

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, JULY 23, 2009, 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 approximately 9:35 a.m., Friday, July 23, 2009. Chairman Liakakis said, one of the reasons so that people today, we want people to know that many of our County Commissioners will be going to the National Association of County Commissioners [sic] to the national meeting to pick up a lot of information that will help our County Commissioners and they will be leaving tomorrow. So that's why we're having a Thursday meeting as opposed to on a Friday.

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**II. INVOCATION**

Commissioner Helen Stone gave the Invocation.

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**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Commissioner Patrick Shay led the Pledge of 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:       Patrick Monahan, Assistant County Manager  
                      Jonathan Hart, County Attorney  
                      Sybil E. Tillman, County Clerk

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**CHATHAM COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSIONERS**

Chairman Liakakis said, what I'd like to do before we start on the agenda, in attendance today is Chatham County Youth Commission candidates, and these students are in attendance to observe the Chatham County Commission meeting today and they are in Summer Boot Camp to earn a position for the Chatham County Youth Commission. We welcome you today to see how our County Commission goes and thank you very much for attending the Boot Camp and for being here today.

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## **V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

### **1. RECOGNITION OF YOUNGSTERS FROM THE WESLEY COMMUNITY CENTER.**

Chairman Liakakis asked, do we have the representatives for the Wesley Community Center here this morning? [No response.] Jerrell [McRell], did you see that representative? Okay, we'll go on to the next item under Commissioners items.

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

None.

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## **VII. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS**

### **1. RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF ARRA FUNDING FOR COASTAL GEORGIA GREENWAY TRAIL (COMMISSIONER SHAY AND COMMISSIONER GELLATLY).**

Chairman Liakakis said, Commissioner Shay and Commissioner Gellatly will respond on that.

Commissioner Shay said, I got a telephone call from Drew Wade and the people that are so deeply involved in our community with the bicycle and asked if we would be willing to resolve and support the Coastal Greenway Trail. It's a trail that has been in planning for I don't know how long, Pat [Monahan] — 10 years at least. Assistant County Manager Monahan said, or longer. Commissioner Shay said, so it's actually to connect to South Carolina and to Florida and really up and down the Eastern Seaboard in hopes that they might be able to attract some of the Federal funding that's out there in the world now from ARRA. Did you have a chance to prepare a resolution or is that something —? Assistant County Manager Monahan said, yes sir. I actually prepared two resolutions and I distributed them last night in your packages. Commissioner Shay said, oops! Okay.

Assistant County Manager Monahan said, the first resolution confirms that this Board has never thrown its support — confirms the segment within Chatham County, and then the second one is in general support of the Coastal Georgia Greenway, which is 150 mile trail which will connect through Georgia, through six coastal counties in both the States of South Carolina and Florida as part of the East Coast Greenway, which stretches from Clay, Maine, to Key West, Florida.

Commissioner Shay said, okay. Well, it sounds to me like the second resolution is the one that is pertinent to the issue today that they've asked about and when they came forward and asked me about it, I suggested that Commissioner Shay and Commissioner Gellatly might also want to weight in on this since it really goes through their districts.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Gellatly.

Commissioner Gellatly said, I'm somewhat familiar with the program. I think it's an excellent program and is long overdue, and we certainly need to get some action going on this. A resolution would be good.

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

Commissioner Stone said, Mr. Chairman, thank you. I concur. I was also asked by some neighbors if this trail could include provisions for equestrians.

Assistant County Manager Monahan said, the — what's interesting. Even though the segment along the coastal counties is 150 miles, there are other parts of the system that, for example, the Truman Trail is part of the system even though it's not actually part of the 150 miles, but within each County, each County has its own projects, and there are a number of equestrian trails that include water features such as for kayaking. I don't think that we have any trails in Chatham County that include the equestrian element, but —.

Commissioner Stone asked, but are these paved trails or are they —? Assistant County Manager Monahan said, they're various. Some are on-road, some are off-road, but they're designated. They have the commonality of

signage, a designated area. They're marketed as part of a collection or system of trails. Commissioner Stone asked, well, could that be included? Assistant County Manager Monahan said, yes. Within the current master plan that a previous Board adopted for the Coastal Georgia Greenway, it does not include any equestrian trails in Chatham County that I can recall, but we certainly can take a look at that.

Commissioner Stone said, I think, Mr. Chairman, that someone in the audience would like to speak.

Chairman Liakakis said, yes, come up to the microphone and identify yourself please.

Ms. Jo Hickson said, good morning. I'm Jo Hickson with the Coastal Georgia Greenway, Inc., and our group is working among the local jurisdictions in Coastal Georgia, the six counties and nine cities, to forward the project for a TIGER funding, and in answer to Commissioner Stone's question about equestrian trails, in the Savannah-Ogeechee Canal master plan we did identify the possibility of an equestrian trail on one bank of the canal, while the paved trail could be on the other bank of the canal and in particular as it ties into Triplett Park. So that has been identified as a potential trail for development. It was not cited as such as part of this project for funding.

Commissioner Stone asked, but it could be something for the future, is what you're saying? Ms. Hickson said, yes. Commissioner Stone said, it was just asked of me and I said that I would inquire that as long as we were looking at recreational facilities, why not include an equestrian trail as well.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Shay.

Commissioner Shay said, well with that discussion, then I would like to make a motion in favor of the resolution and — should I read it? I should read it? Chairman Liakakis said, yes. Commissioner Shay said, okay.

**WHEREAS**, the Coastal Georgia Greenway extends 150 miles through six coastal Georgia counties and links similar projects in Florida and South Carolinas as part of a national project to develop and construct the East Coast Greenway, which will provide a multi-use recreational trail from the top of Maine to the tip of Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, the Coastal Georgia Greenway also represents a single project as part of a planned system of 450-miles of trails within the six coastal counties under the *Connect Coastal Georgia Master Plan*, a multi-purpose trail project, which will also promote heritage and eco-tourism, through trails, waterway transportation, and equestrian trails; and

**WHEREAS**, based on projections by the Center for Regional Analysis at Armstrong Atlantic State University, by 2020 the trail will attract some 500,000 users annually; and

**WHEREAS**, Chatham County has identified the projects identified within this community as an important part of its "Open Space Plan," finds the project's purpose consistent with goals identified in its "Comprehensive Plan," included the project in its 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan (currently unfunded) and supported the inclusion of major trail segments (Heritage Trail, Truman Trail, S&O Canal Trail and Hutchinson Island Riverwalk) in the Transportation Improvement Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will make funds available for various capital projects which develop regional alternative transportation plans, and the Coastal Georgia Greenway, estimated at \$90 million to \$100 million, meets the intent of these programs.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County does hereby demonstrate its support for the Coastal Georgia Greenway and urges highest consideration of its funding through the ARRA.

Commissioner Shay said, if adopted, it will be signed by Chairman Liakakis and Clerk Sybil Tillman. So I move in favor of that resolution.

Chairman Liakakis said, alright. We need a second. Commissioner Stone said, second. Commissioner Holmes said, second. Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor and a second.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ms. Hickson, does the — How are you doing today? Ms. Hickson said, just fine. Commissioner Kicklighter said, good, good. Does the master plan include the changes along Bush Road and the Ogeechee Canal that this Board implemented several years ago, or has it been updated I guess to show the changes that we put in there? Ms. Hickson said, absolutely. The S&O Canal — I mean, excuse me. The S&O Canal Master Plan would be incorporated into part of this overall County plan, and I understand the changes that you mentioned on Bush Road that it would be paved shoulders on that road. I think that's what you're referring to. Commissioner Kicklighter said, right. Ms. Hickson said, those would still stand.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yes ma'am. They keep their current assess to their properties and everything. Ms. Hickson said, right. Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you very much. Appreciate you coming today. Let's go on the board . The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Shay moved to adopt a resolution in support of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding for Coastal Georgia Greenway Trail. Commissioners Stone and Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.



**WHEREAS**, the Coastal Georgia Greenway extends 150 miles through six coastal Georgia counties and links similar projects in Florida and South Carolina as part of a national project to develop and construct the East Coast Greenway, which will provide a multi-use recreational trail from the top of Maine to the tip of Florida; and

**WHEREAS**, the Coastal Georgia Greenway also represents a single project as part of a planned system of 450-miles of trails within the six coastal counties under the *Connect Coastal Georgia Master Plan*, a multi-purpose trail project, which will also promote heritage and eco-tourism, through trails, waterway transportation, and equestrian trails; and

**WHEREAS**, based on projections by the Center for Regional Analysis at Armstrong Atlantic State University, by 2020 the trail will attract some 500,000 users annually; and

**WHEREAS**, Chatham County has identified the projects identified within this community as an important part of its "Open Space Plan," finds the project's purpose consistent with goals identified in its "Comprehensive Plan," included the project in its 5-Year Capital Improvement Plan (unfunded) and supported the inclusion of major trail segments (Heritage Trail, Truman Trail, S&O Canal Trail and Hutchinson Island Riverwalk) in the Transportation Improvement Plan; and

**WHEREAS**, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will make funds available for various capital projects which develop regional alternative transportation plans, and the Coastal Georgia Greenway, estimated at \$90 million to \$100 million, meets the intent of these programs.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County does hereby demonstrate its support for the Coastal Georgia Greenway and urges highest consideration of its funding through the ARRA.

Adopted this \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pete Liakakis, Chairman

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sybil Tillman, Clerk

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**VIII. TABLED/RECONSIDERED ITEMS**

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

None.

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**IX. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL ACTION**

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

- 1. **TO REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING FY 2010 BUDGET TRANSFERS AND AMENDMENTS: SALES TAX III TRANSFER \$9,000,000 FROM TRUMAN PARKWAY PHASE 5 TO EAST /WEST CORRIDOR, HAMPSTEAD AVENUE/MILDRED STREET CONNECTION.**

Chairman Liakakis said, Patrick [Monahan], if you will go over that.

