

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 22, 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 Liakakis called the meeting to order at 9:45 a.m.

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II. INVOCATION

County Manager Russ Abolt gave the Invocation.

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III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner David Gellatly 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 FOR 2010 VETERAN OF THE YEAR, GEORGIA BARTELL. (ON NEXT AGENDA.)~~
- ~~2. PROCLAMATION FOR VETERANS PARADE GRAND MARSHAL, JAMES CHAVERS. (ON NEXT AGENDA.)~~
- 3. PROCLAMATION FOR JENNIFER WALZ RECOGNIZING HER MANY ACCOMPLISHMENTS.**

Chairman Liakakis said, I call on Commissioner Farrell to read the proclamation. And all those that are here with Jennifer, if you'll come up to the podium, also, anyone that's here with Jennifer.

Commissioner Farrell read the proclamation.



The County of Chatham
Georgia
Proclamation

WHEREAS, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners takes great pride in recognizing members of our community that have made achievements that have made them known throughout the world, and in that we regard we salute Jennifer Walz; and

WHEREAS, Jennifer Walz, champion triathlete student at Armstrong Atlantic State University, began swimming competitively at the age of 7 and was introduced by her swim coach to the sport of triathlon at the age of 9 whereupon she began to train and compete; and

WHEREAS, during her high school years, she competed on the varsity teams for track, cross country and swimming and lettered each year in these sports. She was selected Cross Country Runner of the Year her senior year; and

WHEREAS, her triathlon achievements include winning in her division the 2009 United States Triathlon Age Group National Championship in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, winning the 2010 United States Triathlon Age Group National Championship in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, where she qualified for Age Group Worlds 2011 to be held in Beijing, China; and

WHEREAS, in September, 2010, she won her division, in the International Union's Age Group Olympic-distance World Championship meet in Budapest, Hungary' giving her five overall wins this year.

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

JENNIFER WALZ

for her outstanding athletic accomplishments and extend our best wishes for continued wins in her quest to become a professional triathlete.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia, to be affixed this the 22nd day of October, 2010.

Pete Liakakis, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Frances Q. Rasmussen, Deputy Clerk

Commissioner Farrell said, I heartily congratulate you.

Ms. Jennifer Walz said, I would like to thank the Chatham County Commissioners for this honor. I won't be attending Worlds next year because of college, but hopefully in the future I'll be able to win another World Championship. And with me, I actually have medals that I won at Worlds. This right here is our finisher medal that they give to everyone, and this is my gold medal that I won at Worlds.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you very much, Jennifer. I know we're proud of you, and you've had an outstanding history in athletic endeavors and we, you know, recognize you. Would any of you like to say anything also while you're up there with her?

Mrs. Tammy Walz said, I'm just very proud of her. She's been doing this for years and years and years, and I hope she continues. Hopefully in maybe 2012 we can be back with another medal.

Chairman Liakakis said, good. Would you identify yourself for the record?

Ms. Walz said, I'm Tammy Walz, mom.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you very much.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, Dad is surprisingly speechless. Mr. Walz, would you please come to the microphone? Mr. Walz is, fortunately, for me, a friend of well over 20 years, a former employee, full-time, with the County Public Works Department, truly an outstanding individual. He wears many medals you do not see. He also --

and I want to thank his wife and his daughter -- I think for the first time he's wearing a real tie that does not clip on. Show us, is that a clip-on tie?

Mr. Walz said, you don't want to know. There's a story behind that. This is a memorable moment for me, for my daughter, you know, and another opportunity for me to leave the United States and go across the world. That was quite a trip to Budapest. And, of course, my concern was, after I got over there, was inquiring, now that the Russians had pulled out, how are the people doing, the local people. But here again, the Triathlon Event was very memorable for me.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you very much. We appreciate what you have done for the County in the years past, also.

Mr. Walz said, well, I'm back, and I'm still going stay.

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4. REPORT PROVIDED BY DR. PAULA REYNOLDS ON THE CHATHAM COUNTY SAFETYNET PLANNING COUNCIL. (NOTE: A REPORT WILL BE DISTRIBUTED THE DAY OF MEETING.)

Chairman Liakakis said, each one of you were given that report that Dr. Reynolds is going to discuss today.

Dr. Paula Reynolds said, good morning, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners. I'm Dr. Paula Reynolds, the Executive Director of the Chatham County SafetyNet Planning Council, and it's my pleasure to represent the members of the Chatham County SafetyNet Planning Council today, many of whom are in attendance. First, I'd like to recognize Dr. Diane Weems, if she would stand, please. Dr. Weems has been the Chair of the Council since its formation in 2004, and her vision, leadership, and endless patience have brought us far in the last five and a half years. Now, if everybody else would stand up, please, so I can brag about you. I want to point out -- these are just a few of our Council members, that all of the work in the Council in the last five and a half years, other than my position and some project directors, is volunteer. Now, it's not just my opinion that this is an extraordinary group, but they -- Dr. Weems and I accepted an award from the Health Care Georgia Foundation naming them Collaborative of the Year this year for their work, and this fits this Council again, all volunteer effort.

So I will look at what is meant to be uninsured last year in Chatham County. The U.S. Census reported that in 2009, one in five Georgians lacked health insurance and, using that statistic with the Chatham County population, that meant as many as 53,000 Chatham County residents may have lacked health insurance last year. That's up from our previous estimates of 46-47,000. Now, one of the contributors to that, that we were observing last year was the rise in unemployment, which went up 2.7% in Chatham County, according to the Georgia Labor Department -- Georgia Department of Labor, because when a job is lost, often, health insurance is lost along with it, sometimes for an entire family. Now, this is the fifth year in a row that our providers have voluntarily submitted data for our evaluation, and the complete report was distributed to you earlier, but I'm just going to present the highlights today. As we expected, we had an increased number of patients that we saw in the system last year. We went up to 26,786 patients recorded, a 94% of whom were from Chatham County. There are some duplications we know of. Each of the providers presents their patient numbers. We add them together, but we know for a fact that some patients visit two or more providers in a year. Even so, we had a 3% increase over 2008, and this is a 48% increase since 2004.

So who comes to see us for health care? Eighty-one percent of the patients were ages 18 to 64. In 2009, 13% of the patients were under 18, up from 10% in 2008. Now, if you just take the numbers of children, looking 2700 to 3600, that's a 33% increase in a year, so we felt that was significant. Now, visits, this is the number of times somebody comes in for care. Last year when I was here, I predicted that our providers would meet or exceed the 100,000 visit mark in 2009, and they exceeded it with a total of 106,821 visits provided in the system in 2009. That's a 16% increase over 2008, and 53% increase in access to care since 2004. Now, what are visits? Seventy-seven percent of them are, of course, with a nurse or a doctor primary care, but that also includes dental visits, wellness, education, screening, case management, lab visits, physical therapy, and occupational therapy. As we've seen before, our patients come primarily from the areas of Chatham County where the U.S. Census indicates that they are the highest number of families living in poverty. So as we've done every year, we look at the visits to the Emergency Departments in Chatham County. Not all of the visits, but the ones that are of low urgency, or what they call Acuity 1 and 2. We call this primary care visits to the Emergency Departments, and those increased 7% from 2008 to 2009 for a total of 43,332 visits.

Now, this graph is broken down by hospital ED, and you see that the majority of the increase was felt at Memorial, but they did not return to their 2007 numbers. They didn't go quite as high. Again, let's look at when these visits occur and again, as we did last year, we see that 50% of them do take place when our providers are open. That's Monday through Friday, eight a.m. to eight p.m., so we still need to work on this and diverting people into a medical home. And we also now have Saturday hours at our federally-qualified health centers. That's the third bar there, that we have hours that we're open there, but still see traffic at the Emergency Departments. Age group -- now, this is visits, not patients, so most of the visits are from adults, but children increased 9% last year and adults 7%, but for the first time in 2009, we were able to collect data on the number of patients that visit the ED. We had visits only before, and the number of patients across the system was 31,548. Now, 85% of these were from Chatham County, because many people come from other counties to seek care at the Emergency Departments. And again, there's probably some duplication across the EDs, because some people may have visited two or probably all of them in a year. Again, the patients for the EDs came from areas with high poverty incidence, but it's interesting that the highest percentages are clustered closer to the location of the Emergency Departments in 31404 and 31405.

Now, this is a great accomplishment that I get to brag about. Back in 2005, the SafetyNet Council set a priority to help patients get the prescriptions that they need. With the cost of medications going up, patients often have to decide which prescription to fill, if any, and, lacking the drugs they need, their health status deteriorates. So since then, all of the partners have been working together to implement every program available to get prescription drugs to our patients. This year, we were finally able to put everything together and measure the financial impact of that. Now, these are not the \$4 brand name drugs that you can get at any formulary or prescription center. These are, for the most part, expensive drugs that often have no generic version, and if you look at this table here, we have put together that they have reached in total almost 15,000 patients, with a value of prescriptions approaching \$12 million, and that's in one year. So J.C. Lewis is reported separately, because they calculate their value in a different way, but, even so, it's a tremendous financial impact for our patients.

I want to point out one program, and that is MedBank. MedBank is a Chatham County SafetyNet partner and a private nonprofit organization that offers prescription assistance to low income patients, and since 2005, they have been working with our providers to figure out a way to get this assistance to our patients in a more efficient way, and they developed models that provide on-site staff, so they go to where the patients are, help them with their applications, make sure that the prescription is automatically refilled, and they actually deliver it to the clinic so the patient can pick it up there during their visit. This is in place at Curtis V. Cooper Community Health Mission and St. Mary's Health Center in 2009. And because of this diligent work, MedBank has grown -- now, this is just our system, okay -- from providing \$2.4 million worth of prescriptions in 2004 to \$6.7 million in 2009.

Okay, also in 2009, our federally-qualified health centers were able to take advantage of the opportunities for increased federal funding in the stimulus plan, and that resulted in \$1.3 million or a 34% increase in the federal funding that you see on the first bars of the graph. The County contribution, your contribution, is the second set of bars, and then you see an increase in patient co-pays, which mirrors the increase in visits, but all of the other funding sources remain constant. Now, there is no doubt that the strength and even the existence of the Council and the Collaborative helps all our partners get grants, either individually or together in various groups, and on behalf of all the partners, the SafetyNet itself has obtained over \$1.3 million in grants to date.

Okay, the Executive Committee has looked at the 2009 evaluation and come up with some recommendations for the future. First, we have revealed an emerging patient population, which is children, and we need to ensure that children's healthcare needs are provided for in our system in the availability of providers, adequate appointments, and with help applying for, receiving, and keeping Medicaid coverage and Peach Care for Kids coverage for those kids and families who are eligible. We also want to grow our pharmaceutical assistance in helping patients obtain medications. You know this is a very successful program, and we'll keep growing that and expanding it to other clinics and other locations.

Now, specialty care is the next step often after a primary care visit. It's very important in ensuring the patients receive the full scope of care that they need, and we are continuing to engage the private specialty care community in helping us. Finally, earlier, I pointed out that there are duplications in our data that we are unable to reconcile in the way that we've looked at our data in the last five years, and with our current methods, we can't really adequately report on quality or health outcomes, so we continue to be committed to an investment and information technology, which is vital to our sharing information not only among ourselves, but also with you and our broader community. It will also help us reduce cost and improve quality and reduce the unnecessary care, allow us to assess and reorganize and streamline our healthcare system. We're gaining widespread recognition across the state and locally for our efforts to implement a Health Information Exchange, and it was started in the Fall of 2009, and we're going to continue to grow it with your support to become a model for other communities.

And, of course, these days, we must comment about healthcare reform. We don't know exactly what changes are before us in the coming years, but we know that changes will come, so as a Council, the SafetyNet pledges to provide education to our community as to the significance and impact of the potential changes that are coming. Also, because health coverage does not always mean healthcare, we are committed to making sure that we have an adequate supply of providers ready for any newly-insured population that may come forward, make sure that we can serve them and make sure that that coverage means something for them. We're also committed to helping sort out any new enrollment process, to make sure that any Chatham County citizens who may qualify for coverage know how and where to get it. And finally, we'll work together to provide comprehensive care to our patients at what is called the patient center medical home. Now, that's a model of care that ensures that there's a diverse group of healthcare providers available to address the entire spectrum of a patient's healthcare needs, and we'll continue to work to link patients to these medical homes in order to provide them with optimum care. So I'll close with a photo of the Council at work and take any questions you may have.

Chairman Liakakis said, Harris?

Commissioner Odell said, good morning, Dr. Reynolds. I share your view, and we are very fortunate to have Dr. Diane Weems. She's been working on this program for many years. Our community is blessed when we have citizens like Dr. Weems. There's no way you can pay anyone to do the kinds of things she's done to advance this. Having said that, most of the health problems are either lifestyle or nutritional as far as origin. We have a large community that fails to exercise. We are bombarded annually with trillions of dollars of advertising to eat fast foods, which is the quickest way to take years off of your life. Are nutritionist or dietician visits included as part of the visits?

Dr. Reynolds said, yes, and we've classified that under education, and most of that is nutritional education. Now, sometimes it's more after-the-fact, unfortunately. Someone may come to us with diabetes, and as our pediatric programs are growing, we may be able to implement education for them in advance. Also, we are working and are part of Healthy Savannah, working in concert with them to support their efforts in getting the word out as far as nutrition and healthy eating in our area.

Commissioner Odell said, yeah, and it's really not an income problem and the obesity is, I guess, the greatest killer perhaps in our community. If not the, it's in the top two or three. As far as cost, it costs substantially more for a person to go to the emergency room as compared to one of our primary care facilities. Is that a true statement?

Dr. Reynolds said, I've seen a lot of different data on that, Commissioner Odell. The cost, really to me, is in the fact that the care that's provided in the Emergency Department is not the proper care. It's episodic. In other words, someone goes to the Emergency Department when their health has deteriorated to the point that they have to go in there and, yes, maybe it costs \$150 a visit -- I'm just -- perhaps that's an average -- and across our system, the average cost is more like \$80 a visit. However, for proper care, that individual should probably come to our system three, four times a year, to get ongoing care to keep their health in an optimum condition. So I don't know, you know, if they go one time to the Emergency Department, maybe that costs more per visit, but it may, in the long run, be a better investment for them to come where their care needs are met in an ongoing fashion, to keep them from getting into a dangerous situation.

Commissioner Odell said, I would agree that prevention is substantially cheaper than once the condition has developed. But we do have the visit cost at each of the facilities?

Dr. Reynolds said, yes, that is in your report, and --

Commissioner Odell said, I'll look at it, Doctor.

Dr. Reynolds said, yes, it's page 34.

Commissioner Odell said, and my last question is, that many of the people who come to the various partners do not have all of the necessary -- all of the standard identification. Our health information system, that is a shared data system, so that if I have a condition, then I cannot go to the four or five partners on four or five different days and get four or five prescriptions for the same kind of medication. We share that information.

