

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2010, IN THE COMMISSION MEETING ROOM ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY COURTHOUSE, LEGISLATIVE AND ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, 124 BULL STREET, SAVANNAH, GEORGIA.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Pete Liakakis called the meeting to order at 9:25 a.m., Friday, November 5, 2010.

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II. INVOCATION

Commissioner Priscilla Thomas gave the Invocation.

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III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Harris Odell, Jr., led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.

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Chairman Liakakis said, under Proclamations and Presentations we have members of the –

Mr. Hart said, roll call.

Chairman Liakakis said, excuse me, let’s do the roll call first to make sure everybody’s here. Okay. I call on Barbara Wright, temporary clerk, for the roll call, please.

IV. ROLL CALL

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Pete Liakakis, Chairman
 Dr. Priscilla D. Thomas, Vice Chairman, District Eight
 B. Dean Kicklighter, Chairman Pro Tem, District Seven
 Helen L. Stone, District One
 James J. Holmes, District Two
 Patrick Shay, District Three
 Patrick K. Farrell, District Four
 Harris Odell, Jr., District Five
 David M. Gellatly, District Six

Also present: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
 R. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney
 Barbara B. Wright, Interim Clerk

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V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. PROCLAMATION FOR 2010 VETERAN OF THE YEAR, GEORGE BARTELL.

Chairman Liakakis said, and in the audience, again, we have members of the Chatham County Veteran’s Counsel. It has been in existence for many, many years, and we’ve got close – somewhere around 30 veteran’s organizations who belong to the Veteran’s Counsel now. They’ve been working hard and especially for the new Memorial that’s on River Street that’s been long in coming, but there was a lot of hard work put in there by our Veteran’s Counsel and especially a number of the volunteers that worked on that. And so, our first proclamation

for the Veteran of the Year is George Bartell, who is the 2010 Veteran of the Year, and I'd like for him to come forth to the podium and also with some of the members or all of the members of the Veteran's Counsel who are here today. And since we are also honoring the marshal, the parade marshal for November 11th, which is the Memorial Day, we'll have Commissioner Helen Stone to come up for the marshal also.

NOTE: Chairman Liakakis read the proclamation as follows:



WHEREAS, in the eyes of veterans, the Veteran of the Year is a special person that has demonstrated a willingness to sacrifice time and energy on behalf of veterans and today we salute that special person, the Veteran of the Year 2010 George J. Bartell; and

WHEREAS, George Bartell served in World War II in October 1943 in England and was assigned to a B-17 Flying Fortress Bomber Crew in the 551st Bombardment Squadron (Heavy) of the 385th Bombardment Group, part of the Mighty Eighth Air Force, where he flew 8 Bombing Missions over Nazi Germany, as Radioman/Gunner; and

WHEREAS, on a bombing mission over northern Germany, his B-17 was shot down out of the sky, on 22 April 1944. All crewmembers parachuted and were immediately captured by the German Army. George was held in captivity as a Prisoner of War in Stalag 17-B in Krews, Austria until liberated 13 months later and then discharged in November 1945; and

WHEREAS, for his service in World War II, George earned and was awarded the Air Medal for Aerial Combat Missions, the Purple Heart for 25mm Shrapnel Wounds to his hand and arms, the POW Medal, the European Campaign Medal, the WWII Victory Medal, and the National Defense Medal

WHEREAS, George's service in Veterans Organizations began in 1943 when his father signed him up with the Veterans of Foreign Wars as soon as George went overseas, 67 years ago, and George later became Commander of the local VFW Post 4392 in 1995. He organized the first chapter in Savannah of Ex-POW's and was the Charter Commander in 1988. George has been a member of the Military Order of the Purple Heart since 1983 (27 years) and has held the position of commander. He has been a contributing member of American Legion Post 184 for the past 30 years and an active participant in the effort to complete the WWII Memorial for Chatham County.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Pete Liakakis, Chairman, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby salute the Veteran of the Year 2010:

GEORGE J. BARTELL

for receiving the highest honor a veteran in Chatham County can receive and applaud his dedicated devotion to fellow veterans.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 5th day of November 2010.

Pete Liakakis, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Gail F. Gordon, Administrative
Assistant to the Chairman

In addition to that, our County Commission, we award to special people, a special medal for their participation in a number of areas, and, of course, George is one of those many, many veterans and the military who fought for our freedom and – and today I am giving this special medal to George for all of the things that he has done for our community, for our country, and for the world.

Mr. George Bartell said, Mr. Chairman, it's an honor and pleasure to be here and also an honor to be nominated and elected Veteran of the Year, especially being a veteran of the World War II when the World War II monument is being dedicated. Thank you for everything, and I hope to live up to all the things that you said about me. Thank you.

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2. PROCLAMATION FOR VETERANS PARADE GRAND MARSHAL, JAMES CHAVERS.

And now I call on Commissioner Helen Stone for the proclamation for the Veteran's Parade Grand Marshal James Chavers.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you Mr. Chairman, and before I get started, we are about to embark on a very important weekend, a dedication of a World War II monument that's been long in coming. It has been such an honor and a pleasure to work with these gentlemen and to finally see this monument come to fruition. So I hope and pray that everyone will come and visit this monument. That you can attend the gala tomorrow evening. That you can be there for the dedication on Sunday. This is going to be a true asset to this community and – and finally – finally the opportunity to show the men and women that fought in World War II what they deserve. So I'm going to read this and – just thank you all gentlemen, and the ladies too that are not here with you for the pleasure of the last three or four years of working with you all towards getting this monument done. It has been phenomenal and it has taken a lot of true team work, but now we are seeing it. So it gives – it gives me – it gives me great honor to read this proclamation.

NOTE: Commissioner Stone read the proclamation as follows:



WHEREAS, originally called Armistice Day, November 11th, now known as Veterans Day, is a declared holiday commemorating all service men and women and those killed in battle. To be named Parade Marshal of the Veterans Day Parade is a special honor and we salute the 2010 Veterans Day Parade Marshal, James D. Chavers, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Jim D. Chavers Jr., a native Savannahian, is a member of Boy Scout Troop 18 and Sons of the American Legion Post 36 in the Drum & Bugle Corps. He is a 1942 graduate of Savannah High School where he was a member of the JROTC and the school band. Following graduation, he began work in the Southeastern Shipyard, where he worked as a welder for 13 months without a day off. When he was given a week off with pay, he left and tried to join the military; however he was rejected for disclosing that he had asthma and after three more attempts, he was accepted and entered the Navy. While on a train headed back to Atlanta, the Navy group was asked if anyone wanted to volunteer for the Marines, which Jim did and was then sent to Parris Island in March of 1944; and

WHEREAS, during WWII, Jim served with the 4th Marine Division in the Battle of Iwo Jima, landing there on February 19th and leaving on St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 1945. He served there on a .30 caliber machine gun crew. Jim was honorably discharge from the Marine Corps in May 1946; and

WHEREAS, Jim has been a member of the 4th Marine Division Association, 230th Field Artillery Bn of the GA National Guard and Chatham Artillery, VFW Post 4392, American Legion Post 36 since 1947, Marine Corps League, Veterans Council of Chatham County, and has been an active supporter in the project to complete the Chatham County WWII Memorial.

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

JAMES D. CHAVERS, JR

for being named Parade Marshal of the 2010 Veterans Day Parade and extend sincere appreciation for his dedication and commitment to veterans in the Chatham County community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 5th day of November, 2010.

Pete Liakakis, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Gail F. Gordon, Administrative
Assistant to the Chairman

Chairman Liakakis said, and of course, we know the hard work that Jim has put in over the years with the American Legion post, with the Veteran's Counsel and all, and attending most of the meetings. He's really in there when it's a particular veteran's matter that comes up, he speaks out and that's really important that we have an individual fought also for our freedom and continues to do the things to help the veterans in our community. And so, with that, I also would like to give this special medal from the Chatham County Commission to James Chavers.

Mr. James Chavers said, well, it's an honor to serve in this parade marshal. I used to walk in it on parades, and I've been parading since I was a teenager with the drum and bugle corp. And then in the high school band we were in every parade in the City. I'm wearing a cap that belonged to my father in World War I. I thought it was – be more appropriate than the cap that I was going to wear. And, incidentally, my father was in the Chatham Artillery and he served on the Mexican border in 1916, and I have a medal that's framed and all the City of Savannah gave to all the Chatham Artillery. I doubt if there's anybody else in the City that's got that medal. But, again, it's going to be an honor to represent veterans. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, I wanna say this 'cause I'm gonna ask – gentlemen just stay right there a minute. There's another individual that has worked really hard for the Veteran's counsel, the American Legion Post 184, for many, many years, and he's dedicated himself to this Memorial that we are honoring the veterans that passed away in World War II. And, of course we can see the results of his leadership, the Veteran's Counsel for the last several years who has worked untirelessly, you know, to make sure that the – things happen for the veterans. When something comes up – there's some type of legislation and all, Bill Quinan is always there to do the things that he can and encourage all of the veterans of our organization to do things so that we send the message to Washington that we need to help our veterans when there is a veteran's plight, and for this now, this special medal from the Chatham County Commission goes to a real hero in our area, and especially a veteran that was in the Navy, and – and for this – come forth Billy. Oh, okay. He's retired from the Coast Guard. I forgot about that. But anyway, you can see when he got out of the Coast Guard and the things he's done in joining the American Legion Post and all, and on behalf again of the Chatham County Commission, this special medal goes to Bill Quinan.

Mr. Bill Quinan said, Joe said – he just corrected me – he said I got upgraded. I was Coast Guard, he was Navy. He called me Navy. But it's an honor and a pleasure to do all the things that I do and have done, and it's a labor of love, and especially with the World War II Memorial. We want to honor all these World War II veterans, both living and passed on, and we can't wait to have this ceremony on Sunday to honor them. And, as we promised, it's going to be a world class Memorial dedicated to the greatest generation. Thank you.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman. Mr. Chairman, if I may, Mr. Brantley from the Youth Commission has a statement before the gentlemen leave – leaves here today.

Youth Commissioner Eric Brantley said, thank you. On behalf of the Chatham County Youth Commission we would like to salute you all for your courage in battle and congratulate you on the honor of Veteran of the Year and being named Veteran's Day Parade Grand Marshal.

Mr. Doug Andrews said, I'd like to sponsor two members of the Youth Commission to come to our celebration Saturday night and experience some of the sights, sounds and memories of World War II. So I will sponsor two Youth Commission members, if y'all could decide who that would be. Those tickets are \$125 each. And I know there's a lot going on that weekend, but here's the deal, its for a fundraiser for the monument, to pay for it. It wasn't designed to entertain the troops, if it was, we'd have every World War II veteran there for free. There are many of them though that would love to go; they can't afford it. So, if somebody in the audience can't go, please sponsor two WWII veterans. Let them go and experience some memories. I'm gonna bring them to tears, and I'm gonna bring them back to a celebration and happiness. Thank you and God Bless You.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, can you tell the audience and people at home, who they can contact to be able to sponsor someone, or numbers –

Mr. Andrews said, yes. Yes, sir. Call Doug Andrews, 657-1515. I'll bring the tickets to you and any other member of the World War II Memorial Committee will have tickets. But my number is 657-1515, and I have tickets on hand right now. And if you take them, you can pay me later.

Chairman Liakakis said, let me say this about Doug because he came into our American Legion Post 184. He's done so much work in that particular area. He's really helped out in – for the fundraiser for the Memorial, and has

done many, many things to help veterans in our community and all of the members of Post 184 appreciated that, and that's why they elected him Post Commander for 184, and we'd like to thank Doug for all of his hard work also.

Mr. Andrews said, thank you very much Mr. Chairman. And I have your two tickets right here.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Thank you.

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CHATHAM YOUTH COMMISSION

Chairman Liakakis said, and before we get to the next item, I'd like to introduce the three Chatham County Youth Commissioners today. On my far left, your right, we have Shakira Bush, who is the representative for Groves High School. And next is Eric Brantley, who is representing Jenkins High School, and Briyona Brack, is representing Savannah Arts. Nice to have the three of you here today representing the Chatham County Youth Commission.

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3. PROCLAMATION DECLARING NOVEMBER 2010 AS PANCREATIC CANCER AWARENESS MONTH. JANE MILLER WILL BE RECEIVING THE PROCLAMATION.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, next on the agenda. Item 3, proclamation declaring November the – 2010 as pancreatic cancer awareness month. Jane Miller will be receiving the proclamation on behalf of the cancer – and anyone in the audience in addition to Jane, if they would come forth to the microphone, to the podium also, and we have now, you've got it – oh Priscilla.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, ladies and gentlemen. It's a pleasure to read this proclamation, and I want to say that I know in my family cancer runs very rampantly, so we need to really take note as to what's going on. The proclamation reads as follows:



WHEREAS, pancreatic cancer is one of the deadliest cancers and is the fourth leading cause of cancer death in the United States. In 2010, an estimated 43,140 people will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in the United States and 36,800 will die from the disease; and

WHEREAS, when symptoms of pancreatic cancer present themselves, it is usually too late for an optimistic prognosis, and 75 percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first year of their diagnosis while 94 percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first five years. Incidence of pancreatic cancer is approximately 50 percent higher in African Americans than in other ethnic groups; and

WHEREAS approximately 940 deaths occurred in Georgia. There is no cure for pancreatic cancer and there have been no significant improvements in survival rates in the last 40 years. The Federal Government invests significantly less money in pancreatic cancer research than it does in any of the other leading cancer killers; and pancreatic cancer research constitutes only 2 percent of the National Cancer Institute's federal research funding, a figure far too low given the severity of the disease, its mortality rate, and how little is known about how to arrest it; and

WHEREAS, the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network is the first and only national patient advocacy organization that serves the pancreatic cancer community in Chatham County and nationwide by focusing its efforts on public policy, research funding, patient services, and public awareness and education related to developing effective treatments and a cure for pancreatic cancer; and

WHEREAS, the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network and its affiliates in Savannah support those patients currently battling pancreatic cancer, as well as to those who have lost their lives to the disease, and are committed to nothing less than a cure. The good health and well-being of the residents of Chatham County are enhanced as a direct result of increased awareness about pancreatic cancer and research into early detection, causes, and effective treatments.

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

PANCREATIC CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

in Chatham County.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 5th day of November, 2010.

Pete Liakakis, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Gail F. Gordon, Administrative
Assistant to the Chairman

Ms. Jane Miller said, hello to everyone. My name is Jane Miller. I am a nurse at Memorial Health University Medical Center. I'm also the affiliate coordinator for the pancreatic cancer action network, Savannah affiliate. I – those of us in our affiliate really appreciate being able to speak to the Chatham County Commission, and we very much appreciate the support of the Chatham County Commission. I am here because I lost my 45-year-old brother to pancreatic cancer. He was diagnosed and two and a half weeks later he died. He left two children; he left a wife; and he left multiple friends and family that love him a lot. But it's not only my family that's affected by this disease. This problem affects our entire community. At this point, I'd like to honor our newest member of our affiliate, Dr. Paula Reynolds. Those of you – most of you probably know Dr. Reynolds. She is a loved and esteemed member of our community. You might know or might not know that Dr. Reynolds is a pancreatic cancer survivor. She has chosen to join us in our effort that goes along with the pancreatic cancer action network to create hope, support patients, and to find a cure for pancreatic cancer. At this point, Paula would like to talk.

