

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, MAY 14, 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 9:30 a.m., Friday, May 14, 2010.

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II. INVOCATION

Commissioner James Holmes gave the Invocation.

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III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Patrick Shay led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

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IV. ROLL CALL

The Clerk called the roll.

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

Absent: Dr. Priscilla D. Thomas, Vice Chairman, District Eight
David M. Gellatly, District Six

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

Chairman Liakakis said, I've got a release here from Dave Gellatly, who represents the Sixth District of Chatham County and he states in here "I will undergo open heart surgery to replace mu aortic valve at 7:00 a.m., Tuesday, at St. Joseph's Hospital. Due to my arteries not being clogged, in fact tests show them to be 100% open, my heart surgeon, Dr. Heidary, suspects a birth defect that is just now presenting itself." And he"will be in the hospital for seven days after which I will be able to perform all of my County Commission duties except attending meetings. " And he's asked that we excuse him from meetings for the next four to six weeks. So I'd like a motion on the floor—.

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

Chairman Liakakis said, all in favor go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Gellatly and Thomas were not present.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

Chairman Liakakis said, Priscilla Thomas, the Commissioner for the Eighth District, won't be with us today. I think there is some procedure that she might have, but we will also ask that she also be excused.

Commissioner Stone said, so moved, Mr. Chairman. Commissioner Holmes said, second. Chairman Liakakis said, alright. Let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Gellatly and Thomas were not present.] Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes.

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V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. CHAIRMAN'S STATE OF THE COUNTY ADDRESS.

Chairman Liakakis said, Members of the County Commission, other Elected Officers, public servants, ladies and gentlemen:

A bias for action with its focus on improving the lives of all Chatham County citizens. So describe a legacy in the making for a County Commission who has worked together going on six years. We've made representative democracy work while not succumbing to embittered and divisive conduct that impedes getting the job done. And the job is getting done! Our community is safer and on track for economic rebound.

- Last August Moody's Investor Services upgraded the County's bond rating from A1 to AA3 with a stable outlook. In their report, Moody's said that the "upgrade to AA3 reflects the county's multi-year record of strong financial performance and recently improved reserves supported by strong management practices."
- Crime is down. In 2009 the Counter Narcotics Team seized over \$1.2 million worth of drugs, 114 firearms, \$218,000 in currency and 21 vehicles.
- On December 8, 2009, more than thirty defendants were sentenced in Federal Court in reference to a joint Title III investigation involving the Federal DEA and our Counter Narcotics Team. This was a long term investigation that required all of investigators, most of them, and an entire Tactical Team utilized for surveillance and monitoring. The sentences ranged from 260 months to 96 months for the various defendants.
- As a result of CNT investigations, three drug kingpins pled guilty in Superior Court and received a sentence of 25 years to serve; one defendant also received a fine of \$200,000.
- The Metropolitan Police Department is fully staffed while adding 5 officers focusing on juvenile offenders.
- Superior Court has established a Mental Health Court currently involving 27 participants. It is estimated that this court has saved millions of taxpayers' dollars in jail time and hospitalization costs over the last several years.
- The Drug Court averages 79 active participants per month. 92% of the participants completing the Drug Court remain drug free. In 2009 over \$1.5 million were avoided in jail costs.
- Through State Court, the DUI Court has 138 participants while already graduating 89.
- The Sheriff's Department and Mosquito Control, along with the Chatham Emergency Management Agency, are implementing Project Lifesaver. The program was initiated by County employee students in the 2008/2009 University of Georgia Carl Vinson Institute of Government, Management Development Program. Project Lifesaver assists individuals affected by dementia, autism, and other disorders that cause them to wander and get lost. Electronic wristbands, that emit locating signals, are worn by some affected individuals to help find them as quickly as possible once they are reported missing. Chatham County aircraft are used to reduce the time required to find missing persons. Mosquito Control aviation staff has begun training individuals in Bryan and Effingham Counties to help establish the program in outlying areas.

At the same time we're safer. We're also putting resources to make this a healthier place to live.

- We've been recognized at the state level by receiving a "County of Excellence" designation through *Georgia Trend* magazine because of our Safety Net Planning Council.
- The Safety Net Planning Council has received the Joseph D. Greene Award for "Collaborative of the Year" by the Healthcare Georgia Foundation.
- Safety Net has increased the number of patients served by 43% over the last four years. Just a few weeks ago it launched a Health Information Exchange between major providers in our area. Resources are going to those in need and duplication is minimized. Preliminary reports from 2009 indicate that the Safety Net provider network has achieved the milestone of providing 100,000 patient visits through the system.

- Chatham County completed its first comprehensive Health Risk Assessment (HRA) for all County employees covered under the health insurance program. This was accomplished in conjunction with Ourlife and St. Joseph's/Candler Health Systems. Approximately 1,100 employees — some 82% — completed the HRA process. Employees who completed the HRA received a premium discount, and this is really important because it saves taxpayers' money because we reduce the claims that we have, you know, with our employees that might need to go for medical assistance.
- We've issued a tobacco use surcharge for our employees who are covered under the health insurance program.
- Chatham County designed and funded its first ever contribution to a Retirement Health Savings Plan for active employees. This program is established to accumulate assets to reimburse for medical expenses in retirement on a tax free basis.

Economically our future is very bright.

- The Board has approved an application for Georgia Biomass to become a qualifying business within Enterprise Zone 1. The \$10 million project will construct a state-of-the art storage and loading facility for sustainable fuel pellets, which are exported to Europe. The company agreed to work with our Apprentice Program to employ at least 10% of its new workforce through a training program aided [sic] at providing job skills to those from households in poverty.
- We obtained an environmental permit for the Slip 3 Riverwalk project on Hutchinson Island and assisted the Trade Center Authority in construction administration of the \$8 million project.
- In partnership with the Georgia Department of Transportation, construction started on Phase V of the Truman Parkway, which is now creating millions of dollars worth of jobs in our area.
- Completed the Courthouse Project Phase 1, an \$8 million project, which includes a new sallyport in the first floor of the adjoining Chatham County Parking Garage for secure inmate transfer, two new tunnel connectors, holding capacity for 190 inmates and new offices for the Sheriff's Offices Court Services Division. The project provides improved efficiency for court appearances for inmates and increased security since the number of inmate transfers from holding areas to court can be minimized and restricted with the latest in technological innovation. The completed project also removes the need for the former jail on Montgomery Street, and the site can be reserved for future expansion of much-needed space for the judiciary. The project also demonstrated Chatham County's commitment to its local construction companies. Under Phase 1A, the tunnel connectors, the County introduced Best Value Contracting to obtain the services of TIC-The Industrial Company, in partnership with Harbor Construction, to achieve 100% local construction, 38% minority participation and a local work force rate of some 90%.
- Acquired 222 West Oglethorpe Avenue, known as the Commerce Building, in lieu of a plan to renovate the old jail on Montgomery Street into an office building. The five-story building totals 69,597 square feet, but more importantly, it remains the largest office building within the closest proximity of the Courthouse. Not using the old jail site will enable future construction at the Courthouse campus to meet longer-term needs for the judiciary and maintain all courts at the same location.
- We're scheduled to open a new animal shelter and records center in the summer of this year, and that's really important. The animal shelter that we have now is outdated and, of course, when they bring the animals in there it's tough to keep them, you know, in an old type shelter, and we're really proud of that. Sometime next month in June we hope to open that new animal shelter.

Last year we began to celebrate our journey to become the greenest county in Georgia.

- Chatham County is committed to becoming the greenest County in Georgia and staff will be documenting progress toward reaching that goal. Future comparisons will be made using 2007 as our benchmark year. Overall energy consumption will likely increase as new buildings are acquired and new construction is completed in the near future, but the implementation of aggressive conservation measures should allow a reduction in operating costs per square foot of building space. During calendar year 2010 a net increase of 61,148 square feet of building space will be added to the county's infrastructure. Long range proposals include acquisition of a biodiesel plant, expansion of greenway trails, initiating green jobs training programs, continued purchase of hybrid and more fuel efficient vehicles, resource recycling, and a directed effort to complete the action items in the Chatham Environmental Forum's document, "A Road Map for Chatham County for Its Journey in Becoming the Greenest County in the State of Georgia."
- By 2011, County-wide energy savings are projected to total \$331,000 for buildings that existed in 2007. Our first steps in becoming the "greenest county" are well underway. Chatham County's Green Team qualified for a Georgia Department of Natural Resources bronze level Partnership for Sustainable Georgia. Chatham County was awarded a \$300,000 Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant, and these funds will be used to achieve the projected 15% decrease in energy costs for buildings and facilities that were owned in 2007, and of course this saves our taxpayers a lot of money also. Operating costs per square foot should

decline in 2011 in spite of adding a net increase of 61,148 square feet of additional space to the County inventory compared with 2007.

- The Southwest Branch Library opened on October 20, 2009, occupying 50,000 square feet and becoming the first government LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Silver certified facility in Chatham County. Pre-completion energy models projected energy consumption 30% below the 60,000 square foot Bull Street Library. From July 1, 2009, to March 31, 2010, actual energy consumption at the Southwest Branch Library was 49% less than Bull Street, yielding an additional savings of nearly 20% over early estimates.
- The Chatham Transit Authority purchased 20 hybrid vehicles, including 13 buses and 7 paratransit vans.
- Chatham County will easily meet its 2010 commitment to plant 365 trees per year with the planting of 7,000 trees in the Litchfield Tract and 550 trees at the Westlake-Lamarville Reforestation Project.

What I have enumerated serves as but a sampling of what elected officials and professional staff are doing for the betterment of the citizens we serve. Each Commissioner must be recognized as integral to an exceptional group of elected officials. They continue to contribute as individuals and collectively to this legacy of "a bias for action" that makes Chatham County a better place in which to live. Regardless of the challenges, the genuine worth of this County Commission and the quality of our workforce is an unbeatable combination.

And there are many other accomplishments of this Commission and our staff have done on behalf of the citizens of all of Chatham County. They are too numerous to give all of you that long list right now, but we will pass that out any time — it will be at the Libraries, all of our Libraries so citizens can look at all of these accomplishments that we have. And we are really proud of what this Commission and our staff have done and all of our employees. You know, we really appreciate those people like — who leads all of our employees: Russ Abolt, who is our County Manager, and we feel the number one County Manager in the entire country, and we go beyond that. We look at our department heads and our employees. They put a lot of effort into serving the citizens of our community. Once in a while you'll hear one of the Commissioners that what we might be, you know, say that we have a different idea on subjects, but we're not arguing with one another, we're not being bad towards one another. It's just different ideas that some of our Commissioners have, but we will continue to work for all of our citizens.

