

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2010, IN THE COMMISSION MEETING ROOM ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY COURTHOUSE, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, 124 BULL STREET, SAVANNAH, GEORGIA.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Pete Liakakis called the meeting to order at 9:25 a.m.

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II. INVOCATION

Commissioner Dean Kicklighter asked that Russ Abolt, County Manager, give the Invocation.

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III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner James Holmes led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

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IV. ROLL CALL

The Acting Clerk, Barbara Wright, called the roll.

Present: Pete Liakakis, Chairman
 Dr. Priscilla D. Thomas, District 8, Vice Chairman
 Dean Kicklighter, District 7, Chairman Pro Tem
 Helen L. Stone, District 1
 James J. Holmes, District 2
 Patrick Shay, District 3
 Patrick K. Farrell, District 4
 Harris Odell, Jr., District 5
 David M. Gellatly, District 6

Also present: Russ Abolt, County Manager
 Jonathan Hart, County Attorney
 Barbara B Wright, Acting County Clerk

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V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING NATIONAL PLANNING MONTH. TOM THOMSON WILL ACCEPT THE PROCLAMATION.

Chairman Liakakis said, I call on Patrick Shay to read the proclamation recognizing National Planning Month, and Tom Thomson, who is the Executive Director for our MPO and MPC, will be accepting that.

Commissioner Shay read the proclamation.



WHEREAS, change is constant and affects all cities, towns, suburbs, counties, boroughs, townships, rural areas, and other places. Community planning and plans can help manage this change in a way that provides better choices for how people work and live; and

WHEREAS, community planning provides an opportunity for all residents to be meaningfully involved in making choices that determine the future of their community; and

WHEREAS, the full benefits of planning requires public officials and citizens who understand, support, and demand excellence in planning and plan implementation; and

WHEREAS, the month of October is designated as National Community Planning Month throughout the United States of America and its territories. The American Planning Association and its professional institute, the American Institute of Certified Planners, endorse National Community Planning Month as an opportunity to highlight the contributions, sound planning and plan implementation make to the quality of our settlements and environment; and

WHEREAS, the celebration of National Community Planning Month gives us the opportunity to publicly recognize the participation and dedication of the members of planning commission and other citizen planners who have contributed their time and expertise to the improvement of Chatham County; and

WHEREAS, we recognize the many valuable contributions made by professional community and regional planners of Chatham County and extend our heartfelt thanks for the continued commitment to public service by these professionals.

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

COMMUNITY PLANNING MONTH

in Chatham County in conjunction with the celebration of National Community Planning Month.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia, to be affixed this the 8th day of October, 2010.

Pete Liakakis, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Frances Q. Rasmussen, Deputy Clerk

Commissioner Shay said, I'll give this to Tom Thomson, our chief planner.

Mr. Thomson said, thank you, Commissioner Shay. On behalf of all the professional planners in this community and across the country, I thank the Chairman and the Commission for taking time out of your busy schedule to recognize National Planning Month. If I may, Mr. Chairman, just a couple remarks. You know, it's interesting that this process comes at a time when our Chairman of our Planning Commission, Cedric Coleman, who gives his regards, was elected last year to the National American Planning Association Board of Directors as a representative from the Commissioner-elected official area of the APA Board, so I'd like to recognize him for that in this discussion. Also, you know, about 55 years ago or so, your predecessor Commission and the City Council decided that planning was an important aspect of this community and created the Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission, a relatively unique partnership, which I believe, after serving here and in previous places that had a Planning Commission, creates an atmosphere for professional excellence in planning and support of building a greater community. And I think that the partnership we have here with the City and the County, the City and County Planners and elected officials have been very beneficial to this community overall, over the last 55 years. I'd also like to mention Charlotte Moore of my staff, who is responsible in our agency for keeping tabs on national planning issues and, in particular, she has submitted applications for Great Streets Program of APA. Bull Street was named two years ago as one of the great streets in America. Last year, the squares were recognized as one of the 10 great public spaces in America, and this year, she is on top of the situation of bringing to our attention that October is National Planning Month. You will see later in your agenda about other things that you've supported have yielded state recognition, that Chatham County Resource Protection Commission, and you'll see that when Joanna Bounds comes up. But thank you for taking time in your agenda this morning in recognizing National Planning Month.

Chairman Liakakis said, Tom, I'd like to thank you for your leadership over the years as being the Executive Director for our MPO and MPC, because you've done an outstanding job, and you've got a great staff. You know, all of the people over there do an outstanding job for the City of Savannah and Chatham County on the planning, because that's very important. In fact, certain areas, if we'd have had more planning, we would maybe not have some congestion in a few of the roads that we have in our particular area. But I'd like to also thank all the members of the MPO who come there and also, the Metropolitan Planning Commission people, because they volunteer for this service, but it really helps out for the things that we really need in our city and county.

Mr. Thomson said, yes, sir, I think that's a very good point about recognizing all the private citizen, non-paid volunteers that serve and populate all the committees, but planning-related committees in particular for this purpose.

Chairman Liakakis said, Helen?

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Thomson, having been a member of the Metropolitan Planning Commission, I really do appreciate your leadership. You've been here about six years, I guess, now, and I'm really glad that you're at the helm over there, and all the changes that you've made have been extremely positive, and I think will have a huge impact on planning in the future of this community.

Mr. Thomson said, thank you.

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2. PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING WEEK OF OCTOBER 3 – 9, 2010, AS 4-H WEEK. KIRSTEN MORRIS, PRESIDENT OF CHATHAM COUNTY'S 4-H, WILL ACCEPT THE PROCLAMATION.

Chairman Liakakis said, I call on Commissioner Priscilla Thomas to come forth and present the proclamation. And, Kirsten, if you have some of the other people with 4-H that are with you, they, you know, could come forth now to the podium, also.

Commissioner Thomas said, good morning. This is, indeed, a great pleasure for me to have the opportunity to make this presentation of this proclamation. Being a Master 4-H'er, I've been where you are today. It's a great developmental program, and I'm hoping that every youth, not only in Chatham County, but across the United States of America will take advantage of this great program. The proclamation reads as follows:



WHEREAS, 4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship and life skills and is the largest youth organization in Georgia, with nearly one in every nine Georgia youth involved in 4-H; and

WHEREAS, 4-H in Georgia claims 156,000 youth members and 1,000s of adult volunteers, while Chatham County's 4-H program numbers more than 1,600 members and over 35 volunteers; and

WHEREAS, 4-H as part of the University of Georgia College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences Cooperative Extension System is a program where youth learn together in all kinds of projects, events and activities; and

WHEREAS, Georgia 4-H assists youth in acquiring knowledge, developing life skills and forming attitudes that will enable them to become self-directing, productive and contributing citizens; and

WHEREAS, 4-H has been helping youth and adults learn, grow and work together for more than one hundred and five years.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Pete Liakakis, Chairman, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim, October 3-9, 2010 as:

4-H WEEK

in Chatham County and urge the people of this community to take advantage of the opportunity to become more aware of this special program which gives youth the chance to learn together and on their own as part of Chatham County 4-H and to join us in recognizing the unique partnership between our county and our university system.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 8th day of October, 2010.

Pete Liakakis, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Frances Q. Rasmussen, Deputy Clerk

Commissioner Thomas said, congratulations, and we are so proud of you.

Kirsten Morris said, I am Kirsten Morris, Chatham County President, and on behalf of Chatham County 4-H, we would like to thank you for your support. We're very excited about the great year ahead. Also present is Kevin Morris, Georgia 4-H District Vice President, and my agent, Ms. West. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, would anybody else -- Jackie, would anybody else like to say anything?

Jackie Ogden said, I'll say that we thank you, the Commission, for being supportive of Chatham County 4-H. We are one of the oldest chapters in the state and, as a result, with your financial as well as your leadership to inspire our young people to be the great leaders of tomorrow. Thank you for your support. Ms. West may have something to add, as well.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you, Jackie. Yes, Portia?

Youth Commissioner Portia Bosco said, on behalf of the Chatham County Youth Commission, we would like to thank you for what you do in the community.

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CHATHAM YOUTH COMMISSION

Chairman Liakakis said, what I'd like to do is recognize our Chatham County Youth Commissioners who are up here today for our meeting: Joseph Drought, who is representing Benedictine, and he's on the Executive Committee; Portia Bosco, who's the Parliamentarian and representing Windsor Forest; and then Carley Dawson, who is also an Executive member from Savannah Arts Academy.

Youth Commissioner Carley Dawson said, thank you, Chairman, for having us. It's a privilege to be here.

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3. RECOGNITION OF RECENT APPOINTMENT BY THE UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION OF MS. PATRICIA J. WEST AS CHATHAM COUNTY 4-H AGENT.

Chairman Liakakis said, we'll call on Jackie to come forth on that, also.

Jackie Ogden said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. We're delighted, after several years without a County Extension Agent in the 4-H arena, to announce the appointment of Ms. Patricia J. West, known to us as Trish, as the new Chatham County 4-H Agent. She's no stranger to our 4-H'ers. You have seen her in performance as a program assistant, and we are delighted this morning to make this public recognition of Ms. West on her appointment as our newest faculty agent with the University here in Chatham County. Ms. West?

Patricia West said, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank every one of you for reinstating this position. Over the last several years, Chatham County 4-H has grown exponentially, and this is going to open a lot of options for us, and just watch us grow.

Chairman Liakakis said, all right, thank you.

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4. PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES TO CLASS 15 OF THE CONSTRUCTION APPRENTICE PROGRAM GRADUATION CEREMONY.

Chairman Liakakis said, what I'd like to do, a lot of people do not know about our Apprentice Program that we have, but in 2005, this County Commission came together, joined up with the City of Savannah, for the Savannah Poverty Initiative Program, and what we did as far as the County goes, we set up a pilot program to bring those on low income and others in the community to help them and give them the opportunity where they are taught life skills and then taught work skills, also, and we've had 14 previous graduation classes, and we're really glad, because we continue to do this, and helping and giving opportunity to many of our citizens in our community, And we really appreciate all of the work that the staff has done, Daniel Dodd and, of course, the other staff members that work with him, because this program, as we have listened to and watched before, the people have really turned their lives around, because a number of them didn't have the opportunity, and they have worked and been really successful, many of them. So I call Daniel Dodd now, to come forth for this presentation.

Daniel Dodd said, good morning. Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, Mr. County Manager, we are pleased to present Class 15 to you today. This class is graduating 11 students. Five are in welding, six are from concrete forming. We

also have 20 students currently enrolled at Savannah Technical College in Class 16 and Class 17, so we have a lot of folks in the pipeline, a lot of interest that continues with this program. We are currently recruiting for Class 18 for masonry apprentices, for construction apprentices, and also for certified warehousing and distribution specialists. You will notice that we are expanding the diversity of the trades and the training. This is in response to your request that we not be too dependent on one sector. To this end, we're in the process of expanding the Construction Apprentice Program to become the Chatham Apprentice Program. The Chatham Apprentice Program will continue to be responsive to construction but, as you've asked us to really diversify the sectors, as well, into areas like warehousing, hospital sector training. We expect that this will help us to place more students in jobs with career ladders, while maintaining the same budget that we have. Another benefit to this, as well, is that we will be leveraging our collaborative partnerships with other organizations like the United Way to really feed into existing community centers that are called Centers For Working Families. This will help us to provide more of the necessary supports to students. Work force development isn't enough. We really need to look at other things, like health care, transportation, child care, housing, and these community centers can help us with these students, with their own respective budgets. We hope that this will help not only, you know, get more people into jobs, but also help to make sure that they stay at those jobs and get the support in order to succeed and hopefully up to higher career paths within those sectors. To date, the Construction Apprentice Program has helped 99 students to complete life skills in Fiscal Year 2009-2010. They have helped 49 students to graduate from Savannah Technical College with technical certificates, and we've helped 32 students to get jobs. Tara Sinclair and Zelon Williams, who manage and run the program, have continued to hold informational meetings with general contractors to place students at job sites. They continue to build relationships with the Truman Parkway, with Strathmore Estates, with Beach School, and have been having conversations with the Pipefitters Union and with many other local employers and contractors. So we're really getting out there. Really trying to find where those jobs are and trying to be responsive to the needs of those employers. We are living in difficult times. This program is a strong and positive link for these men and women and for this community. We thank you all very much for your continued support for this program. I'm going to ask Ms. Sinclair to come up to lead us through the certifications.

Commissioner Odell said, Daniel, may I ask you a question, if I might?

Mr. Dodd said, sure.

Commissioner Odell said, the beginning of the new class, when is that?

Mr. Dodd said, I'm sorry?

Commissioner Odell said, the new class?

Mr. Dodd said, the new class will be starting within -- we start to recruit for it within the next two or three weeks.

Commissioner Odell said, is that on our web site?

Mr. Dodd said, I don't know if it is on the web site, but we could certainly speak with Pete Nichols, and see if we can make sure that it is advertised on the web site.

Commissioner Odell said, and put something on there about the application process, too.

Mr. Dodd said, we'd be happy to, sir.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, and the Government Channel.

Mr. Dodd said, the Government Channel as well? Sure. We'll make sure to put something in there, Commissioner. That's a great idea. Thank you.

Tara Sinclair said, good morning. My name is Tara Sinclair. I'm the program manager for the Construction Apprentice Program and, as usual, I am just excited and honored to be before you again this morning. As Daniel said, we are graduating Class 15. We have 11 students that are from concrete forming. One could not make it today because he could not get off from work. And we also have two students who are graduating from the flat shield metal arc welding program. Today, we have a total of seven students who were enrolled in the welding program for the technical certificate of credit. Of that five remaining, four of those students continue in their education to receive a diploma. One of the five is also graduating from the concrete forming, and he is also employed with the Local 188 Plumbers & Pipefitters Union. We also have another student from the concrete forming program who's also employed, and he's also going through the Pipefitters Union Apprentice Program. So I would like to take this time to introduce you to Class 15.

Shelton Baker -- please line up -- Shelton is an employee of Local 188, Pipefitters Union, and he's also in their apprentice program.

Cedric Borrum just completed a project with KJ Construction, and he will soon be transitioning to another project with KJ Construction.

Willa Meana Dukes. She's currently working for one of the local warehouses.

James Edge. He's employed with Local 188, Pipefitters Union.

Lowell Johnson. He actually has a job pending, and he's a welding student with a welding company once he completes this program.

Firon Kennedy also just completed a project with KJ Construction and will also continue to work with him on another project.

Samuel Perry. Sam just completed a project through the Subsidiary Employment Program through the State and that's where the State paid 80% of his wages from one of their employers.

Anthony Smith. He's actively job-searching.

David Smith works for a textile and florist company.

Keshawn Smith works in the restaurant industry.

David Wilson has branched out as an independent contractor, and he's currently working as a handyman, and he has several projects.

Samuel Woods also works for the restaurant industry.

Everyone standing before you has also registered for the DOT Training Program for the Truman Parkway project with Balfour Beatty Construction Company. I would now like to do presentations of certificates. Ms. Williams? And any Commissioners who would like to join us, please come forward.

Zelonia Williams said, good morning. My name is Zelonia Williams. I am the program coordinator for the Construction Apprentice Program. Well, I guess, I'm turning to you all, I have everyone here with me. Again presenting Class 15, Shelton Baker, Cedric Borrum, Willa Meana Dukes, James Edge, Lowell Johnson, Firon Kennedy, Samuel Perry, Anthony Smith, David Smith, Keshawn Smith, David Wilson, and Samuel Woods. (The Commissioners individually congratulated each of the graduates.)

Chairman Liakakis said, and, of course, we'd like to thank all of those members of our Step-Up Program – Apprentice Program, Daniel Dodd, and, of course, the leaders in this apprentice program, and we want each and every one of you to know that on behalf of the Chatham County Commission, we really appreciate you coming in here, giving you the opportunities, and hope that you be blessed in years to come, to have -- you know, to move up higher from the position that you're in now, because we really are glad that we were able to put this program together, the Commissioners, because we want to see people be successful in our community. So we wish you well, and may you all be blessed. Thank you.

Ms. Williams said, while you all are being seated, we have a couple of students that wanted to make remarks. Mr. Baker and Mr. Edge.

Shelton Baker said, how're you doing? My name is Shelton Baker, and I would like to thank the Commission and Ms. Sinclair for giving us the opportunity to join this program and also make advancement in looking for career-level jobs, and now I'm working with the Local 188, along with James Edge, continuing my apprenticeship program. So I want to thank everyone that's involved.

James Edge said, hello, my name is James Edge. I want to thank you. Going through this program has been the best decision I have ever made. Working out there with Local 188, they help me with a lot. I've learned a lot from Ms. Sinclair and Ms. Williams, and I just want to thank you for this program out here, giving us the chance to advance and to make it out here in this hard world. Thank you.

Willa Meana Dukes said, hello, how are you all doing today? My name is Willa Dukes, and I stand here before you on behalf of Class 15. We do want you to know that we gladly appreciate the opportunity to further our education, better more, our lives. Without this opportunity that the Construction Apprentice Program has provided, we would have never seen this day. Once again, we again, Class 15 of the Construction Apprentice Program, would like to thank the Board of Commissioners and the program managers, Ms. Tara Sinclair and Ms. Williams, for helping us and giving us this opportunity. I just can't say thank you more than enough, because without them, this day would never come.

David Wilson said, good morning. Thank you, everyone, for having us here. The Construction Apprentice Program has taught myself and my classmates to discuss, formulate, and plan effectively and efficiently. From the work ethics at St. Mary's to Savannah Tech, we've learned to encounter and be the engine behind our advances that we make. CAP is a learning experience, to me. The start of CAP and at the beginning of work ethics, communication, and representation in class, and getting involved is very important. Our class of work ethics teaches us the do's and the don't's of preparing ourselves for employment, from writing resumes and to role-playing. There are so many great things to say about the CAP program. My classmates have become a part of my family. We've all made a vow. We come together; we go together; we leave together. Thanking everyone, all members of the staff, Step-Up Savannah, Ms. Sinclair, Ms. Williams, and others, our instructor, Mr. Donnie Gillis. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, wait a minute, hold it just a second. I think Joseph wanted to make a statement here, one of our Chatham County Youth Commissioners.

Youth Commissioner Joseph Drought said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to congratulate, on behalf of our Chatham County Youth Commission, Class 15 and hope that you go on to be very successful.

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5. THE METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION AND THE CHATHAM COUNTY RESOURCE PROTECTION COMMISSION WOULD LIKE TO FORMALLY INVITE THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY TO ATTEND A RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY FOR THE OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE WHITEMARSH PRESERVE.

Chairman Liakakis said, that will be 8:30 a.m. on October the 16th.

Joanna Bounds said, good morning, Chairman, County Commissioners. I'm Joanna Bounds. I'm the Resource Protection Planner for the MPC, and I staff the Chatham County Resource Protection Commission which you all established in 2008. I'm here today to officially invite you to the first annual Go Green 5-K Trail Run & Walk to benefit the Chatham County Resource Protection Commission. As Mr. Chairman mentioned, this is going to be held on the Whitemarsh Preserve on October 16th, and this is the property that was purchased by the County in 2000 for green space. It's located on Whitemarsh Island at the corner of Bryan Woods Road and Johnny Mercer Boulevard. The event will feature a 5-K run and walk. In addition, we'll be having an open house to officially introduce the property to the community and let them know the benefits of the hiking trails and natural environment that they can enjoy there. As part of the open house, we're going to have live music, food, kids' activities, and a raffle. And to start the whole event, we would love to have an official ribbon-cutting ceremony by the County Commission and the Chatham County Resource Protection Commission to officially open the property to the public. We'd love to have some of you all there in order to open the property and also, so that we can thank you for your continued support of our local conservation effort. Thank you for that, and I hope to see you there.