Dr. Reynolds said, that's correct, in a central data base that eventually, all of our partners will contribute, not all of the information on each patient, but enough so that a healthcare provider who sees that patient for the first time can go into the central data base and see that they were at another provider last week and also received a prescription or had a certain lab test and what the lab test results are, so that care is not duplicated. They can re-enforce to the person, yes, we see that you were seen last week and do you have further questions about it, perhaps that's why you're coming to us the next week. Perhaps they were not able to fill their prescription. You can really delve into what the reason is and get all of the information before you decide to duplicate the care that was already done.

Commissioner Odell said, okay, and is every one of the partners on the same data base or compatible data base?

Dr. Reynolds said, actually, we have contracted with a very elegant software provider that, regardless of whether they have exactly the same kind of electronic medical records at the partners, they are able to link into the data system regardless through a common form of messaging, and then we have another software program on top of that, that takes the information coming in and -- let's say Mr. Smith comes in from this clinic and they look -- this program can look and see whether he was ever seen, even if he came in under a slightly different name. They match many of the demographic parameters, and they can match him to a record that may have been in the system before. So, through health information technology, we are able to take diverse, different types of electronic medical records and put them all in the same data base that, for the most part, is organized by patient for us, so then get a chronology of what that patient's experience in the system has been.

Commissioner Odell said, that's really good. It really is.

Dr. Reynolds said, it's real exciting.

Commissioner Odell said, it really is, and we are, I think, as a nation going to move towards some electronic -- mass electronic medical records which, I think, will reduce the medication errors and a whole lot of other things. My last question, or just comment, is that some of our partners have seen an increase in application whereas others have been static and some have fallen. Has the SafetyNet analyzed the reasons for increase, static, and decrease?

Dr. Reynolds said yes, by provider, we have that. In fact, it's addressed in the report. For instance, some of the increases are because of increased hours or increased types of providers, those Saturday hours that I was talking about, sometimes evening hours, sometimes the ability to accept a new patient population that occurred in 2009. And we had two partners who, even though they are volunteer -- and I'd like to commend them both, was Community Health Nation and St. Mary's Health Center. This is a volunteer organization and, without a mandate of any kind, both of these providers transferred to electronic medical records last year. Now, that is a huge undertaking and, for a short period of time during the year, they were unable to accept new patients while they were changing their systems, and so that would result in fewer patients for them.

Commissioner Odell said, most people probably do not know that these are, in many cases, retired physicians who are giving back their service free of time, simply to try to address a problem that we actually have in this community. We have a large population that does not have access to healthcare.

Dr. Reynolds said, right, and those retired physicians jumped right in there to learn the new computer system and the volunteer staff at these providers, sometimes they would come in once or twice a week, also jumped in there to adopt the new system and learn it and put it in place, so it's a tough transition, but worth every bit of effort. So there was a slight period of time where, because of that, they couldn't accept new patients, so their patients were down a little bit, but we will probably see them soar in 2010, now that they have the new systems.

Commissioner Odell said, and lastly, we hear so much bad news, we've had some good news. We've had in this program a lot of successes, and we've had a lot of people who got involved, not out of mandate, not out of employment, but out of human compassion for other people, like the people at St. Mary's and many others. That's all I have, Mr. Chairman. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, Patrick?

Commissioner Shay said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. You referred to page 34.

Dr. Reynolds said, yes.

Commissioner Shay said, there's some interesting information there. If I understood your presentation correctly, the amount of federal spending that was used to help support this network increased from about 3.8 million to about 5.1 million.

Dr. Reynolds said, that's correct.

Commissioner Shay said, I may be off by some, and that money was from the ARRA stimulus.

Dr. Reynolds said, right.

Commissioner Shay said, my question is, is that a recurring funding stream or is that going to expire?

Dr. Reynolds said, many of the things that they got last year were for specific programs. For instance, the creation of a new access point, the physical facilities, the implementation of electronic medical records for staff and, actually, the purchasing of the software, those themselves are not recurring; however, just a couple weeks ago, again, our FQHCs were successful in getting a similar amount together from HERSA, so although they're not renewable, there are constantly new opportunities out there that they have been very, very diligent in applying for and have successfully received.

Commissioner Shay said, that's a good answer, had a lot of information packed into it, but the recurring revenue question is one that concerns me. If we don't have the revenue being renewed, then there seems to me likely to be a gap in the amount of money that's spent last year as compared to 2010, perhaps 2011, going forward, because it's a non recurring revenue stream, and I'm concerned about what you see in the future as to being the way that we're going to make up that gap, because I'm not confused. I look at who the second biggest contributor to this is, and it's local government.

Dr. Reynolds said, yes, and actually, you are number one.

Commissioner Shay said, and we're not far behind. Last year, we were number one.

Dr. Reynolds said, actually, there are some programs that we're working on, making sure that all of our providers are eligible for -- for the ones who actually built the volunteer clinics do not, and that is, and these will be growing and reoccurring, that there are incentives offered for both Medicaid and Medicare for providers who use electronic medical records and do so by a certain time. And those increased reimbursement amounts are offered as incentives, and they grow over, I believe, the next three years. Then, after that period of time, if a provider has not implemented this program, it becomes a disincentive, in that they are reimbursed at a lower rate. So part -- it actually integrated into our adopting electronic medical records, getting a reporting system on behalf of the whole Council, making sure that we have the providers there who are involved in the system, will accept Medicaid or other similar funding and reimbursement models, is preparing us for the changes that are going to come and be fully in place at this point in 2014. So there are some ongoing and growing reimbursement incentives that would, depending upon how many patients we grow in that system, would be growing over time.

Commissioner Shay said, isn't that chart that also shows hospitals as contributing \$835,000 -- but I've got to believe that with the number of visits to the emergency rooms that that doesn't actually reimburse the hospitals for all of those emergency room visits.

Dr. Reynolds said, that's correct. This is only hospital contributions to our primary care providers.

Commissioner Shay said, so in other words, these are sort of -- I know it's not cash -- but I mean, it's money that's being contributed into the system, as opposed to services that are being contributed into the system. What is the approximate value of the services that are being contributed by the local hospitals in order to make up the gap between what they're getting reimbursed and what the number of people that show up in the emergency rooms seeking non emergency services? Do you know?

Dr. Reynolds said, no, we haven't looked at that specifically, but I know that the uncompensated care in the Emergency Department is a very significant burden on the hospitals. And even since the inception of the SafetyNet in 2004, there has been an ongoing effort to take those individuals and give them information about the fact that our provider network is available and a much better choice for healthcare for them, so we try to link them with medical homes. Now, that program has waxed and waned due to grant funding, various staffs, staff availability in hospitals, but it has never stopped. And unfortunately, our ability -- or our inability to de-duplicate data, those 31,000 patients that came into the Emergency Departments for primary care, we don't know whether those are new patients that have never been in our system or whether a certain percent of them actually are enrolled in our system and go at a different time. Again, that's our Health Information Exchange. We'll be able to get a much better idea on whether we are making headway and linking patients with medical homes, and so that's really where our focus is lying now. I think a lot of the increased burden on the hospitals last year was because of newly unemployed folks. They may not have had our system on their

radar before, and so they may have gone to the Emergency Department for the first time, but when they're there, they get information on us.

Commissioner Shay said, and I think that's a good thing. I think that's actually how the Curtis V. Cooper Health Center came into being, was because the burden was much higher on the hospitals than they seemed to be able to afford at that time. I'd also like to thank you for the data about how many of the people that visit this system are from out of Chatham County. I would have thought it would have been a much larger percentage, and now that I see that it's a relatively small percentage, it helps me to sort of be prepared for the fact that I think local government, meaning this government -- I don't know any other local government. Are there other local governments other than Chatham County when we list local governments that are contributing significantly?

Dr. Reynolds said, no. That's all of you, and on behalf of the Council, I'd like to thank you, because you're very unique in the State. Whenever we go to a State meeting and they find out that we have your support, there's a lot of jealousy.

Commissioner Shay said, well, you might want to, then, substitute Chatham County for the words local government, so that we would --

Dr. Reynolds said, I think that's a very good idea. We'll take it under advisement next year.

Commissioner Shay said, it sounds like we need to be prepared for the fact that the gap may get wider, and that the burden on the local contributing local government, Chatham County, conceivably could get to be greater. Is that fair?

Dr. Reynolds said, but we're also working to make sure that those who are now uninsured and may be eligible for coverage in the future get it, so it would decrease the burden on you.

Commissioner Shay said, and I very much appreciate the fact that you all have worked together and tried to collectively solve the problem, because individually, we have not yet managed to get close to solving the problem, so thank you for all your hard work.

Dr. Reynolds said, thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, Harris?

Commissioner Odell said, if I -- point of personal privilege. You'd asked a question to Dr. Reynolds about the cost of unreimbursed care. I do know that if you look at inpatient and outpatient and if you take Memorial, Candler, and St. Joe's, about three years ago, it was in excess of \$50 million. We're talking about \$50 million that the three hospitals have to make up, and how they make that up is on other services, but it's about \$50 million, with the unemployment rate growing. Now, we're substantially more than that. We have in Georgia what's known as the Indigent Care Trust Fund, and I know our County Manager is familiar with that. And 20 years ago, Memorial Medical Center received \$28 million through the Indigent Care Trust Fund, but over the years, the only people in Georgia who received money from the Indigent Care Trust Fund is in Fulton County, i.e., Grady Memorial Hospital. I think in like 2007, we may have gotten 1.5 million or 2.5 million, but comparatively, it was slim to none. So when we look at the hospitals, and we evaluate them, we have to evaluate them in the light that many of them, if not many, all of them, are providing care for people who are uninsured that the government, both federal and state and local government, are not having to pay for. Candler provides it, St. Joe's provides it, and Memorial provides it, and it's in excess of \$50 million a year, that we put on their backs every year. Every year, not we, but they incur that cost.

Dr. Reynolds said, and because both of our hospital systems serve a wide regional area, those individuals are not just from Chatham County. They serve and provide that care for many different counties, up to 40 in our area.

Chairman Liakakis said, well, I'd like to thank the SafetyNet Planning Council, because they put a lot of work into this. They're really concerned about the medical assistance to those people in our community that are uninsured and underinsured, and when you have thousands and thousands of patients like that, they have no other way to turn, except to go to these healthcare providers that we have in our community. And a lot of people in our community now are really struggling, especially those people on low incomes, is that they are struggling each month whether they're going to pay their rent or their mortgage or are they going to pay for their utilities, are they going to pay for their prescription and food, and, see, that's a really sad situation, because sometimes, quite a number of people, they can't pay for all of that, because they just don't have the funding. And one of the things that has really helped out, the SafetyNet Planning Council with all the providers, you know, on the medical side, has really helped out, and we really appreciate that very much for all of the providers and, of course, the Council, who work hard in this area so that we can do the best we can, you know, for those patients that are underinsured and uninsured. So, Doctor, we thank you very much, Dr. Weems, and I see a number of them, Cardiovascular Council, and other -- the ones on the Council, and we really appreciate that, and we thank you very much, and I know you're going to all get blessed, because helping so many in our community, thousands and thousands of patients that we have, you know, and many, many, of course, are in the poverty programs. So thank you again for your hard work and all of that, that each and everyone of you do.

Dr. Reynolds said, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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CHATHAM YOUTH COMMISSION

Chairman Liakakis said, and Chatham County, what they have done is promote this, because they want their employees to get that experience and training so they can move up the ladder. But before we do that, I want to

recognize right now our Chatham County Youth Commissioners and, starting on my left here, we have Brianna Adams, who's the representative for Johnson High School; then we have Emily Bermudez, who is the representative for Windsor Forest High School; and Jazmine Ellis, who is the Executive Member for Groves High School, so thank each and every one of you for coming today and attending our Commission meeting.

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5. GRADUATION CEREMONY FOR THE CHATHAM COUNTY MANAGEMENT DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM CLASS OF 2010.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, so go ahead, Van, and, Russ, if you'd go up there with him, also, for this presentation.

Mr. Van Johnson said, thank you. Dr. Thomas, Commissioner Stone, Gentlemen, good morning. Today is a happy day in Chatham County, in the Chatham County Nation, as we call it, as we celebrate the accomplishments of our fellow employees, as we present the latest edition of the graduates from the Chatham County Management Development Program. Who are these brave souls, who have endured so much, who have worked so hard, who have completed an accelerated program that included three courses over six months, over 24 days, and 126 classroom hours, while still being responsible for their day-to-day duties at their various departments? They completed student projects, which combined theoretical and practical application and analysis of their job duties, and we are pleased to report over \$232,000 return in investment on the projects that they brought for consideration. We celebrate these stellar employees who thought enough of their community to engage in an effort called SOS, Saving our Seniors, where they donated 300 fans to local community agencies so that our seniors will remain cool in the summer heat. We celebrate these employees who, in the midst of it all, at the end of the day, still had to go home and be husbands, wives, mommies, daddies, grandmas, granddads, sons, and daughters. So today is a good day, and we know that in very strange and challenging times, in many organizations, training is often the first casualty, but we thank you for making the policy decision to support employee development through training. You know that better trained employees and better educated employees lead to a more prepared work force. We thank our County Manager, Mr. Abolt, our Human Resources and Services Manager, Director, Mr. Kaigler, and all of our department heads, supervisors, and co-workers who supported this great work by this great body of people. We also thank our partners at the University of Georgia's Carl Vinson Institute of Government, and our friend and mentor who drove all the way here from Athens just to witness this great day, and I want to -- Gordon, would you like to come say hello? Are you sure? Come on.

Mr. Gordon Maner said, Chairman Liakakis, distinguished County Commissioners, delighted to be here on behalf of Carl Vinson Institute. I did leave at -- I got in from California last night at 11:00, and I got up at 4:30 this morning to drive down here, so I wouldn't want to miss this. This is an important moment in the life of the Carl Vinson Institute to see these fine employees graduate from our program, and I want to thank Mr. Abolt and Mr. Kaigler and Mr. Johnson for their hard work in making it happen. Most of all, congratulations to the Class of 2010. I had more comments, but I'm going to let it go.

Chairman Liakakis said, hold it, hold it. Stay right up there for a minute. I want everybody to know that he's a Savannahian, and he's an accomplished attorney, and the things that he has done over the years, and now being with the Carl Vinson Institute, we can see he's a leader with the Institute and has helped in many ways, because the Carl Vinson Institute not only has this great program, but they also train City Councils all over the State of Georgia and County Commissioners, and they do a great job, because their training and a lot of help from you and others that are on the staff, that we have better elected officials, both in the City and the County, because of all of the training and information that's given to all of them. Thank you.

Mr. Maner said, thank you, Pete. Every one of you all are involved in our training programs, and you all mean a lot to the Vinson Institute, also, and to the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia, so thank you for your support. You all realize that my good friend, Dave Hankerson, the County Manager of Cobb County, a 25-year partner in training with us, said at one of their graduations, what costs more, training or not training? And I think you all know the answer, because that's why you keep funding it. Thank you.

