

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 2010, IN THE COMMISSION MEETING ROOM ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY COURTHOUSE, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, 124 BULL STREET, SAVANNAH, GEORGIA.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Pete Liakakis called the meeting to order at 9:25 a.m., Friday, March 26, 2010.

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II. INVOCATION

Commissioner Liakakis introduced The Reverend Lionel Marmolejo, who gave the Invocation.

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III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Patrick Farrell 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: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
Jonathan Hart, County Attorney
Sybil E. Tillman, County Clerk

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V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. PROCLAMATION TO DECLARE MARCH AS “PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK MONTH” IN CHATHAM COUNTY. PAT MOONEY WILL BE RECEIVING.

Chairman Liakakis said, we have a proclamation to declare March as Professional Social Work Month in Chatham County. Pat Mooney will be receiving this and anyone else with him come forth to the podium, and we have our Vice Chairman Priscilla Thomas will be presenting the proclamation.

County Manager Abolt said, ladies and gentlemen, with Dr. Thomas’ permission I would like to do a brief introduction. Just as the Chairman so accurately indicated, a way to recognize the profession of social work, the gentlemen and ladies who you will meet shortly, testified by their career choice to the wonders and contributions they make to our community to look to others to do their job in the years to come and, more importantly, in the lives

of Diane, my wife, who is also with us, to recognize that that career and the generosity of this community as is made possible for those young people who make a choice in social work if they choose to pursue their career at the master's level, they can be come eligible at the University of Georgia for a Tisha Abolt Assistantship Grant which will aid in deferring the cost of there. There's so many wonderful people, too many to name, and Diane [Abolt] and I would not try to do that, but it has been almost ten years since we lost our daughter Tisha [Abolt] just prior to receiving her MSW, Master of Social Work from the University of Georgia. The local social work community plus the University of Georgia responded in an unbelievable fashion to solicit and to receive sufficient funds to endow this assistantship.

The current President of the Social of Social Work at UGA, Dr. Maurice Daniels, I would like to have him come in a moment, in addition to Dr. Thomas, and express his words relative to the commitment that he makes and the community of educators at UGA make, along with Savannah State University, to create the next generation of social workers. Mr. Pat Mooney is one of the many along with Bo Hornstein [phonetic], Mary Hill and so many other local social workers who have responded to an opportunity, if you will, to out of a very sad loss of a wonderful person, our daughter who wanted to be a social worker, to be able to create an incentive for the young men and women of Chatham County to attain an MSW and then come back to Chatham County and work in the field of social work. There are several that have already been doing this. Mayor Johnson, who was at the Youth Commission meeting speaking to those young people about the career opportunities in social work, testified to the fact that no less than three of these students have worked in his office during the summer months. The career of social work is a very trying, certainly not financially rewarding career choice that is so much needed in this day and age.

With Dr. Thomas' permission before she reads the proclamation, I would like to introduce Dr. Maurice Daniels. Behind him is a gentleman who doesn't practice social work as a profession, but Mr. Paul Hinchey. Mr. Paul Hinchey, representing St. Joseph's/Candler, spearheaded what amounted to a major significant contribution to the assistantship making it possible. Paul [Hinchey] was the first one to remember to remind Diane [Abolt] and I just shortly before the loss of our daughter Tisha [Abolt], she had already made an appointment to interview at St. Joe/Candler to hopefully get a position as a social worker. It's people like Paul Hinchey who doesn't wear the moniker of a social worker that understands commitment of paying it forward. Dr. Maurice Daniels.

Dr. Maurice Daniels said, thank you very kindly, Mr. Abolt. To the Honorable Commissioners and other distinguished guests here, I'm just delighted to be the City of Savannah, the Chatham County area this morning. The School of Social Work at the University of Georgia and Schools of Social Work across the county, including Savannah State University here seeks to empower individuals and families and communities, and we are very proud of the fact that we have several distinguished and esteemed graduates of our school here in Savannah.

We are also very proud that we have just endowed the Tisha Abolt Graduate Assistantship at the University of Georgia, which live on in perpetuity because it's endowed. I want to express my deepest thanks to the citizens of Savannah and certainly to the Abolts, Mr. Paul Hinchey of St. Joseph's/Candler Hospital, the Clinical Society Social Work Society here in Savannah, and many others who helped to make this possible. This assistantship actually will provide an opportunity for a graduate student at the University of Georgia each year to work in the Savannah area in an internship along the way to their master's degree in social work, and it is our goal that those students would become employed in the various social service agencies that are located here in the Savannah/Chatham County area. So again it is my deepest appreciation to speak to you this morning and I'm honored to be here as you proclaim Social Work Month. Thank you very kindly.

Commissioner Thomas said, it is my distinct honor to read this proclamation this morning, and we are so delighted to have each and every one of you here today. On behalf of Mr. Russ Abolt and his lovely wife and his family, we understand what is taking place and we also appreciate the fact that you all have taken up the honor of attending this to them through this foundation. I would now like to read the proclamation, and it says:



WHEREAS, social workers are dedicated to the successful functioning of American society; and

WHEREAS, social workers inspire community action that improves life for all people; and

WHEREAS, social workers have the right education and experience to guide individuals, families and communities through complex issues and choices; and

WHEREAS, social workers stand up for others to make sure everyone has access to the same basic rights, protections, and opportunities; and

WHEREAS, social workers have been the driving force behind important social movements in the United States; and

WHEREAS, social workers help resolve systemic issues that negatively affect community life; and

WHEREAS, social workers believe there are no limits to human potential; and

WHEREAS, social workers work through private practices, agencies and organizations, hospitals, the military, government and educational institutions to provide resources and guidance that support social functioning; and

WHEREAS, social workers are on the front lines, responding to such human needs as homelessness, poverty, family break-up, mental illness, physical and mental disability, substance abuse, domestic violence and many other issues; and

WHEREAS, social workers make a wide range of social contributions throughout their careers; and

WHEREAS, a social work career is one filled with purpose and possibilities; and

WHEREAS, social workers help millions of Americans lead more rewarding lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, in recognition of professional social workers and their commitment and dedication to individuals, families, and communities everywhere through service delivery, research, education and advocacy, I, Pete Liakakis, Chairman, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the month of March 2010 as:

PROFESSIONAL SOCIAL WORK MONTH

in Chatham County and call upon all citizens to join with Chatham County, the National Association of Social Workers and the Clinical Social Work Association of Chatham County in celebration and support of social workers and the social work profession.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia, to be affixed this, the 26th day of March, 2010.

Pete Liakakis, Chairman, Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

Commissioner Thomas said, congratulations and thank you so much. Dr. Daniels said, thank you very much. Commissioner Thomas said, we appreciate all that you do and we thank all of you for your support. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, I'd like to thank all the people with the social group — social workers group that were here today because we know that many lives have been affected by social workers not only here but around our state, around our country and around the world because it's made a big difference. And, of course, I'd like to thank Paul Hinchey, who supports many of the things in the social work in our community not only being President of the St. Joseph/Candler Hospital, but reaching out with the many things that they have in the community to help those, especially those that are in need in our community and other active and civic and charitable things. We thank you very much for that, Paul [Hinchey].

I'd also like to thank again our great County Manager Russ Abolt and his wife, Diane, for this endowment because it will make a difference in remembrance for their daughter and also how it will help, you know, in the field of social work. So thank you both, Russ and Diane [Abolt], for that.

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2. PROCLAMATION TO DECLARE MARCH 29, 2010, AS "VIETNAM VETERANS DAY." ROB TAYLOR WILL BE RECEIVING.

Chairman Liakakis said, Rob Taylor, who is the President of the Vietnam Chapter here, and I ask Reverend Marmolejo to come forth also — Lionel, if you will come forth — and anybody else that might be here for the Vietnam Veterans proclamation.

Chairman Liakakis read the following proclamation into the record:



WHEREAS, on March 29, 1973, America withdrew its last 2,500 troops of young men and women from the battlefields of Vietnam and, since the end of that bitter conflict faraway in Southeast Asia, a generation of Americans has come of age and come to understand the significance of the war; and

WHEREAS, we will never forget those soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines who answered the call to honorably defend our Nation and its principles of freedom and democracy, and we have an obligation to recognize the service of our Vietnam Veterans – those who went to war and returned safely, those who returned home scarred of body and mind, and those who were killed or are still missing; and

WHEREAS, we have the utmost respect for the soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who fought in Vietnam, and we pay tribute to them for their valiant efforts, reflective of the strength and character they demonstrate today, and welcome the opportunity to acknowledge and thank them for their defense of global freedom and democracy; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Pete Liakakis, Chairman, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim March 29, 2010 as:

VIETNAM VETERANS DAY

in Chatham County and invite all citizens both in public ceremonies and in private thoughts and prayers to gratefully acknowledge our Vietnam Veterans.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 26th day of March 2010.

Pete Liakakis, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

Chairman Liakakis said, what I'd like to do is present this proclamation now to Rob [Taylor], who is the President of the local chapter.

Mr. Rob Taylor said, on behalf of Chapter 671, Savannah Chapter, Vietnam Veterans of America, and also over 61,000 members in the United States of the Vietnam Veterans of America, I'd like to accept this for them and also tell you that we appreciate your support of the Vietnam Veterans. Thank you.

The Reverend Lionel Marmolejo said, we will be having a ceremony on the 29th, Monday, at seven o'clock at the Vietnam Memorial, Emmet Park. You are invited to be there. We expect you to be there. Seven o'clock. Thank you and we appreciate what you have done with this proclamation. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. We appreciate it.

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3. PROCLAMATION FOR MRS. BEAULA LEE SIKES ON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT.

Chairman Liakakis said, Commissioner Stone will present that proclamation. If Beaula [Sikes], if you will come forth with your family, friends and others for this proclamation.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman.



WHEREAS, Chatham County is privileged to have employees that take great pride in their duties and responsibilities, and in that regard we commend Mrs. Beaula Lee Sikes; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Beaula Lee Sikes began her employment with Chatham County on March 11, 1985 as a Clerk Typist with the Chatham County Sheriff's Department and has worked as a Senior Clerk Typist, Accounting Technician II and was promoted in 1999 to her current position as an Accounting Technician III, having outstanding knowledge of its operations as a seasoned and productive member of the department; and

WHEREAS, her varied and current duties at the Chatham County Sheriff's Department provided her the opportunity to work in an environment that allowed her to touch the lives of many individuals in a positive manner in an effort to provide the supervision of a 24/7 cashier operation, a good work ethic, detail oriented mind, and provide superior customer service to citizens, and;

WHEREAS, Mrs. Beaula Lee Sikes took great pride in her work, the principles that she represented and the profession that she embraced, meeting the many challenges placed upon supervisors each and every day.

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

MRS. BEAULA LEE SIKES

upon her retirement and express our sincere appreciation for over twenty five years of dedicated service to the citizens of Chatham County and extend best wishes for a long, happy, and healthy retirement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Chatham County to be affixed this the 26th day of March 2010

Pete Liakakis, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

Commissioner Stone said, congratulations.

Ms. Sikes said, I'm not good at this.

Sheriff Al St. Lawrence said, let me just say that Lee [Sikes], as we know her, Lee Sikes. You've all heard the term VIP, and looking at that respect, but she is a VIP in our organization in that she handles all the bond money. Everything — ten to fifteen million dollars a year, and make sure it goes in the right place and is returned to the right people. In addition to that, as was pointed out in the resolution [sic], she's responsible for 24/7 cashier operations. She has to go in there in the mornings, she has to get the tray, she has to count it with the cashier, she has to take it back to her office and recount it and deposit it. It's quite a task to keep up with what she has to keep up with, and you know when they say people can be replaced. Well, yes, if somebody leaves somebody is going to take their place and somebody will eventually take Lee's place, but it may take a little longer than most people realize. It's [inaudible] and arms that are called by the courts. Her and Major Welcher have to see that money is collected and goes into the County's treasury. So it's a multi-task operation and we're going to miss her greatly. And we will get somebody to take her place, but it's going to take a while. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, Ms. Sikes, come on. We'd like to hear a few words from you. We know how you are.

Ms. Sikes said, it's been a grand time. I've had a good 25 years. Chatham County employees are my second family, and we're going to have a hard time separating us. I got a divorce decree from Major Welcher yesterday, so it's been a good time and Chatham County has been very good to me.

Major Welcher said, and concurring with what the Sheriff said, Lee [Sikes] has been my accountant for year and we can go back and talk to Mr. Abolt. We have never been one penny short, one penny over. When you talking about — the Sheriff said you're talking about handling anywhere from ten to fifteen million dollars a year, and that's an outstanding attribute of hers. She's always to work, she's never late, she's always there. You know, she started one job and moved to another one and had that added onto her and added and added and added. She is an asset to the County. She's going to be very well missed by the County, but, you know, the Sheriff said we will go on, but I'm going to miss her. She's been with me for 25 years. I've seen her every day, eight hours a day for 25 years and she is a very, very dedicated employee, and my hat's off and I salute her.

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, let me add one more comment. Yesterday the employees put on a big luncheon attended by about a hundred people for Lee [Sikes] and her family and everybody else, and that just goes to show you what the employees — how the employees think of her.

Chairman Liakakis said, Ms. Sikes, thank you very much on behalf of the Chatham County Commission, for the service to the citizens of our community. We really appreciate that and many of us know the outstanding work that you have done for the citizens. So thank you and we hope and pray that you may be blessed in your many retirement year in the future. Ms. Sikes said, thank you.

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4. PROCLAMATION FOR MORGAN DEWBERRY, 5TH GRADER AT ST. ANDREWS, FOR HER WORK WITH CHILD SUPPORT AND BEARABLE HUGS.

Chairman Liakakis said, I ask that Commissioner Patrick Farrell if he will do the presentation, and all of those that are with Morgan [Dewberry] today please come forth to the podium.

Commissioner Farrell said, I understand you're a third grader at St. Andrews. Very good. We're proud of you. It gives me great pleasure today to present this proclamation to Miss Morgan Dewberry. But before I do that, I'd better get my reading glasses because I'm not in third grade anymore and neither are my eyes.



WHEREAS, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners are proud to acknowledge citizens that answer the call for assistance and today we recognize an individual that went beyond the call, Morgan Dewberry; and

WHEREAS, in January 2009 and 2010, the Chatham County Child Support Office ran an ad in the Chatham County Connection announcing that they were collecting stuffed animals in “Operation Bearable Hugs” to be delivered to patients in Backus Children’s Hospital on Valentine’s Day. Other organizations receiving stuffed animals collected by Morgan were God Loves Orphans and Children (GLOW), Children’s Advocacy Center and the Georgia State Patrol; and

WHEREAS, in 2009 Morgan Dewberry, then a second grader at St. Andrew’s on the Marsh along with her classmates answered the call and collected 44 stuffed animals and doubled the amount in 2010 when 88 stuffed animals were collected; and

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

MORGAN DEWBERRY

for taking the lead in organizing and conducting drives to collect stuffed animals for children experiencing medical and social challenges in our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 26th day of March 2010.

Pete Liakakis, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

Commissioner Farrell said, and with that I say congratulations, Morgan [Dewberry]. Would you like to say a few words?

Miss Dewberry said, thank you. It was not just me. It was my whole lower school. I’m very proud of them and they’re the best people you can get.

Chairman Liakakis said, if one of her parents would like to come up and speak. Lift the microphone up a little bit there.

Ms. Kelly Dewberry said, I’m Kelly, her mom, and it was funny. The reason this all came about was I saw the ad in the paper and I mentioned it to Morgan and without reading it completely, I thought what a great opportunity to get rid of some of our stuffed animals that are in our bedroom because she has a tendency to collect stuffed animals, so we have hundreds of stuffed animals. But the stuffed animals for the Bearable Hugs have to be new. So I suggested to Morgan, what do you think about that, and she said I think it will be fun. So she did everything on her own. She wrote the letter that the teacher put in the folders, she got up in front of her classmates at the morning meetings and encouraged everybody to bring stuffed animals. So she really spearheaded the project and, again, it was her classmates and schoolmates that contributed, so we are very proud of her.

Chairman Liakakis said, Morgan [Dewberry], thank you on behalf of the Chatham County Commission and the citizens because this is very important that you show that you and your family, you care for others in the community and especially those that need that that don’t have resources. Some of them don’t really have resources, money to be able to purchase that for the children and all, and that’s wonderful that you did that. And I’d like to call up if we have somebody from the Child Support Unit to please come up and make a statement and identify yourself for our County Clerk.

Mr. Dave Lowe said, Dave Lowe from Child Support. Mr. Chatham County, we have too many missions. One is to collect child support for the children of Chatham County, and we do that to the tune of about \$30,000,000 a year, and the other thing we like to do is Operation Bearable Hugs, which is the collection of new stuffed animals for children facing, as they said, fiscal and social challenges, and this year we were able to collect 200 stuffed animals and toys altogether. A big part of that was Morgan Dewberry. She’s absolutely super, a great girl from with a great

lower school. A great institution. We should all be proud of St. Andrews and should all be proud of Morgan [Dewberry] for the job that she did. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, Dave [Lowe], I'd like to thank you on behalf of the Chatham County Commission and our citizens also because you're the number one director of the best child support system in the entire State of Georgia. You've done a wonderful job with your staff and all, and we really appreciate that because you go sometimes beyond the call of duty so that you can help the families, the children that really need that support, Dave [Lowe], and I know that you can rack up many wonderful things that will be in your history for doing the things to help especially those in our community that cannot help themselves so thank you on behalf of this Commission.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, Morgan [Dewberry], I just cannot let this time pass without saying something. I know that the Chairman has already expressed his views for the Commissioners, but I just want to take this opportunity to say to you as a young lady that we're just so proud of you, of your leadership. You have set the bar for other young people and I hope that those who will be seeing this broadcast and those who are here today will take your leadership and hopefully that they too will do something that will be worthwhile. It is one of the core values that we try to teach and instill in our children, and that is of giving back to your community and it's a part of leadership, and you have shown that and we are so proud of you. So keep up the good work. Ms. Dewberry said, thank you.

