

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2012, 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 9:27 a.m. on Friday, October 5, 2012.

=====

II. INVOCATION

Chairman Liakakis said, I call on Commissioner Odell to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Odell said, let's say the Lord's Prayer.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

=====

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Liakakis said, I call on Commissioner Dean Kicklighter for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Kicklighter led all in the Pledge of Allegiance to Flag of the United States of America.

=====

IV. ROLL CALL

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. I call on our County clerk, Janice, for the roll call, please.

The Clerk called the roll.

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

Also present: R. E. Abolt, County Manager
 R. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney
 Janice E. Bocook, County Clerk

=====

V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. INVITATION TO CHAIRMAN AND COMMISSIONERS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE GO GREEN 5K ON OCTOBER 13, 2012, AT THE WHITEMARSH PRESERVE.

Chairman Liakakis said, under Special Presentation, we have an invite for the Chairman and Commissioners to participate in the Go Green 5K on October the 13th at the Whitemarsh Preserve.

Mr. Marcus Lotson said, thank you Mr. Chairman and Members of the Commission. My name is Marcus Lotson with the Metropolitan Planning Commission and representing the Chatham County Resource Protection Commission. We are excited to bring you some information today regarding our annual Go Green 5K Family Fun Run and Walk, so you can participate in it either way you like. The event will be as the Chairman mentioned on October 13th, next Saturday,

2012 at 8:00 a.m. The race will start at 9:00. We're excited to also have a -- a sponsor. Our -- our primary sponsor, Thomas and Hutton, Mr. Sam Mceachern, who is here to bring greetings as well. The event will be at the Whitemarsh Preserve at the corner of Bryan Woods Road and Johnny Mercer Boulevard. Sam [Mceachern]?

Mr. Sam Mceachern said, thank you, Marcus [Lotson]. Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission, Thomas and Hutton is pleased to again this year sponsor this race and to help fund the -- the Chatham County Resource Protection Commission. The -- this race is unique in that it is a trail run, so for those of you who are looking for a little diversity in your training, want to get off the pavement, please come out and enjoy the preserve and -- and help contribute to the fund.

Mr. Mceachern said, Mr. Chairman, if I may --

Chairman Liakakis said, yeah.

Mr. Mceachern said, -- switch rolls.

Chairman Liakakis said, all right.

Mr. Mceachern said, I do have my secret agent credentials. So. I'm also chairman of the United Way campaign this year, and I just want to thank the Commission and the county for what they do to support the United Way. We've gotten in the requests from the -- from the different agencies, and there's over \$500,000 of additional requests this year, so the -- the need is great. We really appreciate the work that the county did for their kick off. We had it here in Chambers last -- it was this Wednesday. Mr. Abolt, Mr. Nichols, and your own James Bond, Steven Meyer, from Animal Control did a fabulous job. It was a great kick-off. If you have not seen the movie, I encourage you to do so. The Sheriff's Department had their kick-off. If you have not seen those pictures, please check those out. They did a great job, and I'm -- I'm glad to see that everyone's having fun with the theme this year. So thank you for your support, and thank you for what you do.

Chairman Liakakis said, and thank you very much for not only talking about the 5K that you're sponsoring, but, of course, your leadership for the United Way funding for this year, and we encourage all citizens to do as much as they can because so many lives, thousands upon thousands of lives have been turned around and helped in our community from United Way. So thank you.

=====

VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

1.

=====

2. RECYCLING PRESENTATION.

Chairman Liakakis said, next. The next item will be recycling presentation, and I call on the Sierra Club to come forth and make their presentation for recycling.

Mr. Dana Braun said, good morning Chairman and Commissioners. Thank you for allowing us this opportunity to appear before you. We will be brief, I promise. And, before I do, if I -- I'm passing out to you our Power Point presentation which consists of a few slides. My name is Dana Braun, and I'm here on behalf of the citizens for curbside recycling. Also, the Chairman graciously extended us an invitation to appear at this meeting at the Sierra Club meeting when recycling issues were recently discussed, and Chairman Liakakis was in attendance at that meeting. As -- as you will recall, and I'm not getting into this, approximately a little more than a year ago, the citizens for curbside recycling filed a petition which had -- which had -- more than 12,800 registered voters of Chatham County had signed seeking a recycling program in the unincorporated area. During that time period we gathered information regarding what other counties are doing in regard to both their garbage services and their providing of recycling collection for -- we're talking about residential reasons -- for residential households.

Mr. Braun said, we feel that there is incredible economic benefits to this community for this -- for this Board, for the County Commission to look at again and explore a county-wide recycling program connected with the household garbage pickup in the unincorporated areas. There is not only environmental benefits but also economic benefits. And once again I thank Chairman Liakakis for graciously allowing us and inviting us to make our presentation today. If you will look at the -- at our Power Point presentation on the third -- well let me tell you, presently household garbage and recycling is handled in the unincorporated area through the individual households contracting or paying services to seven different private waste haulers in Chatham County. Not all waste haulers offer recycling as part of their solid waste or their garbage service. The unincorporated Chatham County residents pay up to three times what citizens in neighboring municipalities and counties are paying for trash and garbage services that include recycling services, and we think that that is key, that why are our citizens, the citizens of our unincorporated areas are paying much more for their garbage services than the citizens in Effingham and Bryan and Glynn counties when those counties provide not only household garbage but household recycling? And we're talking household single-stream recycling. That is you put all the recyclables in one bucket or one can and it's picked up. You don't have to sort it. Glass, paper, cans, anything that can be recycled is placed into one container.

Mr. Braun said, if you look at our incredible economic impacts, our next slide, page four, that, as I said, our unincorporated residents are charged more than neighboring municipalities and counties that don't receive the -- and -- and our residents do not receive the additional service of curbside recycling. There are negative impacts besides the costs to the citizen, just the monthly fees they have to pay for their garbage services. There is incredible wear and tear on our streets. In my neighborhood, I can count up to four different services that come during the week. There is a different garbage truck each day going down my street. If there was one provider getting this entire neighborhood, there'd be one truck per week. The wear and tear on our streets, our curbs, the noise, the air pollution, all of that adds up. It costs the citizens and it costs this County Commission and the county government money. It increases noise pollution. Now the important part of this, if we look at slide number 5, which we have on a poster, that we have gathered information as to what the fees charged by each of the seven providers in Chatham County for household services. We have this on a separate chart, and the fees range from \$20 per month to \$35 per month without recycling services. So the average in Chatham County, that are approximately, by county government estimates, are approximately 27,000 households who are paying for garbage services in Chatham County in unincorporated area, and they pay an average of \$29.03 per month.

Mr. Braun said, now what has happened in our neighboring communities, our neighboring counties of Effingham, Bryan and even down in Glynn County, is the County Commissions have issued invitations for bids or requests for proposals for -- for one company or a group of company, however they want to assemble, to provide garbage services and recycling services in those areas. And what has happened is Effingham County, the -- the monthly charge is \$13.93 as opposed to our average of \$29.03 per month. That's \$16.00 per month savings per household, and that's in Effingham County. That \$13.93 includes recycling. The \$29.03 does not include recycling. In Bryan County it's \$12.91 per month for household garbage and single-stream recycling, and the same thing in Glynn County, which was the -- probably the most recent one to go out for bid. It was \$10.41 per month is what the bill is for household garbage and recycling services, single-stream. You don't have to go -- we have two other counties in here Gwinnett County, which is outside of Atlanta is \$18.00 per month, which is far -- significantly less than what we pay here, and in Bibb County it's \$9.75 per month, which is less than a third of the average cost in Savannah -- in Chatham -- unincorporated Chatham County. These savings are tremendous. The -- you don't have to go look at other counties, just what the municipalities are doing in Chatham County, the small municipalities, Tybee Island its \$15.00 a month, recycling included. Thunderbolt, \$20.00 a month, and it's not only recycling but they also do their bulk waste and yard trash for that amount. Port Wentworth, \$18.00 per month. Pooler \$16.00. Garden City \$16.80, and Bloomingdale \$17.75. And the smaller municipalities have arranged for these services but the citizens in unincorporated Chatham County can only get it going through private haulers at much higher rate.

Mr. Braun said, the economic benefit to the community as a whole is tremendous. When you add up these numbers, it ends up that the savings is between \$5 million to \$6 million dollars per year per household. That slide. It -- there -- as based on county government estimates of 27,000 households in the unincorporated area receiving garbage services and if they are saving -- they're savings based on this chart is anywhere from \$15 to \$18 per month, if you look at what's going on in Glynn, Bryan and Effingham County, that totals approximately \$5 to \$6 million a year that these households can save. Now that is an average of anywhere between \$187 to \$223 annually, and this is an annual savings, it's not just a one-year, but it's going to continue. And it's based -- that number \$187 to \$223 annually that can be saved by Chatham County households if they are able to get the same services at the same rates or fees that are charged in these other counties. A few years ago -- last year or so this Commission tried to increase, or discussed, or debated the increase of some \$40 per year for the service -- the -- the yard waste and bulk services that the county paid -- that the county provides to -- in the unincorporated area, and you heard the back lash from the citizens about \$40 a year, how that -- they're concerned about paying \$40 a year. Here you have a possible effort to look into of saving your citizens \$200 per year, \$187 to \$223 per year. It is significant.

Mr. Braun said, just in conclusion, what we are asking is that the Commission seriously look at issuing a request for proposal or an invitation for bids and to see what kind of bids or proposals come in from private haulers to undertake this type of program in Chatham County. What would the cost savings be to our citizens? What would the efficiencies be of having one or two providers, however it can be structured, providing these services as opposed to seven different providers on the streets of Chatham County on almost a daily basis? It is not only the environmental, there's no question that, you know, our goal is to be the greenest county in the state and that other counties are providing these services. It is a thing that is happening all across Georgia, the provision of curbside recycling for residential -- for -- for households, and it is something that this county in order to be up there with the other counties across the state, needs to have a solid, implemented program, and that's what we're asking this Board to do. To look at the -- looking at, investigate an issue, let an invitation for -- to bid or request for proposal to provide these services along the lines that is be done in Glynn, in Effingham, in Bryan counties, as well as other counties throughout the state. As we said, the environmental concerns are easy. The -- the -- the purposes of recycling everyone knows. The benefits of recycling everyone knows, and the economic benefits we believe are there and -- and really justify this -- this Board taking a solid, serious look at -- at -- at -- at altering the way household garbage services are provided in Chatham County. We'll be glad to answer any questions and once again thank you for allowing us to be here today.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman Liakakis said, yeah? I'll call on you.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yes, sir. First I want to commend you for coming forward with something different than you did a few years -- our a couple of years ago or last year because this is entirely different than just asking for the recycling program to be tacked on the top. But, you're -- you are an attorney, correct?

Mr. Braun said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, in your opinion as an -- as an attorney, what would the legal liabilities be for the residents of each home, as well as the county should we in a sense encourage people to break their contracts in which they have with all the current providers? Would -- don't you --

Mr. Braun said, I don't think --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, -- don't you think the county be really liable?

Mr. Braun, no, I don't think the county would be liable and I think, you know, that most of these agree -- agreements are basically month to month services. Anybody can terminate their household agreements with any of the providers on a monthly basis. And -- and you could also phase this in or -- or down the road, I mean, but it's not going to happen -- you're not going to do this next month. It would take some time to implement this program, so there's plenty of time to deal with that. You have one of the most creative lawyers in Chatham County. He can certainly figure out a way -- I've seen some of Mr. Hart's great legal work, and I know it -- it can be done. It's been done in other counties. There's no -- you know, it's been done. It's been -- all you have to do is replicate or duplicate what's been done elsewhere. Throughout the State it's been done. And you know, I -- those -- I think those legal issues have been addressed and -- and the counties have prevailed on those legal issues.

Chairman Liakakis said, go ahead.

Commissioner Odell said, all of those private providers would be allowed to bid for the contract?

Mr. Braun said, oh yes.

Commissioner Odell said, and -- and it is possible since we have quadrants or whatever that the RFP could award more than one contract to the different providers to cover those?

Mr. Braun said, I don't -- I --

County Attorney R. Jonathan Hart said, that becomes problematic, and that's really -- you've put your finger on -- on the policy issue. Counties unlike municipalities cannot use franchise fees as -- as a means, and if you start taking the six haulers and say we're going to divide it up into four quadrants, then what you're really doing is you're giving a franchise to a quadrant. All these other counties that have -- have done this have used a single-source provider.

Commissioner Odell said, okay.

County Attorney Hart said, and that's -- that's really the -- the crux of the situation. What do you do with the six providers versus do you want to go to a single source, and that -- and that's really a policy decision. We could figure out how to do it in either direction, but that's up to the Commission.

Commissioner Odell said, all right. Currently the six providers, do they cover the entire -- our entire area or do they cover just like little sections?

County Attorney Hart said, I think some of them are county-wide but I don't know about all of them.

County Manager Russ Abolt said, it's -- it's market-driven. Go to the yellow pages and find yourself a hauler.

Mr. Braun said, some only provide for certain areas, but they won't --

Commissioner Odell said, but they'd all be free to bid?

Mr. Braun said, right. And they can join forces and bid on it.

Chairman Liakakis said, Jaylah Diggs, who's representing Jenkins High, she's one of our Chatham County Youth Commissioners, and she'd like to ask you a question, Dana [Braun.]

Mr. Braun said, sure.

Youth Commissioner Jaylah Diggs said, hello. As we can see that, you know, Chatham County, the waste charge is higher, is that because we have more citizens than the others?

Mr. Braun said, no, 'cause I think as you get -- you have more persons, the charges should go down. I think it -- it's -- it's the efficiency of scale. I mean what happens now is in my neighborhood, I -- I, you know, as I said, I can -- I know there's at least four providers that come to my neighborhood. They come and maybe one will pick up four -- four bins of garbage, and another one picks up four and another one picks up eight or however it is. If one could come and pick up 20 it's far more efficient because the -- the gas, the fuel charges, the man hours, etcetera, it takes -- they can service more households per hour than if you're only pick -- picking -- picking up a few, and, therefore, the -- the profits can go higher if you're picking up -- if your costs for picking up more households is lower because you can do it more efficiently. It just comes down to being able to have more customers in the same area, and it's less expensive to service the same area.

Chairman Liakakis said, Patrick [Shay].

Commissioner Shay said, Dana Braun, welcome to the County Commission. It's good to see you here.

Mr. Braun said, thank you.

Commissioner Shay said, it's -- it's a great presentation.

Mr. Braun said, thank you.

Commissioner Shay said, and I want to say I totally agree with the concept of using private waste haulers. I think that's by far the best way to handle the needs in the unincorporated area. I mean creating the infrastructure to get into the municipal, if I can use that word very broadly, waste hauling service for the unincorporated area of Chatham County is something that we've investigated in the past, and it's not something that is particularly popular among these Commissioners. I'm fascinated by the numbers for the other counties. Are those counties -- let's -- you can choose another one, but I'll -- I'll choose Effingham for example. Are those actual subscription services or are those mandates? In other words, right now, we have -- a Chatham County unincorporated area citizen can choose to be a subscriber or not. In those other counties, do they still have that choice, or is it now mandated that everybody has to subscribe?

Mr. Braun said, I think it's mandated, and I -- and I -- I think it's based -- if you read the -- I -- I interpret the ordinance is that it is -- every household must responsibly handle their garbage and where they're taking, and I -- and I think -- I don't know what the percentages are, but the percentage -- the numbers of 27,000 households is we -- we obtained from county information. So there are, you know, I don't know how many households aren't contracting in Chatham County, but it's the -- I would assume it's at least 90%.

Commissioner Shay said, I don't know what the number is --

Mr. Braun said, yeah.

Commissioner Shay said, -- and I agree with you as a matter of public policy that it ought to be something that is required of every household and every business that they responsibly deal with their waste. I think some of them now are actually using waste centers, and so they're doing their own transportation of their waste, and -- and that's -- that's an issue because individuals tend not to be as responsible in how they dispose of that waste as the services that are -- that are under a contract that have to perform at a certain level. So -- but I think one of the issues that is problematic is making the transition from where we are right now, which is basically we say if you live in the unincorporated area and you want somebody to come pick up your garbage, then use the yellow pages. We just heard the -- the --

Mr. Braun said, right.

Commissioner Shay said, -- Manager say it to the point where we're saying everybody must be a subscriber, in essence, which means it's a mandate. And I'm not saying that's an insurmountable problem, but I want you to understand that that's a -- that's -- that's a big issue that we would have to come to grips with.

Mr. Braun said, well I think that's just part of the whole process. That's -- what we're asking is look at it. I mean, there are -- look there may be a lot of issues out there that we don't know about, but that you as a Board have the ability and the resources to develop all those and -- and in this framework, if you look at all this, and, you know, there's reasons that it can't work in Chatham County, you know, so be it, but we think there are reasons that these other counties -- I -- I happened to be with somebody from Athens-Clarke County yesterday, and I told him I was coming about this, and, you know, he -- he -- he told me that, you know, in Athens-Clark, which is consolidated, that it's \$12.00 a month, and it's recycling and -- and garbage service. They have -- he has a 96-gallon recycling bin. He says his garbage is so little because so much goes into the recycling. So if you're talking about, you know, there's garbage being lessened, it -- it -- that's a -- that's a -- that's a real public purpose or a -- I mean if this Board has a legitimate interest in lessening the amount of garbage that is -- is put into the waste stream in Chatham County.

Commissioner Shay said, I totally agree with you and because I'm, you know, in my view fortunate to live in the City of Savannah, --

Mr. Braun said, right.

Commissioner Shay said, -- and I have single-stream waste recycling, I can say to you that that -- that is the case. The -- the green herby curby that's out behind, you know, where I live in the lane, is almost always empty, and the black and gold one that's for the recycling is almost always full. So, you know, what you say --

Mr. Braun said, makes a difference.

Commissioner Shay said, -- what you say is true.

Chairman Liakakis said, James [Holmes]?