Mr. Van Johnson said, thank you, Gordon. We are pleased to call Gordon our partner. An old Proverb says that when the student is ready to learn, the teacher will appear. Our employees were ready to learn, ready to be engaged, ready to be challenged and the right instructor showed up in an RV from the Northwest part of the state. She came in like Clint Eastwood, armed with knowledge and daring these students to make her day. I particularly would like to thank Jacque Booker, who is here with us today, and because this day was so important to her, her, like Gordon, gave up a more lucrative opportunity just to be with our students on this day. Jacque, would you come and say good morning to us?

Jacque Booker said, good morning, Chairman, Commissioners. I guess you can tell from my voice, I talked a little bit too much. But I do want to say thank you. I am so proud of this class. And every time I come before you, I say this is the best class ever, but truly, this has been a great class. They came up with some great projects and have done some great things for Chatham County. I hope all their projects get implemented because they're not pie in the sky type projects. It's things that can really happen. I know we thanked all of you for being so supportive of the program, but there's one more person I'd like to thank this morning, and that is Sheriff St. Lawrence. He always makes a training site available to us and, not only that, they give us anything we need when we're out there training. We really appreciate it. Sheriff St. Lawrence, I thank you. Now, to my class, --

Commissioner Odell said, let's give Al a big hand. One more thattaboy.

Ms. Booker said, I have to say, I had a little doubt when I first came in. I said, "Van, what have you done to me?" But let me tell you something, when it came down to twelfth hour, every last one of them delivered beyond what I ever

dreamed that they would do. I really feel sad about leaving them, because we really have bonded, and we really have done some great things together, and I want to thank you for the opportunity of allowing me to be a part of. One thing I want to address that Mr. Johnson said was I came in on an RV. Well, I wouldn't have been here on that RV without my partner, and that is Bob Booker, and he came with me this morning, and I just want to thank him. He retired from being a police officer for over 42 years, and then I put him back to work, so thank you very much for everything.

Mr. Booker said, driving Ms. Jacque.

Mr. Johnson said, and finally, we wanted you to hear from one of the beneficiaries of your vision, one of our graduates, one who helps deliver fans, one who is guiding us to 100% of our United Way goal this week, and in his spare time, is a Chatham County Public Defender, Michael Edwards.

Mr. Michael Edwards said, good morning, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners. We want to thank you all. You've heard many thanks already, but I have to share in the expressions of gratitude. We've had a terrific class. We've done some really great work. We're very proud of the accomplishments that we've been able to bring to fruition, but we couldn't have done it without all of your support, your financial support, your support as a matter of policy and philosophy. We're very, very grateful for that. This is a very important program, and we do hope to see it continue. I've got to thank Mr. Johnson for being the champion. He has just been remarkable year in and year out, and we're really grateful for that. Every good project, every good idea, has to have a champion, and Mr. Johnson has done that wonderfully. Mr. Chairman was out with us during our -- this is a three-session, three-course class, and you were with us in our first session, and you really encouraged us to shoot for the stars. We appreciate you being there for that and giving us so much of your time. That was very, very meaningful to us, and then attending the press conference along with Commissioner Holmes, and again showing your support for our projects and our programs. Mr. Abolt came out and spoke to us at our graduation last week and gave us a wonderful talk last Friday. It was just fantastic. We were very, very grateful for that. He had some wonderful words of wisdom, and we all sat around talking later and saw a lot of the things that we'd been doing and ideas that we've been trying to develop, coming together with some of the ideas that Mr. Abolt was able to share with us. Sheriff St. Lawrence, in offering the space to us, we're so grateful for that. Ms. Booker, of course, has done a terrific job. We hope that she will be able to come back over and over and over again. What you have in this class are 20 Chatham County employees who represent 13 separate Chatham County departments. That's a pretty broad, widespread collection and snapshot of the folks that are in this community. These are my classmates. My team mates are our greatest resource in Chatham County. You all know that. I hear you say that many, many times, and it's absolutely true. They're absolutely wonderful people. They're current and future leaders, current and future supervisors and department heads, and it's this sort of program and the opportunity to work with the Carl Vinson Institute of Government which is, if not the, certainly among the finest schools of government and leadership studies in the country, that we can continue to have such a strong and vital, viable county government family, and so we are really truly appreciative to all of you and to all those that are so instrumental in making this happen. Thank you all very much.

Mr. Johnson said, so look out, world, we are unleashing these prepared employees back to their departments. Mr. Chairman, would you come down? Gordon, would you join us as well? I didn't say Jacque? I'm sorry. And if you notice, we actually gave you the frames this time. Please hold your applause until all graduates have been called.

Robbin Bowen, Tax Assessors Office
Darrin Brown, Building Safety & Regulatory Services.
Stephanie Bush, Sheriff's Department
Hal Copeland, Tax Assessors Office
Daniel Crovatt, Public Defender
Michael Crowder, Sheriff's Department
Scott Dietz, Juvenile Court
Michael Edwards, Public Defender
Alisa Fish, Finance
Tamala Fulton, Human Resources & Services
Nan Garner, Court Administrator
Nell Hart, CEMA
John Jones, Sheriff's Department
Robin Maurer, Purchasing & Contracting
Sean McCarthy, ICS
Julie Mitchell, Sheriff's Department
Sandra Moore, Administrative Services
Michael Rodgers, Tax Assessors Office
Marilyn Rodriguez, Human Resources & Services
Shana Ruff, Superior Court Clerk's Office

Mr. Johnson said, congratulations to everyone.

County Manager Abolt said, I do want to recognize this body. You all put your interests, your focus, and the dollars of the County into revitalizing this program. When you first took over as County Commission, you put a premium on the special resources that are employees, and now we're looking at year upon year of wonderful people graduating. The type of projects they worked on, they're very important and they're cost effective, but it's also the change you see in the individuals who have been given a chance to excel, and, for that, this organization is blessed. We have a wonderful work force and a wonderful County Commission.

Commissioner Odell said, Van, this might impact your department. This is an excellent program, and we have some items that are going to be coming down the pike, items which we've spent a lot of time and consideration, and this would be an excellent group to bounce things off, especially on this particular project. And let me just give you a for-instance or an example, as a child, we grew up with Mickey Mouse. Well, Mickey Mouse original name by Walt Disney

were going to be Mortimer Mouse. Now, you think of that and you go, Mortimer Mouse doesn't have the zing of Mickey Mouse, but Walt Disney created it and while sitting at breakfast with his wife, she said, "No, no, no, you need a generic name like Mickey." Same character, different characterization, and the rest is history and a trillion dollar industry. We have some things which are going to impact us which, quite frankly, through Human Resources, we've been looking at. We need your input and, because I have not shared this with our man of the hour, Russ Abolt, I will not disclose what this task that you will be asked to review. I'd like to review it first with Russ, but it's an important task that's going to impact and influence every employee and every family member of every employee in this county, and it's a good thing. It's a good thing for each and every employee. It's a good thing for each and every beneficiary of each employee. But you will be hearing about this in the next two weeks. Don't look at your classmates and think that it's over, that you won't be seeing each other again. You have one more visit together, because I am dedicated to getting your ideas and thoughts so that the proposal that I'm prepared to make is not Mortimer Mouse, but Mickey Mouse. I think you can help me and help us make that transition, and it's something that I hope we all can be proud of. And congratulations, your task is not over. The investment we have made, we're about to collect some dividends within the next two weeks.

Mr. Johnson said, Commissioner, you actually might be -- you're actually a visionary in that, because we have about 100 employees that are graduates of the Management Development Program now that we have ready. We used to call them quality control circles, but, really, the purpose is to be able to be better prepared employees, to be able to bounce things off issues and concerns. We certainly can consider these employees to be among our elite.

Commissioner Odell said, I will discuss it with our Captain of the Ship, Mr. Abolt, and we'll discuss it further with the Chairman, my fearless leader, and I am willing to politic and go to the mat on this concept, because it saves money, benefits each and every one of our employees.

Chairman Liakakis said, Patrick?

Commissioner Shay said, I'm intrigued. I look forward to hearing more about this as I go forward. I just want to compliment all of what's going on here for the reason that most people that are affected by county government, which is to say all people in Chatham County, think of this Board of Commissioners as being the face of their government, and they should. Our job is to establish policy. But we wouldn't be able to actually be effective at all if we didn't have all that human infrastructure that's out there to implement the policy. Now, some people call that the bureaucracy and sometimes that gets a bad label, but what we're talking about here is developing a really strong bench for the future of our ability to lead our government. We're very fortunate that we have excellent senior management right now, but that senior management doesn't last forever, and this organization needs to grow people in their ability to become those leaders of our government infrastructure in the future, so no pressure here, but we look forward to many, many great things in the future from all of you, as well as now.

Chairman Liakakis said, Brianna?

Youth Commissioner Brianna Adams said, what is the purpose of this program?

Mr. Johnson said, well the purpose of this program is, this is an augmentation, if you will. We have employees that have been with us from one year to thirty years or forty years, and this is an opportunity for them to enhance their skills where they are. They usually -- we get busy and working and doing the work that we do every day, but this is a way for us to be able to first analyze ourselves, our skill sets, where our strengths are. A lot of employees work and don't know, really, where their strengths lie. The second part deals with looking at the place in which they work, and the third part deals with dealing with the community around them. And so in dealing with those three parts, you end up with a better employee, someone who is now really prepared. I think a lot of our employees say you learn something about yourselves. Right? I mean, just learn stuff you don't know. I think it goes to the point that no matter how old you get, you never stop learning.

Chairman Liakakis said, Emily?

Youth Commissioner Emily Bermudez said, I just wanted to congratulate the Chatham County Management Development Class on behalf of the Chatham County Youth Commission for all the hard work over these past months.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you very much. To all of the employees, we thank you very much. We're glad that you could go in this program. This Commission, you know, really is in full support. We know how important it is. We know how important you are, and we thankfully have 1600 good employees in our community, but with these particular programs, you can rise above in your particular area and to even greater things. Thank you all.

Mr. Johnson said, and after 5:00, you can all have the rest of the day off.

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VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

None.

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VII. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS

1. TRAUMA CARE/TAG TAX (CHAIRMAN LIAKAKIS AND COMMISSIONER STONE).

Chairman Liakakis said, that's an item that Commissioner Stone and I, you know, have really been pushing, and I've talked to a number of Legislators around the state in the last few months, even some of the leaders of that, and this is really important, that this trauma care tag tax be approved by citizens. It's really going to help out. Helen, our Commissioner, is, you know, really concerned about this, because we're concerned about that. What I'd like to do -- would you like to say something now, Helen? Because I'm going to bring out Julian to speak on it.

Commissioner Stone said, right, I know that, Mr. Chairman. I just appreciate putting this on the agenda. I think this is an item that touches all of us at some point in our lives, hopefully not very often, but somebody we know or somebody related to us needs trauma care, and I think that this is extremely important that we look at. We have the facility here, and we need to keep it up and running, and without some additional funding, it could cease. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Julian Pafford said, Mr. Chairman, thank you. I'm Julian Pafford with Georgia Power, and this is Elaine France, who's the Trauma Care Director at Memorial, and we're here today to make a brief statement and answer any questions. You have a package in front of you. You have an envelope. But you also have a map, so if you could grab that map, I wanted to show you just pictorially that there are two trauma centers in South Georgia, and one is Chatham County and the other is in Thomas County, way down on the Florida border. So I think this demonstrates, to begin with, that we -- if we have an emergency, and they need world class care, that we don't have enough trauma care centers, so this is the map. I think you can see that. And I wanted to talk about the November 2nd ballot that hopefully our citizens that are listening today will go and vote, and on that ballot, Amendment Number 2 talks about trauma care, and so I have a brief statement, and this is coming from Georgia Power in support of trauma care.

Mr. Chairman and Commissioners and listening audience, my name is Julian Pafford, and I'm representing Georgia Power Company today and specifically the Coastal Region here in Savannah, where we are supportive in the ballot, Amendment Number 2, on the November 2nd election. I represent a major business that has more than 400 employees along the coast and a number of contractors. We respond to emergencies, natural disasters, storms, and hurricanes, and we recognize how valuable to our community good hospitals are, and the need for 24-hour trauma service. We want our families, our traveling public, to continue to have access to excellent care. Please consider voting yes to support state-wide trauma care November 2nd. That's Amendment Number 2. One other quick example. We need this all over the state. We have an excellent trauma care facility here at Memorial. I have two children in college, and they're driving across state to come home for Thanksgiving, and so I'm not only interested in here, but all across the state as we travel. A significant number of deaths from age one to forty-four are highway trauma deaths, and so I don't have to tell you, but I'm interested in the listening public to understand, go to vote. There's a bunch of ballot amendments, but pick Number 2 and vote yes. Now, that's my statement. If you have any questions, I have an expert. I'm just a reader.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Julian, what will yes do? Just in a few words for the public, since we're promoting it.

Mr. Pafford said, it creates a way to collect some dollars, a fee. Ten dollars for every drivers license each year will go into the trauma care system, and I assume over time that it will create more trauma care centers, up to 14, is that right, Elaine?

Ms. Elaine France said, if I may, Mr. Commissioner, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners and listening audience, thank you very much for allowing us to speak today. To answer your question directly, the \$10, it is anticipated that the revenue from this will be approximately 80 million per year. What the hope is, is that the current centers in the State of Georgia, current non trauma centers, specific ones will be augmented to then be designated as Level 2, 3, or 4 Centers. As Julian mentioned, south of Macon, there are two centers; however, the Chief of Trauma Services & Eye, Dr. Gage Ochsner, and I have traveled extensively in the last six months to various hospitals in South Georgia, and we've noticed that they are ready. They are able to take care of basic trauma patients, perhaps one injury, but they are not designated as a trauma center. Memorial takes the extent, a high number of trauma patients that could be handled at home, could be handled in their home community. I believe also it's critical the number one killer -- everybody needs to know this -- the number one killer in Georgia, trauma. The leading cause of death, 44 and under, trauma. Any one of you leave today, get in your car or on your motorcycle or in your truck, you don't know it will happen. Thank goodness, we have Memorial as a trauma center. And this isn't Memorial or St. Joe's, it's the community. It is the people in the community. And I think the other critical point, the funds will not be put into the general fund. It's a dedicated fund. Determination of the allocation of the funds will be made by the Trauma Commission. This is a Commission that consists of doctors, nurses, and EMS personnel. I was there yesterday for the Trauma Commission meeting in Atlanta. They determine -- they know best what centers need and what centers could be designated as trauma centers, so I implore you to think of trauma. It is a killer. We need to prevent it, but we need to also take care of those who are injured. Thank you.

Commissioner Odell said, you know, the life -- and every voter needs to know this -- the life they save may be their own, because if you're south of Macon, every minute that you are from treatment could be the difference between having a viable life and having a vegetative life. So every citizen needs to think of this very personal, because the life they save may be their own.

Ms. France said, it may be, and that's perfectly stated, because it's the Golden Hour. We all know the Golden Hour.