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5. PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES TO CLASS 14 OF THE CONSTRUCTION APPRENTICE PROGRAM.

Chairman Liakakis said, for general information for our citizens, this Commission came on board when they started their first representation for our County Commission that we did in 2005, we set up this Construction Apprentice Program and this was to give people that were in the poverty area or low income people so that we could bring that up, put them through life skills and also through work skills, and once they graduate, well, we had our people and what they did was they went out into the community and were able to get many of them jobs, high paying jobs, and for the first couple of years the Homebuilders of Savannah were high them at high wages, but what occurred when the home building slowed down, there wasn't as many jobs. But what they've done with Daniel Dodd and his staff people and all of them working hard, they are still reaching out in the community and get other businesses and industries to hire the graduates. We really appreciate all of you participating in this for the apprentice program because we know that we have helped change a lot of lives in our community and you needed to have this opportunity so that you can progress and we wish all of you a lot of luck, and what I'd like to do, we're going to have a graduation class today giving certificates to Class 14, and I'll ask Daniel Dodd and his staff people to come forth.

Mr. Daniel Dodd said, good morning, Mr. Chairman and Commissioners. We are proud to be here with Class 14 of the Construction Apprentice Program. We are continuing to so success with this program and it could not be a better time for a program like this, at a time when the economy is not doing well, poverty is increasing, and less and less opportunities are available for our community and for our County. We continue to serve a high risk population. In fact, sixty or seventy percent of each class that we have are ex-offenders. Since last year CAP, the Construction Apprentice Program, has been shifting the business focus to increase the number of students — I'm sorry — to increase the number of current jobs available to our students. Given the continued slowness in the home building industry, as the Chairman mentioned, the program is continuing to connect with commercial contractors for local projects. These include Chatham County schools, the Truman Parkway Expansion, the County Jail and housing projects with the Housing Authority. With the support of the County and the City of Savannah, meetings have been held with the general and subcontractors and with our students. We've already placed five students in jobs with the Pelote Corporation at Godley Station School and we're working with multiple contractors to replicate that and to place our students in jobs in the short term. We're also at your request working closely with Savannah Tech to develop more curriculums and to insure the curriculums that are in place to support these jobs, especially the road construction as you'd asked for, and also to plan for green jobs as well, which you've also asked for.

We on staff continue to be inspired by these graduates who work hard and deserve the chance to move ahead. Hopefully, as Commissioner Thomas just mentioned, they will also volunteer as a consequence as well, realizing how the Commission has helped them and how this program has helped them. As they get stabilized, hopefully they will also step forward — step backward to help other people that step up.

I thank you all again for your vision in asking us to develop this program and for your continued support of this important support of this important program for our community. Ms. Sinclair, who is the Manager for the program, I found out this morning that she was actually quite ill and so we're going to be fumbling around a little bit here since we don't have her orchestration you normally see how she orchestrates these graduations. So please excuse us as we fumble a little bit with this.

Mr. Dodd said, I would like to take a moment — as you know, we always have the class that's coming, come to support the class that is graduating, and so Class 15 is here today. So we would like to take a moment to ask Class 15, everybody with Class 15 to stand to be acknowledged.

In today's class we have 31 that has completed life skills, 29 that are enrolled in Savannah Technical College, 11 are graduating concrete-forming curriculum, which is today, but there were 31 that started, and there are 8 that are employed. It breaks down from the 31 because some of them are not here today because they are still going on for further education, and so they will be coming in front of you, although they started with this class, they'll be coming a little bit later; 11 in concrete-forming, 7 in masonry, 4 in electrical code and review, 1 in automotive and 1 in welding. For the fiscal year to date, that was from July 2009 to present, we have had 74 that have completed life skills, 33 that have graduated from Savannah Tech, 26 that were employed at graduation, and we do expect this number to rise especially due to the work that we have been doing with the subcontractors and contractors I mentioned earlier.

Some of the graduates are leaving to go on the job site so they are dressed a little more informally, and before we do the certificates, we would like to have two of the students as they normally do to give testimonies and then give you all a chance to say a few words before we present the certificates. So I'd like to introduce you to Michael Johnson. Michael, if you would come forward.

Mr. Michael Johnson said, good morning. It's a privilege to be standing here in front of the Commission Board. You did a lot for me and I think others as well as far as giving us a chance to move forward in life. Life skills has — you furnished me also showed me in such a way to go about handling certain situations. It's an honor, it's an honor to be a part of this class and I'd like to move forward in life for me to upgrade myself and for others to come along to keep this program going. I really don't have a whole lot to say, but it's an honor to know that there is a chance to succeed something. You know, it isn't just going to stop at one place and we can keep moving forward. The opportunity is there and CAP has gave me the opportunity to deal with Ms. Sinclair and Ms. Williams. I really appreciate their great vision. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you very much, Michael [Johnson].

Mr. Dodd said, and Donny Sellers would also like to say a few words.

Mr. Donny Sellers said, I'd just like to say thank y'all for giving me and my class the opportunity to get back in school to supplement our education. I really don't have too much to say, but thank you and I enrolled back in school again so eventually in the near future I can better myself and get a job. I thank you.

Mr. Dodd asked, would any of the Commissioners like to address the class before we present the certificates?

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Farrell.

Commissioner Farrell said, I'd like to say one brief word. The doors are open for you, ladies and gentlemen, and I want to commend you for walking through the door and accomplishing your own personal goals for your own betterment of your life and for your family because it takes a commitment from each and every one of you. Nobody can give you anything. We can present opportunities, but you have to earn every bit of where you are and what your station in life is. So I commend each and every one of you for sticking to the program, for graduating, for coming up with ideas on how you can better yourself for your own purposes and for your family, and for that I commend you. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, to the graduates of the 14th class that this County has supported and put on, we want you to know that we appreciate you coming in and that we were able to give you the opportunity. We can see many graduates from the classes 1 through 13 how many of them have been successful in our community and helped them and turned them around, and the two of you talking about, you know, how it has helped you, we really appreciate that because we want to do the things for our citizens in our community, and we want you to remember this — not only Class 14, Class 15 and classes in the future — that we want to do the things, this Commission, to give the opportunity so they help people because that's important because once you're out there working, you'll be supporting your families, supporting yourselves, and of course you will be paying taxes to help for all of the things that we are able to give the citizens in our community. So all of you in Class 14 and Class 15, be proud of yourselves about it and never ever give up because you can attain many great things in your life in you keep your mind, and if you have some negatives, move beyond your negatives and do positive things. So thank all of you. Daniel?

Mr. Dodd said, if the Commission would like to join us for the presentation of the certificates: Michael Johnson, Donny Sellers, Robert Phoenix, Elijah Thorpe, Barbara Sanders, Christopher Shinall [phonetic], Ricky Granby [phonetic], and Leon Smalls. Thank y'all very much and congratulations, and thank you to the County Commission.

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VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

None.

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VII. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS

1. NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT MONTH (COMMISSIONER THOMAS). See attached staff report.

Chairman Liakakis said, National County Government Month, Commissioner Thomas and we have a staff report on that. So, Commissioner Thomas, if you will go through the National County Government Month that Chatham County is participating in.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission and ladies and gentlemen, April will be known as National County Government Month. This will be the first time that we will be celebrating the entire month. I do have a staff that's working with me. My co-chairperson, who is a wonderful person, she's on the administrative staff. I'm going to ask Ms. Danielle Hillery to come forward and give you the bits and pieces of what we are trying to do and also to introduce the other important members of this committee. Thank you. Ms. Hillery?

Ms. Danielle Hillery said, thank you, Dr. Thomas. Good morning, Mr. Chairman, members of the Board, and Mr. Abolt. This morning I'm going to provide a report on the activities scheduled for this year's celebration of National County Government Month, but before I begin I'd like to say thank you to you for allowing me to serve as coordinator, as well as Mr. Abolt for allowing me to do so as well, and I would like to also say thank you to those departments that have shown their support and participation for allowing members of their staff to serve as representatives. But there are some special individuals that I would like to mention, and that would be Mr. Abolt, Sandra Smalls, Van Johnson, Dr. Paula Reynolds, Sally Silverman, Pamela Fulton, Vickie Blumberg, Mr. Bethune, Pete Nichols, John Tuggle, Jerrell McRell, Fred Thompson and Sam Young, and these are individuals that I have been in contact with almost every day just to get everything scheduled. But I would like to take this time to ask that they stand and be acknowledged for the work that they have done so far with County Government Month.

Ms. Hillery said, as we know, National County Government Month was designed by NACo to raise public awareness for the rules and responsibilities to the public about the County services that we provide and this year's theme is "Helping Counties," and to kick off that theme we will start on April 1 as County Government Night at the Universal Circus at Memorial Stadium at 7:30 p.m. and thanks to the Chatham County Youth Commissioners and Human Resources tickets have been made available at a discounted rate for employees to attend that event.

Then on April 2nd at 10:00 a.m., at the Savannah Mall, we will have a County Government Fair Day, which will begin at 11:30 a.m., with the Health Walk, and we would like to ask the Board of Commissioners if you all would be in attendance at 11:30 to help lead the citizens of Chatham County in the Health Walk. Also a part of that day we will have on display [inaudible] departmental exhibits healthy cooking demonstrations and we will have performers from the 4-H'ers as well as other local performing arts organizations, and we'll also be giving away a 32-inch flat screen television, which was donated to Chatham County, so we hope to encourage citizens to come out and enter the drawing for that.

Also on April 14th at 11:30 a.m., the Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council will launch their new health information pilot exchange program between Memorial Hospital and the J. C. Lewis Center. Dr. Paula Reynolds, the Executive Director of Safety Net, she is here present if you have any questions about the launching of that new program. But that again will take place at the J. C. Lewis Center at 120 Fahm Street.

On April 15th at 1:30 p.m., the Marines of Long Ago, they will present a special performance by the United States Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon at Savannah State Tiger Arena, and Chatham County will welcome those Marines and promote Chatham County Government Month during that occasion, and at this time I would like to turn the table over to Mr. Abolt about more information about that event.

Mr. Abolt said, thank you, Danielle [Hillery], and you will see there are many events that are going to occur, all of which I know will capture the attention of the citizens of Chatham County. We are fortunate, as Danielle mentioned, to be able to join with an organization of former Marines — retired Marines, I should say — that are having their convention here in Chatham County the middle of April, and through them, not through anybody in Chatham County other than to show our welcome, they were able to secure a commitment, what I refer to as a national treasure. In Washington, DC, at the intersection of 8th and I Streets in the lexicon of the United States Marine Corps that is the epitome of not just spinning pilots, but perfection in military arts and military drill. It's the home of the Commandant of the Marine Corps. It's the site of Washington, DC, that in 1812 one of the few parts of Washington, DC, not burned by the British, but it has always been the focal point for everything that is special about patriotism and love of country.

I would strongly urge members of the Commission, your families and the community to be at Tiger Arena at 1:30 on the 15th. It's a Thursday. We're going to post it as a late lunch hour, but experience a national treasure. It is something that will last about 20 minutes. The Chairman has agreed, and I appreciate so much, to be the Master of Ceremonies and welcome the Marines, both the Marines of Long Ago, but also the Silent Drill Platoon, and it is

an experience that words will not do justice to. But I would certainly ask if you could be there again with family, friends and whomever else. There's 5,000 seats in that arena and I'm very confident that all in those seats, plus standing room also, will have an experience of a lifetime.

Ms. Hillery said, thank you, Mr. Abolt. Following that event will be April 24th at 10:00 a.m., we will hold a County Health Fair at the Live Oak Public Library at the — behind the Savannah Mall. That event will include free health screening for citizens. We will have discussions on health related topics, as well as departmental and health exhibits. There will be a puppet show and there will also be some other entertainment at that event as well, and we just hope to draw a huge crowd and make it a fund day for families to come out and also make it an educational event as well.

Also throughout the month of April, the University of Georgia is having their campaign of the "Walk Georgia Initiative" which will be in effect during the month of April, and thanks to Public Works, Human Resources and the Aquatic Center, physical fitness and water aerobics classes have been scheduled for employees to take advantage during their lunch hours and also after hours at no charge, and these activities can be tracked at walkgeorgia.org, and for those employees who have not signed up for Walk Georgia, they are still encourage to attend those as well just to promote healthy living.

Ms. Hillery said, all these events actually are also possible because of the generosity of the Library, the Savannah Mall, and other local businesses, such as Hope South, who will be with us to help set up all of our events, and also thanks to Savannah State University for allowing us to use there arena for the Marines to come out for their event. And I want to also say that we have had the pleasure of scheduling all of these events that will promote good health, and we just hope that all the Commissioners and the County Manager are pleased and that the citizens and employees of Chatham enjoy what's in store for them. Thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you very much, Danielle [Hillery].

AGENDA ITEM: VII-1

AGENDA DATE: March 26, 2010

To: Board of Commissioners
 Thru: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
 From: Danielle Hillery, Administrative Assistant

Issue:

To provide information to the Board about the scheduled events for National County Government Month.

Background:

National County Government Month (NCGM) was created by the National Association of Counties to raise public awareness and understanding about the roles and responsibilities of the nation's 3,068 counties. The community outreach events held during this month will help residents better understand how Chatham County serves the community.

Counties play an important role in protecting and enhancing the health, welfare and safety of its residents in sensible and cost-effective ways. The theme for this year is "Healthy Counties," and will be observed during the month of April, 2010. During this year's celebration, Chatham County will highlight essential county government healthcare services and programs, and encourage citizens and employees to live healthier and active lives.

In addition to showcasing the departments within Chatham County, such as Public Works and Park Services and our Wellness Program, there will be highlights of the Chatham County Health Department and Cooperative Extension Services for the services they provide to citizens.

In addition, focus will be on the Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council (CCSNPC), which is a collaboration consisting of local providers, government representatives, advocates and consumers charged with assisting the Chatham County Commission in addressing the health care needs of the un- and under-insured. CCSNPC goals include strengthening local partnerships to build healthcare infrastructure, increasing access to care through enhanced capacity and improving efficiency within their community's Safety Net system through ongoing collaboration and evaluation. A critical piece recognized by CCSNPC in achieving these goals is establishing a health information exchange, beginning with a Pilot Project connecting Memorial Health University Medical Center's Emergency Department and one Federally Qualified Health Center, J.C. Lewis Health Center. Funding for the Pilot Project came through the Georgia Department of Community Health, the CCSNPC HIE having been selected as one of three state

demonstration projects, and a Health Resources and Services Administration earmark for equipment and software purchasing.

In October 2009, Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council (CCSNPC) selected Orion Health Inc. to implement the Pilot Project. Orion Health Concerto® Portal and Rhapsody® Integration Engine software creates an infrastructure that allows for secure data exchange, messaging, a clinical data repository, a master patient index and a web-based portal for Safety Net providers, consumers, and others involved in supporting the communities' healthcare. CCSNPC's future aspirations extend to the participation of all regional health care providers including the rest of the Safety Net providers, regional hospitals and Public Health. This system will be launched in April 2010.

Facts and Findings:

1. On January 15, 2010, the Board of Commissioners appointed Commissioner Priscilla Thomas as the County's representative and agreed to participate in NCGM.
2. In January, a meeting was set with Commissioner Thomas and representatives from Cooperative Extension Services, Health Department, Public Works and Park Services and the Wellness Coordinator to discuss various events to schedule.
3. The scheduled events are:
 - a. April 1st at 7:30 p.m. - County Government Night at the UniverSoul Circus. Thanks to the Chatham County Human Resources and Services Department, along with the Chatham County Youth Commissioners, tickets will be made available for County employees at a discounted rate.
 - b. April 2nd at 10:00 a.m. - Chatham County Government Fair Day at the Oglethorpe Savannah Mall to include a health walk beginning at 11:30 a.m., various departmental exhibits, healthy cooking demonstrations, display vehicles, performances by local performing arts organizations.
 - c. April 14th at 11:30 a.m. - The Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council (CCSNPC) will launch the new Health Information Exchange Pilot Project between J. C. Lewis Health Center and Memorial Hospital Emergency Department. This event will be held at the J. C. Lewis Health Center, located at 120 Fahm Street.
 - d. April 15th at 1:30 p.m. - The Marines of Long Ago will present a special performance by the United States Marine Corp Silent Drill Team at the Savannah State University's Tiger Arena. Chatham County will welcome the Marines and promote National County Government Month during this occasion. Citizens are encouraged to take an late lunch to experience this national treasure. The event is free and open to the public.
 - e. April 24th at 10:00 a.m. - Chatham County Health Fair at the Live Oak Public Library (Southwest Branch - behind Target), located at 14097 Abercorn Street, to include free health screenings, departmental and health exhibits, performance by Angela Beasley's Puppet People, dancing, entertainment, give-a-ways and more. Hot dogs and soft drinks will be served at 12:00 noon.
 - f. Throughout the month of April, the Walk Georgia initiative will still be underway. Thanks to Public Work and Park Services and Human Resources and Services and the Aquatic Center, physical fitness classes have been set during lunch hours for employees to participate at no charge. For those employees who have signed up, they can log and track their activities through the Walk Georgia's website (www.walkgeorgia.org) to earn miles. For those who have not signed up, this will be another way Chatham County is making it possible for employees to become more active.
4. On March 10, 2010, the National Association of Counties was notified of the scheduled events.