I'd like to recognize my wife and my family members in the front row because — who have supported me all these years in all of my elected offices and other things that I have done, because she has made me, you know, a better working individual for all of citizens and the people here and around the State of Georgia. But I also want to recognize all the family members of all of our Commissioners here, because they fully support our County Commissioners and this is really important to have friends and especially the family members to support all of them because I don't think they could be as active as they are if it wasn't for all of their families that we have.

And, of course, you know, like we have Jonathan Hart, who we feel is the number one County Attorney in the entire USA, you know, and many others, and then I see in the audience — I hope I don't miss too many people — but I see our new District Attorney Larry Chisolm there, who is doing a really good job in the District Attorney's office in serving the people, and he's put in a lot of new innovative things to help the movement of the criminal cases in the court system.

And on the front row here I see Ann Purcell, who is our new representative, you know, she's our State Representative for the Westside, and standing on the wall over there I see Senator Lester Jackson, who is, you know, our Senator for one part of our County, and he's in the back there, and then, let's see, oh, Bob Bryant, yeah, who's a long time House of Representative and whenever we call on Bob Bryant you can see that he always responds because not only representing the Westside, but you can see what Bob Bryant does, he represents the entire county of Chatham County and areas, and he goes out of his way to work long hours to be successful. The same thing with Senator Lester Jackson and our other representatives also, and that's really important that we have elected officials like that who really want to serve the citizens in our community.

And then we see Tom Thomson here, who is the Executive Director of our Metropolitan Planning Commission, and serves the City of Savannah and Chatham County and then helps some of the other municipalities on occasion. And that's really important that we have that, and of course in the back the number one Sheriff in the entire USA, our Sheriff Al St. Lawrence, who served these citizens in law enforcement for many years and does a great job for us.

And, let me see, anybody else I've missed out there? Any other elected officials? Oh, well, now you know I can't miss him. I see on my left, your right over here, is the outstanding new Chief of the Metro Police Department Willie Lovett. And you can see since he has taken over as the Interim Chief and now where he was appointed the permanent Chief, you can see that crime has reduced substantially in the department and all of the officers there are working harder because they want to make sure our citizens are safe in our community and all the deputy sheriffs and of course all of our law enforcement, whether they're here in Savannah or Chatham County or those ones in Garden City or Port Wentworth, Pooler, Bloomingdale, Tybee and Thunderbolt also work for our citizens, you know, in their area, and what's so good about it, the law enforcement works good together. So we've got a lot of great accomplishments here in Chatham County, and we want all of our citizens to be proud of what we do here with our Commission for everybody.

And there's another thing here that I would like to read to you, and I think it's very, very important. A few months ago Police Chief Lovett was addressing a group of newly sworn members of the Police Department. I'm taking the liberty of using his comments because of their application to all of us. It serves as my prayer:

- Take time to think
- . . . It is the source of power
- Take time to play
- . . . It is the secret of perpetual youth
- Take time to read
- . . . It is the fountain of wisdom
- Take time to be friendly
- . . . It is the road to happiness
- Take time to laugh
- . . . It is the music of the soul
- Take time to give
- . . . It is the price of success
- Take time to love and be loved
- . . . It is the greatest power on earth.

May you all be blessed, and may Chatham County continue to prosper, and I thank each and every one of you for coming today and I want you to know my speech is a little, you know, off just a little bit and that's because about seven or eight days ago I was in a heavy area with a lots of trees and there was a lot of pollen there, and the wind started blowing and, boy, that caught me really good. You know, I'm getting over it a little bit now, but again thanks to all of the Commissioners for what you do, and we appreciate you and I know that our community does, too, because as I said, you make this County one of the greatest counties in the entire country. thank you again and may God bless each and every one of you.

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CHATHAM COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION

Chairman Liakakis said, what I would like to do right now, you know, Chatham County has had the first Youth Commission in the entire country. In fact, we've got such a good Youth Commission in Chatham County that a number of cities and counties around the country have duplicated — tried to duplicate it because of their accomplishments here. What I'd like to do is recognize Malikah Mobley, who is a Youth Commission for Jenkins High School. Glad to have you with us today.

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V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS (Continued)

2. PRESENTATION TO CHATHAM COUNTY OF TWO AWARDS FROM THE GEORGIA GOVERNMENT FINANCE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION (GFOA): THE CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING (FISCAL YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 2008, AND JUNE 30, 2009) AND THE DISTINGUISHED BUDGET PRESENTATION AWARD (FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2009).

Chairman Liakakis said, I call on our County Commissioner — County Manager to please start it off.

County Manager Abolt said, well, Mr. Chairman, only because you give me the opportunity on behalf of the workers and employees, the professional staff of Chatham County, I want to express to you as our Chairman and the County Commission a wonderful job, not just in the State of the County, but what it means as far as accomplishing so much for the citizens of this County. It's amazing.

The second bit of that accomplishment is going to be evidenced right now. You do represent and I've told you privately no doubt the largest municipal corporation in Coastal Georgia. The budget you're about ready to receive is over \$600,000,000. You have the fiscal responsibilities far reaching, it would exceed even the largest private corporation in the State of Georgia — in Coastal Georgia, excuse me. A reflection of that stewardship though is the moment you're about ready to experience. I believe the mikes are going on and off, so I apologize. I'll speak louder. Anyway, what has happened now is this is a continuation of tradition. A tradition that indicates to all who see the wall to my left, to your right, the financial responsibility that's executed and borne so well by this Board of Directors. You're receiving for the 21st year in a row an award of recognition from the Government Finance Officers Association for outstanding budgeting. You're also going to receive two awards for your auditing for the last two years, and I think that represents 26 years in a row, and short of the dynasty that Commissioner Shay reminds me

about for the Pittsburgh Steelers where they were looking at one for the thumb, we have in effect a legacy that far surpasses one for the thumb.

Commissioner Shay said, we're on six now. County Manager Abolt said, not consecutive anyway.

County Manager Abolt said, the long and the short of it is that you have a legacy of accountability, responsibility and most importantly appreciation for the trust the taxpayers of this County have placed in this corporation now for going on a quarter of a century. That is amazing. It could not have been done though without excellent people represented now in the person of Ms. Linda Cramer. Ms. Cramer has been with us now just for a few years. She's turned around a very difficult situation in the Finance Department by her leadership. But the neat thing about what Linda [Cramer] has done, she's taken the same folks and she's given them the spirit, the inspiration and the drive to continue the legacy. She is truly an outstanding person and financial administrator. I'm going to turn it over to her to introduce her entire staff and at the same time say another partner to this in the auditing area is Mr. Rick Tindol and Derrick Cowart. Neither one of those gentlemen could be with us today, but when it comes to our auditing procedure now for going on better than a quarter of a century, it's been that partnership that even in the most difficult times has created the accountability and focus on financial transactions for this corporation, and the partnership between the auditor and you to hold the object accountable from the standpoint of knowing what's going on in this organization plus the openness, the professionalism and the detailed reporting of the men and women you're about to meet again, evidenced one more time, this is an outstanding organization in which we should all be proud. Ms. Cramer?

Ms. Linda Cramer said, good morning. It's always a wonderful day for me to come down here and present these awards to you so that we can put them on the wall and say that we had another successful year. Actually, this year we're catching up on two years of capital awards and then the 2010 budget award. And the budget award is really — tells the story of what you did during the budget process, how you prioritized the County's issues and how you implemented those priorities. So, you know, a lot of that budget award comes from our discussions in the workshops with you, you know, the meetings we have with you where we go through the County Manager's methods. It just brings that story home.

On our budget team that's down here today, I think we have Read DeHaven there in the back. He's our Budget Officer, Gloria Saugh. I saw Rusheda [Adeshina], is she still here? She's over there, I don't know why, but Rusheda Adeshina's over there, and Chris Morris — now I've got to look two places for people — Estelle Brown and Tom Drane. I don't see either one of them here, but I appreciate all of their hard work. And then on our CAFR side, that's everybody else over there so I'll just kind of run through. Leshia Lanier, who's our Assistant Finance Director, Alisha Fish, Joyce Prescott, Lynn Stennett — Lynn's [inaudible] with all the grants this year and especially those new ones —, Phyllis Simons, Roger Deschenes, Irene Vigh, Melva Sharpe — Melva does all the payroll so y'all need to know her —, Jackie Lane-Singleton, Linda Sams and Connie Powell, and I think that's all I see down here, but I do appreciate everything you do, every day for the County. They are always working hard up there and have a great spirit about them.

So I'd like to Leshia [Lanier] to come forward and take this CAFR Award and put it on the wall. And, Read [DeHaven], do you want to come over here and get the Budget one. We have another plaque that will be coming in on the CAFR and we'll just slip that on the wall when it comes in. But thank you very much.

Commissioner Shay said, Mr. Chairman, I'll never be able to think about Linda [Cramer] in the same way now with that introduction and the fact that she's dressed in black and gold today. So this is the new Pittsburgh Steelers. I'd rather go into budget season with you than I would the Pittsburgh Steelers, that's for sure.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank y'all. Great job.

Chairman Liakakis said, you can see as they go out that we've got a great financial group, who really looks after all of the monies that we have coming in from our taxpayers and grants and other government funding also, and we really appreciate that.

AGENDA ITEM: V-2
AGENDA DATE: May 14, 2010

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

ISSUE: Presentation of three awards from the Government Finance Officer's Association (GFOA) — the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting (fiscal years ended June 30, 2008 and June 30, 2009), and the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award (fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009).

BACKGROUND: The Finance Department participates in the GFOA’s award program with annual submissions of its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and Adopted Annual Budget to the GFOA for review.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. For the 25th and 26th consecutive years, the GFOA has awarded Chatham County with the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. This award recognizes the Chatham County CAFR for the years ended June 30, 2008 and June 30, 2009, and reflects the County’s commitment to high financial reporting standards.
2. For the 21st consecutive year, the GFOA has awarded Chatham County with the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. This award recognizes the high quality of disclosure in the County’s Fiscal 2010 Adopted Annual Budget document. Chatham County ranks fourth among Georgia governments for the length of time it has received consecutive budget awards.
3. For fiscal periods beginning on or after January 1, 2007, the GFOA reports that 37 Georgia governments received the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. For the 2007 fiscal year, 113 Georgia governments received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

FUNDING: N/A

POLICY ANALYSIS: Chatham County remains committed to providing quality financial reporting to its citizens and investors.

ALTERNATIVES:
For information only.

RECOMMENDATION:
For information only.

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3. PROCLAMATION FOR BETH REITER ON HER RETIREMENT FROM THE MPC AFTER 24 YEARS OF SERVICE.