Chairman Liakakis said, Jazmine?

Youth Commissioner Jazmine Ellis said, I have a question. About how many people a year come to the trauma center at Memorial?

Ms. France said, currently, we have 2500 patients a year, and that has increased 17% from last year.

Chairman Liakakis said, one of the things I'm going to ask our outstanding reporter here, who does a great job for the County and all, we have this particular map, and Eric Curl, as we know, does a tremendous job in his work with the Savannah Morning News, so we'll ask him if he will print this, you know, for us, because we are talking about it and all. And I call on now Priscilla.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. And you've said exactly what I was going to ask, if it would be possible, because a lot of people are asking me questions. It is on the Voter Registration ballot, and a lot of people really don't know what it's all about, and I've been really trying to get the word out there as to why we need it and that type of thing, so if the media can help us with that, I think it would bring about better understanding on the part of those who really need to go to the polls and vote, because we really need that.

Chairman Liakakis said, hundreds of lives around the state have been saved because of the trauma centers, and we're real lucky and fortunate to have a Level 1 in Chatham County. There are four Level 1's around the state, but, of course, we need, as was mentioned, Level 2, 3, and 4, because once you look at this map, you can see that many people who have, you know, this terrible injury, and especially in an automobile accident or whatever it may be, that it takes them a longer period of time to get to a trauma center. That's why this money is so important, so we're asking people, on Amendment 2, to please vote for that, because it might save their lives, but it could save hundreds or thousands of people's lives over the years, to have these additional trauma centers. And, of course, we know that Memorial and some of the others, they don't get enough funding for all of the things that they have to do to provide that Level 1 treatment for people to come in, and they have to put other resources in there, so we encourage people to please come out and vote. Talk to your neighbor, your friend, your relative, to vote for Amendment 2 for the good of our citizens in our state. Thank you.

Ms. France said, thank you very much, all of you.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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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. **UPDATE THE BOARD ON THE EMPLOYEE WELLNESS PROGRAM. NOTE: ITEM WAS TABLED AT OCTOBER 8, 2010, MEETING AND SHOULD REMAIN ON THE TABLE UNTIL THE NOVEMBER 5, 2010, MEETING.**

Chairman Liakakis said, we'll leave this on the table, as recommended.

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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) transfer \$16,000 within the Probate Court General Fund M&O budget for a temporary employee, (2) appropriate \$44,910 in the Confiscated Revenue Fund for the Counter Narcotics Team, and (3) in the Multiple Grant Fund, increase revenues and expenditures: a) \$350,650 for a Criminal Justice Coordinating Council grant to the Sheriff's K-9 Unit, b) \$7,500 for a Council of Juvenile Court Judges grant to Juvenile Court, c) \$110,674 for a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services grant to the Drug Court, d) \$68,374 for a Department of Justice grant to the Drug Court, e) \$72,027 for a Criminal Justice Coordinating Council grant to the Victim Witness Assistance Program, and f) \$100,000 for a grant from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources for the Lower Ogeechee Trails Program.**

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

Commissioner Stone said, I make a motion, Mr. Chairman, to approve.

Commissioner Holmes said, I second it.

Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor and a second for Item 1. Please go on the board. Motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Commissioner Stone for approval of the following budget amendments and transfers: (1) transfer \$16,000 within the Probate Court General Fund M&O budget for a temporary employee, (2) appropriate \$44,910 in the Confiscated Revenue Fund for the Counter Narcotics Team, and (3) in the Multiple Grant Fund, increase revenues and

expenditures: a) \$350,650 for a Criminal Justice Coordinating Council grant to the Sheriff's K-9 Unit, b) \$7,500 for a Council of Juvenile Court Judges grant to Juvenile Court, c) \$110,674 for a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services grant to the Drug Court, d) \$68,374 for a Department of Justice grant to the Drug Court, e) \$72,027 for a Criminal Justice Coordinating Council grant to the Victim Witness Assistance Program, and f) \$100,000 for a grant from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources for the Lower Ogeechee Trails Program. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Holmes and it carried unanimously. [Commissioners Farrell and Odell were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-1

AGENDA DATE: October 22, 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) transfer \$16,000 within the Probate Court General Fund M&O budget for a temporary employee, (2) appropriate \$44,910 in the Confiscated Revenue Fund for the Counter Narcotics Team, and (3) in the Multiple Grant Fund, increase revenues and expenditures: a) \$350,650 for a Criminal Justice Coordinating Council grant to the Sheriff's K-9 Unit, b) \$7,500 for a Council of Juvenile Court Judges grant to Juvenile Court, c) \$110,674 for a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services grant to the Drug Court, d) \$68,374 for a Department of Justice grant to the Drug Court, e) \$72,027 for a Criminal Justice Coordinating Council grant to the Victim Witness Assistance Program, and f) \$100,000 for a grant from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources for the Lower Ogeechee Trails Program.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Probate Court has a need for a temporary employee. A \$16,000 transfer within the Court's budget from Management Consulting Services to salaries will provide funding. Correspondence is attached.
2. The CNT Director has requested an appropriation of \$44,910 in confiscated funds for equipment and supplies. A transfer from CNT contingency to the expenditure budget is needed. Correspondence is attached.
3. The Sheriff's Department K-9 Unit has received a grant for \$350,650 from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. Correspondence and a resolution to amend the Multiple Grant Fund are attached.
4. Juvenile Court has received a \$7,500 grant from the Office of Justice Programs for the Family Drug Court Programs. A resolution to amend the Multiple Grant Fund is attached.
5. The Savannah-Chatham County Drug Court has been awarded a grant in the amount of \$110,674 from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Correspondence and a resolution to amend the Multiple Grant Fund are attached.
6. The Savannah-Chatham County Drug Court has been awarded \$68,374 from the Department of Justice. Correspondence and a resolution to amend the Multiple Grant Fund are attached.
7. The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council has awarded a \$72,027 grant to the Victim Witness Assistance Program. Correspondence and a resolution to amend the Multiple Grant Fund are attached.
8. The Board of Commissioners voted to accept a Georgia Department of Natural Resources grant for the Lower Ogeechee Trails Program at their meeting held October 8, 2010. A resolution to amend the Multiple Grant Fund is attached.

FUNDING: Funds are available in the Probate Court General M&O Fund budget and the Confiscated Revenue Fund for the transfers. The budget amendment will establish funding in the Multiple Grant fund.

ALTERNATIVES:

- (1) That the Board approve the following:

GENERAL FUND M&O

Transfer \$16,000 within the Probate Court budget for a temporary employee.

CONFISCATED REVENUE FUND

Transfer \$44,910 from CNT contingency to the CNT expenditure budget.

MULTIPLE GRANT FUND

Increase revenues and expenditures:

- a) \$350,000 for a Criminal Justice Coordinating Council grant to the Sheriff's K-9 Unit,
- b) \$7,500 for a Council of Juvenile Court Judges grant to Juvenile Court,
- c) \$110,674 for a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services grant to the Drug Court,
- d) \$68,374 for a Department of Justice grant to the Drug Court,

- e) \$72,027 for a Criminal Justice Coordinating Council grant to the Victim Witness Assistance Program
- f) \$100,000 for a grant from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources for the Lower Ogeechee Trails Program.

(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 APPROVE FUNDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS NEAR THE SALLIE MOOD SOCCER COMPLEX THAT AFFECT ACCESS TO THE FIELDS.

Chairman Liakakis said, I think we had a recommendation in the pre-meeting. Russ?

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, just to introduce it officially before your business meeting, it's Staff's recommendation to give budget authority to expend up to \$100,000 to create a walkway, sidewalk, and better access to the northwest corner of the soccer field, Field 8, I believe is what it's numbered, and also to install an 8-foot high chain-link fence running from the corner of the Animal Control Center across the north end of the soccer complex. There was some discussion, I believe, or wish of one member of the Board that if you discuss and act upon Staff's recommendation, which was Number 4, there was an expressed wish to divide the vote in two parts, one that would create the sidewalk and access on the northwest side, and the other would be the second vote dealing with the fence.

Commissioner Farrell said, I make a motion to separate the two items.

Commissioner Stone said, second.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Farrell moved that Staff Recommendation 4:

Constructing a sidewalk along the driveway into the additional parking area and a new sidewalk from the existing sidewalk along Eisenhower Drive in to north end of the fields for about \$38,000. Chain link fencing along the sidewalks and an 8-feet tall chain link fence with slats adjacent to the Health Department area that would tie into the Animal Control facility can be done for about \$26,000.

be separated and voted on in two individual votes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Stone and it carried unanimously. [Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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Chairman Liakakis said, all right, the first one would be the improvement for the area for the sidewalks and all in the proposal that has been made.

Commissioner Farrell said, I make a motion to -- for the improvements to the parking area --

County Manager Abolt said, actually, if I may, sir, it's creating a walkway because of the expense predicted in doing significant improvement to the paved surface. We're just looking at sidewalk access. I do want to point out, and this is late-breaking, but it was put on your plate, just perfecting the record, we did receive one e-mailed communication first thing this morning from a person objecting to that multi-use of that parking lot. We feel that there's a mixed use that can be accomplished without any friction.

Commissioner Farrell said, let me ask one other question on that. Area Number 3, instead of going on a sidewalk out to Eisenhower and looping around, has anybody looked at the possibility of connecting that parking lot with a simple wooden pedestrian bridge?

County Manager Abolt said, yes, sir, we've looked at it. Mr. Bungard and I have walked the line. This is the most inexpensive and the most efficient. There's a canal, a drainage area that goes along in there. It'd be more expensive and there'd be some access to the wetlands problems.

Commissioner Farrell said, just for a foot path? I mean, not to drive a pickup truck over.

County Manager Abolt said, there's more expense, because there's access along that canal. It's not -- Mr. Bungard, as the engineer, feels very strongly. I don't disagree with him, that the pathway would be the most accessible. It would provide access into that northwest corner, which would create no conflict with the playing fields, and it would allow a safe walkway for parents and soccer players.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman Liakakis said, Dean?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman, with all due respect, I just disagree with the recommendation. I believe that the improvements that have already been performed at the complex have drastically improved the safety for the citizens utilizing that facility. The underbrush has been cleared from the lit parking area going to the first field, as well as more underbrush through the back area that connects you to the other fields. In my speaking with one of the organizations' leaders, one of the two that actually operates and maintains – produces virtually half of the use of the facility, he states that their organization has no problems with parking or anything, and my suggestion, which I shared earlier about possibly a drive for drop-offs, they were in agreement with something like that, but they see no use for the additional parking lot to be paved, and I really, at this point, when you take into consideration a comparison of other facilities of this type and nature, \$100,000 spent for an additional parking lot is pretty absurd when you look and compare that we have a couple of areas offering soccer now that's supported by the Commission, and that complex alone has 15 fields. You can compare that to the facility which is located in the fastest growing area in the county, the section of the county that has actually kept taxes down and low, four marked fields there versus 15 at this complex. You have 16 sets of bleachers at the soccer complex we're speaking of here, no bleachers at the Stell facility; 92 goals with nets located at the soccer complex that we're talking about, four goals with nets, and then four frames with no nets at Stell Soccer. You have lights in the parking lot at the soccer complex in question, no lights in the parking lot at Stell Park. You have green -- you have 15 lit fields, actually, at the soccer complex in question here, you have zero lit fields at Scott Stell Soccer Complex. You actually have green grass with level fields at the soccer complex in question, you have holes, dirt, sand, and rolling hills, virtually, in the four fields out there at Stell Soccer.

Again, I don't sit here and doubt that another parking lot wouldn't be nice. It would save some parents from having to get out of their car and walk their young child, but you compare that to the other half of the population in another area that has no lights, terrible fields, virtually nothing as far as nets, and something to actually teach their kids soccer on, and, you know, it's a bit self-indulgent for the -- you know, anyone that would actually prefer to add \$100,000 to this beautiful, great facility, when the other family member is being treated like the stepchild, it's -- again, nothing wrong with that. It would be great to put everything in that was requested, but when the other part of your family's being treated so badly, I just can't see spending \$100,000 to add even more to this already state-of-the-art top-notch facility here. And I would ask that we deny these requests. The safety has been improved. At this point, if a parent is concerned about safety, I would suggest that they simply park their car and walk their child to the field, because, in comparison, the kids out at Stell Soccer have no security in place, no lighting, no lit fields, four little nets, and, you know, before, I requested equal treatment after looking at 15 fields compared to four. I don't even think we need equal treatment; we just need treatment, period. I mean, I don't think we need to put 15 fields at Stell Park at this point, but at least make the four that's sitting there really nice, and I would ask that the Commission deny the request, and I would state that, for the people that did request the additional parking in the area and all, I understand your request, and I don't blame you for making that request, but when you compare it to what's going on at our other facility, it simply makes no sense at this time. But if this were the stand-alone soccer complex of the area, then it would make all the sense in the world, but I would just ask the people that requested this to take into account the nature of the terrible conditions out at the other facility that we're trying to improve for the children out in that area, too. So at this point, I will make a motion to deny the first request, because I don't believe we ever actually made the motion and a second and voted to -- we didn't, so I'll make a motion to deny the request to add the additional parking, as well as sidewalks.

Commissioner Gellatly said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor --

Commissioner Stone said, but Mr. Chairman, I have some comments. I mean, before we vote, I had my hand up to speak.

Chairman Liakakis said, oh, yeah.

Commissioner Stone said, I want to reiterate the fact that this soccer complex is for all of Chatham County. This is not the soccer complex for any particular district, just like our Lake Mayer is not for any particular district, or the Aquatic Center is not for any particular district. This is all of Chatham County's soccer complex, and Chatham County made a huge investment in this complex. Having said that, I do have a couple of questions. One is, the first two fields near Sallie Mood Drive, is there any particular reason why those fields couldn't be used for the smaller children, so that the parents dropping them off would not have to walk as far, but to use those first two fields?

County Manager Abolt said, they were, as recently as last weekend, used in that fashion. They were always, in effect, embraced by the soccer aficionados as being championship fields. The idea has always been that you could have a tournament capacity, that you could have a variety of teams competing over the weekend, and then eventually moving down to playing their championship teams on the two large fields which are immediately to the left of the Number 1 and 2 in the yellow box. But, yes, it can be used for that. I think the primary point of friction on the northerly most field, which is just below the Number 4, has to do with practice. And as you can see, if you look at the colored map, the size of that field, which I believe we designate as Field 8, is a tad smaller than the rest of the fields, and our recreation folks have made it possible to, rather than playing what I refer to as on the east-west, or going from right to left, they'd go on the north-south access and you can get two smaller fields there to practice. But therein lies the friction point. Those parents that do choose now to park in Health Department parking lot are carrying their children to a practice setting. They also find it convenient just to let them off there. Then the issue becomes one of convenience. I do concur heartily in what Commissioner Kicklighter is saying, and I, only as an observer, believe that the walk, and the fact we've made this now a very safe and very convenient, if you want to use that word, one has to question the need to do anything on the north end but just to allow the Health Department to expand and keep that development segregated from, but that is your choice. It's real important, though, today that you give direction, because if you choose to go forward with the recommendation from Staff, it's going to take time to do that, and you want to do that in sensitivity to the current

soccer season. But I would please ask you, whether you agree with me or not and Staff, please give me direction today.