And I also have a couple things I wanted to point out on behalf of the Chatham County Resource Protection Commission. Just recently, in the past month, we've won two awards: one from the Georgia Planning Association, the Outstanding Initiative Award, and the other is from Conserve Georgia, which is a state-wide conservation program. This is their Land Conservation Award. It's a really nice frame and a beautiful picture. We received this from Governor Purdue earlier this week in Atlanta at the Natural Leaders Conference. Again, thank you very much for your support of this Commission. We really appreciate that.

Chairman Liakakis said, Russ?

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, Dr. Thomas, Commissioner Stone, Gentlemen, this is really special, and I've had the advantage of a sneak preview of this preserve, and if you can make it on Saturday, I encourage you. If not, just drop by. This is the site -- not just the former Demery Tract -- this is where the old Y Camp used to be. It is a beautiful effort by the planners, by Mr. Monahan, by Mr. Bungard, and Mr. Drewry, to create an experience in an urban setting. Again, words do not do it justice. The best description, it is a preserve, and the important thing about what this Commission continues to do is, you're creating so many opportunities for the Islands residents. And again, I use the term of a government campus, but you'll remember where we are on Whitemarsh Island. We have the police precinct; we have new schools going in. Hopefully, we're going to have an Islands library. We have the Y facility; we have the Frank Murray Center; and we have this beautiful passive recreation area, and if you drive by it, there are no flashing lights or signs. You'll miss it. So please take the opportunity to expose yourself to it and then to communicate the word among all that this is a treasure on Whitemarsh Island. It really is, and I thank all who have been part of it, and it started with this County Commission.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you. Commissioner Shay?

Commissioner Shay said, first of all, thank you, Joanna, for the good work that you do there. You know I'm a big fan of yours, and also the work of the Resource Protection Commission. It's a big part of helping to fulfill the Greenest County in Georgia plan. Obviously, the Governor has caught wind of it, so that's great for all of us. I just have one question, because I don't run, I only walk. What time does the walking part of the 5-K begin?

Ms. Bounds said, we're going to have the run start at 9:00 and the walkers will just kinda filter in right after the runners.

Commissioner Shay said, okay, so if I got there a little after 9:00, I could walk?

Ms. Bounds said, that would be perfect, yeah. That would be wonderful. Again, thank you all very much. I appreciate your time.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you.

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VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

1. UPDATE ON PARKING ISSUES, JENNIFER ROSS SOCCER COMPLEX.

Chairman Liakakis said, what I'd like to say ahead of time on this, the parking area around the Jennifer Ross Soccer Complex, there have been some concerns on that, but I want everybody to know with the soccer participants and their family members and all of that, that the County Commission is concerned about doing things that will help out, and that particular district is represented -- it's in her district, is Commissioner Helen Stone, who is the district representative

for District 1, who's done an outstanding job and has spoken out on many things in our community about recreation. We know that recreation is very important for the quality of life in our community, and we have put a lot of effort into it, all of the Commissioners, so I want everybody to know, now, that Helen Stone represents that district and has done, you know, a really good job and, of course, she really supports this particular project and all, and wants to make sure that everything is put in place so that we can help solve the problem. Russ?

County Manager Abolt said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Dr. Thomas, Commissioner Stone, Gentlemen, I wanted to set the stage and provide a policy background for all of this. First, I want to recognize a man who has limitless energy for Chatham County, and that's our Chairman. The Chairman was on top of a problem that developed this past weekend and his responsiveness, his ability to focus me and the rest of staff, have allowed us to come forward today with what I think is a very ambitious and workable and achievable solution to a problem. But it's not really a problem; it's a blessing. We are faced and blessed with a high participation in our recreation and in our health care facility and, for that, we should be rightfully proud. This Commission and those before you have continually supported the sport of soccer. Not too long ago, you were very kind and opened another soccer facility named Abolt-O'Brien Park on Wilmington Island, which creates another opportunity in the area of soccer. And then you might remember, it wasn't that long ago, just a few weeks ago, that you welcomed the Health Board, Board of Health, in their desire to expand the facility that they have on Eisenhower and Sallie Mood. So we have high use. We have people that are very satisfied with the services that we provide, and we should never lose sight of that, and we should never lose sight of the fact of leadership and the ambition and the drive and the vision of this Board to answer both needs.

Now, with that as a background, policy decisions made and will be made, I want to direct your attention to the view graph, and there's a chart to my left, to the audience right, but it's also on your screen, and as I explain it, I want to talk about an issue that has come up that, again, we are not embarrassed by. We're going to solve it, and we're blessed by the fact that we have high usage in two areas, both in health and recreation services, and in the particular area of recreation, in parking and access to the Jennifer Ross Soccer Complex. We have identified, I guess, the two priorities. Two purposes behind the plan of action which I'm about to describe, and they are two words that begin with "c." One word is confidence and the other word is convenience. When you look at the view graph, you will notice that we've outlaid in the middle of the view graph the Jennifer Ross Soccer Complex. The north/south roadway to the right is Sallie Mood, on the north, it's Eisenhower, just off and to the north and east of the Jennifer Ross Soccer Complex is the Health Department, which, of course, will grow and expand at that location. Again, it's convenient. We want to keep them there, and we want to be able to address the needs of all patrons of both places.

So with that in mind, the first "c" is confidence. It's come to our attention that there was some concern, and we do have an embedded soccer mom, Linda Cramer, who has been very helpful in telling me really what's going on out there. And one of the things she told me, that in our expanse of soccer parking lot which is on Sallie Mood, we have a very beautiful attractive tree'd area. It's Number 1 and 2 on the rectangle right there about the middle of the view graph. And even though it's got a beautiful buffer, there are some concerns as to the understory, the growth underneath the trees, and what it does to mask safe viewing of the soccer complex. And again, Soccer Person Cramer suggested if we could do something to eliminate that ground-type cover without destroying the beautiful tree canopy, that would provide confidence so that patrons, parents of players that would be coming into the parking lot, again off Sallie Mood, could have a line of sight to the soccer fields themselves, certainly eventually to the concession stand and the other fields, and it would give them a sense of confidence, to walk under the beautiful trees, but not fear what might be lurking, even though we've had no problems, in the bushes below the trees.

The other issue is lighting, so right now and as we speak, it started yesterday with the direction of the Chairman and the approval, we have begun to remove the bushes, the understory, the growth underneath those trees. In a matter of a day or two, that will be a clean, beautiful vista from the parking lot into the soccer complex without destroying the tree canopy. With the active support and approval of Julian Pafford of Georgia Power, within the next week and a half, we'll be installing additional lighting in that area so that it will become very customer-friendly, and that will be done before the change of time going into Standard Time in late October. That shows immediate ability to restore confidence and deal with what amounts to hopefully a more friendly and welcome use of this parking lot, which has been expanded once before after the soccer complex was opened initially. But the parking lot is legitimate.

The issue then comes about, okay, then what about convenience. And much of the concern you've either read about in the paper or received calls or e-mails on deals with the convenience of access to what are referred to as the northerly-most fields, 7 and 8, which are at the top of the configuration labeled Jennifer Ross Soccer Complex, particularly the northerly-most field, that's Field 8. That tracks and has activities for the youngsters, the preteen participants. We were able to put two soccer fields there, running north and south, and certainly the young children, young athletes, certainly enjoy going there. There has been, on many occasions, to the concern of all of us, a very unsafe situation and, no pun intended, but an unhealthy situation, in which those that wish the convenience of access to Fields 7 and 8 are encroaching upon the agreed upon parking for the Health Department, so we're dealing with providing alternatives in convenience to those who may choose not to use the Sallie Mood parking, but want, for some reason, to come up on north and not infringe on Dr. Skelton and the health facility.

So when you look at Figures 3 and then 4, 3 is a treatment facility, a land owned by the County that, in fact, can provide some parking, acceptable parking off of Eisenhower, and that can be done in a short period of time. Mr. Bungard assures me that that can be done with some asphalt and some easy transition for motorists coming off of Eisenhower, entering that facility. They can park there. The facility has low use, particularly during the daytime and the time in which the soccer fields might be used. And then if you can, in your mind, at least, visualize what the photograph does not show, we can provide, then, pedestrian paved access for those that park their car in the three -- the geographic configuration. They can walk in a very friendly, open setting up to just south of Eisenhower and then they can come down over a drainage canal safely, not anywhere near the canal itself, and enter the Jennifer Ross Soccer Complex at what amounts to the northwest corner right at the tip of Field Number 8. That's where A is. And that would be established, again, all of this could be done before the end of the calendar year, and that would create

a safe setting, a convenient setting, which addresses, number one, the confidence issue which I've already described, and then the convenience issue for those that, for whatever reason, do not choose to use the parking facility on Sallie Mood. In addition, to again preserve our great relationship with the Board of Health, with Dr. Skelton, as all of this is being done, we will be constructing a fence, and the fence -- again, you may remember if you've been out, which I know you all have, to the Animal Shelter, the animal facility, we have a very attractive and unobtrusive fence along the perimeter of the shelter which employs chain-link and then slats to provide a sense of separation between that facility and the soccer complex. We'd be running that type of fence along the westerly border of the parking lot at the Health Department to create a true line of demarkation in those that need services, and it will be workable and in place, we would say, by the end of the calendar year.

Now, with that, I want to introduce a gentleman who is exceptional in the way in which he meets the needs of our Chatham County citizens. He is a partner with County Government. He's a friend and an outstanding administrator, Dr. Skelton.

Dr. Skelton said, thank you, Mr. Abolt. And Chairman Liakakis and members of the Commission, I want to start by thanking you for all you do in support of the health program. Mr. Chairman, you and I had the opportunity to meet some folks out there Saturday, and we saw some of the problems, and I appreciate your intervention. It certainly helped us move forward. I am very pleased that the Chairman and Mr. Abolt and other staff, that we've worked together to come up with what I think is a very fine solution for this problem. We have also had some security problems out there. As you probably know, we store a big emergency trailer there and we have storage areas. We've had some break-ins and some stealing, so I think that the latter thing that Mr. Abolt talked about would probably give us a little better security. We've struggled the six years I've been here with the fact that we've had some difficulty with the parking lot, and I want to tell you, I didn't have the opportunity to be a soccer father. I had to be a Little League father. There was no soccer when my children were growing up, but I'm a soccer granddad, and I support all this activity. We need more and more exercise in the community.

But we also need to have full use of our facilities. I would remind you that public health today is a 24/7 operation. We are first responders under federal orders. We have vehicles there that we have to get access to, to hook trailers to, to pull emergency vehicles out, to get to our equipment, and we have to do that at any time, and we have some 20 staff that we could call in at any time to create a county health emergency response team. We have to have access for them, as well. Soccer parents, by and large, they're responsible parents and good citizens. There have been difficulties, though, over the last six years, people parking illegally in the area between the two parking zones, and we've not been able to stop that with putting paper on their windshields telling them not to park there. Dr. Martin, when she was the leader, had some towing done. Nothing seems to interfere with the fact that when certain people -- they are rushed to get to where they need to be and can't find a legal place, that they will park illegally on the grass in the area between the two parking zones, or along the yellow curb. And, of course, those of you who have SUVs or haul trailers know that when you connect those things to your vehicles, you've got to have enough turning room to do it properly. So those are the kind of things that concern us, the use of the parking area and the use of the land that we use to store vehicles and to store equipment. I appreciate the proposal that's being made. I think it's an excellent one and, Mr. Abolt, thank you and your staff for working with us on this and, Mr. Chairman, again, thank you for getting involved. I always enjoy seeing you, but not the way we had to meet Saturday. I hope we don't have to do that anymore. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, Doctor, do you want to talk about how the parking is going to be now, between now and the end of the year as you propose?

Dr. Skelton said, well, what we're going to do is what we've done along, and be as cooperative as we can, working with others here. We're going to make a request, just a request, that the soccer association ask the parents if they use the Health Department between now and the time that all these things are in place, to please not use our lot until after 5:30. If you can imagine, most of the push comes off Sallie Mood and people will be arriving, and some of them arriving pretty fast, coming in from Sallie Mood into the back area. So we would just ask that they try to limit the use of our lot, at least until 5:30. That gives a chance for my employees to get their cars and get out. The same thing on -- the weekend concerns are simply access to our emergency equipment and the other equipment that we use in the county. There, we will be as cooperative as we can. Again, I think if people park illegally on the grass or in the island or along the yellow curbs, then at that point, I think towing is proper, so that we can be sure we've got the access that we need. But we'll do what we can to be as cooperative as possible until these changes are made.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, go ahead, Helen.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a couple of questions. The lot that you're proposing Number 3, what is the cost associated with that, roughly?

County Manager Abolt said, of course, it's too soon to give you a final cost, but I asked Mr. Bungard yesterday how could all this be done, and he said for around 100,000.

Commissioner Stone said, okay, in the interim, and certainly this is something going forward that I guess I have a little bit of an issue with. This is all county property, county soccer complex, county Health Department. If, after 5:00 in the afternoon when the Health Department is closed, if parents want to park in that parking lot, and they do not park illegally, just as we would police any of our other recreational facilities, I don't see this as a problem. I certainly want us to encourage recreation. On the weekends that your mobile unit is -- needs to be deployed to another location and that you need those spaces, it would seem to me that that could be denoted far enough ahead to where that parking lot for that particular day might need to be closed off. But it just seems like this is not sending a very good message to the citizens of this community from our own Health Department not to do anything we can to help work with recreation and with the parents in this community. So I don't -- I'm a little bit perplexed as to why we can't reach a

compromise here to utilize all of our parking spaces when it is not interfering with the predominant cause of the Health Department. That is my concern.

County Manager Abolt said, I appreciate that. There has to be balance. Again, we want to keep the Health Department where it is, and we want to expand it. In the private sector, if this were a shopping area and all that, the Health Department's an anchor, and the soccer complex is an anchor. It's my challenge and my accepting the challenge from the Chairman and you all, to make them both work compatibly. But we cannot create friction, unnecessary friction. As Dr. Skelton said, for a number of years, we have had to deal with this problem, and it is a problem. And I think that if it's heightened by the standpoint, as Dr. Skelton said, of his emergent and tactical response in situations where he has to get to gear on that lot, so I would not want to put him in a position of acceding to the need for convenient parking and then jeopardize his mission. We don't want that. I mean, we want the Board of Health to feel like they're welcome and the soccer folks to feel like they're welcome.

Chairman Liakakis said, one of the things that -- go ahead, Dean, and then I'll talk.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, where is the \$100,000 coming from?

County Manager Abolt said, Ms. Cramer and I will identify that through available CIP funds and other sources, and we'll come back to you for budget approval.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, so what are you all asking today? For approval of the --

County Manager Abolt said, no, sir. I apologize. Because of the high profile nature of this situation which broke less than seven days ago, I wanted to be able to respond to you and the Chairman as to what we're doing. Obviously, eventually, budget authority will be requested beyond what we've already done. Currently, I have authorized, and the Chairman has concurred, in the brush clearing on the parcel labeled 1 and 2, and we'll be coming back with budget authority request to do the rest.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay, at this point, I'd just like to let Staff know that I received calls from, at first, what I believe were pretty angry parents that are involved with the West Chatham Soccer Association when they read this article, because they stated to me that the fields at Scott Stell Park, the soccer for the West Chatham organization, that the fields themselves aren't even up to par, and they were pretty angry and kinda let me know that before I went voting a bunch of money to put additional parking, that they would like, you know, some type of improved fields that -- the place for the kids to actually play on, so, you know, please keep us in mind.

County Manager Abolt said, we understand that, and, again, I don't want the -- not the anger, but the angst of those who have contacted you all to lose in the focus of this community what you all have done. This County Commission has put more money into recreation than any of its predecessors. You've emphasized sports like soccer, but you've also emphasized the value of the services provided by Dr. Skelton. And we're blessed. This is not a down economy when it comes to provision of both recreation and health services. It's a wonderful opportunity to have to address it. The obvious thing is balancing the priorities. There are some temporary fields at Stell Park. The sport of soccer, as we all know, is a growing sport and the participation is amazing, and we appreciate that all. This is much better than trying to stimulate interest. It's there.

Chairman Liakakis said, and what we could do, Dean, we can, you know, next week, look at what your comments, you know, are concerning that. Did you want to add something, Priscilla?

Commissioner Thomas said, yeah, I was just going with what Dean just said, because I received the same comments concerning those facilities there. And not only just there, but whatever facilities we have around the county, we need to be looking at all of them and bringing them up to par so that we will not be having these questions as to why we are putting more emphasis in one area than we are on another. I don't think that that's exactly what we're doing, but that's the appearance of what's being done.

County Manager Abolt said, what has been done over the years since the Olympic legacy is focusing SPLOST money in a complex, and you can see here, we've talked about a festival for athletics, we again have been very proud of this asset of a government campus so conveniently located. And when we started -- and this goes back to the time of Mr. Golden, the issue was the Aquatic Center, the Weightlifting Center, the Soccer Complex, and how all that could be done. Commissioner Shay is nodding his head and I know Commissioner Thomas also knows, we did this in a matter of just about a year and a half, and we mobilized our local resources to be receptive to and welcome the Olympic legacy. You also have Lake Mayer down here, you have the Olympic sailing. Just up the road you have Wright Stadium, which was done to the Olympic standards there. I realize the need for dispersal. I think that's very appropriate, but I would be remiss in missing a very clear and courageous policy decision to create what amounts to a festival in an athletic setting that can be used year round for the best investment we can get, namely, folks that come to town for their athletes to participate in swimming, weightlifting, soccer, and the list goes on and on.

Chairman Liakakis said, James?

Commissioner Holmes said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to direct something to the recreation staff, if I may.

Chairman Liakakis said, Al or Robert?

Commissioner Holmes said, Robert, how much input do we have into the soccer program from over staff?

Robert Drewry said, into the plan that's being shown to you or the total program altogether?

Commissioner Holmes said, all over.

Mr. Drewry said, a tremendous amount of input. We work very closely with the local soccer clubs, scheduling, maintenance of the fields, that all definitely has our support.

Commissioner Holmes said, I notice there are a lot of complaints and issues come from the soccer program itself, and reading the information that I looked at, and I shared this with the Chairman this past week, that hold harmless form, who issue that and who fill that out before they come to the facility at the Health Department?

Mr. Drewry said, I'm going to defer that to Mr. Lipsey. I think he probably has a more clear answer than I could give you.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay.

Mr. Al Lipsey said, we provide the form to the individual organizations, and they fill them out. It's a standard hold harmless form that we've used for years. It pertains to soccer and the soccer complex. It doesn't go beyond that.

Commissioner Holmes said, that's a blanket harmless form, or that is individual?

Mr. Lipsey said, that's individual.

Commissioner Holmes said, that's individual, so you give that to each participant that --

Mr. Lipsey said, well, here again, that's presented to the organization, and the organization should present it to each individual family or each individual parent.

Commissioner Holmes said, so we don't know whether they come back signed.

Mr. Lipsey said, right.

Commissioner Holmes said, do we have any way of knowing that those forms are being signed and come back in?

Mr. Lipsey said, well, each organization should retain those forms. It would be --

Commissioner Holmes said, but who receive it when they fill it out?

Mr. Lipsey said, the organization. As far as the county is concerned?

Commissioner Holmes said, do we have any record of saying that they signed these forms, that they're not holding us harmless?

Mr. Lipsey said, no.

Commissioner Holmes said, we don't know that?

Mr. Lipsey said, no. We also require insurance, too.

Commissioner Holmes said, who issue those forms out, Mr. Lipsey?

Mr. Lipsey said, we issue the forms. It's a form that we send out on computer through e-mail.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay.

Mr. Lipsey said, and then, of course, we have them available at our preseason meetings.

Commissioner Holmes said, now, I hate to get into this, say I've got a soccer program, a game over there this weekend, and someone parked at the Health Department facility, and if they get hurt. If anything happen over there, are we at risk, or are we not at risk?