Chairman Liakakis said, I call on Commissioner Helen Stone to present this proclamation so that we can, before Chatham County and all the people that are watching because this goes out live and plays several more times on our government channel, we want to recognize what she has done for our community.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Presenting this award to a very special, hard-working lady gives me a lot of pleasure. I spent eight years with the MPC and so I got to know a lot of the folks over there, and Beth [Reiter] always impressed me with her intelligence, her dignity and her work ethics. So this is a great opportunity to be able to thank a very wonderful lady for all of the years of service that she put in for this community. So, Beth [Reiter], I’m going to read this to you.



WHEREAS, the citizens of Chatham County have been privileged over the past 24 years to have had the capable service of Mary Elizabeth Lattimore Reiter, Director of Historic Preservation of Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission; and

WHEREAS, Beth Reiter has demonstrated a commendable loyalty and work ethic during her period of service, earning her the genuine respect of the Planning Commission Board, the elected officials of Chatham County and her peers; and

WHEREAS, Beth Reiter has assisted the citizens of unincorporated Chatham County with advice on historic preservation issues, including the drafting of the Historic Preservation Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, now begins to enjoy a well-earned retirement.

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

MARY ELIZABETH LATTIMORE REITER

upon her retirement from the Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission and extend her 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, Georgia to be affixed this the 9th day of April, 2010.

ATTEST:

Pete Liakakis, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

Commissioner Stone said, I asked her what she was going to do for her retirement and she said volunteering for Chatham County.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, Beth [Reiter]. Patrick [Shay]?

Commissioner Shay said, Beth, I don't think there's anybody in all of Chatham County over the age of about five that doesn't understand that one of the things that's most amazing about our County is our legacy that goes back for over 250 years, and I want those people to understand that nobody, no one person has been more responsible over the last 30 years for the preservation of that legacy than you have. We all dearly and sincerely thank you for all the time, effort and talent over and above what you had to that you put into the preservation in our community. Thank you so much.

Chairman Liakakis recognized County Manager Abolt.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Stone, Members of the Board, I was given during the opportunity by Mr. Thompson at the MPC meeting when an award was presented to Beth for all this to say what I feel about this person and I'll tried to make it very simple. They say "luck is a lady." Patience is a lady named Beth and that is a fact of life. All this could not have been done without the professionalism and most of all the patience of Beth Reiter.

Chairman Liakakis said, and Beth [Reiter], again we thank you because now we have the largest historic district in the entire country and you have helped keep in the historic best way for not only our citizens here to recognize our area, but for people coming from all over the world to see our historic district, and we're really proud of that. And thank you again for your service and may God bless you in your many endeavors in the future.

Ms. Reiter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. When I leave this room, I am heading off to a meeting with the Savannah Heritage Emergency Response Group so I'll be downstairs working with CEMA on a volunteer basis.

Commissioner Shay said, thank you so much.

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4. PROCLAMATION FOR DONALD J. RUSH ON HIS RETIREMENT FROM PUBLIC WORKS AFTER 16 YEARS OF SERVICE.

Chairman Liakakis said, Commissioner Dean Kicklighter will present the proclamation, and so will his family and all friends that are here for Donald [Rush] come up and, of course, we have Robert Drewry, the Executive Director of our Public Works Department, the number one Public Works Department in the country again.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'll start out by saying that I'm sure going to miss this gentleman in his retirement. He's the Maintenance Supervisor over the Drainage Section for the County, and that's one area that I rarely get a call on. Everything that's been under his responsibility as far as drainage maintenance is running good, so I definitely will miss him. Having said that, I'd like to read this proclamation. It says:



WHEREAS, Donald J. Rush, a loyal employee of Chatham County Public Works and Park Services Department, began his employment April 25, 1994, in the Solid Waste section as an Equipment Operator II and has earned the position of Maintenance Supervisor II in the Drainage section. He will retire May 28, 2010 after 16 years of service; and

WHEREAS, Donald has been acknowledged as a very dependable and competent employee at Public Works and Park Services, working in several sections of this department. He has always accepted his job assignment in a cooperative manner and received three promotions throughout his tenure; and

WHEREAS, Donald has worked on several major projects such as the Countywide Canal Maintenance Program, utilizing his master skills with the Backhoe, Front - End Loader, Lowboy, Tandem, Dozer, Excavator and many other pieces of equipment throughout his tenure, always performing in a safe manner; and

WHEREAS, Donald has received several letters of commendation for a job well done and his attendance has been excellent throughout his tenure. He has a great sense of humor and is liked by his peers, office staff and co-workers. He will leave a lasting impression and will be missed.

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

DONALD J. RUSH

for sixteen years of dedicated service to the Chatham County Public Works and Park Services Department and extend to him best wishes for many years of good health and happiness in his retirement.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 14th day of May, 2010.

Pete Liakakis, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk

Commissioner Kicklighter said, congratulations.

Mr. Drewry said, good morning. Robert Drewry, Director of Public Works and Park Services. I would like to say a few words before I turn the mike over to Donald. First of all, as Commissioner Kicklighter did mention, for the last several years Donald has successfully run a very difficult Countywide Canal Maintenance Program, and for his efforts — Commissioner Kicklighter is exactly right — he's done extremely well, and you know you are when you don't get a whole lot of calls and complaints about it. Well, he's an accomplished Equipment Operator. He's done what few can do. He has made the switch from operating equipment into the supervisory realm and has done a

very good job with that. So Donald [Rush] probably just as more [sic] importantly than all those accomplishments, Donald [Rush] has a sense of humor and brings that every day to the office and to the work, and I appreciate it and I thank him for that. Donald, I just want to wish you well. I want you to introduce your family and say a few words.

Mr. Rush said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to introduce my family: my wife, Debra [phonetic], my daughter Tiffany, my other daughter Brandy, my oldest son Donny, which I am very happy to be here today. I want to thank Mr. Liakakis, all the Chairmen [sic], Mr. Drewry, Mr. Abolt and all for having me. I would like to thank the employees at Public Works that are here, my friends and co-workers, Mr. Newsome, my superintendent, my assistant superintendent Mr. Martin and friends and co-workers. Thank you very much and I'd like to thank my family, a special thanks to them for taking their time off from their jobs to be here with me on this day. Thank you very much.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you, Donald [Rush]. We really appreciate what you because you've done an outstanding job for the citizens of Chatham County and have been an exemplary employee, and we appreciate it and wish you well in your future endeavors.

Mr. Rush said, thank you. Thank you very much. Thank all of you.

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VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

1. PRESENTATION TO DR. SKELTON AND DR. REYNOLDS, GEORGIA TREND AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE.

Chairman Liakakis said, every year through the County Commissioners of the State of Georgia, they receive the information concerning different organizations, especially in the health field from around the State of Georgia. They looked at what had been accomplished by our particular group, our organization that we have. What I'd like to do right now is present this Association County Commissioners of Georgia, *Georgia Trend* Award.

Chairman Liakakis said, we want all of our citizens to know that this award we received from the *Georgia Trend* — for the 2010 *Georgia Trend* Excellence Award goes beyond just getting the award because our Safety Net Planning Council has put together a number of years ago bringing the different health organizations together to reduce any duplication of services and also to help many of our citizens who are unfortunate, don't have the resources to get medical assistance and all of that, but instead of a lot of them going, of course, to the emergency room that costs our County citizens a lot of money because the emergency room costs are very high. Now because we have primary care and things together with the different organizations like Union Mission and the Curtis Cooper Health Center over there, the Safety Net Planning Commission, who Dr. Reynolds heads up now, has done an outstanding job. We're glad that we have her on board. She has put a number of things in place and has worked for all the citizens so that we have an excellent Safety Net Planning Commission, and of course we have Dr. Skelton here, who, you know, you heard me say about number one people today and our department and all. Dr. Skelton, who heads up the Chatham County Health Department, is the number one Health Director in the entire USA again, and I say that because — Commissioner Shay said, in the world, in the world. Chairman Liakakis said, — we look at all the things that they do, you know, and what he does to help the citizens in our area and the surrounding areas because he is the Director of not only the Chatham County Health Department, but is also in charge of a number of other areas in the health things that they do for the citizens. So we're really proud of this and that we had a big article in the *Georgia Trend* magazine and all.

Chairman Liakakis said, what I'd like to do, Dr. Reynolds, since you head that up, to present this particular award from you and display it. You've done an excellent job for all the people in Chatham County. We appreciate it and, of course, to Dr. Skelton, who's the leader with our health endeavors in our community and works really hard for the citizens and especially to help those that are less fortunate that we are about getting health care. So thank you, both of you, in the different areas that you work because we appreciate it and you've helped so many citizens. In fact, the figure that I read in my message said that now y'all have been able through the Safety Net Council to extend over 100,000 visits for patients, you know, who really need that help in Chatham County, and that is great that that has been done. Thank you again.

Mr. Skelton said, Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission, let me thank you again for the support you provide the public health in this County and we appreciate it. One of the things that I pride myself on is getting out of the way of good ideas. You had a good idea. Good ideas don't come to fruition unless you have good people to implement them. Dr. Diane Weems unfortunately could not be with us today, but she's been the Chatham County Health Department person that's been the convenor of the Council and one of the action people with it through the years. And you have to commend all the Council members. They have worked very hard to be collaborative in serving the citizens of this County, and then we added Dr. Paula Reynolds as the Executive Director with your support. So I'm just smart enough to get out of the way for two dynamic ladies to make this thing work, and here's one of them to say a word.

Dr. Paula Reynolds said, thank you very much. Good morning, Mr. Chairman and Commissioners. I would like to give some credit where credit is due. This award reminds me of an analogy. You know, when you build a house it's of utmost importance that you start with a really firm foundation and the family that moves into that house, of course, they know that foundation is there because it's under their feet every day when they walk around in the house. But people who ride by and admire that house from the street, they very — never recognize that foundation is there and probably don't even realize that it exists. You in the County Commission from the very inception of the Safety Net Council have been that solid foundation that we who work in the Safety Net know is there under our feet every day when we pursue our goals providing efficient, effective and the highest quality care to the uninsured in our County, and with this award you finally get the overdue recognition from the outside of your very important and unique role in supporting the council over the years. I've had occasion over the last year and a half to meet a lot of other people in other Safety Net groups across the State and across the country, and when I tell them that we have support from County government, it's met with a mixture of awe and envy. So thank you very much for that.

Right now we have about 250 people who are either staff, volunteers or people who serve on the Council, year end, year out, and every year over 25,000 citizens come through the doors of our providers for health care. I am privileged to represent them here today and I want to congratulate all of you for his award and what it means to all of us and also take the opportunity to thank you publicly again for your vision in creating the Council in 2004 and your support in the meantime.