Assistant County Manager Monahan said, yes sir, Mr. Chairman. This action would return funding previously transferred by the Board in March of 2008 from the Hampstead Connection Project to Truman Trail to allow the acquisition of the final properties for rights-of-way. Subsequent to that action, we have completed all the right-of-way acquisition and the Georgia Department of Transportation has reimbursed the funding for the acquisition of the right-of-way, so now the funds can be transferred back to the Hampstead Connection Project.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, we need a motion on the floor. Commissioner Farrell said, so moved. Chairman Liakakis said, we need a second. Commissioner Stone 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. Chairman Liakakis said, okay, the motion is approved.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Farrell moved that the Board approve the following FY 2010 budget transfers and amendments: Sales Tax III transfer of \$9,000,000 from Truman Parkway Phase 5 to East/West Corridor, Hampstead Avenue/Mildred Street Connection. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM: IX-1**  
**AGENDA DATE: July 23, 2009**

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

**ISSUE:** To request approval of the following FY2010 budget transfers and amendments: Sales Tax III transfer \$9,000,000 from Truman Parkway Phase 5 to East /West Corridor, Hampstead Avenue/Mildred Street Connection.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**  
The County Engineer has requested a transfer of \$9,000,000 from Truman Parkway Phase 5 to East /West Corridor, Hampstead Avenue/Mildred Street Connection Sales Tax III (1998-2003). Correspondence is attached.

**FUNDING:** Funds are available in the Truman Parkway project in Sales Tax III for the transfer.

**ALTERNATIVES:**  
(1) That the Board approve the following:

**SALES TAX III (1998-2003) FUND**  
Transfer \$9,000,000 from Truman Parkway Phase 5 to East

/West Corridor, Hampstead Avenue/Mildred Street  
Connection.

(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. TO HOLD THE THIRD PUBLIC HEARING AS REQUIRED BY STATE LAW ON THE COUNTY'S INTENT TO LEVY A MILLAGE RATE THAT DIFFERS FROM THE CALCULATED "ROLLBACK" MILLAGE RATE FOR AD VALOREM TAX PURPOSES.**

Chairman Liakakis said, now the second item to hold the third public hearing that differs from the calculated rollback millage rate for the ad valorem tax purposes.

Commissioner Farrell said, so moved. Commissioner Kicklighter said, we've got to open the public hearing.

Chairman Liakakis said, I'm going to read this statement that's required now by State law.

Ladies and gentlemen, this hearing is being held in compliance with state law. The Chatham County Board of Commissioners has announced publicly its intention to decrease the property taxes it will levy this year by 0.75 percent under the rollback millage rate for General Maintenance and Operations taxes, 0.43 percent under the rollback millage rate for Special Service District taxes, and 0.49 percent under the rollback millage rate for Chatham Area Transit Authority.

The purpose of this hearing is to provide members of the public the opportunity to comment.

The proposed millage rate for the General Fund is 10.537 mills, which is .08 mills lower than the calculated "rollback millage" of 10.617 mills.

The proposed millage rate for the Special Service District Fund is 3.475 mills, which is .015 mills lower than the calculated "rollback millage" of 3.490 mills.

The proposed millage rate for the Chatham Area Transit Authority is 0.820 mills, which is .004 mills lower than the calculated "rollback millage" of 0.824 mills.

A list is provided at the front of the room for you to record your name and address, as well as the group or organization you represent, if any. This will allow us to document that the public input was solicited.

Chairman Liakakis said, we have now the meeting is open. The public meeting for this millage issue. Do we have any citizens in the audience that would like to comment at this public hearing on the setting of the millage rate? Anyone in the audience. Yes. Come up to the microphone and give your name please.

Mr. Richard Mika said, my name is Richard Mika. I just wanted to clarify, is the millage rate being increased or decreased here?

Chairman Liakakis said, what I just read. It's being decreased by the amounts that I just read off. Mr. Mika said, okay. Then they're not planning on increasing because, see, I have a problem with the County. I have two homes here in the County and one out of County. I have — my wife and I have 10 property rentals. I have a business and office here. We're paying \$50,000 every six months just to the County in taxes and so far from what I've been able to determine, the main thing we get from our money is (A) — and y'all, if I'm not mistaken, y'all have some part with the Savannah-Chatham County Police Department as far as funding and responsibility and such. I have been able to determine that the Police Department, when it comes to juveniles, do not want to do what their job is. They want to — when they're apprehended, they let them go back to the school or just let them go without taking them down and booking them. I have run across this on numerous occasions on them skipping school and being at my properties, vandalizing them. They do not want to uphold — do what they agreed to in an agreement between the County — the Police Department and myself to go around to this one property because we were remodeling it and they kept breaking into it.

Chairman Liakakis said, let me ask you this, sir. Do you have evidence about a specific individual that broke in, that did that at your location?

Mr. Mika said, yes sir. We have caught them several times and I also —. Chairman Liakakis said, wait a minute. What I'm saying is did you give the name or show that individual to the Police Department that did that at your location? Mr. Mika said, oh yes. The police came out and caught some of them and I was told point blank, and I can even give the police officer's name. I was told point blank, "Well, all we can do is turn the child over to the school." Chairman Liakakis said, well, that —. Mr. Mika said, "We cannot take them down and charge them," which was an outright falsehood. They are supposed to take them down, not just turn them back over. I have had one child that was arrested and brought up to the Detention Center and one of the parole officers adjudicated the case. Instead of him going before the judge, the parole officer says, "Well, I give him probation."

Chairman Liakakis said, let me tell you what now. Mr. Mika said, oh, yes, I have a serious problem with the — giving any more money to County. Chairman Liakakis said, here's what we'll do. I'll have the Chief of Police contact you, you know, concerning that, but what we're having right now is on the millage rate, but I want you to know this to fully understand that this County Commission does not set the valuations on property. We do not do that. The State Government has set up a separate governmental entity, which is the Assessors. The Assessors set those rates on property taxes and we do not have anything to set — to do with evaluations, but what I will make sure if you will sign your name, your address and your phone number there, and our Assistant County Manager, Patrick Monahan, will take that and we'll make sure that the Chief of Police contacts you on that matter.

Mr. Mika said, I contacted the Chief of Police. He told me to talk to the District —. Chairman Liakakis asked, District Attorney? Mr. Mika said, no, to the District — the Precinct Captain. The Precinct Captain did nothing. He returned one phone call out of about five.

Chairman Liakakis recognized County Attorney Hart. Mr. Mika said, and I have a serious problem with that.

County Attorney Hart said, you need to stay on the subject.

Chairman Liakakis said, yeah, that's what I was just saying. That's what I told him.

Commissioner Kicklighter asked, Mr. Chairman, can we ask where he lives? Commissioner Thomas said, yeah, that's what I want to know. Commissioner Kicklighter said, or where this —? Commissioner Thomas asked, where's the property? Mr. Mika said, I have 116 McLaws Street and 405 Buccaneer Bend out on Dutch Island. Commissioner Kicklighter asked, where did the burglary or whatever took place — the vandalism? Mr. Mika said, the property that I was remodeling. That was 4805 Springhill Road behind Jenkins High and Juliette Lowe. Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay, well you would need to contact the Mayor and Council of Savannah because that occurred in Savannah. Mr. Mika said, I have tried, but this is — that is Chatham County Police, Metropolitan Police. It's a combination.

Chairman Liakakis said, yeah, but if it occurred into the City, but what I'm saying to you, sir, so that you understand, we're having a public hearing on millage rate and that is not supposed to be, you know, part of the public hearing, but we want to make sure that somebody with the department contacts you or that if you will call the Mayor's Office over there and give him the information so that he can instruct the people that handle that area for you.

Mr. Mika said, the reason I came up on this because it was my understanding of the increase of the property taxes, which helps fund all of this. Any increase in taxes on my property, when I'm already paying \$100,000 a year, I have a problem when we get this kind of a service, or should I say lack of service.

Chairman Liakakis said, well, as Commissioner Kicklighter has stated to you that if you will contact the Mayor's Office or the City Manager's Office with the City of Savannah, and make sure you give that information to him, sir.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman, and to further clarify —. Chairman Liakakis said, yes. Commissioner Kicklighter said, — if something happens on a property located in the City of Savannah, that property has no taxes applied to it that goes towards the Police Department. The only people in Chatham County that fund a merged Police Department are the people in the unincorporated areas. So where you live on Dutch Island would be unincorporated area, that's the part that funds the Police Department for Chatham County, that unincorporated area, but the property that that occurred is in Savannah, and —. Mr. Mika said, I have a property on Hollow Oak Drive out by Jordan's Corner also. Commissioner Kicklighter said, right.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Thank you, sir. Are there any other persons? Please come forward if you would like to comment on the millage rate. And sign your name please. Sign that right there. Put your name, address and phone number please. We're required by State law to have that information. State your name right now so that we can —. Thank you.

Ms. Millie Rivers said, Millie Rivers. Good morning. I just wanted to say thank you. As long as it's a decrease, I'm satisfied. Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Ms. Rivers said, thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, alright. Thank you very much. We appreciate you coming this morning. Okay if there are no other individuals that would like to comment on the millage rate this morning, I will call the meeting over with, and now we —. Jon [Hart], do we vote on that right now or we wait until —. Assistant County Manager Monahan said, next item, sir. County Attorney Hart said, just go ahead and close the public hearing. Chairman Liakakis said, okay. The public hearing is closed.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Chairman Liakakis opened the floor for a public hearing to welcome the comments from citizens regarding the millage rate.

**AGENDA ITEM: IX-2**  
**AGENDA DATE: July 23, 2009**

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

**ISSUE:**

To hold a Public Hearing as required by State law on the County's intent to levy a millage rate that differs from the calculated "rollback" millage rate for ad valorem tax purposes.

**BACKGROUND:**

Chatham County is required by State law (O.C.G.A Code Section 48-5-32.1) to compute a "rollback" millage rate, which is the previous year's millage rate minus the millage equivalent of the total net assessed value added by reassessments of existing real property. The law further provides that, if the levying authority proposes to levy a millage rate in excess of the computed "rollback" rate, certain advertisements and three public hearings must be held before the adoption of the final millage rate.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

- 1) The 2009 digest has a decrease in the total net assessed value added by reassessments of existing real property. This has resulted in a calculated rollback rate that is higher than the current millage rate. The proposed millage rates are lower than the rollback rate computed using the formula in state law.
- 2) At its June 26, 2009 meeting, the Chatham County Commission instructed staff to proceed with the necessary advertisements and schedule the public hearings necessary to adopt the millage rates for the 2009 Tax Digest:
  - a) For the General Fund the advertised millage rate was 10.537 mils, unchanged from last year's rate. This is lower than the calculated "rollback" rate of 10.617 mils, by 0.08 mils, a 0.75% decrease.
  - b) For the Special Service District the advertised millage rate was 3.475 mils, unchanged from last year's rate. This is lower than the calculated "rollback" rate of 3.490 mils, by 0.015 mils, a 0.43% decrease.
  - c) For the Chatham Area Transit Authority the advertised millage rate will remain unchanged from last year at 0.820 mils. This is lower than the calculated "rollback" rate of 0.824 mils, by 0.004 mils, a 0.49% decrease.
- 3) Public hearings were held at 9:30 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. on July 15, 2009. These hearings were advertised in the Savannah Morning News on July 7, 2009.
- 4) A third public hearing is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. July 23, 2009. This hearing was advertised in the Savannah Morning News on July 15, 2009. After the public hearing is complete, the Board can adopt the millage rate.
- 5) Also, as required by law, on July 7, 2009, Chatham County issued a press release to the Savannah Morning News and the television media announcing the above mentioned millage rates and the three public hearings.
- 6) Notification of the public hearings is being broadcast on Channel 16.