County Attorney Jonathan Hart said, it really depends on what kind of situation you've got. I would say that if somebody is illegally parked there, that they're not an invitee, they are a trespasser, okay? We have very limited duties to a trespasser as a matter of law. More importantly, we would generally have what is known under the law as premises liability. We would probably have very limited liability for premises liability, because we would have sovereign immunity. Okay? However, if one of our vehicles, say we tried to deploy and couldn't get through the parking lot, but struck somebody in operating that vehicle, the state has waived sovereign immunity for counties in that regard, so, yes, we could be sued if we were at fault and were negligent, and that pretty much sums it up.

Commissioner Odell said, except there's one thing you left out, and the thing you left out is employees of the Health Department leaving in their personal vehicle, while we have sovereign immunity, that employee does not.

County Attorney Hart said, that is absolutely correct.

Chairman Liakakis said, are you finished, James?

Commissioner Holmes said, I'm through. I just want to commend you, Mr. Chairman, Russ, for you all jumping on this problem at issue and getting it resolved, and especially for you, Mr. Skelton. In the past, I would like to see that our recreation department have a little bit more input to these programs so we can cover ourself in liability, because that harmless form, I'd like to look at it, and I'd like to see what it look like. Could you give me a copy of it?

Mr. Lipsey said, be happy to.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay, thanks.

Chairman Liakakis said, Harris?

Commissioner Odell said, my concern is, how do we make a decision when we have competing interests? We've got a competing interest of recreation, we've got a competing interest of the function and purpose of the Health Department. In my universe, health and safety trumps recreation. Now, we can analyze this until the cows come up, but the end result is, we have a charter under the Health Department, and we will not violate that charter because the squeaky wheel gets the oil in this community. I like what the staff has done as far as fashioning a solution, but I agree with what Kicklighter said. We've got people who complain because their facility is not up to par, and they have to walk to park. We've got people who have to wade through bushes out in Kicklighter and Dr. Thomas' area. That's not a criticism. It is a statement of fact. And before we spend money in response to a squeaky wheel, my concern would be that that expenditure be ranked with other needs in that category. See, if you take things as a catch as catch can and try to solve them based on the squeaky wheel, it does not address any priority or need. That gives me some concern. I do know that we're going to start the development and construction of a new Health Department. We have a crisis situation at our Health Department. When I say a crisis situation, we have people whose lives will depend upon what we do. I think we have a dedicated staff. Recreation is a good thing. It is not competing with recreation. But for us to say Dr. Skelton and his staff is going to have to give notice to the soccer organization on when we might need the vehicle, to me, borders on the unreasonable. It is not something that I think we need to venture down, and I think it exposes us. It exposes us. We're responding to a squeaky wheel and not looking at the big picture, and to do something just as a knee-jerk reaction, not within a system, I think is a bad thing to do. And this is not my district, but that \$100,000 could impact my district, and it could impact -- I'm on the Board of Directors appointed by this Commission. If you all want to unappoint me, I'd love not to go to a 7:30 in the morning meeting. One of you all can come out and go to a 7:30 in the morning. We start the meeting at 7:30. Ungodly. We don't do that in Tennessee. But think about this. Let's not -- just because newspaper or the TV station come out and interview some people, you know, we're knee-jerking reaction to this. I had two people in my district killed. Why don't we have a police presentation as to what we're going to do to counteract that? Systems should not be influenced by illogical irrational knee-jerk reaction. Those are my comments, and this is not before us, Mr. Abolt, for a vote. Is that true?

County Manager Abolt said, no, sir. I do want to let you know obviously, as the work is beginning on 1 and 2, we'll come back to you at your next meeting, and we'll put the amounts to a more specific budget for your approval.

Commissioner Odell said, okay, let me see if I understand this. You're going to commit resources and then come back after the resources have been spent to get our approval?

County Manager Abolt said, I've committed resources on 1 and 2, and that has the issue of safety, and we're doing that now. But then the major expenditures would involve Number 3 and Number 4, and then the fence along the west side of the Health Department, which we'd come back at your next meeting for approval.

Commissioner Odell said, Russ, I'm not being difficult. All I want is an answer that I can understand to my question, whether or not as we speak here today, we have committed resources to this resolution, and we will come back after the resources on 1 and 2 have been spent for our approval. Is that a true statement?

County Manager Abolt said, yes, sir, for your information. There is an issue there, if I may, and I'm not trying to be an alarmist, but there is a legitimate issue on confidence.

Commissioner Odell said, oh, I agree, I agree. I support what you've done 100%. Make no decision about that. I know that this has been a struggle. You've got the competing thing. I understand that. We've got the best County Manager, I mean, in the whole county.

Mr. Abolt said, in the county.

Chairman Liakakis said, in the world.

Commissioner Odell said, in the world. I'll yield, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Liakakis said, all right, Doctor, then two County Commissioners.

Dr. Skelton said, I've heard from a lot of people, as well, and I have heard concerns about lighting, and I've heard concerns about safety in walking through the wooded area from the regular lot, and that has caused some people to want an alternative, even though there are spaces available, plenty of spaces available, in the regular lot. That's just for your information. And then for the other issues, we have about a 15-member emergency team that we could have to call in at any time. We've got to have parking spaces for them when they come in. We have had some thefts out there, so we've changed the security in the building so we can keep people out of the buildings, but we've got a number of trailers that store a lot of information, and we had somebody steal all of our yard equipment something back, so there are concerns that if security improves, it will help us. And most importantly of all, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to urge

you and your colleagues on the Commission to reject Commissioner Harris Odell's request to be removed from the Board of Health. We need him. I can move the meeting up earlier for him, if he would like.

Commissioner Odell said, we'll talk, Doug.

Chairman Liakakis said, Patrick?

Commissioner Farrell said, okay, thank you. A couple of comments. You know, one, you know, Public Works had the same problem with all their yard equipment, and they're on total lockdown, so I don't know that putting the fence around to solve a parking problem is going to solve a security problem. Just to comment there. The other comment is that I think what I heard earlier, you know, after hearing a lot from the community, was that there was going to be some cooperation between the two uses in the interim as, you know, as alternatives are looked at and, of course, I like that spirit of cooperation, where we get the highest and best use of our county assets, since we have a conveniently located parking lot that's utilized at certain times and not utilized at certain times. There's got to be a way with willing folks to work out where everyone can be reasonably satisfied, so I commend Dr. Skelton and the Manager and the soccer community for trying to work together and have an interim solution to some of the problems that Dr. Skelton pointed out to us. Thank you for working together and trying to --

Chairman Liakakis said, Patrick.

Commissioner Shay said, I've now reached the status as a County Commissioner that I'm like one of the senior members up here, but remembering back to 1992, 1993, some of the run-up to actually creating the soccer complex, as Dr. Thomas will recall, certainly Manager Abolt, it was very controversial, the location of the soccer complex, back then. The site that was originally touted by the soccer folks was in the midst of the Bacon Park Forest where the tennis courts are located now, and because there were a great many monumental live oak trees in that area, after a lot of controversy, we decided to put the soccer complex here, even though from a standpoint of drainage and some other things, it was a bit of a compromise. The Health Department was already there. So basically what we did back then -- none of the other Commissioners needs to grab ahold of this and take responsibility for it, but I will -- but we painted the Health Department into a corner, literally.

There does need to be cooperation. I agree with Commissioner Odell that the public safety and public health do represent a somewhat higher priority to public recreation, although they're all very important. I watched both of my sons grow up on those soccer fields in large measure but, you know, in addition to that, the Health Department, although we call it Chatham County Health Department, is also actually pretty much a creature of the State of Georgia. It is also something that provides a service that's mandated by state law and, if I'm not mistaken, many of those employees, maybe all of them that are parking in that parking lot, draw state paychecks. So we're also, to some extent, trumped by the fact that it is a State of Georgia service that's provided there as opposed to a local service. I think there's a compromise solution. I think it requires understanding and cooperation between the two bodies. People that like to drop their children off -- I was one of them. I used to -- you know, I used to trespass, sir -- because I could drop off my sons when they were little guys, and I could see them walk out to the little soccer fields, because the juniors play on the fields that are closest to the Health Department, and the seniors and high schoolers and 18-unders play on the big fields that are located out there, and there's just something comforting about being a parent and being able to see your child walk down and form up with their team down there and know that they've made it. Now, I probably, as they got older, became much more used to parking in the lot that's out by Sallie Mood Drive and trusting that my 12-year old or 13-year old would walk all the way through there and get to the big guy fields. When I was in that mode as a soccer dad, I wasn't really thinking about the Health Department. I was thinking about being a soccer dad.

But there are other times that I've been out there with my County Commissioner hat on, trying to sort through the problems that you guys face on having a master plan to be able to provide the very fundamental services that you provide, and at that moment, I don't really understand why the soccer dads all park where I used to. So we have conflicting interests and good people on both sides of that equation. I think there are ways that, you know, cooperation can end up being the order of the day. I commend the Chairman and the Manager for grabbing ahold of this controversy as quickly as it came up and not letting it get worse. But I don't think there's the perfect solution. I think committing some resources to figuring out what the solution is, is a good thing, but then when it comes time to allocate \$100,000 or thereabouts, that's something that we need to all deliberate about and agree to.

County Manager Abolt said, you'll have two weeks --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman --

Chairman Liakakis said, let me say this, so that everybody understands this, because we've got people in the audience that have children or relatives that are, you know, participants in the soccer wherever it might be. So what is being proposed right now is that Area 1 and 2, that you can see right there, where they're taking the underbrush out of there, putting up a light. Now, we're not talking about a huge amount of money, because our people can take care of that. But under Items 3 and 4, especially 3, is when they get that information, they'll bring it back to the County Commission, and what's going to happen is, the Commission can then approve that, but that will give more parking area to the soccer participants there. Now, I want everybody to know, because Dr. Skelton and our County Staff worked together. I attended a meeting. In fact, it took me most of two days to go into a number of things there, a time element, but that's okay, that's fine.

But we want everybody to know with the soccer area that the Chatham County Health Department, Dr. Skelton now, has agreed that the soccer participants, when, you know, the big field out there is filled, that, number one, they can park in there. They just don't want these certain things to happen like in the day time between the hours of 8 and 5:15, 5:30, that they will not fill up the lot, because they have their own employees that have to park there, plus they have

all of the people in our community that need that medical assistance in that parking lot on Monday through Friday. But what Dr. Skelton has said, you know, if there's some in the day time, if they take up just a few parking spaces and not prevent some individual from going in there to get medical assistance or whatever the situation might be, but also what will happen is that on the weekends that the soccer participants can park right there in the Chatham County Health Department parking lot and, please, we want that message to get out, and everybody that is allied with soccer, is to let the people – do not park going up on the curbing in that island over there and those places where the grass, do not park there. And that way, we've got a situation going on that, you know, accommodates the soccer people and all, and they don't want to have to tow people that are illegally parked there, because, you know, it's just not where you just pull up on the grass where that island is. You have to go over curbing and get into that particular area. But we've worked on this thing, now. The staff and the recreation and Dr. Skelton and his people and everybody else that's involved has taken a lot of time to do what we can to help out in this situation. And what we will do, I'll be asking, and we have, the County Manager to look at that other place where Commissioner Kicklighter was talking about, so in this area, but all -- you know, where they're going to spend additional monies up there on that 3 and 4, that'll come back here, so that that place there, and then what could happen in the future also, there's a possibility when the Chatham County Department, over there where they have Public Works, they will be moving from that location to the area where the Memorial Stadium is, and that could be parking right in there, there's a possibility of that. That's just something they've been looking at. Dean?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just a few things. I think we need to take the guess work out of sending letters home to parents and this, that, and the other, because you actually have tournament teams, people coming from out of town that aren't members of this organization, so you have visitors. Their welcome would be a tow or a ticket. I think you simply do that by following state laws. You erect signs and if the signage is proper, there's no reason or excuse for complaints. You simply follow state law. You put at the entrance and all other places that the law, you know, provides you must put the signs, Health Department parking only, Monday through Friday, eight to five, all others will be towed. In addition, you have specific parking guidelines if you want to stop people from parking on the grass, just -- state law's so silly, but I believe it has to be written in green, no parking in the grass or you'll be towed. Follow state guidelines, put them up properly. The state provides that the signs have to be seen. If you're following true state law, people will know they're not supposed to park there, and the times, and if they break that, simply tow, and there's no reason for anyone to complain to anybody. Dr. Skelton, you know, I think you're a brilliant man, and I think you do a great job, but statistically, I can't really imagine soccer moms being really high on the percentage of breaking into places and everything, so I just don't see that, them being the thefts -- you know, responsible for a lot of the thefts there, so I do agree that a compromise is great. Let them utilize the facility like Commissioner Stone said earlier, and I think that we in this county need to start utilizing facilities in dual roles, and I've said this over and over.

Russ, while this part's on my mind, I'll say it again, coming into town Friday and Saturday nights, there's no parking. It's hard to find parking in this area. We need to utilize that county garage over there at the courthouse and actually make some money for the county in that part. That's a dual utilizing it, you know, in two roles there. Commissioner Odell, I agree with him. I believe knee-jerk reactions – I really don't believe are beneficial to anyone here in the county, and I'll say that because I actually, in receiving one of the calls, the gentleman told me he had, fresh from reading the article, I guess, and he was gonna call the Chairman, he was gonna do this, that, and I said, "Wait, let me give you some advice," and I try to follow this advice, contrary to whether you all will believe or not, I said, "Why don't you sit back, give it one day, relax, and after that, whatever you feel probably will be a better representation of how you feel." So I know how to give advice; I just don't necessarily follow it all the time, but, anyhow, point being is, they could be the squeaky wheel also, and they're not, at my request. I believe they took the advice there and, you know, it runs into what Commissioner Odell said, prioritizing, let's look at it without people having to come up and raise a lot of cain. You know, before a \$100,000 parking lot, I would like for one of my West Chatham kids not to fall in a hole on a soccer field, so, you know, as long as we can prioritize, I'm for county-wide recreation, but let's just make sure that, you know, we prioritize everything.

Chairman Liakakis said, let me make a statement, what you said about the signs, because when we were out there on Saturday, Dr. Skelton agreed and put those signs up that has that -- quotes the state law and all of that, Dean, so he made arrangements, and they're going to have those over there on the area where that island is, and they're going to have it at the entrance. They've already got it at one entrance now, but they are going to put that sign -- I just wanted to let you know.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, are they going to put the times on there?

Chairman Liakakis said, it quotes the state law, it's got the code on there, the state code about proper parking and you can be towed and all of that. It's got all that information on that. All right, and thank the two of you, and we'll get back with this. Oh, excuse me, I'm sorry, Harris?

Commissioner Odell said, I'm sorry, I thought Pat -- did you have something? Russ, can we look at the recreational authority and perhaps a municipal bond to solve some of the problems throughout that we have in recreation? We have an excellent bond rate, and we're going to have a SPLOST in 2012, and I have long hoped that we would look at a five year solution. This solves the immediate problem, but hopefully that program is going to grow. What does it do two years down the road? We ought to be able to project the growth from the historic file, and a way to do that is, I think, is through the recreation authority.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Chairman, may I -- if he's -- are you finished?

Commissioner Odell said, I am.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I just want to -- I did too much pour-mouthing there. Scott Stell Park is really coming up. Staff, you've done a great job. This Commission's done an awesome job supporting it. Actually, the complaint is actually about soccer fields being out there for this soccer organization. But overall, we've put millions out there recently, and it's really doing good, but the soccer fields --

County Manager Abolt said, if I may, Mr. Chairman, I do want to again say and really follow up on what Commissioner Kicklighter just said. What this Board has done, we have not been in the business of looking at small parks. You have been looking at what amounts to large amassing of leisure services, and the one example certainly is here. Scott Stell Park is the other on the west side. But when you look at this facility, and what I mentioned about 45 minutes ago about Whitemarsh Island, I mean, you truly are creating jewels in key locations on the east side, the west side, and then centrally located here. I don't want it to be lost that based on what you've already allowed us to do, and as referred to by the Chairman, we're going further down the Sallie Mood corridor all the way to Montgomery Crossroads. We are looking at -- right now, we've razed some of the property there at Public Works. We're going to relocate that behind Memorial Stadium. We will then have acres of recreational area along that area connecting up with what we refer to as Frank Williams Lake. And the Chairman wants us to look at the entire area, which is really neat, but this is a mega-site. This is like Recreation Disney World. I mean, it will be, because you're creating a major complex, and so we have not been -- had the resource to do neighborhood parks, but this Board has got us on a course of doing these mega-sites. Stell Park is one, Lake Mayer, and Bacon Park is the other, and then, to some extent, the Whitemarsh Island site is the third jewel in the crown.

Commissioner Odell said, while interest rates are good on bonding, and this could be a stimulus, and we could solve a problem short-term, I mean, we wouldn't have to wait five or six years. We could solve it in the next 18 months.

County Manager Abolt said, very fine idea.

Chairman Liakakis said, well, there's a situation going on, too, there might be monies coming in to us that you might not have to bond on, because there's things that are being worked on to bring situations in line to get that money that people are supposed to be paying, you know, coming into the county. Now, what I'd like to have, if there is one representative that would like to come from the soccer -- you know, anybody from the soccer area that would like to speak, because we've got these other things on the agenda, but I'm more than happy to recognize someone that would like to speak soccer.

Liz Thompson said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. My name is Liz Thompson. I'm an attorney in town. I'm also a soccer parent and a businesswoman and a taxpayer of both the City and the County. This situation arose because, as Commissioner Shay aptly -- and I'm going to step over here, because I want to show you all what's going on -- over here -- I'm going to turn this so you all can see it -- we have a situation where children --

Chairman Liakakis said, go up to the microphone, because people can't hear you there.

Ms. Thompson said, the smallest children are coming to these lots right -- these fields right here. With this -- the reason this parking lot gets used is because the only other parking available, as Commissioner Shay said, is down here. If you are dropping off your seven or eight year old child, they're going to walk through the woods, around here, and all the way over here, which is about a half a mile. And you're probably not going to drop your seven or eight year old child off to go over here, and if you have a seven or eight year old child, as at least two parents on our team have, we have two girls on our team, one is the oldest of five, the other is the oldest of four. You've got other kids. So in order to ensure the safety of the one child, you've got to haul all your children over here to drop them off and pick them up. So that's how this whole situation arose. And I've had some very nice conversations with a lot of people in the county. Dr. Skelton and I spoke twice yesterday. He understands our concerns, we understand his, and we appreciate the compromise. Our big concern is the safety of our children, and the big issue that came up with the soccer parents is this is all Chatham County property. All of it is. And then as -- I think it was Commissioner Farrell pointed out -- we learned that the Chatham County Health Department is not really Chatham County, it's the state. But it's on county land. But it's public. And so every soccer parent feels that this is public property, not only are we Chatham County taxpayers, we're state taxpayers, so it's public property. It doesn't matter which governmental entity it is, we're all still taxpayers. And it defies logic to us, as Commissioner Kicklighter pointed out, why we can't dual use this. And when -- this week alone, I have driven by the Chatham County Health Department, the lot's been completely full at nine in the morning, except for the two little strips right by the soccer fields, so, you know, they've got a lot of parking over there, too.