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VII. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS

1. SPEEDING IN SCHOOL ZONES (COMMISSIONER FARRELL AND COMMISSIONER STONE).

Chairman Liakakis said, I call on Commissioner Farrell and Commissioner Stone on this particular item.

Commissioner Farrell said, in conjunction with my fellow Commissioner, Ms. Helen Stone, wanted to address the issue of speeding motorists in our school zones through the County and in specific there are some concerned parents, citizens, school administrators here today for the Montgomery Crossroads crossing near Laberta Avenue. It has come to my attention from time to time that this was a problem, and we have made some motions to address it, but it doesn't seem to be going away. So along with Commissioner Stone and myself and some concerned parents and staff at St. James Elementary School, we met out on the site where the problem was occurring. I had contacted Scott Simpkins with the — Commander of the Islands Precinct, and he — we had a couple of representatives from the Police Department, and we all came out and spent a good bit of time earlier this week simply observing the actions of some of our citizens who did not particularly pass close attention to the flashing lights and the speed limit at those particular areas. So we are all trying to put our heads together and come up with a solution that will keep our most vulnerable among us safe, which is the children that are attempting to go to school and cross some of these very busy county and city roads throughout Chatham County. So at this point I'd like to see if Helen [Stone] would like to say anything and then I'd like to ask for staff to give us some information as to how they feel like that we can better address the safety of the children.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Commissioner Farrell. Yes, Commissioner Farrell contacted me along with some citizens and we did meet out on the site, and it's pretty frightening to think that Montgomery Crossroads is some respects kind of a like a racetrack in the morning. People trying to get to work, nobody slowing down, nobody paying any attention to these flashing lights. I go through three school zones to get to work. Montgomery Crossroads, I think, is probably the worst. There's Bartlett Middle School further down the way and it's just as dangerous.

The thing that is upsetting to me is the safety of our children and the fact that we live in a community where we are not encouraging our children to walk to school for safety reasons. We just heard from our Safety Net Program. We know that childhood obesity is an issue, but our children can't walk to school. The parents don't feel safe allowing their children to walk to school so they have to put them in the car and take them, and I think that's wrong and I think that the beginning of the school year next year, I'm very sorry that the media has left the room here, but we intend to call a press conference to let folks see exactly what we're talking about. The two officers that came out were wonderful, came up with a couple of interim suggestions, but this needs to stop before somebody gets killed or seriously hurt, and I know that, Commissioner Farrell, that there's some residents here that would like to speak.

Commissioner Farrell asked, well, would y'all like to come up and express your concerns and then we'll have our staff and the Metro Police Department make some recommendations on how we're going to work together for the safety of the children. For the sake of the court reporter, can you identify yourself?

Sister Lisa Golden said, good morning, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners. My name is Sister Lisa Golden. I'm the principal at St. James on Montgomery Crossroads, and we appreciate, first of all, Commissioner Farrell and Commissioner Stone and the officers for coming out this past week and listening to our concerns. It has been a worry and we've had — this is my first year at St. James and I know the Assistant Principal and many parents have

been working on this for a couple of years now, but it seems to have gotten worse in the last year or so and we are concerned that something is going to happen. In just the last couple of months we've had two major accidents right in our school zone in the morning. The children are crossing from Mayfair into — across Montgomery Crossroads, which is about five lanes, and we do have a crossing guard that we hired for our purposes, but the children when they step out there and the crossing guard steps out with her stop sign, people don't like to pay attention to that right off the bat and it's scary to see that happen and that we have 20 to 25 children crossing that road in the morning and then in the afternoon. In the morning it's a little more of a concern because they do it at different intervals between 20 of 8:00 and 8:00; in the afternoon we do it all at once, where we leave school at once and they go across. But people don't stop and we're just worried — and it's not just us. It's Bartlett down the street, it's White Bluff, and it's across the City, but as Commissioner Stone said, Montgomery Crossroads seems to be a major concern at this time. So whatever you can do for us we would be very grateful. With so many heads, many thoughts, really I think we can come to some kind of an understanding and help, so we appreciate it. Sister Summerlin

Ms. Paula Summerlin said, thank you. Nobody ever wants to follow a nun, but thank you. Ladies and gentlemen, my name is Paula Summerlin. I live in the Mayfair Subdivision. Void of any emotion I'd like to tell you what I experienced yesterday. I timed the amount of time it took from our crossing guard, who was well vested, to step off the curve, stop the traffic to at least some degree, have the children cross and have the last person step back on the curve, and it took 54 seconds. Within that 54 seconds our little group of 25 students being led by the little boy who always wants to be first and probably is going way too fast, it took them 30 seconds — 37 seconds total. All of that is less than the time it takes to wait for a cup of coffee. During that time that the traffic was stopped, the car closest and on the west side of the path never actually came to a stop. He remained in motion even though at a snail's pace and this behavior in addition to the obvious, continues to pose an unsafe environment.

In the past two days, prior to and after school dismissal hours, our dedicated officers have been there in full swing forcing a surge of caution among drivers, slowing it. However, even though five such officers yesterday were highly visible and stopping cars left and right, the number of speeders still remained a danger, not to mention that one of the officers just missed being injured by a fleeing car in a school zone. Implementation of a zero tolerance approach would not only create a safer school zone, but renew and increase respect for the standards of our community that at present are being disregarded by a few. Thank you for your time again.

Commissioner Farrell said, thank you.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Stone and Members of the Board, I'm going to recognize Chief Lovett and staff. Commissioner Farrell brought this to my attention and I want to use as an antidote, you know, we've always prided ourselves as the Metropolitan Police Department. This is where it's so nice to have the Metropolitan Police Department. The Chief responded immediately, as you know, Mr. Chairman, Commissioner Farrell and Commissioner Stone, but this would have been right on the border line between the former City of Savannah Police Department and then the Chatham County Police Department. Having the Metro Police Department focused and tasked on a much larger area will serve this community like it should, and I'd like to thank Chief Lovett for his response.

Chief Willie Lovett said, good morning. Several Commissioners said, good morning. Chief Lovett said, you know, in due diligence I'm responsible for carrying out [inaudible] by the City Manager — the County Manager, but in all fairness all I did was give the orders. The actual research and enforcement effort has been put forth and pretty much handled by the Precinct Commander, and one of the things that I try to do is to make sure that if there are problems in any precinct, that the Precinct Commander is held as accountable as I am. So what you're going to hear today is going to determine how long you're going to be here.

Officer Scott Simpkins said, good morning. Scott Simpkins, the Islands Precinct Commander. Several Commissioners said, good morning. Officer Simpkins said, just a little bit of history — as Mr. Abolt pointed out, that school sat right there at the border between the unincorporated and incorporated. As a young motor officer with the County, I worked that school zone from the middle 80's up until, well, a couple of years ago. This school zone with the improvement of Montgomery Crossroads recognized that it truly is a five-lane road. There's two lanes East, two lanes West with a center turn lane to turn onto what we call Whitefield Avenue. The speeding through there, we have — the signs were put in, the crosswalks are there, but even with the precinct traffic officers being there and doing this enforcement, it's a continuing problem with the multi-laned roadways. We're doing what we can. We're putting the beat officer, our crime suppression officer, our traffic officers, I've even sat out there in my unmarked car with my lights on just trying to get awareness, but I promise you it's not just St. James. It's any school in any community in anywhere USA. The motoring public is in mode of transition from point one to point two as rapidly as they can. I recognize this, I think all of staff recognizes this, so we try to do more, give more options and let them — remind them that commuting through school zones in residential is nowhere near commuting on a multi-laned highway, such as an interstate. But if you would for a moment just picture Montgomery Crossroads with Interstate 95 or Interstate 16. If you take away the grass between the two interstates, it's kind of what Montgomery Crossroads looks like. So we have to do a better job in getting the public's attention.

Lt. Atkins has put together some information, a PowerPoint that can come out the [inaudible], some overhead signage rather than being on the sign of the roadway. We have the speed limit signs with the amber flashing lights as well with some pop-up safety markings that could go on the roadway. There's several things, but I think St. James is just going to be the beginning of — as the schools become more put out into the community, St. James

would be that model that potentially every school in Chatham County could look at for upgrades. So with that I'm going to yield to Lt. Atkins and let him present that piece.

Lt. Atkins said, good morning. To give you some background, this week alone we've written 47 citations in that school zone. That's 30 minutes in the morning and 30 minutes in the afternoon. We could have written more, but due to the number of personnel you have stopping traffic and the location that it's at, it's a tremendous amount of citations for that small amount of time. As Commissioner Farrell alluded to, we were out there earlier this week. We observed the traffic. Even with two officers and a marked police car on the side of the road, it was just total disregard for the school zone, and it's my opinion based on the research that I have done that it's signage. We've got to do a better job of marking that roadway with the overhead markers and the street markers so that people in the inside lanes can tell exactly what's going on as well as the one on the outside lane. Currently, we just have signs on the side of the roadway that flash. They are awfully close to the crosswalks, so we would like to address that with staff as well. We'll be working with the traffic engineers for the County to see if we can get this stuff in place. We're about two weeks out from the end of school, but we want to make this push for next year and start a program to let the community know that kids will be walking to school and they need to be looking out for this. So it's a combined piece of enforcement and signage. That's where we are at right now with this.

Commissioner Farrell asked, so you're going to be able to make a recommendation for the County and City public works for this particular location to make some improvements that will be in place for the beginning of the next school year hopefully? Officer Simpkins said, that's correct. I'd like to make some recommendations and do some work, and I would let you know that I'm not an expert in traffic engineering, so I would yield to their expertise. There are traffic plans that address this. So I think working together we can come up with something that's going to be viable.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Holmes.

Commissioner Holmes said, thank you, sir. Thanks Pat [Farrell] and Helen [Stone] for bringing this on the — putting it on the radar. It appears to me that we have a countywide problem here because I know for sure, I have called several times pertaining to traffic on East Broad Street. I think I've talked to Chief Lovett a couple of times myself about it. I would recommend that you do a study countywide because for some reason, I don't care what you put out there, pop-up, you can pop the police out there, but soon as they realize the police is not, when you suppress it, when you leave they start right back doing the same thing. So it's got to be a study somewhere where something that's permanent is there so you could protect against those kinds crossing those schools because East Broad Street School is another very, very hazardous place and I know for a fact because I went out there as a parent, grandparent that is, and a Commissioner just monitoring it myself, and you've got a problem there.

Chairman Liakakis said, Patrick Shay and Helen [Stone] and Patrick [Farrell].