Commissioner Holmes said, yes, sir. Good morning Mr. Braun.

Mr. Braun said, good morning Coach Holmes, how are you? Commissioner Holmes, excuse me.

Commissioner Holmes said, that's good, 'cause last time we faced each other, you were here and I was there.

Mr. Braun said, no, I was over there.

Commissioner Holmes said, good presentation, and I really enjoyed looking at it. It's a total different tone from the last time you came in. One question here. I don't know whether you did your research on, but the seven private haulers that is hired, approximately how many employees do they have?

Mr. Braun said, we don't know, and -- and -- and we don't know what percentage of their business is really generated from commercial waste, which isn't affected by this. We're just talking residential households, and we think a significant portion of their business, a lot of these haulers, you know, although I think there are some haulers that only do residential.

Commissioner Holmes said, uh-huh.

Mr. Braun said, we don't know what that -- numbers are.

Commissioner Holmes said, I'm -- I'm interested in knowing how many jobs would be eliminated.

Mr. Braun said, right. Well, I mean, you know, if, I mean, I'm not here to argue economics, and I understand that concern, but if they -- they, you know, if you're worried about the people, if there's going to be a -- somebody's going to have to gear up to now do 27,000 households, the persons with experience in this business are going to be shifting to that company. That company's going to have to hire more people. So there may not be a -- a -- a -- a overall job loss, but you're also talking about that on an annual basis that the citizens of Chatham County have \$5 to \$6 million more money in their pocket. If that is spent, that creates jobs. If half of it's spent, that creates jobs. So it -- I, you know, I'm not an economist, you know, the definition of an economist is -- is someone that can tell you tomorrow why their prediction today was wrong. So -- and I don't understand any of that -- every time -- I read the Wall Street Journal every day, and I still don't understand it, so I can't give you those economic answers, but I think from a -- on a simple basis, that the overall loss is not going to be significant, and that, you know, the overall benefit to the citizens would far make up for it.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay. Thanks.

Chairman Liakakis said, all right. Dean [Kicklighter].

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you. Now that I've had a second to kind of digest what you presented, other than Commissioner Shay presented something there that immediately I didn't think of about citizens that haul their waste right now to certain locations, haul it themselves, how that would increase, but the enforcement of mandating that citizens use this, as -- when I was Mayor in Garden City, the way we enforced was the city, and -- and as a resident of Pooler, the way that that bill is actually enforced is it's tied in with the water bill, water and sewer bills. So when you go in to get your water and sewer or pay it, you have to pay that at the same time. The cities, both actually, you know, they mail out, they do the billing, and the citizens pay, and then the city cuts the contract to that provider. In the unincorporated area, we -- we don't have county-wide water system. It's -- it's a hodge podge of -- we have a few areas. Savannah has water, you know, we may get some from Pooler in certain areas. I, you know, and that would be a huge obstacle. I think -- right off the bat, I mean, hey, it sounded just really, really good, but now that I'm thinking about it, I really think that it would be virtually impossible to --

Mr. Braun said, well I --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, -- to do it because you can't turn -- other words, the -- the -- turning someone's water off if they're not paying their bill encourages everyone to pay, hence, they get the lower price. When we can't turn the water off, and they say, okay, well we're coming to get your trash can, the ones that haul it off already, who cares. Come get it. I'm not, you know -- so --

Mr. Braun said, I understand that --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, -- and then either the private hauler would then have to attempt to bill collect or this -- this Board, this county would have to create an entirely new collections department and try to collect in that manner. And so conceptually right off the top it -- it does sound -- if -- if -- if we lived in the perfect world where everybody would pay as, you know, but we don't have that same enforcement ability that the others do.

Mr. Braun said, but I think, you know, Glynn County, Bryan, Effingham, is in the same situation. Gwinnett County is in the same situation. They figured it out. All we're saying -- I mean, I think you're putting the cart before the horse. I think you need to gather all that information before you make the decision, and that's what we're asking. We're saying, look, really look into it. Just don't react and say, oh it can't happen because of this. You know, you can't get anywhere being a naysayer. Is it possible? Are there answers? Have other communities, other counties addressed these same situations? How did they do it? What are the costs? You know, in the long run does it cost too much? No, it doesn't? Does it benefit the citizens? Yes it does. No it doesn't. These are all answers -- these are all questions that this Board and the staff need to look into and get the real details before you can say, well it won't work because we don't send a water bill. That isn't the answer. The answer is is there a way to implement it. How do other counties that are similar to Chatham as far as their billing that don't have the -- provide the municipal or the government services that a typical city provides water and -- and -- and things like that, how do they collect this or how is it handled? And I think there are answers out there without saying -- you know, those are problems that are -- need to be identified, and are there answers to them? I understand what you're saying, but I think they can be answered and -- and addressed because other counties -- you know, while we like to think we're distinct we're not that much different than other counties.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, right, well I'm just -- I'm just saying that -- that it may sound in your presentation as if there would be a price reduction but if this county has to create an entirely new department to collect the monies and to go out and try to enforce it, that that's -- unincorporated area residents, they're paying for that budget, as well as what they're paying there, so it could be a wash, and it -- it could actually exceed, you know. I mean, so.

Mr. Braun said, I think it would -- in order to be a wash, you'd have to create a department that costs \$5 to \$6 million, which, you know, I don't think that, as -- as far as billing for this, that it would cost \$5 to \$6 million to collect the -- the -- the fees. I mean that -- that, you know, I'll -- I'll take that job at half the price.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, good point. Thank you. Granted. Granted. Good point.

Mr. Braun said, yep.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Helen [Stone]?

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I've listened to the comments, and I think this is a wonderful presentation. I think you all are on track. I do have a concern again that's already been brought up, and that is enforcement of people that are not currently contracting with anyone to pick up their trash, whatever -- however they choose to dispense with it. And the reason I bring that up is that when we were looking at implementing a fee increase for the dry trash, my phone rang off the hook of people saying we do not want this dictated to us. We used to get this service at no charge, you're already charging us \$43. I -- I don't know how well received that's going to be for the individuals that are now dealing with their own trash on their own way. And that is a concern that I would have at this point. I -- I think your presentation is -- is wonderful. I think it makes a lot of sense. I'm just saying, I don't know what the push back will be from some of the residents in the unincorporated area that choose to deal with their waste in the way that they choose to do it.

Mr. Braun said, well I think you need to hear from them. And I think you need to know how many are dealing with their own waste, and I think on the other hand, you also need to balance is there a benefit to this county that waste be governed accordingly, and I think Mr. Nash the other night at the Sierra Club felt there was an ordinance that exists that mandates that people must arrange for their garbage and trash disposal. And let me say this one -- I -- I -- I do want to say this, I'm in -- I'm in your District in -- in the unincorporated area, and -- and I want to commend the county on its dry trash, the yard waste pick up, and that bulk waste -- the household bulk items that once a month. It really works well and I think that they do a great job. And it's not any way -- I'm not attacking that in any way, it's a great service the county provides, but we also -- you know, the county has entered the waste -- you know, has a philosophy for proper handling of waste, and we think this even implements it further.

Commissioner Stone said, I agree, but it's not currently dictated to the residents. I mean, in other words, there is a choice, and so that is my concern is that -- that's already been stated that this -- this would be required now, and I -- I don't know how well received that's going to be within the community. That would be my concern.

Mr. Braun said, well, you need to see how many, you know, the county estimate was 27,000 households are under agreement. Staff has said that households are supposed to be, you know, deal -- dealing with their garbage. The county doesn't own the garbage --

Commissioner Stone said, correct.

Mr. Braun said, -- we let the households deal with it, but, you know, you certainly want to make sure garbage -- I think it's, you know, maybe it's a philosophical difference, but, that there is an in -- a legitimate government interest to make sure that garbage is handled and disposed or properly.

Commissioner Stone said, and -- and I don't disagree with you. I just wanted --

Mr. Braun said, and how to get there.

Commissioner Stone said, -- to bring that point up that -- that may be an issue with some of the residents that are doing this on their own.

Mr. Braun said, I think Ms. Stacey has --

Ms. Stacey Kronquest said, hi, I'm Stacey Kronquest with the Sierra Club, and I was instrumental in encouraging the city to establish a curbside recycling program that they're very happy with and proud of. I really just wanted to address Commissioner Kicklighter's point about billing. Other counties, Bryan, Effingham, they have it on their tax bill, much like we have our dry trash fee on our tax bill. So it's a very simple and easy solution that wouldn't cost I don't think a penny. So I just wanted to address that.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you. That's great.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, but they have to pay it in one lump sum at that point though?

Ms. Kronquest said, yeah, I believe it's two, and we have two different tax bills, so we could do that as well. And also, counties have been able to negotiate and have their dry trash, as well as bulk picked up by the one hauler that does the -- the garbage and recycling pick up. So, added savings there.

Mr. Braun said, I think I pointed -- it just needs -- we just really ask that this Board really look at it, investigate it, and all these questions that are raised can be looked at and -- and looked at -- I mean this, you know, I was trying to limit this to about a five-minute presentation, and -- and it's not -- I mean it's the tip of the iceberg as to what's out there, as to what needs to be explored, but we want to bring to the attention what other counties are doing, what other counties are successfully doing, and at significant savings to their citizens and residents, and we just would ask that this Commission look deeply into it and see if it's feasible in Chatham County.

Chairman Liakakis said, all right, Dana [Braun], thank you very much.

Mr. Braun said, thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, we appreciate you coming in, and, you know, and doing this presentation for me and all the Commissioners have that information and the staff now, and we'll go from there.

Mr. Braun said, all right. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you.

Mr. Braun said, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Liakakis said, now is there any -- is there a private hauler? Somebody mentioned that there possibly -- a private hauler that might like to make a statement.

Mr. Ben Wall said, yes.

Chairman Liakakis said, come up and identify yourself, please.

Mr. Wall said, my name is Ben Wall, and I'm part of Atlantic Waste. Originally when I heard the idea I thought it was mainly about county-wide curbside recycling, and so I -- this morning I put a little points together and -- of what I came up with, but it's actually morphed into a whole lot more, and I've jotted down a few notes. You'll have to forgive me if I'm not exactly clear. My assumptions were that there were around 30,000 homes in Chatham County. I'm -- I'm off by 3,000 so not very much. If there was a county-wide recycling program like the gentleman's asking, you typically see a participation rate, that's people who truly recycle at about 33 percent. That's on average, so roughly about 10,000 homes. All right. The average collector picks up on a bi-weekly pick up around 25 pounds. Okay. That equates to about 270 tons a month for our county or 3200 tons per year. All right. Given our current land fill rates that we have, which are, by far, the highest in the southeastern United States. I tried to solve that problem earlier this year but that failed, that equates to a cost of around \$175,000 a year to dispose -- that would be disposed -- if you wanted to just throw it all in the trash. To pay for this program to recycle is going to cost the county around \$1 million for the hauler to haul it. So you could -- and then probably about another \$100,000 for the county to administer it. So if you -- you could throw the trash away for 175,000 but you're going to pay over a million. So there's a savings of roughly 900 -- it's a waste of roughly \$9250 a year -- \$925,000 per year, sorry. All right. If you think the recycling is a good thing, which some people do, and they choose to do it, and I have no problem with that, there are six county drop off locations. There are a few other municipal ones like at Tybee and in Pooler. There are more than 10 private locations. To give a few there is Sunoco, Pratt, Southeastern Paper, Southern Metals, Georgia Recyclers, and Gerald's Recycling. There's a few other smaller metal recyclers, and I'm sure that the private haulers will take curbside material, so recycling is available. If you want to have curbside pickup there are five haulers that provide this service. All right. And generally the prices range between \$5 and \$10 per month depending on the level of service. Those are Atlantic Waste, ABC Waste, Kirby Sanitation, Heritage Recycling, and Savannah Waste. And then I also stated is \$10 too high for this service?

Mr. Wall said, given what you typically see in these bid situations between counties, the average is roughly around, you know, \$3 per house to collect it. So, for a hauler, he actually -- that's what he charges each home. That's what you would charge each home. As a hauler, I pass by 2/3 of the houses. So essentially I'm getting \$9 for every home that I actually do collect. And then there's the administrative cost that you have that's roughly \$1 per month. So \$10 per collected home is what you typically see. That is -- that is not -- so what we're currently charging is a fair rate. Is it legal? I don't know, Shot, that's -- that's -- that's a question for you, but I can tell you, I think we would have an argument, and I think that we would have a fight, and if the County would like to do that, I believe they would be taking that on.

Mr. Wall said, now as far as using the whole garbage and bringing the garbage in there, people like different services. Some people like more expensive service. They like the finer things in life. This gentlemen, he looks like he's a wealthy individual, he probably lives -- where do you live, sir?

Mr. Braun said, (inaudible).

Mr. Wall said, where is that?

Mr. Braun said, I'm -- I'm not here to answer your -- I'll -- I'll address yours afterwards.

Mr. Wall said, well, I -- I -- I mean, he looks, what I'm saying is the man looks very nice. If he wanted to have the cheapest things he would have come in in sandals and rags.

Mr. Braun said, I have a 17-foot boat. I don't have a 40-foot boat like your father has.

Mr. Wall said, I've worked hard for -- that's a choice that I've made because I've worked hard. That's a choice we've made because we worked hard, okay? I -- I'm in this business and I've been in this business now for two years. I have run promotions, I've got a -- two billboards up in Chatham County right now. I could save -- right now, versus some of the higher rate haulers, \$200 per year if you were to switch to my service. I have been running this promotion now for a good I don't know, six months, and I have worked hard. I've handed out two flyers to everybody. I've got video -- commercials. I still do not have these people, okay, and that's because they like who they're with. They like the higher ones. They provide them a better service then they think I could provide, and they're willing to pay that extra money, even though they know they could save it. All right? And then there's also a thing as far as this that he was talking about, you have an elimination of services. There are a lot of people that get back door service, not because they're elderly, because they just choose to do there, and they're willing to pay that extra money. Some people get twice a week service. Some people like -- Pat [Farrell] I know you like to hunt, what happens when you leave dove feathers in your can for over a week.

Commissioner Farrell demonstrated by holding his nose.

Mr. Wall said, it stinks and there's maggots all over the place. Well some people, if -- if that doesn't get picked up twice a week, you have a problem. They have, I mean, seafood or oysters, they like to be picked up twice a week. Some people like the days that they get picked up just for that reason. I like to get it picked up Monday because I do a lot of my cleaning on a weekend. So some people have chosen deliberately not to use me because I will not pick up their area that day. People like choice, and they're willing to pay more for it, and I think it would be wrong to mandate an elimination of choices for the citizens. Thank you for your time.

Commissioner Farrell said, well said, Mr. Wall.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, on average --

Commissioner Farrell said, well said.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, -- and can I ask -- on average, what would your once a week -- 'cause he gave numbers, what would your once a week pick up be for --

Mr. Wall said, it depends on where I haul, but right now it is \$80 per quarter, in some areas it's \$70 per quarter. Per quarter, so roughly \$22 a month.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, versus like \$18, what we're talking about, and that would not include curb -- the curb -- I mean the recycling.

Mr. Wall said, that wouldn't be back door. I mean it depends. I mean if you're -- I mean I understand what the gentleman's talking about as far as efficiencies, but some people just enjoy changes -- they -- they -- they're choice. I mean what happens -- here's another thing, if they -- if I don't pick up on one day and they're tired of them skipping, they can -- they can -- they can switch to somebody else. You can't do that in a county contract. I can tell you I hear about it all the time, I wish you'd get my municipality 'cause so and so keeps missing me, and my cart is in rags and I have to drag it out because they won't replace the wheels on it. It -- it -- I hear it all the time. If you go and look at Effingham County and drive in the -- in the parts that aren't seen, you have cans that are 15 years old that have spray paint all over them that are cracked and rotted. People don't like that, and that's what you'd be getting with this cheaper level of service. You'd get cheap service.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, no, I -- I -- and that's what -- I think that's actually pretty competitive for people to have a choice for a few more dollars versus forcing every citizen in the unincorporated area to utilize a service that they may not currently utilize. So. Actually the numbers didn't sound -- didn't sound bad considering they would get to choose that. So.

Mr. Wall said, well I -- I -- I understand that there will be cheaper services if you do that, but that's what you get is cheaper service. You'd get --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I'm saying you're numbers didn't sound bad.

Mr. Wall said, no, I'm not -- I'm not far off. I mean, I'm competitive. There are people that are less expensive than me, and there are people that are more. I'm pretty much right in the middle.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you.

Mr. Burke Wall said, is there any other questions?

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Thank you very much. All right.

Mr. Burke Wall said, Mr. Chairman, could I address the Commission for a moment, please?

Chairman Liakakis said, yeah, and the time situation, if you just come up now.

Mr. Burke Wall said, I'll be brief.

Chairman Liakakis said, and identify yourself for the clerk.

Commissioner Thomas said, Chairman?

Chairman Liakakis said, yes?

Commissioner Thomas said, you have that gentleman over there too.

Mr. Burke Wall said, Mr. Chairman, ladies and gentlemen of the Commission, members of the audience, my name is Burke Wall. I am president of Atlantic Waste Services. I've been in the waste hauling and collection business in the Savannah area since 1976. I'd just like to address and point out a few of the things that Mr. Braun talked about. One of the things that I noticed in his entire presentation when he was giving rates of what was being charged in other counties and municipalities, the main municipality in this area that he left out and left their rates out is the City of Savannah. The City of Savannah runs a very good waste collection program. It's highly efficient, particularly in the older part of the city where you have lanes. The City of Savannah's rates right now are in the \$23 to \$24 a month range. Those rates are going to be increasing a \$1.70 per year I believe every year now until 2017. Now, one of the reasons -- people say well why is the rates in this area high? One of those reasons is we have very limited competition when it comes to landfills. The coastal region of Georgia historically has been high and in fact is the highest paid region

for waste disposal in the state. But some of the other things I would like to mention, which Commissioner Kicklighter touched on a little bit is collection of fees. Also, Commissioner Holmes asked about jobs. My company is around 35 employees. We're one of the smaller residential collection firms. Our firm primarily is industrial and commercial waste hauling firm.