But we like the idea -- we appreciate the idea of being able to share this parking lot, and we hope that if the sharing cannot continue, that the Commission will agree to put the additional parking here at Number 3, which, as you can see, would still allow the parents of the smaller children to have a safe drop-off and pick-up of the children. If not, you know, it's going to be up to this Commission and the Health Department to formulate some sort of dual purpose use for this -- for the soccer parking and all of that. And the only other thing I would say -- and Dr. Skelton and I did talk about this -- is the towing. In Downtown Savannah when you do something wrong, they give you a ticket, so I'm not sure why we're towing versus ticketing, but we do have soccer tournaments that come in. They bring a tremendous amount of money. Chairman Liakakis is aware that we have two huge tournaments in January, which is why he's shooting toward January to resolve some of these issues. Three years ago, we had a tournament. It was pouring down rain, it was in the 30s. We had people from all over, just like Commissioner Kicklighter said. They parked everywhere. It was pouring down rain. Children were playing in three inches of water on the soccer fields. It was in the 30 degrees. They parked wherever they could. They got towed, and they got their cars broken into, and they didn't come back, and those -- that's money not coming to our economy. So this soccer program -- and we have children on our team who drive from Hilton Head and Richmond Hill to play soccer in Savannah, because we have a good program, so this is an economic stimulus as well as recreational. So we thank you for your consideration and all of your comments, and I am very

pleased as I sat here today to hear every one of you, in a different manner, make all the points I wanted to make, so I just want to say thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you.

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VII. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS

None.

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CHATHAM AREA TRANSIT

The Board recessed as the County Commission at 11:05 a.m. and convened as the Chatham Area Transit Authority. Upon adjournment of the Chatham Area Transit Authority, the Board reconvened at 11:50 a.m. as the County Commission.

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VIII. TABLED/RECONSIDERED ITEMS

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

- * 1. PURCHASING ITEM. **Note: Item was tabled at meeting of August 13, 2010, in order to allow time to research past performance of AshBritt. Staff recommends keeping this on the table to allow for more detailed analysis. See staff report.**

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
N. Annual contract for Disaster Recovery Services with automatic option to renew for four (4) additional one year terms	Public Works and Park Services	•AshBritt, Inc. (Primary) •J. B. Coxwell Contracting, Inc. (Secondary)	As needed, if mobilized due to disaster	As required

County Manager Abolt said first you need a motion to take it off the table.

Chairman Liakakis said all right, we need a motion on the floor to take this off the table.

Commissioner Stone said, so move, Mr. Chairman.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Commissioner Stone to take off the table Item N, annual contract for Disaster Recovery Services, with automatic option to renew for four (4) additional one-year terms. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Holmes and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, and Kicklighter were not present.]

Chairman Liakakis, said all right, Russ?

County Manager Abolt said, Ladies and Gentlemen, you will remember that Dr. Thomas, in pre-meeting at the time this was initially on your agenda, brought forward a very certain bill of particulars on issues she wished Staff to research. A combination of the work of Mr. Hart and Mr. Kaigler has brought forward a Staff Report which the attorney has before you. I'll defer to him in a moment, but essentially what the issue is, this is services when we would need it on the occasion following a major storm, which we have no longer, don't have ever, the resources to clean up and to recover from it, so it's a retainer type of relationship. The type of firms participating in this obviously must have experience on the national level. The issue now comes as to what choices the Board has, and you'll see from the Attorney's report, you do have options. It isn't a bid, as such, but you have some discretion. Jon?

County Attorney Hart said, sure. Commissioner Thomas received a lot of information concerning -- raising issues concerning contract with clients, delivery of services, and disputes that end up in litigation concerning AshBritt. In fairness to them, a lot of this information was Internet information and, as you know, verifying some things on the

Internet is extremely difficult. We were asked to look into the situation and undertook to investigate as best we could, as much as we could, and we went into the records of the State and Federal Courts in the various states and obtained what we could find there, and then did some credit things and filings in other public forums. Basically as a result of our investigation, there has not been -- there was also an allegation of inappropriate lobbying by this group, AshBritt, not in regard to the Chatham County contract, but in others. As a result of speaking to people who have contracted, we have no information from their staff that would acknowledge positively or negatively that there had been inappropriate contact. It was just like, well, we don't know anything. There were also allegations that after Katrina, they did not pay their subcontractors, and there was, in fact, a number of suits, probably 12 or 13, that related to that. And what the situation was there is, they had a "pay when paid" clause within their contract, which means they did not have to pay the subcontractor until they got paid. And because this is a federal disaster fund situation, the government does not allow "pay when paid" clauses within those type of contracts. All of those cases have been settled and resolved. We don't know how exactly the money flowed there from the standpoint that all those -- that was just not disclosed in the public record documents. We do know that a couple of the AshBritt subcontractors' cases were dismissed against AshBritt.

Now, we also know that subsequent to Katrina and subsequent to this litigation that occurred in both Federal and State Court in Mississippi and in Louisiana, the U.S. Corps of Engineers entered into a very large multi-state contract along the East Coast for them to provide similar or same services that we are now asking them to provide for the County. We have also done a background investigation in regards with the State of Florida and Georgia. They are not debarred in any of those states. They're not on the complaint list of either one of those states. And they're not on the federal listing, the EPLS listing, which is the same type of listing for debarment. We do know that there is a second rank from J.B. Coxwell. Coxwell's information is also a very good background information. AshBritt has approximately 40 full time employees. Coxwell, headquartered out of Jacksonville, has approximately 200. Both companies are very strong. AshBritt claims over \$50 million in a working capital line, which is significant, and they can secure up to \$100 million in performance bonds for debris removal. The other company has a bonding capacity of \$250 million per contract and a \$1.2 billion ability to overall bond. We could not find out any public information in regard to how they were capitalized because they are a closely-held corporation. We have the factors listed in there insofar as what was to be determined. Contractor 1 and Contractor 2 are both qualified contractors. As you are aware, this is a service contract. This is not a construction contract, and this is not a bid for equipment or services, where you have limits basically where the only thing you can do is award to the lowest responsible bidder. If you so selected and found that it was in the best interest of the County to award to the second person, you have that discretion. On the other hand, if you want to award to the person that is recommended by Staff, you have that discretion. Based on my investigation, I found nothing that I could discern that gave me discomfort in the first bidder. Now, that's entirely up to you and that's all I can say.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Priscilla?

Commissioner Thomas said, Mr. Chairman, thank you very much to the Attorney. I was the one that had it pulled and requested that the Attorney and the Manager and Staff give it a thorough investigation. According to their findings, based on the findings, both companies are very, very strong, and the concerns that I had, I believe they have been answered, and therefore, I would recommend that we would approve the recommendation as was submitted prior to my removing for questions.

Commissioner Farrell said, I'll second that.

Chairman Liakakis said, we have a second. Now, is there anybody here in the audience that would like to speak? Jon, should we go through that at this particular point?

County Attorney Hart said, yeah, if you choose. But for clarification of the record, the recommendation and the motion is to award the contract to AshBritt.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, all right, then, we have a motion on the floor and a second to award it to AshBritt. Let's go on the board. Motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved approval of the Purchasing Item N, annual contract for Disaster Recovery Services with automatic option to renew for four (4) additional one year terms. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Farrell and it carried. Chairman Liakakis and Commissioners Stone, Farrell, Odell, Gellatly, and Thomas voted yes. Commissioner Holmes voted no. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay and Kicklighter were not present.]

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IX. ITEMS FOR *INDIVIDUAL* ACTION

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

- 1. TO REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND TRANSFERS:(1) increase revenues and expenditures in the General Fund M&O \$140,150 for two positions reimbursed by Step Up Savannah, and (2) in the Multiple Grant Fund: a) increase revenues and expenditures \$349,969 for a grant to the Family Drug Court Programs in Juvenile Court, and b) increase revenues and expenditures \$100,000 for a**

grant from the City of Savannah and Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department to the District Attorney's Office.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Commissioner Odell, seconded by Commissioner Holmes and carried unanimously to approve the following budget amendments and transfers: (1) increase revenues and expenditures in the General Fund M&O \$140,150 for two positions reimbursed by Step Up Savannah, and (2) in the Multiple Grant Fund: a) increase revenues and expenditures \$349,969 for a grant to the Family Drug Court Programs in Juvenile Court, and b) increase revenues and expenditures \$100,000 for a grant from the City of Savannah and Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department to the District Attorney's Office. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay and Kicklighter were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-1
AGENDA DATE: October 8, 2010

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

ISSUE: To request approval of the following budget amendments and transfers: (1) increase revenues and expenditures in the General Fund M&O \$140,150 for two positions reimbursed by Step Up Savannah, and (2) in the Multiple Grant Fund: a) increase revenues and expenditures \$349,969 for a grant to the Family Drug Court Programs in Juvenile Court, and b) increase revenues and expenditures \$100,000 for a grant from the City of Savannah and Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department to the District Attorney's Office.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Step Up Savannah is requesting Board approval to create two positions. Chatham County will provide payroll services for the positions. The costs associated with the positions will be reimbursed by Step Up. A memorandum of understanding has been prepared that outlines the agreement between the two parties. A budget amendment to the General Fund M&O has been prepared. A resolution is attached.
2. Juvenile Court has received a \$349,969 grant from the Office of Justice Programs for the Family Drug Court Programs. A resolution to amend the Multiple Grant Fund is attached.
3. The City of Savannah and Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department have proposed to enter into an agreement with the Office of the District Attorney to provide funding through the SMART Policing Grant for a two-year period. The purpose of the grant is to hire an Assistant District Attorney II. The amount of the grant is \$100,000. A resolution to amend the Multiple Grant Fund is attached.

FUNDING: The budget amendments will establish funding in the General Fund M&O, and Multiple Grant fund.

ALTERNATIVES:

- (1) That the Board approve the following:

GENERAL FUND M&O

Increase revenues and expenditures in the General Fund M&O \$140,150 for two positions reimbursed by Step Up Savannah.

MULTIPLE GRANT FUND

- a) Increase revenues and expenditures \$349,969 for a grant to the Family Drug Court Programs in Juvenile court.
- b) Increase revenues and expenditures \$100,000 for a grant from the City of Savannah and Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department to the District Attorney's Office.

- (2) Amend or deny the request.

POLICY ANALYSIS: State law grants the Board authority to amend the budget during the year as it deems necessary.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board approve Alternative 1.
Prepared by: Read DeHaven

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2. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO ISSUE AN RFP TO PROVIDE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES FOR ZONES 3 AND 4.

Chairman Liakakis said, I think you wanted to make a suggestion on that.

County Manager Abolt said, please. Mr. Chairman, the reason we bring it up on an individual basis, this had discussion during the budget session in the Spring and early Summer. There is a five-year commitment that would end as of the

end of this calendar year, wherein the County has subsidized based on certain performance, provision of ambulance service in part of the county. The issue here is, this is an annual expenditure under the current contract of about \$900,000. When we were looking at and offered up different strategies to balance the budget, one of the offers, though it was not employed to balance the budget, was to get out of the business. This is a moment, I guess, of departure from the standpoint of how you would wish to go on that. Again, the budget was not balanced assuming you'd get out of the business, but it's now time to advertise for a new five-year contract. Normally what we would do, and we will do, is go to the EMS Advisory Committee. This is made up of practitioners formed by the previous Commission in years gone by to make sure that the service is responsive, fair, and involves participation of all emergency providers. We would go – Mr. Kaigler would go to that committee and say, here is the RFP, do you wish to comment on it from the standpoint of current language. And that would be traditional, and we would do that as a matter of course.

The reason I elevate it, though, to the level of your discussion today, if you wish, at the same time you ask that body to look at the RFP and give their professional advice on the choice of words, you could ask them to advise you as to whether or not it is necessary to continue on this program. As you know, and I cannot remember, certainly when I was talking to the Chairman yesterday, the last time we received any complaint on the responsiveness of ambulance service throughout the county. That could be read as two ways. Number 1, this program is particularly effective or, Number 2, the providers are so professional that no longer does it require the financial stimulus of the county. So you could, in addition to asking the EMS Advisory Committee to look at the RFP, ask them to advise you on whether or not we could get out of the business of subsidy. If the recommendation is received by you, and regardless of how you might dispose of it, if it's in the negative, namely, to get out of it, we would forecast a \$450,000 savings for the balance of this fiscal year and then an annualized savings of \$900,000 a year going forward.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, you see what the recommendation is from the Staff, is that we refer this with all of the additional things to the EMS Advisory Committee. Would someone --

Commissioner Odell said, I'll make the motion to approve.

Commissioner Thomas said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, let's go on the board.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Commissioner Odell for Board approval to issue an RFP to provide emergency medical services for Zones 3 and 4. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thomas and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay and Kicklighter were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-2
AGENDA DATE: October 8, 2010

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Michael A. Kaigler, Asst. County Manager/Director of Human Resources and Services

Issue: To request the Board of Commissioners approval to issue an RFP to provide emergency medical services for zones 3 & 4.

Background: Chatham County established its Emergency Medical Services in 1973. In 1998 with the agreement of all Emergency medical providers, the County was divided into coverage zones to provide better coverage and a more effective and efficient Emergency Medical Service System. In 2001, Chatham County made the decision to privatize its Emergency Medical Services through contract. An RFP was released and the contract was awarded to MedStar for a one year contract with four annual renewals. The County again issued an RFP in 2005, with MedStar being awarded the contract for a second five-year term. The current contract is scheduled to expire on December 31, 2010.

Facts and Findings:

1. For purposes of Emergency Medical Services coverage, Chatham County is divided into four zones.
 - a. Zone 1: all of the City of Savannah North of Eisenhower Drive, to the County line, West to include the City's limit (West Lathrope Ave) and East to the Wilmington River, to include Dutch Island and the Isle of Hope. The provider for Zone 1 is MedStar.
 - b. Zone 2: West of I-516, South of I-16 to the County line, both sides of Eisenhower Drive, East to Skidaway Road, South to the County line, inclusive of Skidaway Island. The provider for Zone 2 is Southside Emergency Medical Services.
 - c. Zone 3: East of the Wilmington River, including Tybee Island. The provider for Zone 3 is Chatham County Emergency Medical Services.
 - d. Zone 4: West of the City's limits of Savannah (West Lathrop Ave), North of and including I-16 to the County line. The provider for Zone 4 is Chatham County Emergency Medical Services.

2. In 1973 Chatham County Commission established an Advisory Council to the Commission to address Emergency Medical Service issues. It is chaired by Dr. Frank Davis and its membership includes members from Emergency Medical Services, Fire, Police, Public Health and Emergency Management Agencies, as well as representative of the Hospital System. Before, the last two RFPs were released; the County has solicited in-put from the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council for their recommended changes to the document. The Council is scheduled to meet on Wednesday, October 13, 2010. At that time County staff plans to present a draft RFP to the Council for their in-put.
3. The County currently budgets \$900,000 as a subsidy for EMS coverage in zones 3&4. The County is not mandated by law to provide this service and a decision needs to be made as to whether the Board wants to continue to provide the subsidy. If the Board chooses not to continue to provide the subsidy, then the Council would need to be notified so that the impact of this decision could be addressed.

Funding: No additional funding required.

Alternatives:

1. Authorize staff to issue a request for proposal for coverage of Emergency Medical Services zones 3 & 4.
2. Do not issue a request for proposal.
3. Provide staff with other direction.

Policy Analysis:

Emergency Medical Services coverage in Chatham County is divided in zones as per agreement with the providers that cover Chatham County. This system was established to provide a effective and efficient method to provide Emergency Medical Services. Chatham County is not mandated to provide this service and providing the subsidy is at the discretion of the Board of Commissioners.

Recommendation: Board approve Alternative 1.

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3. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE ACCEPTANCE OF BERWICK LAKES AND HAMPTON PLACE IMPROVEMENTS, CONTINGENT UPON RECEIPT OF \$24,000.00.

Chairman Liakakis said, you wanted to explain that.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, this is long in the tooth, because it goes back to action or conceptual action taken in November of last year. You'll recall some of the story behind the problems with the developer of Berwick Lakes and Willow Lakes. It was left at if the Homeowners Association would come forward and pay sufficient money to cover some maintenance issues, the County would accept the subdivisions and then there would be a going forward commitment to do some major investment based on streets and drainage improvements, and that would be funded by SPLOST. The issue now before you is communications from the attorney for the neighborhood groups qualifying what amounts to Homeowners Associations that we thought were there that are not quite finished from the standpoint of approval of the Secretary of State. In conversation with the County Attorney, and I want him to be very specific in his presentation, but my recommendation would be that you accept what is before you, contingent upon the County Attorney's approval of the action of the attorney, Mr. Walker, for the homeowners, to satisfy Attorney Hart that they, in fact, do have Homeowners Associations.

Commissioner Odell said, why don't we table this? Why are we dealing with it on a contingency rather than just tabling it?

County Attorney Hart said, you could do that.

Commissioner Odell said, can one of you explain it?

County Attorney Hart said, what happened here was, this thing, like the County Manager said, is kinda long in the tooth, and by the time the negotiations came around where we worked out the things that we thought we needed to work out, several of the old Homeowners Associations were fine, they were organized and working, were administratively dissolved by the Secretary of State because they didn't file the proper paper work. So, really, it's a reinstatement issue, and I talked with Josh Walker, who's representing the Associations out there, and he had indicated he thought he could either get it done by the end of this week or early next week, and they did not want to take it off of the agenda. At that point, I said, well, the only other way I know to handle it, other than to table it or take it off the agenda, would be to approve it contingent upon my approval that those subdivision Homeowners Associations are in fact reinstated. Now, this morning, I got an agreement that had some modified language in it, and I have sent back correspondence to them during this meeting indicating that the language was acceptable, save and except the County does not accept water and sewer, because we're just not in the water and sewer business, and we do not accept retention ponds, because we have never done that. And subject to those two words being removed out of the agreement, we have no objection to that. So it's at your all's pleasure, really.

Chairman Liakakis said, what do you recommend?

County Manager Abolt said, in this particular instance, I feel I want to be fair to everybody. This was something that Commissioner Kicklighter was very passionate in his arguments before, not on this particular action, but we can either defer it until the next meeting or have the feelings of Commissioner Kicklighter on it.

[Commissioner Kicklighter returned to the meeting room.]

Chairman Liakakis said, this is that Berwick item, Number 3 there. We just had the presentation on it, and they're going to bring us more information to the next meeting. Are you in agreement with that, Dean?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, if that's the way this needs to be, but I don't -- let me ask, is there a problem passing it, contingent upon them bringing proof that they --

County Attorney Hart said, that was the other recommendation we had made. Really, either one of them will work. There's just been a couple of the Homeowners Associations being administratively dissolved since we last took action. I've got representations from the attorney that he'll have that fixed, and I'm fine with it either way, whatever you all want to do.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I would sincerely appreciate approval contingent upon them presenting proof to our Attorney that they have a legal Homeowners Association --

Commissioner Farrell said, I'll second that motion.

Commissioner Odell said, I will, too, Dean. We're not going to do a retention -- accept a retention pond, we're not going to accept water and sewer. But that's the condition. We're not going to accept water and sewer.

County Attorney Hart said, we're not in the water and sewer business.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yeah, that's not -- they're on that private system.

Commissioner Odell said, they put that in the agreement that was sent over here.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yeah, and we can't even accept it because they're under that private system with the private person.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Commissioner Kicklighter that the Board approve acceptance of Berwick Lakes and Hampton Place improvements, contingent upon receipt of \$24,000.00, and contingent upon the County Attorney being satisfied that the Homeowners Associations have been reinstated. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Farrell and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay and Gellatly were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-3
AGENDA DATE: October 8, 2010

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: R. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney

ISSUE:

Acceptance of Berwick Lakes, phases 3 and 5 and Hampton Place (a/k/a Berwick Lakes, phases 2, 6, and 7), improvements, contingent upon receipt of \$24,000.00 from the developer.