Commissioner Shay said, thank you, Commissioners, for bringing this forward. I think while we're busy talking about having the best people available in Chatham County, that we're also fortunate to have probably one of the best traffic planners in the United States and in the room, too, in Tom Thomson, and the fundamental problem that we have, not just at St. James or East Broad, but everywhere is that when we have thoroughfares that are designed, and I would agree with you because I'm very familiar with DeRenne Avenue, the eastern side of DeRenne Avenue by a high school and an elementary school and a lot of other private school that are in that area, and I used to drive my young sons to Hancock Day School and in the later stages of their young lives at Hancock, the Truman Parkway was finished that far out. And you'd get on the Truman Parkway, I would, and you get to drive at 55 - 60 miles an hour for about, you know, seven or eight miles, come down off that ramp, get to DeRenne Avenue, turn left and if you followed the speed limit, it was about 25 miles an hour I think when school was in session, and it literally felt like you were standing still to go 25 miles an hour. It was everything you could do as a driver to go that slow because that road is five lanes wide, it's twice as wide as the Indianapolis Motor Speedway, and it just — all those wonderful lefthand, what we call the suicide lane, are all there because cars can get out of line then in order to — every time they have to make a left hand turn. Well, that's a good thing if you're in a hurry to get from Point A to Point B, but that means that no cars have to slow down along that whole distance for anybody making a lefthand turn. So we have a sort of an inherent conflict, that is, what is the higher priority — that commute, that one minute that the young lady talked about where somebody has to slow down long enough to let somebody cross the street or is it the lives of those young children. And it's just not a fair competition when somebody is strapped to 6,000 pounds of automobile and the one is six years old. We talked about this on the Skidaway Road Corridor. There are a half a dozen, probably more than a half a dozen elementary schools in that corridor. Although that is not a big, wide street like Montgomery Crossroads or DeRenne, there is a very high rate of speed along that corridor in many segments, and there aren't even sidewalks there for these kids to stand on, okay.

So I agree with Commissioner Holmes. I think we need to do a study of this situation and use St. James as a pilot project. That's great. That will be a great place to start, but it needs to be something that we looked at all the way across the County. We have, you know, a nationally recognized expert in how to deal with traffic that's already providing services to us through the MPO and the MPC, but it would be a great thing if we could take a look at how we can level the playing field for pedestrians, especially children in all of these corridors and enforcement is a big part of it, but I know from my experience, driving on that DeRenne Corridor, it takes a lot more than enforcement. In a car driving on a road that's got 75 or — no, more than that, probably more than 75 feet with the paving to drive 25 miles an hour, it's hard to do. You ought to be doing it. I ought to be doing it, and you do hand out tickets, but there's also an engineering problem, and the engineering needs to be something that lets you know when you're in your car without necessarily just a sign that lets you know that you need to go slow here, buddy, because

you're in a danger zone. There's a whole body of science out there right now that's been developed, especially in the last 10 years, but as you're well aware, Commissioner Stone, over a longer period than that about how you design streets and roads so that when people are driving they know intuitively to slow down, as well as the signage, as well as the enforcement, as well as having somebody out there waving a sign, and no matter how good we are, there's still going to be some jerk who decides that, you know — Lord knows, I see all the time, cell phone in one hand, cup of coffee in the other one and I guess driving with their knee, going around corners at 25 miles an hour and not even looking to see if somebody's in the crosswalk. I don't know how you would enforce against that. Y'all just be able to take people licenses away from them, I suppose. So, you know, we have a comprehensive problem. I totally agree with you. I think it's something that it would be great to do St. James as a pilot project for, but I think it's something that we ought to take a look at as being something that we can make a policy that's countywide.

Officer Simpkins said, part of the three E's, we're one piece of it, the education, the engineering and the enforcement. We own that enforcement piece and we're going as fast as we can, but truly it's a buy in from that [inaudible] community. I'm part of that as well, but it's education in the engineering designs and then, of course, the ultimate enforcement. We know by putting an officer out there on any given roadway at any given time, whether it 's the Truman or a school zone, it works, but as Mr Holmes has pointed out, it's a temporary fix. They'll slow down when they see us sitting on the shoulder of the road. Other than that, it's off and running.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, I agree with everything that's been said and most importantly that St. James was intended to be the pilot project. This is not an isolated incident that we were asking for assistance here. I mean, certainly we want what's for the best for the entire County.

A couple of thoughts. Tom Thomson with our MPO obviously could come up with some information that might be extremely helpful in this study. A couple of other thoughts, and I don't know that everybody wants to sit here all morning, but I can go into the whole reason that — on the widening of Whitefield Avenue in front of Hess School that I requested a tree-lined median to be there because I think that the statistics will show you that if you've got a roadway with some trees and a divider, traffic is going to go slower than a street like Montgomery Crossroads that's just wide open. So I won't get started on that, but I know that Mr. Thomson has heard me speak of that many times before. Trees and sidewalks are traffic calming devices.

But a couple of thoughts going forward, I don't see why this would not be a good opportunity to use cameras and I would think that any citizen that would get that little surprise in the mail that they had sped through a school zone might give them pause for thought that, you know, there's eyes in the back of the heads kind of thought going on here that you never know when you're going to be watched and so you better slow down for every single one of these school zones because you don't know how many cameras are out there.

The other thought that I might have would be the digital flashing sign that indicates your speed as you go by in a school zone and if it is in fact exceeding the 25 mile per hour speed limit. But I would sure love to invest in a camera. I really would, and let some of these folks that have to get to work two minutes earlier that can't slow down for our children to get a little surprise in the mail.

Chairman Liakakis said, Patrick [Farrell] and then James [Holmes].

Commissioner Farrell said, thank you. A couple of things. Is there still some regulation — you mentioned earlier about you bring the police cars out and people kind of pay attention a little bit and when the police cars disappear they figure that's a green light to do whatever. Is there regulations that mandate that you have a visible police car at the crossing guards when they're coming by? Officer Simpkins said, the State law says that if you are enforcing for a municipality agency, if they are using radar or laser, that they must be in a marked police car and that they must be seen for 500 feet in either direction. It doesn't mean that they have to be stationary, but the officer has to be in a marked car. The only exception to that rule is the Georgia State Patrol. They can be in an unmarked car. Commissioner Farrell said, okay. Well, that in addition to the cameras, you know, that may be an area that bears looking into in a legislative session that perhaps that becomes revisited on a statewide basis because, you know, as we bring awareness which we have right now with the enforcement, and I'm sure that Russ Abolt with the Engineering and the MPC, we're going to start looking more closely at those aspects of the equation, and of course we've got Eric Curl in the back who is going to help us with the education for our citizens to let them know that this is not acceptable behavior, and we've got to let our citizens know that this is important when they see these school zones to pay attention. It's going to take a combination of all three of these areas, just as Officer Simpkins had mentioned earlier, so the awareness is a good start. Obviously the enforcement could have the most impact and the shortest time frame, but this is a multi-faceted problem that's going to take a lot of attention for a lot of different people, and I think the Police Department are stepping up and being on the front lines of this issue right now.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Holmes.

Commissioner Holmes said, I'm not going to take that much longer. Look here, I'm blessed because we have Floyd Adams, who represents the 2nd District, in the audience, and I don't want to put you on the spot, Mr. Adams, but since you are here and you represent East Broad Street School, I would like for you to take this back to the School Board since we're discussing it and put that in their mind, let them see what we're discussing, and I think

that will help push this along coming from the School Board rep. So anything you would like to add to that please, sir. Okay, sir.

Mr. Floyd Adams said, good morning everyone. The Commissioners said, good morning. Mr. Adams said, I came to actually hear the great Commission Chairman say his speech, but I missed it, but fate put us to the point where you discussed this situation. We've had discussions with Major Lovett — Chief Lovett and his staff about East Broad Street and Spencer Schools in the past about post protection, but the point is I would like to get the County to consider restoring the crossing guards in your budget, and this falls right into play with what y'all are talking about today. I know everyone's in a tight crunch, but Russ [Abolt] [inaudible] some figures and put the crossing guards back in. The School Board is looking at that as well, but we need the help of the County and the City to maintain the safety of our children in the community, and I really wish you would reconsider establishing the crossing guards. Thank you very much.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Mr. County Manager —, go ahead, Malukah [Mobley].

Youth Commissioner Mobley asked, is it more of the high school students or is it the general public as a whole? [Inaudible.] Officer Simpkins said, well, no, it's not strictly — it's just the students.

They're rushing to get to school. Typically, as I was younger and going to high school —. Commissioner Shay asked, they had cars then? Officer Simpkins said, not everyone had an automobile. Commissioner Farrell said, they had the kind that you use your feet to get going.

Officer Simpkins said, I'm one of nine. My dad told me if you want a car, good; when you turn 18, you can get a car. In today's society, you can lease an automobile for \$100 and, yes, the parents are doing that and letting their kids commute. This is just anybody. We're getting from senior citizens down to the citizens down to the youngest of drivers, and truly it's — some of them are just transitioning. It's going from Point A to Point B. That's what that is. So it's —, but we have to get that into the schools. That's part of that education piece as well. Not just the drivers, but even down to the elementary. As they're going to school on foot, they need to be aware.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. We'd — go ahead, Dean [Kicklighter].

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I'm sorry I came in late on the conversation, but, Chief, would it be possible to just direct the officers every day around the school times, the ones that's not on some emergency type call that's out patrolling to hit every school zone there is and sit there and wait on the next — and when the phone call comes, I mean, in their respective areas? Chief Lovett said, some precincts are busier than others and in some they can do that but I can't say that on a regular basis that every time school is taking in or letting out that we will have additional police officers there. If they are available, I'm sure that Officer Simpkins will make sure that they are there as well as the other precincts. I can make the precinct captains, all of them, aware of what's going on and we will do what we can in terms of placing police officers there, but this problem is much larger than just the Police Department.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, it is, Chief, I agree but I live out in Pooler and I'm here to tell you, when you ride down Pine Barren Road there's two schools there and you don't speed. There's a police there usually almost daily and they're pulling them over left and right, and I've noticed that slow down through the years, and I know I can have someone tailgating me and you naturally would want to speed up and I'm not going to speed up because I know I'm going to get a ticket, and rather than the officers which — riding around during those times, you know, I think just sitting stationary and writing some tickets in those areas might be beneficial. Chief Lovett said, I agree, but one of the problems that we would have in Chatham County alone in the unincorporated areas is the 16 schools, not only those that are in the intercity, so you're talking about on a much lighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yeah, I'm not talking just unincorporated, I'm talking all the schools in Chatham that's not in one of the other municipalities, Savannah and unincorporated areas. Chief Lovett said, if at all possible we will do it. Commissioner Kicklighter said, good.