Policy Analysis:

The County Commission's goal is to provide all citizens the best place to live, work and play by establishing and maintaining recreational services and facilities community-wide, as well as a promote wellness. The events scheduled for National County Government Month will allow Chatham County to show citizens how we are achieving that goal.

Recommendation:

For information only.

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2. REVENUE BONDS FOR WATER/ENERGY (COMMISSIONER SHAY).

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Shay.

Commissioner Shay said, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. A colleague of mine from the Chatham Environmental Forum, Patty McIntosh, sent something to me earlier this week that let me know that there was a bill in the Georgia Legislature House side, Number 1388, that had been passed and therefore survived what's called Crossover Day, and will be as I understand it from Lee Hughes assigned to a Senate Committee relatively soon, and this bill has to do with the concept of amending the Enabling Legislation that allows revenue bonds when they are used for things like water and sewer improvements because they have customers and they have revenue to pay back for bonds, but this bill would amend that to allow energy savings from energy conservation improvements to also be used as revenue to satisfy the issuance of revenue bonds. So it would be an important new tool in the toolkit of local governments and other subdivisions of the State of Georgia to be able to issue debt and then use some of the savings that would actually be derived from energy conservation improvements, use some of that savings in order to pay back for the original investment. It's a way, for example, if we used them, be able to have the savings, have our taxpayers enjoy some or most of that savings now, but also use some of it to be able to pay for the improvements so that we don't have to take those dollars away from other important government functions that are going on right now. In a world with shrinking tax base and shrinking resources, this is a way to help use the future to help pay for some of the things that we could do to save taxpayers' money right now. And what I would like to ask the Commissioners to do, if they would, is resolve in favor of the House Bill and as soon as Lee Hughes is able to tell us where it's assigned in the Senate, that we would then follow up with our two State Senators and make sure that they support that bill as it moves its way through the Legislature. And there's a copy of a resolution in here that's beautifully written that I won't repeat right now, and I would ask that we authorize the Chairman to be able to sign that resolution, and I'll make a motion to that effect right now.

Commissioner Farrell said, second. Commissioner Thomas said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. We have a motion on the floor for a resolution. Let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. Commissioner Shay said, thank you. Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Shay moved to approve a resolution in support of House Bill 1388 with reference to revenue bonds for water and energy. Commissioners Farrell and Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

[N O T E :
Commissioner Odell
was not present.]



WHEREAS, in its Resolution, *Calling for Chatham County To Become The Greenest County in Georgia*, the Board of Commissioners sought advice on how to eliminate barriers to energy and resource conservation, and provide guidance as to how the community could work together to find an environmentally, economically, and socially sustainable future; and

WHEREAS, as governments move toward becoming more sustainable organizations, including reducing energy and water consumption, removal of the barrier of how to fund programs and projects becomes critical to achieving this worthwhile goal; and

WHEREAS, up-front capital investments in technology and conservation improvements can pay for themselves through savings from reducing energy and water consumption, and while some immediate payback can be achieved, in many cases the technology and conservation improvements must be amortized or paid back over several years before they yield savings to repay for the initial cost; and

WHEREAS, the State of Georgia is considering House Bill 1388 as a tool to allow local governments and other political subdivisions to fund energy and water conservation capital improvements through issuance of bonds to pay for improvements over time.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County does by this resolution extend its support for legislation which provides funding mechanisms to encourage local governments and other political subdivisions to use tax-exempt financing as a means to implement technology and improvements to reduce energy and water consumption, which not only promotes a more sustainable community but also saves the other green-taxpayer dollars.

FURTHERMORE, the Board of Commissioners directs that the Clerk of the Commission provide a copy of this resolution each member of the Chatham County Legislative Delegation to urge each members's support for HB 1388, as written.

Adopted this 26th day of March, 2010.

Attest:

Pete Liakakis, Chairman

Sybil Tillman, Clerk

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3. LONGLEAF CIRCLE SEWAGE SYSTEM (COMMISSIONER KICKLIGHTER).

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I received a while back and staff received phone calls and information from concerned citizens on Longleaf Circle out in Pooler. They are actually citizens that are utilizing the County's water and sewer system out there. Basically, I guess to put it bluntly, is I'm in the middle of something and I need help. The staff has looked at the situation and states that the County's not responsible. The City of Pooler, when I've talked to their Mayor and Manager, has said they are not responsible. I hear that the developer of the area says that he is not responsible, but what's happened is I have I guess anywhere from 30 to 40 citizens, we have 30 to 40 citizens who are experiencing major sewer problems on our sewer system. Some that's actually backing up, one actually backed up into a house, and another gentleman, the one that actually contacted me, he has feminine hygiene products backing up and he's the only person living at his house. So that's not, you know, possible there. What I'm asking is for this body to authorize staff to please let's hire a private plumber to go inspect our main out there and whatever other areas in relation to this huge problem of all of these residents, and let them write a conclusion because I know that us, as well as staff, if we can determine that it's something that we need to do, I know that, you know, I feel confident that we would do it, but at this point I'm not a plumber and I don't know what else to do but to ask for a private — for your approval on this.

Commissioner Farrell asked, would you like a third party to come and put like a TV camera in the pipes and kind of give us a report of what they discover, what they feel like may be the cause of this problem?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, absolutely and I'll put that in the form of a motion.

Chairman Liakakis recognized County Manager Abolt. County Manager Abolt said, if I may, with y'all permission, I would like to have Mr. Drewry comment on this. It is a situation where it's very clear in our estimation —.

The Clerk said, you need a second on that motion. Commissioner Shay said, I'll second it. The Clerk said, thank you.

County Manager Abolt said, with your permission then, Mr. Chairman, I'd like Mr. Drewry to comment on our experience and what is involved here. As you know from reading the staff work, the issue is the lateral lines. The lateral lines by definition are what connect the house to the sewer collection system, and that has historically, regardless of where you go in the country, always been the responsibility of the property owner. We have to the best of our ability looked at it. It is a problem I'm told, and Mr. Drewry can be more specific, on how you would televise inspect a lateral line because of its diameter and because of what could be happening down there, but I

would like Mr. Drewry to comment and also you may wish to get legal advise on this because of the issue of the private property owner's responsibility versus the public utility. I've had conversations with Robbie Byrd, who's the City Manager of the City of Pooler. Obviously, they are responding and want to do what is their job based on the limits of government, but I do want Mr. Drewry to comment. Mr. Drewry, please.

Mr. Robert Drewry said, good morning. Robert Drewry with Public Works and Park Services. A couple — a few comments I want to make. First off is, yes, the water and sewer system is the County system, it's Hunter's Ridge. The roads and drainage system belong to the City of Pooler. It's in the city limits of Pooler, so that herein introduces a little bit of a conflict. The public sewer system, the sewer mains are certainly the County's and the County's responsibility. As the County Manager mentioned, the ordinances specifies that the building sewers, that would be from the structure to the main is the responsibility of the individual owners. We have camera'd that system a little short section of it because we did have a crushed sewer line, a portion of it, a little upstream of his back last September. We did a camera system and found that the system was flowing fine. Fixed the crushed sewer. It was in the middle of the street. That was last September. Every time we've inspected it, the system — the public sewer system was flowing well. I am here to tell you that we are performing a camera system starting today. We are camera-ing a line back through the public sewer mains again today, and I would be glad to submit a report once that's completed. It may take a few days, but I will be glad to submit a report to give you the findings we come up with as a result of that video camera system.

Commissioner Kicklighter asked, can I ask you on permitting in the neighborhood, when the homes were actually constructed because of the tricky situation of it being actually Pooler permits to build the homes, what if anything did our permitting department, inspections department oversee other than taking a check and allowing the tap-in to the mains, into the main water as well as the main sewer.

Mr. Drewry said, you are correct. There is a little bit of a conflict there because the building permit was actually issued through the City of Pooler. When the roads and drainage system was put in, that was inspected by the City of Pooler. The water and sewer system, and we're going back many years so I can't find the documentation, but it was supposedly under the inspection of the County staff. However, there again, the building sewer from the building to the main is installed by either a plumber and/or the builder himself. We do not inspect that. The tap when it's actually made into the sewer main supposedly should have been inspected at that time too. Again, I can't tell you if it was. Commissioner Kicklighter asked, by us? Mr. Drewry said, by the County staff, that's correct. They're supposed to call County staff and say we're making the tap, please come out here and watch us make this tap.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, here's my guess as a guess as a person who is not a plumber, and if y'all will recall some of you that were actually on the Commission back when Sandfly had experienced similar problems, and at that point there was overflow valve — some type of valve that for whatever reason was not installed and sewage could actually back up and just flow back and destroyed a few homes out there. My guess is that the homes were built about the same time as the homes we're talking about here. So without me being a plumber and going and digging up the yard and actually knowing what I'm looking for, Robert [Drewry], I'm thinking we've got possibly multiple problems. I think possibly someone here dropped the ball and did not have the valves in place or make them be in place to stop it, and we paid a lot of money out on that actually.

County Manager Abolt said, no sir. There was a situation in Commissioner Odell's district. A property owner at the end of the cul-de-sac had a problem. We said the same thing: it was the responsibility of that property owner. There were some other things going on in that person's life. In Executive Session and then you made an offer to try to help out this one property owner. It was to create a back-flow prevention device. I don't believe the property owner took advantage of that, but it was not a mass situation. This is I realize is problematic for a property owner, but in my subdivision —

Commissioner Kicklighter said, no sir. For 30-some —, I went personally and beat on his neighbor's doors to find out if this was isolated because I can do that without being a plumber. County Manager Abolt said, yes sir, but it —. Commissioner Kicklighter said, and it was not isolated. I mean, it's —. County Manager Abolt said, you wanted —, but we're talking about the responsibility of the utility, in this case the County's system. It's clearly in law for the County to put in a collection system, but what happens between that system and the house is the responsibility of the property owner. I know in my subdivision and it's provided by the City of Savannah, earlier this week they had to cut and fix a line. It is not uncommon for property owners, if they have subsidence in their soil, to have to deal with it, but to make an assumption, a leap of faith that somehow government or a utility is responsible for fixing what happens on property over time, I would ask for the advise of the County Attorney.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, no sir, and at that is why I would like to have some private firm check. I'm just — I don't know, maybe I'm a realist, but I can't imagine 30 people experiencing individual problems with their septic systems at the same time basically on the same street. That's quite a coincidence unless there's something going on with the main. In that area that you referred to, you actually had to — they actually had to dig the street up on two occasions recently where it collapsed, so I hear. I don't know.

Commissioner Farrell asked, are you planning on televising inside the County pipe in the area that's affected by these approximate 30 homes in the next couple of days? Mr. Drewry said, yes sir. Commissioner Farrell said, I would think that maybe we should wait and see that report and then if we need to do further —. There's no sense

of being redundant at this point if perhaps they will with that camera technology, they will be able to identify the problem, and if not then we could probably address it at our next meeting.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I'm fine with that too, but how quick are you — I mean, these people are backing up right now. I mean, are your crews out there now doing it? Mr. Drewry said, actually they started today but it will take a few days. Commissioner Kicklighter said, well that's great then and then we'll just hopefully solve the problem right there, and that will assure that the main line is clear.

Commissioner Farrell said, you need to withdraw the motion. Commissioner Stone said, yeah, you need to withdraw.

Chairman Liakakis asked, then will you withdraw that and see what they show us, the evidence over there, whether it's the County's fault or whatever? It might be the individuals' situation.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yes sir. I will withdraw the motion and wait on the reports of the results of the cameras. Commissioner Shay said, agreed. Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. Thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Robert Drewry, Public Works Director, stated that Public Works is placing a camera in the lines to determine the cause of the problems at Longleaf Circle and they will report to the Commissioners at the next meeting.

AGENDA ITEM: VII-3
AGENDA DATE: March 26, 2010

DATE: March 18, 2010

TO: Commissioner Dean Kicklighter

FROM: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

SUBJECT: More on Mr. Risher and His Neighbors, Longleaf Circle

Dean, the attached from Robert Drewry localizes the problem in the Hunter's Ridge Subdivision. Robert has met with City of Pooler staff as requested.

REA:fqr

Attachment

cc: Robert H. Byrd, Jr., City Manager, City of Pooler
Mr. Harold Risher, 275 Longleaf Circle, Pooler, 31322
Patrick C. Monahan, Assistant County Manager
Robert W. Drewry, Public Works and Park Services

INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

DATE: March 16, 2010

TO: R.E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Robert W. Drewry, Public Works & Park Services Director

SUBJECT: What Do We know about Possible Other Sewer Service Problems,
Longleaf Circle?
(Response to your memo dated March 4, 2010)

Russ, we are unaware of any problems with other residents within the Hunter's Ridge Subdivision. However, in September 2009, Chatham County Public Works and Park Services hired Savannah River Utilities to repair a small part of the sewer main at the corner of Longleaf Circle and Cassidy Way which was determined to be causing a sink hole in the road. Mr. Risher's address 276 Longleaf Circle is across the street from the intersection where these repairs were completed. Although repairs were made on the sewer main, it was upstream from Mr. Risher's address and should not have affected his lateral.

I have pulled all work orders on Longleaf since 2004 and determined that we have received only one formal request to sewer backing up.

RWD/BM:ks

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 17, 2010
TO: Robert W. Drewry, Director, Public Works 7 Parks Services
FROM: Pat Monahan, Asst. County Manager
SUBJECT: Longleaf Circle Sewer Issue (Mr. Harold Risher)

In the absence of County Manager Russ Abolt, I met with Mr. Harold Risher about his and his neighbors' complaints with sewerage backflow along Longleaf Circle and Hunter's Ridge. Not knowing anything about the issue, I reviewed the office file and read the correspondence which pinpoints the problem as related to lateral pipes, which are no doubt the homeowners' responsibility.

In giving some thought to the issue, especially given the multiple number of affected homeowners, I am wondering whether the problem can be related to subterranean faults. Mr. Risher noted that his water meter has sunken about 12 inches since he moved there in 2002. If the developer installed the water meter, sewer laterals and other utilities in unsuitable soils, and the laterals dropped from the houses to the tie-in with the other line, this would restrict the gravity flow. This might explain why cleaning the lateral works only on an interim basis and why the main line continues to remain clear (acknowledging that I am not an engineer).

While this conjecture might explain the problem, it does not settle the point that the property owner remains responsible for the lateral line; however, if Mr. Risher desired to replace the lateral, it would impact Longleaf Circle. Mr. Risher reports the lateral extends almost 200 feet, including almost a one-third of it within the longleaf Circle right-of-way. Further complicating the matter, the subdivision became annexed into the incorporated limits of Pooler, which would be responsible for the road. I also suggested to Mr. Risher if he could determine whether a neighbor might have illegally tapped into his lateral, which would explain the discovery of disposable items which did not generate from his home (as has occurred in other neighborhoods).

Do you think this may be a plausible explanation? Is there a way to determine whether Mr. Risher's lateral line has sunken? It may help determine what option may be available.

cc: Commissioner Dean Kicklighter
R.E. Abolt, County Manager
Mr. Harold Risher, 275 Longleaf Circle, Pooler, Georgia 31322

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CHATHAM COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSIONERS

Chairman Liakakis introduced the following Youth Commissioner who was in attendance at the meeting: Korbyn Mingledorf, a Senior at Early College.

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INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

Chairman Liakakis said, I'd also like to introduce our Interim Chief of Police, who's out in the audience, Chief Lovett. Would you stand, Chief.

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VIII. TABLED/RECONSIDERED ITEMS

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

1. ITEMS WERE TABLED AT THE JANUARY 29, 2010, MEETING. SEE ADDITIONAL REPORT FROM THE COUNTY ATTORNEY. ALSO INCLUDED IS INFORMATION ON THE RFP FROM ABILITIES UNLIMITED THAT DOES NOT MEET SPECS.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
A. Annual contract with automatic renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms to provide operation and management services for the Anderson-Cohen Weightlifting Center	Weightlifting Center	Team Savannah	\$96,000	General Fund/M&O - Weightlifting Center
B. Annual contract with automatic renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms to provide janitorial services for the Anderson-Cohen Weightlifting Center	Weightlifting Center	Right Solutions Janitorial Service (MBE)	\$14,358	General Fund/M&O -Weightlifting Center

Chairman Liakakis asked, any comment? Commissioner Kicklighter asked, what are you trying to do? Pull it off today? Chairman Liakakis said, well, it's up to the Commissioners if they want to keep this on the table or to discuss it today. We need a motion to take it off the table and a second.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman, before somebody makes the motion, I have an abundance of information here starting with this, this and this that I've been researching. I was told in the meeting where I was asked to help on a committee —.

County Attorney Hart said, you have to remove it from the table if it's going to be discussed. If it's going to be discussed, it needs to come off the table.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I would suggest to keep from hearing unfinished information, that we leave this on the table because I'm very close to completing everything.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. We need a second — oh, it just wants to leave it on the table so there's no discussion on it whatsoever. Priscilla [Thomas]?

Commissioner Thomas said, okay, no discussion. How long are we going to keep tabling this?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I will be absolutely prepared to present everything to the Board in advance of the next meeting and I think we can move forward; however, at that point —.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. We move on to the next item.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

This item was not taken from the table for discussion by the Board of Commissioners.

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IX. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL ACTION

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

1. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING BUDGET TRANSFERS AND AMENDMENTS: (1) A \$27,000 GENERAL FUND M&O CONTINGENCY TRANSFER TO FINANCE TO IMPLEMENT THE FALSE ALARM ORDINANCE, INCLUDING \$3,300 IN SALARIES, (2) A CONFISCATED FUNDS APPROPRIATION OF \$24,270 TO THE COUNTER NARCOTICS TEAM, (3) AN AMENDMENT TO THE MULTIPLE GRANT FUND INCREASING REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES \$350,650 FOR THE K-9 UNIT GRANT AWARDED BY THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL, AND (4)

APPROPRIATE \$55,000 FUNDING FOR AN ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT I SALARY AND BENEFITS IN THE CIP DETENTION CENTER 2007 FUND JAIL EXPANSION PROJECT.