**FUNDING:**

N/A

**ALTERNATIVES:**

- (1) Hold the third public hearing on July 23, 2009.
- (2) Give staff alternate direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

State law requires three advertised public hearings before the adoption of any millage rate that exceeds the "rollback" rate.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board approves Alternative I.

Prepared by: Read DeHaven

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3. **REQUEST BOARD ADOPT YEAR 2009 CHATHAM COUNTY GENERAL MAINTENANCE AND OPERATIONS, SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT, AND CHATHAM AREA TRANSIT DISTRICT MILLAGE LEVY RESOLUTION PURSUANT TO ADVERTISEMENT HAVING BEEN PUBLISHED IN ACCORDANCE WITH O.C.G.A. 48-5-32.1. IN ADDITION, FORM PT-35 COUNTY MILLAGE RATE CERTIFICATION AND FORM PT 32.1 COMPUTATION OF MILLAGE RATE ROLLBACK AND PERCENTAGE INCREASE IN PROPERTY TAXES FOR TAX YEAR 2009 MUST BE CERTIFIED AND SUBMITTED TO THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE FOR DIGEST APPROVAL FOR THE TAX YEAR 2009.**

Chairman Liakakis said, now we need a motion on the floor to approve the millage rate for the coming budget year. Assistant County Manager Monahan said, Item 3, sir. Commissioner Kicklighter said, that's Item 3. Chairman Liakakis said, yes. Chairman Liakakis then read Item 3 into the record.

Chairman Liakakis said, we need a motion on the floor. Commissioner Stone said, so moved, Mr. Chairman. Commissioner Thomas said, second. Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor and a second to approve this millage rate. Go on the board. Chairman Liakakis and Commissioners Stone, Farrell, Odell, Gellatly and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Holmes and Shay voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of seven to two. Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Stone moved to adopt Year 2009 Chatham County General Maintenance and Operations, Special Service District, and Chatham Area Transit District millage levy resolution pursuant to advertisements having been published in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 48-5-32.1, and Form PT-35 County Millage Rate Certification and Form PT-32.1 computation of millage rate rollback and percentage increase in property taxes for Tax Year 2009 be certified and submitted to the Georgia Department of Revenue for digest approval for the Tax Year 2009. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion. Chairman Liakakis and Commissioners Stone, Farrell, Odell, Gellatly and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Holmes and Shay voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of seven to two.

**AGENDA ITEM:** IX-3  
**AGENDA DATE:** July 23, 2009

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

**ISSUE:**

Adoption of year 2009 Chatham County General Maintenance and Operations, Special Service District, and Chatham Area Transit District millage levy resolution pursuant to advertisement having been published in accordance with O.C.G.A. 48-5-32.1.

In addition, Form PT-35 County Millage Rate Certification and Form PT 32.1 Computation of Millage Rate Rollback and Percentage Increase in Property Taxes for Tax Year 2009 must be certified and submitted to the Georgia Department of Revenue for digest approval for the tax year 2009.

**BACKGROUND:**

A tax levy resolution must be submitted to the State of Georgia Department of Revenue, and is scheduled for delivery by the Tax Assessor's Office during the week of July 27, 2009.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

- (1) At its June 26, 2009 meeting, the Chatham County Commission instructed staff to proceed with the necessary advertisements and schedule the public hearings necessary to adopt the millage rates for the 2009 Tax Digest. This has been done. As a result, the Board of Commissioners has the option to adopt millage increases.
- (2) The recommended millage rates for tax year 2009 are as follows:
  - (a) General M&O, 10.537 mills. This is lower than the calculated rollback millage rate of 10.617 mills by .08 mills.
  - (b) Special Service District, 3.475 mills. This is lower than the calculated rollback millage rate of 3.490 mills by 0.015 mills.
  - (c) Chatham Area Transit District, .820 mills. This is lower than the calculated rollback millage rate of 0.824 mills by .004 mills.
- (3) The 5-year history of levy for Chatham County was advertised on July 7, 2009, as required by State Law and incorporated millage rates equal to the recommended rates.
- (4) In addition to the rollback rate calculation relating to reassessed values as documented on Form PT-32.1, State law also requires that the County compute a millage rate and rollback rate associated with S Local Option Sales Tax and Insurance Premium Tax (O.C.G.A. 48-8-91 and O.C.G.A. 33-8-8.3 respectively). The M&O Sales Tax rollback rate is computed at 0.979 mills. The SSD Insurance Premium Tax rollback rate is computed at 0.794 mills. These rollback rates are documented in the attached resolution.

**FUNDING:**

N/A

**ALTERNATIVES:**

- (1) Adopt the year 2009 levy resolution pursuant to advertisement having been published and the Millage Rates as follows:
  - (a) General M&O, 10.537 mills (net of sales tax rollback of 0.979 mills).
  - (b) Special Service District, 3.475 mills (net of insurance premium rollback of 0.794 mills).
  - (c) Chatham Area Transit District .820 mills.
  - (d) Authorize the Chairman to sign the Georgia Department of Revenue Forms PT 35 and PT 32.1.
- (2) Modify the tax levy resolution.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

State law requires that the Board adopt a tax levy resolution annually for submission of the digest to the State of Georgia, Department of Revenue (Ga. Code 48-5-302). Georgia law 48-5-32 and 48-5-32.1 further specifies method of publication by County of ad valorem tax rate.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approval of Alternative 1.

**PREPARED BY:** Read DeHaven



IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the said taxes be collected by the Tax Commissioner of the County or his successor in office.

APPROVED THIS 23<sup>RD</sup> DAY OF JULY 2009 IN OPEN COURT.

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

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sybil Tillman, County Clerk

=====

**4. REQUEST THE BOARD APPROVE A RESOLUTION CLARIFYING THE MILLAGE LEVY FOR FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2009 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2010.**

Chairman Liakakis said, we need a motion on the floor. Commissioner Stone said, so moved. Chairman Liakakis said, we need a second. Commissioner Farrell said, second. Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor and a second. Let's go on the board .

Commissioner Kicklighter asked, may I have —. Chairman Liakakis said, yes, go ahead. Commissioner Kicklighter said, I'm curious. Maybe I'm misunderstanding what we're approving here today because I saw a couple of votes against the last vote. If I'm understanding right, the State of Georgia mandates that we calculate based on the tax digest the values of the properties. They have a little formula in place and we have to adjust the millage rate each year based on this formula that they provide, and the intent of that formula was to force local governments to roll back a millage rate to a flat basically with no increase so it stopped backdoor tax increases. Now am I to understand that by applying that same formula that basically, because they never anticipated property values going down like it has, that if we applied the formula that they require that we advertise that it would be actually a tax increase to the citizens of Chatham County. Is that part correct? County Attorney Hart said, that's true. Commissioner Kicklighter said, so what we are voting on today is to not change the millage rate whatsoever, which is actually a decrease of revenues and a decrease in taxes when compared to what the State tells us we have to put the — set the millage rate at. Am I correct on that?

Assistant County Manager Monahan said, you're correct except for let me point out there's one other element that's involved in the computation of the tax base, and those are the exemptions. What's happened this year is the number of exemptions have decreased, and what's happened you will actually collect more taxes, almost \$2,000,000 more in the M&O due to the decrease in the number of exemptions by adopting this millage rate. So it's a little bit confusing when you tell someone, well, we adopted a lower millage rate, but when they see that the revenues have actually increased, it may be a little bit confusing, and that's because of the difference in the exemptions.

Commissioner Kicklighter asked, well, what prompted the difference in the exemptions? Assistant County Manager Monahan said, well, it's just a —. Commissioner Kicklighter asked, — State law or just —? Assistant County Manager Monahan said, if you noticed, the most noticeable one that I saw decreased in 15% in the Stephens-Day Exemption, and that I think reflects changes in property ownership and, of course, when the property ownership changes, then the timetable begins for the exemption. Commissioner Kicklighter said, so people possibly actually did not file because they didn't want to freeze it anticipating it could possibly go down. Assistant County Manager Monahan said, it's probably not — it's not filing the property sold or there was some conveyance of the property —. Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. Assistant County Manager Monahan said, — in which the ownership changed. That would be the main reason for the decrease in the Stephens-Day Exemption. Commissioner Kicklighter said, but to put it plain for everyone watching at home, if we follow the State law, we would actually be increasing —. Assistant County Manager Monahan said, yes, you would. Commissioner Kicklighter said, — the millage rate. Assistant County Manager Monahan said, yes, you would. Commissioner Kicklighter said, but we are keeping it flat, which is less than what the State mandates. Assistant County Manager Monahan said, that's exactly right. Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Commissioner Farrell said, the motion is on the floor and ready for a vote. Commissioner Stone said, ready to vote. Chairman Liakakis said, yeah. Let's go on the board. Commissioner Thomas asked, what are we — oh, number four. Commissioner Farrell said, yes. Chairman Liakakis said, yes. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Stone moved to approve a resolution clarifying the millage levy for Fiscal year July 1, 2009, through June 30, 2010. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM:** IX-4  
**AGENDA DATE:** July 23, 2009

**DATE:** July 15, 2009  
**TO:** Board of Commissioners  
**THRU:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager  
**FROM:** Linda Cramer, Finance Director

**ISSUE:**

To request that the Board approve a Resolution clarifying the millage levy for fiscal year July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010.

**BACKGROUND:**

On July 28, 2000, the County Commission approved the year 2000 Tax Levy. Prior to January 1, 2000, the adoption of the annual millage levy for the Chatham County government was for generating taxes for the County's fiscal year budget which was January 1 through December 31. With the change of the fiscal year effective in year 2000, it is necessary to clarify the tax year 2009 Millage Levy.