Mr. Burke Wall said, another thing I -- may I say, you know, I was under the impression that this was going to be a -- a -- for recycling primarily today and frankly when I get here, I see that Sierra Club primarily is the only group here and they're pushing not only for recycling but also for waste collection, which frankly I didn't expect to hear that. You talk about these other counties, the reason these other counties are in the waste collection business, is because they aren't nearly as fortunate as Chatham County, and a lot of them would envy Chatham County because Chatham County has private collectors who provide an extremely high level of service. Actually a higher level of service than what these bid situations are. Now the reason I say that is I know that because I bid on them sometimes. So, I think that that needs to be taken into consideration. You have a lot of areas such as the Landings that won't even allow curbside collection. You can't even do curbside recycling at the Landings. Long Point for example. You have other gated communities who, the people live in those communities do not want to see carts on the curb, and in those areas, it presents -- naturally it costs a little more because your system of collection is not as efficient. When you see these counties who get these very low rates, what they do is they go with what you call a automatic service where you have a truck that pulls up to a can, a arm reaches out, grabs that can, dumps it in the truck, and that driver never gets out. He goes on down the road. Here at Chatham County if you have a cart out there and that cart happens to be over full and there's a box or a -- an extra bag of trash, if somebody had a party or something, sitting by their can, we pick that up. And these areas and counties where you have this lower rated, lower level of service, that kind of thing never happens. So what you do is you end up with some waste sitting on the side of the street, for the cars to blow, animals to get in, dogs to get in it, and that kind of thing. So if you want a cheaper system, remember you don't get the level of service.

Mr. Burke Wall said, you know, and also I would like to just mention since we were talking about recycling which I, you know, I -- recycling is a good thing, but some of -- everything can't be recycled. There is a lot of items that could never be so. Most of your recycling programs, particularly when you talk about a single source recycling program, and a single stream recycling program, that's where all your waste goes into one deal and then comes -- one cart and then goes through a assembly line, about 60% of that waste goes out the back door. So it -- it -- it's -- it's not that everything can be recycled, and that's because the economics have not caught up with recycling totally. That's all I have to say. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you. Mr. Falligant?

Mr. Daniel Falligant said, thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I will keep my comments brief because some of the things that I was going to address have already been said.

Chairman Liakakis said, identify yourself for the clerk.

Mr. Falligant said, I am Danny Falligant. I'm a local attorney here in town, and I am representing Kirby and Heritage Recycling, and I was like Mr. Wall, I thought that this was more about recycling, but I will comment also about the -- the trash. As we do have seven providers here in the -- in the community that are made up of private industry, and then we can say about there will be -- if we go to a single source provider, that there won't be many jobs lost, but there will be 'cause the truth of the matter, there'll be people like secretaries, book keepers and so forth that will lose their jobs. There will be, I think, a -- a large number of people that will lose their jobs. As we look at the situation right now with the residents, as I saw in the -- the paper that they could not get apparently enough signatures to get it on the ballot. I think as you -- you look, I think that speaks volumes about the residents of Chatham County happy with the services that are being provided right now? And -- and I happen to be one of those that they come to my back door and - and pick up my trash and they pick it up twice a week, and -- and I realize I have to pay a little extra for that service, and when you factor that in, you know, it may get the average up to \$29 but a greater service is being provided, and I think Mr. Wall made a very good point and -- that as you look at what we're paying on the average in Chatham County compare it with other counties. Has been mentioned about the dumping charge, and that Chatham County does have a significantly higher dumping charge than anywhere in the southeastern United States. And so we can put these charts up and show these numbers and so forth, but are we really comparing apples with apples and oranges with oranges? And then you're going to have taxes. In order to fund this you're going to have to place taxes on the people in Chatham County. And what do you do about people that have a vacant lot that don't have any trash at all?

Mr. Falligant said, and it's been mentioned about we do have recycling. If you want to recycle there's six locations in this county that are free. You can recycle there, and I have Heritage Recycling, that gentleman, Mr. Matt Joy, he bought that business just this March. He has grown his business 29% since March. So he is out there marking his business, getting customers, getting people interested in recycling. I don't think that's going to happen if we have a one source provider. As well as, what happens if you go with a one source provider, you get -- decide on one out of the seven, in three or four years from now, it comes time to renegotiate that contract. What do you do? You're only going to have one person or one company to negotiate with because you've put the other six out of business. So you're going to have to negotiate with them and frankly you would be at their mercy. It's a situation frankly, I think, if the county were to take this on, it's just creating bigger government. Don't think that you can just turn this over to a provider and say go collect trash in the county and come back and tell us later and -- it's going to be a department that you'll have to create to oversee them. The system's not broke. I think frankly the people of Chatham County spoke when they didn't sign that petition. I realize not everybody had an opportunity to sign it, but the system's not broke. It doesn't need fixing. For years and years we've been under this system, and I think the people of Chatham County have been happy with the services. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you. Okay. I tell you, Dana [Braun] --

Mr. Braun said, two seconds.

Chairman Liakakis said, if you'll only take a short time 'cause we got a heavy, you know, agenda today.

Mr. Braun said, I don't -- I'm not going to address each one of the statements made by Mr. Wall and Mr. Falligant and -- but those -- they raise issues. They can't be decided today. And -- and that's why we're saying please look at this. Do your study. Get the information. Don't take what I say. Don't take what Mr. Falligant says. Don't take either of the Walls' say. Go find out what's going on in these other counties. Are the issues that Mr. Wall say exist in those other counties real or is it what his version of it? You know, two people can see the same thing and have different versions. But y'all -- y'all have the ability to gather that information, to gather the staff and make an informed decision on it. That's all we're asking is that you look at this. And the only thing I will say, you know, the, you know, Mr. Wall said it right up here, the majority of my business in commercial. So, you know, and then the other ones are saying it's going to put us out of business. Well it may not, and it's not going to be, you know, five years from now a contract that these other companies wouldn't come in and bid. Look at the experience in other counties on that. Don't just accept what they say. Don't accept what I say. Investigate it. We think it's out there. I, you know, I -- look, Kirby is my provider, they're great. They -- I got to take it out on the street. They leave it -- on the -- on the street -- they pick it up on the street and they do a good job. All right? It costs me \$30.00 a month for the -- for the -- for the garbage and the recycling. That's \$30 a month. That -- that's -- I know what I'm paying them. I know what I used to pay Waste Management, it was \$40 a month. I know when we called Atlantic, Mr. Wall's company, it was -- the price quoted was \$80 which is 20 -- just under -- it's \$26.67 per month. Those are numbers are in excess. Just the economy justifies looking into it and seeing if it can be done at an economic, feasible, efficient way in Chatham County. And that's all I'll say.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, Dean [Kicklighter]?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, what was the exact wording that you tried to have placed on the ballot?

Mr. Braun said, I'll have to get the file.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. Never mind. Not exact but what did you want on the ballot?

Mr. Braun said, it -- it was that the charter be changed to mandate recycle -- curbside, residential recycling in Chatham County. And as far as the signature --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, so did -- so seriously, did you jump the gun on that since you're standing there admitting that you don't have the answers that we need, to research it and all that? You wanted something placed on the ballot without knowing the ramifications?

Mr. Braun said, I -- I -- I represented the petitioners. I -- I don't know what the work that was done beforehand. I represented the petitioners after they gathered the petitions. There was close to 20,000 signatures on it. We needed 13,000 registered voters in Chatham County. There was -- we were like 600 -- when they went through it all, people had signed it twice, etcetera, we -- there was 12,859 and we needed \$13,600, we were like 800 short. They can go back and get those 800 signatures and start that process again.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, do you think that it was --

Mr. Braun said, we just think it's something that needs to be looked into by the County.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, do you think that --

Mr. Braun said, that's all we're asking.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, do you think we would have gotten the signatures if -- if when we went to sign we said we don't know the ramifications; we don't know the costs; we don't know how we'll collect it; we don't know if we have to create a new department. We don't know this, that or the other or --

Mr. Braun said, I -- I -- I think they would have gotten the signatures --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I mean before you force the county to do something like that. I mean, but, that's the past.

Mr. Braun said, you'd have to be an --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I mean, it's a nice change in strategy now with it, and -- and -- and it really sounds good and -- and I hope that we do look just to see what -- what happens but --

Mr. Braun said, Commissioner Kicklighter, my clients believe that recycling is beneficial. A lot of people believe that. How it is implemented in the county -- and they wanted to seek the county to implement it. And that other counties throughout the state are doing it throughout the country. You'd have -- you'd have to be an ostrich with your head in the ground not realize how other -- how many other places are doing recycling.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, and that's --

Mr. Braun said, and -- and -- and so the -- the -- they're goal was to get it -- recycling. They had tried, you know, the -- the city met with them and said, well, look, we'll start implementing it. And the other thing about the cost that the city pays and -- and -- and it's probably, you know, we're not talking about a county-run system. That's not what's going on in these other counties. It's the private entities that are running the systems. The city -- citizens pay more in the

city for garbage than what is paid in those other counties. It's probably a lot to do with the city employees getting paid a lot more money than Mr. Wall is paying his people that are on the street, but that is --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, well --

Mr. Braun said, -- stuff y'all need to look into and decide --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you.

Mr. Braun said, -- what the real answers and real questions are.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, the crux of the issue I finally really got it out of you then is a forced recycling. And it's been shown today. That was what I wanted to hear the whole time. The reason this is here -- other words, the first time came up and -- and it didn't matter that it was going to cost the citizens so much more and then you come back today like the Savior of price rates when in fact we're talking forced recycling in which we've got example after example that for five bucks an individual can call and have a choice. We -- we've got the examples that the county owns all the recycling bins around, and if you're right and it saves individuals money going that route, then that's -- that's possibly a very wonderful thing, but as far as forcing the recycling and that's exactly what your ballot was trying to do, with -- with -- without an understanding of how -- and the cost and the expense and the collections and everything. I just want the people out there to know that wants to recycle get it in your head, you can call and for five bucks, you can recycle. You can save the planet by individual household if that's your goal, but don't force poor people at this point to recycle when they -- they don't know where their next meal is coming from.

Mr. Braun said, well why would you -- why would you -- if you're concerned about the poor person who's paying \$30 a month or \$25 a month for their garbage service with no recycling, why wouldn't you want them to pay \$12 a month like in Effingham or Bryan or Glynn County and save them some money, Mr. Kicklighter. I'm not up -- you know, you --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I'd like for it to be --

Mr. Braun said, -- you can debate this and argue this all day. Our point is simply look at it. Look at it.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I'd like for it to be free, but you have not brought that -- the way to actually reduce theirs. You've presented a pie in the sky type thing and tell us to research through it and --

Mr. Braun said, I did not present any pie in the sky. What I'm telling you if you'd open your eyes and look at what other counties are doing that maybe it's something that Chatham County should do.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay.

Mr. Braun said, that's it. Bottom line. Simple.

Chairman Liakakis said, hold it. Hold it.

Mr. Braun said, and if you can't open your eyes and see what other counties are doing then -- and you have that obligation to your citizens of this county to do that.

Chairman Liakakis said, hold it. Hold it now.

Commissioner Farrell said, who did you invite here Mr. Chairman?

Chairman Liakakis said, Dean [Kicklighter], let's hold off right now. We've got a lot going on. And let's move on.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, hey, I'm not the one about to jump the podium, Chairman.

Chairman Liakakis said, no.

Mr. Braun said, I'm not jumping. I'm not jumping.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I'm sitting here pretty calm.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Dana [Braun].

Mr. Braun said, I'm not jumping any podium.

Chairman Liakakis said, Dana [Braun], thank you.

Mr. Braun said, okay. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay.

=====

3. REQUEST TO RESTORE CUTS TO WEIGHTLIFTING CENTER.

Chairman Liakakis said, we're going to move on to the next item, request to restore cuts to the weightlifting center.

One -- one of the things that was on the sales tax referendum when the people approved that and there was a -- a -- additional amount -- small amount of money needs to be restored to that.

County Manager Abolt said, what -- what happened, Mr. Chairman, and I don't want to take away from you -- from the message you are going to present, but because of the down turn in sales tax collection on at least two different occasions since the SPLOST vote was approved it was necessary to -- to reduce the amount assigned to each project, with the exception of the detention center which was already over -- under construction. There were cuts made across the board. It's my understanding you would like to as we proceed with issuing -- with issuing the contracted design for the county staff to come back with a way to restore the cuts as they apply to the weightlifting center. If the Board approves that, we'll come back with a budget transfer in the next few weeks to accomplish that.

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

Commissioner Stone said, Mr. Chairman, do we have any clue of -- of what dollar amount we're looking at?

County Manager Abolt said, ma'am, I think it's 70,000, 80,000. I'm -- I'm not sure.

Commissioner Stone said, and this would come out of --

Chairman Liakakis said, I think it's -- Helen [Stone], what I was told, it's about \$80,000. That's all it is.

Commissioner Stone said, and out of M&O?

County Manager Abolt said, I don't know yet, ma'am. It will come -- I just -- Ms. Cramer and I will take that as it comes.

Commissioner Stone said, okay, but we're not voting on it without having these details, correct?

County Manager Abolt said, no, what -- what you're -- what you'd be doing, the Chairman -- the Chairman because I did have the one item on -- on the purchasing report is saying before we proceed with the ultimate design and letting it contract, he would like to see the county do the weightlifting center as initially envisioned. So he's bringing it to you at the right time. If you wish us to go forward, we'll come back with a budget choice for you to restore these cuts.

Commissioner Stone said, I understand. I just don't want to vote on something that we don't have the details.

County Manager Abolt said, I -- I don't have enough to give you to something to vote on. It's just the idea he want -- he would like it. He's -- he's the Chairman, and I want to do it if you want to do it.

Commissioner Stone said, I understand. I just want to make sure that we're not appropriating any funds at this point 'cause we don't know how much this is going to cost, and I just want to make sure that we get -- have a few more details before we vote.

County Manager Abolt said, oh, you will.

Chairman Liakakis said, you can bring that at the next meeting. 'Cause it's about \$80,000 that's all it is. Okay. We need a motion on the floor to proceed with this.

Commissioner Odell said, I make the motion.

Commissioner Thomas said, second.

Commissioner Farrell said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, I have a motion on the floor and a second to proceed with this, and they'll bring the information to the meeting. Let's go on the board. Motion passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to proceed with restoring cuts made to the weightlifting center. Commissioners Thomas and Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

=====

Chairman Liakakis said, and what I'd like to do, request that the Board -- that Dr. Bradley, who is here to talk to us about an important subject on our employee wellness, he has a plane to catch, and I'd like for someone to make a motion that we proceed to --

Commissioner Thomas said, let him speak.

Chairman Liakakis said, proceed right now.

Commissioner Farrell said, so moved.

Commissioner Stone said, second.

Commissioner Gellatly said, second.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Farrell moved to take Commissioner's Item number 2, Dr. Bradley and employee wellness out of order and be heard at this time. Commissioners Stone and Gellatly seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

[NOTE: Commissioner's Item 2 was taken out of order and done at this time.]

=====

4. PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ORDINANCE (CHAIRMAN AND COMMISSIONER FARRELL).

Chairman Liakakis said, all right. Next item, pedestrian crossing ordinance, and that particular one, as you know, we had a project for the Wilmington Island area, and we had a big town meeting at one of the schools there, and we heard a lot of comments, there were 300 or 400 people at that location and the way it was set up, the people expressed themselves that they didn't feel like all of those particular things that the county had, you know, had recommended about the roads and other projects on that, so what -- Commissioner Farrell and I talked it over and Commissioner Farrell brought up the situation that what we do is that we -- we no longer would do that particular project at this time, and that one of the concerns that especially that came up to me, citizens, and were talking about the danger that they were having at the pedestrian crossing at -- in those areas, it was not being monitored, and a few of those residents talked about that they almost got hit, you know, by cars not paying attention to the cross walks. And, the -- on that, and so is anybody in the audience that wants to talk on that? But, let me just tell you this, what we're doing. Would you go through that, Mr. County Manager and then we can move on?

County Manager Abolt said, yes, sir. You and Commissioner Farrell have led the way. You related to us experience in another part of the country which we followed up on. The County Attorney, along with the Chief of Police, the County Engineer have looked at it. An ordinance has been prepared. There was initially some question as to the ability of Judge Stokes and her -- her court to be able to monitor the number of infractions. We've just received a day or two ago affirmation from Judge Stokes that they can do it. Consequently, unless we're told differently, we can place this on First Reading for you next meeting with passage two weeks after.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Did you want to speak on that item? And we'll just have one spokesman now because what we're doing is we're copying what has occurred in Salt Lake City and other places where they're going to monitor that. They'll put up additional signs and safety matters over there. So we want all the people that live in that general area to know that the County is taking a positive move to make sure that people that violate that, they start out with \$150, I think, fine. It goes to the second time \$250, and then \$500, but the police department is working along with the County and that will be a severe penalty on people if they do not observe the pedestrian cross walks. Go ahead.

Ms. Mary Ann Heimes said, my name is Mary Ann Heimes. Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, I applaud you for doing this. This is something that's been needed for a very long time. My handicapped daughter who uses -- accesses that will also thank you I assure you. I'd like to ask one additional item. There --on both sides of the intersection that's the dangerous intersection, there are do not pass on the right signs. Can we please get those enforced because it's a real danger. Cars coming along don't observe the do not pass on the right. They whiz around, and they don't know if somebody's coming -- turning left in front of them, and there's a good possibility for a fatal accident there, and it -- the signs are there. They are meant to be observed, and I remember when they put them in that -- that the police were told to enforce them. This would make a big difference out there that wouldn't really cost anything. In fact, it might enhance the coffers of the police department.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Thank you. And we have the Assistant Chief of Police here who just heard that and who has done an excellent job because the Metro Police Department Chief happens to be out of town. But they -- the major just heard that, and I'm sure they'll be working on that as they always do. Thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

For information only.

