Special Appropriations for a compensation study at the August 25, 2006 meeting. The contract for the study was awarded on February 9, 2007 in the amount of \$135,860. The balance of \$114,140 is available for transfer back to contingency.

- 3) The Chief of Police has requested an appropriation of confiscated funds for improvements to the Emergency Dispatch Center. A Confiscated Revenue Fund contingency transfer of \$8,000 is requested.
- 4) The Board of Commissioners approved funding for warning sirens at their meeting held February 9, 2007. A \$100,000 M&O contingency transfer to the CEMA Warning Sirens Project is needed.
- 5) Schedules to amend the distribution of funds among projects in Sales Tax I are attached. These schedules distribute interest earnings brought forward from FY2006.
- 6) The attached schedules amend the distribution of funds among the projects in Sales Tax IV. These schedules include Board action through the February 9, 2007 meeting.
- 7) There is a need to create two positions for security at Child Support. The positions will be paid through the SPLOST IV Courthouse project. Should the equipment be transferred for use in another fund at a later date, appropriate reimbursement to Sales Tax IV will be required based on the depreciated value. Correspondence is attached.
- 8) An HVAC unit at the Chatham County Annex needs to be replaced. The \$10,200 cost will be divided between the Tax Commissioner and Building Safety and Regulatory Services budgets. A transfer of \$5,100 From SSD contingency to Building Safety and Regulatory Services is needed. Copies of correspondence are attached.

FUNDING: Funds are available in the General Fund M&O, Capital Improvement Program, Confiscated Funds, and Special Service District contingencies, the Sales Tax I, and Sales Tax IV funds for the transfers.

ALTERNATIVES:

- (1) That the Board approve the following:

GENERAL FUND M&O

- a) a transfer \$13,000 from Contingency to the Sheriff's budget for site improvements,
- b) a transfer of \$114,140 from Special Appropriations to Contingency.

CONFISCATED REVENUE FUND

transfer \$8,000 from the Police Department Contingency for improvements to the Emergency Dispatch Center.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUND

transfer \$100,000 from M&O Contingency to the CEMA Warning sirens project.

SALES TAX I FUND

an amendment to distribute funds to projects in accordance with the attached schedule.

SALES TAX IV FUND

- a) an amendment to distribute funds to projects in accordance with the attached schedule.
- b) create two Child Support Security positions in the Courthouse project.

SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND

transfer \$5,100 from Contingency to Building Safety and Regulatory Services.

- (2) Amend or deny the request.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

State law grants the Board authority to amend 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. VERBAL BRIEFING BY COUNTY ENGINEER ON FLOOD HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, annually this County Commission and to the staff and Engineering Department have assured that homeowners save hundreds of thousands of dollars in the homeowner's premium because we manage with such detail and with such accuracy the flood maps, and living in a low-lying portion of our country we realize that absent good information, the people would be paying a heck of a lot more because they think they might live in a certain area, but they don't. And it's very important for us with accuracy to forecast the risk exposure. You know, we have an outstanding Engineer in Mr. Bungard, the Senior Engineer Mr. Grevemberg, but we also have the person that serves kind of quietly, but over the years has been recognized for his outstanding work in the accuracy of recording and maintaining our flood maps. That gentleman is Mr. Michael Blakely. Mr. Blakely is here before you today to make a presentation.

Mr. Blakely said, good morning. Thank you, Mr. Abolt. Mr. Chairman and Commissioners, again my name is Michael Blakely and I'd like to take just a few minutes of your time this morning to talk to you about the Department of Engineering's efforts to revise the Flood Mitigation Plan while combining that with CRS Planning. What are the mitigation planning objectives? Well, in general, the mitigation planning objectives is to reduce or eliminate long term risk to people and property from hazards and to protect the environment. We accomplish this through planning and preparation. The Community Rating System's planning objectives are to protect public health and safety, minimize damage to structures and content to try to prevent new construction from causing flood damage to adjacent properties, to reduce erosion and to also protect the environment.

Mr. Blakely said, the initial Flood Mitigation Plan was adopted on December 7, 2001, by the Commission. That plan remained in effect for five years with a series of required annual revisions by FEMA. It is now time for that plan to be revised and updated in accordance to the new 2006 NFIP CRS Coordinators Manual. This revised plan is due to be submitted to FEMA by October 1 of this year.

The Basis for Planning. The planning process is being developed with consideration of various Federal grant programs and the Georgia DOT, the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and our own local codes and ordinances, as well as Emergency Management activities.

The Planning Process. FEMA's CRS ten step planning process offers a possible 294 credits. The more points we acquire, the better insurance premium discounts we can offer to unincorporated Chatham County policyholders. The ten steps listed directly relate to the development of the plan. According to FEMA's requirements, our plan must address each of these ten steps.

Organize to Prepare the Plan. The first step of the planning process is to prepare the plan. This activity is worth a maximum of ten points. The Mitigation Planning Committee currently consists of members from the Engineering Department, CEMA and the MPC. This is a list of the current committee members with the MPC staff person to be provided to us later.

Involving the Public. This activity is worth a total of 85 CRS points. In this activity we can maximize our efforts by reaching out to not only the general public, but to homeowners associations and repetitive loss flood areas as well. The more public involvement that we have, the more points we acquire. However, we are required to hold at least one public meeting at the end of the planning process to allow for public comment.

Coordination With Outside Agencies. This activity is worth 25 points and requires input from outside agencies and adjacent communities. Once we have completed our final draft of the Flood Mitigation Plan, we will submit a copy of the plan to the listed agencies and local governments for review and comment.

Assess the Hazard Risk Assessment. This activity is worth a possible 20 points. The amount of credit provided depends on our level of describing the hazard, discussion of past flood events and the maps that we provide to FEMA in our plan.

Chairman Liakakis asked, Michael [Blakely]? Mr. Blakely said, yes. Chairman Liakakis said, go one ahead because it was running one behind, so go to the next line. That's it. Mr. Blakely said, no, actually I should have —. Chairman Liakakis said, you're on right now shows Assessed the Hazard, where you said 20 points. Mr. Blakely said, yes sir. Yeah, I have enough comment about that slide. Chairman Liakakis said, okay.

Chairman Liakakis said, Chatham County is susceptible to a variety of hazards, which includes flooding, drought, earthquake, tornados and wildfires, as shown in illustrations. However, for this document we are focusing only on the flooding hazard.

Assess the Problem. Our vulnerability analysis — 35 CRS points are available for thoroughly assessing the problem. The problem caused by our identified hazard, which is flooding. Our planning committee will consider how a major flood event will effect the County and evaluate the risk. We will do this by considering critical facilities and discuss how the population and infrastructure will be impacted. We'll also consider our repetitive loss areas. This is a partial listing of FEMA's critical facilities. And here this map shows a list of the critical facilities that are countywide. Note that very few of these facilities are located in unincorporated Chatham County, as shown by the green, blue and pink areas.

Flooding. Savannah has had several flooding events. Most of our repetitive loss areas are located in the flood plain. Our flood insurance study and flood insurance rate maps were published by FEMA over 20 years ago; therefore, our insurance agents are currently using old data to quote flood insurance premiums, but we are expecting new digital maps later this year. This is a map showing our repetitive loss flood areas. Each yellow square on the map is a repetitive loss community. Currently we have 39 repetitive loss properties, which was reduced from a total of 44 properties. We are hoping to reduce that number even further in the future.

Setting Goals. Two points are awarded for this activity for our plan must include a statement of the goals of our flood plain management activities. We have identified and evaluated mitigation goals and actions based on our prior meeting discussions. Also our plan was developed to satisfy the prerequisites to secure future Federal grants.

Review Possible Mitigation Activities. This activity is worth a total of 30 points. Credit is dependent upon the plan's description of various mitigation activities and why certain activities were or were not pursued. Some mitigation activities that have been used with success in the past include acquisition, relocation, and elevation projects. We have also implemented drainage improvement projects, as well as making our flood damage and stormwater management ordinances more restrictive.

Draft of the Plan. This activity is worth a possible 70 points. It is in this section where our plan identifies who is responsible for what, when it will be done and how it will be financed. In this step we combine all comments and suggestions received in an attempt to protect lives and property. In this step we also mentioned how we're going to get the information we mentioned in the plan out to the community.

The final two steps involve adopting the plan and implementation, evaluation and residing the plan. First, Adopting the Plan. Although this activity is only worth 2 points, it is the most important activity of the planning process. If the County Commission does not adopt the plan, all credit will be lost. The plan will be presented for adoption to the Commission before October 1st of this year. The plan adoption allows unincorporated Chatham County to continue to participate in a national flood insurance program. To properly implement our plan, annual plan reviews and updates are required to be submitted to FEMA in the form of progress reports between now and 2011. The Flood Mitigation Plan is required to be revised and updated in 2011. That means five years from now we'll be coming back to you repeating this whole process. But with proper adoption and planning implementation we will be allowed to be eligible for Federal grants.

And lastly, the consequences of not revising and adopting the plan we get zero points. If this plan is not submitted to FEMA by October 1, 2007, we receive no plan and credit. As a result, our community will

revert to a Class 10 community with no discounts on flood insurance premiums. That means a loss of more than a million dollars to our citizens as well as loss of potential future grant funding opportunities.

Mr. Blakely said, and that concludes my presentation on the Flood Mitigation Progress Report.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you, Michael [Blakely], because, you know, when you start putting all these other things into play, you know, we'll have our Commissioners attending some of those meetings and public hearings and all of that. Mr. Blakely said, thank you.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, I also want to add the quality of the staff work on this is superb. We don't dismiss it by using big numbers as far as a million dollars saved, but when you look at the accuracy, the credibility of our maps — what it means to the development community, what it means to the insurance community and what it means to the Federal government — people like Michael Blakely are superstars.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Mr. Michael Blakely from the Engineering Department gave an update on the Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Unincorporated Chatham County
Combining Flood Mitigation Planning
with CRS Planning
February 23, 2007

What are the Mitigation Planning Objectives?