**FACTS & FINDINGS**

- (1) A meeting was held on September 25, 2000, with the County Attorney, Richard Tindol with the audit firm Karp, Ronning, & Tindol, P.C., and the Finance Director of the County to discuss the year 2000 Millage Levy and the funding for the short fiscal year.
- (2) The County Auditor, Richard Tindol with the audit firm Karp, Ronning, & Tindol, P.C., requested that the County Commission clarify the application of the taxes from year 2000 Millage Levy for the audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2000.
- (3) The attached Resolution is intended to clarify the Tax Levy for the tax year 2009.
- (4) The millage levy applies to all three taxing districts: the General Fund M&O, Special Service District Fund and Chatham Area Transit District Fund.

**FUNDING:** N/A

**ALTERNATIVES:** N/A

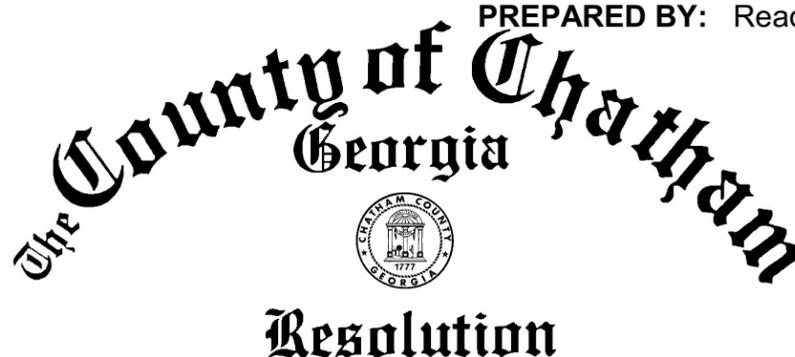
**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

State law requires that the Board adopt a tax levy resolution annually for submission of the digest to the State of Georgia, Department of Revenue ( Ga. Code 48-5-302).

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board approve the attached Resolution.

PREPARED BY: Read DeHaven





Tax Year 2009 must be certified and submitted to the Georgia Department of Revenue for digest approval for the tax year 2009.

**BACKGROUND:**

A tax levy resolution must be submitted to the State of Georgia Department of Revenue, and is scheduled for delivery by the Tax Assessor's Office during the week of July 27, 2009.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

- (1) At its July 22, 2009 meeting, the Board of Public Education adopted a resolution for the millage levy for tax year 2009.
- (2) The recommended millage rates for tax year 2009 are as follows:
  - (a) General Fund, 13.404 mills. This is equal to the current millage rate.
  - (b) G.O. Bond Debt, 0.00 mills. This is equal to the current millage rate.
- (3) The aggregate millage rate is 13.404 mills. This is equal to the 2008 aggregate millage rate.
- (4) The 5-year history of levy was advertised on July 7, 2009, as required by State Law and incorporated the recommended rates.

**FUNDING:** N/A

**ALTERNATIVES:**

- (1) Adopt the year 2009 levy resolution for the Board of Public Education pursuant to advertisement having been published and the Millage Rates as follows:
  - (a) General Fund, 13.404 mills.
  - (b) G. O. Bond Debt, 0.00 mills.
  - (c) An aggregate millage rate of 13.404 mills.
  - (d) Authorize the Chairman to sign the Georgia Department of Revenue Form PT 35.
- (2) Modify the tax levy resolution.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

State law requires that the Board adopt a tax levy resolution annually for submission of the digest to the State of Georgia, Department of Revenue (Ga. Code 48-5-302). Georgia law 48-5-32 and 48-5-32.1 further specifies method of publication of ad valorem tax rate.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.



STATE OF GEORGIA )

CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

COUNTY OF CHATHAM )

IN RE: TAX LEVY YEAR 2009

IT IS ORDERED that the tax of Thirteen Dollars and Forty and Four Tenth cents per One Thousand Dollars (\$1,000) (rate of 13.404 mils) be levied and assessed on all taxable property in Chatham County, Georgia, in the year 2009 to pay for the support and maintenance of Public Education in Chatham County.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Chairman be authorized to execute the documentation for submission of the 2009 Tax Digest to the State of Georgia Department of Revenue in accordance with this resolution.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the said taxes be collected by the Tax Commissioner of the County or his successor in office.

APPROVED THIS 23rd DAY OF JULY 2009, IN OPEN COURT.

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

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sybil Tillman, County Clerk

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**6. REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZE AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL CONTRACT WITH THE DOWNTOWN SAVANNAH AUTHORITY TO OBLIGATE CHATHAM COUNTY FOR REPAYMENT OF THE DSA SERIES 2009 BONDS AND APPROVE A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE BEST BID FOR THE PURCHASE OF THE BONDS.**

Chairman Liakakis recognized Assistant County Manager Monahan

Assistant County Manager Monahan said, yes sir. This action would authorize the execution of two documents necessary to move forward on the bond issue. I submitted the original agenda item and then sent out a revised item last night after the opening of the bids and the valuation of those bids. The documents, the first is the intergovernmental agreement which authorizes the Downtown Savannah Authority to issue the bonds and as part of that the County agrees unconditionally to back those bonds and pay the annual debt service. The second one is the bond resolution which the County accepts the lowest bid — excuse me — the best bid, which is the lowest net interest rate, and that was presented by Wachovia. I guess in a reflection of the times, the County received four bids and each one was a little bit different and each one had its own quirks. The Wachovia one has one quirk. Even though the interest rate is the most favorable at 3.72%, it does allow Wachovia after five years essentially to renegotiate. It can “put” the bond, which means that (1) we could accept the same 3.72%, or it allows Wachovia, depending upon the market, to require the County to pay off, which we would then have to then issue another one or renegotiate for another debt service, or the County — the advantage of this option though, it does allow within five years, if the Commission so desired, that we could — the County could include it in the Special Purpose Sales Tax and just pay it off. So there’s no penalty for the five-year call. That happens at the County’s option. Anyway, staff recommends that the bond be cited as \$2,400,000 and the lowest best bid would be provided by Wachovia at an interest rate of 3.72%.

Chairman Liakakis said, we need a motion on the floor. Commissioner Stone said, I make the motion, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Liakakis said, we need a second. Commissioner Holmes said, second.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Liakakis said, yes, go ahead. Commissioner Kicklighter asked, what again does the Downtown Savannah Authority, what do they —? Assistant County Manager Monahan said, the Downtown Savannah Authority was created by local act of the General Assembly. It’s essentially an instrument of the Mayor and Aldermen of the City of Savannah, so the County — the Chairman sent a letter to the Mayor requesting the use of the Downtown Savannah Authority. The County has previously used the Authority four or five times in the past 10 or 12 years, most recently in 1999 to 2005. So it is an Authority to allow the issuance of bonds for public development projects. Commissioner Kicklighter said, similar to the Recreation Authority. Assistant County Manager Monahan said, yes sir, just like the Recreation Authority. It’s set up exactly the same. In fact, I copied the legislation. Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, let’s go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Stone moved to authorize an intergovernmental contract with the Downtown Savannah Authority to obligate Chatham County for repayment of the DSA Series 2009 Bonds and approve a resolution to accept the best bid for the purchase of the bonds presented by Wachovia Bank in the principal amount of \$2,400,000 at 3.72% and Chatham County will become fee simple owner of 120 Fahm Street and Union Mission will become the tenant. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM: IX-6**  
**AGENDA DATE: July 23, 2009**

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

**ISSUE:**

To authorize an intergovernmental contract with the Downtown Savannah Authority (DSA) to obligate Chatham County for repayment of the DSA Series 2009 Bonds and approve a resolution to accept the best bid for the purchase of the bonds.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Board authorized the issuance of bonds to acquire 120 Fahm Street from Union Mission as part of a plan to help the agency stabilize its finances. To effect the plan, the Board will need to approve two documents. By Document 1, the Board contracts with the Downtown Savannah Authority, the issuing agency, to obligate unconditionally the County for repayment of annual debt service. By Document 2, the Board adopts a resolution which accepts the best bid. The County's Financial Advisor, Raymond James, solicited bids and presents the best bid based on the lowest true interest cost.

**FACTS & FINDINGS:**

1. Document 1, the contract with the Downtown Savannah Authority, is attached (begins page 3). By concurrence with the Mayor and Aldermen, the Downtown Savannah Authority serves as the financing conduit. The County obligates itself unconditionally to pay the bond debt, including issuance costs.
  - 1.1 The principal amount of the bonds will be \$2,400,000.
  - 1.2 The Downtown Savannah Authority has served as financing conduit for several bond issues on behalf of Chatham County, most recently in 1999 and 2005.
2. Document 2, the resolution to accept the best bid, is attached (begins page 24).
  - 2.1 Wachovia Bank presented the best bid based on the lowest true interest cost on the bonds among the four bids. The true interest cost will be 3.72% but has a five-year "put back" provision which allows either Wachovia or the County to renegotiate or call with 120 days' notice.
  - 2.2 The principal amount of the bonds will be \$2,400,000. The principal amount of the bond includes \$2,338,000 to acquire 120 Fahm Street plus issuance costs.
3. The transaction will close August 20, 2009. Chatham County will become fee simple owner of 120 Fahm Street and Union Mission will become the tenant.

**FUNDING:**

The FY 2010 General Fund M&O Budget provides funding of \$190,000 for the annual debt service during Year 1. Based on an interest rate of 3.72%, average annual debt service will be \$172,000.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. That the Board authorize the intergovernmental contract with the Downtown Savannah Authority (DSA) to obligate Chatham County for repayment of the DSA Series 2009 Bonds in the principal amount of \$2,400,000 and approve a resolution to accept the best bid from Wachovia Bank for the purchase of the bonds.
2. That the Board provide other direction to staff consistent with its commitment to Union Mission.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The Georgia Constitution authorizes intergovernmental contracts for specified capital projects with a governmental authority empowered under general/local law to undertake such purposes. Through these legal provisions, the Downtown Savannah Authority can

serve as the issuing authority for a bond issue on behalf of Chatham County as long as the County unconditionally agrees to repay the indebtedness.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.

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**7. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO PROVIDE CONCEPTUAL APPROVAL FOR THE SUBLEASE OF SLIP 1 ON HUTCHINSON ISLAND.**

Chairman Liakakis recognized Assistant County Manager Monahan.

Assistant County Manager Monahan said, yes sir. This action would accomplish two tasks. First, the County would acknowledge that it is not interested in developing Slip 1 on Hutchinson island. You might recall, Slip 1 is the five-acre body of water that's immediately west of Westin Hotel. A number of years ago, CSX deeded that property to the County. The County contemplated entering into a ground lease for a private operator to develop it, but within the deed there is the option that CSX could develop it itself. Secondly, this approval would allow CSX to move forward and apply to the Corps of Engineers for the docks necessary, but all of this is contingent upon the County receiving the funds to make the project move forward, and at that point — at this point that may be a bid if.