=====

AGENDA ITEMS OUT OF ORDER

Chairman Liakakis said, all right, what I'm going to do right now because we have some people in the audience on some other items, and we'll go down to the Commissioner's Items on Item 3, and I'll come back to item 5 and 6 on the Chairman's items. But let's go through the proclamation now for Nora Haynes.

[NOTE: Commissioner's Items 3, 4, and 5 were taken out of order and done at this time.]

=====

5. WATER BANK ACCESS.

Chairman Liakakis said, we'll go back up to the Chairman's items. The one -- the next one would be the water bank access, and what that is we had a -- the Town of Port Wentworth requested that the county assist in that because they didn't have the ability to do this, and they -- with this particular access that would help in that area. Is that right, Mr. --

County Attorney Hart said, yes, sir.

Chairman Liakakis said -- Manager? Okay.

County Manager Abolt said, the gentleman on my right is my expert on this.

Chairman Liakakis said, Mr. Attorney.

County Attorney Hart said, yeah, this is -- the county has a water bank and basically it's a bank of gallonage that can be pumped out of the water that does not require separate permitting, and we've had it for quite some time. When we -- back in 2001 there was a development of some criteria for it that is pretty restrictive. We got a request from the City of Port Wentworth to address an issue involving two businesses and several apartments that just basically because of changes in the DNR regulations, through no fault of the owner, he's short on gallonage for -- for the supplying of these people living in this -- this area, and there's no available water to him any other way. And basically he needs a -- a license or a permit from us to take about 1500 gallons out of our bank to support that. City of Port Wentworth feels that it's a -- it would really serve their community. In the process of complying with all the zoning requirements and building codes and upgrading his facility to meet those codes, it triggered a question under the new DNR regs of how many gallons he could pump from a private well. And he just -- basically he's got the water. He's got a septic system, but he's limited as to the number of gallons he could pump. If he -- if we grant him this license it will permit him to go back to the DNR with that notice and probably be able to stay in business.

Chairman Liakakis said, and the thing about it the -- the Mayor of Port Wentworth and also the City Manager there, they're in favor of this, and that's why they requested the county to do this particular item.

County Attorney Hart said, they've really explored all other options. This is it. This guy's either got to have this or that's it.

Chairman Liakakis said, yeah.

Commissioner Farrell said, what does that do to our balance in our bank?

County Attorney Hart said, it's a pretty good size balance. We -- we inherited that balance in the bank when the paper mill out there closed down. They had a permit to pump a huge amount of water, and we were able to -- to take part of that excess and put it into this bank. And I don't think it would in any way come close to depleting it.

Chairman Liakakis said, yeah. As was told to me by one of the people in Port Wentworth that it's a small amount, but it would help them out.

County Attorney Hart said, keep them in business.

Chairman Liakakis said, Patrick [Shay]?

Commissioner Shay said, I wasn't on the Commission when the guidelines were adopted for how this should be parsed out, and the report from the Director of the MPC was basically that, you know, regardless of the merits of the endeavor, which I think are strong, that it didn't meet the criteria that had been established and came back with a recommendation was that if we're going to break our own rules that we probably ought to consider amending the rules. Where are we on that from a legal standpoint on that?

County Attorney Hart said, well, we --

Commissioner Shay said, if -- if we break our own protocols, where does that leave us?

County Attorney Hart said, well, somebody else can come in and ask, you know, say I want to be in the same circumstance. If they are in the same circumstance, we couldn't just arbitrarily turn them down. This is an extremely unique situation. To find another circumstance like this is probably going to be pretty rare. You've really got two choices, go ahead and grant it do to the unique circumstances, or in the alternative, try to go back and amend your policy 'cause it is your policy. If -- and bring it into some -- some sort of semblance of compliance there.

Commissioner Shay said, so it's a stated policy, it's not an ordinance? We're not breaking the law, our own law.

County Attorney Hart said, you're not breaking the law.

Commissioner Shay said, we're -- we're just not following our own adopted policy, is that correct?

County Attorney Hart said, that is correct.

County Manager Abolt said, what -- what I would ask in conversation with the Chairman and your attorney has already opined, from -- from the standpoint of explaining this action, I -- I would ask -- and Jon [Hart] has provided comments, that we have in -- in the record the opinion from the County Attorney on this one so -- in the event we get something that might seem like it's similar, we can go back to Mr. Hart's words and explanation.

County Attorney Hart said, and it's a little bit different then -- then you got some private citizen coming in saying do something special for me. You really have the request coming from another municipality. They've -- they feel that -- they feel like they need to do something to help -- to help the situation.

Commissioner Shay said, and I -- and one of the reasons that I think has merit is because it is coming forward from a municipality and not from a -- private concern. My -- my issue and it's not with this in particular, is that I think this whole idea of limiting the amount of water that's taken from the aquifer came about primarily because of the issues surrounding salt water intrusion into the aquifer which was impacting other candidates from being able to withdraw water, and in my district, I know that the -- the Town of Thunderbolt is having direct experience with that impact. In other words, because of thing that they didn't create, their well is now being adversely impacted by salt water intrusion. So I just -- we're not doing anything here that is going to preclude another municipality that has needs from coming forward, but it is going to be more likely received if it's a municipality that requests it as opposed to an individual or --

County Attorney Hart said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Shay said, -- private interest. Is that correct?

County Attorney Hart said, yes, sir. Unless it's a private system that's providing public water. We have some of those and -- and they're included within the policy. And this is really not an issue of salt water intrusion. This is an issue that they changed the arithmetic problem on figuring out what kind of gallonage you need for the apartments and what kind of gallonage you need for the business, and when he redid his business, he basically kicked himself over into the new rules unbeknownst to him.

Commissioner Kicklighter asked, what -- what type of business again?

County Attorney Hart said, it's -- it's got a convenience store and another type of store, I don't remember what -- there's some sort of retail store, and then there's three apartments, I believe.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Port Wentworth?

Chairman Liakakis said, yeah.

County Attorney Hart said, yeah.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, they're at their limit on their withdrawal is what --

County Attorney Hart said, they -- they did -- they can't supply the water. They can't -- it's too expensive to get it to that part. They have no plans to supply the water. There's no other source of water other than the ground. He's got a perfectly functioning well that's been there for 30 year or more, but --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, so that permit has to come through the county not the city although it's sitting in a city?

County Attorney Hart said, yeah. They don't have the water bank to -- to give the permitting authority.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay.

Chairman Liakakis said, yeah, and it was them, Dean [Kicklighter], the -- like the Mayor there and also the City Manager and others that wanted to do that. Okay. We need a motion on the floor.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, motion to approve.

Chairman Liakakis said, need a second.

Commissioner Farrell said, second.

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

County Manager Abolt said, again, Mr. Chairman, I would just request that as the Attorney has opined to enter into the record for future reference his opinion so that this will not come back as a precedent.

Chairman Liakakis said, yeah. Right.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve water bank access. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

=====

- 6. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF PERMIT TO DISPENSE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES (WINE ONLY) FOR A SPECIAL EVENT IN CHATHAM COUNTY ON OCTOBER 13, 2012. APPLICANT: CHARLES CARPENTER WALLER, AGENT FOR ISLE OF HOPE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION, INC. EVENT LOCATION IS ISLE OF HOPE MARINA, 50 BLUFF DRIVE, 31406 [DISTRICT 1.]**

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Next item, request Board approval of permit to dispense alcoholic beverages (wine only) for a Special Event in Chatham County on October the 13, 2012. The Applicant Mr. Charles Carpenter Waller, Agent for Isle of Hope Historical Association. Event Location is Isle of Hope Marina, 50 Bluff Drive in District One.

County Manager Abolt said, what this is --

Commissioner Stone said, so moved.

Commissioner Farrell said, second.

County Attorney Abolt said, if I may, what you're doing -- it appeared under Chairman's item because it came in too late for the agenda. So.

Commissioner Stone said, okay. Well I made the motion.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved for Board approval of permit to dispense alcoholic beverages, wine only, for a Special Event in Chatham County on October the 13, 2012. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

=====

VII. COMMISSIONER'S ITEMS

1.

=====

2. DR. BRADLEY AND EMPLOYEE WELLNESS (COMMISSIONER ODELL).

Chairman Liakakis said, come Dr. Bradley for your item.

Paul Bradley M. D. said, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, thank you. Again it's a great pleasure to be here. I think I've been as a physician coming in front of y'all for at least 23, 24 years, and in that capacity I've been doctor, advisor, and -- and I hope constant guardian of your employees. You have -- you have some of the absolute, greatest, most wonderful employees in the whole town, and I'm going to cover the good and the bad and the wonderful and the maybe not so wonderful about that. I'm usually here to tell you something about them. I'm usually here, to be honest, to ask you for something, and I will tell you right now, I'm here today for both. You approved several years ago our program, our company is OurLife, and the program was Save Rx, and as you remember it came as a result of that wonderful, original pilot program where we started intensifying our attempts at wellness for your employees. Save Rx is a program where we help your individual -- your employees try to find as we say the best medications at the best price. Now what does that mean, best medications at best price? Is it just to save money? Well, the -- the -- the result is improving compliance and saving money 'cause no medicine works if the patient, the employee doesn't take it. And so, cost is a very, very important part in what I do in that exam room, and in -- in the care that I give patients. So if I -- if my patients can afford their medicines, then they can -- they can get them at the drug store. The really nice part, and a lot of this came out of that original study, and we've seen it, and I'm going to show you some -- some nice charts and evidence of success, the nice part is when we -- we can find that best medicine, and in the process, save you a lot of money. And particularly in the case of the county, there's a lot of potential money to save.

Dr. Bradley said, my goal -- my goal today is to make sure that everyone knows what Save Rx has been accomplishing for the county members and to give you this -- this nice update. Well, those of you who have some understanding of this are going to say right away, well isn't someone else doing this for me? Who else -- who is that -- who is that? Is this my insurance company? Is this the doctor's job, the pharmacists job? And this thing that you see at the top there, the PBM. That is the pharmacy benefit manager. It's complicated. They usually stay in the -- in the background, but it's part of your insurance company, and it's a necessary part because they monitor and record and pay for all the prescriptions that we as physicians write. There are a number of companies out there. In your case, it is part of the -- your Blue Cross Insurance Plan. They -- they -- like I said, monitor and -- and record and set the prices for all those prescriptions that we write, and it's a lot of prescriptions. The -- the -- the issue comes and -- and it's really an interesting one. In -- in a world of medicine where everything is highly regulated, where there's somebody pretty much looking at everything I do, when it comes to those drugs, there's a -- there's a remarkable lack of oversight. The -- the PBM does set those prices. It's very complicated the formulas they use, the relationships that they have with the pharmaceutical industry, and even with the drug stores themselves.

Dr. Bradley said, we come at this from a -- a different angle. Our Life is a company that I started about six, seven years ago with the idea that we as physicians are -- are ultimately controlling the -- the flow of everything from care to prescriptions to tests, but we as physicians really, although we write all the orders, are way out in left field when it comes to actually having any say -- any input. Insurance companies don't call us up and say, you know, Dr. Bradley, we would like to know what the -- what you think the best way to take care of your patient is. Or Dr. Bradley, what do you think the best drug would be for your patient. We don't get that. That doesn't happen. We're not just talking Savannah. That doesn't happen. The industry doesn't do that. So, what we said was there's got to be a better way.

We really want to take care of our patients, and we do understand there's only so much money to go around. And -- and you only have so much money, that's including to pay us, the hospitals, the drug stores, everything. And so we got together, and I'm glad to say there's over 60 of us now, and we formed this company, Our Life. We -- we love wellness. We -- we -- we -- all day long I'm like little Johnny putting his finger in the dike, right? I'm -- I'm fixing one problem after another after another, but there's so very little time for prevention, we're fixing. So we as a company said there's -- prevention is really important, and we -- and these are our patients. We want them to be well. But we realize there's only so much money, and we wanted to figure out how we could as a -- as -- as doctors get employers to embrace a -- a -- a rapid ramp up of wellness, and we found that prescription savings for which we have a very direct control, was a rapid avenue to accomplish that. Now when we looked at these, we are, and we're very proud of this, we say we're a physician company, and those choices and that direction are physician driven. The PBM, if we look, what's the difference between what we're trying to do for our patients and what the PBMs are trying to do for your employers -- for your employees is different. You can think of us as the -- as the policemen, you can think of us as the watch dog, you can think of us also as the physician sitting down one on one with -- with, you know, with you trying to figure out, okay, what's best. That doesn't happen obviously on the PBM side, and the PBM side is over here what we're saying is we have no bias. Our recommendations are based on asking doctors, the 60 that are actually part of Our Life and the hundreds of others in Savannah. We literally poll them and say, what do you think the best medicines are? If your patient's on this, what do you think a -- a good alternative would be? And by the way, this is how much that medicine costs. I bet you didn't know that. And this is what the alternative would cost. Wow, I bet you didn't know that. And, wow, look how much money we could save. And if we could save all that money, you can bet the patients would be much more likely to take that medication. So the idea with Our Life and with Save Rx is take it out of the hands -- take that control out of the hands of the insurance company and put it in the exam room, put it back where it belongs. Put it with the employer. Put it with the doctor. Put it with the patient.

Dr. Bradley said, okay. This is what it's all about. This report has -- that y'all may remember having seen a few versions of it over the years, this is the latest, greatest refined version, super simplified, made to look attractive. This is what each of your members received when they came on their visit and sat down with the nurse practitioner. It -- it's pretty simple. It's pretty straightforward. If you -- I realize the -- the print's small, and y'all have, I think, a copy in front of you. I won't bore you with the details, but the idea here is take a list of the patient's current medications, okay, and that is information that you own. It's housed by your PBM, but it's information that you own, and print out that list, and have the nurse practitioner from Our Life sit down with each one of you, go over those meds. Sometimes you'll be amazed at the duplicates, the medicines that other doctors were apparently writing and didn't know the other one was writing. And -- but even more importantly, look at what you're taking, the top one up there is Nexium. It's a very commonly prescribed medicine for stomach acid. Some patients really need to take Nexium. No other medicine's going to work, and that's fine. A lot of them could be taking something else, and so when we poll the doctors, for example, they could be taking, some of them, maybe even most of them Omeprazole, which is generic Prilosec. On the patient's report, we simply show them what they were paying, and what they would be paying on the less expensive alternative, and then we do something insurance companies don't do, we tell them what they could actually save. Just on the employee side, okay, and you have some of the lowest co-pays in the industry, just on the employees side, if that person switched from Nexium to Omeprazole, their savings in co-pays would be \$481. Not small dollars, not pocket change. And you can say well what was the savings to the county? We generate a separate report, and when we say we are a company of doctors, working with doctors, we're serious about that. We're not a fax that comes from the PBM to our office that never gets looked at. We actually physically hand these reports to the patient's doctors, and the doctor's report not only shows the alternatives and what the patient could save, the doctor's report actually shows what Chatham County, the employer would save. In the case of Nexium, it's literally a couple of thousand of dollars, and that's per drug per patient.

Dr. Bradley said, all right. So this is -- this is the report, and then -- and some of y'all can say, God, I remember years ago all we talked about was the hospital and how expensive the hospital was, and -- and it's hospitals and surgeries that are killing us. Well, if you've been following these expenses, it's a new world. And it is a very different world than it used to. Your numbers, you spent last 12 months, \$7 million on medicine. That was 30 percent of your health care budget. Now what does that number mean? Thirty percent on medicines, sounds reasonable. It's not. The average person in the U.S. spends about -- somewhere between 9 and 11 percent. The average company that we see, 9 and 11 percent on medications. Out -- total out of the health care -- sorry -- out of the health care budget. You're at 30 percent. Well, that's a big difference. We'll go into it some more. Next. When we -- and we'll come back to that with some -- some numbers. We sat down with each one of your employees and to let you know what they were thinking, just -- because I've already told you the doctors -- I am telling you the doctors think this was a great idea. We have amazing buy in from them. But I'd like to show you that your employees also gave us great buy in. The first question, would -- would -- do you have plans to follow up with your physician about the Save Rx program. Forty-five percent yes -- said yes. That -- that number's actually pretty close to 100 percent because what happens is, 40 -- not everyone's on medications. Not everyone has a medication to change, but 45 percent of everybody, 'cause almost everyone participated in this. You had 1152 employees come in and make the visit. But 45 percent of everyone said, yes, I'm going to take this back to my doctor and I'm going to follow up. How many thought the visit was helpful? Eighty-two and a half percent. How many didn't still realize, and this is -- I will tell you, HR's been trying. We've been trying. How many still didn't realize they have the opportunity for 90-day fill? Half of them. What does that mean? As I just said, everyone's been trying to explain it. The key in medicine, the key in education, okay, and it's education, education, education, is repetition. It goes in here and flies out there. It's repetition over and over and over again.