Sustained actions taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from hazards and/or their effects

Purpose:

Protection of lives and property; Minimize disaster response and recovery costs

Mitigation Planning & Preparation (Planning Process) - thought process

Strategize & Review Efforts to include in Plan

What are the Community Rating System (CRS) Planning Objective?

Protect public health and safety; Reduce damage to buildings and content; Prevent increases in flood damage from new construction; Reduce the risk of erosion damage; Protect natural and beneficial flood plain

Unincorporated Chatham County's Planning Efforts

December 7, 2001-2006, 5-year Duration of Chatham County's initial Flood Mitigation Plan
Mitigation Planning Committee initiate series of meetings to revise existing plan.

Follow the 2006 NFIP/CRS Coordinators Manual during plan development

October 1, 2007 - Revised Flood Mitigation Plan must be completed and adopted by Chatham County Board of Commissioners in order for the County to continue to participate in CRS.

Basis for Planning

Programs and Organizations to consider:

Federal:

National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)
 Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 (DMA 2000)
 Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
 Flood Mitigation Assistance Program

Georgia:

GaDNR & GDOT
 Local Codes and Ordinances and Emergency Management Activities

Planning Process

FEMA's Community Rating System 10-Step Planning

Process for a possible total of 294 points:

Organize to Prepare the Plans (10 pts.); Involve the Public (85 pts.); Coordination with Other Agencies (25 pts.); Assess the Hazard (Risk Assessment) (20 pts.); Assess the Problem (Vulnerability Analysis) (35 pts.); Set Goals (2 pts.); Review Possible Mitigation Activities (30 pts.); Draft the Plans (70 pts.); Adopt the Plans (2 pts.); Implement, Evaluate and Revise the Plans (15 pts.)

Planning Process

FEMA's Community Rating System 10-Step Planning Process:

Organize to Prepare the Plans

Involve the Public; Coordination with Other Agencies; Assess the Hazard (Risk Assessment); Assess the Problem (Vulnerability Analysis); Set Goals; Review Possible Mitigation Activities; Draft the Plans; Adopt the Plans; Implement, Evaluate and Revise the Plans

Mitigation Planning

Committee Members (10 pts.)

CHATHAM COUNTY

CRS Program Coordinator/

County Engineer

A.G. Bungard, P.E.

Senior Engineer/GIS Manager

Vincent Grevemberg

Plan Review Coordinator Manager

Suzanne Cooler, P.E.

Plan Reviewer

Nathaniel Panther, E.I.T.

County Drainage Engineer

William Uhl, P.E.

CRS Program Manager

Michael Blakely, CFM

MPC

Staff

(To be determined)

CEMA

Staff

James Drinnon

Planning Process

FEMA's Community Rating System 10-Step Planning Process:

Organize to Prepare the Plans; **Involve the Public**; Coordination with Other Agencies; Assess the Hazard (Risk Assessment); Assess the Problem (Vulnerability Analysis); Set Goals; Review Possible Mitigation Activities; Draft the Plans; Adopt the Plans; Implement, Evaluate and Revise the Plans

Involve the Public (85 pts.)

Conduct meetings in the affected areas, e.g. Wilmington Is., Georgetown & Isle of Hope. (15 pts.)
Send questionnaires to at least 90% of the public for information on their problems and possible solutions. (5 pts.)

Invite Homeowner Associations to meetings to participate in the plan development. (5 pts.)

Hold at least one public meeting at the end of the planning process and at least two weeks before submittal of the recommended plan to the County Commission. This activity is required. (15 pts.)

Planning Process

FEMA's Community Rating System 10-Step Planning Process:

Organize to Prepare the Plans; Involve the Public; **Coordination with Other Agencies**; Assess the Hazard (Risk Assessment); Assess the Problem (Vulnerability Analysis); Set Goals; Review Possible Mitigation Activities; Draft the Plans; Adopt the Plans; Implement, Evaluate and Revise the Plans

Coordination with Other Agencies (25 pts.)

Notification letters sent to "other agencies" and all adjacent communities.

GDOT; FEMA; GaDNR; USACOE; Local Emergency Planning Commission; Savannah; Tybee; Garden City; Pooler; Bloomingdale; Port Wentworth; Thunderbolt; Vernonburg

Planning Process

FEMA's Community Rating System 10-Step Planning Process:

Organize to Prepare the Plans; Involve the Public; Coordination with Other Agencies; **Assess the Hazard (Risk Assessment)**; Assess the Problem (Vulnerability Analysis); Set Goals; Review Possible Mitigation Activities; Draft the Plans; Adopt the Plans; Implement, Evaluate and Revise the Plans

Assess the Hazard (Risk Assessment, 20pts.)

Although Chatham County is susceptible to a variety of hazards, planning staff is revising and updating the content of the existing plan to specifically address various flooding conditions.

Planning Process

FEMA's Community Rating System 10-Step Planning Process:

Organize to Prepare the Plans; Involve the Public; Coordination with Other Agencies; Assess the Hazard (Risk Assessment); **Assess the Problem (Vulnerability Analysis)**; Set Goals;

Review Possible Mitigation Activities; Draft the Plans; Adopt the Plans; Implement, Evaluate and Revise the Plans

**Assess the Problem (35 pts.)
(Vulnerability Analysis)**

How will a major flood event affect Chatham County and what are the risks?

Need to list the critical facilities within Unincorporated Chatham County

Discuss how the population and infrastructure would be impacted by a major hazard event

Repetitive Loss Properties

Staff needs to review the existing plan and revise as needed.

Partial Listing of FEMA's Critical Facilities

Hospitals; Nursing Homes; Schools; Public Works Facility; Chemical and Industrial facilities; Communication Towers; Water & Wastewater Treatment Plants; Fire Stations; City hall; Police facilities; Jails

Flooding

Several historic flooding events; Most repetitive loss properties are located in the Special Flood Hazard Area, (100 year flood plain); Chatham County FIS and FIRM published May 19, 1987; FIS and FIRM are 20+ years old; County Wide DFIRM scheduled for 2007; Digital Elevation Model (1 ft. contours); Chatham County Master Drainage Plan; CRS Credit for Map Modernization Activities

Repetitive Loss Area Map

Planning Process

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Organize to Prepare the Plans; Involve the Public; Coordination with Other Agencies; Assess the Hazard (Risk Assessment); Assess the Problem (Vulnerability Analysis); **Set Goals**; Review Possible Mitigation Activities; Draft the Plans; Adopt the Plans; Implement, Evaluate and Revise the Plans

Goals and Actions (2 pts.)

The committee identified and evaluated mitigation goals and actions

The plan was developed to satisfy mitigation planning prerequisites for project grants as:

Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) Grants

Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant (PDM)

Floodplain Management Planning for CRS credit

Planning Process

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Mitigation Activities (30 pts.)

The committee determined actions to be undertaken/continued as part of the mitigation planning effort:

Acquisition, relocation or elevation of flood-prone properties

Flood protection and drainage improvement projects (CIP)

"Higher Standards" - Flood Damage Prevention Ordinance & Stormwater Management Ordinance

Planning Process

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Draft an Action Plan (70 pts.)

Previous ideas and suggestions are pooled to recommend means of protecting lives, property and structures and, natural resource protection.

The action plan should also include a means of disseminating the information to the community.

Planning Process

FEMA's Community Rating System 10-Step Planning Process:

Organize to Prepare the Plans; Involve the Public; Coordination with Other Agencies; Assess the Hazard (Risk Assessment); Assess the Problem (Vulnerability Analysis); Set Goals; Review Possible Mitigation Activities; Draft the Plans; **Adopt the Plans; Implement, Evaluate and Revise the Plans**

Adoption (2 pts.) and Implementation (15 pts.)

The Plan will be presented for adoption by the County Commission before October 1, 2007

Plan adoption allows Unincorporated Chatham County to continue to participate in the NFIP

Annual Plan reviews and updates are required to be submitted to FEMA in the form of Progress Reports between 2007-2011

The Flood Mitigation Plan is required to be revised and updated in 2011

PDM, HMGP & FMA Funded Projects

Consequences of NOT revising and adopting the Plan (0 pts.)

If Chatham County fails to submit a five-year update to FEMA by October 1, 2007, our community will receive no planning credit. Without continued planning credit, Chatham County will revert to

a Class 10 community thus causing the citizens to lose more than one million dollars in flood insurance premium discounts. We also lose the potential for future grant funding.

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3. BOARD CONSIDERATION OF TAX COMMISSIONER'S BUDGET NEEDS.

Chairman Liakakis said, this item, Board consideration of Tax Commissioner's budget needs, all of you received information. The Finance and Human Resources staff reviewed the request that was brought in by the Tax Commissioner, Danny Powers, and the cost of this request to the County for the remainder of the current physical year would be effective date March 26, 2007, of \$59,407. The effective date for the remainder, effective date April 23, 2007, \$41,854. The Tax Commissioner proposes to phase in implementation of the request promoting six current employees on March 26, 2007, and bringing in six new hires at lower salary levels on April 23, 2007. This option would cost approximately \$43,000 for the remainder of the fiscal year. Do we have a motion on the floor?

Commissioner Odell said, move for —. Commissioner Shay said, Mr. Chairman, I move for approval. Commissioner Stone said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, all right. Any other —. County Manager Abolt said, if I may, Mr. Chairman, for clarification, it is the third option that you just mentioned. Chairman Liakakis said, the third option. County Manager Abolt said, \$43,000, which will come from your decision package. Chairman Liakakis said, oh, okay. All right, 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.

Commissioner Odell said, Mr. Chairman, we have the best Tax Commissioner in Chatham County. Without a question. Danny [Powers], you didn't have a chance to say anything. You got what you wanted. You can say something and it might change. Tax Commissioner Powers said, no —.