Dr. Paula Reynolds said, thank you and good morning Commissioners, Mr. Chairman. And, of course, normally I introduce myself as the Executive Director of the Chatham County SafetyNet Planning Counsel, but today, I want to talk to you as a pancreatic cancer survivor. Imagine if you will that I told you that next year, once a month, every month, a catastrophe was gonna occur in this country on the scale of the World Trade Center at 9/11. Does that put in perspective the 36,000 people that are expected to die next year from pancreatic cancer? It's equivalent to that happening in this nation. Also, as Commissioner Thomas expressed, the catastrophe is expected to occur more and more often in the coming dec – decades. Up to, perhaps, 18 times a year instead of 12. But, the good news is there is something we can do about it. Just take a lesson from our friends who have worked so hard for many years on breast cancer. Thirty years ago, those two words were shrouded with fear and despair, and we've just come off a month of celebration of survivorship after thirty years of communities, researchers, and healthcare givers tirelessly working together to find screening, early detection, get the word out, and get better treatments that are more effective for everyone. We have the finest researchers in this country. We have committed healthcare providers, and we have tireless advocates; and we have the way that's paved for us by our friends who have been working on breast cancer. So, let's follow them. Of course, one of the most important parts of starting on that journey is increasing the knowledge and awareness in the community; not only for all citizens but for healthcare givers, as well. The cancer is so rare that there are doctors out there that would never see a case in their career. So, the knowledge and awareness has to be pervasive throughout everybody that works for it. So, thank you very much for this proclamation that starts Chatham County on the road toward fighting this disease successfully. And now in my own experience, I'm in the win column, and I look forward to all of us working together to have many, many more people join me there. And we have with us today, Beth Willis Stephenson (phonetic) to let everybody know where they can find out more information on this disease.

Ms. Stephenson said, thank you Chatham County Commissioners for joining us in this fight – in this national fight against pancreatic cancer. I invite you to go to our website www.pancan – P-A-N-C-A-N.org or to ask any questions of us that you might have.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, we want to – go ahead, Dr. – Dr. Reynolds.

Dr. Reynolds said, I'm sorry. I'd like to mention one more thing. We have the second annual purple strut tomorrow starting from the Tybee Pier at – the walk starts – it's a 5K walk/run at about 4:30 if any of you have time to come and join us. I have been blessed by the most wonderful support system of friends and family and co-workers, so there are thirty people walking on my team, but there's room – room for many more. So please come join us.

Ms. Miller said, right now we have over 200 people signed up, so it's going to be a fun event.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you very much, Jane. Go ahead state what –

Youth Commissioner Briyona Brack said, I would like to make mention that purple is also the color for domestic violence month which we celebrated last year – well last month – and well last year, I lost my grandfather to pancreatic cancer also, and I would just like to commend Chatham County and your organization for recognizing for all of the survivors and all those who have gone on.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you Briyona. And Jane, Dr. Reynolds, and all of the volunteers, the things that you do to bring the information and hopefully, and prayfully that we ask God to give us a cure for the different types of cancers because we know how bad it is, and we loose many of our citizens not only in our area around the country

and around the world, but hopefully and prayfully with all of the experimentation that's going on that we will be blessed with a cure for the many types of cancer. Thank you and may God Bless you all for what you do.

Dr. Reynolds said, thank you very much.

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4. PROCLAMATION DECLARING MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2010 AS NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH IN CHATHAM COUNTY. LINDA E. DELANO WILL BE RECEIVING THE PROCLAMATION.

Chairman Liakakis said, item 4, proclamation declaring the month of November 2010 as National American Indian Heritage Month in Chatham County. Linda Delano will be receiving the proclamation, and Linda, if you have anybody else that's with you, they are welcome to come forth also. And Commissioner Patrick Farrell will present the proclamation.

NOTE: Commissioner Farrell read the proclamation as follows:



WHEREAS, the history and culture of our great nation have been significantly influenced by American Indians and indigenous people; and

WHEREAS, the contributions of American Indians have enhanced the freedom, prosperity, and greatness of America today; and

WHEREAS, their customs and traditions are respected and celebrated as part of a rich legacy throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, Native American Awareness Week began in 1976 and recognition was expanded by Congress and approved by President Georgia Bush in August 1990, designating the month of November as National American Indian Heritage Month; and

WHEREAS, in honor of National American Indian Heritage Month, community celebrations as well as numerous cultural, artistic, educational and historical activities have been planned.

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

NATIONAL AMERICAN INDIAN HERITAGE MONTH

in Chatham County and urge all our citizens to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 5th day of November 2010.

Pete Liakakis, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Gail F. Gordon, Administrative
Assistant to the Chairman

And with great pleasure I hand this over – I present this to you.

Ms. Linda Delano said, thank you so much. Thank you. Good morning Mr. Chairman and Commissioners. My name is Linda Delano. I represent the Savannah Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. Joining me here today is the Chapter Regent, my sister, as it – as it is. She is Elsie Clark, and she is the Regent of our – our Savannah Chapter of the National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution. I just want to thank you on behalf of our Chapter for this proclamation which you have so

graciously continued to give us over the last few years. As was mentioned in the proclamation, the – the effort to recognize all of the contributions made by our American Indian ancestors, that began back at the turn of the 20th century, and, of course, it wasn't until 1990, that it became a reality with George H.W. Bush, former president, acknowledging that and making that first proclamation. Since 1994, such a proclamation has been made, and just last week on October 29th, President Barack Obama made the proclamation for this year. So, again we appreciate your support in this effort and of our continued work as Daughters of the American Revolution, and I'm very proud and privileged to accept this proclamation. Thank you.

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5. INFORMATION REGARDING THE 7TH SAVANNAH CHILDREN'S BOOK FESTIVAL THAT WILL TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2010, FROM 10 A.M. TO 4 P.M. IN FORSYTH PARK (LIVE OAK PUBLIC LIBRARIES DIRECTOR CHRISTIAN KRUSE AND FESTIVAL CHAIR ANWAN BAKER).

Chairman Liakakis said, next item, 5, information regarding the 7th Savannah Children's Book Festival that will take place on Saturday, November the 13, 2010, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Forsyth Park. The library – the Live Oak Public Libraries Director, Christian Kruse, and Festival Chairman, Anwan Baker, will please give us the information.

Mr. Christian Kruse said, good morning.

Chairman Liakakis and Commissioners said, good morning.

Mr. Kruse said, thank you for allowing us the time in front of you to talk about one of our favorite programs at the library. The key word here is celebrate. Celebrate the joy of reading; the power. There is incredible power in the written word. And the magic. If you haven't had somebody tell you a story – the magic of storytelling. For this come out to Forsyth Park next Saturday; the 7th Annual Savannah Children's Book Festival. More than 70 authors and illustrators from around the country will be there to help celebrate the power and the magic of reading. We started the festival seven years ago with an attendance of about 4,000. This year we are anticipating an attendance that is now become a regional draw of between 30,000 and 35,000 people. It is a festival brought to you by your public library. We have some outside funding that we gather so that we are not using our regular operating budget to do this, and we do it as a staff when we're not doing our regular jobs. I'd like to introduce to you one of the people I brought with me. I brought one other special guest. Anwan Baker is our director – or our – our manager for our central services downtown. He looks after the Bull Street Library and all of the libraries downtown, but this year he has also had the experience of being the festival chair. Anwan.

Mr. Anwan Baker said, good morning Chairman.

Chairman Liakakis said, good morning.

Mr. Baker said, I'd like to tell you a little bit about three authors we have coming to the book festival this year. We have Brian Jordan coming. He is actually a former MLB baseball all-star with the Atlanta Braves. He also played with the Atlanta Falcons in the NFL as well too, as a – as an all-pro. He's written a best-selling book entitled "*I Told You I Can Play*". Now this particular book is about a little boy who doesn't really have the courage to play baseball because so many of his friends tell him he's not good enough. But once he gathers enough courage to play the game, he realizes that he's even better than his friends. So, this is a very good story encouraging kids to go out and follow their dreams and things that they may not be so confident about doing and follow up with them.

We also have coming down from Vermont, New York Times best-selling author, Ann Dewdney. She is famous for the Llama Llama series, which includes "*Llama, Llama Red Pajama*" and a lot of her other famous classics as well too. The kids absolutely love her books, and we are really looking forward to seeing Anna Dewdney.

And, we also having coming down Judy Schachner, from Swarthmore, Pennsylvania, and she's the author of our friend right here, Skippy Jon Jones. Skippy Jon Jones is a little siamese cat, however, he has a very large imagination. Skippy Jon gets into a lot of different adventures and does a lot of different things that's written about, and the kids absolutely love Skippy. And we are looking very forward as well to Judy Schachner coming down reading some of Skippy's more recent stories, and the kids absolutely just love Skippy. So, we are expecting the weather to hold out. Hopefully it will be a great day weather-wise. We are going to have a lot of vendors there as well too. We are going to have close to 60 authors that are regional as well too at the festival, so we encourage everyone to tell their family and friends and to come out and enjoy the 7th Annual Savannah Children's Book Festival. Thank you.

Mr. Cruse said, we thank you for the opportunity to come before you. It is a children's book festival. It is an awful lot of fun. You don't have to have a child. You just have to enjoy children and children's literature, and be child-like. Come out and enjoy and celebrate with us.

Chairman Liakakis said, well we thank the library, of course, for sponsoring this particular book festival every year 'cause it's really important, and we can see that we've had thousands of our citizens there and bringing in some of the top authors of the country here, and that's really important. And of course, there's been the posters all around the City announcing this. We appreciate the library, and you Christian, for taking the lead on this 'cause it's really important that we have this because we know that if children start reading at an earlier age,

that they are more successful in their lives. And many of those children that start reading at a early age, we see that they don't drop out of school. The biggest percentage of them do not drop out of school, and they continue on in their education. So this is great that this is being sponsored, and we really appreciate that. Thank you.

Mr. Cruse said, thank you very much.

Chairman Liakakis said, oh yes, we have --

Mr. Cruse said, sorry question, yes, absolutely.

Chairman Liakakis said, Shakira would like to ask a question.

Mr. Cruse said, yes.

Youth Commissioner Shakira Bush said, what time does it start again?

Mr. Cruse said, it starts at 10:00 in the morning and it runs till 4:00 on November 13th in Forsyth Park.

Youth Commissioner Bush said, thank you.

Mr. Cruse said, it's going to be an awful lot of fun. And, I did forget to mention, we have a special event that we hope all the Commissioners would to come and take part in. While Skippy Jon won't be able to come to the festival, Llama, Llama is bringing his limbo stick, and we are going to do the Llama, Llama limbo, and it will be lots of fun.

Chairman Liakakis, yes, because – you didn't mention about Llama, Llama Red Pajama.

Mr. Cruse said, yes. Llama, Llama will be there and be bringing the limbo stick, so we will be doing Llama, Llama limbo.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, very good.

Mr. Cruse said, say that fast three times.

Chairman said, okay, Eric, do you have a question?

Youth Commissioner Brantley said, no.

Chairman Liakakis said, Briyona?

Youth Commissioner Brack said, no, sir.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Thank you.

Mr. Cruse said, thank you.

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VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

NONE.

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VII. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS

NONE.

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Chairman Liakakis said, all right, next item. We will recess now as the Chatham County Commission, and reconvene as the Chatham Area Transit Authority. So all members of the audience that's here for our Chatham Area Transit authority please come forth, and of course, all members of the Chatham County Commission are members of the Chatham Area Transit Authority. The Board recessed at 10:15 a.m.

Following adjournment of the Chatham Area Transit Authority, the Board reconvened at 10:45 a.m., as the County Commission.

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VIII. TABLED/RECONSIDERED ITEMS

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

1. **UPDATE THE BOARD ON EMPLOYEE WELLNESS PROGRAM. NOTE: Item was tabled at October 8, 2010, meeting and should remain on the table until the November 5, 2010, meeting. Request item remain on the table.**

Chairman Liakakis said, on reconsidered items, it is recommended that item 1 – it is recommended that we stay on the table with item 1.

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2. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVE FUNDS FOR IMPROVEMENTS NEAR THE SALLIE MOOD SOCCER COMPLEX THAT AFFECT ACCESS TO THE FIELDS. Item was tabled at the October 22, 2010, meeting.**

Chairman Liakakis said, item 2, we need a motion to take – request board approve funds for improvement there to the Sallie Mood Soccer complex that it affects the access to the fields. This item was tabled October 22nd. We are going to need a motion on the floor to take this off the table.

Commissioner Stone said, so moved Mr. Chairman.

Commissioner Farrell said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you. We have a motion on the floor and a second to take this item off. Let's go on the Board.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved to take the item off the table. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Shay was not present.]

County Manager Russ Abolt said, Mr. Chairman in the interest of time, I'll attempt to briefly introduce the subject as is. It was put on the table because there was a need for specific information which staff has included in your packet. One was a question dealing with what actually the amount of dollars asked to be authorized to be paid for. We are giving you an aerial photograph showing where the fence and the access point would be. Also, Mr. Drewry has responded to our flexibility and whether or not the field configuration on field 8 might be transferred to the champion soccer field. Mr. Drewry responded that from the standpoint of having different types of tournaments and that it would be very difficult to commit to on a long-term basis. And then the third would be what would the \$100,000 do from the standpoint of improving Scott Stell park. Mr. Drewry has in effect addressed those. It – it's again our call to request budget authority up to \$100,000 to do the improvements called for.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, looking at this, and I know this would be nice to do. One thing sticks out in my mind that as we, as a Commission, appropriated monies for a new health department. So, number one, if this body agreed to allow the fencing and separation of two County-owned facilities, then it seems to me that the monies that were appropriated to the health department could be used because they're the ones wanting the fencing. If that were to be allowed. So, I think that should be a separate item from the rest of it. And, I'll also state again, I believe this is the third time that we've gone through this that, you know, this particular facility is an outstanding facility. It really is second to none with the underbrush that's been cut out of the way, you know, as of now, it's a much safer facility, and, you know, basically, we're talking \$100,000 now. At this point, in my opinion, for convenience of someone not necessarily having to walk their children a further distance. If the monies were there – if the comparison to our other facilities was not so vast, that would be fine. If we had the money and, you know, we could spend it at other facilities throughout the park, but as we know, we have in the unincorporated areas, if you will, we have the large facility in the middle here. We have another one that covers all the way out east out on Wilmington Island, that supposedly provides soccer and then another one out at the Stell Park, which supposedly provides soccer. And, I say that, and I don't mean to offend the people – the volunteers out there are doing a wonderful job with the facilities that they have, so they are providing good coaching, good soccer, but just with facilities that aren't up to par when it comes to soccer. Looking here with this \$100,000 request, looking a little bit further into the agenda, we now have a request coming up here in a little bit for \$46,000 which will be a donation from all the taxpayers, including twenty something thousand from the unincorporated area taxpayers. We've got \$146,500 on the table right now in front of us that's not a necessary expense for this County. And I'll even remove soccer on the west side or east side, or soccer period from necessary expenses when you are talking about a broke – talking about a government that's going to be experiencing challenges coming on with the budget. But, since we're talking about spending \$100,000 on this recreation facility, it would only be fair for the taxpayers of this County to spread the goodness throughout the County, rather than continuing to pour monies into a facility that's already state of the art and second to none and leaving the other two facilities floundering and as second class citizens, if you will.

And, I have asked a gentleman, the founder of the soccer association at Stell Park, Mr. Triet Bui, if he will just come say a few words and – and kind of relate to everyone here what the conditions are at the facility and what

he would love to see take place. So if I – with your permission, Mr. Chairman, I would like to ask Mr. Triet Bui if he will come forward.

Mr. Triet Bui said, good morning Commissioners. This is my first experience with government stuff, so bear with me. I'm really nervous. My name is Triet Bui, I'm the president and co-founder of the West Chatham Soccer Association. We were founded two years ago with twelve kids in the West Chatham Area. We would play in back yards. Bloomingdale would give us a small area in their backyard, and Pooler Rec would give us this little field that they weren't using, and you know, we were fine. No problems. We've been operating for two years, all volunteers. Nobody gets paid. And as of today, Commissioners, we have 143 kids, citizens, your kids, also, playing out there. Last Christmas, Robert Drewry and his crew, said hey, Triet, bring your crew over here to Scott Stell. It's not really a soccer facility, but we'll give you a couple of fields, here/there, and I was kind of hesitant, okay, let's go try it. And guys, it just exploded. The kids love it. They have their own little fields. We have – don't have to worry about lighting. Worry about other – Pooler saying you can't play here today, go somewhere else. We call it our home. We provided goals. With y'all's permission six months ago – with y'all's agreement, we had parents donate close to \$3,000 worth of soccer goals out of their own pocket. And we try to improve it a little bit and a little bit. I stand before you today – oh, one other thing, I'm also on Commissioner Holmes' sports panel. He has also asked us this question at our last meeting. He said, guys, why is Chatham County's sports' program not as big as all the other programs within our area? And I answered, Commissioner Holmes – and I also ask you guys now, drive to Richmond Hill, drive to Hinesville, drive to Effingham Parks and Rec, and I don't have to explain to you anymore. Just drive there. Okay. And that's the difference between our parks and recs and their parks and recs. Okay?