Chairman Liakakis said, we need a motion on the floor. Patrick [Shay]?

Commissioner Shay said, I'll make a motion —. Commissioner Farrell said, second. Commissioner Shay said, — but then I have a question. Item #1, the \$27,000 General M&O Contingency transfer to Finance to implement the False Alarm Ordinance, including \$3,300 in salaries, the other \$23,700 is for what? Do we know?

County Manager Abolt said, it's for technology. If Ms. Cramer is available, I'll have her speak specifically to it. She didn't indicate the need to have the necessary software in training, so we can in fact deal with the monitoring and stewardship of the continuation of false alarms. This is — she did indicate prior to the adoption of the ordinance, the implications of the adoption to make sure it is properly enforced.

Commissioner Shay said, when we had the discussion about the ordinance itself, one of the justifications, which I think is a very good one, is that by implementing it, it would save a lot of time and effort on the part of the Metro Police Department presumably from repeatedly checking out false alarms without at least being able to derive some, you know, potentially to find people and that the savings was going to be significant. At the time the discussion was that if that savings was actually realized that that might be used to help reimburse M&O for the additional expense. I'm not putting that in the form of a motion. The motion has already been adopted, but I just want to remind us all that if the police department saves money in the SSD, that it would be nice thing if the SSD would reimburse M&O for these additional expenses in the Finance Department. That's all I'll say.

Commissioner Farrell said, and the money saved could be —. Commissioner Shay said, well, I don't know how you will account for it, but it's just a notion.

County Manager Abolt said, we just have to obviously put teeth in the ordinance. It's one thing to have an ordinance, but if you can't enforce it, it's not worth anything.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, we have a motion on the floor and a second. Let's go on the board. Oh, Helen [Stone], excuse me.

Commissioner Stone said, before we implemented this and when Ms Cramer looked at the numbers, did we have anything to track this with? I mean, did we base this on what the City of Savannah's revenue collections were? County Manager Abolt said, we gave you a bunch of options, yes ma'am. Commissioner Stone said, okay. I just wanted to make sure that that was done. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell, Kicklighter and Thomas were not present.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Shay moved that the Board approve the following: (1) a \$27,000 General Fund M&O contingency transfer to Finance to implement the False Alarm Ordinance, including \$3,300 in salaries, (2) a Confiscated Funds appropriation of \$24,270 to the Counter Narcotics Team, (3) an amendment to the Multiple Grant Fund increasing revenues and expenditures \$350,650 for the K-9 Unit grant awarded by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, and (4) appropriate \$55,000 funding for an Administrative Assistant I salary and benefits in the CIP Detention Center 2007 Fund Jail Expansion Project. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell, Kicklighter and Thomas were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-1
AGENDA DATE: March 26, 2010

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

ISSUE: To request approval of the following budget amendments and transfers: (1) a \$27,000 General Fund M&O contingency transfer to Finance to implement the False Alarm Ordinance, including \$3,300 in salaries, (2) a Confiscated Funds appropriation of \$24,270 to the Counter Narcotics Team, (3) an amendment to the Multiple Grant Fund increasing revenues and expenditures \$350,650 for the K-9 Unit grant awarded by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, and (4) appropriate \$55,000 funding for an Administrative Assistant I salary and benefits in the CIP Detention Center 2007 Fund Jail Expansion Project.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Board of Commissioners approved a false alarm ordinance for unincorporated Chatham County at their meeting held February 26, 2010. The Finance Director is requesting a \$27,000 General Fund M&O contingency transfer to implement the ordinance. This amount includes \$3,300 salary for a part time position. Correspondence is attached.
2. The Counter Narcotics Team Director has requested a Confiscated Funds appropriation of \$24,270. Correspondence is attached.
3. Chatham County has been awarded \$350,650 additional grant funds from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for the K-9 Unit. A staff report and a resolution to amend the Multiple Grant Fund are attached.
4. The County Engineer has requested a position for the Jail Expansion Project in the CIP Detention Center 2007 Fund. This will require an appropriation for salary and benefits. Mid range salary and benefits for an Administrative Assistant I are \$55,000. Correspondence is attached.

FUNDING: Funds are available in the General Fund M&O for the contingency transfer. The budget amendment will establish funding in the Multiple Grant Fund. The project budget has funds for the Detention Center Expansion position. The Confiscated Revenue Fund has funds for the CNT appropriation.

ALTERNATIVES:

- (1) That the Board approve the following:

GENERAL FUND M&O

- a) transfer \$27,000 from contingency to Finance to implement the False Alarm Ordinance, including \$3,300 for part time salaries.

CONFISCATED REVENUE FUND

- a) appropriate \$24,270 to the Counter Narcotics Team.

MULTIPLE GRANT FUND

Increase revenues and expenditures \$350,650 for the K-9 Unit grant from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

CIP DETENTION CENTER 2007 FUND

Appropriate \$55,000 funding for an Administrative Assistant I position salary and benefits in the Jail Expansion Project.

- (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: *Reed DeHaven*

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2. BOARD CONSIDERATION TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE CITY OF PORT WENTWORTH (CITY) TO ALLOW THE CITY TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS TO THE HOULIHAN LANDING BOATING AND FISHING FACILITY WITHOUT OBTAINING A COUNTY LAND DISTURBING ACTIVITIES PERMIT.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Stone, gentlemen, this is something that represents a partnership between the County and the City of Port Wentworth. Mr. Phillip Claxton, their City Manager, approached me because the City in their responsibility assumed a few years back to maintain the Houlihan Bridge area, and said that this was in the unincorporated area. They wanted to do a few things and accept a State grant to do the work but they wanted to be able to avoid what amounted to a requirement to apply for and receive a Land Disturbing Permit — Land Disturbing Activity Permit. The solution which is before you today is that even though this is not technically within the corporate limits of the City of Port Wentworth, the agreement crafted by their City Attorney and approved by our Attorney would hold the County harmless from any notice of violation, and I think this

is a fair representation and appreciation for the City of Port Wentworth has done to assume maintenance of the Houlihan Boat Ramp, which is very close to the corporate limits of the City of Port Wentworth.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Shay.

Commissioner Shay said, I know this is in Commissioner Kicklighter's district, but I feel safe in thinking that he would be in favor of it and, therefore, I'll make the motion for approval, and if I'm wrong I'll suffer the consequences I suppose, but I think this is something that — yes. Okay, good. So moved. Commissioner Stone said, second.

County Manager Abolt said, very good. The values are in the right place.

Chairman Liakakis said, I'm a little bit familiar with that project and what it's going to do is be able to add to the parking space and helping especially a lot of citizens on that side to be able to come and have a better facility there and also it's open to all of the people in our County. So, let's go on the board.

The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Odell and Kicklighter were not present.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Shay moved to approve the execution of a Memorandum of Understanding with the City of Port Wentworth (City) to allow the City to make improvements to the Houlihan Landing Boating and Fishing Facility without obtaining a County Land Disturbing Activities Permit. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTES: Commissioners Odell and Kicklighter were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-2
AGENDA DATE: March 26, 2010

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

ISSUE: That the Board consider execution of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the City of Port Wentworth (City) to allow the City to make improvements to the Houlihan Landing Boating and Fishing Facility without obtaining a County Land Disturbing Activities Permit.

BACKGROUND: Houlihan Landing Boating and Fishing Facility (Houlihan) is a public boat ramp facility located on leased property owned by Weyerhaeuser in Port Wentworth. Chatham County maintained the facility until 2005 when Port Wentworth agreed to take maintenance responsibility. Port Wentworth obtained a grant from the State of Georgia to make much needed improvements to the facility. To avoid permit fees the City wishes to perform their own permitting of the facility improvements.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Chatham County owned and operated Houlihan until 2005. Chatham County asked the City to maintain the facility. The facility is in need of repairs and upgrades. The City received a limited grant from the State to make the improvements to the boat ramp and find the County's fees and requirements to be prohibitive.
2. The City of Port Wentworth is a local issuing authority (Georgia Department of Natural Resources delegates) per the Soil Erosion and Sedimentation Control Act of Georgia (Act). This makes them qualified to enforce the requirements of the Act. The MOU will make the City responsible for enforcement of all requirements of the Act.
3. The City does not have an ordinance similar to Chatham County's Land Disturbing Activities Ordinance which will require tree and landscape planting. Chatham County's tree and landscape requirements are local and are not mandated by any State Acts.
4. The City's Storm Water Management Ordinance does not include water quality standards similar to Chatham County's. The storm water quality standards adopted by Chatham County are not mandated by any State Acts.

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1. That the Board execute the Memorandum of Understanding allowing Port Wentworth to make improvements to the Houlihan Landing Boating and Fishing Facility without obtaining a County Land Disturbing Activities Permit.
- 2. That the Board not execute the Memorandum of Understanding.

FUNDING: No funds are required to execute the agreement.

POLICY ANALYSIS: That the Board must authorize intergovernmental agreements.

RECOMMENDATION: For Board Consideration

District 7

STATE OF GEORGIA
CHATHAM COUNTY

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

This Memorandum of Understanding between the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County, the duly elected governing authority of Chatham County, Georgia (the County), and the Mayor and Council of the City of Port Wentworth, the duly elected governing of the City of Port Wentworth (the City), is executed this ____ day of _____, 2010, as follows:

Whereas the City, with the assistance of the State of Georgia, will be making parking and other improvements to the Houlihan Landing Boating and Fishing Facility (the Facility Improvements), a regional recreational facility located in the unincorporated area of Chatham County; and in recognition of the mutual benefits to the City and the County that will result from the construction of the Facility Improvements, the City and County agree as follows:

The County shall allow the City to construct the Facility Improvement without making application for a County LDAO permit.

The City shall comply with all requirements of the Erosion and Sedimentation Act of 1975, O.C.G.A. §§ 12-7-1 et seq. and shall require its contractors to employ best management practices to prevent erosion and sedimentation.

The City shall indemnify and hold the County harmless against any damages that may result from failure to comply with the Act or resulting fines as a consequence of any notice of violation by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division Department of Natural Resources.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Agreement as of the date and year first written above.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF
CHATHAM COUNTY

PETE LIAKAKIS, CHAIRMAN

ATTEST:

SYBIL E. TILLMAN, CLERK

MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE
CITY OF PORT WENTWORTH

GLENN JONES, MAYOR

ATTEST:

MIRIAM JORDAN, CLERK

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3. INFORMATION REPORT ON INCAPACITANT WEAPONS AND ACCESSORIES (TASERS) FOR SAVANNAH-CHATHAM METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, Dr. Thomas, Commissioner Stone, gentlemen, at the pre-meeting of your last meeting, Commissioner Gellatly was responding to an article that appeared that day in the morning paper reflecting upon action of the Savannah City Council relative to Tasers, and there was an express desire to ensure that the County for many reasons would join with that effort. The Chief was fast to remind me as you see in this memorandum that in effect and technically the only thing the City Council was to approve the purchase of the tasers. They were not put in a position and I would not suggest you be put in the position to deal with the policy from the standpoint of training and all the other assurances set forth by Chief Lovett. Those will continue on and be guaranteed as far as the County, but my looking at it and the Chief's advice, there's no need to do anything other than to receive this as information.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Any questions? Go ahead, Korbyn [Mingledorf]. Youth Commissioner Mingledorf asked, before the tasers what other weapons did they use by the police? Chairman Liakakis said, well, what they have is sort of a new type of nightstick that protrudes outward, Korbyn, to use that in certain circumstances when it's called for. The others they have a type of gas right now. It used to be CS or CN and then CS gas, which is a military gas, and those weren't effective on people that were under the influence of drugs or alcohol. So there is another type of unit that is made from actually peppers, hot peppers, and they use that spray, you know, to try to take somebody out. One of the reasons why they are talking and seeing about getting tasers in that instead of having to use your weapon to use the taser, it will incapacitate somebody for a short period of time. The Sheriff's Department has been using that for a number of years, and the problems that they've had, in fact almost near riots up there when they get in their recreation room, has reduced dramatically. They only have — once in a while do they have it because if they get shot, it's got a little red dot on it and if the person that's in jail sees that that little red dot, they don't want to be shot with this taser, but what it will do is protect the citizens and also the policemen so that they don't have to use a lethal weapon by there, and that's why it was brought before City Council and they saw that. And, of course, we had — there was a demonstration that was done that our County Manager was tased, and they showed us that, the people from the Police Department.

County Manager Abolt said, I might add, Mr. Chairman, that was a one time demonstration. Commissioner Farrell said, encore, encore. Chairman Liakakis said, and he said that that will be the first and last time that he ever got tased. County Manager Abolt said, I enjoyed that as much as I need the rest of my life.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

County Manager Abolt informed the Commissioners that this item is for information only with regard to the use of tasers by the Metropolitan Police Department and does not require any action by the Board.

AGENDA ITEM: IX-3
AGENDA DATE: March 26, 2010

TO: R.E.ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER
FROM: WILLIE C. LOVETT, CHIEF OF POLICE
SUBJECT: TASER FOLLOW-UP
DATE: MARCH 18, 2010

On March 11, 2010, City Council approved the purchase of "Electronic Control Devices" (TASER's) for use by the Savannah Chatham Metropolitan Police Department. One of the many concerns raised, by council members, was reporting TASER use. Please let me assure that the department will make every effort to not only capture the use of the TASER's, but will also set in place measures that may reveal patterns or trends that could indicate training needs and/or policy modifications.

The SCMPD "use of Force" General Order ADM-007, states: "An SCMPD Use of Force (UOF) Report will be completed whenever a citizen uses defensive resistance, or greater resistance, against an Officer, or when an Officer uses control beyond escorting a person or handcuffing someone, to establish control or to effect an arrest."

Each time a TASER is deployed, whether it strikes its intended target or not, an incident report and a Use of Force Report will be completed. A supervisor will be contacted immediately, who will respond to the scene for the purpose of conducting an initial investigation into the force used. The supervisor will ensure that the incident is properly documented by the officer, then he/she will complete a "Supervisor's Inquiry Form" detailing the facts of the incident based on statements made by those involved or witnessing the incident as well as physical evidence. The supervisor will also provide a recommendation(s) as to their findings.

This use of Force Packet will then be forwarded up through the Chain-of-Command, for review and further recommendations. Use of Force incidents that are found to be within policy will be forwarded to the Office of professional Standards and scanned into the Use of Force database. Use of Force incidents that may be in question or believed to be out of policy will be forwarded to the office of Professional Standards for further investigation into the incident.

During the initial implementation of the TASER's, a TASER review board will convene, as needed, for the purpose of reviewing each TASER use, determining whether the force used was within policy, and recommending training needs and /or policy changes.

In conclusion, SCMPD members will adhere to policies set in place for reporting a Use of Force incident, properly investigate each Use of Force incident, and maintain all use of Force incidents, including TASER's, on file with the Office of Professional Standards. Six months after the initial implementation of the TASER's, a report will be generated and forwarded to the county manager and commissioners for review. Additionally, the Office of Professional Standards shall conduct a documented annual analysis of all Use of Force incidents by January 31, for the preceding year, and forward a copy of the analysis to the Accreditation Unit.

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4. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO ESTABLISH AN ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT I POSITION IN THE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT.

Chairman Liakakis recognized County Manager Abolt.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, Dr. Thomas, Cs, gentlemen, this is not a great milestone event, but it shows that we are getting extremely close to coming back to you in May with the shortlist on the best value results, and we're getting geared up to have necessary administrative staff to collect costs to manage the bid documents, all the things that have to be done as we look forward to letting the contract on this some time in the summer of this year. This is a good investment. It's SPLOST project eligible. I've met with Mr. Bungard, Mr. Kaigler and also at a meeting this week with the Sheriff, but I feel very confident that by the time you approve the shortlist in May and the bids are let, that we're going to have fully staffed and also fully prepared and schooled an outstanding capacity to manage the construction of that project over the next three years. Good investment.

Chairman Liakakis said, we need a motion on the floor.

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

Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor and a second. David [Gellatly].

Commissioner Gellatly said, Mr. Manager, when the project is over, what happens to that position? County Manager Abolt said, it will go away, sir. Commissioner Gellatly asked, it's in writing to that effect? County Manager Abolt said, the money goes — the money is — yes sir, we'll make sure it's that way, but the money's tied to SPLOST and the project —. Commissioner Gellatly said, make sure it's that way. County Manager Abolt said, it will be. Commissioner Gellatly said, memories are fading. County Manager Abolt said, I'll make sure and I'll ask Ms. Tillman, if she wouldn't mind, to put that in the minutes and that will be memorialized forever more. Commissioner Gellatly said, thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Odell and Kicklighter were not present.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Farrell moved to approve the creation of an Administrative Assistant I position in the Engineering Department for maintaining contract and construction files, copying and scanning project documents and processing accounts payable for services rendered and creating and maintaining contractor pay request spreadsheets, and the position will be discontinued as soon as the Detention Center Expansion is completed. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Odell and Kicklighter were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-4
AGENDA DATE: March 26, 2010

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: Michael A. Kaigler, Director
Human Resources and Services

Issue: To request Board approval to create an Administrative Assistant I position in Engineering Department.