Chairman Liakakis said, it already passed. I mean, it wasn't any need to say nothing because —. Tax Commissioner said, well, I reviewed all of this with you guys at the retreat. I really appreciate the action you've taken here today. Thank you. Commissioner Odell said, you're welcome. Commissioner Shay said, you're welcome.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Shay moved to approve the request of the Tax Commissioner to phase-in promotion of six current employees effective March 26, 2007, and add six new positions at lower salary levels effective April 23, 2007, with the cost of approximately \$43,000 for the remainder of the fiscal year to come from the decision package. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-3
AGENDA DATE: February 23, 2007

DATE: February 16, 2007
TO: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: Linda Cramer, Finance Director
Michael Kaigler, Director, Human Resources & Services

SUBJECT: Tax Commissioner Request for New Positions

The Tax Commissioner has provided an agenda item for board consideration that would add 6 (six) new positions to the tag/motor vehicle section of his department.

Finance and Human Resources staff reviewed the request. The cost of this request to the County for the remainder of the current fiscal year would be:

Effective Date, March 26, 2007	\$59,407
Effective Date, April 23, 2007	\$41,854

The Tax Commissioner proposes to phase-in implementation of the request, promoting 6 current employees on 3/26/07 and bringing in 6 new hires at lower salary levels on 4/23/07. This option would cost approximately \$43,000 for the remainder of the fiscal year.

The impact of the additional staff on next year’s budget will be approximately \$224,130 using current pension and insurance rates.

Attachments

CC: Daniel T. Powers, Tax Commissioner

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4. REQUEST FROM CEMA TO CREATE A POSITION FOR A SPECIALIST TO COORDINATE CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS PLANNING (COOP), LONG-TERM RECOVERY ACTIONS, VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES, AND TO PLAN FOR THE COORDINATION OF COUNTY-WIDE RESOURCES FOR RESPONSE TO AN INCIDENT OF CRITICAL SIGNIFICANCE.

Commissioner said, motion to approve. Commissioner Gellatly said, second.

Chairman Liakakis asked, any comments? Let's go on the board. Oh, wait a minute, excuse me. Patrick [Shay], you wanted to —. Commissioner Shay said, that's all right. That's a really good thing that we're doing. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes, Odell and Thomas were not present when this vote was taken.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion carried unanimously.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve the request from CEMA to create a position for a specialist to coordinate Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP), long-term recovery actions, volunteer activities, and to plan for the coordination of county-wide resources for response to an Incident of Critical Significance. Commissioner Gellatly seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes, Odell and Thomas were not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-4

AGENDA DATE: February 23, 2007

TO: Chatham Board of Commission

THROUGH: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Phillip M. Webber, Director, CEMA

ISSUE:

Request authority for CEMA to create a position to coordinate Continuity of Operations Planning (COOP), long-term recovery actions, volunteer activities, and to plan for the coordination of county-wide resources for response to an Incident of Critical Significance.

BACKGROUND:

Based in part on Hurricane Katrina after-action findings, it has been proven that planning efforts must include COOP at all levels of government. Without plans for the restoration of public infrastructure, it will be extremely difficult to reconstitute the fundamental functions of government. As well, the coordination and management of resources through out the County will be prerequisite to the resumption of normality. These functions, along with comprehensive, well planned support of municipal governments, non governmental organization, and the private sector are essential to community recovery from the long-term effects of an Incident of Critical Significance.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Each County Department must have a continuity of operations plan to guide the restoration of vital functions in the event of an Incident of Critical Significance. Current staffing levels do not permit for adequate CEMA resources to assist departments prepare these plans.

2. Community volunteers trained to support public safety authorities are an invaluable resource during times of emergency; however, training and supervision of these volunteers is essential. Existing staff are not available to accomplish these tasks thereby resulting in a tremendous loss of resources.
3. As evidenced by the lack of Parish through State-level efficiency during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina, the pre-event planning training, and exercise of municipal staff to coordinate local resources following an Incident of Critical Significance will be the cornerstone of disaster recovery. A staff member dedicated to this planning and coordination is crucial to the Company's rapid recovery from a major disaster.

FUNDINGS:

The availability of adequate CEMA funds has been verified by the County Budget Analyst.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Authorize creation of one additional CEMA position.
2. Do not authorize creation of an additional CEMA position.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

By authorizing the creation of this additional specialist position, CEMA will be better staffed to plan for and coordinate essential emergency management functions.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approves Alternative 1 to authorize the creation of one additional CEMA position.

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5. BOARD CONSIDERATION OF STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION TO DENY A WATER & SEWER BILL FOR 38 LEEHALL DRIVE.

Chairman Liakakis recognized County Manager Abolt.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen, you recall during the pre-meeting we were asked by Commissioner Kicklighter what district this falls in. It's Commissioner Gellatly's district. The background behind this is that we've had an expression of concern from a patron of our water system from what is judged to be an extremely high bill given the past usage and the request to have that fee adjusted. Staff went out to attempt to verify whether or not the meter was properly functioning. From all of our observations, it was. The bill outstanding is for just shy of \$1,100. The citizen, Mr. Wallace, wishes to appeal. Mr. Wallace and I talked as recently as yesterday. He could not be here and I believe that his wife is here to make the statement, but essentially only the County Commission has the discretion to adjust the bill and it is your call.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. If you'd like to come forth. Excuse me, just identify yourself and then you can talk about this issue.

Ms. Kimberly Wallace said, I'm Kimberly Wallace. Chairman Liakakis said, yes ma'am, go ahead. Ms. Wallace our water bills were consistently the same amount of money and then the water bill that came in, it was — I'm sorry — the November 30th, they read it as 629 units and we were averaging about 20 units a month. When we — when I had first called, they sent out somebody to take a look at it, test the meter. It was fine. They sent somebody out again and they sent somebody three times. The actual person who tested the meter said the meters have been known to jump, but then we were told by so many different people they also jump back, some people say they don't jump back, and then they said — then we were told they were bringing up an issue with our swimming pool, which isn't even really an issue because it was filled back in March, so we went from up to almost, you know, \$1,100 on a water bill that's not ours and they said they can't do anything about it because they can't find a problem with the meter. But there are problems with meters, but it just happens, I mean, and consistently the reading as of 1/29 it's back to normal again. It's at 629 from 610 from November 30th, so that's 19 units so how can we — it just doesn't explain and there's — though we had leak and if we had a leak we'd know of it of that size.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Gellatly.

Commissioner Gellatly said, you say that you last filled your pool in March. Ms. Wallace said, when we built the house we filled it then. Commissioner Gellatly said, well you said March —. Ms. Wallace said, it was like March/April, yeah. Commissioner Gellatly asked, how many gallons does your pool hold? Ms. Wallace said, we sent that information to them. It was —, I think it was —. County Manager Abolt said, 22,000. Chairman Liakakis said, 22,000. Commissioner Gellatly said, will that —, Mr. Manager, would that amount of water come up to that much money? County Manager Abolt said, we can't correlate the — Robert [Drewry]. Ms. Wallace said, I was told it would take 30 pool to come up with that kind of water. Commissioner Gellatly said, in other words, you had this large bill one month —. Ms. Wallace said, right. Commissioner Gellatly said, and then the next —. Ms. Wallace said, it's back to normal. Commissioner Gellatly said, and then the next month it went back to normal. Ms. Wallace said, well it didn't jump down, it just stayed up. The usage was 19 units, which has been on average what we've been using. Commissioner Gellatly asked, you're now back to 19 units? Ms. Wallace said, uh huh, and the month before that large bill was 17 units. Commissioner Gellatly asked, you didn't have any pipe broken or —. Ms. Wallace said, no and it went from 17 units to 495 units. Commissioner Gellatly said, okay.

Commissioner Kicklighter asked, I want to ask Robert [Drewry] — Robert, how many units does 22,000 gallons convert to? Commissioner Farrell said, 29. Mr. Drewry said, 29 units and it's 495, I think, is what the bill was. Commissioner Kicklighter asked, huh? Mr. Drewry said, 495 units was the bill. The pool was 29 units, would account for 29 units. Ms. Wallace said, that's 430 times —. We wouldn't have a leak. You would see a leak of water —. Commissioner Kicklighter asked, did your neighbor fill the pool? Ms. Wallace said, my whole neighborhood would have to fill a pool. I mean —.

County Manager Abolt said, we would ask you to apply the rule — I would ask you to apply the rule of common sense. I think in this particular case for the benefit of the doubt the tie goes in favor of the customer. I think it's prudent to say, you know, if it happens again obviously we would want to revisit it.

Commissioner Gellatly said, I make a motion that we forgive this bill. Commissioner Kicklighter said, second. Ms. Wallace said, thank you very much.

Chairman Liakakis said, go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes, Odell and Thomas were not present when this vote was taken.]

Commissioner Gellatly said, don't come back again now with a high bill.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Gellatly moved to adjust the water and sewer bill for William Wallace, 38 Leehall Drive, billed at \$1,091.39, by writing off \$968.84 so that the amount due would be \$122.55. Commissioner Kicklighter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes, Odell and Thomas were not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-5

AGENDA DATE: February 23, 2007

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Linda B. Cramer, Finance Director
Robert W. Drewry, Director of Public Works & Park Services

ISSUE:

Board consideration of staff's recommendation to deny a water & sewer bill adjustment for 38 Leehall Drive.

BACKGROUND:

Only the Board of Commissioners has the authority to write-off all or a portion of a water & sewer customer's balance due.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Customer Name and address: William Wallace, 38 Leehall Drive, Savannah GA 31419
2. This customer's water consumption during the period of September 26th to November 30th was 495 units. That resulted in a bill of \$1,091.39.
3. The customer called Water & Sewer after they received the bill in December. A work order was issued and Public Works re-read the meter on January 4th. The new reading suggested that the previous reading was correct.
4. A second work order was issued to test the accuracy of the meter. On January 9th, Public Works found the meter to be in fine working order.