Chairman Liakakis said, we need a motion on the floor to approve. Commissioner Shay said, I make a motion for approval. Commissioner Stone said, second. Chairman Liakakis said, okay, we have a motion on the floor and a second. Let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Shay made a motion that the Board provide conceptual approval for the development of the yachting basin in Slip 1 on Hutchinson Island through a ground lease (or license) with CSX Real Property Development with the acknowledgment that CSX will sublease to an operator, and prior to the start of any work, the County and CSX would agree upon the format for the agreement. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM: IX-7**

**AGENDA DATE: July 23, 2009**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

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

**FROM:** Patrick Monahan, Asst. County Manager

**ISSUE:**

To provide conceptual approval to lease Slip 1 on Hutchinson Island.

**BACKGROUND:**

CSX deeded Slip 1 on Hutchinson Island to Chatham County as part of a proposed project to expand public development. The project includes four components: 1) Extending the Riverwalk by 2,150 linear feet around the land-based perimeter of Slip 1; 2) Dredging Slip 1 to enable development of a yacht basin; 3) Constructing floating docks and landside amenities for the yachting basin; and 4) Using the riverwalk to create a self-guided historical interpretive walk which features Savannah's maritime heritage, especially as related to Hutchinson Island and including data recovery of the "Fig Island Derelict."

**FACTS & FINDINGS:**

1. While engineered and permitted, Slip 1 cannot move forward because of a funding shortfall. While project funds total \$8 million, the estimated expense totals \$14 million. The County is seeking grants for the shortfall since the project stands "shovel ready." Despite the uncertain state of funding, CSX Real Property Development (CSX) wants to initiate the process for permitting the development of the yachting basin, and specifically approval of the docks and landside amenities, as part of its marketing of Parcel 5, which adjoins the east and north sides of Slip 1. By initiating the permitting approval now, CSX would be ready to move forward on the floating docks once the County starts work on the riverwalk and dredging.
  - 1.1 While technically shovel-ready, the project must also be re-authorized to receive \$6.4 million in federal funds, and a data recovery plan must be submitted for the Fig Island Derelict as part of a Memorandum of Agreement with the State Historic Preservation Office. These are

short-lead items for completion. The time-consuming procedure of obtaining the necessary environmental permits, including approval from federal agencies and Georgia and South Carolina environmental agencies, remains complete along with an approved mitigation plan. The permit expires December 2011.

2. Under the agreement, CSX can proceed with developing the yachting basin if the County opts not to move forward with this component. A yachting basin would be a boating area but unlike a marina would not allow for fueling nor repairs. Market surveys indicate the success of Savannah for a yachting basin because of its location along waterways mid-way between Charleston and Jacksonville.
3. From Day 1, the County never intended to own and operate a yachting basin in Slip 1 but would likely seek proposals for a ground lease. It would be the County's intent to enter into a ground lease (or license) for Slip 1 with CSX and then allow CSX to sublease to an operator. This approach would ensure the County receives funding to maintain permits, dredging and future expenses related to Slip 1.
  - 3a. Prior to the start of any work, the County and CSX would agree upon the format of the agreement. The Board would approve it; however, any agreement would be contingent on fully-funding the project.
4. CSX acknowledges that Chatham County lacks sufficient funds to begin the Slip 1 improvements and would assume all costs of engineering for the yachting basin and submitting the application. If the County cannot obtain the needed funding for Slip 1, which means the yachting basin becomes impractical without dredging, only CSX would be at risk.

**FUNDING:**

Not applicable.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. That the Board provide conceptual approval for the development of the yachting basin in Slip 1 through a ground lease (or license) with CSX Real Property Development with the acknowledgment that CSX will sublease to an operator.
2. That the Board delay any decision to move forward with any component of Slip 1's development until full funding can be assured.
3. That the Board take no action.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The deed from CSX Real Property Development to Chatham County for Slip 1 contemplated the future development of a yachting basin as part of the Riverwalk Extension. While Chatham County never intended to own and operate a yachting basin, the County needs to protect its investment of improvements funded with public dollars and ensure any agreement recovers substantial public benefit. An agreement, whether a lease or license, will ensure this goal remains accomplished.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.

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**MOTION TO ADD AN ITEM TO THE AGENDA**

Chairman Liakakis said, we have another item that we need to vote on to add it to the Individual Action, and it would be Item 8 on water rates.

County Attorney Hart said, you need a motion to amend the —. Chairman Liakakis said, a motion to amend the agenda to add this to the

Commissioner Farrell made a motion to amend the agenda the agenda to add this item. Commissioner Kicklighter seconded.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Let's go on the board to amend the agenda. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

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**8. REQUEST BOARD AMEND THE WATER AND SEWER SERVICE CHARGES AND FEES, ADOPTED ON MAY 22, 2009, TO REFLECT THAT RATES WILL APPLY TO CONSUMPTION BEGINNING ON JULY 1, 2009.**

Chairman Liakakis said, now Patrick [Farrell], you discussed this earlier.

Commissioner Farrell said, yes. I'd like to propose to amend new Water and Sewer Rates to reflect and charge for consumption after July 1, 2009, and to allow audit — excuse me — allow a credit as a result of the most recent bill. What has happened is the new rates that were going into effect July 1<sup>st</sup>, went back and started charging as far back as —. The Clerk said, you need a second. Commissioner Kicklighter said, second. Commissioner Farrell said, they went back and charged for water that was used in May and June at the new higher rate. I'd like to make a correction on that.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. You've heard what the motion is. Do you want to say something, Dean [Kicklighter] on it?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yeah, just to echo what he said and thank y'all for bringing it to our attention. When we passed that, our intent was for the new water rates to actually — start taking place, charging more starting July 1<sup>st</sup>, but we actually — I guess we wasn't very clear on that, so they actually billed for the previous two months at the higher rate. So this will just straighten that out and give a credit and now the new water rates will go into effect from here moving forward. So thanks for bringing that up.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, we have a motion on the floor and a second. Let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Farrell moved to amend the new Water and Sewer Charges and Fees, adopted on May 22, 2009, to reflect that the new charges will apply to water and sewer consumption beginning July 1, 2009, and, if applicable, that staff credit citizens for any new charges made prior to July 1, 2009. Commissioner Kicklighter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present.]

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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 have Items 1 through 3 and under 3 we have A through J. I understand that you wanted to pull Item G, Patrick [Farrell]. Any other items? Helen [Stone]?

Commissioner Stone said, just an explanation for Item A that we discussed in the pre-meeting.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, motion to approve the balance of the Action Calendar with the exception of Items 3-A and 3-G. Commissioner Thomas said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. We have a motion on the floor. Let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve Items 1 through 3-J except Items 3-A and 3-G. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present.]

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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 JULY 10, 2009, AS MAILED.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of July 10, 2009, as mailed. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD JULY 2 THROUGH JULY 15, 2009.****ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to authorize the Finance Director to pay the claims against the County for the period July 2, 2009, through July 15, 2009, in the amount of \$.4,459,199 Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**3. 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. Construction contract for the Site Preparation of Truman Parkway Phase 5 Project	Engineering	B & D Clearing	\$28,667	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Truman Parkway Phase 5 Project
B. Annual contract with automatic renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms to provide Concessionaire Services	Public Works and Park Services	Sweet Dreams	\$15,096 Annual Revenue to County	Revenue Generating
C. Annual renewal of aircraft liability and hull insurance coverage	Risk Management	ACE/Weschester	\$52,378	Risk Management Internal Service Fund
D. Annual software maintenance on the appraisal and assessment software	Assessor	ACS Government Systems, Inc. (Sole Source)	\$16,012	General Fund/M&O - Assessor
E. Annual hardware and software maintenance on tape drives	I.C.S.	Veristor Systems, Inc (Sole Source)	\$27,972	General Fund/M&O - I.C.S.
F. Change Order No. 3 to the annual contract for Paper and Chemical Supplies to recognize manufacturer imposed price increases	Various	Coastal Sail Paper Chemical Supply Company	Varies by item	•General Fund/M&O - Various •SSD - Various
G. Month to month contract renewal for the operation and management of the Anderson/ Cohen Weightlifting Facility	Public Works and Park Services	Team Savannah	\$202,056	General Fund/M&O - Weightlifting Center
H. Construction contract for container bays with canopies and cement pad at the Resource Conservation Education Center	Public Works and Park Services	Kerby Enterprises, Inc.	\$122,066	Solid Waste Restricted
I. Contract to further market and develop an integrated recycling marketing and communications campaign	Public Works and Park Services	Designation Advertising & Design (Sole Source)	\$24,500	Solid Waste Restricted
J. Declare Sheriff's vehicle a total loss and authorize the purchase of new vehicle	Sheriff	Akin Ford Corporation	\$21,569	Risk Management Internal Service Fund - Reserve for Vehicle Accidents

**As to Items 3-B through 3-J, except Item 3-G:**

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve Items 3-B through 3-J, except Items 3-G. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**As to Item 3-A:**

**Construction contract for the Site Preparation of Truman Parkway Phase 5 Project.**

Chairman Liakakis recognized Assistant County Manager Monahan.

Assistant County Manager Monahan said, I don't know that this relates to the same question we talked about in the —.

Commissioner Stone said, well, the question that I had in the pre-meeting was why were we dedicating taking money away from Phase 5 for that new Hampstead and then right here we're talking about making preparations for Phase 5.

Assistant County Manager Monahan said, right. This is taking money — existing project money to fill in a pond that's related to the Truman Parkway Phase 5 Project. It's just part of the site development and the right-of-way.

Commissioner Stone asked, then why are we taking money from Phase 5 to put to the new Hampstead Connector?

Assistant County Manager Monahan said, the — because we're actually just returning the money — Truman Parkway Phase 5 borrowed the money until DOT agreed to — for all of the — reimburse the County for all of the right-of-way acquisitions. Commissioner Stone asked, so it was just a payback? Assistant County Manager Monahan said, right.

Commissioner Stone said, it's just a little bit confusing to read both of these and not understand exactly what was going on. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, we need a motion on the floor to approve Item A. Commissioner Thomas said, move for approval. Commissioner Stone 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: Commissioner Gellatly was not present.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

**As to Item 3-G:**

**Month to month contract renewal for the operation and management of the Anderson/Cohen Weightlifting Facility.**

Chairman Liakakis recognized Assistant County Manager Monahan.