Background:

The design for the Detention Center expansion project has been completed by the architectural and design firm. Responses to the Best Value Contracting Questionnaire were received by staff on March 11, 2010. Once the questionnaire has been evaluated and scored, those firms who achieved the cut-off score will be allowed to submit a bid on the project. There are several items that need to be in place prior to the County receiving the bids and awarding the contract for construction. Due to the complexity of this project and the amount of financial resources that need to be accounted for, there needs to be a project accounting system set-up and a separate record keeping system for this project. Staff is requesting an Administrative Assistant I be created and assigned to the Engineering Department to begin working on these tasks.

Facts and Findings:

1. In order to meet the Department's needs associated with the work that is now required to begin on the Detention Center Expansion Project, staff is requesting that an Administrative Assistant I position be added to the Engineering Department.
2. In addition to the general office duties that require significant administrative assistance, the Administrative Assistant I will be responsible for maintaining contract and construction files, copying and scanning project documents, and processing accounts payable for services rendered. Additional responsibilities anticipated for this position involve creating and maintaining contractor pay request spreadsheets.
3. The pay range for an Administrative Assistant I is \$27,574 – 43,560. The annual cost for the position is estimated to be \$49,200. This figure includes salary and benefits for the position. Once the Detention Center Expansion Project is completed the position will be eliminated.
4. Staff anticipates that as the project gets underway there may be a need to add additional personnel to handle the workload associated with this project.

Funding: Funding for this position will come from the 2008-2014 SPLOST, Detention Center Expansion.

Alternatives:

1. Approve the request to create an Administrative Assistant I position in the Engineering Department assigned to the Detention Center Project.
2. Provide staff other direction.

Policy Analysis:

State law and the Enabling Act provide that only the Board can authorize additional personnel positions and provide funding. In the past, the Board of Commissioners has approved resource enhancements to departments where a need has been demonstrated. These enhancements maintain the delivery of services to the citizens of Chatham County at adequate and efficient levels.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

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5. CNT MONTHLY REPORT GIVEN VERBALLY BY DIRECTOR HARRIS.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Director Roy Harris.

Commissioner Gellatly said, and briefly.

Director Roy Harris said, good morning, Mr. Chairman and Commissioners. It's good to be here with you this morning. One thing I might mention since this young lady was asking questions about pepper spray, pepper spray

is a very valuable tool and perhaps I know Major Barnwell has some on him. Perhaps Mr. Abolt would again volunteer for a new source of pain and we could do a demonstration on that this morning.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, I should advise that my three years of working with the Director has been enough pain.

Director Harris said, next item. As you see in the monthly report, again the drug seized/drugs purchased are about the same as they were last month. If we move over to weapons seized, you'll see where we seized 11 firearms this month. This continues to go up and as I think it does with the Metro Police Department, we're just seeing more and more weapons on the street. Most of them are in the hands of convicted felons so that apparently is not much of a deterrent on them.

We had a total of 34 arrests this month, one a misdemeanor, and there again this reflects the fact that two of the teams are involved in this fairly major joint investigation that is ongoing.

If you go to page four a couple of highlights. The first one is on the area of Live Oak Lane and 41st Street. We received information from the FBI about a possible drug courier and in that our agents knew the person since he was out on bond from an August 2009 arrest by CNT agents. Again they curt him dirty. After a brief foot pursuit they seized cocaine from him, digital scales and about \$5,600 in currency. In his 2009 arrest he had \$9,000 in currency on him. So obviously he was doing a very good business there.

The second one, we went with the Sheriff's Department on February 10th and did basically a drug interdiction at the bus station, which resulted in about 20 pounds of high graded marijuana and the arrest of one Greyhound employee on that operation.

You might have noticed in this morning's paper that our local delegation has a bill that we talked about here in the past couple of years, the prescription drug monitoring program, and that bill hopefully will get through the Legislature. I hope it passes this year. We've tried for a number of years to get that done. If you look at this map, you will see that Georgia is one of four states that currently has this. All of the pink colored states already have this type of bill. Only the white states, and there are four of those, do not have any bill on drug prescription monitoring. This is important to us because many times we've talked about diversion of pharmaceuticals is about the number three problem we deal with in the County on a continual basis, and a lot of this impacts the Commission because we have people going to the emergency rooms using false names to get drugs that they in turn, turn around and sell on the street for \$50 a pill and you folks have to pay for their medical bills. So a lot of this is inter-connected and this is a bill we've wanted done for many years now. Thanks to our delegation, it looks like we may be successful this time — we as a state — in getting this through. So that will have a pretty good impact. That will allow law enforcement with a subpoena to go in and look at who is doing what with pharmaceuticals.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone asked, do we have a bill number that we could contact our representative? Director Harris said, I think Buddy Darden was the author of it. I do not have it with me. County Manager Abolt said, it's in the morning paper attributed to Senator Carter and Representative Stephenson. Director Harris said, Senator Carter, I'm sorry. Commissioner Stone said, okay. I just wanted to know in the event that if we wanted to contact them to help you with this if we had a bill number.

Chairman Liakakis said, Helen [Stone], we'll have that. Ask Gail [Gordon] to get that article about, they're talking about pharmaceutical drugs, so that we can announce it to our Commissioners so that they can contact their Legislators. We'll get that because it names the particular bill in the *Savannah Morning News*.

Commissioner Stone said, I think it's important that we try to assist you with this and so I'd like to get the bill number and send our representatives an email or either a phone call would be great. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Gellatly.

Commissioner Gellatly said, I have two questions, Commander. Under your report of persons arrested, you show 34 arrested. You show that 6 of them were arrested for felony, you show that 1 of them was arrested for a misdemeanor. Isn't it true that everyone you arrest, it's either a felony or a misdemeanor? Director Harris said, yes. What you have is if it's just a felony liked a felony possession, but if they were sales or trafficking, that's an enhanced penalty so we actually list them under that. Commissioner Gellatly asked, would they also be felonies? Director Harris said, yes sir. That is an —. Commissioner Gellatly said, I just asked for point of clarification. If someone's reading the report, it would clearly show that there were 6 arrested for a felony and 1 was arrested for a misdemeanor. Director Harris said, actually you would have 33 felony arrests and one misdemeanor during the month. Everything else was —. Commissioner Gellatly asked, is there any way we can clarify that on your report? Director Harris said, we can.

Commissioner Gellatly said, okay, and the other one is just an observation. Could we, and you probably do this anyway, but I remember several years ago the federal enforcement people and the federal attorney had made a statement that they would pursue any local charges that would even remotely qualify to be a federal offense. Director Harris said, yes sir. Commissioner Gellatly asked, are we still doing that? Director Harris said, yes sir.

Commissioner Gellatly asked, do we have statistics on that, how many they've actually taken? Director Harris said, I don't have them off the top of my head. I do know that —. Commissioner Gellatly asked, would you provide that? Would you provide that for the next Commission meeting. I'd like to know how many. I remember that they all got on television a lot on that that it was going to happen, and I would like to know in the last 24 months exactly how many local charges were converted to federal charges, and if there are very few or none I would like to have an explanation as to what's going on. I'm sure it wasn't just a PR stunt.

Director Harris said, that's kind of a multi-phased answer to what that is. A lot of our cases that we work jointly automatically become federal charges, such as the wiretap we conducted last year. Out of those 40 defendants, the majority went through the U. S. Attorney's office and the Federal Courts. The State's District Attorney picks up some of those that may not reach the threshold that the Feds looked at. On March 4th of this month, they did indict 5 state level cases under cease fire. They're very good about cease fire. That's gun charges, and we refer almost all of our convicted felons over to them and it goes before the Cease Fire Board, and when they indict them, they go off for a lot longer time they are in the state system.

Commissioner Gellatly said, I remember that was the plan and I would just be curious to know in the last 24 months just exactly how many people, how many of the gun charges — I'm specifically looking at gun charges — that were upgraded to Federal charges, and I would like to have a report on that. Director Harris said, we could get those lists. They send them to us routinely. Like I said, 5 were done March 4th. They email those and we can get those fairly easily. The other ones we'll have to look and see what we may have referred or, as I said, we do a lot of work with ICE and DEA. Those are almost automatically cases that go before the U. S. Attorney. Commissioner Gellatly said, I know you have a high level of cooperation with them and I would just be curious to know what the actual data looks like. Director Harris said, alright, sir.

Chairman Liakakis said, everybody's being — okay, thank you very much and one of the things, you know, I keep bringing to the citizens' attention is the CNT, our Counter Narcotics Team, our drug squad, since it's inception has as of a number of weeks ago, have arrested over 12,300 people in our area, and they work a lot and a lot in a lot of the cities. The majority of that, of course, is in the City of Savannah, but we have great cooperation with the FBI, the Federal Drug Administration, the Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosive people, the ATF, also Immigration and Customs, and Homeland Security people that are working with Roy Harris and the CNT, and we appreciate that cooperation very much, Roy [Harris]. Director Harris said, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Liakakis said, in this particular item —. Go ahead.

Commissioner Stone said, Mr. Chairman, I appreciate your getting a copy of this article, but it still doesn't have the Senate bill number. I mean, the bill number in it.

Chairman Liakakis said, I'll have Gail [Gordon], she can call the office and give it to everybody.

Commissioner Stone said, I just think it would be helpful if we want to offer some support. Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Commissioner Stone said, or yeah. Commissioner Shay just indicated that maybe we should pass a resolution. Chairman Liakakis said, okay.

Commissioner Shay said, Mr. Chairman, let's go ahead and formalize that and say that we'd like to resolve that we would contact our legislators and let them know that we are fully in support of the bill that's been introduced by Senator Carter and apparently adopted also by Representative Stephenson. Commissioner Gellatly asked, is that a motion. Commissioner Farrell said, second. Commissioner Gellatly said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, alright. It has been a motion and a second for this Commission to support the Senate bill concerning prescription drug abuse. Let's go on the board. Commissioner Gellatly said, and that's with a letter of resolution. Chairman Liakakis said, yes, we'll have that. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Director Roy Harris gave an oral report on the status of the Counter Narcotics Team for the month of February, 2010.

Commissioner Shay made a motion that the Board adopt a resolution supporting the Senate bill concerning prescription drug abuse. Commissioners Farrell and Gellatly seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present.]

**Chatham~Savannah
Counter Narcotics Team
Monthly Report
February 2010**

UNDERCOVER AGENT/CONFIDENTIAL INFORMANT BUYS	
Buys	Number
Undercover (Agent) Buys	8
Confidential Information Buys	12

NARCOTICS INVESTIGATIONS*	
Investigations:	Number
Investigations Initiated During the month	54
Active Joint Investigations with other agencies (DEA, ATF, IRS, etc.)	8
Total Number of Investigations Cleared (Arrest, E.C., Unfounded)	40

DRUGS SEIZED			
Drug Type	Value	Approx. Weight	Approx. Total Value
Powder Cocaine	\$100 per gram*	7.00 Grams	\$700.00
Crack Cocaine	\$100 per gram*	15.40 Grams	\$1,540.00
Methamphetamine	\$100 per gram**	5.30 Grams	\$530.00
Marijuana	\$140 per ounce*	363 Ounces	\$50,820.00
Heroin	\$250 per gram*	.00 Grams	\$0.00
Ecstasy	\$25 Dosage Unit	143 D/U	\$3,575.00
Misc. Pills	\$5 per D/U	468 D/U	\$2,340.00
Hallucinogens	\$10.00 per gram *	153.89 Grams	\$1,538.90

*1999Source: Office National Drug Control Policy

**Source: Established regional average price

***Source: IAW GBI reporting – One marijuana plant equals 2.2 lbs of processed marijuana

DRUGS PURCHASED			
Drug Type	Value	Approx. Weight	Approx. Total Value
Powder Cocaine	\$100 per gram*	14.60 Grams	\$1,460.00
Crack Cocaine	\$100 per gram*	4.50 Grams	\$450.00
Methamphetamine	\$100 per gram**	N/A	N/A
Marijuana	\$140 per ounce*	87.30 Ounces	\$12,222.00
Heroin	\$250 per gram*	.20	\$50.00
Ecstasy	\$25 Dosage Unit	26 D/U	\$650.00
Misc. Pills	\$5 per D/U	124 D/U	\$620.00

*1999Source: Office National Drug Control Policy

**Source: Established regional average price

***Source: IAW GBI reporting – One marijuana plant equals 2.2 lbs of processed marijuana

WEAPONS SEIZED	
Firearms (including hand guns and long guns)	11

PERSONS ARRESTED*	
Felony*	6
Sales/Trafficking	25
Misdemeanor	1
Non-Drug**	2
Total Arrests	34

*Felony includes Manufacturing Methamphetamine or Marijuana

**Non-drug related offenses include firearms violations, Obstruction, Simple Battery, etc.

ASSET FORFEITURES	
US Currency Seized (Initiated forfeiture proceedings)	\$21,829.00
US Currency Awarded	\$34,749.00

Motor Vehicles Seized (Initiated forfeiture proceedings)	2000 Chevrolet Malibu 1999 Chevrolet Tahoe 2001 Cadillac Deville 1999 Ford F-150 2005 Ford F-150
Real Property Seized (Initiated forfeiture proceedings)	N/A
Real Property Awarded	N/A
Personal Property Seized (Initiated forfeiture proceedings)	N/A

ADOPTION CASES FROM OTHER AGENCIES

DATE	AGENCY	OFFENSE
02/18/10	SCMPD	POSSESSION MARIJUANA WITH INTENT
02/19/10	SCMPD	POSSESSION MARIJUANA WITH INTENT
02/25/10	GA STATE PATROL	POSSESSION CONTR SUBST- ECSTASY

DRUG COMPLAINTS INVESTIGATED

Drug Complaints	Received	Assigned
Project Log/Official Complaints	0	0
Hot Line / Call-In Complaints	9	8
Green Sheets/ Outside Agencies	4	4
Crime Stopper Complaints	21	19

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. On 02-24-2010, CNT agents responded to the area of 41st and Live Oak Lane after receiving information from the FBI concerning a known drug courier. Agents were familiar with this subject and a check revealed that he had an active felony warrant and was currently under a 4th Amendment waiver. Agents approached the suspect; however he attempted to flee in his vehicle and then struck a chain link fence. He and his passenger fled on foot. Both subjects were caught after a brief foot pursuit. Agents observed in plain view in the vehicle a bag of crack cocaine and a firearm. In additional search of the suspect revealed a digital scale (covered in cocaine residue) and approximately \$5,600 in currency. The suspect was on bond from a previous CNT case from August 2009 when approximately \$9,000 was seized from him.
2. On 02-10-2010, CNT agents and the Chatham County Sheriff’s Department K-9 Unit conducted an interdiction operation at the Greyhound bus station in Savannah. This led to the seizure of over twenty (20) pounds of high grade marijuana and one arrest of a Greyhound employee.
3. On 02-17-2010, CNT received a call for assistance from the Bulloch County District Attorney Investigators office in reference to locating a subject that did not appear for court. The subject was scheduled for a jury trial in Effingham for a string of home invasions and other gun related crimes. Agents were able to locate the suspect at a residence located in the 1100 block of East 32nd Street. However, the suspect attempted to flee by jumping out of a second story window but was quickly apprehended without further incident. Authorities were pleased of the quick arrest and the suspect pled guilty the next day receiving a sentence of 25 years to serve.
4. On 02-23-2010, CNT agents concluded a 2007 cocaine trafficking investigation with the last two defendants pleading guilty. Both wanted a jury trial but as the trial began, they decided to take an open ended plea in front of the judge. This led to both receiving a sentence of 20 years to serve.
5. On 02-25-2010, CNT received a call for assistance from GSP in reference to a traffic stop where ecstasy was discovered. Agents responded and adopted the investigation that involved powder ecstasy and approximately \$8,902 in currency. Agents spoke with the suspects who gave conflicting statements and provided false information about the currency. Two females were arrested and charged with possession of ecstasy with the intent to distribute.

DRUG INVESTIGATIONS
HOURS WORKED BY ZONE

SCMPD – All Precincts	TOTAL 1,902
<hr/>	
Municipalities	TOTAL 185
<hr/>	
Administrative Hours	800
Case Administration	450
Pharmaceutical Diversions	240
Central Intelligence	480
Out of County (Task Force Operations, etc.)	6
Assistance Rendered to Outside Agencies	81
Training	24
Court Hours	6
	TOTAL 2,087
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Total Hours Worked	4,174

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X. ACTION CALENDAR

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

Chairman Liakakis said, Action Calendar, we have Items 1 through 9 and Items under 9 from A through M. Are there any specific items that the Commission would like to withhold before we ask for motion for all of it. Patrick [Shay]?

Commissioner Shay said, I'd like to pull Item 6 just for a brief word.

Chairman Liakakis said, alright, Item 6. Any others?

Commissioner Thomas said, if not, I'd like to move that all other items be approved with the exception of Number 6 at this time. The Clerk said, I'm sorry, I can't hear you. Commissioner Thomas said, I make a motion that we approve all of the other items with the exception of Number 6 for discussion. Commissioner Stone said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Hold it. Patrick [Farrell]?

Commissioner Farrell said, I didn't want to pull this item, but is anyone with the Marine Patrol here to —. County Manager Abolt said, we have Admiral Lovett here. Commissioner Farrell said, Admiral Lovett, would you like to say a few words about Item 3, the donation of a 29-foot vessel from —. Commissioner Stone said, 2-foot vessel. Commissioner Farrell said, — Southern LNG to add to the County's inventory? Chief Lovett said, actually I went out and intended to go for a ride, but unfortunately they had taken it out of the water, but it's an excellent boat. It was designed for law enforcement, but unfortunately LNG was not in that category where they could actually [inaudible] a loss in that boat because it was equipped with blue lights and everything else. So it was a great addition to our fleet and maybe at some point someone would be interested in going out and taking a ride with us.