Commissioner Stone said, okay, well, the last question that I would have is, is the costs that are going to be incurred here, and I think that since some of this is still in the design stages, if you will, I would like to make a motion to continue this and get as much information back as we can, because I'm not totally convinced that \$100,000 is necessary at this juncture, but, you know, I'm one vote up here, but I would like to see it continued until we get more information and look at how we can best utilize this soccer complex with putting in the least amount of money.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, we have a motion on the floor and a second. Let's go on the board. The motion right now is --

Commissioner Stone said, is to continue.

Chairman Liakakis said, -- is what he said, is to deny.

Commissioner Stone said, table it.

Chairman Liakakis said, no, he said to deny.

Commissioner Farrell said, well, that's his motion. Which motion are we voting on? To deny or --

County Attorney Hart said, you've got to vote on the motion on the table.

Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion. We have to vote on that first before we --

County Attorney Hart said, or unless you amend.

Commissioner Farrell said, that's between Helen and Dean.

Commissioner Shay said, a friendly amendment or an unfriendly amendment. That would be in order.

Chairman Liakakis said, Dean, would you accept to table this until they bring us the information? And then I'll talk about Scott Stell.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, since I think so much of Commissioner Stone, I will accept.

Chairman Liakakis said, do we have a second to hers?

Commissioner Farrell said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, do you want something, Priscilla?

Commissioner Thomas said, no, I just withdraw my second. I think we had a double second.

County Attorney Hart said, are we tabling -- Mr. Chairman, are we tabling the motion?

Chairman Liakakis said, well, he's added that to it, so we're going to be voting now to table it.

Commissioner Stone said, but I still -- I mean, but still, the --

Chairman Liakakis said, bring it back.

Commissioner Stone said, yes, but that has nothing to do with Commissioner Farrell's motion to split the vote when the time comes, about the fence.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, so what we're doing is tabling this, --

Commissioner Farrell said, we're tabling the motion that's on the floor, with the -- that carries a recommendation from the --

Commissioner Thomas said, and do nothing?

Commissioner Farrell said, -- from the originator.

Chairman Liakakis said, yeah, because the other one, the separation of that other part of it on the fence, that Commissioner --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, point of order.

Chairman Liakakis said, the money he's talking about, he wants to hold that off for now.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, point of order, Mr. Chairman. We already voted to separate the original recommendation.

Chairman Liakakis said, right.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, we did separate. And then at that point, I made a motion to deny the parking lot -- my motion was to specifically separate it like he wanted, but to deny part of it.

Commissioner Stone said, we did. We separated it.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, so I'll just withdraw mine totally, then, and you all can make a motion to table the entire recommendation.

Commissioner Farrell said, that's fine, let's table it and look at it some more.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay.

Commissioner Holmes said, Mr. Chairman, what are we voting on?

Chairman Liakakis said, to go ahead and to table it.

Commissioner Farrell said, to table Item Number 2 --

Chairman Liakakis said, that was his amendment, to table it.

Commissioner Farrell said, -- under Items for Individual Action.

Commissioner Stone said, for the soccer complex, to table it until we get more information.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved to table Item 3, Board approval of funds for improvements near the Sallie Mood Soccer Complex that affect access to the fields. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Farrell and it carried unanimously. [Commissioner Odell was not present.]

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County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, may I ask for clarification, as to what more information?

Commissioner Stone said, I would like to see, and I hope I'm speaking for the Commission here, a breakdown on the cost and to see if there are any alternatives as far as totally using these fields that are closer to Sallie Mood for the smaller children. And I'm not a soccer player, so I don't want to dictate what is in the best interest of the soccer teams, but it's something that I think needs to be addressed so that these smaller children are not walking as far and may not necessarily need as much assistance from their parents as if the soccer fields are right where -- very close to where they are dropped off.

Chairman Liakakis said, all right, Jon, so then to table it --

County Attorney Hart said, you just need to vote on the original motion to table, since the motion has been withdrawn.

Chairman Liakakis right, that's what I mean.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, we did that, didn't we?

Chairman Liakakis said, no, we did the first part.

Commissioner Stone said, we just voted.

Commissioner Shay said, twenty seconds ago, we voted --

Commissioner Stone said, to table it.

Commissioner Farrell said, table Item 2.

Commissioner Shay said, and to ask for additional information.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Now, Russ, since we heard that thing about Scott Stell, I'd like to see that you get with your people and come back and see what we can do about Scott Stell.

County Manager Abolt said, it would require some significant improvement. The report from Mr. Drewry with reference to some uneven fields and fields that were set aside for soccer that were never intended for soccer. If the intent -- and I mean this with a great deal of respect for what you want to do in response to the soccer community -- all of the energy that went into the design of the Jennifer Ross Soccer Field Complex, we're talking about a consequence of significant improvement on the west side that might replicate that. My suggestion, we put a draft CIP which you'd receive in January, the option to look at it, but it's going to be an expenditure of some dollars, and you may look at, you know, something towards SPLOST in the future, something like that, as we did with soccer, but we will do that. We'll have it in your CIP for January of 2011, and you can decide whether you wish to proceed or not.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman, I think for \$100,000, you could level out quite a bit of dirt and plant some grass. I know this is government, and government spends a lot of money, but, you know, I think you could bring it up to adequate for \$100,000 and level out many holes and bring in some sod and do quite a bit. I know, you know, if I owned a large area of land, I could probably level out quite a bit of it for \$100,000.

Chairman Liakakis said, I don't think -- I've been out in that area. I don't think it'd cost 100,000 for that, but let's do this, then, Mr. County Manager, let's not wait until the CIP for January, whatever the situation is. I'm requesting now that you bring information to us about the Scott Stell unit.

County Manager Abolt said, we'll expand on what we already sent you, sir.

Chairman Liakakis said, Patrick Shay.

Commissioner Shay said, I've changed my mind. I'm going to be quiet. Sometimes Irishmen should shut up.

Chairman Liakakis said, Patrick Farrell.

Commissioner Farrell said, well, if we're changing the scope of the premier soccer complex that's strategically located in the center of our population area for this county, let me point out that on the islands, there's one dedicated soccer field for -- there's probably 20,000 people already there. We're not the fastest growing; we've already grown tremendously, and one other multi-purpose field -- there's one other multi-purpose field there, so, you know, I guess if we look at the whole concept of the county, are we going to have smaller satellites on the -- away from the center of the population, you know, on the east side or the west side and then something in the center? It's just something to think about. But we're not waiting for people to come to the Wilmington-Whitemarsh Island area; they're already there, been there for a long time, and so let's not -- if we're going to expand the scope of this situation, let's keep that in mind, also.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, and I will offer that -- I will state that we're not waiting on a population, either. We have 60,000 people in my district versus approximately 30,000 every other district in this county, so there's no wait on a population boom. It's here and only growing larger. I agree, and, you know, I would just suggest if you need more fields, utilize what they're kinda doing at Stell, out in the middle of all the baseball fields. It's kinda how they've done makeshift out there, but hopefully --

Commissioner Farrell said, and that's what we're -- that's what we're doing on the islands, also.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, right.

Commissioner Farrell said, we've got a lot of fields that have zero improvements. No lights.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, but that's my point exactly. With this --

Commissioner Farrell said, no sprinkler system, no bleachers.

Commissioner Thomas said, nothing at Scott.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, my point exactly.

Commissioner Farrell said, and it's just a lot that gets mowed over.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, 100,000 could do quite a bit for both areas and have it what we said, and then we would have the center of the county covered and both ends, so then access for everyone.

Commissioner Farrell said, that would be wonderful.

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3. CNT MONTHLY REPORT GIVEN VERBALLY BY DIRECTOR HARRIS.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, Commander Harris.

Roy Harris said, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, it's good to be with you again this morning, and I appreciate you remembering me there, Mr. Abolt.

Mr. Abolt said, thank you, sir.

Commander Harris said, as they pass the report down, you will notice this is for the months of August and September, since I was not with you last month. We had a little sabbatical there, I guess, but we combined these reports so that you would have all of the facts available. If you look through it briefly, you'll see we're fairly well on track, what you see most months, the number of complaints coming in. Again, CrimeStoppers is our number one and our own hot line is number two on the complaint logs down there. Total drug complaints year-to-date are 317 thus far, which are a lot of drug complaints. We're up to 86 weapons seized. Look over on Page 4, hours expended by each precinct, for the past several years, Central Precinct has been the number one recipient of personnel hours; however, now that has shifted for the past several months to Southside Precinct, so we're seeing a shift in that part to where the drug activity is. Now, this is not street level drugs again. This is a large portion, due to the Title III investigations that have been conducted, and these people actually operate all over the county, but they are using stash houses and safe houses down in the

Southside Precinct. Garden City, as typical, is our number one recipient of the municipalities, followed by Pooler. For the two months in all SCMPD precincts, we had 4600 hours versus 1289 for the municipalities, for right at 10,000 hours for those two months. Back on Page 6 and 7 are the combined significant events that occurred during those months. Do we have any questions?

Chairman Liakakis said, any questions? Well, this is right extensive right here. David?

Commissioner Gellatly said, I don't have a question, but I do have a comment. You know, for years and years, I've probably been the most severe critic of this report, and for the simple fact that, you know, years ago, mathematically, it wasn't even accurate and all, but this is a gem. It's something that, not only is it statistically correct, but it's done in a format that is useful for management, for future planning, and that has never been -- and that's a difficult thing to do, and I want to compliment you on that.

Commander Harris said, we also told the Manager yesterday, we have about 41 defendants from the last wiretap investigation that we are looking at now indicting, which would bring that total investigation up to around 100 defendants. We are working with both the District Attorney's Office and U.S. Attorney's Office on this Phase 3, so that operation continues as we talk about it. It normally takes us about a year to fully get prepared to go to court with the cases. By the time we do, most of the cases have already pled out. It is very difficult, as Commissioner Gellatly knows from his many years of law enforcement, very difficult to defend yourself when you're listening to yourself doing dope deals on the phone.

Chairman Liakakis said, well, I'd like -- you know, Commander Harris has done an outstanding job. You know, he used to be -- at one time, he retired from the GBI. He was the Number 2 man at the GBI and, coming on board a few years ago, and we can see some remarkable things that have occurred under his watch. We see thousands of pounds of marijuana, multitudes of things, over \$5 million in this year alone of marijuana, but going into many things. I've talked to a number of the federal people. You know, we have the FBI, the DEA, the ATF, we also have the Customs & Immigration people, along with our Metro and all of that, and they have a committee that they meet and go over a number of things. But one of the things that's in our box right now, we just received it, that -- from what I understand, late yesterday -- that Commander Harris has decided to retire on January the 1st. He stated that, you know, about some situations that he had, and he wanted to let everybody know that on January of this coming year, that he will retire as Commander of the CNT, our Counter Narcotics Team. But all of us know what a great job, your relationship with all of the cities that we have in here, all the seven cities, and also with the federal people and all of those, and the leadership that you have shown there with the people that are under your command, and the successes that they have had and the multitudes of arrests that have gone on, it's really appreciated by this community, Commander. I'm just sorry to see that you're retiring right now, as I know all of us are, because I don't think we could have had a better Commander of the Counter Narcotics Team, and I know that you're going to be missed, you know, in the law enforcement agencies and all. Priscilla, then Dean.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you. I, too, just want to congratulate you for all of the things that you've done and certainly going to hate to see you retire, because you have done a great job. I'm hoping that we'll be able to find a replacement or someone that's in training or someone that's in the know that will be able to follow through with what you have started and move forward with it. What I'm trying to say is that we don't want to go back; we want to be moving forward, and you have taken us that step forward, so just congratulate you and hopefully that we'll be able to get someone to replace you and do equally as well.

Chairman Liakakis said, Dean?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you. I just think -- I think you know this, but you've done a great job for the County, and I hate to hear that, but I was just curious, if we promised to put you up at the beginning of each agenda, would you reconsider not retiring?

Commander Harris said, that's a mighty tempting offer.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, we might have to do that, if that'll keep you around, because, you know, I don't know how you sit and wait, listening every time, but thank you so much.

Commander Harris said, thank you, Commissioner.

Chairman Liakakis said, Helen?

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Commander Harris, you've done an outstanding job. I'm happy for you, but I'm sad for us. I think it's going to be a tremendous loss. You really have just been phenomenal, so, thank you. I'm very sorry to hear that you're going to be leaving us.

Commander Harris said, well, I've certainly enjoyed my time here working with you folks and, particularly Mr. Abolt. I think a lot of him, and he's a great leader. The Chairman. I've worked with those two probably more than the rest of you, almost on a daily basis, but all of you have been very supportive of CNT. CNT has really evolved into a very class organization. We've got the policy in place now. All of the goals that were mentioned when I got here have now been accomplished; every one of them, and I think it's ready to move on, and I hope the next Commander that comes in will take it another step on down the road, and I look forward to that. I'm going to try to do everything I can to help Mr. Abolt find the right person to do that.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you, and -- Russ?

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, Dr. Thomas, Commissioner Stone, Gentlemen, you know, I have and continue to have a wonderful professional career because of outstanding human beings, and I've got to tell you, Roy

Harris is the best of the best. There are few times in the history of any organization where you can say because one person came along, disaster was averted. That man is standing in front of you right now. There is no better than Roy Harris. The job description will say Roy Harris on it. My questions will be, how much are you like Roy Harris. I could not find a better human being to really symbolize in his actions and everything he does what CNT is all about. Every time the Chairman argues so passionately for having a regional approach to Counter Narcotics enforcement, it's embodied in Roy Harris. This is an outstanding human being. In his private life, he has a wonderful family, and I respect him for all that and more. I'm going to miss him.

Commissioner Odell said, Roy can't leave. Don't we have a right not to accept his resignation? I think we do, Roy. I mean, you have done an excellent job.

Commander Harris said, thank you.

Commissioner Odell said, what Russ said about integrity, on both sides of the water, people respect you. You're an honorable man. Your word has value, and you're technically one of the most proficient people that I think I've ever known. I personally will miss you. I said that, I've asked you a lot of questions, but they've been out of respect, because I knew you had the answers.

Commander Harris said, thank you, sir.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you very much, Roy.

Commander Harris said, thank you, Commissioners.