Dr. Bradley said, all right. Everybody's sitting down. This is good. These -- this is a very small snapshot of the health of your population, and -- and I don't -- you might want to lean back a little bit. It -- it's -- it -- I -- I know you spend more money, part of it is you actually do have a sicker population. Body mass index greater than 30 is the definition of obesity, okay? Not overweight, obesity. Almost half of your employees are obese. Nationwide, it's about 30 percent. Dramatic -- dramatically higher number. Cholesterol should be -- there -- cholesterol on the average should be less than 200. Seventy-two percent, 73 percent, of your employees had a cholesterol of greater than 200. Triglycerides should be less than 150. This is another fat in the blood stream. Eighty percent of your employees had a triglyceride of greater than 150. Blood sugar should be 99 or less fasting. Eighty-six percent, 86 percent of your employees had a blood sugar of greater than 100. That means that 86 percent, and I can't say this enough, 86 percent of your

employees either have pre-diabetes or diabetes. Okay? So it's the rare one that -- that doesn't. And -- and -- what -- why -- why diabetes, what's the big deal? I will tell you that, you know, we worry about cancer, we worry about all these other things, diabetes is driving your healthcare budget. Diabetes is -- is where all your dollars are going to be going. Diabetes in my world equals heart disease period. Okay? We say heart disease we say diabetes. You got diabetes you got heart disease. That's where your money's going and -- and -- and again, we'll get back to it, there needs to be a lot of education. Putting it -- put -- give you some idea 'cause we're going to show -- I'm going to show you some dollars what we've spent, what we've saved. A diabetic foot, \$300,000. Okay? If they don't control their diabetes, they live long enough, they're going to get a diabetic foot. They go into renal failure, go ahead and figure on a million plus dollars. And if they have it long enough and they don't control their disease, these things are going to happen. You don't have one or two of these people. You've got a majority of these people. And as an employer, you are wonderfully unusual because out of all the employers we take care of in the region -- we -- we assist in the region, no one, and I'm saying this, I go on the record saying this, no one has -- no one cares in a wonderful -- in wonderful ways the way you do about your employees' health. No one puts the effort and attention the way you and the HR people do. However, you also, and this is unusual, you also cover them from the moment of employment till death, okay? And we're talking about a progressive disease over time that is only going to continue to cost you more and more money.

Dr. Bradley said, all right. We have -- this one, the next one is actually a really good stat. The first go round when we met with the employees, three, four years -- four years ago, we made sure -- very few of them had primary care doctors. One of the big purposes was to give them -- make sure they had a primary care doctor, and on the second go round, we were up to 98 percent had identified a primary care doctor. That's a huge success. Whether they're going, I can't tell you, but - but a huge success. And this next one is an improvement but -- but has plenty of room for more improvement, 18 -- only 18 percent now didn't -- didn't know how to do the self-breast exams and didn't -- didn't have breast education, but that number is improving. Okay, I was told that no talk is -- yeah. I -- I want to come back. These are -- these are graphs. I was told I had to give graphs for a talk, but let me slip -- I don't want to take too much more time, let me switch to the bottom line slide. All right, so I said, we've been sitting down -- when I asked y'all years ago, I want to do wellness, you told me great, but it had to be budget neutral, and then I had to learn what a budget was and neutral meant. But -- y'all have educated me more than I ever wanted to know. I -- I got it though, okay? I mean, we -- we needed to make people better, but we also needed to think about what things cost, and the cool thing that we found out was we could do both and we could even save money. We didn't have to be budget neutral, we could be very, very positive. So, this is -- we've -- we've actually sat down with the employees twice.

Dr. Bradley said, this is a little bit complicated, but if we sat down with you today, and let's say you made a change in your medication, it's -- it's on the average probably six plus months before it will show up in our reports. First off, there's -- it's a rolling process where we sit down with everyone. That takes up to a year to go through the entire population, and then it takes probably on the average a good three months from the time we see them to the time they might be seeing their doctor again, and then it takes another three months before the data will come back from the pharmacy benefit manager. So, these numbers, as -- as good as they are are actually even better than they appear because it's -- it's a rolling number that keeps increasing. Bottom line though, we were able to save the employer, you, from the first go round -- the savings realized to date, and remember, it's -- it's -- it's kind of like a bank account. The savings accrue. If we change a medicine, and -- and we monitor this, but if we changed a medicine a couple of years ago and they continue to stay on the less expensive medicine, you continue to save money, and we watch to make sure that they didn't switch back or switch to something more expensive. From the first go round to date though, we've saved \$610,000 plus dollars. The second go round which was more recent and -- and the numbers are really just starting to come in, from the second go round we saved \$138,000, but that -- that data's less than a year old, and so, again, we're in that process where it will build as all of it becomes available and the patients get to see the doctor. You know, put those two numbers together, and you've got, what, almost \$800,000 in savings, and this is just prescriptions we're talking about. Remember when we did the first go round, afterwards, and I think -- I think it's fair to say that that initiative was the -- the most -- the -- the thing that was most different that occurred that year was that first initiative, the -- the -- remember, your total expenses dropped by over a couple million dollars. And -- and -- and there's wonderful ramifications 'cause remember, we're saving money on medications, and at the same time, if we're saving money on medications and at the same time, if we're saving money on medications, then they're filling them, and so the wellness should improve. The wellness should increase.

Dr. Bradley said, yes?

Commissioner Odell said, I have a question.

Dr. Bradley said, Commissioner Odell?

Commissioner Odell said, the current Rx program is different from the PBM, but when you make the recommendations do they follow that or can they -- can you -- what -- what do you do to make sure that the PBM --

Dr. Bradley said, thank you.

Commissioner Odell said, complies?

Dr. Bradley said, that's a -- that's a great question and it is our biggest and greatest stumbling block. So it is your information. You are the employer, okay? All that drug information is yours. You own it. It is, however, housed by -- accumulated by the PBM, and two -- two significant issues, issue one, we have to be able to get that information from the PBM and that's been a challenge over the past two years. It is there. It is in electronic form. Other companies it's -- it's I will say, we -- we ask for it and in seconds it's an electronic transfer, we have it. It has been a great challenge to get that information out of your PBM.

Commissioner Odell asked, why?

Dr. Bradley said, I can't answer that one. I don't -- only because I don't know. That is your insurance company.

Country Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, members of the Board, I want to, and I don't mean this in a self-serving way, but I want to recognize the question of Commissioner Odell. That's the issue. And you might recall correspondence a while back where I sent information after talking to Dr. Bradley that we were not getting what we should get from Blue Cross/Blue Shield. Had to go to Ross King, who's doing an excellent job as head of ACCG, told him how dissatisfied I was because there's an association between Blue Cross/Blue Shield and ACCG. I got a call a few days later from the head of Blue Cross saying what can we do to help, and I said, provide us the information. But unfortunately, and in a very unflattering way, it's been very difficult in working with Blue Cross/Blue Shield to get real time information. The information's essential in a wellness program. And it goes back to the question of Commissioner Stone in the pre-meeting, why do we do audits of claims? It's because of -- for whatever reason, their reluctance to provide information that we need to manage these costs.

Commissioner Odell said, is there a way for you to make recommendations to our formulary --

Dr. Bradley said, yes.

Commissioner Odell said, -- that we can take to them?

Dr. Bradley said, yes. And -- and -- and that's it. So there's two issues. One, ready availability of data. And we have the ability on our end from the -- the computer programs that we've been creating over time, we have the ability if -- if -- if we can get the data, we can even tell you in real time what every drug store in town is charging you and the member for every drug. That the -- the data is incredibly powerful. As a physician I can pretty much tell all the diagnoses and many -- most of what's going on with patents from that data, but I have to be able to get it and -- and it has been very, very challenging in -- in the case of your insurance company to get it. The second half of the question is, if I have that data can I do something with it and make specific recommendations? Absolutely. And -- and we try, but we haven't been -- we haven't been able to make any impact there. I hate to say it. It falls on deaf ears. The -- we're looking -- you know, not only are we looking at all this data, but we're the doctors, we -- we know what -- we know what we're writing. We know what we could be writing. We also know what to tell the insurance company we'd like to see. But -- but we -- there's -- there's not a -- a method of -- with your insurance company that I can tell you that's been successful.

Commissioner Odell said, Russ [Abolt]?

County Manager Abolt said, ma'am?

Commissioner Odell said, the -- the PBM that's supporting our program is that a mandatory part or is that part that we purchase when we purchase the insurance?

County Manager Abolt said, it's all one in the same, I believe.

Commissioner Odell said, it's all one in the same?

County Manager Abolt said, but I want to --

Chairman Liakakis said, Russ [Abolt], let me just say this, I want you to instruct the Blue Cross Insurance Company to give those figures to Dr. Bradley. He's been having, you know, deaf ears over there. We need to save the citizens money because tax payers pay these claims. When they go up, that's -- that's what we are faced with, and this wellness program that we put in there is to help our employees have a good, healthy life, and we need to save money like what he's talking about this plan, and I want them to give that information in a short period of time.

County Manager Abolt said, sir, they've already been told those -- in franker words than you had right there. The Chairman has led the way in the past. You have asked, we have expected a wellness Program from Blue Cross/Blue Shield. We get two things, one, reduce your benefits or increase your costs. That's not a wellness program. When Dr. Bradley said nice things about wellness yesterday to Mr. Kaigler and Ms. Fulton and all that. We have a home grown wellness program. We are not getting the return on our investment Blue Cross/Blue Shield, and quite frankly staff is looking at an alternative for this Commission after the first of the year to do -- deal with that situation.

Chairman Liakakis said, Dr. Bradley, if you will get with our County Manager, tell him --

County Manager Abolt said, we --

Chairman Liakakis said, -- the information you want so that on Monday we can start it going right away.

County Manager Abolt said, he has and we are.

Dr. Bradley said, all right. I need -- we -- we really have, you can see, even with the amazing challenges and -- and the difficulty getting information and -- and the -- the one-sided approach, so if we can't get -- I'm sorry, if we can't get the insurer to change these -- the -- the payment structure for the medications, then we've still been trying to do it in the exam room, and -- and even with all those limitations, we've had great savings. I mean we've -- we've -- \$700,000, \$800,000 in savings. If we had even more cooperation and then -- and then real input, I mean, the ability to say, look, this drug's getting ready to go generic, don't cover it yet. Because they're all going to switch to that because under your plan generics are so cheap, but as you probably know, when a drug first goes generic, the cost to you is not cheap. I mean, Lipitor went generic, that was nice. I did -- that really was great, and in a few years it will be cheap. It's not cheap yet, okay? It's about 10 percent less than the branded, but suddenly it went generic and basically your -- you're giving it away to the employees. It costs you a lot of money you -- you were supposed to be saving but you didn't.

There's a long list of real suggestions that we have. Sometimes -- sometimes there are reasons they can't be implemented, most of the time if -- if the structure is smaller and -- and the other end more nimble, then these things are actually very simple. The potential savings because you got -- like I just said, you're spending three times more than anyone else we know on prescriptions. Not one time, you know, not -- not a few dollars more. Three times more. It's incredible. You're spending more on prescriptions than most plans spend on all the doctors put together. You're spending more on prescriptions than most plans, you know, spend on the hospital. And I don't want you to think that it's all just prescriptions, but the bad news -- the bad news is you're spending a lot of money. The good news is there's so much low hanging fruit, and -- and -- and we are the ones that, you know -- we are the ones that are controlling at least what's being written. Maybe not how it's filled, how much you're paying for it, but we're writing -- we're willing to cooperate, and -- and the really -- the thing that really is unique and in other companies from around the country tell me, the thing that's really unique about Our Life is we -- we put the doctors together rather than throw them off in left field as -- as, you know, a herd of cats, we've put them all together and said, we've got an employer that is really generous to our patients, we need to be good to them, and we need to help them. They're helping us take care of our patients. We need to help them do it as efficiently and as reasonably economically as possible.

Commissioner Odell said, with so many of our employees overweight and the extent of diabetes, what can we do -- can you do to help reduce that?

Dr. Bradley said, it -- it's -- it's -- it's interesting. It's education, education, education. You -- I can put if -- so all these diabetics I just told you about, right? I can -- I can see one of them and say, look, you know, you -- you weigh 300 pounds, you've got diabetes, I'm going to put you on medicine, okay, and that's great 'cause from a standpoint -- my standpoint, well that takes five minutes, they're out the door, okay? I get my \$45 for an office visit. That prescription, okay, that -- that I just gave them probably is going to cost you in the neighborhood of \$2500, \$3,000 a year. Okay? The one drug. There's only one 'cause they're going to be back in my office in three months and they're not going to have lost any weight, the blood sugar's going to be a fraction better, but still under control, and I'm going to give them the second drug, and then the third drug and the fourth drug, and then you're spending \$12,000, \$15,000 a year, all right? I -- I love to say the -- the -- the education is actually really inexpensive. I mean, they could see a dietician just about every week in a one to one consultation for what they're going to -- what you're going to spend, not the employee, what you're going to spend on that one drug. And -- and I promise you when you make it personal, when -- when the doctor's involved and there's a team that is educating that patient, but it's repetition. Y'all -- you have wonderfully allowed us to do this twice in four years. It's repetition. We need to be hammering away at them over and over and over again. And it's not that your HR department's not doing it, they are. It has to be done over -- I can't say it enough, over and over and over again. And they need lots and lots of support, okay? I always say if it was easy to be skinny we'd all be skinny. It's not. Lots of education, lots of hand-holding. And actually it's -- it's the -- I said I'll tell you what I'm thinking, what's going on, and then -- and then always when I come up here I come up asking for something. I need permission to go on. I need permission to -- to keep doing what we're doing and really intensify our efforts 'cause there's a lot to be done but the nice part is 'cause there've been times I've come up and just said, y'all I need some money, but you educated me, right? I said you taught me about budgets and whatever and -- and neutrality. But I'm telling you, you will get out of this education real returns. Immediate returns in the prescription savings, we understood that. We -- we heard you years ago and we're returning that. A small investment yields an immediate return there. Education's a slower return. It is. But remember as I said, you don't just insure them for one year. You insure these people -- they retire from you, I watch them -- I watch you give them the rocking chair, I'm still taking care of them, God-willing, what for another 20, 30, 40 years. You're paying -- and you know at 65 you get -- you get, what -- you get 75 percent or 80 percent someone else picks up, you still got 20 percent for life that you're responsible for, and -- and 100 percent of the drugs. Okay? You realize Medi-care's paying 80 percent of their health care costs except drugs, you're paying for the retirees 100 percent of drug costs til death.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, how much money do you need?

Dr. Bradley said, I basically need permission -- I'm not asking for a dollar amount. I need permission really to keep doing what we're doing and intensify those education efforts. I need permission to be instead of once every couple of years getting in front of your members, I need to get in front of all of them. And we did make an -- an advance in the -- the original bunch was just employees and then we made it optional for -- for the family members, I need it -- we need all of them -- family members actually in the average plan cost more than the employee themselves. We need everybody participating.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, let's do it.

Chairman Liakakis said, all right. Priscilla [Thomas] and then Helen [Stone].

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. First of all, Dr. Bradley, let me thank you for all the hard work that you have put into this. I certainly am one that is very sold on what you have done for this county and the employees. I hope that we have heard very succinctly what he has talked about here this morning, education, education, education, and to give him an opportunity to move forward with what he is doing and others. He has really made a big difference in this county, and I can personally attest to that, and I just would like for us to be able to give him some directions here today -- this morning as to -- to move forward rather than just wondering what is going to happen. And then the second thing that I wanted to mention is that as far as Blue Cross/Blue Shield, we just going to have to, you know, demand whatever information that we need and if not, then we have to take the next step.

Chairman Liakakis said, no, we'll go from there.

Commissioner Thomas said, yes.

Chairman Liakakis said, they give it to us.

Commissioner Thomas said, 'cause we've had problems with Blue -- Blue Cross/Blue Shield before, and, you know, they heard us very clear and loudly before that took place.

Chairman Liakakis said, Helen [Stone]?

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think what you -- you're on to something very positive here, and I would like to see you move forward. I want to get back though to any additional cost that, you know, that you might incur because you're talking about being budget neutral, but I do recall a couple of years ago we did appropriate over \$80,000 for a weight loss program. I never got any of the results from that. And I -- I would really like to see how that benefitted the County. So I -- I -- I mean I really think you're on to something here. I really appreciate what you're doing, but I -- I want to remind that, you know, we have appropriated funds for other things outside of the scope of what you're doing, and I -- I would really like to see if -- if the money that we used for the weight loss program, what the benefits were for that, and -- and what the numbers were on that.

Dr. Bradley said, sure. The -- the -- the very short answer is the -- the one year return was 100 and I think -- it's been a while now, but 120,000 on the 80,000, and the two-year follow-up actually showed that they had still -- the group had still kept their weight. The issue then, and this gets back to what I was saying. There wasn't any follow-up as a specific program for those individuals after that, and for the ones that I know, they probably, remarkably, a half of them probably are still doing well, the other half have strayed. It's interesting, the prescription savings stick. We know that because it -- it's -- you can knock off a few drugs, this sounds crazy, knock off a few drugs by improving wellness --

Commissioner Stone said, right.

Dr. Bradley said, -- but when you -- when you take someone who's on a \$2,000 drug on the day that they start the diet and manage to change them to an equivalent drug that's \$40, okay, and -- and let's say, some of them with diet will manage to get off the drug all together some won't, but if -- it's still the same drug basically. Four years later they're still on the \$40 drug even if they've gained weight or not gained weight.

Commissioner Stone said, all right, I --

Dr. Bradley said, it's still a homerun on the economic side.

Commissioner Stone said, and -- and I'd just like to see some numbers on that.

Dr. Bradley said, we have them.

Commissioner Stone said, because I mean, you know, in good faith, we -- we appropriated the money and I just wanted to see --

Dr. Bradley said, absolutely.

Commissioner Stone said, -- what the end results of that are or is that something we need to revisit.

Dr. Bradley said, well in --in the form of education, yes. A lot of what we want in education is already covered under your plan. As -- as specific, have a visit, insurance company make a payment. It -- it -- what we're really asking for is that rather than separate it all out like that, have Herculean and -- and -- and employee wide efforts to -- to consolidate and really intensify those education wellness programs.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Dean [Kicklighter]?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman, based on the stats, the cost savings, and the healthier employees, and the desire and goal and passion of Dr. Bradley to implement all of this, I make a motion that we continue the current wellness program.

Commissioner Thomas said, second.

Commissioner Stone said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay.