Commissioner Gellatly asked, how much is that worth? Chief Lovett said, right now \$135,000. Commissioner Gellatly said, good donation. Commissioner Stone said, good donation.

Commissioner Farrell said, I'd like to express my gratitude and thanks to the Southern LNG Corporation for such a generous gift to aid in our law enforcement for Chatham County. Commissioner Stone said, yes.

Chairman Liakakis asked, any other questions? Okay, let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present.] Chairman Liakakis said, and I'm glad that corrected this, Chief, because they had it was a 2-foot boat, you know, about this long, and they did correct that and put it 29-foot.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve Items 1 through 9-M, except Item 6. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter 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 MARCH 12, 2010, AS MAILED.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 12, 2010. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present.]

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2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 4 THROUGH MARCH 12, 2010.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to authorize the Finance Director to pay the claims against the County for the period March 4, 2010, through March 17, 2010, in the amount of \$5,283,873. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present.]

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3. REQUEST BOARD ACCEPT DONATION OF ~~2-FOOT~~ 29-FOOT VESSEL FROM SOUTHERN LNG AND ADD BOAT TO THE COUNTY'S INVENTORY.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to accept the donation of a 29-foot vessel from Southern LNG and add the boat to the County's inventory. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-3
AGENDA DATE: March 26, 2010

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: Michael A. Kaigler, Director
Human Resources and Services

Issue: To request Board approval to accept donation of 29-foot boat from Southern LNG and add boat to County's inventory.

Background:
Southern LNG, located at #1 Elba Island Road has offered to donate a 29-foot Silverfish Patrol Boat and trailer to the Savannah-Chatham Metro Police Department.

Facts and Findings:

1. The boat is a 29-foot Silverfish and was specifically designed for Police Patrol functions. LNG originally purchased the boat in 2004. It is equipped with a VHS marine radio and marine radar unit. It is powered by two diesel engines, which have less than 150 hours run time on them. The boat has a heated and air conditioned cabin and is in excellent condition. The approximate value of the boat is \$135,000.
2. This patrol boat will be an asset to the Marine Patrol Division and will be used in a Law Enforcement capacity, which will increase the security presence in the waterways of Chatham County, including the port of Savannah area. It will be used to conduct routine security patrols of the Savannah River, to include the Elba Island Southern LNG Terminal area. The patrol boat may also be used to assist U.S. Coast Guard with the escort of the arriving LNG tankers. This will

give the Marine Patrol Division one more piece of Law Enforcement equipment to facilitate a very important part of Homeland Security.

- 3. Attached is the Bill of Sale and the legal documents transferring ownership to Chatham County.

Funding: No funding required

Alternatives:

- 1. The Board accept donation of a 29-foot boat from Southern LNG and add boat to County's inventory.
- 2. The Board reject donation of boat.

Policy Analysis:

The Board of Commissioners must approve acceptance of assets that have a substantial dollar value. This patrol boat will be an asset to Chatham County in a law enforcement capacity by increasing the security presence in the waterways of Chatham County.

Recommendation:

Adopt Alternative 1

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- 4. **REQUEST TO RECORD THE SUBDIVISION PLAT FOR TABBY VILLAGE, PHASE 2, ACCEPT THE SUBDIVISION AGREEMENT AND FINANCIAL GUARANTEE, APPROVE THE CONSTRUCTED IMPROVEMENTS, INITIATE THE TWELVE-MONTH WARRANTY PERIOD AND WAIVE THE REQUIREMENT FOR A STREETLIGHT ASSESSMENT RATE DISTRICT.
[DISTRICT 3.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the request to record the subdivision plat for Tabby Village, Phase 2, accept the subdivision agreement and financial guarantee, approve the constructed improvements, initiate the twelve-month warranty period and waive the requirement for a streetlight assessment rate district. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-4
AGENDA DATE: March 26, 2010**

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: A. G. Bungard, County Engineer

ISSUE: To record the subdivision plat for Tabby Village, Phase 2, accept the subdivision agreement and financial guarantee, approve the constructed improvements, initiate the twelve-month warranty period and waive the requirement for a streetlight assessment rate district.

BACKGROUND: The engineer, Davis Engineering, for the developer, Smith and Herrin Construction, Inc., designed Phase 1 of Tabby Village subdivision. The land surveyor, EMC Engineering, recorded the subdivision plat for Phase 1 of Tabby Village.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- 1. Tabby Village is an existing single-family residential subdivision located on Norwood Avenue. This phase consists of 8 lots on 1.24 acres. Drainage improvements will be maintained by the Tabby Village Homeowners' Association. Roadways, water and sanitary sewer will be owned and maintained by Chatham County.
- 2. Construction of the required improvements is complete. The improvements were inspected and found to be satisfactory.

- 3. The developer submitted a letter of credit issued by The Savannah Bank in the amount of \$12,750.00, which is 50% of the cost of the improvements.
- 4. The developer requested that the Board waive the requirement for a streetlight assessment rate district. Georgia Power will install the streetlights and the developer will own and maintain them throughout the warranty period. At the end of the warranty period, the Tabby Village Homeowners Association will maintain the streetlights. The Board previously approved a similar request for Phase 1 of Tabby Village.
- 5. An Environmental Site Assessment was previously conducted on the subdivision in accordance with the Subdivision Ordinance. No environmentally unsafe conditions were found on the site.

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1. To record the subdivision plat for Tabby Village, Phase 2, accept the subdivision agreement and financial guarantee, approve the constructed improvements, initiate the twelve-month warranty period and waive the requirement for a streetlight assessment rate district.
- 2. To not approve the request.

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

RECOMMENDATION: That the Commissioners adopt Alternative No. 1.

District 3

PREPARED BY: Nick Millionis

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5. REQUEST FROM THE SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT FOR THE BOARD TO ACCEPT THE BALANCE OF FUNDING FOR A GRANT THROUGH THE GOVERNOR’S OFFICE, CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL (BYRNE GRANT).

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the request from the Sheriff’s Department for the Board to accept the balance of funding for a grant through the Governor’s Office, Criminal Justice Coordinating Council in the amount of \$350,650 for the K9 Unit for fiscal year 2009/2010. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-4
AGENDA DATE: March 26, 2010

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: AL St Lawrence, Sheriff

ISSUE:
Request Commission acceptance of the balance of funding for a grant through the Governor’s Office, Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (Byrne Grant).

BACKGROUND:
Chatham County has been the recipient of CJCC Byrne Grant funding in various amounts since 1997. This fiscal year, the approved award amount was \$467,533; to date we have received \$116,883. We are now presenting documentation that will allow us to receive the balance of our grant funding in the amount of \$350,650.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- 1. The K9 unit was awarded \$467,533 for fiscal year 2009/2010.
- 2. To date, \$116,883 has been received.
- 3. Board of Commission’s approval is requested to accept the balance of funding in the amount of \$350,650.

FUNDING:
Matching funds have already been expended through the Sheriff’s departmental budget.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

It is consistent with Board Policy to approve grants that will enhance the capabilities of a law enforcement agency.

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1. Board acceptance and approval of grant.
- 2. Board Deny acceptance of grant.

RECOMMENDATION:

Board approval of Alternative #1.

Budget Analyst: *Rushede Adeshina*

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6. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE AN APPLICATION FROM GEORGIA BIOMASS LLC TO BECOME A QUALIFYING BUSINESS WITHIN ENTERPRISE ZONE 1. [DISTRICTS 2 AND 3.]

Commissioner Shay said, Mr. Chairman, on Item #6, I just wanted to point out that we do have a business that is a very green business that is contemplating locating facilities within our Green Enterprise Zone that is shared between Commissioner Odell and I in terms of territory, and I was not able to attend but I know that Commissioner Odell showed leadership and was able to tour the facilities and look at it, but it's a facility that will be involved in the shipping of biomass that's harvested from South Georgia and shipped overseas to Europe. Isn't that right?

Commissioner Odell said, yes sir. I followed the lead of Mr. Monahan to visit that site. I had a meeting and a slide presentation given to me, and the number one thing that I wanted to know is how it's going to serve, and the first thing he said was green, green. And not only in green so for his efficiency, but green in money, and I think it's a great idea. I talked to Pat [Monahan] after I left the site and Mr. Monahan and I agree solely on this site.

Commissioner Shay said, with that said, I'd like to make a motion in favor of Action Item #6. Commissioner Stone said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, let me read that. Request Board approve an application from Georgia Biomass LLC to become a qualifying business within Enterprise Zone 1. Let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present.]

County Manager Abolt said, before you go to the next item, I would just like to for the record again thank Mr. Monahan. This is something that was done a few years back, creating the Enterprise Zone. It shows the vision of this County Commission but it also shows the quality of the staff work and the intellect and the commitment of Pat Monahan to making this community better. This is an historic event.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Shay moved to approve an application from Georgia Biomass LLC to become a qualifying business within Enterprise Zone 1. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-6
AGENDA DATE: March 26, 2010

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

ISSUE:

To approve an application from Georgia Biomass LLC to become a qualifying business within Enterprise Zone 1.

BACKGROUND:

In 2006, the Board adopted an Enterprise Zone ordinance and established Enterprise Zone 1 to provide investment tools "...to encourage private businesses to invest and rehabilitate such areas." The tools are intended to create employment opportunity. Georgia Biomass LLC has completed an application to become a qualifying business within Enterprise Zone 1. The \$10 million in new investment at East Coast Terminal within Enterprise Zone 1 (north of President Street) will handle sustainable fuel pellets manufactured and sent via rail from Waycross, Georgia. The fuel pellets, composed from wood chips, are exported to Europe.

FACTS & FINDINGS:

1. By its location and commitment to make a good-faith effort to hire at least 10% of its workforce from employees within Census Tract 101.01, or at the poverty level, Georgia Biomass qualifies. Georgia Biomass will be classified as a product handler to remove product from rail, store the material and load it onto ships for export to Europe.

1a. Georgia Biomass will be creating seven new jobs, including four in receiving and two equipment operators. Georgia Biomass has agreed to meet with the Poverty Reduction Initiative, provide job descriptions and make a good-faith attempt to employ from their applicants who can meet qualifications and pre-employment screening.

2. Under the application from Georgia Biomass LLC, the business *will not* be entitled to receive:

2a. Tax Abatement (Capital 5-Year): As a product handler (i.e. remove product from rail, store and load onto ships), the business will not be entitled to receive any tax abatement nor waiver of fees.

2b. Tax Reduction (LEED): As a product handler, the business will not be constructing to LEED-Gold standards. The investment will primarily provide for specialized holding tanks; however, under its agreement with its European partner, Georgia Biomass must abide by certain green practices.

2c. Fee Waivers: Not applicable

2d. The main benefit would be the expediting of its permit application, an incentive under the Enterprise Zone program. Under its business agreement with its European partner, Georgia Biomass LLC must complete its construction by February 2011.

3. Commissioner James Holmes toured the proposed facility and received a first-hand look at the process and requirements.

FUNDING:

Not applicable.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board approve Georgia Biomass as a qualifying business within Enterprise Zone 1 under conditions of the company's commitment to make a good-faith effort to hire employees through an application process involving the Poverty Reduction Initiative.

2. That the Board not accept the application.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The Georgia Constitution and enabling general law which authorize the creation of enterprise zones intend their use for revitalizing areas "...suffering from disinvestment, underdevelopment and economic decline." Establishing enterprise zones provides investment tools "...to encourage private businesses to invest and rehabilitate such areas." The tools are intended to create employment opportunity.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.

District 3
District 2

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7. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO EXTEND THE LEASE WITH THE STATE OF GEORGIA FOR THE ADOLESCENT RESIDENTIAL TREATMENT CENTER (LAKESIDE).

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to extend the lease with the State of Georgia for property located at 600 DOT Barn Road in Bloomingdale, Georgia, for the Adolescent Residential Treatment Center (Lakeside), beginning June 1, 2010, through June 30, 2011, at the rate of \$8,000 monthly or \$96,000 annually. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-7
AGENDA DATE: March 26, 2010

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

ISSUE:

To extend the lease with the State of Georgia for the Adolescent Residential Treatment Center (Lakeside).

BACKGROUND:

In 1993, Chatham County developed, designed and constructed the Adolescent Residential Treatment Center on five acres which the County owned at 600 DOT Barn Road in Bloomingdale. Chatham County developed the project in concert with Tidelands, then part of the Health Department, as an alternative program for youth treatment. When the State of Georgia reorganized mental health and substance abuse services, Gateway assumed lease of the building in May 2000. When Gateway ceased adolescent services, in 2006, the County began to lease the property to the Georgia Department of Human Resources (DHR).

FACTS & FINDINGS:

1. The Adolescent Center provides 14 bedrooms within 10,062 square feet on a 5-acre parcel. It was specifically designed to meet the needs of adolescent services.
2. Since 2006, the County has leased the property to DHR for its Lakeside program. It especially became valuable with the closing of Georgia Regional Hospital's adolescent wing.
3. The lease rate would be \$8,000 monthly, or \$96,000 annually. This translates into \$9.54 per square foot. The effective term would begin July 1, 2010, through June 30, 2011, and continue for three additional terms.

FUNDING:

Not applicable. These revenues fund the Hospital Authority Bonds (1993) in an amount equal to principal and interest payments and a maintenance fee for capital repairs and replacement. The base rate (amount equal to annual debt service) totals about \$5,500 monthly, or \$66,000. The balance of the lease amount funds repairs and maintenance.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board approve the lease for the Adolescent Residential Treatment Center to the State of Georgia/DHR, starting July 1, 2010, at a rate of \$96,000 annually, for four years, to be paid monthly at \$8,000, and authorize the Chairman and Clerk to execute the necessary documents.
2. That the Board opt not to lease the building to the State of Georgia.
3. That the Board take other action, as it deems appropriate.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

Chatham County developed several properties during an era when Tidelands served under the authority of the Board of Health. State law recognized this relationship as a government-to-government, which enabled tax-exempt financing through bonds. Regardless of changes in state law which have reorganized these services, and the legal status of who provides them, Chatham County must abide by federal regulations to ensure the requirements of the pre-existing financing. Leasing to the State of Georgia remains consistent with this requirement.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.

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8. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE AN AGREEMENT WHICH WOULD PROVIDE SPLOST FUNDING TO THE YMCA ON MAY STREET.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve an agreement with the City of Savannah which would provide SPLOST funding in the amount of \$350,000 for the West Broad Street YMCA (May Street). Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-8
AGENDA DATE: March 26, 2010

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

ISSUE:

To approve an agreement which would provide SPLOST funding to the YMCA on May Street.

BACKGROUND:

At the December 19, 2008 meeting, the Board approved a proposal for Chatham County's funding of the West Broad Street YMCA (May Street). Introduced by Vice Chair Priscilla Thomas, the proposal partnered Chatham County, City of Savannah and private fund-raising to renovate the YMCA and restore its historical importance as a centerpiece for youth recreation and community programs. The YMCA would receive funding as a prior recipient of SPLOST funds from 1993-1998.

FACTS & FINDINGS:

1. The Board approved Chatham County's partnership in the capital improvement project. Funding would total \$350,000, which matches the City of Savannah's funding.
2. The capital project remains almost complete, and the YMCA has achieved regaining its status with the national organization and begun outreach programs for community use, including programs which serve Chatham County.
3. While the funding serves the West Broad Street YMCA on May Street, the County would commit the funds through the City of Savannah, which has served as managing partner to award contracts for work and oversee construction and quality control.
4. The County Attorney's Office has reviewed and approved the agreement in form and format.

FUNDING:

SPLOST II (Fund 321) for May Street YMCA (Project 60090) in the amount of \$350,000 by transferring in from Hutchinson Island Water & Sewer (Project 60260) in the amount of \$350,000 by decreasing project fund from \$570,048 to \$222,048 (this project fund will increase by connection fees).

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board approve the funding agreement with the City of Savannah for the West Broad Street YMCA, as attached.
2. That the Board amend the agreement as it deems appropriate.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The Georgia Constitution limits use of expenditure of public funds on private property, including owned by non-profits, to avoid creation of a "gratuity." By agreements and through conveyance of property, including Chatham County's prior ownership of the YMCA property, the County includes a provision for perpetual public interest in community property to avoid a "gratuity" by ensuring the public recovers "substantial public benefit."

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.

STATE OF GEORGIA)
)
 COUNTY OF CHATHAM)

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY
 AND THE MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF SAVANNAH
 FOR RENOVATION OF THE WEST BROAD YMCA ON MAY STREET**

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into this 26th day of March 2010, by and between the BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, hereinafter referred to as the Chatham County, or the County, and THE MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF THE CITY OF SAVANNAH, a municipal corporation organized and existing under the terms of the State of Georgia, hereinafter referred to as the City of Savannah, or the City:

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, Chatham County and the City of Savannah share a mutual interest in the renovation of the West Broad Street YMCA on May Street in the City of Savannah, hereinafter referred to as "the Project;" and

WHEREAS, the Project will renovate the YMCA on May Street and restore the facility's importance as a centerpiece for youth recreation and community programs; and

WHEREAS, the Project’s capital improvements shall include a new HVAC, roof replacement, electrical code compliance, repair of pool, new flooring and replacement of faulty doors and windows; and

WHEREAS, besides its importance to the recreational and cultural programs which serve the community, the West Broad Street YMCA assumes historical importance since the facility remains one of only seven “Heritage YMCAs” in America, and the

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements and the benefits to the parties, the City and the County agree as follows:

1. The City will provide funding of \$350,000 toward the project.
2. The County will provide funding of \$350,000 toward the project and transfer funds to the City within 5 days of the execution of this agreement.
3. The City agrees to manage the project, including accounting for The expenditure of county funding, managing construction and exercising quality control over all construction and improvements.
4. The West Broad Street YMCA will manage the facility and maintain programs which serve the recreational and cultural needs of the community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the County has caused its duly authorized officers, and the City has caused its duly authorized officers to execute this Agreement, this the 26th day of March 2010.