Chatham~Savannah	
Counter Narcotics Team	
Monthly Report	October, 2010

NARCOTICS INVESTIGATIONS*	
Investigations:	Number
Investigations Initiated During the month	77
Active Joint Investigations with other agencies (DEA, ATF, IRS, etc.)	7
Total Number of Investigations Cleared (Arrest, E.C., Unfounded)	37

DRUGS SEIZED			
Drug Type	Value	Approx. Weight	Approx. Total Value
Powder Cocaine	\$100 per gram*	88.60 Grams	\$8,860.00
Crack Cocaine	\$100 per gram*	.30 Grams	\$30.00
Methamphetamine	\$100 per gram**	40.5 Grams	\$4,050.00
Marijuana	\$140 per ounce*	202.5 Ounces	\$28,770.00
Heroin	\$250 per gram*	0 Grams	\$0.00
Ecstasy	\$25 Dosage Unit	354 D/U	\$8,850.00
Misc. Pills	\$5 per D/U	2155 D/U	\$10,775.00
Hallucinogens	\$10.00 per gram *	350 Grams	\$3,500.0
Synthetic (DMT)	\$40.00 per gram *	90.5 Grams	\$3,620.00

*Source: Office National Drug Control Policy

** Source: Established regional average price

***Source: IAW National Drug Standards – One marijuana plant equals 2 pounds of processed marijuana.

DRUGS SEIZED—YEAR TO DATE		
Drug Type	Approx. Weight	Approx. Total Value
Powder Cocaine	2,096 Grams	\$209,600.00
Crack Cocaine	275 Grams	\$27,500.00
Methamphetamine	395 Grams	39,500.00
Marijuana	37,591 Ounces	\$5,262,740.00
Heroin	8 Grams	\$2,000.00
Ecstasy	554 D/U	\$13,850.00
Misc. Pills	5,598 D/U	\$27,990.00
Hallucinogens	504 Grams	\$5,040.00
Synthetic (DMT)	90.5 Grams	\$3,620.00

DRUGS PURCHASED			
Drug Type	Value	Approx. Weight	Approx. Total Value
Powder Cocaine	\$100 per gram*	23.00 Grams	\$2,300.00
Crack Cocaine	\$100 per gram*	13.40 Grams	\$1,340.00
Methamphetamine	\$100 per gram**	1.00 Grams	\$100.00
Marijuana	\$140 per ounce*	16.10 Ounces	\$2,254.00
Heroin	\$250 per gram*	0 Grams	\$00
Ecstasy	\$25 Dosage Unit	0 D/U	\$0.00

Misc. Pills	\$5 per D/U	85 D/U	\$425.00
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Source: Office National Drug Control Policy

** Source: Established regional average price

WEAPONS SEIZED	
Firearms (including hand guns and long guns)	13
Year To Date Totals	99

PERSONS ARRESTED*	
Felony*	13
Felony Sales/Trafficking	29
Misdemeanor	2
Felony Non-Drug**	3
Total Arrests	47
Year To Date Totals	431

*Felony includes Manufacturing Methamphetamine or Marijuana

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

ADOPTION CASES FROM OTHER AGENCIES		
DATE	AGENCY	OFFENSE
10/12/10	SCMPD	POSSESSION MARIJUANA
10/16/10	RHPD	POSS C/S WITH INTENT/ROXICODONE
10/16/10	RHPD	POSS C/S WITH INTENT/ROXICODONE
10/29/10	SCMPD	POSSESSION C/S , OXYCONTIN
10/31/10	RHPD	POSS MARIJUANA WITH INTENT TO DIST
10/31/10	RHPD	POSSESSION MARIJUANA

DRUG COMPLAINTS INVESTIGATED		
Drug Complaints	Received	Assigned
Project Log/Official Complaints	2	2
Hot Line / Call-In Complaints	23	23
Green Sheets/ Outside Agencies	3	3
Crime Stopper Complaints	17	17
DRUG COMPLAINTS—YEAR TO DATE	167	163

DRUG INVESTIGATIONS HOURS WORKED BY ZONE

SCMPD – All Precincts TOTAL 1,945

Municipalities TOTAL 673

Administrative Hours	1,280
Case Administration	683
Pharmaceutical Diversions	480
Central Intelligence	480
Out of County (Task Force Operations, etc.)	61
Assistance Rendered to Outside Agencies	20
Training	290
Court Hours	89
TOTAL	3,383

Total Hours Worked 6,001

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

1. On 10-06-2010, CNT agents concluded an investigation by executing a search warrant at Skidaway Mobile Estates. The target of the investigation was on probation and was on 4th amendment waiver. Agents made several controlled buys from the residence and had taken out felony sales warrants. A search of the residence revealed cocaine, ecstasy, marijuana, two firearm, and approximately \$1,434.00 in currency. Two subjects were arrested and charged accordingly.

2. On 10-08-2010, CNT agents concluded an investigation by executing a search warrant on East 65th Street. Agents conducted a series of undercover purchases from the residence and obtained sale of controlled substance (cocaine) warrants on two suspects living at the residence. A search of the residence produced over 70 bags of powder cocaine that was packaged for distribution, scales, and approximately \$900.00 in currency. A secondary search warrant was later executed on another address that one of the subjects utilized. A search of this residence (West Bay Lane) produced a .44 magnum with a six inch barrel concealed in the attic. Additional packaging materials and scales were also seized. Both subjects were arrested and charged with sale of cocaine and other felonies in include firearm charges.

3. On 10-14-2010, CNT agents conducted a buy bust operation at the Guest House hotel on Ogeechee Road. Undercover agents were purchasing Xanax and other prescription pills from two subjects residing in a room for an extended period of time. After an arranged purchase of 75 Xanax pills, agents arrested the two subjects involved. A search of their hotel room revealed two small children and an elderly man all residing in the same room. The room was small and had extremely filthy living conditions. Due to the condition of the room and charges, DFACS was contacted who came to the scene and began their own investigation. Both subjects were found to be stealing the elderly gentleman's (who was the father of one of the suspects) legal prescription medication and then selling it.

4. On 10-27-2010, CNT agents acted on information provided by the FBI in reference to a residence that was selling marijuana and were in possession of assault weapons. Agents obtained a search warrant and requested the assistance of SCMPD SWAT due to the weapons information. A search of the residence in the 1700 block of Reynolds Street produced over 6 ounces of marijuana, distribution items, and approximately \$18,455.00 in currency that was already broken down into thousand dollar bundles. Two subjects were arrested and two more subjects are expected to turn themselves in at CNT.

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X. ACTION CALENDAR

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

Chairman Liakakis said, under Item X, Action Calendar, we have 1 through 7 and under 7, we have Items A-G. We need a motion on the floor for this, and I call on Commissioner Shay. Commissioner Shay said, Mr. Chairman, given the circumstances, I'd like to make a motion to adopt the entire Action Calendar as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Farrell.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, may I ask one question, Item 3, are we talking just like the outparcels on that?

Mr. Abolt said, you're talking about the entire Parkway.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay, at last conversation -- I had a conversation with the Manager of Pooler. They're not prepared to accept the whole Parkway at this point, so I would ask that we table this particular item and ask their opinion or for me to get further info or something to bring --

Mr. Abolt said, that's your choice, sir. This is through their City. The County has no responsibility for this. We had this -- we have this Parkway. I know I've had similar conversations with Mr. Byrd, and you see in the attached correspondence he's expressed a desire not to accept it, but it's not the County's responsibility. It is a roadway through the City of Pooler, and we have in fact been transferring them to the municipalities responsible. I don't think I -- I don't mean to argue. The County Attorney can respond on a legal point, but this County has no responsibility to maintain and continue roadways through municipalities. Jon?

County Attorney Hart said, if you own both sides of the property on either side of the road and it's in your jurisdiction, it's your road, unless this Commission decides it's going to start taking care of roads in municipalities.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I agree with what you're saying, but I believe that in some cases, we do exactly what the municipalities are doing to us in many cases. If that's the case with Chatham County, we need to go ahead and deed over the Jimmy DeLoach Parkway to Bloomingdale, like they've been requesting for probably the last nine years I've been here, but, for whatever reason, the County chooses not to deed that over, but then they want to give this part over to Pooler, so, you know, I would just encourage us to do the same thing on each occasion, if that's -- you know, the policy here. But having said that, our voting to deed it over, does that make it go to them?

County Attorney Hart said, yes, sir. We don't really need to take any action. By operation of law, if they annex both sides and put it in their city limits, it's their road.

Commissioner Odell said, and they've done that?

County Attorney Hart said, for a long time. Initially, we were maintaining it. It was a new road to, you know, just to get things worked out, but they've taken over the responsibility of how they want to do the curb cuts, where they want to put signals on the road.

Chairman Liakakis said, but they already are annexed. They went through that procedure.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, see, they've even stated that they wouldn't mind -- they already maintain the roadway in the area by an agreement, and they don't -- they would continue to maintain it. They just -- you know, I

don't know. We need to look at the overall everything as far as that goes, also, because, in addition to that, we've had many cities around annex a lot of property and leave the roadway for our unincorporated area residents to fund, and they don't need to do that. We need to seriously look at the M&O portion doing maintenance of roads because of this. It's a much bigger problem than just this one roadway, and it's something we really need to look at so, you know, I'll ask that, at this point, we just handle Number 3 separately, if that's okay, if you'll amend that, and then we -- you all -- we need to vote -- we vote, okay?

Chairman Liakakis said, do you want to accept that?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, or whatever. Vote together, and I can vote against it if you all are all for it. Whatever.

Commissioner Shay said, sure, Dean, we'll do the entire Action Calendar except for Item Number 3. I'll amend my motion.

Commissioner Farrell said, I'll amend my second.

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

Commissioner Shay said, Mr. Chairman, I'd like to make a motion that we adopt Item Number 3 on the Action Calendar.

Commissioner Farrell said second.

Chairman Liakakis said, I have a motion on the floor to accept. Let's go on the board. Motion passes.

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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 OCTOBER 8, 2010, AS MAILED.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Commissioner Shay to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 8, 2010, as mailed. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Farrell and it carried unanimously.

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2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 30 THROUGH OCTOBER 13, 2010.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Commissioner Shay to approve payment of claims vs. Chatham County for the period September 30 through October 13, 2010, in the amount of \$8,634,960. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Farrell and it carried unanimously.

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3. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE A RESOLUTION AND QUITCLAIM DEED TO TRANSFER TO THE CITY OF POOLER PARCELS OF FEE RIGHT-OF-WAY, EASEMENTS AND ACCESS RIGHTS ACQUIRED BY THE COUNTY TO CONSTRUCT POOLER PARKWAY, PHASE 2.

[DISTRICT 7.]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Commissioner Shay that the Board approve a Resolution and Quitclaim Deed to transfer to the City of Pooler parcels of fee right-of-way, easements and access rights acquired by the County to construct Pooler Parkway, Phase 2. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Farrell and it carried. [Commissioner Kicklighter voted no.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-3
AGENDA DATE: October 22, 2010

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

ISSUE: To approve a Resolution and quitclaim Deed to transfer to the City of Pooler parcels of fee right of way, easements, and access rights acquired by the County to construct Pooler Parkway, Phase 2.

BACKGROUND: The Pooler Parkway, Phase 2 was constructed as part of the Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) and the Chatham County road capital improvement program. The termini of Phase 2 are U.S. 80 and Quacco Road (just south of I-16) is within the city limits of the City of Pooler.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. All of Pooler Parkway, Phase 2 is within the city limits of the City of Pooler.
2. Construction of the project is now complete. The Georgia Department of Transportation funded and managed the construction project, which was recently accepted.
3. The County acquired the rights-of-way to construct the project, which now needs to be transferred to the City of Pooler. With the quitclaim, the City of Pooler will assume responsibility for maintaining the road improvements.
4. The City Manager, Mr. Robert Byrd, has been informed by the County Engineer of this action.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board approve the Resolution and Quitclaim Deed.
2. To not approve the Resolution and Quitclaim Deed, thereby assuming retaining the right-of-way and maintenance responsibilities.

FUNDING: No funds are required.

POLICY ANALYSIS: That the Board must approve quitclaims of property.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board approve Alternative 1.

District 7.

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4. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN CHATHAM AREA TRANSIT AND CHATHAM COUNTY PERTAINING TO THE COUNTY'S ROLE AS GUARANTOR OF THE AUTHORITY'S CREDIT LINE.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Commissioner Shay to approve an amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement between Chatham Area Transit and Chatham County pertaining to the County's role as Guarantor of the Authority's credit line.. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Farrell and it carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: X-4
AGENDA DATE: October 22, 2010

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

ISSUE: To approve an amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement between Chatham Area Transit and Chatham County pertaining to the County's role as Guarantor of the Authority's credit line.

BACKGROUND: On August 24, 2007, the County and CAT entered into an intergovernmental agreement whereby the County would act as Guarantor for CAT's line of credit with Wachovia Bank. The agreement was amended on October 5, 2007 and on November 7, 2008 as the credit line was renewed. On October 8,

2010 the CAT Board approved renewal of a \$1.7 million line of credit with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. The bank is again requesting the County guarantee the credit line.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The Chatham Area Transit Authority has an existing line of credit with Wachovia Bank expiring on October 31, 2010. The line of credit is backed by a guaranty from Chatham County via an intergovernmental agreement between CAT and Chatham County. On October 8, 2010 the CAT Board authorized renewal of the line of credit in the amount of \$1.7 million to assist with cash flow shortfalls.
2. The line of credit is necessary to provide cash flow to CAT in periods of low property tax collections. Most of CAT's property tax revenue is collected in November and December annually.
3. Wells Fargo has asked the County to again act as guarantor on the credit line; therefore, the intergovernmental agreement between CAT and Chatham County requires updating so that the County can continue in the role of guarantor.

FUNDING: Funding to repay interest on the credit line is provided in the Chatham Area Transit Authority fiscal 2011 budget (Veolia budget). As guarantor the County would be asked to cover any shortfalls should CAT default on repayment of the credit line.

POLICY ANALYSIS: Approval of amendment to the intergovernmental agreement will enure the County's role as guarantor of the credit line. The credit line will provide the Authority with needed cash at periods of low revenue collection.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement between CAT and Chatham County for the county's role as Guarantor of the line of credit, or
2. Provide staff with other direction.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve Alternative 1.