Commissioner Farrell said, that does seem like a good policy, you know, for 30 minutes a day everybody that's — all hands on deck, as they would say in the movies. Somebody's parked there, somebody's writing tickets, whether you're a detective or a patrol officer for 20 or 30 minutes and then you go on and do what you're going to do if you're available. That does sound like a good suggestion. Chief Lovett said, the only problem with that is, as you mentioned earlier, when you're talking about investigators and [inaudible] —.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I didn't say investigators. I mean, I just mean your patrol. Chief Lovett said, I understand what you're saying and we will make an effort to do that, but whenever [inaudible] drops, they will be in a school zone. Commissioner Kicklighter said, yes sir. Thank you. Commissioner Farrell said, thank you.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Odell.

Commissioner Odell said, I think we've beaten this horse to death. At some point you all are going to get back with this with a report we can look at. You will evaluate all of the various options and come back to us at some point? Chief Lovett said, we will. We only make recommendations to Traffic Engineers and it's really up to them if they put it in place or not.

County Manager Abolt said, we'll put it all together and with your permission were going to take the Chief's suggestion and we'll look at the Montgomery Crossroads area pilot project and see if we might be able to it in place in cooperation with the City of Savannah and Tom Thomson between now and the first of the school year. We won't solve all of the problems, but it will [inaudible].

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Russ [Abolt], correct me if I'm wrong, but back when we re-negotiated LOST monies for the County for the unincorporated area, wasn't there a Mayor that we might — if we had gotten more LOST monies for the unincorporated area we might be able to afford the crossing guards. Just kidding, Mayor. You did such an outstanding job for Savannah back then, you know, we just don't have the monies right now. Mr. Adams said, [inaudible]. Commissioner Kicklighter said, you did good, Mayor. You continue to do good.

Chairman Liakakis said, Russ [Abolt], I'd like to thank you, our County Manager, of course, for responding so quick, getting with the Chief and, of course, Chief Lovett and all of you for responding right away because writing 47 citation, let me tell you — I go down Habersham Street every morning, different times

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MONTH

2. NATIONAL COUNTY GOVERNMENT WEEK REPORT (COMMISSIONER THOMAS).

Chairman Liakakis said, Commissioner Thomas is not here today so I call on one of our assistants there, Danielle Hillery, who is heading that up for the County of the National County Month Report.

Ms. Danielle Hillery said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good morning, Mr. Chairman, Members of the Commission and Mr. Abolt. Dr. Thomas asked that I just provide a brief report about this year's celebration of National County Government Month. She asked that I express her appreciation to the Chairman, Members of the Board and Mr. Abolt in allowing her to serve as Chairperson once again. She also expressed special thanks to Sandra Smalls, who served as co-coordinator, Pete Nichols, as well as well as committee and staff members, Extension Services, Public Works and Park Services, Safety Net Planning Council, and other providers, Health Department, Youth Commissioners, CAT, Metropolitan Police Department, and local businesses for their hard work and dedication to make this year's event a huge success.

Because this year's event was centered around Healthy Counties, we were able to provide several events to show citizens what we're doing to make the citizens of Chatham County healthy and what we're doing and the roles and responsibilities of County departments. On April 2, we kicked off County Government Month with the Government Fair Day at Savannah Mall with a Health Walk and topics on nutrition and general health. On the 14th of April we had the Safety Net Planning Council, who officially notched their award-winning health information exchange information pilot project between the J. C. Lewis Health Center and the Memorial Emergency Department, and while administered through Safety Net, the software allows both facilities to access medical records for patients to reduce duplication of services.

On April 15th the Marines of Long Ago, they held their reunion in Chatham County with a performance by the United States Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon at Savannah State University. This national treasure was experienced by over 2,000 active and retired service men and women and citizens. During this time, Chatham County was able to welcome the Marines to Chatham County and continue to promote National County Government Month.

We wrapped up the celebration on April 24th with a Health Fair at the Southwest Branch of Savannah — at the Live Oak Public Library and during this event we were able to provide information on environmental health, we had blood pressure checks and other health assessments, entertainment, food, and we also had many or small dance classes provided, which was fun for the entire family.

All of these events were well attended and enjoyed by all. In addition, I want to thank the Wellness Coordinator and the Aquatic Center because there was fitness classes, aerobic classes, yoga, healthy eating and cooking classes were offered to employees free of charge during the month of April as well. I'd like to thank Dr. Thomas for allowing me to serve as Coordinator this year as well as to all the team members who participated and made this year's event a success. I thank you for your time.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you, Danielle [Hillery]. We appreciate that. Commissioner Stone said, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Liakakis said, excuse me. Helen [Stone]?

Commissioner Stone said, before Danielle [Hillery] before you sit down, I just want to pass on a couple of compliments that I received for all of your assistance in setting and providing tables and booths. One was from the World War II Veterans. They really, really appreciated your allowing them to set up a table in front of the Tiger Arena in order for them to sell bricks for the monument, and the other was from the franchise owner of Jenny Craig, who he said that you just could not have been more helpful and courteous in setting up a table at the library. So I just wanted to pass those on because we're very fortunate to have somebody like you in the community that is able to work with everybody and to make them feel like they can participate, and I know that one of the vendors was not able to be there and he went on and on about how courteous and helpful that you were. So I wanted to pass that along. Ms. Hillery said, thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you very much, Danielle [Hillary]. We appreciate all that. Commissioner Odell said, good job.

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CHATHAM AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

Chairman Liakakis declared a meeting of the County Commission at 11:07 a.m., and convened as the Chatham Area Transit Authority.

Following adjournment of the Chatham Area Transit Authority and an Executive Board of the County Commission, the Board was reconvened in open session at 12:52 p.m., as the County Commission. Chairman Liakakis said, we made no votes in the Executive Session and we are signing the statement to that.

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VIII. TABLED/RECONSIDERED ITEMS

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

None.

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IX. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL ACTION

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

- 1. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND TRANSFERS: (1) REDUCE REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES IN THE BUILDING SAFETY AND REGULATORY SERVICES ENTERPRISE FUND \$285,597, (2) REDUCE REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES IN THE LAND BANK SPECIAL REVENUE FUND \$288,812, (3) APPROPRIATE \$160,000 IN THE STREET PAVING SPECIAL REVENUE FUND FOR A GRANT MATCH FOR THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION, (4) INCREASE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES IN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP) FUND \$440,000 FOR A CONTRIBUTION FROM THE CHATHAM COUNTY RECREATION AUTHORITY, AND \$6,000 FOR A TRANSFER IN FROM THE ICS BUDGET IN THE GENERAL FUND M&O, (5) TRANSFER \$15,000 FROM OPERATING LINE ITEMS TO TEMPORARY SALARIES IN THE SOLID WASTE ENTERPRISE FUND, (6) REVERSE THE UP TO \$350,000 GENERAL FUND M&O CONTINGENCY TRANSFER FOR THE LAKE MAYER TRAIL APPROVED ON OCTOBER 16, 2009, (7) TRANSFER \$21,300 FROM THE CIP CONTINGENCY TO THE HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS PROJECT, (8) TRANSFER \$6,000 FROM THE ICS GENERAL FUND M&O BUDGET TO TRANSFER OUT TO CIP, AND (9) AMEND THE CIP PROJECT BUDGETS TO CONSOLIDATE FUNDING FOR THE HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS PROJECT.**

Chairman Liakakis we need a motion on the floor for approval.

Commissioner Odell said, so moved. Commissioner Shay said, second.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved that the Board approve the following: (1) reduce revenues and expenditures in the Building Safety and Regulatory Services enterprise fund \$285,597, (2) reduce revenues and expenditures in the Land Bank special revenue fund \$288,812, (3) appropriate \$160,000 in the Street Paving special revenue fund for a grant match for the Metropolitan Planning Commission, (4) increase revenue and expenditures in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) fund \$440,000 for a contribution from the Chatham County Recreation Authority, and \$6,000 for a transfer in from the ICS budget in the General Fund M&O, (5) transfer \$15,000 from operating line items to temporary salaries in the Solid Waste enterprise fund, (6) reverse the up to \$350,000 General Fund M&O Contingency transfer for the Lake Mayer Trail approved on October 16, 2009, (7) transfer \$21,300 from the CIP contingency to the Hurricane Preparedness project, (8) transfer \$6,000 from the ICS General Fund M&O budget to transfer out to CIP, and (9) amend the CIP project budgets to consolidate funding for the Hurricane Preparedness project. Commissioner Shay seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Farrell, Gellatly and Thomas were not present.]

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2. TRANSMITTAL OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2010/2011 RECOMMENDED BUDGET AND DETERMINE BUDGET WORKSHOP DATES WITH COUNTY DEPARTMENTS AND ELECTED OFFICIALS. BUDGET BOOKS WILL BE PUT AT YOUR PLACE FRIDAY MORNING. SEE ENCLOSED STAFF REPORT. YOU ARE REQUESTED TO SET A WORKSHOP SCHEDULE AT THIS MEETING. (NOTE: COPIES OF THE PROPOSED BUDGET WILL BE PLACED IN ALL BRANCH LIBRARIES FOR EASY PUBLIC ACCESS.)

Chairman Liakakis said, all of you have that and it has been distributed and you also have a staff report. You are requested to set a workshop schedule at this meeting. Now looking at that we know that the next County Commission meeting will be on May 28th and I'm proposing that we have that first workshop May 24th at 10:00 a.m., in the morning, and that's on a Monday.

Chairman Liakakis said, we need a motion on the floor for approval. Commissioner Holmes said, so moved. County Manager Abolt said, the meeting will take place in this room. Chairman Liakakis said, we need a second. Commissioner Kicklighter said, second. Chairman Liakakis said, we've got a second. Let's go on the board .

Commissioner Stone said, Mr. Chairman, I'd just like to add that I will be unable to attend.

Chairman Liakakis said, oh, yes, and you'll have your input on that because you'll be preparing information on any concern that you have on the budget and that will be part of the meeting. Commissioner Stone said, thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Holmes moved to schedule the first workshop for Fiscal Year 2010/2011 Recommended Budget for 10:00 a.m., May 24, 2010, in the Commission Meeting Room. Commissioner Kicklighter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [Commissioners Farrell, Gellatly and Thomas were not present.]

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3. THIRD QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT.

This is some more take-home study material. Ms. Cramer will give you the brief overview. We have some areas of concern dealing with different status of tax collection. It's very important to realize that we're monitoring the stuff not just day to day, but certainly at a time convenient and appropriate to when you make your final budget. Linda [Cramer], please.