5. During these site visits to the property, Public Works observed a swimming pool in the yard. Further conversation with the owner indicated that the pool held 22,000 gallons but had been filled in March, 2006, not during the period of the September-November meter reading. Furthermore, 22,000 gallons would only account for 29 of the 495 units of water. Also, the Wallaces did not become water & sewer customers until April 12, 2006. The account was with Hallmark Homes, Inc. until April 12th. Hallmark Homes, Inc. indicated they do not fill pools for their customers. A sewer adjustment for filling a pool is an option, but it would only compute to \$48.24.
6. The customer stated they did not fill the pool during the September-November period, or use any large quantities of water for any reason. Nor do they suspect any leaks, theft of water or any other unauthorized use.
7. Based on this customer's history of water consumption since they began their account on April 12, 2006, an adjustment to their average consumption prior to this reading would result in a billing of \$122.55 based on 38 units of water.
8. Customer was notified on February 16, 2007 of staff's recommendation to deny adjustment to bill.

FUNDING:

Not applicable.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

Again, only the Board of Commissioners has the authority to write-off all or a portion of a water & sewer customer's balance due.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board of Commissioners deny or amend the request.
2. That the Board of Commissioners approve the write-off of \$968.84. The new amount due would be \$122.55

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Alternative #1.

Prepared By: Roger Deschenes
Roger Deschenes

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6. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH GEORGIA PUBLIC DEFENDER'S COUNCIL TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO RECORDERS COURT.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, yes, Mr. Chairman, I have some concerns, and I know, Mr. Edwards, you may want to give some information, but currently there are two Senate Bills in Atlanta — Senate Bills #135 and #141 — that may make some changes to the structure of the composition of this council, and I'm a little reluctant to make any commitments at this time until we know what's going to happen in Atlanta, and in addition to that, just in looking at this numbers, I would feel better if we had a comparison from the — I mean, obviously, I know what you want, Mr. Edwards, from the Public Defender's Office — but I would like a comparison from the District Attorney's Office to see if these salaries are in line. So I just — if — I would like to see this continued at least until we can find out what's going to happen in Atlanta with these two bills, whether there's any credibility or anything — any changes that are going to be made in Atlanta before we make any decisions on this.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, if there's no other comments from anyone, I would make a motion to table until we obtain the information that Commissioner Stone suggests. Commissioner Gellatly said, second. Commissioner Farrell said, I'll second that.

Mr. Michael Edwards asked, may I just make any inquiry before the Board votes. I am Michael Edwards. Thank you. Commissioner Stone, you mentioned a couple of Senate Bills that have been dropped and actually there have been quite a number of bills on the Senate and House side that have dropped addressing issues with regard to the Public Defender's system as it presently exists. I'm not — I can't tell you I know what 135 and 141 deal with, but you make mention of some possible changes at the council level. Are those the bills that may increase the size of the council to provide for additional members to serve on the council who would be required to be County Commissioners? Commissioner Stone said, it just — yes, but also it just says it gets — change in the composition of the council, and until we know what that structure is going to be, it would seem to me the right thing to do would be to hold off on this. Mr. Edwards said, well, what the change is that has been proposed, just by way of information, is there has been a bill dropped that would increase the size of the standard council from 11 to 15 and the four additional positions would be positions that would be appointed by the Governor, and those positions would be required to be acting County Commissioners who would be proposed by the ACCG —. Commissioner Stone said, right. Mr. Edwards said, but I'm not exactly certain how that would have any affect on the bearing of us providing the services in the Records Court. So I want to be sure that I understand what the concern is about those bills insofar as the Public Defender's Office providing services in Records Court is concerned.

Chairman Liakakis recognized County Attorney Hart.

County Attorney Hart said, I knew this was coming up on the agenda, so we pulled Senate Bill 139, Senate Bill, 140, 141, 142 and 143. We'll have you a memo probably late this afternoon outlining those legislative changes have. You don't know whether this type of legislation has legs and can withstand the scrutiny of the judicial process or the legislative process, but there is a broad number mixed in with the various bills of some substantive changes and the budgeting manner for the Public Defender's Office and moving it from the Judicial Branch to the Executive Branch, which raises some interesting issues at law, and we will try to get that to you as early as possible, and I'd be glad to share my copies with the Public Defender.

Mr. Edwards said, and I appreciate that. I have copies of those bills. I just wanted to point out the fact that even if all those bills were to pass or even if all those bills were to fail, or some combination of those things would occur, it's not going to change the fact that we have to provide service to indigents in Recorders Court one way or the other, and what we're proposing to do is provide that service in a contained controlled way, and I understand the —, Commissioner Stone, I understand your position and your interest in seeing what happens with these bills, but in the meantime and even subsequent to whatever happens, whatever action occurs with these bills, the service has to be provided in Recorders Court and we're gravely concerned about ensuring that there is a structure in place to make certain that those services are being provided that's going to be required in some fashion.

Commissioner Stone said, and I understand and appreciate that. I just want to make sure that there aren't any changes in Atlanta, and if there are any changes what they're going to be. And equally important, I want to make sure that the salaries that are listed here are in a far comparison with the District Attorney's office. Mr. Edwards said, the two District Attorneys that are handling the cases in Recorders Court are both Senior DA's, who according to the information that we have, and I did not bring that with me, but I suppose we could have added those salaries into our request. I did not do that. Out of deference to those individuals, I didn't frankly think that it was my place to point out what their salary ranges were. But those are Senior District Attorneys, also the Administrative Assistant that provides services in that courtroom is one of the Senior Administrative Assistants. We are not requesting three senior staff positions. The salaries that we recommended for those positions were the same —.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I believe that we're out of order. We made a motion to table and all this discussion can't take place.

Commissioner Gellatly said, I call for the question.

Chairman Liakakis said, the motion on the floor —. Commissioner Kicklighter said, sorry, Michael [Edwards], but that's the rules.

Commissioner Gellatly said, I call for the question.

Chairman Liakakis said, and it's been seconded. Let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

Commissioner Gellatly said, Michael [Edwards], I'd like to make a request on behalf of the Commission that we'd like to have a six-month record of all the panel attorney fees and the bills that are pending. Can we have that? Mr. Edwards said, that is in the County Finance Department. Mr. Commissioner, we send those over to County Finance. The panel attorney vouchers go from our office to theirs. Commissioner Gellatly asked, can we get that? County Manager Abolt said, sure. Commissioner Gellatly said, okay, we'll —. County Manager Abolt said, the last six months, sir. Commissioner Gellatly said, and make sure all the Commissioners get a copy of that. County Manager Abolt said, the last six months.

Chairman Liakakis said, what you're saying is the last six months plus any bills that are in —. Commissioner Gellatly said, any that are pending. Chairman Liakakis said, — any that are pending that goes to Finance. Is that what —? Commissioner Gellatly said, that's my request, yes. Chairman

Liakakis said, okay. Okay, Linda [Cramer], do you get all — have you got a list of all the panel attorneys that have been paid in the last six months?

Ms. Cramer said, okay, we can get you what's been paid. There is not a system that logs in cases at inception when they go to panel, so we don't have like an inventory of claims that are out with panel attorneys. All we can do is get you what's been paid through December and get you what's been paid until now and he may have some in his office that we can —.

Commissioner Gellatly asked, can we get the pending from you, Michael? Mr. Edwards said, I can get you all of the pending vouchers that are sitting in our office. There are probably a couple of dozen that haven't come over here yet, but our process is that we receive the vouchers, we turn them over to the Tripartite Committee to review, which actually does review them and then they turn them over to Finance to be paid. Commissioner Gellatly said, I understand. If you could provide us with everything that you have. Mr. Edwards said, and also — I'll be glad to do that also. I'll point out to you that there are literally, I'm sure, hundreds if not thousands of vouchers. We get vouchers in all the time with cases that have been closed for six months, nine months, a year. In fact, about six months ago we notified the panel that vouchers that were turned in more than a year after the cases had been disposed would not be authorized by the Tripartite Committee; they would have to take those up with some other authority; that we thought that it was really causing a very difficult time for us to be able to reconcile for you all when we're getting vouchers in there a year or two years old. Commissioner Gellatly said, if you would provide us with that information and then make any distinctions off to the side that you want, such as that. Mr. Edwards said, sure.

Chairman Liakakis said, so anything — what you're doing, Michael [Edwards], then you're watching that close for your payments and all and you turn it over to the Tripartite Committee and they make a decision, but what y'all have recommended that anything over a year that is to be paid is — how does that come to, you know, to be paid after you make that recommendation not to pay them? Mr. Edwards said, we notify the lawyer that we're not authorizing it for payment unless the lawyer can come in and explain why they sat on the bill for over a year, and we've had some come in and explain that, you know, there was this circumstance or there was some discussion with the client about potentially appealing the case and those discussion had been ongoing and that sort of thing, and otherwise we notify them that they will have to take that issue up with Finance. Chairman Liakakis said, okay, and what you will do then, any that you have like that of what he's requesting that pending ones, and something that has some distance on it, that's what he's asking for also.

Commissioner Thomas said, yeah, I was just about to say that, I mean, it seems like to me it wouldn't take a whole year to decide whether, you know, you're going to submit something or not. They know whether something might be pending, you know, later down the road or whatever and that can be noted at that time. Mr. Edwards said, I couldn't agree with you more. Commissioner Thomas said, but to keep, you know, to keep out of submission for that length of time is just unacceptable, and I feel that what you're doing is in the right direction because unless you correct it, they will continue to do it. What becomes one year, then becomes two, three years or whatever down the road, and that's not good. Mr. Edwards said, well, as Ms. Cramer knows, I served on the panel for 10 years before I became the Public Defender. When I closed a case, I turned my voucher in as quickly as I possibly could, and there's a number of reasons for that. One of the things that we do encounter, and if I could just have a moment

just to explain on that, one of the things that we do encounter, it's part of the reason that we proposed this Recorders Court process to control things down there a little better, what we encounter is when bills sit around in people's files for months and months and months, people try to go back and recreate the time on those vouchers, those vouchers are oftentimes not accurate, they don't have backup with them. We see them and we think, well, this looks strange. I'm one of seven people on the Tripartite by the system's design. We will contact the lawyers and say can you please come in and talk with us and explain this and give them the opportunity to explain it because it is very, very problematic. It's part of the reason that under a panel system you can't contain your cost because you have no idea what they're going to be from year to year to year. You just simply have to tally up what you paid last year and plug that figure in and hope that's the right figure for next year, and that's not the best accounting system we can have.