STATE OF GEORGIA *
COUNTY OF CHATHAM *

AMENDMENT TO INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

THIS AMENDMENT TO INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT made and entered into this _____ day of _____, 2010, by and among **CHATHAM COUNTY**, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, hereinafter referred to as "County," and **CHATHAM AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY**, hereinafter referred to as "CAT";

W I T N E S S E T H

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County, as the governing body of the County, has the responsibility for assisting and providing efficient and financially sound public transportation; and

WHEREAS, CAT is an independent agency created by the local act of the General Assembly, for the purpose of providing public transportation within the County; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to this legislation, CAT has operated public transportation within Chatham County, including buses, paratransit services, and waterway shuttle services across the Savannah River; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Board of Commissioners of the County are also members of the CAT Board; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest that CAT be financially sound to ensure its ability to provide the service of public transportation; and

WHEREAS, CAT operates its financial budget from funds received primarily through fares collected from the public using CAT's transportation services, tax revenues collected in the Chatham County Special Service Transit District, and federal and state grand funds; and,

WHEREAS, at various times during the calendar year, CAT's revenues may decrease due to fluctuation in passenger ridership and the timing of receipt of tax revenues and federal and state grant disbursements; and

WHEREAS, federal funding of CAT operations is inconsistent; and

WHEREAS, CAT has in the past obtained a line of credit for purposes of use during periods in which there is reduced cash flow revenue (such line of credit has been most recently with Wachovia Bank, N.A.); and,

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Board of Commissioners of the County to ensure that CAT continue to have an appropriate line of credit to ensure continued public transportation; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article IX, Section III, Paragraph I of the Constitution of the State of Georgia, any political subdivision of the State of Georgia may contract for any period not exceeding fifty years with any public authority for joint services, for the provision of services, or for the joint or separate use of facilities and equipment, provided such contracts deal with activities, services, or facilities which the contracting parties are authorized by law to undertake or provide; and

WHEREAS, on August 24, 2007, the parties entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement for purposes described therein, such Intergovernmental Agreement having been amended by Amendment to Intergovernmental Agreement dated and agreed to on October 5, 2007 and November 7, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the parties are now desirous to extend such Intergovernmental Agreement, as heretofore amended;

NOW THEREFORE, the parties do more particularly enter into this Amendment to their foregoing Intergovernmental Agreement, as heretofore amended, as follows:

1. The foregoing Intergovernmental Agreement between the parties dated August 27, 2007, as amended October 5, 2007 and November 7, 2008, is hereby further amended to extend the effective date and term of same through December 31, 2011.
2. Upon approval of the governing body of CAT and the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County, the CAT staff may execute, enter into, and obtain a continuing line of credit with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A., not to exceed \$1,700,000, upon such terms and conditions as approved by the CAT Board.
3. The CAT Board agrees that it will provide specific instructions as to the amount, time, interest and terms which CAT will negotiate with Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. and approve such terms.
4. The Board of Commissioners of the County shall, at all times, be informed as to the status of said credit line.
5. The Board of Commissioners of the County agrees that Chatham County shall continue as Guarantors of the indebtedness of CAT to Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. pursuant to such line of credit, and should for any reason CAT default upon any term or condition of the line of credit, the County shall continue to guarantee the performance of all obligations under the terms and conditions of the line of credit to CAT from Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have caused their presents to be executed by their duly authorized officers and their seals affixed, this _____ day of _____, 2010.

CHATHAM AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

BY: _____
Chairman, Pete Liakakis

ATTEST: _____
(SEAL)

Witness

Notary Public
(SEAL)

CHATHAM COUNTY

BY: _____
Chairman, Pete Liakakis

ATTEST: _____
Sybil E. Tillman, Clerk
(SEAL)

Witness

Notary Public
(SEAL)

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5. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVE SAVANNAH-CHATHAM COUNTY DRUG COURT'S ACCEPTANCE OF A FY 2010 ENHANCING ADULT DRUG COURT SERVICES, COORDINATION AND TREATMENT GRANT FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH**

TREATMENT SERVICES ADMINISTRATION ("SAMHSA"), IN THE AMOUNT OF \$110,674 (GRANT NUMBER 1H79T1023404-01).

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Commissioner Shay to approve Savannah-Chatham County Drug Court's acceptance of a FY 2010 Enhancing Adult Drug Court Services, Coordination and Treatment grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Treatment Services Administration ("SAMHSA"), in the amount of \$110,674 (grant number 1H79T1023404-01). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Farrell and it carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: X-5
AGENDA DATE: October 22, 2010

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: Shawn L. Amacher, Superior Court Administrator
Brooke Rogers Brooks, Drug Court coordinator
DATE: October 12, 2010

Issue: To request that the Board of Commissioners approve Savannah-Chatham County Drug Court's acceptance of a FY 2010 Enhancing Adult Drug Court Services, Coordination, and Treatment grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Treatment Services Administration ("SAMHSA"), in the amount of \$110,674 (grant number 1H79T1023404-01).**

Background: In prior years, the Commission has approved the Drug Court's receipt of grant funding from other federal and state agencies providing financial support to the Savannah-Chatham County Drug Court.

Facts and Findings:

- 1) Chatham County will serve as the fiscal agent for the \$110,674 being made available by the SAMHSA. The funds will be utilized by the Drug Court to enhance services to program participants, to include: rapid access to psychiatric assessments to identify clients with co-occurring disorders; evidence-based trauma treatment and anger management groups; access to residential (inpatient) substance abuse services; increased community supervision; vocational training; educational resources to assist clients with successful completion of the GED program; evidence-based motivational incentives to Drug Court participants; specialized training for Drug Court practitioners and team members; and implementation of an electronic information management system.
- 2) We are asking for the Commission to approve the Drug Court's acceptance of grant funding from the SAMHSA.

Funding: No Chatham County funding is required.

Alternatives:

- 1) That the Board approve Drug Court's acceptance of the SAMHSA grant in the amount of \$110,674.
- 2) That the Board not approve the acceptance of the grant funds.

Policy Analysis: In the past, the Board has accepted funding which assisted in defraying the cost of Drug Court substance abuse treatment services.

Recommendation: That the Board approve Alternative 1.

**N.B. This grant is subject to continued funding in FYs 2011 and 2012, subject to the availability of funds and satisfactory progress of the project. FY 2011 funding would be in the amount of \$107,104 and FY 2012 funding would be in the amount of \$106,979.

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6. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVE SAVANNAH-CHATHAM COUNTY DRUG COURT'S ACCEPTANCE OF A FY 2010 ENHANCING ADULT DRUG COURT SERVICES, COORDINATION AND TREATMENT GRANT FROM THE BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE ("BJA"), OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$68,374 (BJA AWARD NUMBER 2010-DC-BX-0068).**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Commissioner Shay to approve Savannah-Chatham County Drug Court's acceptance of a FY 2010 Enhancing Adult Drug Court Services, Coordination and Treatment grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance ("BJA"), Office of Justice Programs, in the amount of \$68,374 (BJA award number 2010-DC-BX-0068). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Farrell and it carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: X-6
AGENDA DATE: October 22, 2010

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: Shawn L. Amacher, Superior Court Administrator
 Brooke Rogers Brooks, Drug Court Coordinator
DATE: October 6, 2010

Issue: To request that the Board of Commissioners approve Savannah-Chatham County Drug Court's acceptance of a FY 2010 Enhancing Adult Drug Court Services, Coordination, and Treatment grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance ("BJA"), Office of Justice Programs, in the amount of \$68,374 (BJA award number 2010-DC-BX-0068).

Background: In prior years, the Commission has approved the Drug Court's receipt of grant funding from other federal and state agencies providing financial support to the Savannah-Chatham County Drug Court.

Facts and Findings:

- 1) Chatham County will serve as the fiscal agent for the \$68,374 being made available by the BJA. The funds will be utilized by the Drug Court to enhance services to program participants, to include: rapid access to psychiatric assessments to identify clients with co-occurring disorders; evidence-based trauma treatment and anger management groups; access to residential (inpatient) substance abuse services; increased community supervision; vocational training; educational resources to assist clients with successful completion of the GED program; evidence-based motivational incentives to Drug Court participants; specialized training for Drug Court practitioners and team members; and implementation of an electronic information management system.
- 2) We are asking for the Commission to approve the Drug Court's acceptance of grant funding from the BJA.

Funding: No Chatham County funding is required.

Alternatives:

- 1) That the Board approve Drug Court's acceptance of the BJA grant in the amount of \$68,374.
- 2) That the Board not approve the acceptance of the grant funds.

Policy Analysis: In the past, the Board has accepted funding which assisted in defraying the cost of Drug Court substance abuse treatment services.

Recommendation: That the Board approve Alternative 1.

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7. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO AWARD BIDS AS FOLLOWS: (PLEASE NOTE THAT NEW PURCHASE THRESHOLDS OF \$10,000 OR MORE HAVE BEEN ENACTED; HOWEVER, CONTRACTS AND CHANGE ORDERS OF A LESSER AMOUNT STILL WILL APPEAR.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
A. Upgrade of hardware for the County's storage area network	ICS	Xiotech (Sole Source)	\$17,916	General Fund/M & O - ICS

ITEM	DEPT.	SOURCE	AMOUNT	FUNDING
B. Construction contract for the Sallie Mood Soccer Complex irrigation improvements and purchase of one (1) irrigation pump	Public Works and Park Services	•E & D Contracting Services, Inc. (WBE) •Watertronics Electronically Controlled Pumping System	•\$72,124 •\$64,000	CIP - Recreation
C. Print, insert and mail 2010 final installment tax bills	Tax Commissioner	Diversified Companies LLC (Sole Source)	\$16,013	General Fund/M & O - Tax Commissioner
D. Three (3) used non-typical replacement vehicles and authorize the trade-in of three (3) vehicles	CNT	Fairway Lincoln Mercury	\$54,900	CIP - Fleet Replacement
E. Confirmation of the emergency repairs to a Solid Waste trash truck	Fleet Operations	Freightliner of Savannah	\$21,085	General Fund/M & O - Fleet Operations
F. Change Order No. 6 to the annual contract for pest control services to add the "new" Animal Control facility	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	Cox Termite and Pest Control	\$1,800	Reimbursable Expenses
G. Contract for project management for CAT projects managed by Chatham County	Special Projects	Public Development Management, LLC	\$50 per hour Not To Exceed \$40,000	SPLOST (2003-2008) - CAT

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Motion was made by Commissioner Shay to approve Item 7, A through G for the awarding of bids listed. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Farrell and it carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: X-7 A THRU G
AGENDA DATE: October 22, 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 \$17,916 sole source purchase for a Magnitude System Port Upgrade from Xiotech, for the I.C.S. department.

BACKGROUND: The County's storage area network (SAN) is a controlled unit of disk storage. This is the repository of nearly all County data. This storage is attached to the County's host computers which are now being bought without significant disk systems of their own. This SAN is more resilient than other storage options and also a key component of our disaster recovery plan. Periodically, we must upgrade the SAN components to maintain supportability.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. This upgrade is mandatory for this system since the current level of hardware will no longer be supported by Xiotech after April, 2011.
2. Xiotech is the only authorized firm to make necessary changes to the proprietary hardware and software.
3. Staff believes the total cost of \$17,916 for the system upgrade to be fair and reasonable.

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

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$17,916 sole source purchase for a Magnitude System Port Upgrade from Xiotech, for the I.C.S. department.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to provide the necessary maintenance and upgrades on the County's computer system.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

I.C.S. APPROVAL _____
LEWIS LEONARD

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
GLORIA SAUGH

ITEM B

ISSUE: Request Board approval to award a \$72,124 construction contract to E & D Contracting Services, Inc., and approval of a purchase order, in the amount of \$64,318, to Watertronics Electronically Controlled Pumping Systems of Hartland, WI. for the Sallie Mood Soccer Complex Irrigation Improvements.

BACKGROUND: Water to irrigate the eight (8) soccer fields, other trees and vegetation is supplied by the City of Savannah. To reduce cost, staff explored the idea of utilizing the lake as the main source of water for irrigation. The average water cost saving would be approximately \$3,500 monthly. This cost could increase during growing season.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The revision is to have the primary source of irrigation water come from the on-site lake (in the rear of Public Works and Park Services) instead of the City of Savannah water system. The City's system connections will remain and be used when the lake levels are too low to provide for an adequate water supply.
2. The project was publically advertised and opened on 2 September 2010. Only one (1) bid was received. The original bid responses are as follows:
 - * E & D Contracting Services, Inc. \$156,880
Savannah, Ga.
 - * WBE firm
3. After the bid opening, due to the tight budget constrains for this project, it was determined by staff and the engineering consultant, that it would be in the best interest of the County to purchase the irrigation pump directly from the manufacturer for \$64,000. Staff requested E & D Contracting Services, Inc. to remove the purchasing of the irrigation pump from their bid. They removed \$84,756 from their bid making the revised bid \$72,124 for the installation of the pump and all other work for this project. The County is able to save \$20,756 by purchasing the irrigation pump directly from the manufacturer.
4. With the County purchasing the irrigation pump directly and using the revised bid from E&D Contracting Services, Inc., this total project will now cost \$136,124 instead of the original bid of \$156,880.

FUNDING: CIP - Recreation
(3506100 - 54.13009 - 35030327)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval to award a \$72,124 construction contract to E & D Contracting Services, Inc., and approval of a purchase order, in the amount of \$64,318, to Watertronics Electronically Controlled Pumping Systems of Hartland, WI. for the Sallie Mood Soccer Complex Irrigation Improvements.

- 2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy for staff to negotiate cost when only one bid is received and approve direct purchases when it is the best interest of the County.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM C

ISSUE: Request Board approval of \$16,013 sole source for printing, inserting, and mailing the 2010 final installment tax bills with Diversified Companies LLC for the Tax Commissioner’s Office.

BACKGROUND: The process involves programming as well as the actual labor of printing, inserting and mailing tax bills.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- 1. Diversified Companies is capable of this programming, but also receives support from Manatron, the vendor for Chatham County’s tax collection software, due to their close physical proximity.
- 2. Staff believes the total cost of \$16,013 to be fair and reasonable.

FUNDING: General Fund/M & O - Tax Commissioner
(1001545 - 52.11001)

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1. Board approval of \$16,013 sole source for printing, inserting, and mailing the 2010 final installment tax bills with Diversified Companies LLC for the Tax Commissioner’s Office.
- 2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve purchases for the using departments for the mailing of tax bills.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM D

ISSUE: Request Board approval of the \$54,900 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 the 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 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	\$ 77,000
Less trade-in		(22,100)
Total Purchase		\$54,900

FUNDING: CIP - Fleet Replacement
(3503222 - 54.22001 - 3503065Z)

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1. Request Board approval of the \$54,900 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 E

ISSUE: Request Board confirmation of the \$21,083 emergency repairs to Unit #216, trash truck for Solid Waste from Freightliner of Savannah.

BACKGROUND: Solid Waste considers this piece of equipment to be essential to their operation. Unit #216 came to Fleet Operations due to a noise in the engine. After inspection, the engine showed signs of failing with internal problems.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- 1. Due to time constraints and the nature of the repair, Fleet sent the truck to Freightliner of Savannah.
- 2. Freightliner of Savannah is the local dealer for this make of truck (2005 Freightliner M2 Truck).
- 3. Staff requested emergency approval from the Chairman so the repairs to Unit #216 could be done in a timely manner. He concurred (see attached page 9) and directed staff to seek Board confirmation at their next scheduled meeting.

FUNDING: General Fund/M&O - Fleet Operations
(1001567 - 52.22100)

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1. Request Board confirmation of the \$21,083 emergency repairs to Unit #216, trash truck for Solid Waste from Freightliner of Savannah.
- 2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve emergency repairs to ensure no interruption in the department's daily operation.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
RUSHEDA ADESHINA

ITEM F

ISSUE: Request Board approval of Change Order No. 6, in the *deductive* amount of \$25 per month to discontinue monthly pest control services at the "old" Animal Control facility, and an *additional* amount of \$150 per month to add to the scope of service of the annual contract with Cox Termite and Pest Control, to include monthly pest control service at the "new" Animal Control facility.