THE MAYOR AND ALDERMEN OF
FOR THE CITY OF SAVANNAH

BY: _____
Michael Brown, City Manager

ATTEST: _____
Dyanne Reese, Clerk of Council

FOR CHATHAM COUNTY

BY: _____
Pete Liakakis, Chairman

ATTEST: _____
Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

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9. 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 drainage and parking lot improvements at the Citizen’s Service Center	Special Projects	Collins Construction Services, Inc.	\$39,004	1999 CIP Bond Fund - Government Buildings
B. Summary Change Order No. 2 to the contract for the construction of the Little Neck Road Culvert Replacement at Henderson Canal for additional work and extend contract by five (5) days	Engineering	TIC - The Industrial Company	\$11,684	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Drainage, Gateway/ Henderson project
C. Change Order No.1 to the annual contract to provide door mat rental services for mat rental for Court Services Division of the Sheriff’s department	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	Aramark Uniform Services, Inc.	\$327.60	General Fund/M&O - Facilities Maintenance and Operations

ITEM	DEPT.	SOURCE	AMOUNT	FUNDING
D. Annual maintenance agreement to provide preventive maintenance to the HVAC system for the newly acquired Commerce Building	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	Southeastern Air Conditioning Company, Inc.	\$15,780	General Fund/M&O - Facilities Maintenance and Operations
E. Four (4) commercial mowers	Public Works and Park Services	Lawnmower Store	\$29,116	•General Fund/M&O - Parks and Recreation - \$14,558 •CIP - Vehicle Replacement - \$14,558
F. Relocation fee and transmission facility relocation agreement for temporary relocation of a transmission tower guy wire	Engineering	Georgia Power Company	\$12,715	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Drainage - Gateway/Henderson project
G. Confirmation of an emergency purchase of a video conferencing system with a two (2) year service agreement	Juvenile Court	Stage Front Presentations	\$15,500	General Fund/M&O - Juvenile Court
H. Eight (8) aluminum bleachers for L. Scott Stell Park	Public Works and Park Services	BSN Sports (US Communities contract)	\$26,280	CIP - Recreation
I. Construction contract for the restoration of the Thunderbolt Boat Ramp	Public Works and Park Services	E & D Contracting Services, Inc. (WBE)	\$106,814	CIP - Recreation Boat Ramp Repairs
J. Change Order No. 4 to the annual contract to provide laser jet toner services to recognize a manufacturer's imposed price increase	Purchasing	Media South Computer Supplies, Inc.	Varies by item	•General Fund/M&O - Various •SSD - Various
K. Group Wise Migrator for Exchange software	I.C.S.	Dell Marketing (State Contract)	\$10,373	General Fund/M&O - I.C.S.
L. Purchase and installation of emergency exit doors	Aquatic Center	Savannah Architectural	\$10,783	General Fund/M&O - Aquatic Center
M. Task Orders to provide equipment and services for County capital projects	Engineering	•T Clearing •Sandhill ALS Construction (MBE)	Not to Exceed \$250,000	•SPLOST (1985-1993) (1993-1998), (1998-2003), (2003-2008), (2008-2014) •CIP •Land Bank

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve Items 9-A through 9-I, both inclusive. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present.]

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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. THE PETITIONER TRACY OPRA, AGENT FOR THE ELIZABETH HOUSE FOR WOMEN, INC., IS REQUESTING AN AMENDMENT TO SECTIONS 2, 4.5-1 AND 4.5-2 OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE TO DEFINE AND ALLOW WOMEN'S SHELTERS IN THE R-A, R-3, I-P, B-N, AND B-C ZONING CLASSIFICATIONS SUBJECT TO DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS. THE MPC RECOMMENDS APPROVAL AS OUTLINED.**

MPC FILE NO. Z-091231-00082-2

[UNINCORPORATED AREA – ALL DISTRICTS.]

See additional request from Director of BSRS for clarification from applicant. This will be posed during second reading to Ms. Opra.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, I would ask for a brief staff presentation that would include the posing of the questions to the applicant. This is a text amendment, but it does apply to a specific site on Silk Hope Road.

Mr. Jim Hansen said, Mr. Chairman and members of the Board, Jim Hansen on behalf of the MPC. As the Chairman has indicated, this is a request to amend the copy County's zoning ordinance to define the term Women's Shelters and to allow the same in certain zoning districts. Those are R-A, R-3, I-P, B-N, and B-C. Currently, there are no provisions for shelters in any zoning district within the County ordinance. The petitioner is here today, Ms. Opra. The request is to allow the shelters as a matter of right subject to certain conditions. Those conditions include a minimum size of two acres. There shall be a maximum of 50 persons allowed in the shelter. Meals may be provided. There is a requirement that there be an on-site manager for each 25 persons located within the shelter, that there be a maximum 180-day stay period allowed, that no shelter can be allowed within a quarter mile, 1,320 feet, of a similar type of use, and that the site shall be buffered.

You have in your packets a memo from the Director of Building Safety and Regulatory Services alluding to three questions which will be posed to Ms. Opra, which indirectly have been posed to the MPC. He states that there are questions that they have concerning the enforcement and the reasons why the ordinance was crafted the way that it was. Specifically, the definition of a shelter excludes housing for women leaving correctional facilities or substance abuse programs, but is silent on women leaving mental institutions or receiving mental or emotional care. As with all sections of the ordinance, if the ordinance is silent on that particular item, it is deemed acceptable and appropriate. In other words, you could have women coming out of mental institutions or those receiving mental care allowed. The original crafting of the ordinance was done so as to exclude women coming out of correctional facilities or substance abuse programs at the behest of MPC members, who thought that this type of use was more appropriate in a correction — excuse me — in a group facility as opposed to a transitional facility. However, we have no objection should you deem it appropriate to remove that particular restriction.

Commissioner Odell said, before you go on, let me ask you a question. How does this relate to assisted living programs? Does it correlate at all, and the reason I ask that question is the same zoning for an assisted living program, is this the same as this program? It is not? Mr. Hansen said, no. Chairman Liakakis and Commissioner Odell, they are not the same. This is transitional housing. It is not meant to be long term. It is meant to provide a facility for in this case abused and battered women where they can seek safe shelter, where they can hopefully through counseling and other programs get a foothold back in society and then move on to a safer place, as opposed to assisted living which is generally long term.

Commissioner Odell said, okay, I understand the distinction between the two. I guess my question would if you look at this program, which one is more restrictive? Is the assisted living program as far as regulation and, Russ [Abolt], you're on the MPC, right? Mr. Hansen said, I believe that they are both somewhat restrictive. If I had to say which was more restrictive, it would probably be the women's shelter because of the conditions that are placed on it. Assisted living facilities as we all know can exist in many areas and do exist in many areas. Largely, as long as they meet the requirements of the State, they are allowed to exist in the State. Commissioner Odell said, right, and assisted living programs can have as few as three or four up to how many? Mr. Hansen said, I'm not sure that there is a number. It would depend obviously upon their license. Commissioner Odell said, obviously. And the shelter can have a minimum, the [inaudible] to how many max? What's the minimum max or is it — Mr. Hansen said under this proposal the maximum for this type of shelter will be 50. There is no provision currently in the ordinance. This use is currently not allowed in the unincorporated Chatham County. Commissioner Odell said, alright, thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, as you know, the history of shelters for battered women and especially their children and all, it has done an outstanding job because if we did not have these shelters in our community, there would be a sad, sad situation for the women who have been abused and also their children. Helen [Stone]?

Commissioner Stone said, I'm a little bit confused. Is this for — just for sheltered women? This is not a facility for women that are coming out of treatment or mental health issues. Is that correct? Mr. Hansen said, this particular facility as proposed could serve women that are coming out of the mental health. Commissioner Stone said, the reason I asked, I did not see any provisions of the number of footage away from any type of a school or school

environment if you've got women that have been in their for substance abuse or any type of mental issues. I know that on the MPC often times we look at the proximity of these facilities in relationship to schools. Mr. Hansen said, as currently written, you're correct, there is no distance requirement or minimum. Commissioner Stone asked, is that something that we need to look at in the event that you do have someone that has suffered some mental issues. Do we want to look at how close to a school facility that this center should be located? Mr. Hansen, Mr. Chairman and Commissioner Stone, that is something that we did not deem necessary at the time; however, again if this body does deem that appropriate we can certainly take a look at that.

Commissioner Holmes said, I would like for you to look at that. That's a good point.

Commissioner Stone said, that just concerns me a little bit from I know that there are restrictions on other type of these facilities in relationship to schools and I would hate for us to get into an issue with that down the road, and I'd like for it to be looked at now. Thank you.

Commissioner Odell said, the major distinction is the length of stay, but the people could be in both programs. You could have a person who is — the lady is shaking her head now. You could have a person who is in an assisted living program who's been released from Georgia Regional or another institution. Concurrently, that same person could be in the shelter type program. There could never — and you're shaking your head — be an overlap of the individuals. Is that your conclusion also that there could not be a —? Mr. Hansen said, yes sir. If I understood your statement correctly, I believe that's correct. Commissioner Odell said, and my only point is as far as assisted living, people who have mental disabilities live in assisted living programs which we currently have zoning to provide for assisted living. Is that true? Mr. Hansen said, there is zoning to provide for assisted living, not for transitional shelters. Commissioner Odell said, right, not for transitional shelters. And assisted living can be — there's no restriction as to it in relationship to schools. There's no provision that says you have to be 1,000 feet away from the nearest school. Am I reading —? Mr. Hansen said, Commissioner, without having the ordinance in front of me, I'm going to have to go from memory but I believe that is correct. Commissioner Odell said, my only thing is that if, and although the lady shakes her head and says no, if you release from a mental institution and go to an assisted living program, and Helen [Stone], you were on the MPC, you probably know more about this than anybody up here, there's no restriction as to how close or how far you have to be from a school in our current ordinance. Commissioner Stone said, right. Commissioner Odell said, I'm thinking in the shelter program a person potentially released could go to this shelter and we would have a distinct law that would require a distance from that shelter to a school. That's my only concern whether or not there's continuity or consistency in that they seem like they are similar, different purpose I understand, but they seem like they're similar.

County Attorney Hart said, Mr. Chairman, if the Commission is concerned about that, you could table this matter and ask MPC to bring back a recommendation in regard to the distance and adopt it at the next meeting.

Commissioner Stone said, I would make a motion to do that if this Commission would allow me to do that.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Shay.

Commissioner Shay said, should you go through the other few questions at the same type so that we might be able to hear those and see if those are additional things you want to hear before you go back and come back and then we hear questions two and three.

Commissioner Stone said, I would amend my motion.

Mr. Hansen said, if I might, Mr. Chairman, the second question which was posed by the Director of BSRS had to do with the definition which limits the ownership and operation of the facility to a not for profit agency or organization. It did not, however, indicate whether or not a state license, a tax certificate or any other sort of vehicle along those lines is needed. Again, we did not feel when we crafted this that that was necessary but rather it was implied. For example, in the ordinance we do not say that a banker has to have a license or an architect or an engineer or anyone else, although we all know that they do. Again, if this body deems that appropriate, that language could be added into the ordinance and codified.

The third particular question had to do with the maximum stay of 180 days, and I will tell you that there is nothing magical about that particular number. The feeling when we crafted this particular recommended ordinance was that because it is considered in one's transitional housing as opposed to say assisted living, that it was not the intent that the residents therein should stay there forever but rather that they should move on. The 180 days was a number that was conceived as being approximately a half a year, which seemed an appropriate time. Again, we do not have a problem if you wish to totally remove that particular number or should you decide to increase or decrease that particular number we are perfectly fine with accepting that as well.

Chairman Liakakis said, go ahead and bring that information back that was requested by the Commissioners and all, not only the first but the second and the third, you know, so that they can be issued and distributed before we come to the next meeting, and we can have that information so that they can look over and maybe ask more questions, and you make sure you're here that you're here to expand on that at the next meet. Mr. Hansen said, and I will be, Mr. Chairman. Might I ask — I heard comments about question number one. I'm not sure if there are questions about two and three. Chairman Liakakis said, the three is the time element that you mentioned. Mr.

Hansen said, correct. Chairman Liakakis said, that you said that you didn't think it needed to be in there, but put that in the report. Mr. Hansen said, okay.

Commissioner Odell said, but my question as to time is if you say the total is 180 days, I stay in the program for 180 days, I then move out for one night and then I stay in the program again for another 180 days. Mr. Hansen said, yes, you could. Commissioner Odell said, and I'm not certain what we achieve when we put that limitation in. I would like two things. Any limitation we should know what the intended consequence is rather than just putting it in, number one, and number two is that if we add language to one code section or zoning classification, like we define lawyer and then we say license. Jon [Hart] can perhaps clear me up on this. Doesn't that have a rippling effect. If it's obvious that when you say a banker that all of those things go along with being a banker or you say an architect, I'm not an architect so you wouldn't confuse me as being an architect. Commissioner Shay said, I'm not allowed to call myself one unless I have a license. Commissioner Odell said, I guess my point is if we add that language for this, doesn't it have a rippling effect that all the other —. County Attorney Hart said, it absolutely does. I think it's absolutely implied and we are just putting meaningless words in it. Commissioner Odell said, right. That was my bottom line.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Shay.

Commissioner Shay said, you know, in regards to the number of days, I mean, this is a zoning regulation. It would be enforced by the zoning administrator. I'm hard pressed to see how a zoning administrator is going to be the one that keeps track of how many days somebody is inside a facility. So I just, you know, I think that one rises to the level of and who's going to enforce this. It's nice to make a rule, but if there's nobody that could practically enforce the rule unless that agency was certifying it and then the zoning administrator was coming out and surveying it once 180 days and making sure they don't see the same person twice, I just don't think that one has any practical effect. And the last comment that I would make is you said something in Item 1 about some level of appropriate buffering, I just think that buffer is a word that gets — permeates the zoning code that's pretty hard to — okay, this is a transitional home on a two-acre site for women that are transitioning back into society, like what is this buffer going to be? An 80-foot high chain link fence with [inaudible] wire or, I mean, why do we have to have a buffer? What is the point of a buffer? Is it visual? Mr. Hansen said, yes, it is actually visual. We buffer dissimilar uses in almost all cases as a condition of the zoning ordinance. In this particular case it's recommended to be a Type B buffer, and we can — again, we can remove that, we can leave that. Commissioner Shay said, I mean, that's fine. If that's something that permeates the zoning —. Commissioner Stone said, it is, it is. Commissioner Shay said, it seems just a little — that's fine. If you don't want people see other people —.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, we have a motion on the floor to table this until the next meeting.

County Attorney Hart said, Mr. Chairman, I would like as part of that motion a direction from the Board to send this back to MPC staff to come up with distances so that we can get this thing back here in two weeks without having to wait through a MPC —.

Commissioner Stone said, I'll amend my motion to that.

Chairman Liakakis said, you can come back at the next meeting, you know, to hear this because they're going to bring information back instead of you having to repeat something again.

Ms. Tracy Opra said, [inaudible] —. Chairman Liakakis said, come up to the microphone.

The Clerk asked, who seconded the motion? Commissioner Holmes said, I did. Chairman Liakakis said, James Holmes.

Ms. Opra said, my name is Tracy Opra, and this is my first time of doing anything like this. I was advised that we had — we couldn't do a map amendment, we had to do a text amendment, and we were given the [inaudible] was donated to do this text amendment, okay. I was advised my attorney should drop the information for the text amendment which we had done. I brought it to the MPC and everything, what we had brought we were told that it had to be very specific because we didn't want to — any person that had an R-A zone it could open up the women's civil [inaudible] environment, okay. So we — what we submitted to the MPC were a few things to make it very specific so that not everybody could do that. I was supposed to get a copy after we had the meeting with the MPC of the recommendation. I was under the impression what we presented to the MPC was going to go before the MPC board. When I got to the MPC board on February 2nd, I had no clue of what was being said. I didn't even know it was my — what I was asking for because everything was completely different and I was not given a copy. I was told they were sorry. They gave me a copy that day. We had to go back into the MPC and ask for reconsideration on several items, okay. On February 2nd after that meeting I did ask that I receive a copy of the recommendation again that was going to be coming here. I did not receive a copy until last — a week before and I was told that nothing could be changed because it had already been submitted to the County Commissioner [sic].

These things that are being requested are not what I asked for and the difference, and they're not in assisted living, we are a sober living environment, okay. It's not a treatment center and it's very basic. It's to house homeless people. It's not just specified for just abused women. It's for homeless women. A lot of women with the economy rate now are losing their jobs, they have no place to go. There are people that are in correctional facilities that have made a few mistakes, they've been in there for a couple of years, you know, and they're put in society and

they have no place to go, okay. So there was a lot that was requested that's being stated here that is not what my program — what we asked for, and again I did not get a copy of this amendment. This memo I just got two days ago.

County Attorney Hart said, Mr. Chairman, if the text amendment is not what the applicant seeks, the applicant could ask permission the Commission to send it back to the MPC for consideration of the additional items. When you ask for a text amendment, that's a privilege not a right, okay, and generally what you try to do is draft the text amendment without modifying the ordinance so that it just has a rippling effect, as Commissioner Odell said. And the recommendation from the staff of the MPC is to provide this text amendment with certain conditions so that this lady may get on with her program. Now it may not meet all — everyone of her desires or needs, and if she desires to try to get everything that she needs, she has a perfect right to go ask for it, but right now under consideration is the text amendment and language you have before you, save and except the things that the Commission chooses to modify within the ordinance.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, then you understand what the County Attorney is talking about that since you have a position that it's not exactly what you asked for and the procedure is for her to go straight back to the MPC on that. County Attorney Hart said, sure. If she wants to add additional language to the text amendment for consideration, that's fine. It may not get a staff recommendation and that needs to be thought about by the applicant.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Shay.