Chairman Liakakis said, well, Michael [Edwards], we appreciate your work and all of that because you're doing a good job, but the concern of this Commission is, you know, if you put the Public Defenders and the panel attorneys put all that money in there, it's a tremendous amount of money that we're having to pay out of our budget and that's a concern. We know, we want to make sure the citizens — indigent citizens have representation and all, but we look at that overall cost, like the State is not paying us the full amount of money for the Public Defenders, we just need — the Commissioners just want to look at that and see how things can be addressed.

County Attorney Hart said, Mr. Chairman, conversation has been cut off on this matter, and obviously you can ask for any information you wish, but we need to have a motion to reopen the discussion.

Commissioner Kicklighter asked, do you want to reopen? Commissioner Thomas said, no. Chairman Liakakis said, just ask for a motion and then you can speak out. Commissioner Kicklighter said, well, I just wanted to say I'm sorry that I cut everybody off a little while ago, but we have to follow the rules. Mr. Edwards said, thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to table the request for approval of an amendment to the agreement with Georgia Public Defender's Council to provide services to Recorders Court. Commissioners Farrell and Gellatly seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-6

AGENDA DATE: February 23, 2007

DATE: February 14, 2007

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R.E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Michael Edwards, Circuit Public Defender
Prince Johnson, Recorder's Court Director
Linda B. Cramer, Finance Director

ISSUE: To request Board approval of an amendment to the agreement with Georgia Public Defender's Standard Council to provide services to Recorder's Court.

BACKGROUND: The Public Defender's Office and the Recorder's Court desire that Public Defender's Office assume expanded responsibilities on the felony side of the Recorder's Court.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- 1) The Public Defender has submitted an amendment to the Indigent Defense Services Agreement for approval. The agreement reflects additional staffing for representation to indigent felony defendants in the Recorder's Court.
- 2) The Public Defender's Office will handle all incarcerated felony defendant cases up to and through bind-over, excepting conflict cases.
- 3) Because the Public Defender's office already have contact with most defendants by the time of the initial appearance and with all by the preliminary hearing, the Public Defender's Office could more effectively and efficiently work with the State on issues of bond, identification of EIP cases and presentation of preliminary hearings.
- 4) Superior Court of Chatham County and the Recorder's Court of Savannah/Chatham County Judiciary support the proposal between the Public Defender and the Recorder's Court. (Statement Attached).
- 5) Existing funds within the Recorder's Court budget will be utilized.

FUNDING:

Funds are available in the SSD Recorder's Court budget.

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1) That the Board approve the amendment to the agreement with the Georgia Public Defender's Standard Council to provide services to Recorder's Court.
- 2) That the Board provides other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

Board approval is required for amendments to contracts.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve alternative 1.

PREPARED BY: Estelle Brown

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7. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO FUND AN UPGRADE IN THE SEWER CAPACITY OF THE JUVENILE COURT COMPLEX TO MEET CURRENT AND FUTURE NEEDS.

Commissioner Farrell said, so moved. Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor. Do we have a second? Commissioner Stone said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor and a second to upgrade the sewer capacity of the Juvenile Court. Let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

Commissioner Farrell said, good job. County Manager Abolt said, good job, Commissioner Farrell.

Youth Commissioner Peay said, I was just wondering what is the current sewer capacity. County Manager Abolt said, zero. Youth Commissioner Peay said, zero. Okay.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Farrell moved to transfer funding from M&O CIP Contingency of \$135,000 (\$175,000 less \$40,000 already in project budget) to the Juvenile Court capital project to upgrade the sewerage to meet long-term capacity needs of Juvenile Court and the Sheriff's Department Training Center. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-7

AGENDA DATE: February 23, 2007

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R.E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Patrick Monahan, Asst. County Manager

ISSUE:

Board approval to fund an upgrade in the sewer capacity of the Juvenile Court complex to meet current and future needs.

BACKGROUND:

At the Board's February 13 CIP workshop, staff made a presentation on a CIP project to upgrade the sewer needs at the Juvenile Court complex to meet current and future needs. An interim plan now under way would only handle the Court's current needs as part of a plan to meet short-term space requirements by adding five modular offices at a site already cleared and prepared. The question then remains whether to plan ahead and meet future needs, too. Because the 2008-2014 SPLOST will provide a permanent 10,000 square foot

addition to juvenile court, upgrading sewer facilities now to meet future needs would avoid ripping out the temporary improvements in five to six years.

FACTS & FINDINGS:

1. The current plan, which will meet interim needs, calls for a new small lift station to serve the addition of five modular office units. The lift station will be necessary to meet capacity and the location of the modular units approximately 150 feet from the Juvenile Court building. The sewer project to meet short-term needs is estimated at \$40,000.
2. Within the next five to six years, Juvenile Court will begin a 10,000 square-foot addition. The addition, which will replace the modular units, will require additional sewer capacity, including an expanded lift station.. Besides the increased needed for Juvenile Court, the Sheriff's Office Training Center needs added capacity. The project to meet long-term needs is estimated at \$175,000.
3. The sewer project to meet short-term needs would be replaced by the sewer project to meet long-term needs as part of the planned 10,000 square foot expansion of Juvenile Court. In other words, the County would not waste \$40,000 by proceeding with a project to meet full capacity now rather than to wait five to six years. The \$175,000 project would meet current and future needs of Juvenile Court and the Sheriff's Department Training Center.

FUNDING:

Funding is available in the M&O CIP Contingency.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board transfer funding from M&O CIP Contingency of \$135,000 (\$175,000 less \$40,000 already in project budget) to the Juvenile Court capital project to upgrade the sewerage to meet long-term capacity needs of Juvenile Court and the Sheriff's Department Training Center.
2. That the Board maintain the current project and continue with a sewerage project of sufficient size to meet only the interim plan.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

Planning ahead to meet known future needs and a known project would preclude spending capital funds on a short-term project that would otherwise be replaced in five to six years.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.

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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, we've got a number of items here, Items 1 through 12 and the alphabetical order under request for the beer and wine pouring license and liquor license and then under Item 12 we have Items A through J. Do we have any specific items that the Commissioners would like to withhold? Okay, well, I'd like a motion on the floor to approve all items on the Action Calendar.

Commissioner Gellatly said, motion to approve. Commissioner Thomas said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor and a second. Let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Gellatly moved to approve Items 1 through 12-J, both inclusive. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Odell 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 REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 9, 2007, AS MAILED.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commission Gellatly moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 9, 2007. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

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2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD FEBRUARY 1 THROUGH FEBRUARY 14, 2007.**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Gellatly moved to authorize the Finance Director to pay the claims against the County for the period February 1, 2007, through February 14, 2007, in the amount of \$6,185,802. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

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**3. REQUEST FROM KERN-COLEMAN, ENGINEER FOR THE DEVELOPER, NORTH GODLEY DEVELOPERS, INC., FOR THE COUNTY TO END THE WARRANTY PERIOD FOR BERWICK PLANTATION, TRACT D-3, RELEASE THE FINANCIAL GUARANTEE AND ACCEPT THE DEDICATED IMPROVEMENTS.
[DISTRICT 7.]****ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Gellatly moved to approve the request from Kern-Coleman, engineer for the developer, North Godley Developers, Inc., for the County to end the warranty period for Berwick Plantation, Tract D-3, release the financial guarantee and accept the dedicated improvements. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-3**AGENDA DATE: February 23, 2007****TO:** Board of Commissioners**THRU:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager**FROM:** Vincent Grevemberg, Senior Engineer**ISSUE:** To end the warranty period for Berwick Plantation Tract D-3, release the financial guarantee and accept the dedicated improvements.**BACKGROUND:** The engineer, Kern-Coleman, for the developer, North Godley Developers, Inc., requests that the County end the warranty period and release the financial guarantee.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Berwick Plantation is located on Highway 17. This phase of Berwick Plantation consists of 100 lots on 40.69 acres. Paving and drainage improvements will be maintained by the County. Water and sewer are maintained by Consolidated Utilities, Inc.
2. Construction of the required improvements is complete. The improvements have been inspected and found to be satisfactory.
3. The warranty period was initiated on April 15, 2005.
4. A letter of credit from BB&T in the amount of \$308,838 was submitted as a financial guarantee during the warranty period, and now the developer requests the letter of credit be released.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. To end the warranty period, release the financial guarantee and accept the dedicated improvements for Berwick Plantation Tract D-3.
2. Do not approve the request.

POLICY ANALYSIS: This action is consistent with the subdivision regulations.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commissioners adopt Alternative No. 1.

District 7

PREPARED BY: Suzanne Cooler

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**4. REQUEST FROM KERN-COLEMAN, ENGINEER FOR THE DEVELOPER, NORTH GODLEY DEVELOPERS, INC., FOR THE COUNTY TO APPROVE THE CONSTRUCTED IMPROVEMENTS FOR CHAPEL PARK, PHASE 2, INITIATE THE TWELVE-MONTH WARRANTY PERIOD, AND REDUCE THE FINANCIAL GUARANTEE.
[DISTRICT 7.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Gellatly moved to approve the request from Kern-Coleman, engineer for the developer, North Godley Developers, Inc., for the County to approve the constructed improvements for Chapel Park, Phase 2, initiate the twelve-month warranty period, and reduce the financial guarantee. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-4

AGENDA DATE: February 23, 2007

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Vincent Grevemberg, Senior Engineer

ISSUE: To approve the constructed improvements for Chapel Park, Phase 2, initiate the twelve-month warranty period, and reduce the financial guarantee.