I stand before you this morning to talk about the \$64,000 that might be used for the soccer complex parking lot improvements. What about the improvements at all the other parks in Chatham County? If you decide to release this money to build a parking lot, then we ask you to release equal amount of money to all the other parks in Chatham County for improvements for the kids of Chatham County. I want to – I want you to keep this in mind before you vote, how will this money – \$100,000 improve the sports program in Chatham County? And, I'm gonna read it one more time. How will this \$100,000 improve the sports program in Chatham County? And I'm almost done here guys. To quote something for you guys, and Commissioner Holmes knows this quote from the Fields of Dreams movie. "Build the fields and they will come." My quote – actually not my quote, my association's quote, and I have proven that to you guys, "build the fields and they will come." I have done it, ladies and gentlemen. I have built that program, and we have 143 kids. And in the spring of 2011, we are anticipating another 50 kids coming. Okay? And one more point that I want to make sure you guys understand, I have kids coming to our soccer program at Scott Stell Park – they are coming from Meldrim, Georgia; Rincon, Guyton. I have kids coming from the City of Savannah out there to play. I have two kids coming from Richmond Hill playing at Scott Stell. And, I have three kids, and you're going to be shocked when I tell you this, I have three kids coming from Beaufort, South Carolina. So I'm – I'm drawing every type of kids and players to Scott Stell. So, please think about it, and I appreciate your time.

Chairman Liakakis said, any questions? James?

Commissioner Holmes said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me – let me correct you, Mr. Triet, that the sport panel that we have is not Commissioner James Holmes' sport panel, it is the recreation department sports panel that is controlled and conducted by the Director of Recreation, Mr. Robert Drewry and Mr. Al Lipsey.

Mr. Bui said, okay.

Commissioner Holmes said, so let's kind of make that clear.

Mr. Bui said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Holmes said, they are the one implement this. They are the ones schedule the meeting, and they are the ones bringing together citizens like yourself. And I'm hoping we would get more citizens like you and the rest of that sport panel to step up and give us your view on how Chatham County Recreation should look and what's our vision for the future. But, I'm hearing something since this issue came to us about a month ago, and what I'm hearing, we should be hearing this two months from now at our retreat. I would hate to see anything like this come before us at this time of the year, and we respond to it like we did. I thought we should have tabled it and let it come before us at our retreat and look at all of it. We are facing with something now, at this time of the year, because of a small complaint that came before us. And that small complaint grew larger and the perception to the public – the perception to the public is that you looking at one group because the complaint came down and if you don't respond to it then you ask the same question you say, why don't the money be divided equally at all parks, and it all came from one thing, the soccer complex over at our Health Department. Leave it there for right now, Triet, and we'll talk about it later.

Chairman Liakakis said, Helen?

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I tend to agree with Commissioner Holmes that this is a topic that we should get to in our retreat when we start looking at the budget. But, there are a couple questions that I wanted maybe some clarification from the staff. It's my understanding in riding out there on Saturdays that they are using the Health Department for the parking. That we are not currently using all of the parking spaces that are dedicated to the soccer complex at the entrance to the soccer complex, and if that's the case then, you know, we need to utilize what we've got. It is also my understanding by memo that some of the cars that were parking in the median at the Health Department parking lot were ticketed recently. And I wanted to know – I haven't heard anything whether that over a period of time will prevent people from parking where they should not park, and if we could continue to work some type of a system to where after hours and on the

weekends that the Health Department does not need to get their vehicle out, as long as they're not blocking cars, parking in the median, leaving garbage, those kind of things, if there could be a shared commitment with the Health Department, that has been done in the past, but not on the same level. I – I don't think it's fair for citizens to use another facility parking lot and park all over the grass, jump up on the curbs, leave their garbage, that's not right, and I think the ticketing should continue. But I do believe that we're in a – at a time when every penny counts and before we start allocating money to this complex versus other recreational facilities that this really is something that needs to be discussed in our budget goal sessions, and that we need to work with what we've got. Right now, if the citizens are not properly utilizing the dedicated parking spaces, then that's really not a problem for this Commission. That's a problem for them. So, I want to see a continued – I appreciate the – the respect that the Health Department has given to this issue. If – if we can just work this out until we can guarantee our budget goal sessions and see what monies can be allocated in a fair manner, then I would like to see us continue to ticket cars that are not parked properly. To encourage our citizens to use the parking spaces that are currently dedicated for it. And, as long as the brush has been cleared out, and there's proper lighting and it's safe, then I don't see that there's – there's a problem that's going to warrant us spending a lot of money at this time.

Commissioner Odell said, Mr. Chairman I'd like to see this reserved till we get to our retreat. I am adamantly opposed from taking money from -- whatever it costs, for this project. My grandson plays soccer but he plays in Florence. I understand the need for convenience but a lot of the complaints that we've gotten aren't about inadequate parking, they've been complaints of I don't want to walk this far. I think that we're at a point in our budget where we need to look very carefully and not just respond to a small group until we have all of the information. We need more information, and all of the information to me would include Dr. Thomas and Dean Kicklighter's parks. To look at – Commissioner Kicklighter talked about parity among the parks and not to make a distinction based on where you live. I'm – I'm certain that that's not the intent of anyone. Having said all that. I'll make a motion to deny the request for the hundred – how much was it?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, \$100,000.

Commissioner Odell said, \$100,000.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, second.

Commissioner Odell said, Priscilla did you want to speak?

Commissioner Thomas, I agree with the motion.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Any more questions then?

Commissioner Stone said, I don't have any.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Chairman Liakakis said, we have a motion on the floor to deny at this time the \$100,000 for this plan. Motion passed unanimously.

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Chairman Liakakis said, you want to take those up?

Commissioner Odell said, Mr. Chairman, just one more comment. When we do consider this during our retreat, this is a concern and our concerns have to be put in pecking order and concerns are competing for funding. And when we don't have sufficient funds to do everything, we have to make decisions. I would like to see a more detailed staff report as to the availability of parking on site and also a description facility-wise comparing this facility with any other soccer field. Especially Dean and Priscilla's districts. And if we could have those critical analysis as to the quality of fields, the quality of nets, the quality of goals, that level of detail, then it puts us in a position that we can make an intelligent decision based upon facts and not merely based upon emotion and people crying, I want to drop little Johnny off. Well, you shouldn't be dropping your kid off and you going somewhere else if he's six or seven years old. We're not babysitters. We're not accepting that task. But, I'd like to see a staff report whenever we have our retreat, and I'll put that in a motion if necessary.

Commissioner Stone said, I'll second that 'cause I'd – I'd like to see that information. But it was my understanding in riding out there last weekend that there is adequate parking at this time.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to receive a staff report at the Commissioners' budget retreat regarding the availability of parking at the Soccer Complex site and also a description facility-wise comparing the Soccer Complex facility with any other soccer field. Commissioner Stone seconded and it carried unanimously.

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Commissioner Kicklighter said, if I may, I just want to thank Mr. Bui for coming out and let you know, as well as the parents and participants of the other facility that this will be discussed and hopefully we'll do – do what's best for all the kids in the County.

Mr. Bui said, thank you.

AGENDA ITEM: VII-2
AGENDA DATE: November 5, 2010

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 28, 2010
TO: R.E. Abolt, County Manager
FROM: Leon Davenport, P.E., Assistant County Engineer
SUBJECT: Issues Related to Tabled Item on Soccer at the Jennifer Ross Complex
 (Response to your fax on same subject dated October 22, 2010)

Attached is a map that provides more specifics on the improvements suggested to improve parking for citizens at the Jennifer Ross Soccer Complex. Questions were raised at the October 22, 2010 Board meeting in regards alternative parking, sidewalks and fencing that were not detailed on parcels 3 and 4.

Parcel 3 will serve as additional parking to offset the need for parking at the Health Department. An existing gravel parking area should provide a comparable number of parking spaces. A sidewalk will be constructed to allow citizens to walk to the existing sidewalk that runs along Eisenhower Drive. Patrons will walk along Eisenhower to a new walkway that will extend perpendicular to the soccer field as shown on Parcel 4. Both sidewalks will be approximately 5 - 6 feet in width. This should provide all weather pedestrian access to the fields from the alternative parking site.

Represented by the green line on the attached map is a proposed fence. The fence will start at the northwest corner of the existing fence that surrounds Animal Control. The fence will follow the location of the existing fence that separates the Health Department from the soccer fields. The fence will then follow the tree line on the north side of the fields and extend to the entry point provided by the new walkway from Eisenhower. Another small section of fence will be constructed along Eisenhower at the canal crossing to provide safety for pedestrians in this area.

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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 AMENDMENTS AND TRANSFERS: (1) transfer \$25,000 from General Fund M&O contingency to Special Appropriations for the Second Harvest Food Bank, and (2) transfer \$21,500 from Special Service District Fund contingency to Building Safety and Regulatory Services for property maintenance.**

Chairman Liakakis said, Item IX, items for Individual Action. Item 1. To request approval of the following amendments and transfers: (1) transfer \$25,000 from General Fund M&O contingency to Special Appropriations for the Second Harvest Food Bank, and (2) transfer \$21,500 from Special Service District Fund contingency to Building Safety and Regulatory Services for property maintenance. Need a motion and second.

Commissioner Thomas said, move for approval.

Commissioner Holmes said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, yes, sir?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I guess I'll just come across as the bad guy today.

Commissioner Odell said, no, we shared that.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you. Second Harvest wonderful organization. They helped – they are, I believe, the largest food distribution group in the nation. They do a great job. This – although, again, with the times being tough, us facing budget deficits in the future, I want to caution this is another \$25,000 coming out the M&O; another \$21,500 from the SSD. This is worded in a manner which says partnership between Chatham County and the food bank. The wording would lead one to believe that it's not necessarily a donation from the taxpayers. Because donations are actually, I believe, illegal. But, from reading up on food banks and from the Second Harvest website, I guess, of South Georgia, it's stated in there that food banks generally do not provide food directly to the public unless working in a disaster or bulk distribution center. I guess I gathered that the food bank gathers food and distributes out to the other non-profits so one question I have is would this be to construct a

kitchen? It says to construct a kitchen for emergencies in partnership with Chatham County. Well, if that's the case, who are they currently distributing the food to? Who's cooking the food to provide it for the hungry citizens now? And, why couldn't Chatham County partner with an existing shelter that's cooking food rather than providing \$41,000 – or \$46,000 by my – yeah, \$46,000 basically to do this. It's once again taking away the public – our citizens rights to make donations and receive tax deductions on their own. And just looking through a few reports, just on October 5th, WTOC reported that Bank of America gave \$25,000 to the Second Harvest Food Bank. August 25th there was a flotilla on Tybee where 200 people attended to raise monies for it. If you look the way it's structured now, corporate donors can actually take a deduction equal to the cost of the item plus one-half of any appreciation. The deduction is limited to twice the cost of the item. Just the other day Calvary Day School, the little elementary school, they donated 700 cans of food. As we enter buildings – or businesses throughout the County, there's always a jar and there's always someone asking you, would you like to donate to this? Would you like to – well, yeah, I would like to donate to everything around, but I can't afford it or I'm going to be in line to receive what they're trying to raise money for. The government, I feel pretty confident, supports the food bank on the federal level, on the state level, and now we're asking for \$46,000 to come from this local level. Russ, you're really distracting me with your hand up over there.

County Manager Abolt said, okay.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Chairman, would you please put Russ' name on the response.

Mr. Abolt said, thank you, Dean.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, it's just double taxation. It takes away the right to be able to get your own tax deduction at the end of the year. It's a non-essential payment from the taxpayers of this County when you consider that we as a body are not providing all of the services that we should be providing. We just had that example a couple minutes ago. We still have people that are riding to get through mud holes to get to their home that we need to pave the roads. We can't cut grass. And, we had citizens call west, southwest, out on the islands areas, everywhere that's not in the City saying that they can't cross the road 'cause they can't see over the grass in the median. And here this request asks those citizens in our unincorporated area to fund \$21,500. We're not providing services to our citizens on the level that we should be. I think we need to learn, and I think we need to learn it rather quickly to provide top notch services that we are supposed to provide to our citizens and then if monies are left over, then we go into possibly donations to wonderful non-profits. We have – excuse me, I'm sorry. We have example after example of great non-profits in the community. We have Rape Crisis Center, we had some great non-profits up here earlier today. We had the ladies here from pancreatic cancer that could use donations. We have non-profits all over the place that if we donate to one we may as well donate to the other and just keep right on going because there's not usually any one charity any more important than the other. And, we're headed back, because of the economy, to the days when – I know when I first stepped on this Board and walked in and found, I believe, a \$12 million deficit, and at that point we had to look at the non-profits. We had to make a decision. Are we going to raise taxes for our citizens or are we going to make tough cuts and try to keep taxes down. We had to look at the citizens from the – blind citizens, handicapped citizens, all types of wonderful non-profit organizations, and I believe we had to cut well over a million dollars a year in donations that year that we were – we as a County were donating to non-profits. Gradually as the economy improved, we had monies available and this body started making small contributions here, small contributions there. It's not a necessary expense. This is one of many outstanding non-profits in our community, and I caution we don't need to spend this money. Let the citizens donate and get their tax deductions. And, if not, let's include them in our workshop and we'll debate the – how much help each non-profit is, and then we can split some money and the taxpayers can pay it that way, because I can make a good argument for many, many other ones as well. So, I hope that people will vote no because we need to provide services to our citizens at a much better level than we're doing right now with their tax dollars rather than making donations with their monies and not allowing them to make their own donations.

Chairman Liakakis said, David and then – well you wanted to respond to it.

Mr. Abolt said, can I please clarify –

Commissioner Gellatly said, I find him a distraction too.

Mr. Abolt said, I appreciate being a distraction because that's – that's – as Commissioner Joe once said it's a love. It's a special kind of love. No, I don't – I don't mean to distract, but I do want to clarify. I don't disagree anything with what Commissioner Kicklighter has said but I do want to clarify. There is no \$46,000 going anywhere. There's \$25,000 that is purely a business transaction which I'll explain in a minute. The \$21,500 is to cut grass. It has nothing to do with the food bank. It has to do with the fact that we cut the SSD budget so bad this past year, we can't cut grass on abandon properties. The last instance was Chevis Road, and the only way we could clean up the property – go out it and cut it and put a lien on the property. The issue as we discussed in pre-meeting, we have to have the money up front. It may take a while on liens to collect the dollars but we've got to pay the contractors. That's the \$21,500. The \$25,000, which we'll expect in item 2 and the reason item 1 puts the money out there, obviously the money has to be in place for you to make the business transaction. But, please consider the food bank, not as a donation 'cause we can't donate. It – it's not like grants and aid. It is a business transaction. We are for a small amount of money creating a great capacity to feed disaster workers. So, when we do get hit big time, we will have a very reliable, ultra-modern kitchen that can feed those hundreds and scores of disaster workers coming here. The proposition is this, and we'll go to it in item number 2, they can receive what amounts to almost \$2 million in money to build this kitchen, they want \$25,000 conditioned upon receiving that grant from the County. The reason being is to get the grant to the Kresge Foundation, they have to show support from local agencies. Obviously a national endowment is not going to give money to agencies that have no buy-in physically – fiscally from – from local government. \$25,000 to build an almost \$2,000,000 kitchen to feed disaster workers is a darn good investment. It's an investment. It's not a donation. It's nothing like grants and aid. This is purely an opportunity to prepare for the disaster. That's all it is. And it's \$25,000.