Ms. Cramer said, good afternoon. We are monitoring the budgets pretty closely at this point of the year in all the departments and we've noted items that are areas of concern in this report. As far as the revenue picture, we're not really seeing a dramatic drop or shift in our revenue this year compared to the prior year. You would think with the general fund digest going up just a little this year that it would be seeing more revenue at this time of the year and, in fact, overall in the general fund we're seeing a little bit of a decrease in revenue right now. Some of that is, you know, sales tax money that are all compared to the prior year. We also, and I didn't note it here, but we are having hotel/motel tax that is lagging the prior year, so I think we are seeing some economic impact in our budget and in our collections right now. But in the interest — the interest earnings that we're getting right now are really, really low. Really, really low, so hopefully that will turn around and rates will be going back up, but we're looking at less than 20 basic points on earnings in this State pool where we historically have put our money. And Wachovia's been giving us about 40 basic points under our banking contract, but — and then an additional 30 above a certain amount, but they are going to be dropping that rate as well. So you'll really see on this report that we're taking a hit on the interest this year on our investment income.

Chairman Liakakis said, now Linda [Cramer], when you're talking about 20 and 40 percent, make it so our —.]. Ms. Cramer said, .02 percent. Chairman Liakakis said, yeah, say that for our citizens to understand that because when you say 20 and 40 percent, a lot of them are thinking, hey, we're getting a lot of interest instead of a small amount because they don't understand how that formula works about what you're talking about 40 points or whatever.

Ms. Cramer said, right, and we're — this week actually we put some money from the general fund into an agency which is going to pay, I think, about 2.8 percent and it's a five-year note, but it will probably be called. So I think we're going to be more doing more of that. We'd like to stay liquid with that money, you know, so we don't get tied up in a cash shortage, but I think with these kind of rates we really are going to have to do more of that type of investing.

In our other funds, they're pretty much business as usual. You know, we've been having a little bit of a crunch in the Land Bank Fund and I've noted that. That's a fund where we — when we have property sales, we put the money there and it pays for things like mowing the lots, the vacant lots and et cetera, maintenance on property that the County owns, but we are having, since we haven't sold anything — a lot of people are in that position, not just us — we have a little bit of cash flow problem there.

Health insurance is running around 77 percent of what we budgeted so far this year, and we have seen I think some high claims. You know, just four or five high claims that are driving that in the fund, and I'll be glad to answer any questions.

Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Shay.

Commissioner Shay said, maybe not a question for you, Linda [Cramer], but I know that a lot of the budget book that we just got is hopeful that our overall Countywide and SSD tax digests don't decrease for the first time that I've been a County Commissioner, which is a long time. When do we know or at least get the temperature taken? County Manager Abolt said, we usually have the temperature taken — you set up with that — we usually know the end of this month and, tradition, Mr. [Larry] Lower likes to come before the Board at one of your workshops so the possibility of lighting strike it might be on the 24th or shortly thereafter. On the calendar the temperature is said to be taken on the 1st of June. Commissioner Shay said, the 1st of June is show time. County Manager said, show time. Commissioner Shay said, sometimes we find out a little bit earlier. County Manager Abolt said, we may know earlier than that, but we're pegging on the around the 1st of June.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, thank you, Linda. Commissioner Shay said, thank you, Linda [Cramer].

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Ms. Linda Cramer, Finance Director, reviewed the Third Quarter Financial Report with the Commissioners.

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4. BOARD CONSIDERATION OF A TAX REFUND REQUEST OF MARGARET CLAIRE FAWCETT FOR TAX YEAR 2008 FOR PINS 6-0021-01-002, 6-0021-01-003, 6-0021-01-004 AND 6-0021-01-005.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman, if I may on this, based on the Chatham County Attorney's opinion stating the request does not "meet the criteria for granting tax refunds," I make the motion to deny this request because the County Attorney deems it illegal for us to do so. Commissioner Odell said, second.

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

Commissioner Kicklighter said, for the petitioner I would like to say I would love to grant it, but we can't break the law and do it.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to deny the request of Margaret Claire Fawcett for a tax refund for tax year 2008 for PINS 6-0021-01-002, 6-0021-01-003, 6-0021-01-004 AND 6-0021-01-005. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Farrell, Gellatly and Thomas were not present.]

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5. REQUEST AN APPROPRIATION OF \$1,834,000 TO THE CHATHAM COUNTY EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT PLAN PENSION TRUST FUND FROM THE GENERAL FUND.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, move for approval. Commissioner Odell said, second.

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

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X. ACTION CALENDAR

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

Chairman Liakakis said, we have Items 1 through 11 and under Items 11 we have items A through U, and I'd like a motion on the floor to approve all those items except any item the Commissioners would like to hold out. One of the items is Item U under Item 11. I'd like to hold that out.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, motion to approve the balance of the Action Calendar. Commissioner Odell said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, let's go on the board. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Farrell, Gellatly and Thomas were not present.] Chairman Liakakis said, the item passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to hold Item 11-U and approve Items 1 through 11-T, both inclusive. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Farrell, Gellatly and Thomas were 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 APRIL 23, 2010, AS MAILED.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of April 23 2010. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Farrell, Gellatly and Thomas were not present.]

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2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 15 THROUGH MAY 5, 2010.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to authorize the Finance Director to pay the claims against the County for the period April 15, 2010, through May 5, 2010, in the amount of \$6,919,247. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Farrell, Gellatly and Thomas were not present.]

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3. REQUEST BOARD DECLARE AS SURPLUS THE WESTERNMOST 15 FOOT WIDE PART OF THE EXISTING 30 FOOT WIDE DRAINAGE RIGHT OF WAY RECORDED IN DEED BOOK D, PAGE 405, AND ADJACENT TO THE WESTERN PORTION OF

**PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS PIN 1-0840-01-005 AND TO QUITCLAIM THE SURPLUS RIGHT OF WAY TO MR. JAMES L. SHIRLEY, JR., BEING THE OWNER OF THE ADJACENT PROPERTY, SAID QUITCLAIM TO BECOME EFFECTIVE UPON MR. SHIRLEY'S DEDICATION OF A NEW 15 FOOT WIDE DRAINAGE RIGHT OF WAY EAST OF AND ADJACENT TO THE REMAINING PORTION OF THE EXISTING DRAINAGE RIGHT OF WAY.
[DISTRICT 8.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to declare surplus the westernmost 15-foot wide part of the existing 30-foot wide drainage right-of-way recorded in Deed Book D, Page 405, and adjacent to the western portion of property identified as PIN 1-0840-405, and to quitclaim the surplus right-of-way to Mr. James L. Shirley, Jr., being the owner of the adjacent property to become effective upon Mr. Shirley's dedication of a new 15-foot wide drainage right-of-way east of and adjacent to the remaining portion of the existing drainage right-of-way.. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Farrell, Gellatly and Thomas were not present.]

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- 4. REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN A CERTIFICATION ACCEPTANCE QUALIFICATION AGREEMENT WITH THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to authorize the Chairman to sign a Certification of Acceptance Qualification Agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Farrell, Gellatly and Thomas were not present.]

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- 5. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE AN EASEMENT AGREEMENT WITH THE YMCA FOR A CONNECTOR TO THE WHITEMARSH TRAIL.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve an Easement Agreement with the YMCA for a connector to the Whitemarsh Trail. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Farrell, Gellatly and Thomas were not present.]

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- 6. REQUEST BOARD CONFIRM EXTENSION OF LEASE TERMS FOR 222 WEST OGLETHORPE AVENUE (COMMERCE BUILDING) AND AUTHORIZE USE OF SHORT-TERM SPACE FOR THE SAVANNAH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to confirm an extension of lease terms for 222 West Oglethorpe Avenue (Commerce Building) and authorize use of short-term space for the Savannah Economic Development Authority. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Farrell, Gellatly and Thomas were not present.]

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7. REQUEST BOARD ADOPT A MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR THE WHITEMARSH PRESERVE (DEMERE TRACT) AS DEVELOPED AND RECOMMENDED BY THE CHATHAM COUNTY RESOURCE PROTECTION COMMISSION (CCRPC).

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to adopt a management plan for the Whitemarsh Preserve (Demere Tract) as developed and recommended by the Chatham County Resource Protection Commission (CCRPC). Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Farrell, Gellatly and Thomas were not present.]

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8. REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF BEER AND WINE RETAIL LICENSE FOR 2010. PETITIONER: LARRY CHRISTIANSEN, D/B/A FOOD LION, INC. #1618, LOCATED AT 1040 KING GEORGE BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 6.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve the petition of Larry Christiansen, d/b/a Food Lion, Inc. #1618, located at 1040 King George Boulevard for transfer of beer and wine retail license for 2010. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Farrell, Gellatly and Thomas were not present.]

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9. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWN OF THUNDERBOLT TO PROVIDE FUEL SERVICE FOR THEIR TOWN-OWNED VEHICLES.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to authorize an agreement with the Town of Thunderbolt to provide fuel service for their town-owned vehicles. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Farrell, Gellatly and Thomas were not present.]

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10. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF A \$3,249.15 WATER AND SEWER BILL REFUND FOR BLANCHARD & CALHOUN COMMERCIAL.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve a request from Blanchard & Calhoun Commercial to refund a water and sewer bill in the amount of \$3,249.15. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Farrell, Gellatly and Thomas were not present.]

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11. 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. Change Order No. 2 to the construction contract for the Kings Way Canal drainage improvement project for additional work	Engineering	Sandhill ALS (MBE)	\$122,640	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Kings Way drainage project
B. Construction contract for the Romney Place/ Parkersburg Road drainage improvement project	Engineering	Sandhill ALS (MBE)	\$139,900	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Romney/Parkersburg drainage project