BACKGROUND: The engineer, Kern-Coleman, for the developer, North Godley Developers, Inc., requests that the County approve the constructed improvements, initiate the twelve-month warranty period, and reduce the financial guarantee.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Chapel Park is a single-family residential subdivision located within Berwick Plantation. Berwick Plantation is located on Highway 17. Phase 2 of Chapel Park consists of 101 lots on 38.949 acres. Paving and drainage improvements will be maintained by the County. Water and sewer are maintained by Consolidated Utilities, Inc.
2. The required site improvements are complete. They have been inspected and found to be without fault.
3. The developer is responsible for the streetlight energy costs through the warranty period.
4. The developer previously submitted a letter of credit issued by United Community Bank in the amount of \$506,157.50. The developer is requesting that the bond be reduced to \$240,346, which is 50% of the cost of dedicated improvements.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. To approve the constructed improvements for Chapel Park, Phase 2, initiate the warranty period, and reduce the financial guarantee.
2. Do not approve the request.

POLICY ANALYSIS: This action is consistent with the subdivision regulation regarding warranty of dedicated improvements.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commissioners adopt Alternative No. 1.

District 7

PREPARED BY: Suzanne Cooler

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- 5. REQUEST FROM KERN-COLEMAN, ENGINEER FOR THE DEVELOPER, NORTH GODLEY DEVELOPERS, INC., FOR THE COUNTY TO APPROVE THE CONSTRUCTED IMPROVEMENTS, INITIATE THE TWELVE-MONTH WARRANTY PERIOD, ACCEPT THE FINANCIAL GUARANTEE AND RECORD THE PLAT FOR THE VILLAGES AT BERWICK D-2, PHASE 2 (AKA VILLAGES AT BERWICK PHASE 2B), AS WELL AS RECOMBINE THIS PHASE WITH THE EXISTING STREETLIGHT ASSESSMENT RATE DISTRICT.
[DISTRICT 7.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Gellatly moved to approve the request from Kern-Coleman, engineer for the developer, North Godley Developers, Inc., for the County to approve the constructed improvements, initiate the twelve-month warranty period, accept the financial guarantee and record the plat for the Villages at Berwick D-2, Phase 2 (aka Villages at Berwick Phase 2B), as well as recombine this phase with the existing streetlight assessment rate district. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-5

AGENDA DATE: February 23, 2007

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Vincent Grevemberg, Senior Engineer

ISSUE: To approve the constructed improvements, initiate the twelve-month warranty period, accept the financial guarantee and record the plat for the Villages at Berwick D2, Phase 2 (aka Villages at Berwick Phase 2B), as well as 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 constructed improvements, initiate the twelve-month warranty period, accept the financial guarantee and record the plat for Villages at Berwick D2, Phase 2, as well as recombine this phase of the Villages at Berwick with the existing streetlight assessment rate district.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The Villages at Berwick Plantation is located in Berwick Plantation. Phase 2 of the Villages consists of 73 lots on 27.5 acres. Paving and drainage improvements will be maintained by the County. Water and sewer will be maintained by Consolidated Utilities, Inc.

2. Construction of the required improvements is complete. The improvements have been inspected and found to be satisfactory.
3. The developer has submitted a letter of credit issued by Branch Banking and Trust in the amount of \$369, 445.90, which is 50% of the cost of improvements.
4. Approval will recombine this phase with the existing Villages at Berwick streetlight assessment district. The annual streetlight assessment for this district is \$54 per lot. The developer is responsible for the streetlight energy costs through the warranty period.
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 constructed improvements, initiate the twelve-month warranty period, accept the financial guarantee and record the plat for the Villages at Berwick, Phase 2, as well as 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 regulations regarding warranty of dedicated improvements and regarding the creation of lots through plat recording.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commissioners adopt Alternative No. 1.

District 7

PREPARED BY: Nathaniel Panther

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**6. REQUEST FROM SLADEK ENGINEERING, ENGINEER FOR THE DEVELOPER, COMPASS DESIGN & MANAGEMENT, THAT THE COUNTY APPROVE THE CONSTRUCTED IMPROVEMENTS FOR PALMETTO ROW, PHASE 1, INITIATE THE TWELVE-MONTH WARRANTY PERIOD AND ACCEPT A REDUCED FINANCIAL GUARANTEE.
[DISTRICT 3.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Gellatly moved to approve the request from Sladek Engineering, engineer for the developer, Compass Design & Management, that the County approve the constructed improvements from Palmetto Row, Phase 1, initiate the twelve-month warranty period and accept a reduced financial guarantee. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-6**AGENDA DATE: February 23, 2007****TO:** Board of Commissioners**THRU:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager**FROM:** Vincent Grevemberg, Senior Engineer

ISSUE: To approve the constructed improvements for Palmetto Row, Phase 1, initiate the twelve-month warranty period and accept a reduced financial guarantee.

BACKGROUND: The engineer, Sladek Engineering, for the developer, Compass Design & Management, requests that the County approve the constructed improvements, initiate the twelve month warranty period and accept a reduced financial guarantee for Palmetto Row, Phase 1.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Palmetto Row is a new subdivision located on Norwood Avenue. Phase 1 of Palmetto Row consists of 8 lots on 1.57 acres. Paving and drainage improvements will be maintained by the Palmetto Row Homeowners' Association. Water will be provided by a private water system maintained by the Palmetto Row Homeowners' Association. Sanitary sewer will be maintained by Chatham County.
2. Construction of the required improvements is complete. The improvements have been inspected and found to be satisfactory.
3. The developer has submitted a letter of credit issued by Darby Bank & Trust Company in the amount of \$185, 220.00, which is 100% of the cost of improvements. The developer requests the letter of credit be reduced to \$92,611.00, which is 50% of the cost of the improvements.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. To approve the constructed improvements, initiate the twelve month warranty period and reduce the financial guarantee for Palmetto Row, Phase 1.
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 3

PREPARED BY: Nathaniel Panther

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7. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO GRANT AN EASEMENT TO GEORGIA POWER COMPANY FOR CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF AN ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION LINE TO SERVE THE COUNTY JAIL, CARL GRIFFIN DRIVE. [DISTRICT 8.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Gellatly moved to approve the request to grant an easement to Georgia Power Company for construction maintenance of an electric distribution line to serve the County Jail, Carl Griffin Drive. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-7

AGENDA DATE: February 23, 2007

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Vincent J. Grevemberg, Senior Engineer

ISSUE: To grant an easement to Georgia Power Company for construction and maintenance of an electric distribution line to serve the County Jail Carl Griffin Drive.

BACKGROUND: Recent construction at the jail has necessitated construction of an additional electrical service. Georgia Power prepared the attached easement and Board approval is needed for the Chairman to sign.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The easement grants a 30 foot wide easement for construction and maintenance of the overhead distribution line.
2. The easement has been reviewed and approved by Engineering and Jail staff.
3. The original draft of the easement contained a clause that would have given Georgia Power the right to assign parts or all of the easement to other entities. Staff objected to the clause and the Georgia Power representative, Mr. Patrick L. Cooke, agreed to strike through the section. He initialed the change on the easement.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board approve granting an easement to Georgia Power Company for construction and maintenance of a distribution line at the County Jail.
2. That the Board not approve granting the easement.

FUNDING: No funds are required for granting this easement.

POLICY ANALYSIS: The Board must approve granting of easements on County property.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board approve Alternative 1.

District 8

Prepared by: Vincent Grevemberg

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8. REQUEST BOARD ACCEPT THE DONATION OF LAND ON WHIPPOORWILL ROAD ON WILMINGTON ISLAND FOR DRAINAGE. [DISTRICT 4.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Gellatly moved to accept the donation by Sean Atkins of land, PIN 1-0039-06, with a legal description of "32.8 x 275 part of the western part of Lot 6, Block A. Southwinds Subdivision," located on Whippoorwill Road on Wilmington Island for drainage. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-8
AGENDA DATE: February 23, 2007

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R.E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Patrick Monahan, Asst. County Manager

ISSUE:

To accept the donation of land on Whippoorwill Road on Wilmington Island for drainage.

BACKGROUND:

A property owner on Wilmington Island acquired two parcels of land, one of which is a drainage canal which the Department of Public Works and Parks Services maintains. Since the drainage canal on the second parcel comprises the entire tract and serves no other purpose, the property owner wants to donate it to Chatham County.

FACTS & FINDINGS:

1. The property owner, Sean Atkins, would be willing to quit claim the property, known as PIN 1-0039-06-015, with a legal description as "32.8 x 275 part of the western part of Lot

6, Block A, Southwinds Subdivision," to Chatham County. The property is located on Whippoorwill Road on Wilmington Island.

2. A drainage canal, which the Department of Public Works and Parks Services maintains as part of the Southwinds Subdivision, comprises the entire parcel. The Department concurs that the County should have access to or control the property.

3. Mr. Atkins would be willing to convey the property for the value of outstanding taxes, which totals about \$500.

FUNDING:

Land Bank/Surplus Property Account

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board authorize the acceptance of PIN 1-0039-06-015 on Whippoorwill Road by quit claim in exchange for the outstanding tax value (approximately \$500).

2. That the Board not accept the property (this would require Public Works to obtain an easement to continue the drainage maintenance which serves the subdivision).

POLICY ANALYSIS:

State law authorizes counties to acquire properties for purposes which serve public needs such as drainage. In this case, the County can acquire at minimal value.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.