Chairman Liakakis said, all right, now it's David.

Commissioner Gellatly said, you did answer a lot of my concerns, but on the – on the repayment, is that going to be on a structured repayment and at a certain time it's got to be paid?

Mr. Abolt said, are you talking about the \$21,000? No, sir, that's a lien on the property. It's when –

Commissioner Gellatly said, I'm – I'm talking about the Harvest –

Mr. Abolt said, no, sir. No, sir. There's no repayment on that. You get – for \$25,000 you get a 1.8 –

Commissioner Gellatly said, then it's a donation.

Mr. Abolt said, no, sir, it's not a donation, it's an investment. We – we are partnering with them to say, okay, if you can build that kitchen for 1.8 million and get the grant, then the County will pay \$25,000 of that 1.8 million. That's all it is. It's a business transaction.

Commissioner Gellatly said, and what will we get out of it?

Mr. Abolt said, the – the kitchen that will feed the workers. This is a – this is a darn good – in my estimation –

Commissioner Gellatly said, so it will sit vacant for –

Mr. Abolt said, no, sir. No – no, sir. They obviously will use it for their goal, but again, for – for – for – it's kind of like the bus fencing. I don't mean to be trite in that, but for \$25,000 we are on the brink of getting a 1.8 million dollar kitchen. Yes, it will be used by Second Harvest in the main to provide services for those in need, but at the time of disaster, we will have already in place a capacity to feed those hundreds of disaster workers coming here. And it's for \$25,000. It is a business transaction.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, may I?

Chairman Liakakis said, no, it's Patrick.

Commissioner Gellatly said, no, I wasn't finished.

Chairman Liakakis said, oh. Go ahead David.

Commissioner Gellatly said, you -- you know I'm listening very carefully to what you're saying, Russ, and I – I agree with Commissioner Kicklighter. When we came on this Commission what, ten years ago, our budget was a mess and that's – that's being kind, and we had all kinds of non-profits that we were contributing to on a – on a yearly basis, and I think that's something terribly wrong. We just went through an election in this country where the majority of the people think that the government's doing too much already, you know. And – and – and involved in things that they shouldn't be involved in. I – I – I don't think for one minute – and I felt this way ten years ago, that I as an elected official have the authority or the right to decide how taxpayers dollars are going to be spent on charity. Okay? That – that's up to the taxpayers. If they wanted to write a check to the Red Cross or Rape Crisis or what have you, that's their decision. Where in the world do we get off as elected officials determining where large amounts of taxpayers dollars are going to which charity 'cause other tax – if you put it to a vote, the taxpayers might feel that – that some other charity all together should be involved. But, I don't think that government should be doling out taxpayers dollars to any charitable groups no matter how worthy they are. And that's just my – that's my philosophy on that.

Chairman Liakakis said, Patrick?

Commissioner Farrell said, I'm just trying to wrap my mind around this. But, it sounds like the proposal is – is for a \$25,000 buy-in we have during a disaster situation a – a close to a \$2 million kitchen at our disposal to feed policemen, firemen, K-9 men, volunteers, whoever. They're going to clear out the kitchen, and they're going to take care of our first responders. Is that – is that –

Mr. Abolt said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Farrell said, is that the purpose of this?

Mr. Abolt said, there's no going – yes, sir. That's it. It's a business transaction.

Commissioner Farrell said, okay. So that puts the County and our emergency responders first in line when we have –

Mr. Abolt said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Farrell said, and it's a centrally located location? Okay. Well, I – I like the idea.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Harris?

Commissioner Odell said, Russ, for \$25,000 we get access to a 1.8 million facility which Pat Farrell said to be used for our first responders? We invested money to elevate the police station on Wilmington Island. Did we – am I the only one who recalls that? We did that so if we had a disaster we'd have a home base in that location. I

understand what David and Dean are saying, but this is not a donation. This is a – we're on hurricane alley, and we've been lucky. But, New Orleans had been lucky for a substantial amount of time but at some point it got unlucky. I just think this is an investment. It's a very small investment for a potentially big payout. It is different from our giving money to the other non-profits. And I understand it now. And, your waving was a distraction, Russ, and I'm glad you spoke.

Mr. Abolt said, I really understand. I don't disagree with anything that's been said. I really – I understand that 'cause I went through the same thing. Not as a politician but as a – as an employed official of what has been recounted historically. But this is a business transaction. This is good.

Commissioner Odell said, yeah, I see this as a business transaction, and I – I like it.

Chairman Liakakis said, all right, Dean and then Helen.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I'm trying to pull up the exact numbers. Again, it's easy to spend \$25,000 on things when it's not your personal money. I'm – I'm at this point trying to look at things as it's my own personal money, and if you really think about this, we, right now, have government kitchens that serves approximately, I'm guessing around 65,000 meals a day; 120,000 meals a day if you count breakfast and lunch. We – we taxpayers, we own many, many, many schools, and they serve many, many, many meals, and shame on our local disaster agencies if they have not coordinated already with our governmental kitchens for an emergency food service. Again, looking at it like it's my money, if I have a kitchen over here, I'm not building another kitchen. This is government – taxpayers money we're talking about. We – we being the citizens – we own government kitchens that should already be a part of a disaster response. Again, this is simple to throw another \$25,000 out 'cause taxpayers – but I encourage ya – it's coming. It will be here soon. We're going to look people in the eye, and we're either going to raise the taxes and help push them on out of their homes, or we're going to face all the non-profits begging for help. I mean, it's coming. Unless there's a drastic change in the economy and a quick, quick change in the economy, we have to start putting our foot down now on the expenses.

Chairman Liakakis said, Helen?

Commissioner Stone said, thank you Mr. Chairman. A few years back a few Commissioners, and I was one of them, attended a conference in I think it was St. Timothy's parish –

Commissioner Odell said, yes.

Commissioner Stone said, – on the other side of Lake Pontchartrain, and it was the difference of after Katrina what a well-organized and prepared community could do to put their – their county back on track. If a major hurricane comes through here, we're going to need everything we can get. It might be school kitchens, but it sure would be a big help to have a kitchen that is equipped to handle the catastrophe that we could be faced with. I see this as insurance. And I'm gonna tell you, when I sat through that conference, there was a world of difference between a county that was prepared and a county that was not prepared. And, I see this as insurance, and I think for \$25,000 we cannot afford not to do this. This is serious. It could take weeks – weeks to get this County back on our feet, and it could take thousands of people and man power to get this County back on it's feet. I mean, we are sitting right next to the ocean, folks, and it could happen. And, I believe the location of this Second Harvest Food Bank where this kitchen is going to be is one of the higher elevations, am I correct?

Mr. Abolt said, I can't testify to that. Ms. Crouch could testify to that.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, let me –

Commissioner Stone said, well –

Chairman Liakakis said, – say this, number one is that we have as Commissioner Kicklighter was talking, there are some government things like school kitchens and all. There's not a kitchen other than this one that's being built that has the capacity to serve over 800-900, or even as close to – if you put the sheriff's department, if you put all of the metro police department, and the other law enforcement agencies in our area, plus all the fire department personnel, it could be as much as 2,000 people. And you could do – you could go to one school and prepare a certain amount of meals and all, but they don't have the capacity. So, what would we be running from one governmental kitchen to the other to try to feed this huge amount of people when they have the capacity to do that with that huge – I went over there and I saw them – what the plans were and how to build this huge kitchen so that they would have the capacity to feed, especially those people that are in dire need, you know, that's going to provide the services to our citizens when we have a disaster. So, what are you going to go – go to ten or twelve governmental kitchens to try to do that and then to transfer back and forth, it will just take more effort, and all. So, looking at that, and me studying it, I saw that it's best to go ahead and have it done with this particular kitchen because of the thousands of meals that they can prepare over at that location. Dean?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman, I just encourage you and anyone else to visit any of our local schools. You can go right to – right down the street from my house, and you have West Chatham Elementary School, which had, up until they redistricted, over 1,000 children in the school. Right next door to it you have – y'all finished? I was addressing your question. Right next to it, there's the middle school, West Chatham Middle. They had over a thousand children in it up until the redistricting. So, right there beside each other, I know for a fact you can serve over 2,000 people a day, right there in one spot. High schools – most of them – the new Savannah High School – if we wanted to take the time to make a call, I'm sure it would serve 2,000 people a day by itself. I feel confident that Johnson – the new high school there would serve up to a couple thousand people a day. And, again, this is great, and it's nice, and it's needed, but if you're talking about your own money, when there's options out there that will feed the same amount that's already owned by the public, if we start looking at this if it's our own

personal money, it's a bad financial decision. And, that's it in a nutshell. We can jump out and keep spending, but I would encourage all the other non-profits to come forward with your good story, because y'all are doing much good as well. And, we need to fund you too. We need to fund all of the good things out there with the non-profits if that's what we're going to be doing from this point forward. But I want y'all to be prepared to raise the taxes on our citizens who are already hurting financially. Many of them will be in the food lines, so it might be a good thing. And that's it. Again, for the food bank, it's doing a wonderful job. Y'all are wonderful. I'm not saying this to minimize what you're doing, but there's many other great non-profits out there, and we cannot afford to donate to them, just as if I can't give a dollar in every store I walk in that's requesting the personal monies now. And, I think it's time we start looking at that and protecting the tax dollars. Or I – I don't think we'll be around for the next go around to do anything.

Chairman Liakakis said, all right. We need a motion on the floor to – a motion on the floor for the approval of this or whatever.

Acting County Clerk Barbara Wright said, you have a motion, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Liakakis said, excuse me? We've got the motion?

Ms. Wright said, yes.

Commissioner Odell said, could you restate it?

Ms. Wright said, it was just a motion to approve item one. Commissioner Thomas and Commissioner Holmes –

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. All right. We have a motion. Call for the question. Let's go on the board.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve item 1, to request approval of the following amendments and transfers: (1) transfer \$25,000 from General Fund M&O contingency to Special Appropriations for the Second Harvest Food Bank, and (2) transfer \$21,500 from Special Service District Fund contingency to Building Safety and Regulatory Services for property maintenance. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion. The motion passed with Commissioners Stone, Holmes, Shay, Farrell, Odell, and Thomas voting yes and Commissioners Gellatly and Kicklighter voting no.

AGENDA ITEM: IX-1
AGENDA DATE: November 5, 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 \$25,000 from General Fund M&O contingency to Special Appropriations for the Second Harvest Food Bank, and (2) transfer \$21,500 from Special Service District Fund contingency to Building Safety and Regulatory Services for property maintenance.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The Second Harvest Food Bank has developed a proposal to partner with Chatham County to create a facility to feed emergency response workers. The commitment from Chatham County would be \$25,000. Correspondence is attached.
2. The Building Safety and Regulatory Services Director has requested \$21,500 funding for property maintenance. A transfer from Special Service District Fund contingency will provide funding. Correspondence is attached.

FUNDING: Funds are available in the General Fund M&O and Special Service District Fund contingency accounts.

ALTERNATIVES:

- (1) That the Board approve the following:

GENERAL FUND M&O

Transfer \$25,000 from contingency to Special Appropriations for the Second Harvest Food Bank.

SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND

Transfer \$21,500 from contingency to Building Safety and Regulatory Services for property maintenance.

- (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

INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 20, 2010
TO: Chairman and Members of the Board
FROM: R.E. Abolt, County Manager
SUBJECT: Opportunity to Partner with America's Second Harvest Food Bank to Create a Facility to Feed Emergency Response Workers

Ladies and gentlemen, attached is a request from Ms. Mary Jane Crouch who is Executive Director of the Second Harvest Food Bank. It asks for a \$25,000 commitment from the County with the understanding that they will complete their capital campaign and receive the matching grant from the Kresge Foundation. The overall project is estimated to cost \$1.8 million. For the \$25,000 buy-in and expression of local government support, we have the ability to create the post disaster resource that will feed disaster workers during the recovery period.

In that Ms. Crouch is the spouse of CEMA Director Clayton Scott, I have asked that the Assistant CEMA Director, Dennis Jones, evaluate the request which he has done and is also enclosed. In light of that, I am suggesting that we place this on your agenda for the 5th of November asking for your consideration and commitment contingent upon a successful fund raising effort on the part of Second Harvest.

By copy of this I'm asking Linda Cramer to identify a funding source that could be earmarked in anticipation of the \$1.8 million goal being reached.

REA/fqr

Attachment

cc: Mary Jane Crouch, Executive Director, America's Second Harvest of Coastal Georgia
Linda B. Cramer, Finance Director
Dennis Jones, Assistant Director, CEMA

America's Second Harvest
of Coastal Georgia

2501 E. President Street • Savannah, GA 31404 • Phone: (912) 236-6750 • Fax: (912) 231-9776 • www.helpendhunger.org
Agency Food Distribution • Brown Bag for the Elderly • Community Kitchen • Kids Café • Lunch Box • Mobile Food Pantry

October 18, 2010

Mr. Russell Abolt, County Manager
Chatham County
124 Bull Street
Savannah, Georgia 31401

Dear Mr. Abolt:

America's Second Harvest of Coastal Georgia's mission is to feed the hungry by distributing nutritious food to nonprofit agencies and at risk elderly and youth, to assist in disaster relief, and work towards long-term solutions to hunger and poverty. By being the only County Critical Workforce Kitchen, we will be an essential resource for the community should the need arise. Our Community Kitchen equipment, size and lay-out will enable us to prepare up to 10,000 meals each day if a disaster occurs. This will be the only in-place kitchen for shelter, meals, and critical workforce first responders. When first responders return to the disaster area or support a county-wide emergency, there is currently no source of meal service. With this in mind, we built our kitchen to meet and exceed standards of wind and water damage. We included dock space for tractor trailers to be able to make deliveries, and a shower for workers should the need arise. The kitchen has ample storage freezer and cooler space to store food.

Our Community Kitchen is important on a daily basis as we provide meals for our Kids Café program, an afterschool program that provides tutors and mentoring; as we provide culinary arts training to at-risk adults seeking their GED.

Our new Community Kitchen will cost \$1.8 million and to date we have raised over \$1.2 million through our capital campaign. We are now approaching faith-based organizations for support and will be conducting a public campaign when we reach \$1.7 million in donations and pledges. We have received support from the financial and in-kind support City of Savannah, Georgia Power, Colonial Oil, and have pending grants with

several other organizations. We have been awarded a matching grant from the Kresge Foundation which requires we show support from our local government agencies.

We would like to request that Chatham County support our project with a \$25,000 donation that is so critical to the citizens of Chatham County. Thank you for your consideration of this important request from one of the most effective centers for human services in all of the State of Georgia. If we may answer any questions or provide additional clarification, please do not hesitate to call. Finally, it would be our greatest pleasure to provide an information tour of our current facility so that you can come to know our challenges and also more about America's Second Harvest of Coastal Georgia.

Sincerely,

Mary Jane Crouch
Executive Director

CEMA

Chatham Emergency Management Agency

October 19, 2010

Mary Jane Crouch
Executive Director
America's Second Harvest of Coastal Georgia
2501 East President Street
Savannah, GA 31404

Dear Mrs. Crouch:

America's Second Harvest of Coastal Georgia has historically been a valued partner to CEMA and the emergency response community. As such, your continued effort to build sustainable services for emergency and disaster related events further signify your commitment to the human services needs of the community. Post disaster, one significant challenge of any government is the sheltering and feeding of the myriad of critical workforce personnel initially responding to any mitigating hazards. CEMA supports the establishment of any service or support which will assist in comforting and caring for the community as a whole post event.

Please accept this as CEMA's support for the construction of a Community Kitchen. In many communities, food provisions and services must be established post disaster and in most cases are mobile units with limited serving capabilities. We are excited about the opportunity to have access to an in-place kitchen capable of supporting the feeding of 5,000 - 10,000 critical workforce personnel.