BACKGROUND:

The Home Owners' Associations have requested the County to accept the improvements for Berwick Lakes, phases 3 and 5 and Hampton Place (a/k/a Berwick Lakes, phases 2, 6, and 7) for maintenance.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The Home Owners' Associations have requested the County to accept the improvements for Berwick Lakes, phases 3 and 5 and Hampton Place (a/k/a Berwick Lakes, phases 2, 6, and 7).
2. The County has agreed to take over the care and maintenance of the roads within each subdivision, upon payment of \$24,000 from the developer.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

It is in the best interest of the County to accept the subdivisions.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Accept the improvements for Berwick Lakes, phases 3 and 5 and Hampton Place (a/k/a Berwick Lakes, phases 2, 6, and 7) for maintenance.
2. Do not accept the improvements for Berwick Lakes, phases 3 and 5 and Hampton Place (a/k/a Berwick Lakes, phases 2, 6, and 7) for maintenance.

RECOMMENDATION:

Alternative 1.

RJH/jr

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4. UPDATE THE BOARD ON THE EMPLOYEE WELLNESS PROGRAM.

Chairman Liakakis said, the main thing is that it is working out. Michael?

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, we made a commitment to you all. I know Dr. Thomas and others have been the leaders in this, and you wanted us to give you periodic updates on it, and that's what we're doing. Mr. Kaigler. By the way, a very healthy Mike Kaigler, I might add.

Michael Kaigler said, good afternoon, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners. Wellness programs generally have two main objectives and they're designed to help maintain or improve employee health. The first objective is to provide disease management for employees who are at high risk for chronic disease. The second is to provide programs to ensure that employees who are at moderate and low risk do not progress into the high risk category. Accomplishing these two objectives helps companies and county government such as ours save money on health care costs in the long run. This Board has consistently supported the health and wellness of their employees, such as in 2008, the Board approved a formal Wellness Policy. The Wellness Policy reinforces the Board's support in establishing wellness initiatives that address chronic disease prevention, healthy eating, physical activity, obesity, stress management, and tobacco cessation. Along with the Wellness Policy, the Board approved expansion of the Wellness Program to include employee health risk assessments. Health risk assessments, or HRAs, are used by organizations to establish a link between health conditions and health care costs. They provide the foundation for development of additional Wellness Programs to improve employee health.

Last year, the Chatham County Commission authorized us to complete its first health -- comprehensive health risk assessment for all county employees covered under the health insurance program. As you can see, 1,137 employees of the 1,336 employees, or 85% covered under the health insurance program, completed the HRA process. This was accomplished in conjunction with Ourlife and St. Joe's/Candler Health System. The process included on-line health screening, lab work for blood sugar, cholesterol, and additional measurements for blood pressure, height, and weight. The lab work was administered through St. Joe's/Candler and our partnership with Ourlife. The employees met with a nurse practitioner for lifestyle counseling sessions. During these sessions, the nurse practitioner reviewed the employees' medications for duplications and possible interactions. When loss costly medications were available, a list of alternatives were presented to the employee to give to their primary care physician. Additionally, the nurse practitioner reviewed the HRA information and, as needed, recommended lifestyle changes. It's also helpful to note that employees who completed the process received premium discounts.

The next slide shows the results of our first health risk assessments and, as you can see, 24% of the population had high blood pressure, 34% had diabetes or elevated blood sugar, 39% had low aerobic exercise or no exercise at all, 80% had high body weight. The next slide, 38% had high overall coronary risk, 74% had low nutritional status, 32% low in sleep, and 33% missed five or more days of work last year due to sickness. It's also helpful to note that low nutritional status indicates that employees are not eating healthy, eating a healthy diet on a regular basis, and lack of sleep has been linked to lower performance at work. HRA results show that many of the health conditions affecting our employees can be directly linked to excess body weight. Medical studies have shown that excessive body weight increases risk of high blood pressure, coronary risk and diabetes. Research has also shown that people who get less than seven hours of sleep per night are more likely to be obese. To address the health conditions affecting our employees, Staff is recommending that the County focus on exercise, nutrition, and diabetes management to improve the health of our work force and to save health care dollars.

I want to briefly go over a couple of success stories that we've had and remind the Board about the 2008 pilot program, where the Board approved a 12-week program administered by Dr. Bradley. In that program, 34 employees were selected to work with Dr. Bradley and participated in this intensive pilot program. Employees received personal training, nutrition counseling, and medical adjudication while participating in this program. The program proved to be successful and resulted in an annualized prescription drug savings both to County and the employees that participated in the program. For the 34 employees, the annualized projected savings was \$105,000 for the County and \$77,600 for the employees. This more than paid for that pilot program. Also, in March of this year, Human Resources conducted a pilot fitness program in conjunction with the Sheriff's Department. Thirty Sheriff's Department employees participated in this 12-week program. The fitness program included cardio, strength training, stretching, and aerobics. In addition to the fitness portion, a registered dietician gave one-hour presentation on healthy eating habits and a sample cooking class. The average weight lost in this program was eight pounds and one individual lost 19 pounds. Impact on claims: A review of the year-end PPO claims data, and that's the year ending June 30th, shows that medical

claims and prescription drug claims, we saw a 3% increase in the amount spent compared to the previous fiscal year, which was a 7.5% increase, so we're seeing a decrease in our health care trend.

As a result of the success of the pilot program, Staff is recommending continuing the partnership with Ourlife to offer on-site exercise and nutrition classes. The proposed exercise nutrition program will run for 12 weeks and be offered at three county locations. Each session can accommodate up to 15 employees and participants will receive individual nutrition and fitness assessment. Participants will meet twice a week for fitness and nutrition classes. The classes will be facilitated by a certified personal trainer and a registered dietician. The classes will be offered on a first come, first serve basis and will be offered every 12 weeks. The fitness classes will also include cardio, strength training, stretching, and aerobics. A registered dietician will teach classes that focus on meal planning, controlling cravings, and reading food labels. The registered dietician will also schedule grocery shopping tours to show employees how to select healthier foods when grocery shopping. And the total cost for that program, this 12-week program, is \$1,120 for 15 employees -- excuse me -- \$3,120 for 15 employees. We will initially run the program for one year and track the progress of the participants. This information will be reported to the Board at the end of the program, and we will reevaluate the program and make recommendations as to whether to continue. The goal is to open this program up to all county employees.

The next thing that we want to focus on is diabetes management. A significant portion of our population have either diabetes or elevated blood sugar, which is a precursor to full-fledged diabetes. We are currently with Blue Cross/Blue Shield and our consultant, AON, to develop a comprehensive diabetes management program. We're considering things such as providing incentives for paying for the cost of the diabetic supplies such as the strips and insulin if an employee participates in the program and is compliant. It's our goal to come back before the Board in November to request approval of that diabetes management program. Our next steps include how we incorporate the dependents and retirees into our Wellness Program. The County will begin screening dependents age 18 and over in January of 2011. We are working with our current providers to formalize logistics for the dependents screening. Retirees screenings began in August and will continue through the end of the year. We've partnered with, again, St. Joe/Candler to offer these screenings. There are approximately 169 retirees under the age of 65 who have an opportunity to participate in the screenings. We're going to use this data to benchmark the current health status of our employees, and we're also recommending that the HRAs be conducted on all employees on a biannual basis. I'm going to ask Ms. Fulton to come forward, and she's going to go over some of the current programs that we're currently offering in our Wellness Program.

Commissioner Odell may I ask a question before we break for lunch?

Chairman Liakakis said, what you're talking about, the most important thing, to make sure that we help our employees to be healthy. That's the main thing, because we want to consider when we see some of those statistics about diabetes, we see about overweight and those kind of things, and it's important that we get this done. Not only is it going to make our employees more healthier by going through this program, but it would save us a huge amount of money in our insurance premium, and that's one of the things, because it kept going up. And I don't think we need anymore explanation on this, other than if there's something that we need to vote on it now about continuing the program as you said.

Mr. Kaigler said, well, just in summary, then, what we're asking the Board to approve is to expand the current wellness program to approve the exercise/nutrition program at a cost of \$3,120 per 12-week session and then at the end of that period, we will report back to the Board the success.

Commissioner Odell said, I've got a question, unless you're the only one who can talk, Pete. May I ask a question? The nutritional program, the Wellness Program, is first come, first served.

Mr. Kaigler said, yes, sir, we're going to have -- yes, sir.

Commissioner Odell said, to me, and my concern is that if you have your goals to assist the employee and to save the employee money and for us to save money, the first come, first served doesn't speak to the person necessarily who needs the service the most. I'm a little bit concerned about that, because I think that it's an effort, but I'm not certain that it's an effort that targets what is needed. I think it's a shotgun approach, and I'm not certain, I'm not comfortable that that will assist us and assist the employees who need it the most. The Wellness Program, contrary to what Mr. Abolt said, that started -- started with my presentation, and, thank you, Russ, for not giving me credit.

Mr. Abolt said, I apologize.

Commissioner Odell said, anytime. I'm concerned about this program, and I'm concerned that we don't need to do any additional studies, and here's why. We were having a 20% growth in our health insurance premium, and for those people in TV land, we're spending over \$20 million a year in health costs. Some of the horrendous things that we were doing was that we were not using generics. We were letting other people who benefitted from our ineptness -- and we were inept -- profit, and so ultimately, our employees suffered from ignorance, or not the proper information. We suffered because we paid more. I'm not comfortable with the recommendation. I say all that to say I'd like to have this tabled until my -- I'm not certain that doing something is the same thing as doing something that's necessary. I see that they're different. And for us to vote on this today does something. It, to me, does not do something that is necessary, and I'd ask consideration that this be tabled and I'll guarantee you --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, is that a motion?

Commissioner Stone said, I'll second it.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, a motion to -- we can't do anything now except vote on it.

Commissioner Odell said, we need to table this.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, can we handle that next item before we go in Executive? It should be done quick.

Commissioner Thomas said, which one is that?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Number 5, request approval of a revision to the Triplett Park Master Plan.

Commissioner Thomas said, oh, we missed that?

County Attorney Hart said, you all need to vote on this first.

Commissioner Odell said, yeah, let's finish voting on this.

Chairman Liakakis said, let's go on the board right now. Okay, motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to table approval of expansion of the current Wellness Program to approve the exercise/nutrition program at a cost of \$3,120 per 12-week session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stone and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Shay was not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-4
AGENDA DATE: October 8, 2010

To: Board of Commissioners

Thru: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

From: Michael A. Kaigler, Asst. County Manager/Director of Human Resources and Services

Issue:

To update the Board on the Employee Wellness Program

Background:

At the January 2009 Board meeting, the Board approved the expansion of the Employee Wellness Program to include Health Risk Assessments (HRAs). The County partnered with St. Joseph's/Candler Health System and Ourlife for the HRA process. The process included an online health questionnaire and lab work for fasting blood sugar and cholesterol. Additionally, measurements for blood pressure, height, weight, waist and hips were obtained. This report provides the results of the Employee Health Screenings and presents recommendations regarding the Employee Wellness Program.

Facts and Findings:

1. The lab work and measurements were administered by St. Joseph's/Candler Health System. Through the partnership with Ourlife, employees met with a Nurse Practitioner (NP) for a Lifestyle Counseling Session. During this session, the NP reviewed employee medications for duplications and possible interactions. When less costly medications were available, a list of alternatives was created for the employee to provide to his or her Primary Care Physician. Additionally, the NP reviewed the HRA and as needed, recommended lifestyle changes to improve the employee's health.

The following results were derived from the Ourlife Lifestyle Counseling Sessions.

- 172 employees were referred for screening exams such as colonoscopies, PSAs, Dexascans, Mammograms, and Pap smears.
 - 370 Prevention/Educational Referrals were coordinated. These included: 253 diet referrals, 63 PCP referrals, 49 Diabetes Education Referrals, 5 OB/Gyn
2. Discounted premiums were offered as incentives for employee participation in the HRA process. There were 1,137 individuals (519 men, 618 women, average age 45) who participated in the HRA Process out of a total of 1,336. This reflected approximately 85% of employees who are covered under the health plan. The following results derived from lab work and measurements will be used as the baseline for developing additional Employee Wellness Programs.
 - 80% of the assessed employees are overweight
 - 74% had low nutritional status
 - 59% had a sedentary lifestyle
 - 59% had a moderate to high coronary risk

- 33% had high blood sugar
4. The screening results indicate that the major health condition affecting our employees is obesity. Research has shown that obesity is a major contributing factor to diabetes and coronary risk. Based on this, staff recommends that emphasis be placed on exercise, nutrition, and Diabetes Management to improve employee health. To benchmark the health status of our employees, staff is recommending biannual screenings. The County will begin screening dependents ages 18 and older in January 2011. We are working with our providers to formalize the logistics for dependent screenings.
 5. FY 2010, the County paid \$230,932 in benefits claims for diabetes treatment. Based on the recent health screenings, 33% of our employees had blood sugar readings that were higher than the recommended levels. Since Diabetes is one of the major health conditions affecting employees, staff is recommending that the County implement an intensive Diabetes Management Program. We will be exploring incentives such as premium discounts and free diabetic strips for employees with a Diabetes diagnosis. At the October 22, 2010 meeting, staff will be forwarding a Diabetes Management Program Outline along with associated costs, to the Board for approval.
 6. The County currently offers Weight Watchers at Work and discounted gym memberships with utilization requirements to employees. There are 166 employees who are participating in the discounted gym membership program. Weight Watchers at Work currently has 40 County Employees who attend weekly sessions. Over the course of the 17-week Weight Watchers Program these employees have lost a combined total of 400 pounds.
 7. In conjunction with Ourlife, the County offered a Pilot Fitness Programs at the Sheriff's Department in March of this year. Thirty Sheriff's Department employees participated in this 12-week program. The fitness elements of the program included cardio, strength training, stretching and dancing/aerobics. In addition to the fitness portion, a Registered Dietician gave a one hour presentation on healthy eating habits and a sample cooking class. The average weight loss was 8 pounds, and one individual lost 19 pounds.
 8. As a result of the success of initial Pilot Program with Ourlife in 2008 and the March Pilot Program at the Sheriff's Department, staff is recommending continuing the partnership with Ourlife to offer onsite exercise and nutrition classes beginning in October 2010. A Certified Personal Trainer and Registered Dietitian will facilitate the classes. The classes will run for 12 weeks and will be offered at various County locations. The total cost of each 12-week session will be \$3,120. Each session accommodates up to 12 employees. The budget is not to exceed \$12,500 for the balance of the fiscal year.
 9. Retiree screenings began in August and will continue through the end of the year. There are 169 retirees under the age of 65 who have an opportunity to participate in the screening process. The Retiree screening process consists of lab work for cholesterol, blood glucose/A1C, blood pressure, height, and weight.

Funding:

Funding to cover this addition to the Wellness Program is in the Internal Services Health Insurance Fund/Department 6509130 57.30101.

Alternatives:

1. Approve the onsite Nutrition/Exercise Program at a cost of \$3,120 per 12-week session. Also adopt a policy that requires biannual HRAs for County employees.
2. Provide staff with other direction.

Policy Analysis:

The Board of Commissioners has shown support for the health of employees through its adoption of a formal wellness policy and the approval of wellness initiatives. In 2009, the Board approved the expansion of the wellness program to include HRAs. Many companies use HRAs to establish the link between health conditions and healthcare costs.

For Chatham County, results from the HRAs indicate that obesity is the leading health condition affecting our employees. Research has shown that being obese increases coronary and diabetes risks. Exploring ways to reduce obesity among employees will support the Board's policy to provide the best benefits in the area at the most economical costs.

Recommendations:

The Board Approve Alternative 1.

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5. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF A REVISION TO THE TRIPLETT PARK MASTER PLAN.

Chairman Liakakis said, if there's going to be some discussion on it, we know we have two –

Commissioner Odell said, are you going to make the motion?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yeah.

Commissioner Odell said, I'll second it, we're done.

Chairman Liakakis said, let's go on the board.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Commissioner Kicklighter to approve the revision to the Triplett Park Master Plan. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Odell and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay and Farrell were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-5
AGENDA DATE: October 8, 2010

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

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

Issue: Request Board approval of a revision to the Triplett Park Master Plan.

Background: The original Master Plan for the Triplett Park was approved by the Board in May 1995. On January 29, 2010 the Board awarded a contract with Thomas and Hutton Engineering Co. for the engineering and design of the last and final phase.

Facts and Findings:

1. Phase IV and V as originally approved in the Master Plan in May 1995 includes the following:
 - a. Construction of park trails
 - b. Primitive camping area with restroom facilities
 - c. Water distribution system
 - d. Sanitary sewer system extension
 - e. Multi-purpose field (for re-enactments and general purpose)
 - f. Picnic and play area
 - g. Fitness station
 - h. Boat dock and ramp
 - i. Amphitheater
 - j. Camp store (approx. 2400 s.f.) and Education Center (approx. 5200 s.f.) with restrooms
 - k. Tent camping sites
 - l. Parking area and overflow parking area
 - m. Landscape treatment and site furnishings
 - n. Electrical and telephone service
 - o. History trails
2. The project funding is from the SPLOST 2003 - 2008 in the amount of \$2,000,000.
3. Thomas and Hutton Engineering with cooperation from their sub-consultant Landscape Architect Wood Partners, Inc. revised the Master Plan. For the most part, the amenities remained intact. The revised Master Plan primarily changes the location of the proposed amenities in Phase IV and V. Removed from the original Master Plan are the tent camping sites (primitive camping remains as proposed) and the camp store. The revised Master Plan moves the amphitheater and the Education/restrooms to the multi-purposed field. Attached is a copy of the Revised Master Plan dated September 3, 2010.
4. Improvements made to the park will add amenities to the park that will require additional staffing and equipment. Currently, a maintenance worker is assigned to the park for 40 hours a week and a Recreation Leader for 20 hours a week splitting time with Stell Park. Because of the new amenities and increase usage of the park, the park will need to increase maintenance needs up to 60 hours per week and a Recreation Leader to 40 hours a week. The additional staffing will be requested in the FY 2012 Recreation Budget.
5. The proposed improvements will include an estimated 500 spaces for cars using the dedicated spaces shown on the Master Plan, parking around the cleared tree area (formerly the camp sites) and along the main roads.

Funding: Funds to begin the last and final phase is currently available from the SPLOST 2003 - 2008.

Policy Statement: Board approval of a master plan is desired in order to guide the development of the facility.

Alternatives:

1. Board approve revisions to the Triplett Park Master plan as described and shown on the attachment.
2. Board not approve revisions and provide staff with further direction.

Recommendations: Board approve Alternative #1.

District 7.

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Chairman Liakakis said, we'll have a short recess.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, if you'd like to go into Executive Session, to save time, you could entertain a motion to recess into Executive Session for land use, litigation, and personnel.

RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion was made by Commissioner Kicklighter and seconded by Commissioner Gellatly to recess to Executive Session for the purpose of land use, litigation, and personnel.

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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:

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve a motion to authorize the Chairman to execute an affidavit that the Executive Session was held in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, and Odell were not present.]

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X. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL ACTION (Continued)

6. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVE INCLUSION OF SAVANNAH/CHATHAM CASA AS AN EQUAL RECIPIENT OF 5% FUNDING COLLECTED BY CHATHAM COUNTY, AS LOCAL VICTIM ASSISTANCE ADD-ON FINES, STARTING JANUARY 1, 2011, REQUIRING CASA TO PROVIDE A DETAILED REPORT TO THE COUNTY MANAGER BY JUNE 1, 2011, AS TO HOW THE FUNDS ARE BEING USED SPECIFICALLY FOR THE BENEFIT OF VICTIMS OF CRIME.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Commissioner Kicklighter to approve inclusion of Savannah/Chatham CASA as an equal recipient of 5% Funding collected by Chatham County, as Local Victim Assistance Add-On Fines, starting January 1, 2011, requiring CASA to provide a detailed report to the County Manager by June 1, 2011, as to how the funds are being used specifically for the benefit of victims of crime. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thomas and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, and Odell were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-6
AGENDA DATE: October 8, 2010

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Larry Chisolm, District Attorney

Issue: Inclusion of Savannah/Chatham CASA as an equal recipient of 5% funding collected by Chatham County, as Local Victim Assistance Add-On Fines.