Assistant County Manager Monahan said, yes sir. The Commission entered into an agreement with Team Savannah to manage the Anderson/Cohen Weightlifting Center four years ago. That contract has expired. The County is in the process of issuing a Request for Proposals, but this RFP will actually take a different path than the prior one. This will split both the management of the facility and also the management of the Special Needs Program at the facility. Now that doesn't mean that Team Savannah can't come in and still make a proposal on both, but there are other groups interested in the Special Needs Program. So this will allow an additional probably 90 days before the proposals are accepted, reviewed and then a recommendation presented to the Board.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Farrell.

Commissioner Farrell asked, has this been fleshed out with staff how this is all going to work out and, more importantly, how it's going to effect the current citizens that are using the different services?

County Attorney Hart said, the services to the citizens are not going to change, okay. The contract provisions are being split out for two reasons. One, they're two different types of services and — provided by two different entities. [Inaudible] doing an agreement with the possibility as to what each of those entities are going to provide in the way of services, and we're close to having all final verbiage done in that. In the Special Needs Program, you know, the County can provide the facility, but the County does not consider itself to have the expertise to actually manage a program such as that. Therefore, the group that wins this proposal is going to have to come in under that agreement and show the County that it does have certified appropriate people to execute that program. That was the purpose of splitting the contract for Weightlifting Special Services and Special Needs.

Commissioner Farrell said, so it's my understanding then that by going month to month everything will remain the same — the services, the providers and everything, until such time as staff comes back and brings us more information and proposals to some new direction and —.

County Attorney Hart said, correct. There will be no change in service. We think this system's going to probably overall improve and spell out who does what and clarify what has been occurring.

Commissioner Farrell asked, what kind of time frame are we looking at before you anticipate staff bringing alternate

options to the Board?

Assistant County Manager Monahan said, well, I've not read the RFP, but according to the Attorney, it's 97% complete. So advertising generally takes about four weeks. It takes usually another three to four weeks to evaluate. Public Works and Park Services is extremely busy right now with the Charlie Brooks, the RFP that's out and it needs to be evaluated —. Commissioner Farrell asked, before there's any— ? Assistant County Manager Monahan said, before it comes back to the Board with a recommended contract or contracts.

Commissioner Farrell asked, there will be do changes —? Assistant County Manager Monahan said, no sir. Commissioner Farrell said, to talk about the details and that sort of thing. Okay. I'm satisfied.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, we need a motion on the floor. Commissioner Stone said, so moved, Mr. Chairman. Commissioner Holmes 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. Chairman Liakakis said, okay, the motion passes.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

- a. Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve Items 3-B through 3-J, except Items 3-A and 3-G. Commissioner # seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present.]
- b. Commissioner Thomas moved to approve Item 3-A. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present.]
- c. Commissioner # moved to approve Item 3-J. Commissioner # seconded the motion and it carried The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-3 A thru J**  
**AGENDA DATE: July 23 2009**

**TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**THRU: R. E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER**  
**FROM: MICHAEL A. KAIGLER, DIRECTOR**  
**HUMAN RESOURCES & SERVICES**  
**SUBJECT: AWARD OF BIDS**

**ITEM A**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval to award a \$28,667 construction contract to B&D Clearing for the Site Preparation of Truman Parkway Phase 5 Project.

**BACKGROUND:** In preparation for the construction of the Truman Parkway Phase 5 Project, a pond at 12108 White Bluff Road will be filled with material from the Litchfield Tract.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

- 1. A Request for Quote was sent to several firms. Seven (7) quotes were received on 2 July 2009. The responses are as follows:

B&D Clearing Black Creek, GA	\$28,667
T Clearing Rincon, GA	\$28,985
* American Clearing & Hauling Savannah, GA	\$39,818
* JCS Construction Services Pembroke, GA	\$44,330
* PT Construction, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$45,000

\*\* E&D Contracting Services, Inc. \$54,867  
Savannah, GA

\* Kelly Dukes, Inc. \$72,300  
Savannah, GA

\* MBE firm

\*\* WBE firm

2. The construction is scheduled to be completed 31 days after the Notice to Proceed is issued.

**FUNDING:** SPLOST (1998-2003) - Truman Parkway Phase 5 Project  
(3224220 - 54.14001 - 32250477)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Request Board approval to award a \$28,667 construction contract to B&D Clearing for the Site Preparation of Truman Parkway Phase 5 Project.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to award contracts to the low responsive, responsible bidder.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
ESTELLE BROWN

**ITEM B**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval to award a revenue generating contract, with automatic renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms to provide Concessionaire Services for Public Works and Park Services from Sweet Dreams, Tybee Island, GA. The Contract will generate \$15,096 annual revenue for the County.

**BACKGROUND:** The County has historically solicited bids for exclusive operation of three (3) parks (Memorial, Charles C. Brooks, and Soccer Complex) for concessions at various Chatham County Park and Recreational facilities. Concessionaire items to be provided and sold include various food, non-alcoholic beverage items, bait and tackle.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The bid was properly advertised and mailed to five (5) prospective firms, and publically opened on 14 July 2009. Responses are as follows:

Sweet Dreams \$ 15,096/Year  
Tybee Island, GA

A & R Enterprises \$ 14,724/Year  
Pooler, GA

2. The contract calls for a minimum of two (2) percent to a maximum of five (5) percent increase payment yearly to the County based on the CPI.
3. Staff believes the bid from Sweet Dreams to be fair and reasonable.

**FUNDING:** N/A- Revenue generating

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval to award a revenue generating contract, with automatic renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms to provide Concessionaire Services for Public Works and Park Services from Sweet Dreams, Tybee Island, GA. The Contract will generate \$15,096 annual revenue for the County.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to provide concessionaire operated services at selected parks and recreational facilities.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
RUSHEDA ADESHINA

#### ITEM C

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of the annual premium of \$52,378 for renewal of Mosquito Control aircraft liability and hull (physical damage) insurance coverage for a term of one year beginning July 11, 2009 from ACE/Weschester.

**BACKGROUND:** Mosquito Control purchases liability and hull insurance to protect highly valued aircraft, the public, and non-employee passengers in the event of an accident. Mosquito Control insures two fixed-wing aircraft and two helicopters with replacement values in excess of \$1.7 million.

#### **FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The current carrier, ACE/Weschester is offering a renewal quotation of \$57,068, and a "no claims bonus" of \$4,690. The effective annual renewal premium is \$52,378. The expiring annual premium is \$57,543.
2. A portion of the "no claims bonus" was applied against the renewal premium to increase values of the helicopters to more closely reflect current replacement costs.
3. The quoted annual premium also includes coverage for chemical liability, non-passenger liability, police activities, increased medical payments and war/terrorism risks.
4. ACE/Weschester currently has an A+ rating as determined by A.M. Best Company.
5. The County's insurance broker, Wells Fargo/Wachovia also obtained quotes from three other insurers. Net premium was higher on all other quotes.

**FUNDING:** Risk Management Internal Service Fund  
(6259922 - 52.31021)

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Request Board approval of the annual premium of \$52,378 for renewal of Mosquito Control aircraft liability and hull (physical damage) insurance coverage for a term of one year beginning July 11, 2009 from ACE/Weschester.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to provide liability coverage for Mosquito Control operations and hull coverage to protect highly valued assets.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends approval of Alternative # 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
ESTELLE BROWN

#### ITEM D

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$16,012 sole source annual software maintenance agreement from ACS Government Systems, Inc., for the Assessor's office.

**BACKGROUND:** This is the maintenance agreement for our annual CAMA software Marshall & Swift cost table maintenance support. This is required to ensure the smooth, continuous operation of our appraisal and assessment software. This software is necessary to generate values, assessments, the digest and all the necessary reports required by the Department of Revenue for digest submission. Maintenance provides

for assistance with any problems associated with the software.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The sole source provider, ACS Government Systems, Inc., is the only company authorized to maintain and make proprietary changes to the software.
2. Staff believes the total cost of \$16,012 to be fair and reasonable.

**FUNDING:** General Fund/M&O - Assessor  
(1001550 - 52.13011)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$16,012 sole source annual software maintenance agreement from ACS Government Systems, Inc., for the Assessor's office.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to provide the necessary software maintenance for the using departments.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

I.C.S. APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
LEWIS LEONARD

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
CHRIS MORRIS

**ITEM E**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$27,972 sole source purchase for annual hardware and software maintenance from Veristor Systems, Inc. for I.C.S.

**BACKGROUND:** The Spectra G64K Tape Library and the Spectra 2K Tape Library include nine (9) AIT3 tape drive, five (5) AIT2 tape drives, two (2) AIT5 tape drives and five (5) QIP drives with 250 slots. These are hardware units that are used to backup about 98% of all of Chatham County data on the network. The Sheriff's Department has their own backup drives covering the remaining amount at their site. Because these units are required to backup hundreds of Gigabytes of data daily, it is import that the County purchase maintenance for them. This maintenance is for hardware and software support for one (1) year.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Veristor Systems, of Duluth, GA, is the only company permitted to make changes or updates to their proprietary software and hardware, thereby qualifying these agreements to fall under a sole source procurement.
2. G64K Spectra Logic ASM Gold Assisted Self-Maintenance/Onsite Stock of spare parts and 7x24 Phone Support Renewal at a price of \$26,691.
3. 2K Spectra Logic Advanced Exchange/Next Business Day Replacement & 5x8 Phone Support Renewal \$1,281.
4. Staff believes the total cost of \$27,972 for the annual hardware and software maintenance to be fair and reasonable.

**FUNDING:** General Fund/M&O - I.C.S.  
(1001535 - 52.22001)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$27,972 sole source purchase for annual hardware and software maintenance from Veristor Systems, Inc. for I.C.S.
2. Provide staff other direction

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to provide the necessary software and hardware support to provide for backups of data on the County network.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

I.C.S. APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
LEWIS LEONARD

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
GLORIA SAUGH

**ITEM F**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of Change Order No. 3 to the Annual Contract with Coastal -Sail Paper Chemical Supply Company, of Savannah, GA to provide various Paper and Chemical Supplies for Various Departments within Chatham County.