Sincerely,

Dennis Jones
Assistant Director

124 Bull Street, Suite 140 • Savannah, GA 31401 • Phone: (912) 201-4500 • Fax: (912) 201-4504

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Chairman Liakakis said, now, we are going to have to recess. We'll come back after this. Since there was a long conversation because we have – we can't do it – no we have to recess now because they have to set this up. We have to go ahead because our crews have to come in here and set this whole place up; move all the chairs. We have all these legislators coming in here, and what we're going to do, we will reconvene after –

Mr. Abolt said, yes, that's wonderful. May I suggest you recess into Exec. Session. I have one personnel issue you can deal with that and use your time productively between now and 12:00 while they're setting up in here.

Commissioner Odell said, let me ask this, we don't have time? The district attorney has one item –

Mr. Abolt said, it requires thirty minutes to get set up, sir.

Commissioner Odell said, it takes thirty minutes to get set up.

Commissioner Farrell said, I make a motion we –

Commissioner Kicklighter said, can we hold an open meeting in –

Mr. Abolt said, no.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Hart said we can, Mr. Chairman.

County Attorney Jon Hart said, if you keep the doors open.

Chairman Liakakis said, what I'm saying to you, I'm familiar how long it's going to take – they will not be ready.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, he said we can hold our meeting in the green room.

Mr. Hart said, if – if you want to open the doors in there and move the – move to the green room.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, everyone would be welcome to sit around in the other room.

Commissioner Odell said, just not in our chairs.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, let's recess.

The Board recessed to Executive Session at 11:30 a.m.

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Chairman Liakakis said, we need a motion on the floor that we approve the project for the \$25,000 general fund. We transferred it but now we need to –

Mr. Hart said, we need to come back into session first.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. We need a motion on the floor to come back.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved that the Board reconvene as County Commission. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion.

Chairman Liakakis said, all in favor, signify by raising your hand.

Ms. Wright said, for the – since I can't see everybody, let me know if anybody says no.

Commissioner Thomas said, nobody says no. The Board reconvened in the green room at 11:50 a.m.

The motion carried unanimously.

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2. BOARD CONSIDERATION OF GRANT MATCH FOR AMERICA'S SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK TO INSTALL KITCHEN FACILITIES THAT WOULD FEED DISASTER RECOVERY WORKERS.

Chairman Liakakis said, all right. Item 2 is – the first item we approved the transferring the money, now we've got to approve to accept it.

Mr. Abolt said, let me – let me make it very easy for you. We – we have to shift the money into place, that was number 1. Now, the issue is do you wish to enter into what amounts to an agreement with the Second Harvest Food Bank contingent upon them getting the grant.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved for approval of the transfer of money. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion. Chairman Liakakis said, okay, all in favor signify by raising your hand. Chairman Liakakis said, the motion passes. Commissioner Gellatly said, whoa, whoa, whoa, I haven't voted. Chairman Liakakis said, one no vote. The motion passes. The motion passed with Commissioners Stone, Holmes, Shay, Farrell, Odell, and Thomas voting yes. Commissioner Gellatly voted no. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present.]

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3. FIRST QUARTER FINANCIAL AND SPLOST REPORTS. FOR INFORMATION ONLY.

Mr. Abolt said, the – the next item is for information, Mr. Chairman. It's your first quarter report. If you haven't had occasion to read it, I will summarize it. Mrs. Cramer is not here right now. We do have issues of significance primarily in three accounts, the Land Bank Authority, the Land Disturbing Activities Ordinance, and Building and Safety. Those trends are not any good. I will come back to you in the near future to make further cuts within the Department of Building and Safety. We're using what resources we set aside to last the entire year but the balance of our deficit so far this year is \$59,000.

You might remember on the Land Bank Authority, Mr. Monahan has come up with a plan where he would volunteer his services as a realtor to provide a stream of revenue to keep that back on – on – on course. And we have some shortfalls on the Land Disturbing Activities but regardless, I will come back shortly with a plan to bring those in line before we get too further in the fiscal year. Everything else will depend on property taxes coming in. As you know the date for collecting property taxes shifted till the middle of the third week of November, and that's reflective of revenue coming in. We got that from Ms. Cramer. That's an abbreviated version of the financial report which is for information.

Chairman Liakakis said, Patrick?

Commissioner Shay said, Mr. Chairman, have we collected the targeted amount of SPLOST revenues for the detention center yet?

Mr. Abolt said, we are so close, yes, sir. I – I – I didn't get a briefing this week, but as of last week we were like \$107 million. So, we're pretty darn close. Linda, the question was asked, on SPLOST, it's 109 million and last week we were about 108 million and pretty darn close to a 109 million.

Linda Cramer, Finance Director said, we have it now.

Mr. Abolt said, we have it now?

Ms. Cramer said, it came in at the end of October.

Mr. Abolt said, okay.

Ms. Cramer said, so we should be distributing the first checks to the municipalities probably next Friday.

Chairman Liakakis said, Patrick?

Commissioner Shay said, well we have a lot of projects that are backlogged behind that.

Chairman Liakakis said, right.

Commissioner Shay said, we – we went to the taxpayers and asked for them to vote for a slate of projects and I just – I got to point out again, and I'll make the point later on as well, so I won't belabor it right now. We are watching Chatham County's construction industry die on the vine right now for lack of work. And so, whatever we can do to help make sure that this funding that we have been collecting from our citizens in sales tax is made available as expeditiously as possible in the construction market would be really, really important. In – in – in our community, if we were having the decimating effect on the port industry or tourism or health care that we're having on our local construction industry right now, we would be in a panic. And none of those industries could exist if it were not for the construction industry. These are hard-working people. Hard-working subcontractors that are going out of business left and right. There are that many (shows five on his hand) home builders left in Chatham County. So, even if the turn comes back, we're going to see all the buildings being done by big companies from outside of this City and outside of this County. So, whatever we can do, now that we have collected, you know, \$109 million for an 85- or 70- million dollar project, to make sure that we let that money flow into projects that can get bid soon in this construction market. It's desperately needed.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. And one thing, Patrick, so that you'll know, is that when we set it up, we had seven other – we had seven cities that I had to negotiate, you know, and come back with the County on that. So, we have to look at the distribution that money's be going not only to the County but to City's and go back through that process and be sure of that.

Commissioner Shay said, we have some projects here that are in-house and in the County, and we, I suppose, could have been advancing and being ready for this moment. There was a moment that came two years ago, or whenever it was when shovel-ready projects got funded. And I don't think there's a whole lot of shovel-ready projects right now because we've been sitting on this allocation and not letting people know how to get ready for it. I'm not being accusatory of anybody. It's not like we've been asleep at the wheel. We've been focusing on this big detention center project. It's a big item to come up later on in this agenda. But, whatever we can do to accelerate the pace of these sales tax collections that came out of the pockets of many of these same workers who are out of work right now to get it into our local construction market, it's a lifeline that's badly needed.

Chairman Liakakis said, Patrick?

Commissioner Farrell said, the money that's going to be collected between 2010 and 2014 on this for building construction projects, with the interest rates being absolutely the cheapest I've ever seen in my lifetime or even read in a book about, that anybody would lend money for as little as they're lending. I think we should perhaps – maybe the first stab we could take, is we have a certain amount of dollars for unincorporated road improvements, repaving, in this SPLOST. Can we look at tax anticipation notes and/or bonding to see which way we could get the most favorable and secure, perhaps 85% of what we expect to get so that we don't get caught at the end with, we spent too much. And go ahead – identify that money and start letting – start repaving the unincorporated roads throughout the County that are in dire need of – we've got some money there. They make the asphalt here in Chatham County – that's a good start. You know, we can hire people. And everybody would get a good benefit out of having a nice, smooth ribbon of asphalt on their road. That's just the first one that pops up in my mind that – that Patrick had mentioned. I'm sure there's many more. I think the idea is what projects do we have? Let's identify a way to get some money and then let's – let's let these projects as quickly as possible. It's in everybody's best interest.

Chairman Liakakis said, well we'll do this, if you'll just get with the – get over there with Tom Thompson and see the projects that have –

Mr. Abolt said, what I'll do is – I'm sorry. I'll do what you ask. We'll look at financing. SPLOST projects will be coming out the next few weeks. We'll come back with a report.

Commissioner Farrell said, okay. How quickly? Two weeks from now can I have some information?

Mr. Abolt said, well I mean, obviously there's an urgency to it. As soon as we can get some information.

Commissioner Farrell said, a couple weeks?

Mr. Abolt said, I'll find out.

Commissioner Farrell said, yeah. Okay.

Commissioner Gellatly said, I would like to say for the record that one of these projects that need to move forward – and I totally agree with what you say, would be that new police station. And as far as I know, we haven't even found a piece of land, and I've been asking and asking and I would really like to see a –

Mr. Abolt said, we have – we have identified certain sites. We're looking at numbers because there are some vacant buildings. There's a possibility of using vacant buildings. As – as you recall –

Commissioner Gellatly said, I don't care where it comes from –

Mr. Abolt said, I know.

Commissioner Gellatly said, – but I would – I would like to again see some of that money go into the community.

Mr. Abolt said, sure. I understand.

Chairman Liakakis said item 4 –

Commissioner Odell said, Pete before you move on. All of the staff understands that what we're trying to create is a stimulus for Chatham County. We can get projects kicked off but we're not trying to benefit Pennsylvania. Although we like Pennsylvania. We're not trying to benefit Memphis, although it's my home state and we like Memphis. My home city. But, we want the jobs for Chatham County. That is the impetus of everything that the three Commissioners just said.

AGENDA ITEM: IX-3

AGENDA DATE: November 5, 2010

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

ISSUE: To present the Fiscal Year 2011 First Quarter Report dated September 30, 2010 to the Board for information.

BACKGROUND: Financial reporting conveys information concerning the position and activities of the County to its citizens and other interested parties. Interim financial reports generally are prepared for use by professional government managers and board members. Such reports monitor levels of year-to-date operations and determine compliance with budgetary limitations.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- 1) The First Quarter Report covers various county funds and activities while presenting budget-to-actual comparisons. Adopted and amended fund budgets are presented as well as variance data. Prior year numbers are presented for comparison on the General Fund and Special Service District Summary reports.
- 2) The amended budgets shown herein represent budget transfers approved through September 30, 2010. In some cases, subsequent adjustments have occurred. Year-to-date expenditure and project balances are presented. Open purchase orders and outstanding contractual obligations are not included in the year-to-date expenditure amounts. Since the County has not yet received its audited statements, fund balance carryforwards are not reflected on the first quarter statements.
- 3) The report incorporates the new funds approved by the Board for fiscal 2011. Activities of the Henderson Golf course are now shown in the General Fund. Street paving activities are now included in the SSD Fund.
- 4) The detail includes a report dated September 30, 2010 from the City of Savannah on the overall SCMPD budget (see pages 63-66).
- 5) Notable items include the following:

General Fund M&O

- The General Fund received revenues of \$11.7 million through September 30, 2010 and expended approximately \$40 million. This represented 7.8% and 26% of budgeted amounts respectively. Expenditures exceeded cash receipts by over \$28 million.
- General property tax collections were \$5.3 million. This amounts to 4.5% of budget. Second installment property tax billings were mailed October 9, 2010; therefore, favorable revenue variances

are anticipated for the second quarter. Revenues from the Tronox settlement will also show in the second quarter.

- Sales and use tax revenue constitutes 7% of the General Fund's overall budget. Revenues in this category on target with budget estimates through the end of the first quarter.
- Finance has processed reconciled inmate billing invoices through June 2010.
- Low investment income reflects seasonal levels of low cash balances in the fund and minimal market interest rates.
- Unusual expenditure variances for the following departments are explained below:
 - o Board of Elections – 38.34% - It is election year. The department is incurring costs related to the Fall elections, and anticipates a run-off for State level elections after the November 2 date.
 - o Public Works – 39.21% - The variance results from costs associated with two mowing cycles (from the 3 budgeted) and interdepartmental charges.
 - o Georgia Forestry – 37.66% - The variance is the result of communication charges paid at the first of the year.
 - o Other financing uses – 60% - Most budgeted interfund transfers occur during the first quarter annually. This includes transfers to the Solid Waste Fund and the Risk Management Fund.

Special Service District (SSD)

- Through September 30, 2010, the SSD Fund had received revenues of \$2 million, 8% of budgeted amounts. Expenditures of \$7 million were recorded, 26% of budgeted amounts.
- General property tax collections were \$985,788 or 6% of budget. Since the second installment property tax billings were mailed October 9, 2010, it is anticipated that revenues will significantly increase in the second quarter.
- Revenues collected by the Metropolitan Planning Commission were at 20% of budget.
- Other financing uses showed a year-to-date utilization of 70% as a result of transfers out to the Risk Management Fund and the Building Safety & Regulatory Services enterprise fund.

Restricted Court Fees Fund

- Amounts reported do not reflect fund balance carryforwards, which will supply additional revenue to the fund. Budgetary adjustments in December should correct the fund imbalance.

Multiple Grant Fund

- Quarterly grant drawdowns should eventually offset the difference between fund revenues and expenditures. The County received \$1.3 million in October for reimbursement under the PSIC grant.

Problems with Revenue-Dependent Funds

Three funds rely on building and land sale activity to fund their operations. They are the Land Bank Fund, the Land Disturbing Activities Ordinance (LDAO) Fund, and the Building Safety & Regulatory Services (BSRS) Fund. These funds are experiencing financial stress.

The Land Bank Fund relies on property sales to fund its operations. With little prior year sale activity, the fund has entered the fiscal year with a \$59,000 deficit. Expenditures of this fund are being held at a minimum. Revenue solutions will be presented to the Board by mid-year.

The LDAO Fund relies on fee collections as its funding source. In periods of low fee collections, the fund has been utilizing its fund balance to make up the shortfall. Based on the first quarter shortfall, the fund has used 32% of its available fund balance.

Low construction activity levels continue to impact the BSRS Fund. The fund is starting the year with a deficit of \$161,000. Operating revenues remain feeble. The County's Adopted SSD Fund budget included a transfer to the BSRS Fund of \$368,212, which was made in the first quarter. The transfer enabled the fund to maintain a positive cash position.

Capital Project Funds

- Project accounting schedules are shown herein for all of the County's capital project funds, including the SPLOST funds.
- The County's SPLOST collections are shown on page 59. Collections in the Sales Tax V Fund should reach over \$109 million in October. Distributions to municipalities will then begin. Further review of revenue trends in this fund will be provided on the mid-year report.

Health Insurance Fund

- Medical costs are on pace with budget through the first quarter. Although retiree health care costs are recorded in the OPEB Trust Fund, their impact is noted on page 34.

FUNDING: N/A

POLICY ANALYSIS: Interim financial reports provide revenue and budgetary oversight by comparing actual receipts or expenditures against budgeted amounts.

ALTERNATIVES: N/A

RECOMMENDATION: For information only.

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4. THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE SEEKS PAYMENT OF ANY AND ALL NECESSARY EXPENSES FOR THE OPERATION OF THE OFFICE FROM THE POOL OF SEIZED AND FORFEITED ASSETS AND FUNDS, CONFISCATED IN DRUG INVESTIGATION AND ARRESTS, IN THE AMOUNT OF TEN PERCENT (10%) OF THE AMOUNT DISTRIBUTED, PURSUANT TO O.C.G.A. §16-13-49(u)(4)(B).

Chairman Liakakis said, item 4, the District Attorney's office seeks payment of any and all necessary expenses for the operation of the office from the pool of seized and forfeited assets and funds, confiscated in drug investigation and arrests, in the amount of ten percent (10%) of the amount distributed, pursuant to O.C.G.A. §16-13-49(u)(4)(B). That's the state statutes concerning –

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved for approval. Commissioner Shay seconded. Chairman Liakakis said, I have a motion on the floor and a second to approve that. All in favor signify by raising your hands. Chairman Liakakis said approved. The motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Odell said, it was a close bet. If the U.S. Attorney had been not twenty percent it would have been a close decision.