ITEM	DEPT.	SOURCE	AMOUNT	FUNDING
C. Engineering services contract for the Islands Expressway bridge replacement	Engineering	The LPA Group, Inc.	\$1,229,625	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Islands Expressway/ Causton Bluff high level bridge replacement
D. Change Order No. 9 to the design contract for the widening of Whitefield Avenue and Diamond Causeway for additional services	Engineering	Thomas & Hutton Engineering Company	\$86,500	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Whitefield Avenue and Diamond Causeway Widening
E. Six (6) month extension to the contract to provide a comprehensive Multi-Jurisdictional Pre-Disaster Mitigation plan	CEMA	James Lee Witt Associates	N/C	Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant
F. Installation and training of an alarm billing software	Finance	Sungard Public Sector, Inc. (Sole Source)	\$21,192	General Fund/M&O - Finance
G. 37 Motorola digital portable radios	I.C.S.	Motorola Communications (GSA Schedule 70 Contract)	\$111,902	CIP - I.C.S.
H. Mitel telephone equipment and network upgrade licenses	I.C.S.	Integrated Network Solutions, Inc.	\$27,017	2005 DSA Bonds - South Annex
I. Declare 1987 Quality amphibious rotary ditcher as surplus and authorize the sale at public auction	Mosquito Control	N/A	N/A	Revenue Producing
J. Change Order No. 5 to the annual contract to provide pest control services for Chatham County to include services at the Southwest Chatham Library	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	Cox Termite and Pest Control	\$660	N/A - Paid for directly by the Library
K. Declare as unserviceable surplus and authorize the sale at a public auction or to dispose as scrap material older vehicles	Fleet Operations	N/A	N/A	Revenue Producing
L. Installation of feeder, emergency panel and a County owned 30Kw emergency generator at the Mosquito Control complex	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	PINCO	\$88,400	CIP - Hurricane Preparedness project (pending Board approval of budget amendment)
M. Change Order No. 4 to the contract for design improvements to unpaved roads for the design of stormwater drainage and to roadway improvements along Skidaway Road on Isle of Hope	Engineering	McGee Partners, Inc.	\$18,610	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Unincorporated County Roads
N. Contract extension for one (1) additional year to provide election equipment transportation and delivery services	Board of Elections	Lee Wright, Sr.	\$154.39 per precinct (round trip)	General Fund/M&O - Board of Elections
O. Installation of guardrail system at Memorial Stadium	Parks and Recreation	Marchese Construction, LLC	\$24,904	CIP - Parks and Recreation
P. Modify the current electrical distribution system at Tom Triplett Park	Parks and Recreation	Rahn's Electrical Service of Rincon, GA	\$15,371	CIP - Parks and Recreation
Q. Furniture for Animal Shelter	Special Projects	Mason	33,513	2005 DSA Bonds - CIP

ITEM	DEPT.	SOURCE	AMOUNT	FUNDING
R. Extend contract period for George Bowen	Special Projects	George Bowen	\$75 per hour	•SPLOST (2008-2014) - Courthouse Construction •CIP -
S. Westlake-Larmarville Beautification Project	Open Space, Green Space	Savannah Tree Foundation	\$90,000	SPLOST (2003-2008)
T. Change Order No. 1 to the contract for the paving of Pyeland Drive	Special Projects	L-J, Inc.	\$193	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Pyeland Road
U. Resurface the Julie Backus Smith trail	Parks and Recreation	A.D. Williams Construction Co., Inc.	\$74,911	CIP - Park Services (Pending Board approval a budget amendment)

As to Items 11-A through 11-T:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve Items 11-A through 11-T, both inclusive. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Farrell, Gellatly and Thomas were not present.]

As to Items 11-U:

Chairman Liakakis said, the resurface the Julie Backus Smith trail at the park at Lake Mayer Park area, I had brought that up because Commissioners and myself had received complaints from our citizens that we have a huge amount of citizens that use the Lake Mayer Park and a lot of them also walk and run on that particular path and it was in somewhat bad shape, and so we put it out on bid. We originally thought it would be \$350,000, but once we put it out for bid the different contractors went to look at the area and we did have from A. D. Williams Construction Company \$74,911. So we saved well over \$240,000 on that. Now we are leaving a little bit of monies in there because the inner surface over there might need to be replaced, so we're saving \$75,000 more in case that's needed to resurface that part also.

County Manager Abolt said, with your permission I would like to, and this is a very direct thank you to the Chairman particularly and members of the Recreation Authority, the Chairman did bring it to my attention very passionately back in October. At that time the direction of the Board was let's see what the market would bear from the standpoint of bidding it, and you've got the results of that, but then in the interim a question was asked how much money might the Recreation Authority have available for projects like this, and we went to the Recreation Authority and they kindly allowed \$440,000 to be transferred to go for two projects. One being this project and the other one, one just as passionately that Commissioner Gellatly has argued for is improvements to Bell's Landing. This is two examples in which this Board has been extremely creative in using resources, and not cookie jars, resources you have available and collected by the Recreation Authority for recreational uses. What you're doing with boat ramps is amazing and now you've taken this over for folks in a highly used part of the County, Lake Mayer Path, and I appreciate you doing this.

Commissioner Stone said, Mr. Chairman. Chairman Liakakis recognized Commissioner Stone. Commissioner Stone asked, the funding from the Recreation Authority, that comes from the Detention Center? County Manager Abolt said, no, no. Commissioner Stone asked, where does that funding —? County Manager Abolt said, the history is many, many years ago the Recreation Authority was created to do a lot of things and there was some seed money put into it where the County Commission gave them title to, I believe title to the old Juvenile Court property —. Commissioner Stone said, that's right, that's what I meant, Juvenile. County Manager Abolt said, and so rent comes in and the rent has been earmarked for the Recreation Authority. So when you were first elected on the County Commission, remember, we had the issue of boat ramps so the Recreation Authority was approached to go ahead and build boat ramps, which you've been doing, and now we've gone to them again and they've said yes please go forward. Commissioner Stone said, I know it's been able to do some wonderful things for the community, but I couldn't remember the source of —. County Manager Abolt said, I know it's an oft-used term, but it's a win/win for everybody and I appreciate it. Commissioner Stone said, right. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, we need a motion on the floor for Item 11-U that we held out on those.

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

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

- a. Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve Items 11-A through 11-T, both inclusive. Commissioner Odell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Farrell, Gellatly and Thomas were not present.]
- b. Commissioner Shay moved to approve Item 11-U. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Farrell, Gellatly and Thomas were 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.

- 1. **ADOPT AN UPDATED CHATHAM COUNTY REVENUE ORDINANCE.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

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

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XII. SECOND READINGS

None.

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XIII. INFORMATION ITEMS

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A status report was attached as information.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A status report was attached as information.

**AGENDA ITEM: XIII-2
AGENDA DATE: May 14, 2010**

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

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
Demolition of 9133 Whitefield Avenue	Engineering	Southern Tri	\$3,000	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Whitefield Avenue Widening Project

ITEM	DEPT.	SOURCE	AMOUNT	FUNDING
Additional trees for planting the littoral shelf at the County's wetlands mitigation bank (Litchfield)	Engineering	Central Florida Lands and Timbers	\$4,500	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Open Space/ Greenway
Two (2) 8ft lifeguard chairs	Aquatic Center	Recreonics, Inc.	\$6,450	General Fund/M&O - Aquatic Center
177 cases of anti-bacterial soap	Detention Center	Coastal Paper-Sail Chemical (Sole Source)	\$4,728	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Eight (8) tasers with black grip holster and cam	Sheriff	DGG Taser, Inc. (Sole Source)	\$9,815	General Fund/M&O - Sheriff
20 Remington shotguns with trade-in of outdated weapons	Sheriff	Ed's Public Safety	\$5,715	General Fund/M&O - Sheriff
Garage tires for stock	Fleet Operations	Pep Boys	\$2,685	Fleet Tire Inventory
Garage tires for stock	Fleet Operations	S O S Radial Tire Service	\$3,691	Fleet Tire Inventory
Grinder tips and hammers	Public Works and Park Services	The Trading Company	\$6,541	Solid Waste Restricted
340gl of field marking paint	Parks and Recreation	Richmond Supply Company	\$8,585	General Fund/M&O - Parks and Recreation
Umpires for youth baseball games middle school	Parks and Recreation	Greater Savannah Umpires Association (Sole Source)	\$3,696	General Fund/M&O - Parks and Recreation
Repair 140ft section of guard rail on Hutchinson Island Road	Public Works and Park Services	Alloy Industrial Contractor, Inc. (WBE)	\$9,750	CIP - Public Works
Remove all worn out gutters and replace with new at the Thunderbolt branch library	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	Lammons Construction Company, Inc.	\$4,484	General Fund/M&O - Reimbursable Expenses
27 Xerox toner cartridges	Tax Commissioner	CDW Government, Inc.	\$5,172	General Fund/M&O - Tax Commissioner
Professional services for bankruptcy consultation - ref: Tronox	Tax Commissioner	Gannam, Gnann and Steinmetz, LLC	\$3,105	General Fund/M&O - Tax Commissioner
One (1) laptop with software and maintenance	Engineering	Dell Marketing (State Contract)	\$3,311	CIP - Engineering
Software for servers	I.C.S.	Dell Marketing (State Contract)	\$4,216	CIP - Communications
One (1) Dell server	Mosquito Control	Dell Marketing (State Contract)	\$8,935	General Fund/M&O - Mosquito Control
Two (2) Motorola XTS2500 radio with battery, antenna and external mic	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	Motorola (Sole Source)	\$6,130	General Fund/M&O - Facilities Maintenance and Operations
Three (3) computers	District Attorney	Dell Marketing (State Contract)	\$4,673	General Fund/M&O - District Attorney
Five (5) computers	Juvenile Court	Dell Marketing (State Contract)	\$7,789	General Fund/M&O - Juvenile Court

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
Programming of 37 radios	I.C.S.	Savannah Communications (Sole Source)	\$3,024	General Fund/M&O - Communications
One (1) Dell server	Superior Court Clerk	Dell Marketing (State Contract)	\$6,908	Multiple Grant Fund - Superior Court Clerk

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Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman, if I can, I'd just like to tell Commissioner Gellatly, who's at home: First, we all think the world of you. Second, you've got to hurry up and get back here. There was nothing controversial on here today really but, man, you're the one that keeps me pretty much grounded and we're going to miss you. Take care of yourself.

Commissioner Shay said, I must admit to you, Commissioner Kicklighter, today with having neither Dave Gellatly nor Dr. Priscilla Thomas, you know, there —. Commissioner Kicklighter said, absolutely. Commissioner Shay said, you know, you did a really good job of —.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Dr. Thomas, we're thinking of you, too, and hopefully your procedure is nothing nearly as serious as what Commissioner Gellatly is about to undertake, but he's a strong man and does a fine job and we'll miss him.

Commissioner Stone said, I agree.

Chairman Liakakis said, and we encourage our citizens and, of course, all the County Commissioners as well, is to say a prayer for Commissioner Gellatly and for Commissioner Thomas because they do an outstanding job for all the citizens in this community. They are dedicated, they are loyal and you really see a lot of things happening with their input, and especially not only representing their districts but the entire County. Thank you.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I assume Dr. Thomas will be back next meeting. Chairman Liakakis said, yes. Commissioner Kicklighter said, and she can help keep me [inaudible]. That will be good. Commissioner Shay said, good, good.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

At the conclusion of the meeting of the Chatham Area Transit Authority, the Chairman declared a recess 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 12:50 p.m.

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ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 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 Odell 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 Shay seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Gellatly and Thomas were not present.]

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APPOINTMENTS

1. JUDGE PRO TEM - RECORDERS COURT

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell made a motion to appoint Jeffery W. Lasky to serve as Judge Pro Tem in Recorders Court. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Gellatly and Thomas were not present.]

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the Commissioners, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 1:10 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