**BACKGROUND:** On 11 May 2007, the board approved the award of an annual contract with automatic renewals options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms, to Coastal-Sail Paper Chemical Supply Company.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Coastal-Sail Paper Supply Company has recently provided a notification of price changes associated with the manufacturer imposed price increases due to the escalating costs in energy, transportation, packaging and raw material has raised the price of various items listed below. Coastal-Sail Paper Chemical Supply Company has provided documentation to support the manufacturer's price increase.
2. Staff conducted a search of probable vendors including the internet to verify the price escalation and the requested price increases are consistent with the trend throughout.
3. Staff believes Coastal-Sail Paper Chemical Supply Company request for the County to contractually recognize the manufacturer price increase on the items list below to be fair and reasonable.
4. New prices will be as follows:

Item	Description	Old Price	New Price
6.	System Ajax Cleaner	\$13.50	\$15.75
14.	Liquid Enzymes	\$17.75	\$23.88
15.	Dry Laundry Detergent	\$24.18	\$30.95
23.	Gel Deodorizers	\$18.95	\$20.79
38.	Polish Pad White	\$13.25	\$14.95
39.	20" Buffing Pad, Red	\$13.25	\$14.95
40.	20" Buffing Pad, Black	\$13.25	\$14.95
43.	Wringer/Bucket	\$ 42.95	\$43.50
66.	Styrofoam Plates, 3-compartment	\$ 22.40	\$ 27.59

**FUNDING:** General Fund/M&O - Various  
SSD- Various

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of Change Order No. 3 to the Annual Contract with Coastal-Sail Paper Chemical Supply Company, of Savannah, GA to provide various Paper and Chemical Supplies for Various Departments within Chatham County.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to approve change orders for documented material price increases when they are initiated by the manufacturer.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
READ DEHAVEN

**ITEM G**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a month-to-month contract renewal with Team Savannah, Inc., for Operation and Management of the Anderson/Cohen Weightlifting Facility for Public Works and Park Services.

**BACKGROUND:** On 22 July 2005, the Board approved an annual contract with automatic renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) years with Team Savannah, Inc., for Operation and Management Services at the Anderson/Cohen Weightlifting Facility.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. This contract is due for its final renewal effective 31 July. Staff is requesting renewal on a month-to-month basis in order to revise the Scope of Services due to the continued expanding participation in the Special Needs Program.
2. On 6 July 2007, the Board approved a Contract Amendment for \$24,000 adding to the Scope of Service the Special Needs Program. The annual cost of this contract is \$202,056.
3. Currently, this contract has three (3) components of service; operations and management, janitorial and special needs. Staff continues to revise the scope of services for all three (3) components which could result in three (3) separate contracts.

**FUNDING:** General Funding/M&O - Weightlifting Center  
(1006130 - 52.11001)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a month-to-month contract renewal with Team Savannah, Inc., for Operation and Management of the Anderson/Cohen Weightlifting Facility for Public Works and Park Services.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to renew contracts and amend the terms when in the best interest of the County.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
RUSHEDA ADESHINA

**ITEM H**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval to award a of a \$122,066 construction contract to Kerby Enterprises, Inc. for container bays with canopies and cement pad at the Resource Conservation Education Center.

**BACKGROUND:** Solid Waste handling is changing in Chatham County and recycling is a growing concern among residents. Bringing the Resource Conservation Education Center one step closer to completion will benefit all of Chatham County.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Chatham County Public Works and Park Services is proceeding with direction from the Board of Commissioners. Recently, the Board of Commissioners opened the Resource Conservation Education Center. The metal container bays with canopies and cement pad is approximately 80 feet x 80 feet and will keep equipment and customers out of inclement weather.

2. This project was properly advertized and six (6) bids were received and opened 23 June 2009. The bid results are as follows:

Kerby Enterprises, Inc. Pooler, GA	\$122,066
Mahany Construction Company Savannah, GA	\$123,800
* South Coast Renovations, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$124,588
Keith Ray Construction Thunderbolt, GA	\$129,840
Marchese Construction, LLC. Pooler, GA	\$143,226
Tippins Polk Construction, Inc. Statesboro, GA	\$149,500

\*MBE

3. Staff believes the bid from Kerby Enterprises, Inc. to be fair and reasonable. The project is expected to be completed within 100 calendar days after issuing the Notice To Proceed.

**FUNDING:** Solid Waste Restricted  
(5404510 - 54.12009)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Request Board approval to award a of a \$122,066 construction contract to Kerby Enterprises, Inc. for container bays with canopies and cement pad at the Resource Conservation Education Center.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to award construction contracts to the low, responsive, responsible bidder.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends the approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
CHRIS MORRIS

**ITEM I**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval to award a \$24,500 sole source contract to Designation Advertising and Design, to market and further develop an integrated Recycling Marketing and Communications Campaign, that includes Public and Media Relations, creative messaging, Media Plan and Strategies.

**BACKGROUND:** Chatham County Public Works and Park Services are seeking to promote the basic recycling rules, types of products to be recycled, and to educate the citizens of Chatham County on the benefits of recycling.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. This contract will be a continuation of creative ideas and services of the contract derived from a Request For Proposal (RFP) awarded to Designation Advertising and Design.
2. This contract will coordinate the umbrella campaign strategy with messaging to support Chatham County Recycles, adding used oil, lead acid batteries, rechargeable batteries, the renovated Wilmington Island Drop-Off Center and continued renovations to the newly opened Resource Conservation Education Center. The strategy includes an integrated marketing and communications

campaign that covers public and media relations, creative messaging, media plan, placement and strategies.

3. Staff supports continuing the effort of advertising and believes the price quoted from Designation Advertising and Design to be fair and reasonable.

**FUNDING:** Solid Waste Restricted  
(5404510 - 52.33001)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval to award a \$24,500 sole source contract to Designation Advertising and Design, to market and further develop an integrated Recycling Marketing and Communications Campaign, that includes Public and Media Relations, Creative Messaging, Media Plan and Strategies.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to award sole source contracts when it is in the best interest of the County.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommend approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
CHRIS MORRIS

**ITEM J**

**ISSUE:** Request Board declare a Sheriff's vehicle a total loss and authorize a \$21,569 purchase of a new 2010 Ford Crown Victoria from Akin Ford.

**BACKGROUND:** The Sheriff's Department lost a vehicle due to an accident. It was the fault of the deputy and corrective actions have been taken.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The Board previously approved at their 21 November 2008 meeting an annual "as needed" contract for the purchase of Ford Crown Victoria vehicles. The base price approved by the Board was \$20,768.
2. The "add on options" include: Power seats, carpet, driver's side spotlight and cruise control. The total cost of the "add on options" will be \$801.
3. Tot total cost of the vehicle with the approved base price and the "add on options" will be \$21,569.

**FUNDING:** Risk Management Internal Service Fund - Reserve for Vehicle Accidents  
(6259921 - 57.30101)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board declare a Sheriff's vehicle a total loss and authorize a \$21,569 purchase of a new 2010 Ford Crown Victoria from Akin Ford.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to provide the necessary equipment for law enforcement activities.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
ESTELLE BROWN

PREPARED BY \_\_\_\_\_  
PURCHASING AGENT

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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**

- 1. **MODIFY THE CHATHAM COUNTY REVENUE ORDINANCE FOR CHANGES TO THE SOLID WASTE FEE. THE COUNTY’S CURRENT REVENUE ORDINANCE WAS AMENDED AND APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ON JUNE 12, 2009. AT THAT TIME, A SOLID WASTE FEE OF \$85 WAS IMPLEMENTED. ON JUNE 26, 2009, THE BOARD VOTED TO CHANGE THE FEE TO \$43.**

Chairman Liakakis recognized County Attorney Hart.

County Attorney Hart said, this is just a housekeeping situation where the Board decided they were going to change and reduce the fees for solid waste and, therefore, it

Commissioner Stone said, I move for approval, Mr. Chairman. Commissioner Farrell said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, alright. Let’s go on the board . Chairman Liakakis and Commissioners Stone, Farrell, Odell and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Holmes and Shay voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of five to two. [NOTE: Commissioners Gellatly and Kicklighter were not present.] Chairman Liakakis said, okay, the motion passes.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Stone moved to modify the Chatham County Revenue Ordinance for changes to the solid waste fee from \$85 annually to a fee of \$43 The County’s current Revenue Ordinance was amended and approved by the Board of Commissioners on June 12, 2009. At that time, a solid waste fee of \$85 was implemented. On June 26, 2009, the Board voted to change the fee to \$43. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Chairman Liakakis and Commissioners Stone, Farrell, Odell and Thomas voted in favor of the motion. Commissioners Holmes and Shay voted in opposition. The motion carried by a vote of five to two. [NOTE: Commissioners Gellatly and Kicklighter were not present.]

~~AGENDA ITEM: XI-1~~  
~~AGENDA DATE: July 10, 2009~~  
AGENDA ITEM: XII-1  
AGENDA DATE: July 23, 2009

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

**ISSUE:**  
Modify the Chatham County Revenue Ordinance for changes to the solid waste fee.

**BACKGROUND:**  
The County’s current Revenue Ordinance was amended and approved by the Board of Commissioners on June 12, 2009. At that time, a solid waste fee of \$85.00 was implemented. On June 26, the Commissioners voted to change the fee to \$43.00.

- FACTS AND FINDINGS:**
1. Article V Section 3 needs to be amended to change the fee from \$85.00 to \$43.00.
  2. This revenue was proposed to offset the costs of curbside dry trash pickup, which are currently paid through SSD Fund property taxes.

**FUNDING:**  
This amendment will reduce revenues in the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund by approximately \$1,015,000. The shortfall can be covered as follows:

Solid Waste Fund Balance	\$ 200,000
Deferring Capital Outlay in Solid Waste Fund	350,000
Transfer From SSD Fund	<u>465,000</u>
Total	\$1,015,000

The funds for the transfer from SSD will come from SSD Contingency in the amount of \$175,000 and SSD Digest anticipated growth of \$290,000.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**  
In accordance with adopted financial policies, the Finance Department will submit an updated Revenue Ordinance for approval each year within 45 days of annual budget adoption. Amendments to the Ordinance may be submitted throughout the year.

- ALTERNATIVES:**
1. As described in Facts and Findings, modify the Revenue Ordinance to make the changes as per attached. The fees will be effective July 1, 2009.
  2. Provide the Finance Department with other guidance.

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

**RECOMMENDED REVENUE ORDINANCE CHANGES**

**Article V. Solid Waste Operations**

**Section 3 Solid Waste Fees**  
For every single family residential unit in the unincorporated area, a Solid Waste Fee will be charged per year. This charge is for solid waste services in the unincorporated area of the county which includes yard waste recycling and curbside bulky item collection. The fee will be included on the 2<sup>nd</sup> installment real estate property tax bills. The Tax Commissioner is responsible for collecting the fees. Penalties and due dates will be the same as indicated on the tax bill.

The fee will be **\$43.00** per year per single family residential unit. For purposes of this ordinance, single-family residential means residential properties classified by the County as having only one dwelling unit per property or parcel.