District Attorney Larry Chisolm said, thank you.

AGENDA ITEM: IX-4
AGENDA DATE: November 5, 2010

TO: Board of Commissioners
 THRU: R.E. Abolt, County Manager
 FROM: Larry Chisolm, District Attorney

Issue: The District Attorney's Office seeks payment of any and all necessary expenses for the operation of the office from the pool of seized and forfeited assets and funds, confiscated in drug investigations and arrests, in the amount of ten (10%) percent of the amount distributed, pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 16-13-49(u)(4)(B).

Background: Recently, the Prosecuting Attorney's Council of Georgia (PAC) closed down its regional drug prosecution office in Chatham County. As a result, the District Attorneys' Office has taken on the additional burden of prosecuting condemnation and asset forfeiture in this jurisdiction - without any increase in staff or other financial resources.

It is customary in many jurisdictions around the state of Georgia for District Attorney's Offices to receive a percentage of forfeited assets, just as the law enforcement agencies involved in the investigations and arrests do.

Facts and Findings:

1. The District Attorney is the only party authorized pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 16-13-49 to bring forfeiture actions on behalf of the State of Georgia in this jurisdiction.
2. Law enforcement agencies have the option of transferring certain forfeiture actions to the U.S. Department of Justice, U.S. Attorney's Office. However, as a matter of policy, the Department of Justice collects twenty (20%) percent of all assets forfeited.
3. The collection of ten (10) percent from the seized funds will not have an adverse impact on the Counter Narcotics Taskforce (CNT). The District Attorney's Office will collect the ten (10%) percent from all law enforcement agencies in the Eastern Judicial Circuit. CNT like other agencies will receive ninety (90%) percent of the seized funds.
4. The District Attorney will utilize manpower funded from the District Attorney's budget to process and prosecute the condemnation actions.
5. Pursuant to O.C.G.A. Section 16-13-49(u)(4)(B), the funds collected will be placed in the general operating account of the District Attorney's Office and will be used for payment of expenses necessary for the operation of the District Attorney's Office.

Funding: This request requires no funds from Chatham County. When funds are awarded, an amendment to the Confiscated Revenue Fund will be prepared for Board approval.

Alternatives:

1. Approve the statutory request of the District Attorney's Office and provide for the release of 10% of the asset pool to the District Attorney's Office.
2. Do not approve the statutory request of the District Attorney's Office, but increase the county budget of the District Attorney's Office to offset the increased manpower need and expenses of the District Attorney's Office of the additional work.
3. Do not approve the statutory request of the District Attorney's Office and provide for the prosecution of asset forfeiture and drug condemnation cases by other means in Chatham County.

Policy Analysis: County governments are authorized by statute to provide for such payments to District Attorney's offices upon request of the District Attorney. 16-13-49(u)(4)(B).

Recommendation: Approve the statutory request of the District Attorney's Office and provide for the release of 10% of the asset pool to the District Attorney's Office.

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5. VERBAL BRIEFING BY ATTORNEY ROBERT JAMES RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS POSED BY COMMISSIONER SHAY REGARDING BOND ALTERNATIVES FOR CONTRACTORS TO PARTICIPATE IN JAIL CONSTRUCTION.

Chairman Liakakis said, 5. Verbal briefing by attorney Robert James responding to questions posed by Commissioner Shay regarding bond alternatives for contractors to participate in jail construction.

Mr. Abolt said, we'll begin, Mr. Chairman. This is considering what Commissioner Shay said moments ago and at the last meeting with – with the same justification. Mr. James is here. The issue is, you know, those subcontractors will be a part of the detention center contract. What can be done so the general contractors provide bond protection and Robert is our expert on this. This will be a verbal report with some handouts to go with it. We had a visual, but since we are meeting in this room, we don't have those. Robert, please.

Mr. Robert James said, good afternoon. It is nice cozy surroundings for our presentation. I want to introduce Arneja Riley, who is the County's MWBE coordinator. She's passing out the materials, and she's been working very, very hard to help figure out a solution to this problem. And the particular problem we're talking about is really one that was raised back in, I guess, December of last year, when we started considering the pre – pre-qualifications for the general contractors on the detention center facility and it's specifically regarding how do you – how do you make sure that bonding, or lack thereof, is not a – a barrier to local participation on this project and other projects the County was doing. And so just very, very quickly, because I know I'm standing between you and your lunch. As you can see on the first slide just at a glance, where we are standing right now with the detention center project. The apparent low bidding contractor was identified in September. The County will spend an estimated \$70 million getting the base bid and some alternates that the engineering department has worked out. You are expected to see some construction savings, pretty significant, on this project, in excess of \$10 million based on the bids that have come in. The Commission has made it very clear for this entire process that you expect a maximum amount of minority and local participation, with the emphasis on local businesses. The local contracting community, points that Commissioner Shay was making earlier, to participate in this project. The apparent low bidder, which is the team of Hunt/Mills, is identifying those subcontractors as we speak. They are working through every package and they are identifying subcontractors. The problem that we identified back in 2009 and continues to be an issue is that lack of bonding can be a barrier to that participation by our local construction trades. And what we're talking about here is, just very quickly, is – is the lack of ability to get a traditional performance and payment bond on – on their portion of the construction. So, let's say you have a local electrical subcontractor who has been hit by the difficult economy; they have an opportunity to do some work on the - on the – on the jail facility, but they are unable to procure a performance and payment from the traditional surety provider because their network has been depleted by the fact that the economy has been difficult. Their – their cash flow is – is – is – has been negatively impacted. And, so, they're unable to procure their bond. Therefore, they can't qualify under Hunt/Mills requirements, therefore, they can't get the job. Therefore, your local contractors are being shut out.

Mr. Hart said, it's a vicious cycle.

Mr. James said, it's a vicious cycle. So, what do we do to use the project as a local stimulus? And I'll skip to this one that's got the triangle on it because this really illustrates what we're talking about in terms of construction risk. Now, the owner at the top of this pyramid is Chatham County. Now, state law requires that the owner procure a traditional surety bond from Hunt/Mills. So, Hunt/Mills has got a bond, \$70 million or whatever the number is back to the County to ensure that – that they perform and they pay out on time. Now, there is no legal requirement that Hunt/Mills make the subcontractors provide bonds on their packages. There is no law that says that that local electrical subcontractor has to bond. But as a business practice in the construction industry, they're going to spread their risk. Which is why the local people – the traditional subcontractors – the subcontractors are at the bottom of this pyramid because the risk is going to be pushed down. Now, you know, the GC is going to euphemize that but really what they're doing is they're pushing that risk down. So how do we manage to – to eliminate that particular potential barrier to local participation? And what we've come up with is a bond alternative program. And you'll see here, on this line, as Attorney Hart mentioned, it's a vicious cycle. You break the cycle, you solve the problem. You've got to have a bond to land the job. You need net worth and capital to obtain the bond, but you need work to build capital, to build your net worth and obtain the bond. So it's a vicious cycle, and – and it's particularly acute in our local contracting community. The – the local construction unemployment right now is probably in excess of 40%. And those are people who are paying the sales tax. Those are people who are – are funding these projects. And if there's anything that government can do to stimulate that part our economy it's going to – government is going to help tax collection. It's going to help everyone with jobs. Fortunately, you all have a big project that you're about to let, and you have the ability to spend some of that money in the local economy. And, so I'll turn it over to Ms. Riley, who will tell you the specifics about the bond alternative program and how we've gotten to this point.

Ms. Arneja Riley said, good afternoon ladies and gentlemen. I will be brief. Just to let you know, we did follow the standard procedures. We – we sent out a request for a proposal back in May, and received the responses in June, and we recognized Broadlands Financial as the best qualified firm to meet the needs of the subcontractors in this area. So, now we need your approval. Why is Broadlands the best qualified firm? \$5.2 billion in bond alternatives since 2004. \$11.5 billion in surety bond facilitation since 2004, throughout 38 states, the Caribbean, Spain, and Canada, with a 100% participation approval. And, right now they have 375 active clients. So, Broadlands will take this opportunity to achieve the short and long-term development goals, using a three-tier approach. And, essentially they are going to increase the number of firms that compete for County work, and then those firms will turn around and become more bondable, and then they will hire more individuals in our community. So, as a result, we'll have companies that are more bid ready. They're ready to be bonded, and they can go out and compete for the work. So, the near-term opportunities, we're going to put contractors to work immediately through the bond alternative program. It's all about managing the risk, and the bond alternative program – with the bond alternative program, the Broadlands will – they will do what we call a proactive risk control, which will replace the bond essentially. And, starting with assessing, they're going to assess the capabilities of the MWBE's in this area. They're going to – pretty much it's going to be a hand-holding experience, where they'll go through the contracts with our MWBE's. They'll even help them disburse their cash and manage their day-to-day operations. So, once they get the general – general contractor is slow on their payment, they will speak on behalf of the subcontractors in our community and make sure that they are paid, and then they will turn around and direct those funds to the suppliers, the supply houses and make sure that the subs are paying their people. So that that – those funds are not redirected for non-project items. So – so there will be an ongoing MWBE mentorship throughout the program. And, we want to mandate that the general contractor, should you select Hunt Construction, that they – they utilize this bond alternative option, because it will definitely eliminate that excuse that we cannot find bondable firms. That goes out the window.

So the – the other component is the education series. Broadlands will also increase the – the capacity of our firms by educating them. Particularly on the surety bonds and how to run their business, and once they prepare them for the bond agency, they're going to actually teach them how to market their firms. These are new ideas. They're very innovative, and I think at this point, we need to do something different. We're going to keep getting the same results if we keep using, requiring that the subcontractors be bonded. That's an issue. That's a problem. But Broadlands will offer these bonding alternative services that will essentially train any Chatham County small business to become a viable firm.

So, the last – the last step – the last component is that of – Broadlands is affiliated with a contract surety company. So, these funds will actually graduate into a bonding stage. They will have the capacity to actually bond once they go through this program with Broadlands because they're going to create what you call the Surety Credit. So they're going to be more attractive to the bonding agencies.

So, in a nutshell, it's a benefit to these small contractors, as well as Chatham County because they're – this is a solution to the bonding problem for the small contractor, and then the County will have a huge pool of bondable, local subcontractors.

Mr. Hart said, I don't think this thing would work without this program as far as meeting our goals, number one. The only impediment I see to the thing is that in order to get the bond that the bond company is going to be very active in being into your subs financial side of the business because they're the ones taking the ultimate risk. So you're W – your MWBEs are gonna have to be willing to cooperate with somebody who's gonna go in and inspect your business and say this is the way you've got to do it, and we're not going to let you do it any other way. Now, as – some people won't want people in their business. Well, if they're that way, they're not going to qualify for this program. On the other hand, if they'll use this as an opportunity for help, they will come out on the other side of this thing being in a situation where they can go out and get another job because getting your first one is the hardest part.

Mr. James said, that's exactly right. Just very quickly – your point is well taken. The way that that — that Broadlands firm is set up – the one that was the most qualified firm. We actually did do an RFP process. Multiple firms showed up for the RFI but only two showed up for the actual RFP and submitted proposals, and Broadlands was the – was by far the best qualified firm to provide this service. They have done it very successfully before in other jurisdictions. They – they – they – they've managed that construction risk by managing the contract and managing the funds on the contract. So, they – as Ms. Riley stated, they make sure that every supplier, every worker, every – every bill gets paid before that subcontractor gets paid. But they also protect the subcontractors profit margin in that process. Because they've evaluated that subcontractors bid beforehand. They've made sure that the bid is reasonable. That they can actually perform the work for that amount of money. It's a very innovative program. It's worked extremely well in other jurisdictions. Ms. Riley's checked references and heard from small business people, as well as government entities that have used this program before and have had – and have had great success with it.

Chairman Liakakis said, Patrick because we've got to get out there –

Commissioner Shay said, I know we want to get out there, but this is a really important moment. One or two questions. You kept referring to it as MWBE, but in some of the literature it says MWSBE.

Mr. James said, right.

Commissioner Shay said, do you have to be a minority or a woman in order to qualify –

Mr. James said, no.

Commissioner Shay said, – or can you also be a disadvantaged small business?

Mr. James said, any local – any local business. One of the things that we've negotiated with –

Commissioner Shay said, with Broadlands?

Mr. James said, right, is that they will open this program to any local Chatham County business whether they are on the jail project or not.

Commissioner Shay said, absolutely.

Mr. James said, that's very important.

Commissioner Shay said, I know we wanted to target minority and women-owned businesses, the truth is that this will be available to all business in the construction industry if they're local?

Mr. James said, yes.

Commissioner Shay said, somebody from Metter can't come up here and take advantage of this program, is that correct?

Mr. James said, that's right. This is for the local sub-contracting community – the local construction community. Anybody locally will be able to show up for this training series which is very, very detailed and very extensive. Anybody locally will be able to take advantage of this program to go after whatever they are going after in terms of construction here. So I – I – we, you know, thought that that was important. Because not only do you have the

CCDC project – the detention center project, but you also have libraries and road projects and other projects that you've got in the pipeline, and then the City's got projects and all the other municipalities have projects, and so we really wanted to take advantage of this opportunity to spread that opportunity for all the local construction trade.

Commissioner Shay said, let me – let me continue on. I mean, it's a requirement that we have a bond when we let a contract like this. It's actually the bonding company for that general contractor that will require that the subcontractors have some form of surety as well. So that gets spread out because risk managers want it to get spread out. Right now in Chatham County we need to understand that on their own there probably aren't this many (holds five on his hand) general contractors left that can bond a project over \$5 million. There may only be this many (hold two on his hand) left. That's my arithmetic. Okay? So that means a large scale project, the only way that they can get the bond if they need to is to partner up with a big out of town firm that's got a lot of balance sheet. But, we all know when the big out of town firm controls the contract, that their subcontractors are much easier to follow along than it is to get in our community and hire our local sub-contracting community. This is the first step that we can do to help our local subcontracting community. Our local workers and our local general contractors to be able to survive this moment.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Shay moved to adopt the Broadlands program. Commissioner Farrell seconded the Motion. Chairman Liakakis said, all in favor signify by raising your hand.

Michael Kaigler, Director of Human Resources, said, just for your information, the actual contract will be on the agenda for the next meeting. So --

Commissioner Shay said, but I would like to resolve in favor of the program.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. All in favor signify by raising your hand.

Commissioner Thomas said, is this the program, Mr. Chairman, or are we talking about a contract?

Mr. Abolt said, program. The contract will be next week.

Commissioner Thomas said, I just want it clarified. 'Cause I have a lot of --

Chairman Liakakis said, all right. Let's go. We can't go on anymore 'cause we've got our legislators here.

Motion passed unanimously.

Board recessed at 12:20 for the Legislative Luncheon.

=====

After the Legislative Luncheon, the Board reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

X. ACTION CALENDAR

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

Chairman Liakakis said, action calendar, we have action items 1 through 6 and under 6 we have items A through I. Is there any specific items the Commissioners would like to hold off? Or we need a motion to approve all items.

Commissioner Stone said, so moved, Mr. Chairman. I'll make a motion.

Commissioner Holmes said, second.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I have a question about one of the items.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, you want to ask that Dean?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, the eight hundred and something thousand dollars?

Mr. Abolt said, Item B?

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. We'll hold Item 6B for you to comment on this. Now, we've had a motion --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, well, can I just ask a question and we might just be able to keep it in?