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**9. REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF SUNDAY SALES OF BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR
POURING LICENSE FOR 2007. PETITIONER: GARRETT NEIL VALENTINE,
D/B/A/ SOUTHBRIDGE GOLF CLUB, LOCATED AT 415 SOUTHBRIDGE
BOULEVARD.
[DISTRICT 7.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Gellatly moved to approve the petition of Garrett Neil Valentine, d/b/a Southbridge Golf Club, located at 415 Southbridge Boulevard, for transfer of Sunday sales of beer, wine and liquor pouring license for 2007. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-9
AGENDA DATE: February 23, 2007

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
THROUGH: R.E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER
FROM: GREGORI S. ANDERSON, DIRECTOR OF BUILDING SAFETY AND REGULATORY SERVICES
WILLIE LOVETT, ASSISTANT CHIEF OF POLICE

ISSUE

Request for transfer of Sunday sales of beer, wine & liquor pouring license for 2007, Garrett Neil Valentine, d/b/a/ Southbridge Golf Club, located at 415 Southbridge Boulevard.

BACKGROUND

Mr. Valentine requests approval for transfer of Sunday sales of beer, wine and liquor pouring license in connection with an existing golf club. The business at this location meets the requirements of the Chatham County Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance.

FACTS AND FINDINGS

1. The application was reviewed by the Police Department for compliance of the applicant and site distance requirements and approved.
2. The returned application was reviewed by Regulatory Services. The County Fire Marshall inspected the site for compliance with the commercial kitchen requirements and approved the facility.
3. This application is in compliance with all requirements.
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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10. REQUEST FOR RENEWAL OF SUNDAY SALES OF BEER AND WINE POURING LICENSE FOR 2007.

- A. PETITIONER: NAM MA, D/B/A KANPAI JAPANESE RESTAURANT, LOCATED AT 140 JOHNNY MERCER BOULEVARD, SUITE A. [DISTRICT 4.]
- B. PETITIONER: THOMAS L. ODOM, JR., D/B/A COUNTRY SOCIAL CLUB OF SAVANNAH, LOCATED AT 5150 JASMINE AVENUE. [DISTRICT 3.]
- C. PETITIONER: MAEYU C. WU, D/B/A HUNAN'S RESTAURANT, LOCATED AT 318 JOHNNY MERCER BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 4.]
- D. PETITIONER: JOHN A. HENDERSON, D/B/A COUSIN VINNIES PIZZA, LOCATED AT 7360 SKIDAWAY ROAD. [DISTRICT 3.]
- E. PETITIONER: HUGH BARNES, D/B/A BARNES RESTAURANT, LOCATED AT 4685 HIGHWAY 80 EAST. [DISTRICT 4.]
- F. PETITIONER: MERRITT W. DIXON, D/B/A SPRING HILL SUITES, LOCATED AT 4 GATEWAY BOULEVARD EAST. [DISTRICT 7.]
- G. PETITIONER: CHERI STOKES KELLER, D/B/A JANIE ARKWRIGHT'S KITCHEN, LOCATED WITHIN KELLER'S FLEA MARKET AT 5901 OGEECHEE ROAD. [DISTRICT 7.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Gellatly moved to approve the petitions for renewal of Sunday sales of beer and wine pouring licenses for 2007 as follows: (A) Nam Ma, d/b/a Kanpai Japanese Restaurant, located at 140 Johnny Mercer Boulevard, Suite A; (B) Thomas L. Odom, Jr., d/b/a Country Social Club of Savannah, located at 5150 Jasmine Avenue; (C) Maeyu C. Wu, d/b/a Hunan's Restaurant, located at 318 Johnny Mercer Boulevard; (D) John A. Henderson, d/b/a Cousin Vinnies Pizza, located at 7360 Skidaway Road; (E) Hugh Barnes, d/b/a Barnes Restaurant, located at 4685 Highway 80 East; (F) Merritt W. Dixon, d/b/a Spring Hill Suites, located at 4 Gateway Boulevard East; and (G) Cheri Stokes Keller, d/b/a Janie Arkwright's Kitchen, located within Keller's Flea Market at 5901 Ogeechee Road. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

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- 11. **REQUEST FOR RENEWAL OF SUNDAY SALES OF BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR POURING LICENSE FOR 2007.**
 - A. PETITIONER: ANGELA F. THOMPSON, D/B/A CREEKSIDE GRILL, LOCATED AT 216C JOHNNY MERCER BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 4.]
 - B. PETITIONER: EARL W. HIERS, D/B/A UNCLE BUBBA'S SEAFOOD & OYSTER HOUSE, LOCATED AT 104 BRYAN WOODS ROAD. [DISTRICT 4.]

- C. PETITIONER: ROBERT MCLAURIN BURCH, D/B/A DIAMOND GIRL, LLC (DIAMOND GIRL) EXCURSION VESSEL, TO BE LOCATED AT 8010 TYBEE ROAD. [DISTRICT 4.]
- D. PETITIONER: J. CLIFF MCCURRY D/B/A SAVANNAH YACHT CLUB, INC., LOCATED AT END OF BRADLEY POINT ROAD. [DISTRICT 4.]
- E. PETITIONER: ELEANOR M. COURSEY, D/B/A GRANT'S CROW BAR LOUNGE, LOCATED AT 205 JOHNNY MERCER BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 4.]
- F. PETITIONER: STEPHEN C. SIMS, D/B/A SANDFLY BAR AND GRILL, LOCATED AT 7360 SKIDAWAY ROAD. [DISTRICT 3.]
- G. PETITIONER: EDWARD JOSEPH TURNER, D/B/A THE MARSHES OF SKIDAWAY ISLAND, LOCATED AT 95 SKIDAWAY ISLAND PARK ROAD. [DISTRICT 4.]
- H. PETITIONER: JIMMY C. HARVEY, JR., D/B/A SHAMROCK'S IRISH PUB, LOCATED AT 348 JOHNNY MERCER BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 4.]
- I. PETITIONER: SUJEE GUZMAN, D/B/A JALAPEÑOS #4, LOCATED AT 107 CHARLOTTE ROAD, SUITE A. [DISTRICT 4.]
- J. PETITIONER: MAGDA CASTELLANOS, D/B/A JALAPEÑOS MEXICAN RESTAURANT, LOCATED AT 7405 SKIDAWAY ROAD. [DISTRICT 1.]
- K. PETITIONER: ERICH CHRISTOPH, D/B/A BAJA CANTINA, LOCATED AT 3A SKIDAWAY VILLAGE WALK. [DISTRICT 4.]
- L. PETITIONER: MARIA ARRIETA, D/B/A CANCUN MEXICAN RESTAURANT II, LOCATED AT 216 JOHNNY MERCER BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 4.]
- M. PETITIONER: MICHELE QUATTLEBAUM D/B/A DRIFTAWAY CAFÉ, LOCATED AT 7400 D SKIDAWAY ROAD. [DISTRICT 1.]
- N. PETITIONER: JOHN R. TURNER, D/B/A ISLAND OYSTER BAR, LOCATED AT 444 JOHNNY MERCER BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 4.]
- O. PETITIONER: JOHN R. TURNER, D/B/A, SALTWATER GRILLE, LOCATED AT 7000 LAROCHE AVENUE. [DISTRICT 3.]
- P. PETITIONER: DAVID D. MESSINGER, D/B/A PERKINS RESTAURANT & BAKERY, LOCATED WITHIN THE QUALITY INN-SAVANNAH, LOCATED AT 3-A GATEWAY BOULEVARD SOUTH. [DISTRICT 6.]
- Q. PETITIONER: ROBERT P. LESAGE, D/B/A RUBY TUESDAY RESTAURANT, LOCATED AT 590 AL HENDERSON BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 7.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Gellatly moved to approve the petitions for renewal of Sunday sales of beer, wine and liquor pouring licenses for 2007 as follows: (A) Angela F. Thompson, d/b/a Creekside Grill, located at 216C Johnny Mercer Boulevard; (B) Earl W. Hiers, d/b/a Uncle Bubba's Seafood & Oyster House,

located at 104 Bryan Woods Road; (C) Robert McLaurin Burch, d/b/a Diamond Girl, LLC (Diamond Girl) excursion vessel, to be located at 8010 Tybee Road; (D) J. Cliff McCurry, d/b/a Savannah Yacht Club, Inc., located at End of Bradley Point Road; (E) Eleanor M. Coursey, d/b/a Grant's Crow Bar Lounge, located at 205 Johnny Mercer Boulevard; (F) Stephen C. Sims, d/b/a Sandfly Bar and Grill, located at 7360 Skidaway Road; (G) Edward Joseph Turner, d/b/a The Marshes of Skidaway Island, located at 95 Skidaway Island Park Road; (H) Jimmy C. Harvey, Jr., d/b/a Shamrock's Irish Pub, located at 348 Johnny Mercer Boulevard; (I) Sujee Guzman, d/b/a Jalapeños #4, located at 107 Charlotte Road, Suite A; (J) Magda Castellanos, d/b/a Jalapeños Mexican Restaurant, located at 7405 Skidaway Road; (K) Erich Christoph, d/b/a Baja Cantina, located at 3A Skidaway Village Walk; (L) Maria Arrieta, d/b/a Cancun Mexican Restaurant II, located at 216 Johnny Mercer Boulevard; (M) Michele Quattlebaum d/b/a Driftaway Café, located at 7400 D Skidaway Road; (N) John R. Turner, d/b/a Island Oyster Bar, located at 444 Johnny Mercer Boulevard; (O) John R. Turner, d/b/a, Saltwater Grille, located at 7000 LaRoche Avenue; (P) David D. Messinger, d/b/a Perkins Restaurant & Bakery, located within the Quality Inn-Savannah, located at 3-A Gateway Boulevard South; and (Q) Robert P. LeSage, d/b/a Ruby Tuesday Restaurant, located at 590 Al Henderson Boulevard. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

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12. 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. Declare items and unserviceable surplus and approval to sell at public auction or to dispose as scrap material	Fleet Operations	N/A	N/A	Revenue Producing
B. Professional design engineering services for the Village Green Canal and Maintenance road project	SPLOST	Moffatt & Nichol, Inc.	\$89,800	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Drainage - Village Green project
C. City-County Co-Operative job order contract for an as needed guardrail parts, repair and installation	Public Works and Park Services	Leon's Fence & Guardrail, LLC	Not to Exceed \$100,000	SSD - Public Works
D. Change Order No. 10 to the annual contract for pest control services for the new temporary housing unit	Detention Center	Ideal Pest Control	\$960	General Fund/M & O - Detention Center