Background: Local County Governments have been authorized to collect 5% add-ons to fines required of criminal defendants to local victim assistance programs. It, however, remains the responsibility of County government officials to determine the allocation of 5% funds to eligible agencies, including whether or not an agency deemed eligible receives funding and in what amount. In Chatham County, it has been the practice that all certified agencies share equally in the funds collected by the County.

Facts and Findings:

1. The Savannah-Chatham County CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) program provides an innovative, cost-effective solution to the problem of hundreds of abused and neglected children who become entangled in the overcrowded juvenile justice system and foster care system, by providing individual advocacy for innocent children who might otherwise become "lost" in the system.
2. Savannah/Chatham Court Appointed Special Advocates, Inc. (CASA) has applied for certification to receive 5% funds and received approval on August 4, 2010, by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council of Georgia.
3. This will require new contracts with the existing agencies.

Funding: 5% Add-on Fines

Alternatives:

1. Allow CASA to share equally in the 5% add-on to fines collected in Chatham County for local victim assistance programs, starting January 1, 2011, requiring CASA to provide a detailed report to the County Manager by June 1, 2011, as to how the funds are being used specifically for the benefit of victims of crime.
2. Allow CASA to share in the 5% add-on fines collected in Chatham County in a percentage less than an equal share with the other participating agencies as determined by the County Commissioners.
3. Deny CASA the opportunity to receive any 5% funding collected in Chatham County.

Policy Analysis:

1. The County has generally allowed the certified agencies to share equally in the funds collected in Chatham County, by their own agreement and practice.

Recommendation:

Allow CASA to share equally in the 5% add-on to fines collected in Chatham County for local victim assistance programs, starting January 1, 2011, requiring CASA to provide a detailed report to the County Manager by June 1, 2011 as to how the funds are being used specifically for the benefit of victims of crime.

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7. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO CHANGE A PART-TIME ADA II POSITION INTO A FULL-TIME ADA II POSITION THROUGH THE SMART POLICING GRANT PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE CITY OF SAVANNAH, SAVANNAH-CHATHAM METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.

Commissioner Gellatly said, question: When the funding runs out, does the position run out?

County Manager Abolt said, yes. It's on Page 2 of the Staff Report.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Commissioner Holmes to approve changing a part-time ADA II position into a full-time ADA II position through the Smart Policing Grant partnership between the City of Savannah, Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department and the District Attorney's Office. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thomas and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, and Odell were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-7
AGENDA DATE: October 8, 2010

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Larry Chisolm, District Attorney

Issue: Expansion of an existing part-time ADA II position (Position #36, Dept. 2512220) into a full-time, grant-funded ADA II position, for the two-year funding of the grant.

Background:

The City of Savannah and Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department have proposed to enter into an agreement with the Office of the District Attorney to provide funding through the SMART Policing grant for a two-year period. The purpose of the grant is to hire an Assistant District Attorney II, whose primary responsibility will be to give particular focus of the prosecution of Persistent Prolific Offenders (PPO's) and the prosecution of cases with charges of violent crimes and giving priority to cases involving firearms. Secondly, the ADA will assist in the determination of GPS Monitoring placement of high risk subjects released on bond for violent or weapons charges. Finally, the grant authorizes the ADA to have job responsibilities beyond the scope of this grant.

The existing part-time ADA position is funded to handle child support cases, through the Child Support Enforcement Office. The new position will provide 50% effort to child support enforcement prosecution. Statistics also tend to show that a significant number of the PPO's targeted by the grant are also among the lists of non-paying and delinquent non-custodial parents.

Facts and Findings:

1. The SMART Policing grant will provide up to \$50,00 per year.
2. The total cost per year for an entry level ADA II, including benefits is \$73,393.91.
3. The Office of the District Attorney, through the Child Support Enforcement Office, will fund up to \$30,000 towards this position.
4. The funding for this position will resume at a part-time level after the grant funds have been exhausted and will only involve the prosecution of child support cases.
5. An amendment to the Multiple Grant Fund has been prepared for Board Approval.

Funding: Dept. 2512220
City of Savannah Smart Policing Grant \$50,000 Annually

Alternatives:

1. Approve the funding of the full-time ADA II position through the Smart Policing Grant partnership between the City of Savannah, Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department and the District Attorney's Office.
2. Do not approve the funding of the full-time ADA II position and not allow the citizens of Chatham County to reap the full benefit of grant funds directed to this community to pursue and tract recidivists in our community.

Policy Analysis: It has been the practice of the Commission to approve grant funded positions with the clear understanding that such positions end when the funding ends.

Recommendation: Approve the funding of the full-time ADA II position through the Smart Policing Grant partnership between the City of Savannah, Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department and the District Attorney's Office.

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8. REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH STEP UP SAVANNAH, INC.

County Manager Abolt said, these are two issues that are partnered, again, that we discussed in the pre-meeting. We will provide assistance to Step Up as in the past dealing with handling their payroll services. Mr. Dodd has told me in a few years, the Chamber of Commerce will be doing it, but this is done at no cost to the County, and it assists a very vital and a very important program within the community.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Commissioner Gellatly to authorize the Chairman to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with Step Up Savannah, Inc. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Holmes and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, and Odell were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-8
AGENDA DATE: October 8, 2010

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Larry Chisolm, District Attorney

ISSUE: To authorize the Chairman to execute a memorandum of understanding with Step Up Savannah, Inc.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- 1) Step Up Savannah is requesting Board approval to create two positions. Chatham County will provide payroll services for the positions. The costs associated with the positions will be reimbursed by Step Up. A staff report is attached.
- 2) A Memorandum of Understanding has been prepared that outlines the agreement between the two parties. In exchange for services provided, Step Up shall remit funds to cover the costs of the two positions. A contract for services is attached.

FUNDING: Funding will be provided by Step Up Savannah through an intergovernmental agreement with the County.

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1) That the Board authorize the Chairman to execute a Memorandum of Understanding with Step Up Savannah.
- 2) Provide other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

Approval is consistent with Board action requiring a contract or Memorandum of Understanding with agencies.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board approve Alternative 1.

Prepared by: Read DeHaven

AGREEMENT/MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between
CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA
and
STEP UP SAVANNAH, INC.

THIS AGREEMENT, is made and entered into this ____ day of _____, 20____, by and between CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, hereinafter referred to as "Chatham County", and STEP UP SAVANNAH, INC. ("STEP UP"), collectively referred to as the "parties."

W I T N E S S E T H :

WHEREAS, STEP UP was started in 2004 by Chatham County, the City of Savannah, Georgia Power, the Chamber of Commerce, the Savannah Economic Development Authority and the United Way of the Coastal Empire to help families move out of poverty; and

WHEREAS, STEP UP's mission is to enhance economic independence in Savannah-Chatham County by encouraging residents to take personal responsibility and organizations to identify and work to reduce barriers to self sufficiency by finding, redistributing or creating the necessary resources, and by evaluating outcomes; and

WHEREAS, the Chatham County Commission is an elected body consisting of a chairman and eight district Commissioners. Chatham County operates under the Commission-Manager Plan of local government. The Board of Commissioners makes policy, adopts laws, sets budget limits, sets tax rates and hears zoning cases. The Board appoints a county manager who serves as the chief administrative officer to carry out the policies and handle day-to-day responsibilities; and

WHEREAS, the parties have determined that entering into a purchase of services contract to collaborate efforts to combat poverty in Chatham County, would enhance the parties' ability to achieve their mutual interests; and

WHEREAS, the parties agree to the following:

STEP UP agrees to:

Reimburse Chatham County for providing payroll services for employees of Step Up Savannah. Step Up will provide funds to cover the cost of salaries and benefits for two Step Up employees on the County payroll.

The positions are the Green Jobs/Workforce Development Director and Asset Building Finance Services Manager approved by the County Commission at their meeting held October 8, 2010. The reimbursable benefits will include the employer contributions for FICA, pension, medical insurance, and OPEB;

Acknowledge the support of the Chatham County Commission in their advertisements;

Provide such records, including but not limited to financial and programmatic activity reports as County staff requires to assess effectiveness and compliance with this agreement; and

Maintain compliance with grant provisions and related contracts as utilized to provide funding for the employee positions.

CHATHAM COUNTY agrees to:

Provide payroll services to Step Up Savannah for the positions named above;

Invoice Step Up Savannah monthly for reimbursable costs; and

Provide adequate documentation in support of the invoices.

This agreement will remain in effect for one (1) year from the date of execution or until modified or canceled by both parties.

Either party may terminate this agreement with a 30 day written notice to the other party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the STEP UP SAVANNAH, INC., by and through its duly authorized representative, and the Chatham County Board of Commissioners have caused this Agreement to be duly entered into and executed on the day above written.

Witness _____
STEP UP SAVANNAH, INC.
BY: _____
DANIEL DODD, Executive Director
Step Up Savannah, Inc.

_____ ATTEST: _____

[SIGNATURE PAGE CONTINUES]
CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA on
behalf of the Chatham-Savannah
Counter Narcotics Team

Witness _____
BY: _____
PETE LIAKAKIS, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

_____ ATTEST: _____
Notary Public Sybil E. Tillman
Clerk of Commission
[SEAL]

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9. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO CREATE TWO POSITIONS: A DIRECTOR FOR GREEN JOBS/WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT TO DEVELOP AND OVERSEE WORKFORCE INITIATIVES, AND AN ASSET BUILDING/FINANCIAL SERVICE MANAGER POSITION TO DEVELOP WEALTH BUILDING PROGRAMS FOR LOW INCOME PEOPLE. FUNDING WILL BE PROVIDED BY STEP UP SAVANNAH THROUGH AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY.

County Manager Abolt said, this is the second phase of what you just did.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Commissioner Holmes for Board approval to create two positions: a Director for Green Jobs/Workforce Development to develop and oversee workforce initiatives, and an Asset Building/Financial Service Manager position to develop wealth building programs for low income people. Funding will be provided by Step Up Savannah through an intergovernmental agreement with the County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stone and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, and Odell were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-9
AGENDA DATE: October 8, 2010

TO: Board of Commissioners
 THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
 FROM: Daniel Dodd
 Executive Director, Step Up Savannah, Inc.

Issue: To request Board approval to create two positions: a Director for Green Jobs/Workforce Development to develop and oversee workforce initiatives, and an Asset Building/Financial Service Manager position to develop wealth building programs for low income people.

Background:

Step Up Savannah was started in 2004 by Chatham County, the City of Savannah, Georgia Power, the Chamber of Commerce, the Savannah Economic Development Authority and the United Way of the Coastal Empire to help families move out of poverty. Step Up Savannah’s mission is to enhance economic independence in Savannah by encouraging residents to take personal responsibility and organizations to identify and work to reduce barriers to self sufficiency by finding, redistributing or creating the necessary resources, and by evaluating outcomes.

Facts and Findings:

1. Step Up Savannah’s main priorities of workforce development and asset building are the organization’s primary focus. Another focus area called work supports – affordable housing, dependent care, transportation, and healthcare – remains a critical area for the working poor. Step Up Savannah’s healthcare agenda is represented by the Chatham County Safety Net Council; this group meets monthly and Step Up is represented at the Council.
2. In 2009, Step Up Savannah served over 6000 unduplicated individuals. Services included job training, job placement, opening bank accounts, financial education classes and free tax preparation in the high poverty neighborhoods.
3. The Green Jobs/Workforce Development Director will report directly to Step Up Savannah’s Executive Director but will work in close coordination with other senior staff and community partners to develop a green jobs training initiative with community partners, establish next steps in the evolution of employer engagement in poverty reduction and engage employers in needs assessments for job skills and link them with service providers in the community.
4. The Asset Building Financial Service Manager position will report directly to Step Up Savannah’s Executive Director but will support and work to expand and integrate key asset building community programs and initiatives such as: the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Coalition, Financial Education Consortium, the Centers for Working Families and the Banking Task Force. This position will be responsible for developing various initiatives that help low-income Savannahians access affordable and safe financial services.
5. Step Up Savannah has received the funding for the two positions from national foundations and local funders such as the Mary Reynolds Babcock Foundation, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Frueauff Foundation, American International Insurance Group, local area banks, the Savannah Economic Development Authority and various other funders. **Please note that once grant funding for the position is eliminated, the positions will also be eliminated.** The following provide a cost breakdown for the position.

Green Jobs/Workforce Development Director	Base Salary	50,000
	Pension	7,350
	FICA	3,825
	Insurance	<u>8,900</u>
	TOTAL	\$70,075
Asset Building Financial Services Manager	Base Salary	50,000
	Pension	7,350
	FICA	3,825
	Insurance	<u>8,900</u>
	TOTAL	\$70,075

Funding:

Funding will be provided by Step Up Savannah through an intergovernmental agreement with the County.

Alternatives

1. Authorize the creation of a Green Jobs/Workforce Development Director and Asset Building Financial Services Manager with Step Up Savannah.
2. Provide staff with other direction.

Policy Analysis:

Personal changes to create County personnel positions require approval of the Board of Commissioners. In the past, the Board of Commissioners has approved resource enhancements to departments where a need has been demonstrated and these enhancements maintain the delivery of services to citizens of Chatham County at adequate and efficient levels. The approval of these positions does not require any additional funds from the Commission.

Recommendation:

The Board adopt Alternative 1.

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10. REVIEW DRAFT LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR 2011. PRESENTATION BY LEE HUGHES.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, motion to approve.

Commissioner Gellatly said, second.

Commissioner Stone said, is he here?

County Manager Abolt said, I realize you're familiar, (inaudible) Commissioner Stone informally, but I believe Lee wishes to talk to you about your preference on gathering with the Legislative delegation after the 2nd of Nov.

Commissioner Thomas said, he was here.

Commissioner Stone said, he was here.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, he was here? Okay, let's just table it until another date, then.

Chairman Liakakis said, well, wait a minute, maybe he'll be back – he just left out. Will you withdraw your motion?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, well, that's fine, but I mean, we're done after one more vote.

Commissioner Stone said, no, we've got the Action Calendar.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, well, that's one vote.

Chairman Liakakis said, you all just withdraw it and then we can come back to it if he's here.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, that's fine, I'll withdraw the motion to table.

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XI. 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.

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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 OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2010, AS MAILED.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 17, 2010, as mailed. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gellatly and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, and Odell were not present.]

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2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 9 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 29, 2010.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve payment of claims vs. Chatham County for the period September 9 through September 29, 2010, in the amount of \$5,863,855. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gellatly and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, and Odell were not present.]

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3. REQUEST BOARD ACCEPT A GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES' RECREATIONAL TRAIL PROGRAM GRANT FOR THE LOWER OGEECHEE TRAILS PROJECT (BLUE SKY TRACT) AND APPROVE THE 31% REQUIRED MATCH IN LOCAL FUNDS.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved that the Board accept a Georgia Department of Natural Resources' Recreational Trail Program grant for the Lower Ogeechee Trails Project (Blue Sky tract) and approve the 31% required match in local funds. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gellatly and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, and Odell were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-3
AGENDA DATE: October 8, 2010

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

ISSUE:

To accept a Georgia Department of Natural Resources' Recreational Trails Program grant for the Lower Ogeechee Trails Project (Blue Sky tract) and approve the 31% required match in local funds.

BACKGROUND:

At the encouragement of Chairman Pete Liakakis, the MPC's Resources Protection Planner submitted a grant from the Georgia Recreational Trails Program, which DNR manages. DNR awarded a grant of \$100,000 which requires local matching funds of \$30,870, for a total project of \$130,870. The grant will provide the initial phase of trail through the Blue Sky parcel, a 650-acre property which Chatham County acquired.

FACTS & FINDINGS:

1. DNR sent notification of the grant award to Chatham County. The \$100,000 grant, the maximum available, requires a local match of \$30,870. Funds for the local match are available in the 2003-2008 SPLOST/Open Space, Green Space, Greenways account. The project account will be \$130,870, and funds will be reimbursed from DNR as expended.
2. The project will initiate the planned trail system known as the Lower Ogeechee Trails Project. Plans call for a natural trail system through the Blue Sky tract with linkage to the Litchfield tract with connection to the coastal Georgia Greenway.

FUNDING:

SPLOST 2003-2008, Greenspace.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board accept the Georgia Department of Natural Resources' Recreational Trails Program grant in the amount of \$100,000 and authorize the \$30,870 in local matching funds.
2. That the Board opt not to accept the grant.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

Chatham County has already recognized the environmental importance of the Lower Ogeechee River Conservation Corridor by its acquisition of more than 1,000 acres in this area. A recreational trail would be consistent with the Board's environmental and recreational policies.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.

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4. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO ESTABLISH A FUND TO BE HELD BY CHATHAM COUNTY AND USED FOR THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY RESOURCE PROTECTION COMMISSION.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved Board approval to establish a fund to be held by Chatham County and used for the activities of the Chatham County Resource Protection Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gellatly and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, and Odell were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-4
AGENDA DATE: October 8, 2010

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
THRU: R.E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER
FROM: THOMAS L. THOMSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

ISSUE:

To establish a fund to be held by Chatham County and used for the activities of the Chatham County Resource Protection Commission.

BACKGROUND:

The Chatham County Resource Protection Commission (CCRPC) was established on April 11, 2008 when the Chatham County Board of Commissioners adopted the Resource Protection Ordinance. Its mission is to identify sites within the County that are of ecological, historic, cultural, and/or aesthetic significance, or that protect sources of potable water, and to find ways to protect these sites into perpetuity.

Since its establishment, the CCRPC has developed and adopted a Site Ranking Criteria Policy and a Site Acquisition Policy, as required by the Ordinance. In addition, the CCRPC has evaluated over 26 sites using the criteria detailed in the Site Ranking Criteria Policy, recommended the Top Five Sites to the Chatham County Board of Commissioners for protection, assisted in the purchase of Pennyworth Island, and developed the Whitemarsh Preserve Management Plan adopted by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners in May 2010.

Previously, the CCRPC has relied on funds generated through the 2008 Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax to fund its activities, but it is now seeking additional funding sources (e.g. private donations, fundraising, grants, etc.) to supplement the SPLOST funds. To hold the additional funds generated, the CCRPC is now in need of a dedicated fund that will be used solely for the purposes of the CCRPC.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The Resource Protection Ordinance decrees the creation of a dedicated fund known as the Chatham County Resource Protection Fund. As stated in the Ordinance, this Fund will "account for the proceeds of revenue sources which are legally restricted to expenditure, and may include, but are not limited to, funds appropriated or designated, private or other gifts, and interest earned upon any funds on deposit."
2. Funds within the Chatham County Resource Protection Fund would solely be used for CCRPC activities. As stated in the Ordinance, use of the fund is restricted to the purchase through fee simple or conservation strategies, payment for appraisals, surveys, engineering studies, environmental reports, and legal fees related to acquisition, and the maintenance or site improvement for passive recreation of properties listed on the Resource Protection Database for Chatham County and municipalities.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Chatham County Board of Commissioners authorize the creation of the Chatham County Resource Protection Fund to be used solely for the activities of the Chatham County Resource Protection Commission.
2. That the Chatham County Board of Commissioners not authorize the creation of the Chatham County Resource Protection Fund.

FUNDING:

Funds for the Resource Protection Fund will come from outside sources, including private donations, fundraising, and grants. A resolution to formally adopt a budget for the Resource Protection Fund will be presented at a future Chatham County Commission meeting.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The establishment of the Resource Protection fund will further the purpose and intent of the Chatham County Resource Protection Ordinance to protect greenspace in Chatham County.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board adopt Alternative 1 and authorize the creation of the Chatham County Resource Protection Fund.