Chairman Liakakis said, oh, okay. Go ahead.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, why will it cost this much to --

Mr. Abolt said, I'll defer to the attorney but last -- two meetings or two weeks ago I think it was, we discussed with you, I think it must have been in Executive Session, the implications of the actions to hold up -- put the hold on this in acquiring right of way. We have to find -- we have to evaluate other alignments for Bay Street and -- there is a

loose parallel, Commissioner Kicklighter, to the eagles on Truman Parkway. And when we were finished working on that, you might recall, we spent enough on those eagles we could have built each eagle a very nice home in the Landings. And this is what we're about now, spending a lot of money. Because to get the federal money, you have to ensure that you have not – you have explored all alternatives before you possibly affect something of historical significance.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, did this go out as some type of bid or –

Mr. Abolt said, this is our – this is our same consultant that's been working on it from the beginning. They have proved to be very effective to keep the project moving. We're in effect asking for a change order that will allow them to continue in that relation.

Mr. Hart said, this is to comply with the potential finding of some historic value where the road has been for a hundred years or so. So, the question becomes now are there other alternatives of where to put the road, okay? And I know that sounds unusual, but that's one of the federal requirements. It's a state requirement, there's nothing we can do about it.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, does this price sound fair to you?

Chairman Liakakis said, well, we don't know because some questions that – I've looked at this and it could be less than this, but it could be more than this, unfortunately because of some – you know, some things that have come up for this particular project.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. Well, I'm not asking another question, so.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Priscilla?

Commissioner Thomas said, yeah, are we talking about the same project on Bay Street?

Mr. Hart said, Bay Street? Yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Thomas said, the widening of the road?

Mr. Hart said, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Thomas said, right now we are at a hold because of historical nature request. We should have Ms. Bernetta Hanson, who is one of my constituents, was here earlier this morning, who's not here, but she gave me a note. She said that she did have some concerns regarding it and wanting to know what was our position on this, Number B.

Mr. Hart said, we don't take a position on it. We're just doing what we have to do to comply with the DOT and comply with the Federal Highway Administration. They will study the alternatives. The consultant will come back and say, you know, if we go route A, route B, or route C, here are the positives and the negatives. I think there's no question that many of the alternatives routes are either going to involve removing a bunch of large oak trees, or in the alternative going through other historic properties. So, you know, the road's where it's been for the last 200 years for a pretty good reason.

Commissioner Thomas said, so, in the event now, when I get back with her with what you just said, if she still has questions?

Mr. Hart said, I'll be glad to talk with her or meet with her.

Mr. Abolt said, the issue here is to protect the on trade of the state and federal money. Because the County is doing the right-of-way acquisition and thence came the problem. But, obviously, the millions of dollars that would be lost or would have to be recovered somewhere locally if we didn't do this are of great consequence.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay well, I'll give her the information, and if she has more I'll refer her to Jon. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, all right then, let's go on the Board. The motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved to approve Items 1 through 6-I. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, Odell and Kicklighter were not present.]

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[NOTE: ACTION OF THE BOARD IS SHOWN ON EACH ITEM AS THOUGH AN INDIVIDUAL MOTION WAS MADE THEREON.]

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1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF OCTOBER 22, 2010, AS MAILED.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of October 22, 2010, as mailed. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, Odell and Kicklighter were not present.]

=====

2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 14 THROUGH OCTOBER 27, 2010.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved to authorize the Finance Director to pay the claims against the County for the period October 14, 2010, through October 27, 2010, in the amount of \$5,528,768. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, Odell and Kicklighter were not present.]

=====

3. REQUEST BOARD ADOPT THROUGH RESOLUTION THE CHATHAM COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTION PRE-DISASTER HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved to adopt through resolution the Chatham County Multi-jurisdiction pre-disaster hazard mitigation plan. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, Odell and Kicklighter were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-3

AGENDA DATE: November 5, 2010

CEMA

Chatham Emergency Management Agency

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: Russ Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Clayton Scott, CEMA Director

SUBJECT: To Adopt through Resolution the Chatham County Multi-Jurisdiction Pre-disaster hazard Mitigation Plan Adoption

BACKGROUND:

The Chatham Emergency Management Agency is pleased to announce the completion of the 2010 Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan. The purpose of this Plan is to consolidate and organize data from natural and technological hazard assessments and prioritize mitigation actions in order to make Chatham County eligible for project grants to reduce the impact of natural disaster. The Plan development process has involved a partnership between public and private agencies, business and industry, and the government organizations responsible for local mitigation measures.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has Conditionally Approved the Plan. Final approval will be granted once the Plan is adopted by local governments.
2. FEMA requires an approved Hazard Mitigation Plan in order to receive Hazards Mitigation Program project grants. Without these grants, many of the necessary mitigation actions will have to be deferred or obviated.
3. Chatham County has 142 Hazard Mitigation Projects identified by the Plan.
4. Adoption by Resolution is being solicited from each municipality in Chatham County. Adoption by signature is being solicited from the Savannah Chatham Public School System, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah State University, South University, and Savannah Technical College.

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1. Adopt through Resolution the Chatham County Multi-jurisdiction Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- 2. Do not adopt through Resolution the Chatham County Multi-jurisdiction Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan (lack of adoption disqualifies Chatham County for Federal grand funding through the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program).

FUNDING:

No funding required.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

It is the policy of the Board of Commissioners to comply with State and Federal Regulations.

RECOMMENDATION:

The Board adopt Alternative 1.

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**A RESOLUTION OF THE
 CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
 PURSUANT TO THE DISASTER MITIGATION ACT OF 2000
 AUTHORIZING ADOPTION OF THE
 CHATHAM COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTION PRE-DISASTER HAZARD
 MITIGATION PLAN**

WHEREAS, Chatham County and its municipal governments are required to complete a Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan by the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS, under the provisions of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, local governments that complete Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plans will remain eligible for Federal mitigation funding; and

WHEREAS, Chatham County and its municipal governments have completed a Pre-Disaster Hazard Mitigation Plan that fulfills the Federal requirements of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000.

NOW THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED THAT THE CHATHAM COUNTY COMMISSION FORMALLY ADOPTS THE CHATHAM COUNTY MULTI-JURISDICTION PRE-DISASTER HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN.

RESOLVED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2010.

Signed: Name, County Commission Chairman

Attest: Name, County Manager/County Clerk

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4. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE THE 2011 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved to approve the 2011 holiday schedule. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, Odell and Kicklighter were not present.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-4
AGENDA DATE: November 5, 2010**

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

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

Issue:

To adopt the 2011 holiday schedule.

Background:

The Chatham County Board of Commissioners recognize eleven holidays each year on which County offices are authorized to close. Each year the Board of Commissioners set the holiday calendar in order to allow departments to schedule business activities.

Facts and Findings

1. As per the Personnel Ordinance and Procedures Manual, employees appointed to full-time regular, part-time regular and seasonal positions shall receive regular compensation for eleven holidays per year, or any other day proclaimed by the Board of Commissioners as a holiday.
2. Attached is the proposed holiday schedule for January 2011 through December 2011. These holidays are recognized nationally and are not chosen based upon any religious uniqueness.
3. The proposed holiday date for New Year's Day will fall in the 2010 calendar year.

Funding:

No additional funds required. These days are currently budgeted as work days.

Alternatives:

1. Adopt attached schedule.
2. Adopt attached schedule with modifications.

Policy Analysis:

Each year the Board of Commissioners authorize eleven holidays on which offices are to be closed. It is the policy of the Board to provide paid holidays as an employee benefit. This practice is consistent with other major employers in the local and regional labor market areas.

Recommendation: That the Board adopt Alternative One.

**CHATHAM COUNTY
2011 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

New Year's Day	Friday (Observed)	December 31, 2010
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Monday	January 17
George Washington's Birthday (President's Day)	Monday	February 21
Memorial Day	Monday	May 30
Independence Day	Monday	July 4
Labor Day	Monday	September 5
Veterans Day	Friday	November 11
Thanksgiving (two days)	Thursday & Friday	November 24 & 25
Christmas Eve	Friday (observed)	December 23
Christmas Day	Monday (observed)	December 24

=====

5. REQUEST BOARD ADOPT A RESOLUTION CONSENTING TO THE CITY OF SAVANNAH'S BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved to adopt a resolution consenting to the City of Savannah's boundary adjustment. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM: X-5
AGENDA DATE: November 5, 2010**

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

ISSUE:

To adopt a resolution consenting to the City of Savannah's boundary adjustment.

BACKGROUND:

Chatham County has received a request from the City of Savannah for the County to consider a resolution approving the adjustment to the City of Savannah's boundary.

The City of Savannah, during the October 21, 2010, Council meeting approved the Savannah Airport Commission's ("Airport") request to deannex approximately 200 acres of property owned by the Airport. The deannexation request was made pursuant to O.C.G.A. §36-36-22. In accordance with O.C.G.A. § 36-36-22, to effectuate the deannexation, the governing authority of the County in which the property is located must adopt a resolution consenting to the deannexation.

FACTS & FINDINGS:

1. The Board of Commissioners has been requested by the City of Savannah to consider a resolution approving the deannexation of approximately 200 acres of land owned by the Savannah Airport Commission. The subject property is more particularly described in the attached exhibits.

2. The City of Savannah, during the October 21, 2010, Council meeting approved the Savannah Airport Commission's ("Airport") request to deannex approximately 200 acres of property owned by the Airport. The deannexation would result in portions of property that were formerly in the City of Savannah becoming part of unincorporated Chatham County.

3. The deannexation request was made pursuant to O.C.G.A. §36-36-22. O.C.G.A. § 36-36-22 requires the adoption of a resolution by the governing authority of the County in which such property is located consenting to such a deannexation.

4. The request of the City of Savannah, which includes a copy of the Airport's deannexation application and identification of the subject property, that was submitted to the City of Savannah, is attached hereto.

5. The proposed resolution with exhibits is attached hereto.

FUNDING:

N/A.

POLICY ANALYSIS

The subject realignment of the city limits of the City of Savannah is consistent with the long-range plan of the Airport and has potential to generate employment opportunities for the citizens of Chatham County.

ALTERNATIVES

1. Adopt resolution consenting to the deannexation of approximately 200 acres of property, as identified in the Savannah Airport Commission's application attached hereto, owned by the Savannah Airport Commission.

2. Do not adopt resolution consenting to the deannexation of approximately 200 acres of property, as identified in the Savannah Airport Commission's application attached hereto, owned by the Savannah Airport Commission.

RECOMMENDATION:

Alternative number 1.

RJH/dkm
Attchs

=====

- 6. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO AWARD BIDS AS FOLLOWS: (Please note that the new purchase thresholds of \$10,000 or more have been enacted; however, contracts and change orders of a lesser amount still will appear.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved for approval to award bids as follows. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
A. Change Order No. 1 to the construction contract on the Quacco Canal Maintenance Road project for additional work	Engineering	Marchese Construction LLC	\$18,150	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Drainage, Quacco Canal W-US17 project
B. Engineering Services contract for revised historical and right of way and construction plans for the Bay Street widening project and terminate the engineering services contract with McGee Partners, Inc./Ward Edwards, Inc., a joint venture	Engineering	McGee Partners, Inc.	\$858,885	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Bay Street Widening
C. Change Order No. 2 to the construction contract to install bottomless arch culverts over the Hardin Canal on Dean Forest Road for additional earthwork and extend the contract by 30 days in preparation for the widening of Dean Forest Road from US17 to I-16	Engineering	McLendon Enterprises, Inc.	\$158,481	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Dean Forest Road widening from US17 to I-16
D. Contract Amendment for the Detention Center Expansion project to recognize a name change	Detention Center Expansion Project	Acquisition of L. Robert Kimball and Associates by CDI Corporation d/b/a L.R. Kimball	N/A	N/A
E. Confirmation of the emergency purchase and installation of DIRTT office partitions	Special Projects	National Office Systems (Sole Source)	\$20,739	SPLOST (2008-2014) - Courthouse Renovations
F. Change Order No. 1 to the contract for street resurfacing at various locations within Chatham County to extend the contract for 60 days	Public Works and Park Services	R.B. Baker Construction, Inc.	N/A	N/A
G. Contract for the development and support of the Eastern Judicial Circuit Data Exchange System	Superior Court Clerk	Northridge Systems	\$171,000	Multiple Grant Fund - Superior Court Clerk

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
H. Change Order No. 1 to the contract for mechanical, electrical and plumbing engineering services for the Records Center	Special Projects	Rosser International	\$42,950	SPLOST (2008-2014) - Courthouse Renovations
I. ID badge software system for the Detention Center Expansion project	Special Projects	Gorrie-Reagan (Sole Source)	\$36,440	General Fund/M & O - Community Outreach

AGENDA ITEM: X-6A thru I
DATE: November 5, 2010

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

THRU: R.E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER

FROM: MICHAEL A. KAIGLER, ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER
DIRECTOR OF HUMAN RESOURCES & SERVICES

SUBJECT: AWARD OF BIDS

ITEM A

ISSUE: Request Board approval of Change Order No. 1, in the amount of \$18,150, to the construction contract with Marchese Construction, LLC on the Quacco Canal Maintenance Road project.

BACKGROUND: The Quacco Canal Maintenance Road project is part of the SPLOST Drainage Capital Improvement Program. The Quacco Canal provides storm water drainage to the area of Unincorporated Chatham County between Quacco Road and Berwick Plantation. The project involves providing an all-weather access road for maintenance operations. The project was awarded in June 2010 and is currently under construction.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The project is located in Unincorporated Chatham County west of US 17 north of Larchmont Drive and south of Fenwick Village. The major problem is inadequate accessibility for maintenance. The project will provide an all-weather access road for maintenance operations.
2. The contract for construction was awarded by the Board at their 25 June 2010 meeting as a unit price contract to Marchese Construction, LLC. Construction commenced in August 2010.
3. This change order will pay for extending an existing (36-inch diameter) culvert under the maintenance road and raising finished grades.
4. Staff believes that incorporating this additional work into the current contract with Marchese Construction, LLC will improve accessibility to the Quacco Canal for maintenance. Change Order 1 is based on unit prices quoted in the original contract. Staff believes these prices to be fair and equitable for the additional work.

5. Contract history:

Original Contract (6-25-10)	\$ 119,413
Change Order 1 (pending)	\$ 18,150
Revised Contract Amount	\$ 137,563

FUNDING: SPLOST (1998 - 2003) - Drainage, Quacco Canal W-US17 project
 (3234250 - 54.14021 - 32380497)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of Change Order No. 1, in the amount of \$18,150, to the construction contract with Marchese Construction, LLC on the Quacco Canal Maintenance Road project.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATIONS: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM B

ISSUE: Request Board approval to award an \$858,885 sole-source engineering services contract to McGee Partners Inc. for revised historical and right of way and construction plans for the Bay Street (State Route 25) widening project and terminate the engineering services contract with McGee Partners, Inc./Ward Edwards, Inc., A Joint Venture.

BACKGROUND: The project is in the 1998-2003 SPLOST and in the Coastal Region (CORE) Long Range Transportation Plan. The project includes widening Bay Street from the viaduct to I-516 and improving pedestrian access. On 26 September 2003, the Board awarded a contract to McGee Partners/Ward Edwards (joint venture) to develop construction plans in accordance with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) Plan Development Process (PDP). The Concept Report was approved by the GDOT in April 2008. The GDOT approved right of way on 11 February 2010. On 19 October 2007, the Board awarded a contract to McGee Partners, Inc. to prepare the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) document [an Environmental Assessment]. The NEPA document is required to remain eligible for federal funding. By letter dated 24 September 2010 the GDOT instructed the County to cease all right of way acquisition activities on the project. The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) withdrew an earlier clearance of historic issues on the project. The GDOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) directed the County to develop avoidance or minimization alternatives to the subject property.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The engineering services consultant selected must be pre-qualified by the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT). McGee Partners is pre-qualified by the GDOT for all the work required for this project.
2. To maintain continuity and cost, state law and federal procurement procedures allow contracting with the professional engineering firm used for previous studies and plans without further competitive process when those existing studies and plans can be reused, and are the basis for additional work.
3. Due to the significant work required to meet the requirements of the GDOT and FHWA, a new contract with McGee with revised scope of work is required. The previous contract may be terminated for convenience in light of these new design issues.
4. McGee continues to provide engineering services for other County and GDOT transportation projects in Chatham County. In the opinion of staff, they are the most qualified, responsive and proficient transportation design consultants under contract. All factors considered, McGee is the most qualified consultant to provide the services required for this project. Based on their high quality performance to date, staff recommends continuing with McGee Partners, Inc.