ITEM	DEPT.	SOURCE	AMOUNT	FUNDING
E. Term contract to provide construction equipment and services for County projects	SPLOST	T Clearing	Not to Exceed \$200,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •SPLOST (1985-1993) •SPLOST (1998-2003) •SPLOST (2003-2008) •Land Bank Authority
F. Contract for landscape management services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •SPLOST •Various 	Savannah Tree Foundation	Varies by project	Various
G. Professional services contract for greenspace inventory and monitor project	SPLOST	Georgia Land Trust	Not to Exceed \$30,000	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Greenspace
H. Change Order No. 1 to the design contract for Tom Triplett Park - Phase III for additional site work to modify the design to include the design of the construction of a bridge and adding an additional 30 days to the contract	SPLOST	Thomas & Hutton Engineering Company	\$2,600	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Tom Triplett Park
I. Six (6) month contract extension for "Naming Rights" sponsorship for various parks and recreational facilities	Recreational Authority	Sheer Game	No Cost	No additional funding required
J. Terminate Agreement for managing the Memorial Stadium scoreboard	Public Works and Park Services	Signage Consultant L.P., a/k/a Signage Development, LLC	No Cost	No additional funding required

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Gellatly moved to approve Items 12-A through 12-J, both inclusive. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

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XI. FIRST READINGS

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

None.

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XII. SECOND READINGS

None.

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XIII. INFORMATION ITEMS

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A status report was attached as information.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A status report was attached as information.

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-2

AGENDA DATE: February 23, 2007

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

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
Cabling for Broughton Street move	SPLOST	Entre Solutions (MBE)	\$5,034	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Courthouse Construction
15 trimmers	Public Works and Park Services	Lawnmower Store	\$5,568	SSD - Public Works
Green coated fence materials for overheads in dugouts at Charlie Brooks and Ambuc Parks	Parks and Recreation	Nations Fence, Inc.	\$5,208	General Fund/M & O - Parks and Recreation
Replacement batteries for UPS system	Tax Commissioner	Nationwide Power Solutions	\$4,814	General Fund/M & O - Tax Commissioner
Excavation work at the Westlake Canal	SPLOST	Blankenship Landscape Co.	\$9,200	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Westlake Drainage

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3. INFORM THE BOARD ABOUT THE 2007 YOUTH COMMISSION TRIP TO WASHINGTON, D.C., PHILADELPHIA, PA, AND NEW YORK, NY, ON MARCH 4-8, 2007.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Van Johnson, Director of the Youth Commission.

Mr. Johnson said, thank you very much. Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, good morning. Certainly the comments so eloquently spoken by Ms. Pickney was just a very good segue, if you will, to our annual trip. As you know, for the last number of years the Youth Commission has taken an annual trip to the National Association of Counties, where they are the only youth group in the country that has the privilege of coming to the National Association of Counties Annual Legislative Conference. You know, because you're there, and we bring these young people there and they're there to interact with your colleagues from all over the country. I will tell you that certainly their appearing there has certainly paid dividends for Chatham County as being the epicenter, if you will, for youth development in this country. We will have the pleasure on next Sunday of having dinner with our newest-formed Youth Commission, which is Prince George County Youth Commission in Maryland, so it's an opportunity for us to bring the youth groups together. We'll be heading to DC, we'll be heading to Philadelphia, we'll be going on to New York, giving our young people the opportunity to expose them, to show them the things they hear

about on TV. Dr. Thomas is always with us. I don't know how she switches from NACo to us, but she does — after NACo to us, but she does, and it's just a wonderful opportunity that you make available for our young people, and no matter how old they get, they still talk about their experiences every year, some type of experience, whether it's 70 degrees in one city and 20 the next, or if it's 13 degrees somewhere or last year we had the opportunity, along with Commissioner Stone and Commissioner Farrell, to see Clarence Thomas at the Supreme Court, which was an interesting experience. We just want to thank you for providing the opportunity, and we want you to pray for us because being with 50 young people for that length of time, I lose a little bit of hair every time I go up that road, and so it's a —, but it's worthwhile and it's worth it and you help make it happen.

Mr. Johnson said, the only other thing I want to report in regards to that is that we've asked to meet with President Bush and usually we get told no right out front. This year we have not been told no yet. As a matter of fact, the Secret Service contacted me and wanted the social security numbers and birth dates of our entourage, so that's a very positive encouraging sign. They may still say no, but at least we're closer. Dr. Thomas said that if she ever had anything to do with it, we're going to be — we're going to meet the President, and I believe her. So again, we just wanted to thank you for your support of these young people, your constant support. It's seen all over the country. We talked with someone in Mississippi, I believe, now that wants to form a Youth Commission. We recently saw a news report from Albany, Georgia, where your colleagues in Albany, Georgia, are going to start a Youth Commission this year. So I just want to thank you for your continued support in adopting Dr. Thomas' vision and of our young people of this community.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Farrell.

Commissioner Farrell said, Mr. Johnson, I have a request on behalf of myself, the people of Tybee Island, the people of Chatham County, and for all the State of Georgia, that while the Youth Commission, as they become more influential every year, that while they're up at Washington, DC, participating in the NACo and rubbing shoulders with our Federal legislators, if they would take the opportunity to encourage our Federal legislators to provide funding for the beach renourishment at our own beach here at beach here at Chatham County, Tybee, Georgia. Mr. Johnson said, we can take that on, as a matter of fact, and you see them writing, so that will be — we certainly can do that. Commissioner Farrell said, I would personally appreciate it and all the people throughout Georgia and Chatham County and Tybee would appreciate their assistance in this. Thank you.

Mr. Johnson said, certainly. The other thing I wanted to — an interesting side note, one of our former Youth Commissioners is also now in American Idol and has been performing and is doing relatively well, and we certainly encourage people to watch and to vote for her from Savannah and a former member of our organization. So we certainly support Stephanie Edwards and her family and, you know, we don't believe in losers, so — I mean, she's already put Savannah on the map because every time you call her name, you call Savannah and you call Chatham County. So we're excited about that as well.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Shay.

Commissioner Shay said, I know that last year when you went you had the good fortune to fun into a former President, Thomas Jefferson. If you see him again this time, please, please I would like to have his cell phone number, okay.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I think that would be a great opportunity to get national exposure for the Youth Commission. When she returns home, normally — because she's going to go far. She's really good. For the Youth Commission to host some type of concert type thing at Memorial Stadium, for that matter, and that would be some great exposure for y'all as well as helping one of our own hopefully obtain that —, so that's great.

Mr. Johnson said, absolutely. We're excited. I mean, just the influence that you have is far-reaching and you just never know where it might go.

Chairman Liakakis said, and we'd like to thank Commissioner Priscilla Thomas because she came up with this idea and saw that vision because many lives of our students here that participate in this Youth Commission, they have progressed to a much higher level. We can see many successes of those that have graduated. It's made, like I said, a big difference in many of the young people's lives and, of course, we thank you also for being Director of this, and it has brung a lot of recognition to our Chatham County because many other areas around the country now want to do the same thing that we have in Chatham County so that they might have it in their city and county. Thanks again.

Mr. Johnson said, thank you. We've been invited the following week back to Washington for the National League of Cities to do a presentation on the Youth Commission again. We did one in Reno in December and they've invited us back because the response was just so overwhelming. So again, you all are setting the trend all over the country for youth development, and I thank you for that.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

The Board was enlightened about the upcoming trip by the Youth Commissioners to the NACo Legislative Conference by Mr. Van Johnson and a status report was attached as information.

AGENDA ITEM: X-8

AGENDA DATE: February 23, 2007

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R.E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Michael A. Kaigler, Human Resources and Services Director
Van R. Johnson, II, Employee Services and Training Manager

ISSUE:

To inform the Board about the 2007 Youth Commission Trip to Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, PA and New York, NY on March 4 - 8, 2007.

BACKGROUND:

In an effort to expose our youth to government on the local and federal levels, the Chatham County Youth Commission has ventured to Washington, DC for the past four years. Since 1998, the Youth Commission has served as the special guests of the National Association of Counties (NACo) during their Annual Legislative Conference. The Chatham County Youth Commission has been invited to attend the 2007 session as well.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Approximately thirty-six Youth Commissioners, three Human Resources staff members, eight other chaperones and Dr. Priscilla D. Thomas will be attending this year's conference.
2. Mr. Pete Nichols, Chatham County Public Information Officer, will be creating a video documentary for airing on the County Access Channel.
3. The Chatham County Youth Commission will attend the NACo legislative conference on March 5, 2007. While in Washington, Philadelphia, PA and New York City, they will visit various historic and educational sites.
4. Funding for this trip will come from a personal investment by the Youth Commissioners, and the Youth Commission budget.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

As the Chatham County Youth Commission has become a national model as well as a source of pride and goodwill for the Chatham County Commission, activities such as this provide valuable insight, knowledge and memories for the members of the Chatham County Youth Commission. The inclusion of community partners only adds to the spirit of diversity and collaboration that the Youth Commission exemplifies.

RECOMMENDATION:

For Information Only.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion being made by Commissioner Thomas and seconded by Commissioner Gellatly, the Board recessed at 11:17 a.m., to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

Following adjournment of the Executive Session, the meeting of the Board of Commissioners was reconvened at 11:56 a.m. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

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ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

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

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APPOINTMENTS

- 1. ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Shay moved to appoint Brian K. Felder to the Zoning Board of Appeals, with a term to expire August 1, 2011. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Odell were not present when this vote was taken.]

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ADJOURNMENT

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

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APPROVED: THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2007

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

SYBIL E. TILLMAN, CLERK OF COMMISSION