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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). *None for this meeting.***

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

No list was attached for this meeting.

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#### **3. ROADS AND DRAINAGE REPORTS.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

No list was attached for this meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM: *XIII-3 Roads***  
**AGENDA DATE: July 23, 2009**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners  
**THRU:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager  
**FROM:** Leon Davenport, P.E., Assistant County Engineer  
**ISSUE:** To provide information on the status of Chatham County road projects.

**BACKGROUND:** The GDOT priorities for funding projects under the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) or the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) Discretionary Grants Program are not known.

**FACTS AND FINDING:**

1. Truman Parkway, Phase 5. The right of way (ROW) was certified to the GDOT on December 3, 2008. The Final Field Plan Review (FFPR) was held March 11, 2009. The GDOT did not include the project as part of the Phase 1 ARRA. At the request of the GDOT staff, the County submitted a suggestion to break the project into three phases so that a portion of the project could be included in the Phase 2 ARRA. On May 18 the Interim GDOT Commissioner said he could not support breaking up the project because the segments did not each have "functionality". The GDOT intends to submit the project to the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for consideration under TIGER.

2. Whitefield Avenue. Based on an audit of the GDOT, the Attorney General's office required GDOT to re-draft its contracts with local governments. On May 22, 2009 the Board approved a new Right of Way Acquisition Contract that specified a not to exceed reimbursement amount, counteroffer approval authority and an expiration date of June

30, 2010. The project is scheduled for a FY2011 construction contract letting. Seventy percent of the appraisals required for the project (including those for eleven residential displacees) are complete. No offers could be made until GDOT issued the Notice to Proceed on June 30. Making offers without GDOT authorization would have jeopardized right of way cost reimbursement and FHWA construction funding.

3. Bay Street. Preliminary Field Plan Review (PFPR) was scheduled for July 21, 2009.

4. Diamond Causeway. The GDOT is pursuing a design/build contract in FY 2009 to construct a two lane high level bridge over Skidaway Narrows to replace the bascule bridge. The GDOT accepted design/build submittals on July 17, 2009.

5. Unincorporated County Roads.

a. Brandy Road. Completion scheduled by July 31. Construction substantially complete.

b. Bond Avenue, Betran Avenue. Betran Avenue construction is approximately 30% complete and Bond is approximately 50% complete.

c. Pyeland Avenue. Bid opening for a contract to pave is scheduled for August 2009.

d. Wright Avenue and Fenwick Avenue. Under design for paving.

e. Catherine Street, Adeline Street. Bids for a construction contract to pave Catherine Street and Adeline Street will be solicited in August 2009.

f. Intersection improvements on King George Blvd at Grove Point Road. Construction plans to install turn lanes and signalize the intersection are complete. ROW acquisitions are underway.

g. Intersection improvements on Chatham Parkway at Veterans Parkway and Garrard Avenue. Being designed to install traffic signals at the interchange on Veterans Parkway and at the intersection of Garrard.

**RECOMMENDATION:** For information.

Districts: All

**AGENDA ITEM: XIII-3 Drainage**  
**AGENDA DATE: July 23, 2009**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

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

**FROM:** Leon Davenport, P.E., Assistant County Engineer

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

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

**FACTS AND FINDING:**

1. Pipemakers Canal. The Pipemakers Canal extends from Bloomingdale to the Savannah River (over 13 miles). The project includes canal widening, bank stabilization, sluice gates and culverts. Construction of the sluice gate structure and channel improvements from SR 21 to the Savannah River (about 1.4 miles) was completed in 2005. The wetland credits have been purchased for Section One of the Phase 2 project which extends from SR21 to SR307. Staff will proceed toward obtaining a contract for construction in the next phase of the project.

2. Hardin Canal. The Hardin Canal extends from Bloomingdale to Salt Creek near US 17 (over 12 miles). The project includes canal widening, bank stabilization, bridges and culverts. Several years of delay resulted from objections by the US Fish and Wildlife Service. A project to replace culverts under SR 307 with bridges is designed. Right of way acquisition is underway for the road work. Design work to replace golf cart bridges between I-16 and Southbridge Boulevard is underway.

3. Conaway Branch Canal. The Conaway Canal extends from Bloomingdale at US 80 to Pipemakers Canal (about 1.6 miles). The project includes canal widening, bank stabilization and larger culverts. The design is complete and utility relocation work is underway. The portion of the project involving replacement of three roadway culverts is ready to be advertised for bids. To ensure good bids are received, staff will delay the advertising by a few weeks while bids on other drainage improvement projects are being taken.
4. Little Hurst Canal. Improvements consist of constructing a new culvert under the railroad east of SR 21. Work is underway to acquire easements and rights of way, and to acquire permits for construction. Design will commence after accomplishing these tasks.
5. Wilmington Park Canal. The Wilmington Park Canal extends from North Cromwell Road to the Wilmington River (about 1.4 miles). The project includes canal widening, bank stabilization and culverts. Construction of new culverts with tide gates at Wilmington Island Road was completed in 2002. A project to install rip rap erosion protection at the culvert is under construction.
6. Kings Way Canal. The Kings Way Canal extends from the Kingswood Subdivision to Whitefield Avenue (about 0.7 miles). The project includes canal widening, bank stabilization and culverts. Phase 1 was completed in 2005 as a part of the construction of Truman Parkway. Phase 2 is substantially complete. Work to replace damaged fences and moving fences out of the drainage rights of way is underway. A project to clear vegetation from the subdivision's northern perimeter drainage ditch is underway.
7. Dundee Canal. This project improves the tidegate structure and concrete headwalls. The project is substantially complete. Recent observations of the canal water level indicate that the new gates are performing as expected, maintaining water levels substantially lower than previously.
8. Louis Mills / Redgate Canal. The Louis Mills and Redgate Canals are tributaries to the South Springfield Canal. A contract to widen the channel and replace culverts between Garrard Avenue and the railroad was awarded by the Board on June 12, 2009. Construction is underway beginning with replacement of the culvert at Garrard Avenue. Staff has agreed to allow temporary road closure for the culvert work, with the road scheduled to be reopened before September 1, 2009.
9. Ogeechee Farms Area. The Ogeechee Farms project includes improvements to canals and culverts. Phase 1 was completed in July 2005 (piped in about 0.2 miles of channel south of Vidalia Road and replaced a road crossing at Waynesboro Road). Design is complete on Phase 2 which includes improving several undersized culverts along the Vidalia Canal south of Vidalia Road. The project is in the bidding process. Construction is expected to begin in September 2009 and be complete in February 2010.
10. Chevis Canal. The Chevis Canal project includes improvements to the drainage culvert at the Hodges Air Park located approximately 3,600 feet downstream of Chevis Road. The improvements double the existing drainage capacity. Construction is complete.
11. Quacco Canal. The Quacco Canal extends from the Little Ogeechee River to the Regency Mobile Home Park (about 4 miles). The project includes canal widening, bank stabilization, culverts, and providing access for maintenance. Completed work included enlarging the US 17 culverts. Design to improve road culverts along Quacco Road and construct channel improvement is complete. The project is in the bidding phase. Construction is expected to begin in November 2009 and be complete in September 2010. Staff is developing a project scope for extending drainage improvements to the Willow Lakes Subdivision.
12. Norwood Drainage Outfalls. The project will improve drainage capacity and access for maintenance. Four outfalls along Norwood, between Skidaway Road and Lester Avenue are being considered for improvements. Design work is underway for the outfall at Skidaway Road.
13. Henderson/Gateway. Drainage is provided by the Little Neck Canal and the Henderson Branch Canal (combined length about 2 miles). Development of the subdivisions led to increased rates and volumes of storm water runoff which the canals cannot handle. Design work continues on improvements to replace culverts at Henderson Oaks Drive and at a golf path crossing. The City of Savannah is holding up improvements at Henderson Oaks Drive by refusing to relocate the sanitary sewer and water line within the County's Rights of Way. A project to replace the culvert at Little Neck Road is underway.
14. Shipyard-Beaulieu Area. The project will be accomplished in phases. The first phase will replace the storm drain pipe at Beaulieu Avenue. There appears to be

adequate existing easements. The final design for this improvement is complete and the project is in the bidding process. Construction is expected to begin in September 2009 and be complete in December 2009.

15. Grange Road Canal. The project to relieve flooding extends from Pipemakers Canal to north of Grange Road (about 1.8 miles). The original concept identified the need for an outfall to the Savannah River within the unopened right of way of Grange Road. In 2007, the GPA requested that the right of way be abandoned for a container berth expansion. Staff is coordinating the County's needs for drainage improvements with GPA's needs to expand.

16. Skidaway Road. The project will improve roadside drainage and address vehicle safety issues along a portion of Skidaway Road near Wormsloe. Preliminary construction plans are complete and rights of way acquisitions are complete for all properties. A temporary construction easement from the State of Georgia will be requested after the County receives a letter of permission from the State of Georgia to work in areas subject to the Coastal Marshland Protection Act.

17. LaRoche Culvert.

RECOMMENDATION: For information.  
Districts: All

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## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Upon motion being made by Commissioner Stone and seconded by Commissioner Thomas the board recessed at 10:19 a.m. to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing personnel. [NOTE: Commissioners Gellatly and Kicklighter were not present.]

Following adjournment of the Executive Session, the meeting of the Board of Commissioners was reconvened at 10:40 a.m. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present.]

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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 Shay 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 Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present.]

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## **APPOINTMENTS**

- 1. LIVE OAK REGIONAL LIBRARY**

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

Commissioner Farrell moved to reappoint Sandrae McCorkle to the Live Oak Regional Library to a term which will expire . June 30, 2012. Commissioner Shay seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present.]

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**2. YOUTH FUTURES AUTHORITY**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Thomas moved to appoint Dr. Diane Weems and Linda Zoller to serve on the Youth Futures Authority with terms to expire July 23, 2009. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present.]

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**3. CHATHAM COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Shay moved to reappoint Charles McMillan, Sr., and W. Rex Templeton, Jr., to serve on the Chatham County Hospital Authority with terms to expire October 24, 2014. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present.]

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**4. CORE (FORMERLY CUTS)**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Stone moved to confirm Commissioner Gellatly's appointment of Martin Sullivan, Jr., to represent the Sixth District on CORE (formerly CUTS). Commissioner Shay seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present.]

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**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to be brought before the Commissioners, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 10:44 a.m. [NOTE: Commissioners Holmes and Kicklighter were not present.]

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**APPROVED:** THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2009

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

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SYBIL E. TILLMAN, CLERK OF COMMISSION