Assistant County Manager Michael Kaigler said, Mr. Chairman, just -- before -- before we do that, I just wanted to ensure y'all that the program as it stands now, it's -- it's totally funded. So, we've -- we've taken that into consideration when we put the budget together, so that program will continue. Another thing I wanted to remind y'all that we have -- and you've approved redoing the employee premiums for the upcoming budget year, so that's one thing we've got in place too. One of the issues that's we've had, and Dr. Bradley eluded to it, was the difficulty in getting real time data from Blue Cross. I think once we cross that hurdle, the data that we give y'all will be a lot better. We also with that education, and you'll see that as a recommendation coming from staff is the financial incentive because you can, you know, give the education. We've got a number of people who they religiously follow those recommendations. If there's not that financial incentive, and not a penalty, but a financial incentive we've got a lot of people who don't follow those recommendations, so those are some of the issues that we'll be bringing to you as we -- we move forward. We've got an excellent program. Our costs that we've seen for the last fiscal year are not as good as we'd like. We are addressing those with Blue Cross, but I -- I -- I do want you to know that we're going -- we're going to have to fundamentally change some of the structure as we go forward because if we don't, we're not going to be able to afford that program as we have it now.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, this motion is not going to penalize me because I'm not as slender as I'd like to be, right?

Mr. Kaigler said, well, no, sir, it -- it won't, but --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, we'll face that later.

County Manager Abolt said, Commissioner Kicklighter, you're not as tall as you should be.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I -- I know it. That's it. It's not overweight, it's lack of height.

Mr. Kaigler said, but -- but those things are coming. That financial incentive. We -- we're just going to have to do that. We're going to have to change behaviors of individuals in order to realize those cost savings.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, and -- and for the employees listening, you have proposed incentives as a -- not just a penalty but some type of bonus also.

Commissioner Thomas said, yeah. Yeah.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, you've -- you have there. It's not all penalties, right?

Mr. Kaigler said, well, it's similar to if -- if -- through our wellness program, you've -- we've identified that you're a diabetic, if you participate in the diabetes management program, you get certain incentives. If -- if you don't, the reality is, it's going to cost you more. If you're obese and you don't participate in a program, it may cost you more.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay, let me do this. I want to recognize our Chatham -- because one of them wants to ask you a question, quickly, Dr. Bradley, let me introduce our Chatham County Youth Commission here who come up at all of our meetings. Nia Dawson, is representing Savannah Arts; Lamar Ballard from Islands High, and Jaylah Diggs from Jenkins High, and Nia [Dawson] wanted to ask you a question. Go ahead, Nia [Dawson.]

Youth Commissioner Nia Dawson said, I'm -- I'm not quite understanding as far as -- well, I don't know everything that health insurance entails considering I'm just a high school student and I'm unemployed, but you said that you had your own nurse practitioner for Save Rx, where would employees go to visit? Would they just go to a regular doctor's appointment to visit this nurse practitioner or would they come?

Dr. Bradley said, no, it's a good question. We actually -- to make it -- we learned a lesson a long time ago, you've got to make it easy. You got to make it convenient. That nurse practitioner actually went on site to the different Chatham County locations and -- and literally set up shop in a -- in an office in a confidential, private office at each location and -- and met with the employees.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Thank you all. All right. I'm going to tell you about a diabetic patient, just quickly.

Commissioner Thomas said, we've got a motion on the floor.

Chairman Liakakis said, this -- let me just say this quick like. This diabetic patient had their toe -- their big toe taken off, then the next thing they took the foot off, the next up at the knee, and then it went up, doctor, to the hip, and that patient died on the operating table, and that patient was my uncle, because he didn't follow what was, you know, in that situation with diabetes.

Dr. Bradley said, it's -- it's -- it's true, and when I said that a diabetic foot infection costs \$300,000, it's not the antibiotic or the doctor or even the one hospitalization, it's -- it's exactly what the Chairman said. We call them -- I hate to say it, we call them widelectomies because if they don't participate, first it's the toe, you know, then it's -- then it's -- then it's half of the foot, the whole foot, the knee, and -- and -- and they still don't participate, and -- and then unfortunately they pass away.

Chairman Liakakis said, yeah. Dean [Kicklighter], go ahead, 'cause we going to --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, great job, but I call for the question.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Let's go on the board. Take that up. Take the screen up. Motion passes. Thank you, doctor.

Dr. Bradley said, thank you and -- and -- and from all the doctors in town, we really thank you for the opportunity to continue to care for your employees. They're the best.

Chairman Liakakis said, and doctor, that presentation you had, you had all the figures and all, would you send that to my office? And please get with our County Manager so that we can get rolling on this immediately.

Dr. Bradley said, you should have a copy.

Commissioner Stone said, he does.

Commissioner Gellatly said, I think you do have a copy.

Chairman Liakakis said, oh, okay. Good. All right. Thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to continue the current wellness program. Commissioners Thomas and Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Farrell was not present for the vote.]

=====

[NOTE: Chairman's Item 4 was done at this time.]

3. PROCLAMATION FOR NORA HAYNES ON HER RETIREMENT (COMMISSIONER STONE.)

Chairman Liakakis said, but let's go through the proclamation now for Nora Haynes.

Commissioner Stone said, okay, now that we've got half of the audience up here. Mr. Chairman, it gives me great pleasure to read this proclamation to Nora [Haynes]. Her work has been outstanding. Her heart tremendous. And one of the things that really caught my attention, she brought the County Manager and me a Coca Cola that cost \$1,160. The story is, and this is very real, is that this is what it costs our police department to pick up a person who has had unfortunate mental ill -- issues in their past, process them at the local jail, when all of that could be eliminated through the program that Nora's partly responsible for, along with many people up here today. The savings is right here. It's real. Not to mention, the dignity of the people that are incarcerated. This -- this eliminates this. This allows them to go back to their case workers without the resources that are being spent and without certainly compromising their integrity. So it gives me great pleasure at this time. I'm very proud of you, Nora [Haynes], and all of the people here that have worked so hard on this, and they're continuing to work hard on this with this program called Open Doors to Recovery.

Commissioner Stone read the proclamation as follows:



WHEREAS, Chatham County takes great pride in recognizing citizens that go the extra mile to ensure the welfare, health and safety of others. In that regard we salute with great pride, Nora Lott Haynes; and

WHEREAS, as part of an Adult Mental Health Summit made up of groups of professionals and lay mental health advocates and consumers in the early winter of 2009, a decision was made to design a Model System of Care that would reduce recidivism for adults with Serious Mental Illnesses who end up more than once in a year in the state hospital, jails, prisons and/or homeless.; and

WHEREAS, Opening Doors to Recovery Program was Nora Haynes' vision to that decision. A native of Oklahoma, she came to Savannah to work in the program as its project director with the mission of identifying and closing the gaps in the state's mental health system and to transition the repeat cases back into a community-based environment with supports to keep them out of jails and hospitals; and

WHEREAS, she wrote the grant for Opening Doors to Recovery Program to the Bristol-Myers Squibb Foundation and was responsible for acquiring the funds from the Georgia State legislature for the project. Ms. Haynes was also responsible for the partnership with the Georgia Bureau of Investigation and many other agencies that made the program a success.

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

NORA LOTT HAYNES

upon her retirement and extend heartfelt appreciation for her leadership in this community collaborative which changed the way those with mental illness is encouraged to live.

Pete Liakakis, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

ATTEST:

Helen L. Stone, Chairman Pro tem
District 1 Commissioner

Ms. Nora Haynes said, thank you, Helen. [Applause.]

Ms. Haynes said, I want to -- can I -- can I just say something. Thank you so much. I really appreciate this very much. I have a son with schizophrenia, and I know what it's like to have stignorance, stigma and ignorance, because mental illness is a part of the body. It's -- it -- you know the things that you just saw with diabetes, mental illness is just like that, but there's so much stigma around mental illness, and it's not rocket science, we can keep these people from recycling in and out of your jails and your prisons and your -- your state hospitals. It just takes education. We don't want anything to happen in Georgia like happened recently in Colorado. You can treat people with mental illness. But this would not have been done without the CSBs, without -- without our navigators, without Gateway, without Pineland, Satilla, CSB, without NAMI Georgia, and please don't let this go by the wayside because people with mental illness do not need to be treated in jail. Thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you very much. We appreciate your service and all of you that participate in this. Priscilla [Thomas]?

Commissioner Thomas said, I would just like to say thank you very much -- oh, thank you very much. We certainly need this and I'm hoping that we will just rally behind this cause because what you are trying to do will certainly make a great impact and lessen the jail, you know, those that are occupying the jail. So not only that, but the impact that it will have in helping people in the kind of ways that they need to be helped. Thank you.

Commissioner Stone said, she's not trying to do it. She's done it.

Commissioner Thomas said, well this is what I'm saying. Well wonderful. We just want to continue with it and hope -- hopefully that others will, you know, support you in this effort.

Ms. Haynes said, thank you Commissioner Thomas. I really appreciate that. But Savannah-Chatham County's leading the way.

Commissioner Thomas said, great.

Ms. Haynes said, thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Thank all of you for coming today.

=====

4. SAVANNAH OCEAN EXCHANGE REQUEST FOR \$25,000 (COMMISSIONER STONE).

Chairman Liakakis said, next item, Savannah Ocean Exchange Request for \$25,000. Helen [Stone]?

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I don't know if -- how many of you were able to attend any of the events that the Ocean Exchange was responsible for but they did a tremendous job here in bringing talent from all over the world, and I know that, Commissioner Shay, you attended a couple of events, and Ms. -- Ms. Atkinson is here today to give a brief summary. I am requesting at this time that we do the same level of funding that we did last year to keep these innovations and ideas coming to our community, and she's going to give a very, very brief presentation, and if you will just indulge her a few minutes. I know we're running a little bit late, Mr. Chairman, but I know that she will be brief.

Ms. Haley Atkinson said, good morning.

Chairman Liakakis said, good morning.

Ms. Atkinson said, thank you very much for allowing me to chat with you today. Here first of all to say thank you for your contribution to Savannah Ocean Exchange last year. This year in 2012, we increased the program 10-fold and I have a summary for each of you about our program. What we're going to -- what we have, for those of you who were not able to attend the Savannah Ocean Exchange, we have a super, quick, fun video so that you can kind of get a little bit of the -- experience a little bit of the energy that took place in the Inspiration Exchange.

Chairman Liakakis said, William [Wright], while they're waiting on that, take those information sheets and distribute them, please. Thank you.

[NOTE: Video presentation shown. Audio did not work.]

Commissioner Stone said, we don't have any audio.

Ms. Atkinson said, so down at Tybee -- down at Tybee we had an international beach party by the North Beach Grill. Our objective was to sort of encourage people to be going to different areas to do different things. Ruben Studdard, American Idol, came. It was absolutely a gorgeous evening and setting. The next morning we had beach clean up, so about 250 people showed up to go and clean the beaches. Savannah Ocean Exchange is environmental, as well as having fun and connecting people with the ocean and ocean experiences. Ruben Studdard was down at Tybee Pier

for the cut -- opening ceremony and met with over 100 children from -- from the city and county. We also had 15 exhibits there -- science exhibits were the children could build robotics and see videos and learn about water shed. So we had 15 fabulous education experiences that were there, and those were there for both days. We had over 1,000 people come through there. And they were all free. Excuse me.

Ms. Atkinson said, we had a Board of Governors meeting at the Ships of the Sea, which was absolutely gorgeous again. Our Board of Governors, we have 40 of them that come from around the globe, and they were -- 12 of them sort of exchanged their connection to Savannah Ocean Exchange. In the handout that I've given you, it covers sort of the highlights from 2012. The Inspiration Exchange which is open to the public and free and the variety of events that we had there. The Solutions Exchange was -- happened at the Trade Center and the jump drives I handed out to you were the finalists -- 16 finalists. We do a world -- world wide call for solutions. We had -- had over 100 entries from multiple countries come here. We have a global review panel that looks at these. On the jump drive is the top 16, which we then brought to Savannah and they presented to a variety of delegates that had come as well from around the world. And there -- and there were two winners that were selected by this group, and they each received \$100,000, one from Gulfstream, one of our major employers, and the other from Wallenius Wilhelmsen Logistics, who is in Oslo but has an operation here. The design of Savannah Ocean Exchange is to connect Chatham County globally, and we -- we are making great strides in just year two. In addition to the Solutions Exchange, and just another beside -- we bring all these people here, we are having -- we are only in year two, so we really don't have a system yet where we connect them with Savannah Economic Development Authority and show -- take them around, but they experience Chatham County in a -- in a really, really unique way. This year, of the 16, two have actually sent me emails saying they'd like to start operations here in Chatham County. So we'll proceed in doing that. We've had two from last year that have been coming back because this is the place where they can come to network. Globally we're connecting them actually with international cement companies, the ports is working with one to do a study up and down the east coast. So without our being far enough along in our growth, we're making some really big headway in being able to expand business internationally here for Savannah.

Ms. Atkinson said, in addition we have an internship program. We had 27 interns from multiple colleges participate. We bring in experts from National Geographic, Smithsonian, Woods Hole Oceanographic and NOAA to work with these teams, and they produce some amazing pieces that we showcase at the Solutions Exchange. So -- so these students work across universities to create great pieces that we show in demonstrating the kind of the talent that we have here. I'll answer any questions that you have of me. I just wanted to give you an overview of Savannah Ocean Exchange.

Chairman Liakakis said, Dean [Kicklighter]?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you. Great job. I -- I just want to ask a couple questions. What is your total budget?

Ms. Atkinson said, our total budget is \$350,000 this year.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, 350,000. And, you're requesting \$25,000. Is that in our budget already?

County Manager Abolt said, no, sir.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, no? What's the anticipated deficit next year for the budget, M&O budget, Russ [Abolt]? I just read, what, \$3.5 million?

County Manager Abolt said, it's a lot.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. I think you're wonderful. You're doing a great job. It's not in our budget this year for the 25,000. We're facing a \$3.5 million budget -- I just caution this body that we can keep spending but we're just -- we -- we possibly should put it away for next year because it's -- we're going to have to cut a lot of things next year, and -- that's it. Thank you. But you're doing a great job. It's not intended to you or what your organization's doing at all. It's just the predicament that we're in financially in this county.

Commissioner Odell said, hello. Hi.

Ms. Atkinson said, hi.

Commissioner Odell said, I -- I heard you talk about the intern program with the college students. Do you also reach out to the children in the schools here? You know, elementary, high schools, doing career days and such?

Ms. Atkinson said, this past year we identified 30 science teachers, and we had best in class individuals from Smithsonian, National Geographic, NOAA, I can't remember, there was also the French science ship that came, and I apologize, I'm blanking out on their name. So, we had specific ocean environmental training for 30 teachers at the K through 12 level, and then when the science -- when the ship came, their students were able to go tour that. So we do do the K through 12, as well as the high school -- I mean, as well as college.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, how --

Chairman Liakakis said, Dean [Kicklighter]?

Commissioner Kicklighter asked, how much Chatham County Board of Education budget for your education?

Ms. Atkinson said, nothing.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, nothing?

Ms. Atkinson said, no.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, Dean -- Helen [Stone]?

Commissioner Stone asked, how much did the City of Savannah contribute?

Ms. Atkinson said, the City of Savannah contributed this year \$75,000.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay.

Ms. Atkinson said, of the -- of the money that we -- of the \$350,000 that we raise -- or that we need for our budget, all of that money goes to over 50 businesses in the Chatham County area. So it's -- it's only -- we're just redistributing it and showcasing the wonderful businesses that we have here and our universities.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, but -- but I'll remind the 25,000 comes from the 250,000 residents that goes back to 50 businesses, and they're the ones that's going to be hit very hard next year one way or another, as well as our staff and many, many, many great programs, unless we raise taxes next year. So it's not fun to tell great people doing great jobs that we can't afford something but --

Commissioner Stone said, well --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, -- we can't -- we can't afford things.

Commissioner Stone said, I would just add that all of these people that come in for the Ocean Exchange are staying in our hotels, are eating in our restaurants, are participating in shopping and what have you, so I don't know that you can look at it in that way. So I will make a motion of approval of the \$25,000.

Commissioner Shay said, second.

Chairman Liakakis said, I have a motion on the floor and a second. We've got -- Tabitha [Odell], you wanted to ask?

Commissioner Odell said, I did have one question. You said that you had two businesses that were interested in coming back to the county to -- to operate in?

Ms. Atkinson said, right.

Commissioner Odell asked, they would offer jobs?

Ms. Atkinson said, yes.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay.

Commissioner Thomas said, question, what -- where would this fund come from? What source?

Chairman Liakakis said, Russ [Abolt]?

County Manager Abolt said, same -- same source as last year. We'd -- we'd make a shift out of M&O contingency and it would require a contract with Ocean Exchange.

Commissioner Thomas said, contingency.

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

Ms. Atkinson said, thank you very much.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved for approval of \$25,000 to Savannah Ocean Exchange. Commissioner Shay seconded the motion and it carried 7-2 with Chairman Liakakis, Commissioners Stone, Holmes, Shay, Farrell, Odell, and Thomas voting yes and Commissioners Gellatly and Kicklighter voting no.

=====

5. NORWOOD PLAZA POLICE SUBSTATION (COMMISSIONER STONE).

Chairman Liakakis said, next item, Norwood Plaza Police substation. Helen [Stone].

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mary Christian -- Christy, and -- I'm going to walk down to the podium 'cause this is something, Mr. Chairman, I'm really excited about and this is going to be very brief, but I just want

to make sure that the citizens in this community know that there's some people that have stepped up to the plate and are willing to help us out in our efforts to combat crime. So I'll walk down there.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you. Mr. Chairman, this started roughly, I guess, about a year ago with Anita Adair at Isle of Hope who was very concerned when we unfortunately lost the precinct on Skidaway Road that serviced that area. And through her efforts and tenacity, and working with Mary Christian and -- who was the gentleman we met with yesterday?

Ms. Christy said, Dennis Azari (phonetic).

Commissioner Stone said, yes. And he was fabulous, and all of these efforts have now come to fruition, and I'm sorry that the Chief is not here, but you're here, and that's wonderful, and I'm glad that you're here, because this is so important. And I -- I would make this challenge to anybody in our community that has real estate that could offer the same sort of mini station, substation, a location, if you will, for police officers to come have a cup of coffee, use a restroom, do some paperwork. This is not a manned precinct. This is not a location where you can expect to come and pick up reports. This is for visibility. This is for community outreach, and this is a wonderful concept. I know it's been done in other communities. And we're very fortunate to have this located in the Norwood Plaza near Sandfly, which is much needed in that area right now since the precinct was -- was relocated all the way to Wilmington Island. So I am -- I cannot stress to you how happy I am about this. I want to thank Anita. I want to thank Mary Christian -- Mary Christian?