Commissioner Shay said, please understand you have a very specific project in mind that you would like to achieve. In order for that to be possible in the unincorporated area, a text amendment had to be made to the zoning ordinance that would apply not just to your project, but to a whole lot of other places so it became generic rather than specific when it hit the text amendment and what's being proposed for us to review is a generic amendment to the text that would then allow you to do your specific project but regulate other people who might want to do the same thing from doing something that's not as good for one reason or another as your project. So I would not recommend that you go back and ask for this to start over again. Do not hit the reset button. Get together with the MPC staff, make sure that the generic text amendment that is being proposed to us from the MPC allows you to do what you want to do. If it does, then I would encourage you to advocate for it.

Ms. Opra said, right, and you do understand that. I guess I'm just a little frustrated is why all these — you know, a lot of changes —.

Commissioner Shay said, because we have to look at it as being —. Commissioner Stone said, broad. Commissioner Shay said, — for the entire area. Commissioner Stone said, broad. Commissioner Shay said, so that's why we're being very careful is that we don't make a good rule for you that's a bad rule for the rest of the Special Service District unincorporated area, and I think we have that.

Ms. Opra said, right, and most everything that they have suggested, you know, was fine. I didn't — I didn't want to limit — I didn't want to limit to not having people from correctional facilities. I don't do where that came from. You know, so here I'm looking at you saying, you know, you can't have correctional facility, you know, and if it passed, you know, then would we have to do another text amendment, you know, and like I said that money was donated and I don't want to just — it's important that someone did that for us and so I just wanted to make sure, and I just thought maybe I should be informed of what changes, and we had very few. We didn't want to change hardly anything, but we were told we had to so that we didn't like open a can of worms.

Commissioner Shay said, so what you're saying is that you do want to serve people from a correctional institution —. Ms. Opra said, yes. Commissioner Shay said, — and this would preclude you from doing what you want to do. Ms. Opra said, right. We're not a treatment center and that's what the assisted living and a mental institution — that is not what we're doing. We are a sober living environment, okay, for people that have no place to go, but we're not a treatment center. Commissioner Shay said, I understand, but you would not be able to do the facility that you want to do that was the reason that we started down this path, you would not be able to serve your program if it restricted people from correctional institutions from being allowed to be there. Ms. Opra said, it wouldn't restrict us, but it would restrict the people — my main — one of my main things is too many people are homeless. Commissioner Shay said, I understand that. Ms. Opra said, and people coming out of correctional facilities that don't have a —. Commissioner Shay said, well, if this doesn't serve your purpose, then you should hit the reset button because, frankly, we're wasting our time up here because we've gone to a lot of trouble and so has the MPC to deliberate over something to make your program possible, and if you're not satisfied with it then I would encourage you to get together with staff and sit down and see how to rethink it. Ms. Opra said, [inaudible] my attention before —. Commissioner Shay said, the reason it came forward that way is that the people at the MPC, who deliberated over this, and the people who are up here have a concern about it, okay. So that doesn't mean that just because you want it, it's automatic that you're going to get it. Ms. Opra said, no, I understand that, sir. Commissioner Shay said, be careful not to ask for too much.

County Attorney Hart said, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Liakakis said, Helen [Stone] —, let Jon [Hart] explain that and then Helen.

County Attorney Hart said, Mr. Chairman, I just want to make a comment that, you know, it's a policy decision of this Board as to whether they want to write this ordinance broad enough to allow people in from correctional facilities and are you going to write it —, if that is in there, do you then have somebody who comes in and says I'm doing the program that this lady, I'm sure, is going to do, but it is really a halfway house for people emerging out of the criminal justice system, which we have lots of citizens that have concerns about where those places go. Commissioner Odell said, and I'm one of them. County Attorney Hart said, so this is drawn to make this available to her to accomplish her mission. It may not be as broad as all the people who want to get in the program, but it allows her to do the program, and it would be entirely up to this Board as to whether it wants to add that to this text amendment.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I commend you in what you're trying to do and I think there is a need for what you're trying to do, but I think there's been a very basic lack of communication between the staff and between you, and I think that in the two weeks you need to get with the staff and you need to make it very clear what your goals are and how they can best accommodate you without putting restrictions on a broad level across the Special Service District that if someone comes behind you and is not well-meaning that we don't end up with the problem.

Ms. Opra said, I understand that and also following the guidelines from the City of Savannah Mission, their application process, and our residents, of course their safety, so our board of directors would approve every application, so I do understand the —. Commissioner Stone said, okay. Ms. Opra said, — you know, the safety issue.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, we have a motion on the floor and a second. Let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Farrell and Kicklighter were not present.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved to table this motion to the next meeting and return to the MPC the text amendment with regard to the petition of Tracy Opra, Agent for The Elizabeth House for Women, Inc., to clarify certain issues. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Farrell and Kicklighter were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: ~~XI-1~~
AGENDA DATE: ~~March 12, 2010~~
AGENDA ITEM: XII-1
AGENDA DATE: March 26, 2010

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

THROUGH: R. E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER

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

ISSUE

Proposed Text Amendment to Provide Definitions, Development Standards and Use Approval of Women's Shelters within the Unincorporated County.

BACKGROUND

The existing Chatham County Zoning Ordinance does not allow for transitional shelters. The proposed text amendment would require new enforcement methods to ensure compliance to the ordinance in the filed. Such enforcement methods and procedures are based upon proper interpretation and clarity of the text.

FACTS AND FINDINGS

1. The definition of the shelter excludes the housing of women leaving correctional facilities or substance abuse programs, but is silent on women leaving mental institutions or receiving mental or emotional care.
2. The use definition limits the operation and ownership of the facility to a not-for-profit agency or organizations that provide temporary residential service. However, it does not indicate whether a state license, local license or tax certificate would be required for the use.
3. The development provisions for the facility limits the stay to a maximum of 180 consecutive days with no mechanism of enforcement.

FUNDING

Not Applicable

ALTERNATIVES

- 1. Approve proposed text amendment as submitted
- 2. Approve proposed text amendment as amended
- 3. Redirect to MPC staff for clarification of the language

POLICY ANALYSIS

The proposed text amendment introduces a new use within the unincorporated limits that requires a new level of enforcement procedures. In order to be effective in our enforcement, clarity in the language and its intent is needed.

RECOMMENDATION

Board Consideration

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2. ADOPT THE COUNTY ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CATERER ORDINANCE.

Mr. Gregori Anderson said, Mr. Chairman and members of the Board, what's before you today is the proposed new ordinance that would allow for the sale of off-premise alcoholic beverages in conjunction with a catered event. This provision mirrors the State legislation that was adopted last year so that we can be in compliance with the provisions of the State. The State Revenue Department has determined that these types of events need to be regulated. What it really talks about is catered events whereby alcoholic beverages are either sold, distributed or even given away, and this proposed ordinance mirrors the State regulations as contained in the O.C.G.A. that's contained in the staff report, and staff is standing to declare that we have mechanisms to enforce this locally and that would apply to just those caterers who would serve alcoholic beverages as part of their catered event.

Chairman Liakakis said, and that's specific on this. It has nothing to do with some family individual that have people in his neighborhood or her neighborhood and want to have, you know, a few alcoholic beverages there. Just for the caterers.

Mr. Anderson said, it would have no impact on outside barbecues personally conducted on people's property. These are specifically for catered events where a caterer would be hired to conduct these services.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, we need a motion on the floor for this alcoholic beverage caterer ordinance that is being recommended by our County staff because there have been situations in the past where this was needed.

Commissioner Stone said, I'll make the motion, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Liakakis asked, do we have a second? Commissioner Holmes said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, we have a second. Let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Farrell and Kicklighter were not present.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved to adopt the County Alcoholic Beverage Caterer Ordinance to provide for the retail sale and off-premise consumption of alcoholic beverages for catered events. Commissioner Shay seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Farrell and Kicklighter were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: ~~XI-2~~
AGENDA DATE: ~~March 12, 2010~~
AGENDA ITEM: XII-2
AGENDA DATE: March 26, 2010

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

THROUGH: R. E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER

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

ISSUE

To Propose the Adoption of the County Alcoholic Beverage Caterer Ordinance

BACKGROUND

The Georgia Code, O.C.G.A. 3-11-1, Chapter 11 was amended to provide provisions for the sale off-premises of alcoholic beverages for catered events.

FACTS AND FINDINGS

- 1. Georgia Code O.C.G.A. 3-11-1 provides jurisdiction with the authority to adopt regulations and enforcement provisions for the sale of alcoholic beverages by caterers for catered events.
- 2. The proposed ordinance will apply to business operators that have a valid State and Local alcoholic beverage retail license.
- 3. Enforcement of the proposed ordinance can be obtained by the current Departmental staff.

FUNDING

Not Applicable

ALTERNATIVES

- 1. Adopt the proposed alcoholic beverage caterer ordinance
- 2. Provide direction to staff

POLICY ANALYSIS

The Georgia Code was amended to provide regulations for the retail sale of alcoholic beverages for catered events. The alcoholic beverage caterer license allows the retail sales and off-premises consumption of alcoholic beverages. In order to qualify for the issuance of the license, alcoholic beverage caterers must have a valid State and County license for the retail sales of alcoholic beverages.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Alternative #1, adopt proposed ordinance.

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XIII. INFORMATION ITEMS

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A status report was attached as information.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A status report was attached as information.

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- 3. **ROADS AND DRAINAGE REPORTS.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Status reports were attached as information.

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-3 *Roads*
AGENDA DATE: March 26, 2010

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

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

BACKGROUND: The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) priorities for funding projects under the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP), the Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) are changing frequently.

FACTS AND FINDING:

1. Truman Parkway, Phase 5. On January 29, 2010 the GDOT awarded a construction contract to Balfour Beatty Infrastructure for \$67,494,183. A groundbreaking ceremony was held on March 19. The project will take approximately three years to complete.

2. Diamond Causeway. The GDOT awarded a design/build contract in 2009 to LPA / United Contracting (joint venture) for \$22,500,000 to construct a two lane high level bridge over Skidaway Narrows to replace the bascule bridge. The design consultant indicates that construction should begin June 2010.

3. Whitefield Avenue. The FHWA approved the Environmental Assessment (EA) on February 13, 2004. The Concept Report (revised to incorporate a 50 feet wide median with 6 canopy trees) was approved by the GDOT on September 24, 2007. EA and traffic studies (based on traffic projections to 2030) show the project warranted after completion of all phases of Truman Parkway. The Preliminary Field Plan Review was held on May 14, 2008. The Value Engineering Study (required on projects over \$10,000,000) was held by the GDOT on January 26-29, 2010. The Final Field Plan Review is being scheduled by the GDOT for March 2010. ROW acquisition is progressing (closed on 78 of 81). Demolition of structures continues. Expect to certify ROW in May 2010. The project will be ready for letting to construction in FY 2011.

4. Local Roads.

a. Troy Street, Catherine Street, Adeline Street, Billings Road, Elmhurst Road, Beechwood Road, Ridgewood Road. Dirt roads for paving. Billings Road has one condemnation pending. Board awarded a construction contract to pave Catherine Road and Adeline Street on October 16, 2009. Estimated completion is April 2010. Final plans have been submitted for remainder, except for Troy Street.

b. Pyeland Avenue. Paving is substantially complete as of March 9.

c. Intersection improvements on Chatham Parkway at Veterans Parkway. New traffic signals have been constructed at the entrance and exit ramps for Veterans parkway at Chatham Pkwy. Currently flashing and undergoing operational checks. Expect to them to be fully operational by the end of April.

d. Intersection improvements at King George Blvd and Grove Point Road. Construction plans to add turn lanes and traffic signals are complete. Right of way acquisition is complete. Utility relocation is in progress.

e. Wright Avenue and Fenwick Avenue/Medford Street. Under design for paving.

f. Dulany Road. On March 12, 2010 the Board approved a contract for paving. Estimated completion is December 2010.

RECOMMENDATION: For information.

Districts: All

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-3 Drainage
AGENDA DATE: March 26, 2010

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: A. G. Bungard, 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. Staff is working toward a construction contract for the next phase of the project. A separate project to improve operating efficiency and longevity of the sluice gates is also underway.
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. The Board awarded a construction contract on February 12, 2010 to replace golf cart bridges between I-16 and Southbridge Boulevard. Construction will begin upon execution of the contract. The SR 307/Hardin Canal Bridge Culvert project is underway. Construction of the SR 307 project is expected to take about a year with temporary closure of Dean Forest Road during the summer of 2010.
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 Board awarded a construction contract on November 6, 2009. Construction is expected to be complete by June 2010. Temporary lane closures along Conaway Road and Hiram Road have been coordinated with local officials and emergency responders.
4. 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. The project to install rip rap erosion protection at the culvert was completed in November 2009. Staff is evaluating the need for additional improvements.
5. Queensbury Drainage Improvements. The project area is south of Montgomery Cross Road and west of Ferguson Avenue and includes Tara Manor, Lakeview and the Forest City Gun Club. The project includes canal widening, culverts and access for maintenance. Current work will address inadequate drainage capacity of the system serving the Ennis Mobile Home Park and in the area between the Gun Club and the Truman Parkway. Work is expected to produce a preliminary design by May 2010.
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 complete. Staff is discussing acquisition of drainage easements from the Gun Club that will enable construction of drainage improvements around the back side of the subdivision.
7. 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 expected to be complete by September 2010.
8. 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). A project to improve several undersized culverts along the Vidalia Canal south of Vidalia Road is under construction and is expected to be complete in May 2010. Staff started work to design improvements at Yemassee Road and Ridgeland Road.
9. 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. A contract to construct drainage improvements including replacement of two culverts at Quacco Road and installation of a new storm sewer pipeline is underway and is expected to be complete by January 2011.
10. 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. Design work is also underway for improvements for the Norwood Place outfall. Staff is in the process of acquiring required rights-of-ways and easements for installation and maintenance of these two drainage improvement projects.

11. 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 is complete to replace culverts at Henderson Oaks Drive and a golf cart crossing. Staff is working with utilities to relocate facilities prior to construction.

12. Shipyard-Beaulieu Area. The project will be accomplished in phases. The first phase was to replace the storm drain pipe at Beaulieu Avenue. Construction of the first phase began in September 2009 and was completed in January 2010. The second phase will replace an undersized storm drain pipe behind the Montgomery Baptist Church. Staff is working with the church for required easements for maintenance and access.

13. 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.

14. 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. The project was approved by the Coastal Resources Division in December 2009. Staff is currently working to secure temporary construction easements from the Department of Natural Resources.

15. LaRoche Culvert. The project includes the replacement of a drainage culvert located under LaRoche Avenue north of Lansing Avenue. The culvert replacement is in response to a deteriorating brick arch culvert with several cracks. A Professional Services Agreement contract was approved by the Commission on January 29, 2010.

16. Lehigh-Shipyard Lane Area. The project will relieve roadside drainage issues causing nuisance flooding in the Lehigh Avenue and Shipyard Lane area. Preliminary design work is complete for improvements within the existing Lehigh Avenue right-of-way from Shipyard Road to Shore Avenue. Final design plans are expected to be complete by July 2010.

17. Laberta-Cresthill Area. The project will relieve flooding within the Cresthill Subdivision. An engineering firm evaluated the storm water drainage system and the outfall to Haneys Creek. Preliminary design work is underway to improve the piping network and the outfall.

18. Quacco Canal Drainage Extension. The project will relieve drainage issues causing street and nuisance flooding in the Willow Lakes Subdivision. Preliminary design work to extend the piping network from Quacco Trail to the existing lake within the subdivision is complete. Final design work is underway and expected to be complete by May 2010.

19. Belleview Drive Drainage Improvements. The project was designed by staff to improve drainage problems involving standing water that is a primary cause of pavement degradation and public nuisance. Construction of drainage improvements including a new storm sewer and drainage inlets is underway with completion expected by April 2010.

20. Wahlstrom Road. The project will address drainage and maintenance access along the portion of Wahlstrom Road north of the railroad tracks. Drainage infrastructure in the area has received infrequent maintenance in the past due to extensive industrial activities in the area and lack of access. Current work is directed toward identifying ownership and responsibility of existing infrastructure and locating existing drainage easements and rights of way.

21. Romney Place Drainage Phase. Improve storm drains and road crossings on Romney Place and along Parkersburg Road. Design and acquisition of easements is complete. Construction bids for the project were received on April 29, 2008 and tabled indefinitely by the Board on May 9, 2008. In February, staff revisited the project with some of the area residents and found less opposition to the project. Staff hopes to re-advertise the project and present a new recommendation for project construction to the Board by May 2010.

RECOMMENDATION: For information.
Districts: All

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion being made by Commissioner Stone and seconded by Commissioner Holmes, the Board recessed at 11:35 a.m., to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation, land acquisition and personnel.

Following adjournment of the Executive Session, the meeting of the Board of Commissioners was reconvened at 12:23 p.m.

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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 Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present.]

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APPOINTMENTS

- 1. ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AUTHORITY

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Shay made a motion to reappoint Mr. Robert B. Bryant, Sr., and Ms. Brenda Stokes to serve on the Economic Opportunity Authority with terms to expire December 31, 2014. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the Commissioners, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 12:24 p.m.

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APPROVED: THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2010

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

SYBIL E. TILLMAN, CLERK OF COMMISSION