BACKGROUND: On 21 November 2008, the Board approved a pest control services contract with Cox Termite & Pest Control.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- 1. The "old" Animal Control facility was included in the scope of services of the current contract. Since the "new" Animal Control facility construction was not finished until July 2010 it was not included in the original bid for pest control services.
- 2. Cox Termite & Pest Control quoted staff a monthly fee of \$150 per month to provide service at the "new" Animal Control facility.
- 3. Staff believes the cost of \$150 per month to provide pest control service at the "new" Animal Control facility to be fair and reasonable.
- 4. Contract history is as follows:

Original Contract Amount (11-21-08)	\$18,740/Year
Change Order No. 1 (01-16-09)	\$ 300/Year
Change Order No. 2 (03-13-09)	\$ 540/Year
Change Order No. 3 (03-27-09)	\$ (180)/Year
Change Order No. 4 Deduction (09-11-09)	\$ (300)/Year

Change Order No. 4 Addition (09-11-09)	\$ 540/Year
Change Order No. 5 (5-14-10)	\$ 660/Year
Change Order No. 6 - Deduction (Pending)	\$ (300)/Year
Change Order No. 6 - Addition (Pending)	\$ 1,800/Year
Revised Contract Amount	\$21,800/Year

FUNDING: Reimbursable Expenses
(1009957 - 57.10008)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of Change Order No. 6, in the *deductive* amount of \$25 per month to discontinue monthly pest control services at the "old" Animal Control facility, and an *additional* amount of \$150 per month to add to the scope of service of the annual contract with Cox Termite and Pest Control, to include monthly pest control service at the "new" Animal Control facility.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to issue Change Orders to essential service contracts to recognize changes in scope of services.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM G

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a "not to exceed" \$40,000 professional services agreement with Public Development Management to assist in providing project management services for CAT capital projects.

BACKGROUND: On 5 October 2007, the Board approved the plan of action for managing more than 180 capital projects with a value in excess of \$325 million. The Board also concurred in a strategy to contract with former government and project managers to assist with project management responsibility.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Chatham Area Transit Authority has entered into an agreement to allow Chatham County to assume responsibility for overseeing various aspects of CAT's operations. While Veolia manages CAT's day-to-day operations and capital improvement program under a private-public partnership agreement, Chatham County provides oversight of CAT's management contract with Veolia and has agreed to assume responsibility for certain capital projects. About \$20 million of capital projects remains pending
2. Projects will be completed in coordination with Veolia, including the Transit Center and renovation of the Gwinnett Street bus facility and bus wash.
3. The firm's principal, Eli Karatassos, has experience in project management and worked on several capital construction projects, including most recently the Animal Control Facility.
4. The rate of compensation will be \$50 per hour, not to exceed a total contract amount of \$40,000. Should additional services beyond this amount be required, staff will return to the Board for approval.

FUNDING: SPLOST (2003 - 2008) - Chatham Area Transit

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a "not to exceed" \$40,000 professional services agreement with Public Development Management to assist in providing project management services for CAT capital projects.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

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.

1. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE ADDITIONS AND CORRECTIONS TO THE COMBINED SAVANNAH/CHATHAM COUNTY SPEED ZONE ORDINANCE.

AGENDA ITEM: XI-1
AGENDA DATE: October 22, 2010

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

ISSUE: That the Board approve additions and corrections to the combined Savannah/Chatham County Speed Zone Ordinance.

BACKGROUND: The City of Savannah and Chatham County maintain a combined Speed Zone Ordinance which lists the roads and their associated speed limits that the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department (SCMPD) enforce the radar pursuant to Georgia Code Title 40, Chapter 14, Section 40-14-2. Any change to the road system or in driving patterns of the public may require the ordinance to be revised to incorporate these changes and/or additions to the existing speed zones.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The Board last updated the combined Savannah/Chatham County Speed Ordinance at their December 15, 2006 meeting.
2. Several subdivisions have been accepted for ownership and maintenance by the Board since the previous update to the ordinance. In order for the SCMPD to use radar to enforce the speed limit on these roads, the roads must be added to the combined Speed Zone Ordinance.
3. Upon approval, the updated list will be forwarded to the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) for review. GDOT will revise the ordinance to incorporate the changes and send the final, updated ordinance to both Savannah and Chatham County for adoption by the City Council and the Board of Commissioners.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board approve the proposed changes to the Savannah/Chatham County Speed Zone Ordinance.
2. That the Board not approve the changes.

FUNDING: None required.

POLICY ANALYSIS: The Police Department can only enforce speed limits listed on the Speed Ordinance approved pursuant to Georgia Code Title 40, Chapter 14, Section 40-14-2 of the Uniform Rules of the Road Act.

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board approve Alternative 1.

Districts: All Prepared by: Nathaniel Panther, P.E.

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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).

3. ROAD AND DRAINAGE REPORTS.

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-3 Roads
AGENDA DATE: October 22, 2010

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: A. G. Bungard, P.E., County Engineer
ISSUE: To provide information on the status of Chatham County road projects.

BACKGROUND: Funding priorities for projects using Federal aid are established in the State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP). For awarded construction contracts, this report provides the latest scheduled completion dates.

FACTS AND FINDING:

1. Truman Parkway, Phase 5. Construction underway. Estimated completion December 2013.
2. Diamond Causeway. The GDOT awarded a design/build contract in 2009 to LPA/United Contracting (joint venture) to construct a two lane high level bridge over Skidaway Narrows to replace the bascule bridge. Estimated completion is September 2013.
3. Whitefield Avenue. ROW was certified by the GDOT on June 23. Final Field Plan Review (FFPR) scheduled for December 2010. Letting scheduled for FY 2011.
4. Bay Street Widening from I-516 to Bay Street Viaduct. Concept Report approved February 9, 2005. Public hearing was held January 18, 2007. The FHWA approved the Environmental Assessment on August 31, 2007. Preliminary Field Plan Review (PFPR) was held July 21, 2009. ROW plans were approved February 11, 2010. Right of Way acquisitions on hold.
5. Local Roads.
 - a. Dulany Road. Construction is underway with a scheduled completion of December 2010.
 - b. Dean Forest Road (SR 307). Project replaces culverts for the Hardin Canal. Estimated completion of construction is December 2010.
 - c. Kings Ferry Boat Ramp roads and parking. Board awarded a contract on August 13. Preconstruction conference held October 7, 2010. Estimated completion date is March, 2011.
 - d. Fenwick Avenue/Medford Street. Board approved construction contract September 17, 2010. Preconstruction meeting was held on October 9. Estimated completion is April, 2011.
 - e. Wild Heron Sidewalks. Under construction. Estimated completion date is January 2011.
 - f. Intersection improvements at King George Blvd and Grove Point Road. Construction plans complete. ROW acquisition complete. Utility relocation in progress. County Contract with GDOT complete. Bids will be solicited for construction contract in November 2010.
 - g. Billings Road. Design complete. ROW acquisitions complete. Bids will be solicited for construction contract in November 2010.
 - h. Elmhurst Road, Beechwood Road and Ridgewood Road. Design and ROW acquisition complete on Elmhurst and Beechwood. Ridgewood re-design ongoing..

RECOMMENDATION: For information.

Districts All

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-3 DRAINAGE
AGENDA DATE: October 22, 2010

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: A. G. Bungard, P.E., County Engineer
ISSUE: To provide information on the status of Chatham County drainage projects.

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

FACTS AND FINDING:

1. Pipemakers Canal. The Pipemakers Canal extends from Bloomingdale to the Savannah River (over 13 miles). The project includes canal widening, bank stabilization, sluice gates and culverts. Construction of the sluice gate structure and channel improvements from SR 21 to the Savannah River (Phase 1) was completed in 2005. On August 17 the Board awarded a construction contract for the Phase 2A of project which is to include improvements from the terminus of Phase 1 to Dean Forest Road. Staff expects to issue notice to proceed with the work by November 2010. Work will take 21 months to complete.

2. Hardin Canal. The Hardin Canal extends from Bloomingdale to Salt Creek near US 17 (over 12 miles). The project includes canal widening, bank stabilization, bridges and culverts. A project to replace golf cart bridges between I-16 and Southbridge Boulevard is underway. The SR 307/Hardin Canal Bridge Culvert project is underway. Dean Forest Road reopened to traffic on August 19, 2010. Completion of both projects is expected by December 2010.

3. Conaway Branch Canal. The Conaway Canal extends from Bloomingdale at US 80 to Pipemakers Canal (about 1.6 miles). The project includes canal widening, bank stabilization and larger culverts. The construction project to replace three culverts is complete. Staff is reviewing the need for additional improvements to improve capacity and access for maintenance.

4. Wilmington Park Canal. The Wilmington Park Canal extends from North Cromwell Road to the Wilmington River (about 1.4 miles). The project includes canal widening, bank stabilization and culverts. Projects including new culverts with tide gates and rip rap erosion protection are complete. On September 17, the Board approved a contract to design five undersized culverts along the canal. Preliminary design work will commence once the contract is executed.

5. Queensbury Drainage Improvements. The project area is south of Montgomery Cross Road and west of Ferguson Avenue (includes Tara Manor, Ennis Mobile Home Park, Lakeview and Forest City Gun Club). A preliminary design for improvements to serve Tara Manor is under. Final design of improvements for the mobile home park is complete. Permitting is complete. Staff expects to present the Board with a recommendation for award of a construction contract by December 2010.

6. Kings Way Canal. The Kings Way Canal extends from the Kingswood Subdivision to Whitefield Avenue (about 0.7 miles). The project includes canal widening, bank stabilization and culverts. Negotiations are complete on the acquisition of drainage easements from the Gun Club and enables construction of drainage improvements along the outer perimeter of the subdivision. Construction on these improvements will begin in September 2010 and will be completed by December 2010.

7. Louis Mills/Redgate Canal. The Louis Mills and Redgate Canals are tributaries to the South Springfield Canal. On October 8, 2010, the Board approved a change order to the current construction contract that will upgrade an additional culvert and extend the contract time of completion. Staff is continuing review of alternative concepts to extend needed drainage improvements within the system.

8. Ogeechee Farms Area. The Ogeechee Farms project includes improvements to canals and culverts. Phase 1 was completed in July 2005 (piped in about 0.2 miles of channel south of Vidalia Road and replaced a road crossing at Waynesboro Road). Phase 2 was completed in June 2010 (replaced several undersized culverts along the Vidalia Canal south of Vidalia Road). Staff started work to design improvements at Yemassee Road and Ridgeland Road. Preliminary designs are under review by staff. Final design and permitting is expected to be complete by November 2010.

9. Quacco Canal. The Quacco Canal extends from the little Ogeechee River to the Regency Mobile Home Park (about 4 miles). The project includes canal widening, bank stabilization, culverts, and providing access for maintenance. A contract to construct drainage improvements is underway and is expected to be complete by January 2011.

10. Quacco Canal Drainage Extension. The project will relieve drainage issues causing street and nuisance flooding in the Willow Lakes Subdivision. Preliminary and final design work to extend the piping network from Quacco Trail to the existing lake within the subdivision is complete. Final design plans and permitting are complete. Construction will be complete by March 2011.

11. Norwood Drainage Outfalls. The project will improve drainage capacity and access for maintenance. Four outfalls along Norwood, between Skidaway Road and Lester Avenue, are being considered for improvements. Design work and permitting is underway for the Norwood Place outfall. Design work is also underway for the outfall at Skidaway Road. Staff is acquiring required rights-of-ways and easements for these two projects.

12. Henderson/Gateway. Drainage is provided by the Little Neck Canal and the Henderson Branch Canal (combined length 2 miles). Development of the subdivisions led to increased rates and volumes of storm water runoff which the canals cannot handle. A construction contract for a project to replace the golf cart culvert and culvert at Henderson Oaks Drive is underway. The work at Henderson Oaks Drive will require temporary closure of the road to traffic. Change Order No. 1 was approved by the Board in September 2010 to address unforeseen underground utility conflicts. Work is expected to be complete by early winter.

13. Shipyard-Beaulieu Area. The project will be accomplished in phases. The first phase replaced the storm drain pipe at Beaulieu Avenue and was completed in January 2010. The second phase will replace three undersized storm drain pipes and reshape the existing ditch. Staff is in the process of acquiring required easements for access, construction, and maintenance.

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

15. Skidaway Road. The project will improve roadside drainage and address vehicle safety issues along a portion of Skidaway Road near Wormsloe. Design, acquisitions, and permitting is complete. At the October 8, 2010, meeting, the Board approved a donation of \$10,000 to the University of Georgia Marine Extension Service as required by the permit issued for the project by the US Army Corps of Engineers. Staff expects to present the Board with a recommendation for award of a construction contract by December 2010.

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

17. Leigh-Shipyard Lane Area. The project will relieve roadside drainage issues causing nuisance flooding in the Lehigh Avenue and Shipyard Lane area. Preliminary design work is complete for improvements within the existing Lehigh Avenue right-of-way from Shipyard Road to Shore Avenue. Staff is in the process of acquiring required right-of-way for construction and maintenance. Final design plans and required permitting are expected to be complete by January 2011.

18. Laberta-Cresthill Area. The project will relieve flooding within the Cresthill Subdivision. An engineering firm evaluated the storm water drainage system and the outfall to Hayner's Creek. Preliminary design work is underway to improve the piping network and the outfall. Final design plans and required permitting are expected to be complete by November 2010.

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

21. Romney Place Drainage Phase. Improve storm drains and road crossings on Romney Place and along Parkersburg Road. Construction work is complete.

RECOMMENDATION: For information.
Districts: All

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RECESS TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion made by Commissioner Shay and seconded by Commissioner Farrell, the Board recessed at 11:47 a.m. to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation and land acquisition. The motion carried unanimously.

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ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. REQUEST BY STEVE SCHEER FOR WAIVER OF SUBROGATION RIGHTS PERTAINING TO COUNTY EMPLOYEE.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Motion was made, seconded, and unanimously carried that the Board agree to waive subrogation rights for a not-at-fault accident of Major John Wilcher of the Sheriff's Department.

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2. BOARD AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE A PURCHASE AGREEMENT TO ACQUIRE A NINE-ACRE SITE (FORMER SITE OF 84 LUMBER) ON OGEECHEE ROAD FOR A NEW FLEET OPERATIONS CENTER.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Holmes moved that the Board grant authorization to execute a Purchase Agreement to acquire a nine-acre site (former site of 84 Lumber) on Ogeechee Road for a new Fleet Operations Center at a cost not to exceed \$1.35 million. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Thomas and it carried unanimously.

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3. CLAIM FOR TREE LIMB DAMAGE, 1381 LAVON AVENUE.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Motion was made, seconded, and carried unanimously that the request by Lynn Geddes for payment of damages be denied.

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4. 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 Holmes 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. [Commissioner Kicklighter was not present.]

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the Commissioners, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 12:25 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