Ms. Mary Christy said, Mary Christy.

Commissioner Stone said, Mary Christy. I don't know why I keep wanting to call you that. And the Major here. For -- for all of the efforts, along with the police chief, and I'm going to let Mary Christy explain how this came about on her part and again, I -- I would hope that citizens in the community if -- if you have the ability to offer similar locations, we're looking for them. I think it's just going to be a wonderful community outreach. Thank you.

Ms. Christy said, thank y'all. On behalf of Norwood Market, we're glad to be part of increasing the safety and well-being of the community. We would like to thank our neighborhood partners, especially Anita Adair, who is not here with us today. She's in charge of the neighborhood watch at Isle of Hope. She's really pushed forward this effort.

Major Taulbert said, on behalf of Chief Lovett, I would just like to say thank you very much for all the effort that you all have put into this. We are definitely going to make good use of the substation. Thank you very much.

Commissioner Stone said, and I want you to know how accommodating these folks have been. When I walked in yesterday, they said, what color would you like the walls? So I am -- I'm -- I mean that's the least of my concerns, but that's -- that's how accommodating they have been and -- and how wonderful this is going to be so I am really, really excited. Thank you.

Ms. Christy said, thank you.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Liakakis said, thank you. We appreciate that.

=====

[NOTE: Chairman's Items 5 and 6 were done at this time.]

=====

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 (*).

Chairman Liakakis said, there are no Tabled/Reconsidered items here.

=====

IX. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL ACTION

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

- 1. **TO REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND TRANSFERS: (1) in the GENERAL FUND M&O: (a) transfer \$30,000 from contingency to Special Appropriations for the West Broad Street YMCA, (b) appropriate \$42,900 fund balance committed for Emergency Management to the Emergency Management department, and (c) transfer \$13,460 from operating line**

items to salaries and wages in the Probate Court budget, (2) in the CONFISCATED REVENUE FUND appropriate \$40,000 confiscated revenue for the Counter Narcotics Team, and (3) in the MULTIPLE GRANT FUND increase revenues and expenditures \$1,000 for a grant award for the Juvenile Offenders Program.

Chairman Liakakis said, Item One under Items for Individual Action. One, to request approval of the following budget amendments and transfers: (1) in the General Fund M&O: (a) transfer \$30,000 from contingency to Special Appropriation for the West Broad Street YMCA, (b) appropriate \$42,900 fund balance committed for Emergency Management to the Emergency Management Department, and (c) transfer \$13,460 from operating line items to salaries and wages in the Probate Court budget, (2) in the Confiscated Revenue fund appropriate \$40,000 confiscated revenue for the Counter Narcotics Team, and (3) in the Multiple Grant Fund increase revenues and expenditures \$1,000 for a grant award for the Juvenile Offenders Program. Need a motion.

Commissioner Thomas said, move for approval.

Commissioner Gellatly said, second.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Thomas moved to approval of the following budget amendments and transfers: (1) in the General Fund M&O: (a) transfer \$30,000 from contingency to Special Appropriations for the West Broad Street YMCA, (b) appropriate \$42,900 fund balance committed for Emergency Management to the Emergency Management department, and (c) transfer \$13,460 from operating line items to salaries and wages in the Probate Court budget, (2) in the Confiscated Revenue fund appropriate \$40,000 confiscated revenue for the Counter Narcotics Team, and (3) in the Multiple Grant Fund increase revenues and expenditures \$1,000 for a grant award for the Juvenile Offenders Program. Commissioner Gellatly seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: IX-1
AGENDA DATE: October 5, 2012

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

ISSUE: To request of the following budget amendments and transfers: (1) in the General Fund M&O: (a) transfer \$30,000 from contingency to Special Appropriations for the West Broad Street YMCA, (b) appropriate \$42,900 fund balance committed for Emergency Management to the Emergency Management department, and (c) transfer \$13,460 from operating line items to salaries and wages in the Probate Court budget, (2) in the Confiscated Revenue fund appropriate \$40,000 confiscated revenue for the Counter Narcotics Team, and (3) in the Multiple Grant Fund increase revenues and expenditures \$1,000 for a grant award for the Juvenile Offenders Program.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The Board of Commissioners approved a \$30,000 appropriation to the West Broad Street YMCA at the September 21, 2012 meeting. A transfer from General Fund M&O contingency is necessary to provide funding. A staff report to approve the contract is on today's agenda. A resolution is attached.
2. The CEMA Director has requested an appropriation of \$42,900 for the purchase of a vehicle and equipment. Correspondence and a resolution are attached.
3. The Chief Clerk/Court Administrator of Probate Court has requested a transfer of \$13,460 from operating line items to salaries and wages to cover the temporary salary increase of an employee in an acting capacity. Correspondence is attached.
4. The Counter Narcotics Team Director has requested a \$40,000 appropriation for the purchase of evidence, purchase information funds and training. A staff report is attached. The request has been sent to the County Attorney for review.
5. The Council of Juvenile Court Judges has awarded an additional \$1,000 grant for the Juvenile Offenders Program. Correspondence and a resolution are attached.

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

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board approve the following:

GENERAL FUND M&O

- a) Transfer \$30,000 from contingency to Special Appropriations for the West Chatham Broad Street YMCA.

- b) Increase revenues and expenditures \$42,900 fund balance committed for Emergency Management.
- c) Transfer \$11,450 from Management Consulting Services and \$2,000 from Dues/Fees - Juror Expense to salaries in the Probate Court budget.

CONFISCATED REVENUE FUND

Appropriate \$40,000 to the Counter Narcotics Team for the purchase of evidence, information funds, and training.

MULTIPLE GRANT FUND

Increase revenues and expenditures \$1,000 for an additional grant award from The Council of Juvenile Court Judges of Georgia to the Juvenile Offenders Program.

- 2. Amend or deny the request.

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

RECOMMENDATION: That the Board approve Alternative 1. Prepared by: Estelle Brown

=====

2. REQUEST BOARD ADOPT SETTLEMENT OF PRAYON, S.A.'S TAX REFUND FOR TAX YEAR 2009.

Chairman Liakakis said, item 2, request Board adopt settlement of Prayon, S.A.'s tax refund for tax year 2009. Russ [Abolt]?

County Manager Abolt said, this is the County Attorney's recommendation to refund.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Need a motion on the floor.

Commissioner Gellatly said, motion.

Commissioner Farrell said, second.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Gellatly moved to adopt the settlement of Prayon, S.A.'s tax refund for tax year 2009. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: IX-2
AGENDA DATE: October 5, 2012

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

ISSUE:
To request Board consideration of Prayon, S.A.'s tax refund for tax year 2009.

BACKGROUND:
Prayon, SA (Prayon) is a company that manufactures and sells phosphate and fluorine products. Its products are used in food applications, industrial applications, fertilizers, and other applications. The company serves fertilizers, industrial applications, and food applications markets. The company is based in Engis, Belgium.

Under O.C.G.A. §48-5-48.1, a taxpayer may obtain an exemption from ad valorem taxation of certain tangible personal property inventory (commonly referred to as the "freeport exemption") by filing a written application and schedule of property with the county board of tax assessors.

On March 2, 2009, Prayon submitted an application and property schedule pursuant to which Prayon asked that property valued at \$2,006,881 be exempted under the freeport exemption for tax year 2009. The application was granted.

On December 2, 2009, Prayon paid the sum of \$135,383.42 to the Chatham County Tax Commissioner, for taxes owed for tax year 2009.

In September 2010, Prayon notified the Tax Assessors' office that an error had been made on its initial application for the 2009 freeport exemption. In response, the Assessors' office, in correspondence, dated

October 1, 2012, advised Prayon's representative that the assessment could not be revised since an amended application/return was not filed prior to the March 1st deadline. A copy of the letter from the Assessors' office is attached as Exhibit A.

On April 26, 2011, Prayon's representative sent additional correspondence to the Assessors' office regarding the 2009 freeport exemption and cited the tax refund statute codified at O.C.G.A. § 48-5-380 as the basis for allowing Prayon to submit an amended application/return for tax year 2009. A copy of the April 26th letter is attached as Exhibit B.

On May 4, 2011, the Assessors' office sent additional correspondence denying Prayon's request and advising that a claim for tax refund pursuant to O.C.G.A. §48-5-380 should be directed to the Chatham County governing authority via the County Manager. A copy of the May 4th letter is attached as Exhibit C.

On June 14, 2011, Prayon's representative sent the tax refund request to the County Manager seeking a refund in the amount of \$123,169 based upon its contention that a portion of the 2009 taxes paid were based upon the alleged erroneous assessment due to incorrect date on the freeport application. A copy of that letter is attached as Exhibit D.

Specifically, Prayon contends that the 2009 freeport exemption and personal property return submitted contained the following two errors made by Prayon:

- (1) mistakenly reported its gross sales at year end 2008 at \$75,303,807 but that the actual 2008 sales for Chatham County was \$8,860,644; and
- (2) mistakenly reported sales destination based upon the address on file for each customer. (Because the addresses on file reflected the customer's parent company location or billing address (and not the actual shipment destination), the original report misrepresented the actual instate and out-of-state sales. As a result of this error, Prayon contends that sales outside of Georgia should have been \$6,911,211 and sales within Georgia were \$1,949,433.)

The statutes related to Freeport exemption provide as follows:

The application for freeport exemption is governed by the provisions of O.C.G.A. §48-5-48.1, which provide in relevant part as follows:

- (c) (1) For the purposes of this subsection, the term "file properly" shall mean and include the timely filing of the application and complete schedule of the inventory for which exemption is sought on or before the due date specified in subsection (a) of this Code section.
 - (2) The failure to file properly the application and schedule shall constitute a waiver of the exemption on the part of the person, firm, or corporation failing to make the application for such exemption for that year as follows:
 - (A) The failure to report any inventory for which such exemption is sought in the schedule provided for in the application shall constitute a waiver of the exemption on the part of the person, firm, or corporation failing to so report for the taxable year an amount equal to the difference between fair market value of the inventory as reported and the fair market value finally determined to be applicable to the inventory for which the exemption is sought; and
 - (B) The failure to file timely such application and schedule shall constitute a waiver of the exemption until the first day of the month following the month such application and schedule are filed properly with the county tax assessor; provided, however, that unless the application and schedule are filed on or before June 1 of such year, the exemption shall be waived for that entire year.

(Emphasis added).

However, in construing the relevant statutory provisions, the Court of Appeals in *Gwinnett County Board of Tax Assessors v. Standard Distributing and Supply of Georgia*, 487 S.E.2d 262 (Ga. 2003), rejected the Board of Assessors' argument that the taxpayer waived its freeport exemption by undervaluing the property to be exempted.

O.C.G.A. §48-5-380(a) authorizes a refund to taxpayers of taxes which are determined to have been erroneously or illegally assessed or which have been voluntarily or involuntarily overpaid by taxpayers. The criteria for granted a refund are set forth in *National Health Network v. Fulton County*, 270 Ga. 724, 727-728 (1999):

- (1) a taxing authority assessed and collected taxes in violation of federal or state law;
- (2) a taxpayer asserts that the property assessed was exempt from taxation;
- (3) a county or city applied the wrong millage rate to the assessed value;
- (4) a taxpayer made duplicate payments or paid taxes to the wrong taxing authority;
- (5) a county or city collected property taxes for land that was located in another county or owned by a different person; or

- (6) the county committed a clerical error, such as listing the wrong assessed value.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Prayon, SA (Prayon) is a company that manufactures and sells phosphate and fluorine products. Its products are used in food applications, industrial applications, fertilizers, and other applications.
2. Under O.C.G.A. §48-5-48.1, a taxpayer may obtain an exemption from ad valorem taxation of certain tangible personal property inventory (commonly referred to as the "freeport exemption") by filing a written application and schedule of property with the county board of tax assessors.
3. On March 2, 2009, Prayon submitted an application and property schedule pursuant to which Prayon asked that property valued at \$2,006,881 be exempted under the freeport exemption for tax year 2009. The application was granted.
4. In September 2010 and April 2011, Prayon notified the Tax Assessors' office that Prayon made an error on its initial application for the 2009 freeport exemption and requested a refund. The Assessors' office denied the request and advised Prayon that a tax refund request must be submitted to the governing authority.
5. Prayon now seeks a refund for 2009 taxes and has agreed to accept \$50,000.00 as settlement. The alleged errors at issue include inaccurate sales data and inaccurate out-state sales date.

FUNDING:

Delinquent collections of the Tax Commissioner's office.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The errors made were not that of the Board of Assessors. If there is no dispute that the information contained on the initial freeport application and supporting documentation was erroneous, and that therefore otherwise exempt property has been assessed, this Board would be required, under O.C.G.A. §48-5-380 to refund taxes paid on exempt property.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Grant request Prayon S.A. for refund of taxes paid by Prayon in the amount of \$50,000.00 for tax year 2009.
2. Do not grant request Prayon S.A. for refund of taxes paid by Prayon in the amount of \$50,000.00 for tax year 2009.

RECOMMENDATION:

After talks with Prayon a settlement figure was proposed by the BOA and Prayon. There is a chance the Courts may not view the amended information as timely and thus either deny the refund or only refund a portion the first requested amount. The County or Prayon could be liable, if the matter was litigated, for court costs and fees. A refund of \$50,000 was agreed to by Prayon. It is recommended that this refund amount be approved by the Commission.

=====

3. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL FOR A THIRD EXTENSION OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH HUTCHINSON HOTEL HOLDINGS FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT OF A TRADE CENTER CONVENTION HOTEL.

Chairman Liakakis said, request Board approve a third extension of a Memorandum of Understanding with Hutchinson Hotel Holdings for the proposed development of a trade center convention hotel.

County Manager Abolt said, I'll ask my expert, Mr. Monahan, to deliver the staff recommendation.

Assistant County Manager Pat Monahan said, almost good afternoon Chairman and Commissioners. The action before the Board would extend the MOU with Hutchinson Hotel Holdings another 180 days. As you might recall, as the Board might recall on April 13th, the Board agreed to extension two which provided the same length of -- of time, but what has changed since then, I have attached a copy a letter that the Chairman sent the Commissioner of the Department of Community Affairs to try to get some early indication formally from the State on whether the project qualifies for the Tourism Development Sales Tax Refund, which would be a key component to protect the county in any debt repayment. But until the Board adopts a development agreement, which would be the next step to move forward, the county cannot complete the due diligence necessary nor create the two special service districts that would provide the protection to safeguard any public investment. So that's the action before the Board.

Commissioner Kicklighter asked, so staff recommends what?

Assistant County Manager Monahan said, the extension.

Chairman Liakakis said, Helen [Stone]?

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. You know, we're looking at another extension of a project that we now believe the -- the case is that they're not going to get the funding for the sales -- the -- the refund for the sales tax, and I've received, I know every Commissioner did, a letter from the Tourism Leadership Council that I will not read

because it's too long to read, but I would like for this to go under my comments, and some real concerns here, if -- if this funding does not come through, I don't know how this project is going to stand, and I don't want to put the citizens of this county at risk on a \$50 million bond. I -- I just -- I -- I have some real reservations about this. This is nothing new, I've been saying this since the inception of -- of this project, and I just would caution everybody that this is a pretty risky venture at this point, and I believe Mr. Chairman there's someone from the audience that wants to speak or a couple of people that might want to speak on this.

Chairman Liakakis said, Commissioner Odell.

Commissioner Odell said, I was going to make a motion that we table it to the next meeting.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay.

Commissioner Thomas said, that you what?

Commissioner Odell said, table it.

Chairman Liakakis said, table it.

Commissioner Thomas said, oh.

County Attorney Hart said, is there a second to the motion?

Commissioner Farrell said second.

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

Commissioner Stone said, I think -- Mr. Chairman, I -- we did have someone here that sat through the --

Chairman Liakakis said, well, it's not necessary because it was, you know, it was tabled, so you don't have any more action.

Commissioner Stone said, I understand, it's just that, you know, when someone sat here in the audience for three hours almost.

County Attorney Hart said, the biggest thing you need to know --

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Next -- huh?

County Attorney Hart said, just -- just for purposes of the record, you need to understand that that agreement's going to expire October the 10th. So when you tabled it, essentially, you're -- you're -- you're letting the agreement go away. That's a policy decision.

Commissioner Gellatly said, we already voted.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, well we voted so.

County Attorney Hart said, I understand.

Chairman Liakakis said, oh, well, we've already voted on it. So. It was tabled so -- didn't know that.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Odell moved to table the item till the next meeting. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried in an 8-1 vote. Chairman Liakakis, Commissioners Stone, Holmes, Farrell, Odell, Gellatly, Kicklighter and Thomas voted yes. Commissioner Shay voted no.

AGENDA ITEM: IX-3
AGENDA DATE: October 5, 2012

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

ISSUE:

Board approval of extension #3 of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Hutchinson Hotel Holdings (HHH) for the proposed development of a Trade Center Convention Hotel.

BACKGROUND:

At the April 13, 2012 meeting, the Board approved 180 more days to the MOU with Hutchinson Hotel Holdings for a public-private partnership to develop a convention hotel with a publicly-owned *Chatham Conference Center* as part of the expansion of the Savannah International Trade Convention Center. The Board intended that extension #2 would provide time for Chatham County to receive a reply to its letter seeking confirmation from the State of Georgia that the proposed convention center hotel would qualify for the Tourism Development Sales

Tax refund. While the state's incentive alone does not make or break the proposed project, it affects the revenues to safeguard the County's annual bond repayment for the publicly-owned *Chatham Conference Center* and the turn on investment to attract private investors in the hotel.