PREPARED BY: _____
Resource Protection Professional
September 27, 2010

Linda Cramer, Finance Director

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5. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE RENEWAL OF A CONTRACT WITH THE CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT TO UTILIZE FUNDS FROM THE GEORGIA SUPERIOR COURT CLERK'S COOPERATIVE AUTHORITY FOR DIGITAL IMAGING AND OTHER TECHNOLOGICAL IMPROVEMENTS.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved that the Board approve renewal of a contract with the Clerk of Superior Court to utilize funds from the Georgia Superior Court Clerk's Cooperative Authority for digital imaging and other technological improvements. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gellatly and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, and Odell were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-5
AGENDA DATE: October 8, 2010

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: Daniel W. Massey, Superior Court Clerk
R. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney

Issue:

To request renewal of a contract with the Clerk of Superior Court to utilize funds from the Georgia Superior Court Clerk's Cooperative Authority for digital imaging and other technological improvements.

Background:

The Chatham County Commissioners approved the renewal of the contract with the Clerk of Superior Court at their meeting held May 12, 2006. The contract is due to be renewed.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The Superior Court Clerk's office creates digital images of real estate records and uses the Superior Court Clerk's Authority to make the images available on the internet. Each time a user prints one of the images, the Clerk's office receives fifty cents. These funds help maintain real estate records and the record.

2. The attachment contract continues the agreement approved by the Board in 2003 and 2006, and allows this program to continue. This program has saved the taxpayers money.

FUNDING:

Funds are generated by the program and make it self-sustaining.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The attached contract is consistent with a policy of using recurring revenue for recurring programs.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board approve the attached contract.
2. That the Board deny the attached contract.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve Alternative 1.

RHJ/jr

STATE OF GEORGIA)
COUNTY OF CHATHAM)

AGREEMENT

This contract is entered into this ___ day of _____, 2010, between Chatham County, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia (hereinafter referred to as "County"), and the Clerk of Superior Court of Chatham County (hereinafter referred to as "Clerk"), a constitutional county officer of Chatham County, Georgia.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Clerk is duly authorized by law to enter into and participate in various projects with the Georgia Superior Court Clerks' Cooperative Authority (hereinafter referred to as the "Authority") an authority of the State of Georgia, for the purpose of effectuating statutory provisions required of the Authority of electronic delivery of data filed of record in the Clerk's office (including, but not limited to, real estate, personal property, liens, and notary public record); and

WHEREAS, the Clerk desires to provide to the Authority digital images of such records; and

WHEREAS, the Authority has extended an offer to the Clerk to enter into a contract with the Clerk for such purposes and to remunerate Chatham County for such data and services provided by the Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the County and the Clerk desire to earmark such funds and other proceeds from the Authority for on-going funding of technological improvements within the Clerk's Office.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual agreements herein set forth, the County desires to enter into this agreement with the Clerk upon the terms, covenants, and agreements set forth herein.

The County and Clerk agree to the following terms and conditions:

1. (a) The Authority is authorized and hereby directed to make payable to the Clerk any proceeds, sums, reimbursements, payments, grants, or awards otherwise payable to the County for the above-described data and services which are provided to the Authority by the clerk.
 - (b) Upon contracting with the Authority to provide the above-described data and services, the Clerk shall be authorized to expend such proceeds, sums, reimbursements, payments, grants or awards for technological and record management projects within the Office of the Clerk of Superior Court or as otherwise deemed necessary the Clerk for the purposes of establishing, maintaining, or improving networks and/or systems essential for providing access to data within the Clerk's Office.
 - (c) Not later than June 30 of the fiscal year, the Clerk shall provide to the County a detailed enumeration of funds derived from the Authority and the purposes for which such funds were expended by the Clerk during the fiscal year. The enumeration shall also specify any funds that were not spent during the fiscal year.
 - (d) In the event the Clerk does not expend any funds derived from the Authority during the fiscal year in which such sums are received by the Clerk, the residual balance shall (1) be paid into the general fund of the County or, (2) upon the mutual agreement of the county and the Clerk, held in abeyance by the Clerk and carried over to the next fiscal year for future technological and record management improvements within the Office of the Clerk.
2. This Agreement shall terminate on December 31, 2014. However, because of Article 9, Section 5, Paragraph 1, of the Constitution of Georgia, this Agreement will be from year to year, but will automatically renew itself unless and until the County takes affirmative action not to renew.
 3. The foregoing constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and supersedes any agreements heretofore made. This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Georgia and may be amended only by a document in writing signed by a duly authorized representative of the County and the Clerk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused this agreement to be executed in the manner prescribed by law on the day and year first above written.

CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

BY: _____
Pete Liakakis, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: _____
Sybil Tillman
Clerk of Commission

SEAL

SUPERIOR COURT OF CHATHAM COUNTY

BY: _____
Daniel W. Massey, Clerk, Superior Court

ATTEST: _____ SEAL

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6. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR DISTRIBUTION OF SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX PROCEEDS BY CHATHAM COUNTY TO THE CHATHAM COUNTY-SAVANNAH METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING ORTHOIMAGERY.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved that the Board approve an intergovernmental agreement for distribution of Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax proceeds by Chatham County to the Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission for the purpose of acquiring orthoimagery. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gellatly and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, and Odell were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-6
AGENDA DATE: October 8, 2010

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: Leon Davenport, P.E., Assistant County Engineer

ISSUE: To approve an intergovernmental agreement for the Distribution of SPLOST Proceeds by Chatham County to the Chatham County - Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission for the purpose of acquiring orthoimagery.

BACKGROUND: The agreement will authorize the MPC to contract services for new orthoimagery of the entire county.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Orthoimagery data are used to develop topographic mapping needed in support of detailed drainage engineering evaluations used in design of road and drainage improvement projects. The data will also include color infrared photography, which is used to determine the presence of wetlands.
2. The imagery will be hosted by SAGIS and will be available to all SAGIS users.
3. The total cost of the orthoimagery is \$170,000. Through the agreement, Chatham County is responsible for \$90,000, which includes \$10,000 for color infrared photography. The City is responsible for \$80,000, which is half of the cost of the orthoimagery without the infrared photography. The agreement is only valid if the City of Savannah provides the funding.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board approve an intergovernmental agreement for the distribution of SPLOST proceeds by Chatham County to the Chatham County - Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission for the purpose of acquiring orthoimagery.
2. That the Board not approve the agreement.

FUNDING: Funding in the amount of \$90,000 is available in the 1998-2003 SPLOST, Topographic Mapping (Fund/dept 3224250/Account code 54.14021/Project 32280433).

POLICY ANALYSIS: The Board must approve intergovernmental agreements.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board approve Alternative No. 1.

All Districts

Prepared by: Suzanne Cooler, P.E.

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7. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE ACCEPTANCE OF REAL PROPERTY CONVEYED TO COUNTY VIA QUITCLAIM DEED FROM RONALD J. LETTOW AND APPROVE THE

ABATEMENT OF ANY TAXES DUE ON THE SUBJECT PROPERTY (UNECONOMICAL REMNANTS) FOR TAX YEARS 2009 AND 2010.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved that the Board approve acceptance of real property conveyed to County via quitclaim deed from Ronald J. Lettow and approve the abatement of any taxes due on the subject property (uneconomical remnants) for tax years 2009 and 2010. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gellatly and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, and Odell were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-7
AGENDA DATE: October 8, 2010

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: R. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney

ISSUE:

Acceptance of real property conveyed to County via quitclaim deed from Ronald J. Lettow and to approve the abatement of any taxes due on the subject property (uneconomical remnants) for tax years 2009 and 2010.

BACKGROUND:

On February 25, 2008, the County Attorney's Office filed a condemnation petition in the case of Chatham County Georgia v. 0.542 Acres of Land for right-of-way; Ronald J. Lettow, as Executor of the Estate of Aleta Lettow, Civil Action No. CV08-0542-KA. A final consent order was entered in this case on August 23, 2010. As part of the settlement, the County agreed to accept the remnants of land which are landlocked or of such small areas that they have little or no value. Additionally, the County agreed to cease collection for any taxes due on the uneconomical remnants for tax years 2009 and 2010.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. On February 25, 2008, the County Attorneys' Office filed a condemnation petition in the case of Chatham County, Georgia v. 0.542 Acres of Land for right-of-way; Ronald J. Lettow, as Executor of the Estate of Aleta Lettow, Civil Action No. CV08-0542-KA. A final consent order was entered in this case on August 23, 2010.
2. As part of the settlement, the County agreed to accept the remnants of land which are landlocked or of such small areas that they have little or no value.
3. The County also agreed to cease collection of any taxes due on the uneconomical remnants for tax years 2009 and 2010.

FUNDING:

N/A

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The County acquired this property with SPLOST funds for Truman Parkway, Phase V. Acceptance of the quitclaim deed will resolve the issue with the uneconomical remnants of the property and the taxes for 2009 and 2010.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative 1.

RJH/jr
enclosure

=====

**8. REQUEST FOR NEW BEER AND WINE POURING AND SUNDAY SALES OF BEER AND WINE POURING FOR 2010. PETITIONER: CHERI DIANE STOKES KELLER, D/B/A UNKA HUBE'S REDNECK CAFÉ, LOCATED AT 5901 OGEECHEE ROAD.
[DISTRICT 6.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved approval of the request for new beer and wine pouring and Sunday sales of beer and wine pouring for 2010. Petitioner: Cheri Diane Stokes Keller, d/b/a Unka Hube's Redneck Café, located at 5901 Ogeechee Road. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gellatly and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, and Odell were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-8
AGENDA DATE: October 8, 2010

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

ISSUE:
Request approval for new beer and wine pouring and Sunday sales of beer and wine pouring for 2010, Cheri Diane Stokes Keller d/b/a Unka Hube's Redneck Café, located at 5901 Ogeechee Road.

BACKGROUND:
Ms. Keller, requests approval for new beer and wine pouring and Sunday sales of beer and wine pouring license in connection with a new restaurant.

- FACTS AND FINDINGS:
1. The application was reviewed by the Police Department for compliance of the applicant and separation requirements and approved.
 2. The returned application was reviewed by Regulatory Services. The County Fire Marshal inspected the structure for compliance of the applicable codes and approved.
 3. The applicant and business meet the requirements of the Chatham County Alcoholic Beverage and Sunday Sales Ordinance.
 4. The beer and wine pouring and Sunday sales licenses are for the Unka Hube's Redneck Café location only. Additional alcohol pouring locations will require separate pouring licenses.

RECOMMENDATION:
The Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department and Regulatory Services recommend approval.

District 6

We verify that the attached report and attachments are complete and correct as to form.

Gregori S. Anderson, CBO

Chief Willie Lovett

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9. REQUEST FOR NEW BEER AND WINE RETAIL LICENSE FOR 2010. PETITIONER: GWENDOLYN L. WILLIS, D/B/A WALGREENS #10635, LOCATED AT 5701 OGEECHEE ROAD. [DISTRICT 7.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve the request for new beer and wine retail license for 2010. Petitioner: Gwendolyn L. Willis, d/b/a Walgreens #10635, located at 5701 Ogeechee Road. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gellatly and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, and Odell were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-9
AGENDA DATE: October 8, 2010

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

ISSUE

Request for approval of new beer and wine retail license for 2010, Gwendolyn L. Willis d/b/a Walgreens #10635, located at 5701 Ogeechee Road, Savannah, GA 31405.

BACKGROUND

Ms. Willis requests approval for new beer and wine retail license in connection with an existing retail drug store. The business at this location meets the requirements of the Chatham County Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance.

FACTS AND FINDINGS

1. The application was reviewed by the Police Department for compliance of the applicant and site distance requirements and approved.
2. The returned application was reviewed by Regulatory Services. The County Fire Marshal inspected the site for compliance and approved the facility.
3. This application is in compliance with all requirements.
4. The applicant has been notified of the hearing date and time.

RECOMMENDATION

The Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department and Building Safety and Regulatory Services recommend approval.

District 7

We verify that the attached report and attachments are complete and correct as to form.

Gregori S. Anderson, CBO

Chief Willie Lovett

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10. REQUEST FOR NEW BEER AND WINE RETAIL LICENSE FOR 2010. PETITIONER: BRIAN DAVID LUNDGREN, D/B/A WALGREENS #06098, LOCATED AT 125 JOHNNY MERCER BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 4.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve the request for new beer and wine retail license for 2010. Petitioner: Brian David Lundgren, d/b/a Walgreens #06098, located at 125 Johnny Mercer Boulevard. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gellatly and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, and Odell were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-10
AGENDA DATE: October 8, 2010

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

ISSUE

Request for approval of new beer and wine retail license for 2010, Brian David Lundgren. d/b/a Walgreens #06098, located at 125 Johnny Mercer Blvd, Savannah, GA 31410.

BACKGROUND

Mr. Lundgren requests approval for new beer and wine retail license in connection with an existing retail drug store. The business at this location meets the requirements of the Chatham County Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance.

FACTS AND FINDINGS

1. The application was reviewed by the Police Department for compliance of the applicant and site distance requirements and approved.
2. The returned application was reviewed by Regulatory Services. The County Fire Marshal inspected the site for compliance and approved the facility.
3. This application is in compliance with all requirements.

4. The applicant has been notified of the hearing date and time.

RECOMMENDATION

The Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department and Building Safety and Regulatory Services recommend approval.

District 4

We verify that the attached report and attachments are complete and correct as to form.

Gregori S. Anderson, CBO

Chief Willie Lovett

=====

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.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve the following bids. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gellatly and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, and Odell were not present.]

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
A. Donation to the University of Georgia for the Generating Enhanced Oyster Reefs	Engineering	Chatham County	\$10,000	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Skidaway/Isle of Hope project
B. Amendment to the contract to provide a comprehensive Multi-Jurisdictional Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan as required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Chatham Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) to recognize a name change to Global Options Group, Inc.	CEMA	Global Options Group, Inc.	N/A	N/A
C. Three (3) used non-typical replacement vehicles and authorize the trade-in of three (3) vehicles	CNT	Fairway Lincoln Mercury	\$42,495	CIP - Fleet Replacement
D. Rescind and reaward for the purchase, installation and training of an alarm billing software program	Finance	Rescind: Sungard Public Sector Award to: Public Safety Corporation	\$29,900	•General Fund/M & O - Finance - \$21,192 •CIP - Finance - \$8,708

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
E. Contract for moving services for the new Records Center	Administrative Services	Port City Logistics	\$51,646	CIP - Administrative Services
F. Emergency service and preventive maintenance contract on three (3) UPS systems	ICS	Nationwide Power Solutions	\$12,228	General Fund/M & O - ICS
G. Change Order No. 2 to the construction contract for the Louis Mills/Redgate Canal Drainage Improvement project for additional work and increase contract time by 75 days	Engineering	Pine Valley Concrete Co., Inc.	\$22,805	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Drainage, Louis Mills/Redgate/Rahn Dairy Canal project
H. 18 computers for Building Safety and Regulatory Services	ICS	Dell Marketing (State Contract)	\$17,802	ICS - Computer Replacement Program
I. Construction contract for the installation of an occupancy light sensor system at the Judicial Courthouse	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	All Electric & Specialty Systems (WBE)	\$38,363	SPLOST (2008-2013) - Courthouse Construction
J. Change Order No. 1 to the contract for the modification of the current electrical distribution system at Tom Triplett Park to extend the contract by 45 days	Parks and Recreation	Rahn's Electric Service	N/A	No additional funding required
K. Annual maintenance agreement with automatic renewal options for two (2) additional one (1) year terms for Cisco network infrastructure	ICS	Key Government Finance	\$75,276	General Fund/M & O - ICS
L. BDA Signal booster for public safety radios - Communications tower project (County facilities on Carl Griffin Drive)	Special Projects	Savannah Communications	\$43,842	CIP - Communications Tower

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
M. BDA Signal booster for public safety radios - Communications tower project (Inmate sallyport at Judicial Courthouse)	Special Projects	Savannah Communications	\$7,526	CIP - Communications Tower
N. Change Order No. 1 to the contract for Truman Linear Trail - Phase 2 for environmental certification	Engineering	Thomas & Hutton	\$58,700	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Truman Trail
O. Change Order No. 6 to the contract for the new Records Facility to add insulation for overhead door and frieze board panel trim	Special Projects	Choate	\$68,166	CIP - Records Facility

AGENDA ITEM: X-9

AGENDA DATE: October 8, 2010

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

THRU: R.E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER

**FROM: MICHAEL A. KAIGLER, ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER/
DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES AND SERVICES**

SUBJECT: AWARD OF BIDS

ITEM A

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$10,000 donation to the University of Georgia for the Generating Enhanced Oyster Reefs in Georgia's Inshore Areas (G.E.O.R.G.I.A.) program as required compensatory mitigation of salt marsh impacts for the Skidaway Road Shoulder Improvement project.

BACKGROUND: The Skidaway Road/Isle of Hope Improvement Project is part of the 2003-2008, SPLOST, Road Program. Problems being addressed include the limited road shoulder width and proximity to roadside drainage that is causing structural deterioration of the roadbed.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. In 2005, staff identified a condition of inadequate roadway shoulder conditions along the west bound traffic lane of Skidaway Road across from the Wormsloe Historic Site Property. At the 10 March 2006 meeting, the Board approved adding a project to the contract for designing the improvements to the Skidaway Road shoulder adjacent to Wormsloe. Design, right of way acquisitions, and permitting work is complete.
2. The project impacts approximately 0.13 acres of jurisdictional salt marsh wetlands. The permit issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers requires the County to mitigate these impacts through a donation of \$10,000 to the G.E.O.R.G.I.A. program.

FUNDING: SPLOST (2003-2008) - Skidaway/Isle of Hope Project
(3234220 - 51.12003 - 32356480)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$10,000 donation to the University of Georgia for the Generating Enhanced Oyster Reefs in Georgia's Inshore Areas (G.E.O.R.G.I.A.) program as required compensatory mitigation of salt marsh impacts for the Skidaway Road Shoulder Improvement project.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve expenditures of \$10,000 or more.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM B

ISSUE: Request Board approval of amendment to the existing agreement with James Lee Witt Associates of Atlanta, GA to provide comprehensive Multi-Jurisdictional Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan as required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Chatham Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) to recognize a name change to Global Options Group, Inc.

BACKGROUND: On 9 April 2009, the Board approved a one (1) year contract with James Lee Witt Associates to follow the development of the Multi-Jurisdictional plan through the approval by FEMA.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Staff was notified by Global Options, Inc., of the change on 10 September 2010.
2. On 14 May 2010, the Board approved a six (6) month extension with no additional costs to the contract.
3. There will be no change to the terms and conditions of this contract.

FUNDING: N/A

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of amendment to the existing agreement with James Lee Witt Associates of Atlanta, GA to provide comprehensive Multi-Jurisdictional Pre-Disaster Mitigation Plan as required by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Chatham Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) to recognize a name change to Global Options Group, Inc.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to amend contracts that require any changes made to the name, terms, and conditions.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM C

ISSUE: Request Board approval of the \$42,495 purchase of three (3) used non-typical replacement vehicles for C.N.T. from Fairway Lincoln Mercury of Savannah, GA and authorize the disposal of three (3) vehicles that will be used as trade-ins.

BACKGROUND: C.N.T. has approved funding to replace 13 vehicles through CIP, Police Merger. These vehicles are no longer suitable for department operation. The trade-in will simplify the purchase of three (3) vehicles.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. To meet C.N.T.'s needs, staff requested quotes from only local car dealers that normally respond to bids. Specifications required each firm to submit pricing on appropriate vehicles. This provides C.N.T. with a maximum flexibility.
2. The Fleet Manager and a representative from C.N.T. selected the following vehicles based on utility and value.