FUNDING: SPLOST (1998 - 2003) - Bay Street Widening
(3224220 - 52.12003 - 32250973)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval to award an \$858,885 sole-source engineering services contract to McGee Partners Inc. for revised historical and right of way and construction plans for the Bay Street (State Route 25) widening project and terminate the engineering services contract with McGee Partners, Inc./Ward Edwards, Inc., A Joint Venture.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
ESTELLE BROWN

ITEM C

ISSUE: Request Board approval of Change Order No. 2, in the amount of \$158,481, to the construction contract with McLendon Enterprises, Inc. for additional earthwork and extend the contract by 30 days in preparation for the widening of Dean Forest Road from US 17 to I-16.

BACKGROUND: On 6 November 2009, the Board awarded a construction contract to McLendon Enterprises, Inc. for \$4,095,470 to install bottomless arch culverts over the Hardin Canal on Dean Forest Road. Change Order No. 1 in the amount of \$48,132 was approved by the Board on 17 September 2010 for removal of debris in Hardin Canal.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. This additional earthwork will facilitate the construction of the widening project at a later date. Right of Way acquisition is under way, but the permitting is on hold pending resolution of a salt marsh mitigation bank issue with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources.
2. McLendon Enterprises, Inc. has equipment and work crews on SR 307, eliminating mobilization costs from the price of the work. Staff believes that the price quoted for the work is below normal bid price. The work completed to date by McLendon is of sufficiently high quality to warrant expanding the scope of the project.
3. Contract History:

Original Contract (11-6-09)	\$4,095,470
Change Order No. 1 (09-17-10)	\$ 48,132
Change Order No. 2 (pending)	<u>\$ 158,481</u>
Revised Contract Amount	\$ 4,302,083

FUNDING: SPLOST (2003 - 2008) - Dean Forest Road Widening from US 17 to I-16
(3234220 - 54.14001 - 32351057)

ALTERNATIVES:

- Board approval of Change Order No. 2, in the amount of \$158,481, to the construction contract with McLendon Enterprises, Inc. for additional earthwork and extend the contract by 30 days in preparation for the widening of Dean Forest Road from US 17 to I-16.
- Provide staff other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM D

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a no-cost Contract Amendment with the design contract for the Detention Center Expansion Project with L. Robert Kimball and Associates to reflect the acquisition of L. Robert Kimball by CDI Corporation d/b/a L.R. Kimball.

BACKGROUND: On 28 June 2010, CDI Corporation acquired the business and certain assets of L. Robert Kimball & Associates, Inc. The new company, CDI-Infrastructure, LLC d/b/a L.R. Kimball has the responsibility and the legal obligation to complete all in-progress projects, including the Chatham County Detention Center. The Amendment will correct the contract file.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. CDI has retained all of the staff working on the Chatham County project, including Csaba Balazs, the principal-in-charge and Ruchik Vyas, the project manager.
2. As part of the transition to the new company, CDI is asking Chatham County's permission to assign the rights and duties under its contract with L Robert Kimball & Associates, Inc. to CDI-Infrastructure, LLC d/b/a L.R. Kimball. This assignment will not impact the County project.
3. Staff has reviewed the documentation, Assignment and Assumption Agreement (see attached pages 6-7), provided with regard to the acquisition and believe the document reflects good faith for a continued legally binding contract on Contract Number QBS 07-9-4 dated 28 August 2008.

FUNDING: N/A

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a no-cost Contract Amendment with the design contract for the Detention Center Expansion Project with L. Robert Kimball and Associates to reflect the acquisition of L. Robert Kimball by CDI Corporation d/b/a L.R. Kimball.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve necessary contract Amendments in order to maintain schedules.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
TOM DRANE

ITEM E

ISSUE: Request Board confirmation of a \$20,739 sole-source purchase and installation of DIRTT units (office partitions) from National Office Systems for the Office of the Public Defender.

BACKGROUND: This urgently needed purchase is for a new attorney and support staff currently occupying space in the conference room thereby limiting privacy.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Time is of the essence because the DIRTT units have a six (6) weeks lead time. The conference room currently used by staff does not provide attorney-client privacy.
2. Bids/Quotes were not obtained due to time constraints, the necessity of meeting with other vendors to measure, pick, design, maintain compatibility to existing units, order/ship time requirements, and the amount of staff involvement due to a heavy case workload.
3. Staff looked into obtaining "used" units as an alternative. However, the appearance of having mixed units was not conducive for relocating to the new facility.
4. Staff requested emergency approval from the Chairman so the order for the DIRTT units could be delivered in a timely manner. He concurred (see attached page 12) and directed staff seek Board confirmation at their next scheduled meeting.
5. Staff believes the total price of \$20,739 to be fair and reasonable.

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

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Request Board confirmation of a \$20,739 sole-source purchase and installation of DIRTT units (office partitions) from National Office Systems for the Office of the Public Defender.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to confirm the emergency purchase of necessary office furniture and fixtures.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
TOM DRANE

ITEM F

ISSUE: Request Board approval of Change Order No. 1, with no additional funding required, to the contract with R. B. Baker Construction Inc., for a 60 day extension to the contract for street resurfacing at various locations within the County.

BACKGROUND: On 11 June 2010, the Board approved to award a \$219,039 construction contract to R. B. Baker Construction Inc., for street resurfacing at various locations within the County.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. R. B. Baker Construction Inc., was awarded a contract for resurfacing various routes in the County and as part of their normal asphalt operations sub-contracted out the asphalt milling portion of the project.
2. R. B. Baker Construction Inc., was not able to get the milling subcontractor on site during the contract period due to equipment scheduling conflicts.
3. Based on the unforeseen delays the contractor has requested a 60 day extension. Staff has reviewed the request and recommends the extension to complete the project.
4. Contract history:

Original Contract (06-11-10)	\$219,039
Change Order No. 1 (Pending)	\$ 0
Revised Contract Amount	\$219,039

FUNDING: No additional funding is required.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of Change Order No. 1, with no additional funding required, to the contract with R. B. Baker Construction Inc., for a 60 day extension to the contract for street resurfacing at various locations within the County.
2. Provide staff other direction

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM G

ISSUE: Request Board approval to award a \$171,000 contract to Northridge Systems for the development and support of the Eastern Judicial Circuit Data Exchange System for Chatham County.

BACKGROUND: The Eastern Judicial Circuit Data Exchange (EJCDE) The goal of digitizing criminal records generated by all of the courts in Chatham County, including the eight municipal courts will have far-reaching effects. The primary purpose is technology improvement, but the improved data exchange will also make the administration of justice more efficient, allowing faster exchange of critical data, improved processing of cases and expedited apprehension of persons with outstanding warrants and sex offenders who have failed to register. Thus, law enforcement agencies will benefit; the District Attorney's office will have greater and improved access to law enforcement investigative materials; and cases will move through the courts with less delay. Crime victims will receive justice more expeditiously and the public will be safer, as offenders are apprehended more swiftly. The EJCDE project was selected to receive funds from the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) program.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. A Request for Proposals (RFP) was issued and publically advertised. Two (2) firms responded to the RFP: Northridge Systems of Atlanta, GA and Steller Services, an MBE firm, from Atlanta GA
2. The technical proposals were scored and ranked by an evaluation committee which consisted of the Clerk of Superior Court, Clerk of State Court, ICS Director, and ICS Database Administrator. The two (2) firms met all technical requirements. Please refer to the matrix provided on page 13, for scoring details of the technical proposals and fees.
3. Fee proposals were requested from the two (2) firms and the results are as follows:

Northridge Systems	\$171,000
Atlanta, GA	
* Stellar Services	\$334,410
Atlanta, GA	

*MBE Firm
4. Staff believes this total cost of \$171,000 to be fair and reasonable.

FUNDING: MGF - Clerk of Superior Court
(2502180 - 52.12099 – 25024172)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval to award a \$171,000 contract to Northridge Systems for the development and support of the Eastern Judicial Circuit Data Exchange System for Chatham County.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

DEPARTMENT APPROVAL _____
DANIEL W. MASSEY

I.C.S. APPROVAL _____
LEWIS LEONARD

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
TOM DRANE

ITEM H

ISSUE: Request Board approval of Change Order No. 1, in the amount of \$42,950, to the professional services contract for mechanical, electrical and plumbing engineering services for the Records Center with Rosser International.

BACKGROUND: At the 8 February 2008 meeting, the Board awarded a contract to Rosser for the mechanical, electrical and plumbing engineering for the Records Center project. Rosser offered the lowest fee and remains qualified to complete the scope of work.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- 1. At the 8 February meeting, the Board awarded a contract to Rosser Engineering for the mechanical, electrical and plumbing engineering for the Records Center project. The contract totaled \$16,800.
- 2. Since then, changes in the project required additional engineering work, including construction administration, addition of a conference room, site lighting and design of a fire pump room because of code requirements. Changes total \$42,950. While staff intended to handle these additional work requirements as task order contracts, the total amount suggests a change order would be more consistent with purchasing policy.

3. Contract history:

Original Contract (2/8/08)	\$16,800
Change Order 1 (pending)	\$42,950
Revised Contract Amount	\$59,750

FUNDING: SPLOST (2008 - 2014) - Courthouse Renovation
(3244980 - 54.13011 - 32460427)

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1. Board approval of Change Order No. 1, in the amount of \$42,950, to the professional services contract for mechanical, electrical and plumbing engineering services for the Records Center with Rosser International.
- 2. Provide staff other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
TOM DRANE

ITEM I

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$36,440 sole source purchase for an ID badge software from Gorrie-Reagan for the Chatham County Detention Center Expansion Project.

BACKGROUND: The Board's objective, for the Chatham County Detention Center Project, is clearly to use as much local labor and firms to include minority and women business enterprises, as possible. The Purchasing Agent has issued the letter of intent to award this project based on the low bidder's commitment to local participation and other factors. Staff will use an ID badge system to track and report local participation from start to finish.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- 1. The software provides custom employee demographic reporting and is compatible to current systems in place at the Sheriff's Office.
- 2. The selected general contractor will provide monthly participation reports throughout the duration of the project. Staff will use the combined data to monitor /verify information to ensure the protocol mandated in the bid process is adhered to.

- 3. In addition to tracking local participation, the ID system will be used to maintain onsite security and integrity of the jail. The Sheriff's Office will know at any given time which contracting staff is on-site.

FUNDING: General Fund/M & O - Community Outreach
(1007661 - 57.30001)

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1. Board approval of a \$36,440 sole source purchase for an ID badge software from Gorrie-Reagan for the Chatham County Detention Center Expansion Project.
- 2. Provide staff other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
TOM DRANE

PREPARED BY _____
PURCHASING AGENT

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XI. FIRST READINGS

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

None.

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XII. SECOND READINGS

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

Chairman Liakakis said, Russ.

Mr. Abolt said, this – this is something you do every couple of years. It was on first reading last time. The streets and the changes in speed limits are indicated that we recommend based on the report from the County Engineer Traffic Section, and particularly in the police department, you adopt this. This allows the MPD to issue tickets.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, motion to approve. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve additions and corrections to the combined Savannah/Chatham County speed zone ordinance. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay, Farrell, and Odell were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: XII-1
AGENDA DATE: November 5, 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 with 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 SMPD 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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XIII. INFORMATION ITEMS

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A status report was attached as information.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A status report was attached as information.

**AGENDA ITEM: XII-2
DATE: November 5, 2010**

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

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
Maintenance agreement renewal	Mosquito Control	Southeastern Air Conditioning Company (Sole Source)	\$3,480	General Fund/M & O - Mosquito Control
Annual license end-user support and maintenance for File Trail	I.C.S.	Filetrail, Inc.	\$7,950	General Fund/M & O - I.C.S.
Repair pipe underneath slab of recreation pool	Aquatic Center	American Leak Detection	\$3,450	General Fund/M & O - Aquatic Center

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
Swale construction at #6 and #8 White Pine Court	Public Works and Park Services	A.D. Williams Construction Company, Inc.	\$3,777	SSD - Public Works
Furnish and install elevator door restrictor devices to elevators in the "old" Commerce Building	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	Oracle Elevator	\$2,894	2005 DSA Bonds
Paint and repair Unit #944	Fleet Operations	A & L Autobody, Inc.	\$3,152	General Fund/M & O - Fleet Operations
Bulk tires for stock	Fleet Operations	Pep Boys	\$2,774	Fleet Inventory Tire Account
Six (6) shredders	C.N.T.	Factory Express, Inc.	\$9,520	Confiscated Funds - CNT
Silestone counters and sink	Special Projects	A1 Stone World, Inc.	\$2,631	Solid Waste Restricted
Assorted stock automotive parts	Fleet Operations	White Brothers Auto Parts Warehouse	\$2,635	Fleet Inventory Parts Account
Assorted stock automotive parts	Fleet Operations	ASC Construction Equipment USA, Inc.	\$2,677	Fleet Inventory Parts Account
Assorted stock automotive parts	Fleet Operations	White Brothers Auto Parts Warehouse	\$3,709	Fleet Inventory Parts Account
Gasoline additive	Fleet Operations	Schaeffer Manufacturing Company	\$3,667	General Fund/M & O - Fuel Management Program
Replace bumper assembly, grille and headlights of Unit #557	Fleet Operations	Higdon's Collision Center, Inc.	\$2,926	General Fund/M & O - Fleet Operations
Remove and replace HVAC unit at 408 Broughton Street	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	Boaen Mechanical Contractors, Inc.	\$5,475	SPLOST (2008-2013) - Courthouse Construction
Absentee and provisional ballots	Elections Board	Owen G. Dunn Company, Inc.	\$7,698	General Fund/M & O - Elections Board
Generator rental for Courthouse project	Special Projects	Cummins Power South, LLC	\$2,806	SPLOST (2008-2013) - Courthouse Construction
Public announcements for voter registration	Voter Registration	WSAV-Media General	\$3,000	General Fund/M & O - Public Information
Mail meter rental for Police Memorial and Wilmington Island Tag Offices	Tax Commissioner	Pitney Bowes Credit Corp.	\$2,586	General Fund/M & O - Tax Commissioner
Two (2) Dell computers and monitors	I.C.S.	Dell Marketing, L.P. (State Contract)	\$2,707	General Fund/M & O - Detention Center
Relocate fiber and trench	I.C.S.	Integrated Network Solutions	\$3,282	General Fund/M & O - Communication
350 gallons of Aqua Neat chemicals	Public Works and Park Services	John Deere Landscapes, Inc.	\$5,950	SSD - Public Works

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
Replaced EGR cooler in Unit #217 and replaced steering gear box in Unit #216	Fleet Operations	Freightliner of Savannah, Inc.	\$4,759	General Fund/M & O - Fleet Operations
Mailing of tag renewals for November	Tax Commissioner	World Marketing	\$4,801	General Fund/M & O - Tax Commissioner
Finance software modification for delinquent balance write-off capability	Finance	Sungard Public Sector Pentamation (Sole Source)	\$4,200	Water and Sewer
140 drug screening of current employees	Detention Center	GEA-Immediate Care	\$4,235	General Fund/M & O - Detention Center
Painting of helicopter	Mosquito Control	Heli-Tech Inc.	\$8,000	General Fund/M & O - Mosquito Control

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

No items from Executive Session.

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ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Liakakis said, your information items were distributed to you and all of that. And that is all we have.

There being no further business to be brought before the Commissioners, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned approximately 1:36 p.m.

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SO APPROVED: THIS _____ DAY OF NOVEMBER, 2010.

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

 SYBIL E. TILLMAN, CLERK OF COMMISSION