3. The vehicles selected were:

Fairway Lincoln Mercury	3 vehicles	\$73,495
Less trade-in		(31,000)
Total Purchase		\$42,495

FUNDING: CIP - Fleet Replacement
(3503222 - 52.22001 - 3503065Z)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of the \$42,495 purchase of three (3) used non-typical replacement vehicles for C.N.T. from Fairway Lincoln Mercury of Savannah, GA and authorize the disposal of three (3) vehicles that will be used as trade-ins.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve the purchase of replacement vehicles for law enforcement activities.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM D

ISSUE: Request Board approval to rescind the purchase, installation and training of an alarm billing software program with Sungard Public Sector for I.C.S. and reward to Public Safety Corporation for the I.C.S. Department.

BACKGROUND: The Board approved at their 26 March 2010 meeting, a False Alarm Ordinance. This software application is needed for I.C.S. and Finance to record activity and for billing purposes.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Sungard Public Sector is the County's current provider for our financial application. Staff had been working with Sungard for the installation of the software. They informed staff of additional charges that were not originally covered in their quote to the County.
2. Staff researched and believes the "Cry Wolf" Alarm billing software will meet the current and future needs of the County.
3. The Board approved \$21,192 for the software purchase, installation and training. The additional \$8,708 will cover additional add-ons and upgrades unforeseen by previous vendor.
4. Staff believes the total cost of \$29,900 to be fair and reasonable.

FUNDING: General Fund/M&O - Finance - \$21,192
CIP - Finance - \$8,708

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval to rescind the purchase, installation and training of an alarm billing software program with Sungard Public Sector for I.C.S. and reward to Public Safety Corporation for the I.C.S. Department.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to rescind and reward a purchase when it is in the best interest of the County.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

I.C.S. APPROVAL _____
LEWIS LEONARD

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM E

ISSUE: Request Board approval to award a \$51,656 contract to Port City Logistics for moving services for Chatham County Administrative Services Department.

BACKGROUND: On 14 August 2009, the Board approved a contract with Choate Constructions Company for construction of the Chatham County Records Center. The Board acquired the former Kroger Center in Garden City to renovate a 38,000-square foot building into a new Records Center. Having a central site will consolidate all county records and documents, including many historical ones, into a single location.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Bids were properly advertised and mailed to four (4) vendors and opened 16 September 2010. The bid responses were as follows:

Daniel Moving Systems Atlanta, GA	\$51,646
Port City Logistics Savannah, GA	\$60,000
Welsh Installation, LLC Savannah, GA	No Bid
MBW Office Installation Garden City, GA	No Bid

- On 27 March 1998, the Board approved a "local preference" policy which, when a firm from outside Chatham County submits the "lowest quote" the policy allows the lowest local vendor to match the "lowest" quote. If the local firm does match the "lowest" quote, the local firm is awarded the purchase. As indicated above, a non-Chatham County firm offered the "lowest low" quote. The Chatham County firm was asked if they would match the outside firms' quote. As indicated, Port City Logistics did match the "lowest" quote.
- Staff believes the total cost of \$51,646 to be fair and reasonable.

FUNDING: CIP - Administrative Services
(3501580-54.13001-35031137)

ALTERNATIVES:

- Board approval to award a \$51,656 contract to Port City Logistics for moving services for Chatham County Administrative Services Department.
- Provide staff other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM F

ISSUE: Request Board approval of the \$12,228 emergency service and preventive maintenance contract on three (3) UPS systems from Nationwide Power Solution of Henderson, Nevada for the I.C.S. Department.

BACKGROUND: This emergency service and preventive maintenance replaces an expired maintenance contract for the UPS at the police annex. The other two (2) units located at the Tag Office on Eisenhower Drive and Building Safety and Regulatory Services are not currently under a maintenance contract.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- Nationwide Power Solutions was the original vendor that the County purchased the UPS systems from. The authorized technicians to perform the preventive maintenance on these units come from Jacksonville, FL or Charleston, SC. This contract will provide preventive maintenance four (4) times each year to insure maximum uptime.
- I.C.S. recommends preventive maintenance contracts to prevent severe damage to County equipment and provide temporary power during power failures.
- Uninterruptible power supplies absorb power surges, smooth out noisy power sources, provide power to equipment during line sags, and provide temporary power after a blackout.
- Nationwide Power Solution is currently providing services to the County.

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

ALTERNATIVES:

- Board approval of the \$12,228 emergency service and preventive maintenance contract on three (3) UPS systems from Nationwide Power Solution of Henderson, Nevada for the I.C.S. Department.
- Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve the purchase of preventive maintenance contracts.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

I.C.S. APPROVAL _____
LEWIS LEONARD

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM G

ISSUE: Request Board approval of Change Order No. 2, in the amount of \$22,805, to the construction contract with Pine Valley Concrete Co., Inc. and increase the contract time by 75 days on the Louis Mills/Redgate Canal Drainage Improvements project.

BACKGROUND: The Louis Mills/Redgate Drainage Improvement project is part of the SPLOST Drainage Capital Improvement Program. The project involves excavation to widen the existing canal, installing larger culverts at road crossings, and providing an all-weather access road for maintenance operations. The Board awarded the contract 12 June 2009 and is currently under construction.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The project is located in Unincorporated Chatham County east of Garrard Avenue and south of Louis Mills Boulevard. The major drainage problems are inadequately sized ditches and culverts, and access that is limited to dry weather when the access road is passable. The project will improve drainage capacity by widening the channel, installing larger culverts and providing an all-weather access road for maintenance operations.
2. The contract for construction was awarded as a unit price contract to Pine Valley Concrete Company. Construction commenced in August 2009 and is currently complete except for final inspection and punch list items.
3. The terminus of the original construction contract was established as Garrard Avenue. Change Order No. 1 extended the project upstream by a distance of approximately 1,200 feet to take advantage of available drainage rights of way. This change order will pay for replacing an undersized (18-inch diameter) culvert under the existing maintenance road with a larger (60-inch diameter) culvert pipe at the juncture of the Red Gate and Louis Mills Branch canals.
4. Staff believes that incorporating the additional work into the current contract with Pine Valley Concrete Co. will improve drainage capacity to the Louis Mills Branch Canal. The Louis Mills Branch Canal provides storm water drainage to the area of Unincorporated Chatham County located north of the Chatham Parkway ramp.
5. Contract history:

Original contract (6-12-09)	\$761,068
Change Order 1 (12-18-09)	\$155,580
Change Order 2 (pending)	\$ 22,805
Revised Contract Amount	\$939,453

FUNDING: SPLOST (1998-2003) - Drainage, Louis Mills/Redgate/Rahn Dairy Canal project
(3224250 - 54.14021 - 32280377)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of Change Order No. 2, in the amount of \$22,805, to the construction contract with Pine Valley Concrete Co., Inc. and increase the contract time by 75 days on the Louis Mills/Redgate Canal Drainage Improvements project.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve change orders necessary for the completion of construction projects.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
ESTELLE BROWN

ITEM H

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$17,802 purchase of 18 computers off the State of Georgia contract, from Dell Marketing, LP for Building Safety and Regulatory Services.

BACKGROUND: I.C.S. recommends that older outdated computers, more than 5 years old, be replaced. The Board approved, at their 23 April 2010 meeting, the establishment of a new internal service fund, the Computer Replacement Fund.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Dell hardware computers are the approved standardized system for the County. These computers will operate at quicker speeds for Building Safety and the public. The computers being replaced have exceeded their useful life and have been out of warranty for several years.
2. The systems are comprised of Dual processors, 4gb ram, 256 mb video card on the standard computers, dual CD & DVD read/writer, Windows XP Pro and Windows 7 Operating System and five (5) year next business day warranties on the computers and monitors.
3. Staff believes the State of Georgia total contract price of \$17,802 is fair and reasonable.

FUNDING: I.C.S. Computer Replacement Program
(6051535 - 53.11010)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$17,802 purchase of 18 computers off the State of Georgia contract, from Dell Marketing, LP for Building Safety and Regulatory Services.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to provide the necessary equipment for the using department.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

I.C.S. APPROVAL

LEWIS LEONARD

BUDGET APPROVAL

CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM I

ISSUE: Request Board approval to award a \$38,363 construction contract to All Electric & Specialty Systems, a WBE firm, for the installation of an occupancy light sensor system at the Judicial Courthouse.

BACKGROUND: Installation of an occupancy light sensor system will reduce the cost of electrical power by several thousand dollars annually.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The Judicial courthouse was constructed in 1978. The lighting system is manual in all office areas and are left on at night and weekends using unnecessary electrical power. An occupancy lighting system will automatically cut off all lights when no movement is sensed. This project will improve energy efficiency and result in a cost savings.
2. This project was properly advertised and four (4) bids were received and opened on 2 September 2010. The bids responses are as follows:

*	All Electric & Specialty Systems Savannah, GA	\$38,363
	Moore & Sons Electrical Service Adrian, GA	\$61,654
*	Rahn's Electric Service Rincon, GA	\$79,500
	Southeastern Sales Enterprises, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$91,120

* WBE Firm

3. Staff along with the engineer reviewed the bids and references and believes the low bid provided by All Electric and Specialty Systems to be fair and reasonable.

FUNDING: SPLOST (2008-2013) - Courthouse Construction
(3244980 - 54.13011 - 32460427)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval to award a \$38,363 construction contract to All Electric & Specialty Systems, a WBE firm, for the installation of an occupancy light sensor system at the Judicial Courthouse.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
TOM DRANE

ITEM J

ISSUE: Request Board approval of Change Order No. 1, with no additional funding required, to the contract with Rahn’s Electric Service for a 45-day extension to the contract for the modification of the electrical distribution system at Tom Triplett Park.

BACKGROUND: On 14 May 2010, the Board approved an award of a \$15,371 contract to Rahn’s Electric Service, for the modification of the current electrical distribution system at Tom Triplett Park in support of our COOP Plan (Continuity of Operation Plan for Public Works and Park Services).

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The modifications of the current electrical system will entail changing two (2) electrical meter systems to one (1) and installing a bypass switch for an emergency portable generator hookup.
2. The requested extension is due to the underestimating the time required to manufacture the Manual Transfer Storm switch.
3. The staff of Building Safety and Regulatory Services was unable to review the plans until after the Notice to Proceed was issued.
4. Contract History:

Original Contract (5-14-10)	\$15,371
Change Order No. 1 (Pending)	\$ 0
Revised Contract Amount	\$15,371

FUNDING: No additional funding is required.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of Change Order No. 1, with no additional funding required, to the contract with Rahn’s Electric Service for a 45-day extension to the contract for the modification of the electrical distribution system at Tom Triplett Park.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to extend contracts when they are in the best interest of the County.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM K

ISSUE: Request Board approval of the \$75,276 annual renewal for Cisco Smartnet maintenance and support for all hardware and software for the Cisco network equipment from Key Government Finance, Inc. for the I.C.S.

BACKGROUND: The entire County network operates on a Cisco Network and this support is essential to ensure functioning network operations. This maintenance provides hardware and software support, upgrades and replacement for one year for our Cisco equipment. The support is supplied directly from Cisco but through Entre Solutions, a local authorized Cisco Partner. This contract provides 24 x 7 tech support 365 days a year. It gives advance hardware replacement for any equipment 24 x 7, advanced software configurations, interoperability and upgrade questions via tech support and hardware and software information.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The price offered by Key Government Finance, Inc. thru Entre Solutions, a local MBE firm, offered pricing lower than the State of Georgia contract price and a zero percent financing for (3) three years and a cost savings of \$57,931 over the (3) three years.
2. Generally there is a 5 to 6% increase annually. This total price is higher than last year due to the additional purchase of (2) two new Cisco 6509-E Catalyst Chassis systems which are the main chassis that the network switching components connect to. There has also been considerable amount of Cisco wireless access points added to this year's maintenance.
3. Staff believes the total cost of \$75,276 for Smartnet maintenance on all the Cisco equipment to be fair and reasonable.

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

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of the \$75,276 annual renewal for Cisco Smartnet maintenance and support for all hardware and software for the Cisco network equipment from Key Government Finance, Inc. for the I.C.S.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to provide the necessary computer equipment system hardware and software for the using departments.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

I.C.S. APPROVAL _____
LEWIS LEONARD

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
GLORIA SLAUGH

ITEM L

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$43,843 purchase of signal boosters for public safety radios at county facilities on Carl Griffin Drive to improve service to the communications tower from Savannah Communications.

BACKGROUND: The existing 285-foot communications tower stands within the construction footprint of the Detention Center expansion. The new communications tower at the Sheriff's Complex will replace the existing communication tower to increase buildable area for the Detention Center expansion as well as to provide a replacement for higher wind resistance and structural integrity. The tower provides communications to the Sheriff's Office, regional interoperable communications system and lease space for private cellular companies.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The BDA system upgrade helps boost radio signals for communications on the 700 and 800 megahertz frequencies.
2. The proposed purchase would upgrade communications for public radios at facilities along the Carl Griffin Drive corridor.
3. Savannah Communications, the area's authorized Motorola representative, will provide and install the boosters as part of the Motorola platform within the new storm-ready building. Savannah Communications provided a quote of \$43,842, which the Sheriff's Department reviewed and considers to be fair and reasonable.

FUNDING: CIP Communications Tower
(3503326 - 54.13010 - 35031237)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$43,843 purchase of signal boosters for public safety radios at county facilities on Carl Griffin Drive to improve service to the communications tower from Savannah Communications.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: Georgia law and *The Chatham County Purchasing Ordinance and Procedures Manual* provide authority for the Board to award contracts for goods and services.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM M

ISSUE: Request Board approval of \$7,526 purchase of signal boosters for public safety radios at Courthouse to improve service to the new communications tower from Savannah Communications.

BACKGROUND: The existing 285-communications tower stands within the construction footprint of the Detention Center expansion. The new communications tower at the Sheriff's Complex will replace the existing communication tower to increase buildable area for the Detention Center expansion as well as to provide a replacement for higher wind resistance and structural integrity. The tower provides communications to the Sheriff's Office, regional interoperable communications system and lease space for private cellular companies.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The BDA system upgrade helps boost radio signals for communications on the 700 and 800 megahertz frequencies.
2. The proposed purchase would upgrade communications for public radios in the Courthouse basement sallyport and inmate tunnel.
3. Savannah Communications, the area's authorized Motorola representative, will provide and install the boosters as part of the Motorola platform within the new storm-ready building. Savannah Communications provided a quote of \$7,526, which the Sheriff's Department reviewed and considers to be fair and reasonable.

FUNDING: CIP Communications Tower
(3503326 - 54.13010 - 35031237)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of \$7,526 purchase of signal boosters for public safety radios at Courthouse to improve service to the new communications tower from Savannah Communications.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: Georgia law and *The Chatham County Purchasing Ordinance and Procedures Manual* provide authority for the Board to award contracts for goods and services.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM N

ISSUE: Request Board approval of Change Order No. 1, in the amount of \$58,700, to the engineering services contract for Truman Trail, Phase 2, for environmental certification from Thomas & Hutton Engineering.

BACKGROUND: Truman Trail provides a 6.3-mile trail which will link Daffin Park (77-acre park) to Lake Mayer/Bacon Park (750 acres). The project includes 4.8 miles of new trail and about 1.5 miles of widening the existing Julie Backus Smith Trail at Lake Mayer. Total project cost is estimated at \$1.6 million.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. At the 6 November 2009 meeting, the Board awarded a contract to Thomas & Hutton Engineering in association with WPC (environmental and geotechnical), Merle Grimes (Trail planning), Resource Land Consultants (ecological), Brockington (ecological), Coastline Consulting (construction administration). The team is comprised of 95% local, including 8% DBE. The firm received excellent references.
2. Because of federal funding, the project must follow the Georgia Department of Transportation's Planned Development Process and requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. While the project previously received a Categorical Exclusion, which indicates no adverse impact on cultural and environmental resources, GDOT says the certification dates back more than five years and will not be accepted. The project will now be required to update the environmental review and update the environmental certification. This work will add 6 to 9 months of time to the project.
3. The project can move forward by splitting it into two sections. The expansion of the Julie Backus Smith Trail at Lake Mayer can move forward, while the trail connector between Lake Mayer and Police Memorial Trail (Daffin Park) will be subject to environmental certification. The work at the Julie Backus Smith Trail at Lake Mayer can begin upon completion of the current renovation.

4. Thomas & Hutton provided pricing of \$58,700 based on splitting the project into two sections and the additional time and work on the environmental certification. Project history.

Contract award (11-0802009)	\$268,500
Change Order 1 (pending)	\$ 58,700
Revised contract amount	\$327,200

FUNDING: Through the assistance of Congressman Barrow, the federal government designated \$1,000,008 in funding as a high priority TEA-LU project. Chatham County's matching funds will be from the Greenspace, Open Space and Bikeways SPLOST (2003-2008) - Open Space, Green Space and Bikeways
(3234985 - 44.11011 - 32378102)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of Change Order No. 1, in the amount of \$58,700, to the engineering services contract for Truman Trail, Phase 2, for environmental certification from Thomas & Hutton Engineering.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: Georgia law and *The Chatham County Purchasing Ordinance and Procedures Manual* provide authority for the Board to award contracts for professional services.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM O

ISSUE: Request Board approval of Change Order No. 6, in the amount of \$68,166, to the contract for construction of the Records Center from Choate Construction.

BACKGROUND: At the 14 August 2009 meeting, the Board awarded a contract for construction of the Records Center in the amount of \$2,729,800. The project will consolidate all of the county's records into a central location, which will be constructed to standards to withstand a Category 5 hurricane and storm surge. The relocation of the records also allows the Courthouse project to move forward. As a renovation project, construction has identified some unforeseen conditions which the construction drawings did not include; however, some offsets result because of savings from work not needed.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The Board awarded a contract to Choate Construction in the amount of \$2,729,800 for the construction of the Records Center. Work continues toward a completion date in October 2010.
2. Because of the size of the building and electrical costs to meet archival standards for records retention, staff requested pricing for additions to improve energy efficiency. Choate has provided pricing for additional thickness of ceiling insulation to prevent cooling and heating loss and adding insulation for the overhead door. In addition, staff requested pricing to finish frieze board panel trim for aesthetical purposes.
3. The County's project team, including the architect and mechanical engineer, has reviewed the pricing and determined it to be fair and reasonable.
4. Contract history, as follows:

Contract Award (8/14/09)	\$2,729,800
Change Order No. 1 (1/15/10) for training room	\$ 28,151
Change Order No. 2 (4/23/10) for value engineering credits	\$ - 16,231
Change Order No. 3 (4/23/10) for rim boards/ structural and add 48 days	\$ 72,049
Change Order No. 4 (Pending) for owner requested site lighting	\$ 110,460
Change Order No. 5 (6/25/10) for water line extension and pump room	\$ 253,613
Change Order No. 6 (pending) for adding insulation frieze board panel trim	\$ 68,166
Revised Contract Amount	\$3,246,008

FUNDING: CIP - Records Center
(35015080 - 54.13001 - 35031137)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of Change Order No. 6, in the amount of \$68,166, to the contract for construction of the Records Center from Choate Construction.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: Changes in contract amounts and terms requires the Board's approval in conformance with the County's Purchasing Ordinance and Procedures Manual requires Board approval.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

PREPARED BY _____
PURCHASING AGENT

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XI. FIRST READINGS

Proposed changes to ordinances must be read or presented in written form at two meetings held not less than one week apart. A vote on the following listed matters will occur at the next regularly scheduled meeting. On first reading, presentation by MPC staff and discussion only by Commissioners will be heard. Comments, discussion and debate from members of the public will be received only at the meeting at which a vote is to be taken on one of the following listed items.

None.

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XII. SECOND READINGS

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).**
2. **LIST OF PURCHASING ITEMS BETWEEN \$2,500 AND \$9,999 (SEE ATTACHED). (NONE FOR THIS MEETING).**

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the Commissioners, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

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SO APPROVED this ____ day of _____, 2010.

Pete Liakakis, Chairman, Board of
Commissioners of Chatham County, Georgia.

Barbara B. Wright, Acting Clerk of Commission