FACTS & FINDINGS:

1. The MOU expires October 10. Extension #3 (see Attachment I) would add 180 more days. The County's due diligence on the project remains on hold pending a response from Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA), or the Board's vote to move toward the next step, a *Development Agreement*, without final word from DCA. Chairman Pete Liakakis sent a letter (see Attachment 2) to DCA to determine whether the proposed convention hotel would qualify since economic analysis (funded by the Trade Center Authority) showed the project would meet state and local economic development goals. The Attorney General's Office has yet to promulgate rules from the 2011 legislation, which leaves DCA in a lurch on how to determine a qualified project.
2. Pending afterward whenever the County and HHH execute a *Development Agreement*, 3-4 months of work remain to create two special districts, which would provide the funding to limit the County's exposure for any repayment of bond debt on the *Chatham Conference Center*. Creation of the two special districts, which would provide the funding to limit the County's exposure for any repayment of bond debt on the *Chatham Conference Center*. Creation of the two special districts, which would need concurrence by the City of Savannah since the proposed project remains within the city, requires a development study, findings and public hearings. Assuming all requirements of the *Development Agreement* could be met by the County and HHH, a *Definitive Agreement* would follow. Assuming the *Definitive Agreement*, which includes penalties for non-performance, moves to completion, the final step would be bond issuance.
 - 2a. Until now, the County has spent less than \$1,000 in exploring this project. The *Development Agreement* would not bind the County except to commit the County to fund ½ of the development studies to create the two special districts (i.e. reimburse HHH ½ of cost, or \$50,000, if bonds are not issued-otherwise bond proceeds can be used to reimburse development expenses) and fund the County's continued due diligence (i.e. validate economic analysis and impact on existing hotel market.)
3. The pending new term of the Board of Commissioners also affects timing. Moving forward on a *Development Agreement* would push a decision on the *Definitive Agreement* to 2013, when the 2013-2016 term of the Board of Commissioners begins. The 2013-2016 County Commission would vote on the *Definitive Agreement*.
4. Since the Board's last discussion, the Trade Center Authority has developed three options for expanding convention facilities; however, any expansion of meeting room space and ballroom would be contingent upon more hotel rooms on Hutchinson Island. In addition, cost of the expanded meeting space ranges from \$50 million to \$93 million.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve extension #3 of the MOU with Hutchinson Hotel Holdings.
2. Deny approval of extension #3 of the MOU with Hutchinson Hotel Holdings or do not take action, which would in effect terminate the MOU.

FUNDING:

County funds would not be required for MOU extension #3.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

Chatham County developed and funded the Savannah International Trade and Convention Center as an economic development project designed to increase convention and exposition visitors to this community. Through Chatham County's investment to develop a first-class project in the Trade Center as the cornerstone to private investment on Hutchinson Island, prudent management by the Trade Center Authority and its day-to-day management by SMG, the Trade Center continues to meet its economic development mission. After 12 years, the record remains clear on the Trade Center's economic impact on increased room nights, visitor spending and increased earnings; however, an economic analysis by Visit Savannah also indicates lost opportunity in the meetings market. The Trade Center Authority, which the Georgia General Assembly created to manage the facility, began a focus in 2008 on how to increase the Trade Center's competitive position. The cumulative recommendations from economic analyses target the need for a Trade Center hotel.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.

=====

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, Okay. Action Calendar we have 1 through 7 and items A -K -- A through K on the Action Calendar under item 7. Need a motion on the floor.

Commissioner Stone said, so moved, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Liakakis said, need a second.

Commissioner Holmes said, second.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved to approve the Action Calendar, Items 1 through 7 and under Item 7, Items A through K. Commissioner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

=====

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

=====

1. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 21, 2012, AS MAILED.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 21, 2012, as mailed. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

=====

2. **CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 13, 2012 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 26, 2012.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved to authorize the Finance Director to pay the claims against the County for the period September 13, 2012 through September 26, 2012, in the amount of \$7,963,987. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

=====

3. **REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE A DRAINAGE EASEMENT WITH OLD SOUTH INVESTMENTS, LLC, AND OLD SOUTH DEVELOPMENT, LLC ON HENDERSON GOLF COURSE PROPERTY OWNED BY CHATHAM COUNTY.
[DISTRICT 7.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved the Board to Authorize the Chairman to Execute a Drainage Easement with Old South Investments, LLC, and Old South Development, LLC on Henderson Golf Course Property Owned by Chatham County. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: X-3
AGENDA DATE: October 5, 2012

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

ISSUE:

To authorize the Chairman to execute a Drainage Easement with Old South Investments, LLC and Old South Development, LLC, on Henderson Golf Course property owned by Chatham County.

BACKGROUND:

The adjacent property to the east of Hole #13 of the Henderson Golf Course drains through County owned property via an existing ditch. The adjacent property owners are recombining/subdividing several parcels for development and policy requires all easements to be shown on the plat.

FACTS & FINDINGS:

1. The adjacent property currently drains through the County owned land via an existing ditch. The property is not developed and the required drainage easement was never established.
2. The Chairman's signature on the plat will provide the drainage easement to the adjacent property owner.

FUNDING:

No funds are required.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. To authorize the Chairman to execute a Drainage Easement with Old South Investments, LLC and Old South Development, LLC on Henderson Golf Course property, owned by Chatham County.
2. To not authorize the Chairman to execute a Drainage Easement.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The Board must approve easement actions.

RECOMMENDATION:

To approve Alternative No. 1.
District 7.

=====

**4. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION, GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, GEORGIA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE, THE CITY OF SAVANNAH AND CHATHAM COUNTY FOR HISTORIC MARKERS AND LANDSCAPING ON THE BAY STREET WIDENING PROJECT.
[DISTRICT 8.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved to approve a Memorandum of Understanding between the Federal Highway Administration, Georgia Department of Transportation, Georgia State Historic Preservation Office, the City of Savannah and Chatham County for Historic Markers and Landscaping on the Bay Street Widening Project. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: X-4
AGENDA DATE: October 5, 2012

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

ISSUE:

To approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT), Georgia State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), The City of Savannah and Chatham County for historic markers and landscaping on the Bay Street widening project.

BACKGROUND:

The Bay Street widening project is part of the Coastal Region (CORE) Transportation Improvement Program. Right of Way plans were approved by the GDOT in 2010, but the SHPO put a hold on the project due to a historic property concern. The Environmental Document was revised and sent to FHWA for review. The amendments to the document required that historical markers placed along the corridor.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The Marvel Cleaners building was identified as a property that is eligible for placement on the National Historic Register. The plans were revised to avoid a complete take of the property.
2. Historic markers will be placed along the project corridor and included in the construction contract. Chatham County, as the project sponsor, will determine the content and location of the historic plaques. The City of Savannah will be responsible for the long term maintenance of the signs.
3. The MOU also requires that landscaping be installed as part of the construction project to minimize impacts to historic properties. The City of Savannah will be responsible for the maintenance of the landscaping.
4. The County Attorney approved the MOU as to its legal form.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. To approve a Memorandum of Understanding between the FHWA, GDOT, SHPO, the City of Savannah and Chatham County for historic markers and landscaping on the Bay Street widening project.
2. To not approve the MOU.

FUNDING:

No County funds are required.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The Board approves Intergovernmental Agreements.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve Alternate #1.
District 8.

**MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
CHATHAM COUNTY
CITY OF SAVANNAH
AND
GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION
FOR GDOT PROJECT NHS00-0002-00(923)
P.I. #0002923
CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA**

WHEREAS, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has determined that Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) Project NHS00-0002-00(923), Chatham County, Georgia will have an effect upon four properties eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and has consulted with the Georgia State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), Coastal Regional Commission, Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission, the Catholic Diocese of Savannah Archives, the Coastal Heritage Society, the Historic Savannah Foundation, and the Mayor of Savannah pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800, regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470F); [and Section 110(f) of the same Act (16 U.S.C. 470h-2(f)) and,

WHEREAS, the proposed project NSH00-0002-00(923), Chatham County consists of the proposed reconstruction and realignment of SR 25 Connector, West Bay Street between West Lathrop Avenue and East Lathrop Avenue for a distance of 1.2 miles; and

WHEREAS, originally, five (5) NRHP eligible properties were identified within the project's area of potential effects (APE) in 2004. These properties included the following: Hudson Hill Historic District, West Savannah Historic District, St. Anthony's School and Church, Alamo Plaza Motel, and a finding of No Adverse Effect to Fellwood Homes based upon conditions imposed on the project; and

WHEREAS, the 2005 Assessment of Effects determined that project implementation would result in a finding of No Adverse Effect to the Hudson Hill Historic District, West Savannah Historic District, St. Anthony's School and Church, Alamo Plaza Motel, and a finding of No Adverse Effect to Fellwood Homes based upon conditions imposed on the project;

WHEREAS, additional conditions were imposed on the proposed project for the West Savannah Historic District and the Alamo Plaza Motel as detailed in the 2005 Assessment of Effects; and

WHEREAS, additional eligible properties were identified along the original project corridor, which resulted in the subsequent development of six alternative alignments in 2010 and 2011. These resources include Marvel Cleaners, the former International Harvester Quonset Hut, Bayview Homes, as well as two eligible properties, Hardin Equipment Company and the Johnson House, later determined to be outside the APE; and,

WHEREAS, a total of seven (7) NRHP eligible properties have been identified in the project's area of potential effects; and

WHEREAS, a revised Assessment of Effects and Addendum was completed in January 2012 for the eligible properties with findings of No Effect to the Hudson Hill Historic District, former International Harvester Quonset Hut, and Bayview Homes, a finding of No Adverse Effect to the West Savannah Historic District based upon conditions imposed upon the project, findings of No Adverse Effect to the St. Anthony's School and Church, and the Alamo Plaza Motel, and a finding of Adverse Effect to Marvel Cleaners, all under Alternative D1; and

WHEREAS, if GDOT Project NSH00-0002-00 (923), P.I. #0002923, is not implemented within seven (7) years of this agreement's ratification, this agreement shall be considered null and void, and with FHWA, if it chooses to continue with the undertaking, shall reconsider the terms of this agreement; and

WHEREAS, if the SHPO should object within thirty (30) days to any plans provided for review pursuant to this Memorandum of Agreement (MOA), the FHWA shall consult with the SHPO to resolve the objection. If

the FHWA determines that the objection cannot be resolved, the FHWA shall request further comments or recommendations of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (Council) concerning the dispute pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800. Any Council comment provided in response to such a request will be taken into account by the FHWA in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800 with reference only to the subject of the dispute. The FHWA's responsibility to carry out all actions under this MOA that are not the subject of the dispute will remain unchanged; and

NOW, THEREFORE, the FHWA and the SHPO agree that the undertaking shall be implemented in accordance with the following stipulations in order to take into account the effect of the undertaking on this historic properties.

STIPULATIONS

The FHWA and GDOT will ensure the following measures are carried out for the adversely affected Marvel Cleaners:

- 1) Chatham County, in consultation with GDOT and the City of Savannah, will document the historic significance of the West Bay Street area, including Marvel Cleaners, on plaques/interpretive panels that will be installed at various locations along the project corridor. The historical information to be included on the plaques/interpretive panels will be informed by the context study *Low Land and the High Road: Life and Community in the Hudson Hill, West Savannah and Woodville Neighborhoods* by Martha L. Keber; acknowledgment of the source material will be provided on the proposed plaques/interpretive panels. The design and location of the plaques/interpretive panels will be completed prior to project contract bidding so as to allow for installation as part of the construction activities on the proposed project.
- 2) Chatham County will determine the location and the exact number of the plaques/interpretive panels through consultation between GDOT (Office of Program Delivery and Office of Environmental Services), the City of Savannah, the project design engineers, the West Bay Street area communities, and the Georgia SHPO.
- 3) Chatham County, in consultation with GDOT, the City of Savannah, and the Georgia SHPO, will coordinate the creation of the plaques/interpretive panels with the West Bay Street area communities. The GDOT, the City of Savannah, Georgia SHPO, and the communities will be given opportunities to comment on the content and design during the development of the plaques/interpretive panels, prior to approval.
- 4) GDOT will be responsible for installation of the plaques/interpretive panels as a part of the construction contract for the proposed project. The City of Savannah, pending the development of an approved maintenance plan, will be responsible for maintenance of the plaques/interpretive panels following installation.

In order to meet the condition for finding of No Adverse Effect to the West Savannah Historic District, the FHWA will ensure the following measure is carried out:

- 1) In order to minimize visual effects to contributing properties within the West Savannah Historic District, plantings of trees and shrubbery along the south side of the reconstructed and realigned SR 25 Connector/West Bay Street shall be incorporated into the design of the proposed project. Areas of emphasis for the proposed planting shall be between Kenilworth Street and Fell Street; between Millen Street and West Street; and between Ferrill Street and East Lathrop Avenue.

Execution of this MOA by the FHWA, GDOT, SHPO, Chatham County, and the City of Savannah, its subsequent filing with the Council, and implementation of its terms, is evidence that the FHWA has afforded the Council an opportunity to comment on GDOT Project NHS00-0002-00 (923), P.I. #0002923, Chatham County, Georgia, and its effects on historic properties, and that the FHWA has taken into account the effects of this undertaking on historic properties.

FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

BY: _____ DATE: _____
 Rodney N. Barry, P.E., Division Administrator

GEORGIA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER

BY: _____ DATE: _____
 David Crass, Division Director, Deputy SHPO/State Archaeologist

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

BY: _____ DATE: _____
 Glenn Bowman, P.E., State Environmental Administrator

CHATHAM COUNTY

BY: _____ DATE: _____
 Pete Liakakis, Chairman of the Chatham County Commission

CITY OF SAVANNAHBY: _____
Honorable Edna Jackson, Mayor of Savannah

DATE: _____

=====

**5. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE AND EXECUTE A NEW PROJECT FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND CHATHAM COUNTY FOR CR 787/ISLANDS EXPRESSWAY AT WILMINGTON RIVER BASCULE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT.
[DISTRICT 1, 3 and 4.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved the Board to approve and execute a New Project Framework Agreement Between the Georgia Department of Transportation and Chatham County for CR 787/Islands Expressway at Wilmington River Bascule Bridge Replacement. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: X-5
AGENDA DATE: October 5, 2012

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

ISSUE:

To approve and execute a new Project Framework Agreement (PFA) between the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and Chatham County for CR787/Islands Expressway at Wilmington River Bascule Bridge Replacement (PI#0007128).

BACKGROUND:

Islands Expressway provides two parallel bascule bridges over the Wilmington River at Causton Bluff. Chatham County is under contract with the LPA Group to develop construction plans for the replacement of these bascule bridges. The project will replace the existing bridges two fixed span structures having a minimum vertical clearance of 65-feet for the navigational waterway. The revised report is approved and preliminary plans are underway. Funding for Preliminary Engineering (PE) for the project is provided by a combination of Federal and State funds.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The existing bascule bridges are obsolete. The bridges are opened and closed approximately 4000 times per year. The frequent opening cause traffic delays, which result in an inconvenience to the traveling public.
2. The annual operation and maintenance costs associated with the bascule bridges are a majority of the County's bridge budget. Replacement will reduce operational costs as well as maintenance and required capital improvement costs.
3. The County will only be responsible for funding a portion of the design and the Right of Way for this project. Current estimates for right of way costs are \$115,260. ARRA funds were authorized to fund \$1,000,00 of the design cost.
4. The County Attorney reviewed and approved the PFA as to its legal form.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. To approve and execute a new Project Framework Agreement (PFA) between the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and Chatham County for CR787/Islands Expressway at Wilmington River Bascule Bridge Replacement (PI#0007128).
2. To not approve execution of the PFA.

FUNDING:

No funding is required.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

That Board must approve intergovernmental agreements.

RECOMMENDATION:

To approve Alternative 1.
Districts 1, 3,4

=====

6. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE WEST BROAD STREET YMCA.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved the Board for approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with the West Broad Street YMCA. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

AGENDA ITEM: X-6
AGENDA DATE: October 5, 2012

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

ISSUE:
To request Board approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with the West Broad Street YMCA.

- FACTS AND FINDINGS:**
1. The Board of Commissioners approved a \$30,000 appropriation to the West Broad Street YMCA at their meeting held September 21, 2012.
 2. The adopted FY2013 budget did not include funding for this purpose. A request to transfer General Fund M&O contingency funds is on the agenda for today's meeting.
 3. The County Attorney has reviewed a Memorandum of Understanding with the West Broad Street YMCA which is attached and submitted for Board approval.

FUNDING:
Funds are pending approval of a \$30,000 transfer from General Fund M&O Contingency (1009927-57.90001) to Special Appropriations (1009975-57.30001).

- ALTERNATIVES:**
1. That the Board approve the contract and authorize the Chairman to sign.
 2. Provide other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS:
Approval is consistent with Board action requiring a contract or Memorandum of Understanding with agencies providing services.

RECOMMENDATION:
That the Board approve Alternative 1.

Prepared by: Read DeHaven

STATE OF GEORGIA)
)
COUNTY OF CHATHAM)

CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE WEST BROAD STREET YMCA

This Memorandum of Understanding is made and entered into this 25th day of September, 2012, by and between the West Broad Street YMCA and the County Board of Commissioners.

W I T N E S S E T H :

WHEREAS, the West Broad Street YMCA mission is to provide services to grow healthy people and communities to help end generational poverty; and

WHEREAS, the West Broad Street YMCA provides early learning, after school programming, summer enrichment, and adult education; and

WHEREAS, the West Broad Street YMCA has been awarded a capital challenge grant from J. Bulow Campbell Foundation which requires support from local government agencies; and

WHEREAS, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners is the governing authority of Chatham County; and

WHEREAS, the Chatham County Board of Commissioners approved \$30,000 cash match for the grant on September 21, 2012.

NOW, THEREFORE, the West Broad Street YMCA and the Chatham County Board of Commissioners enter into this Memorandum of Understanding for Services and agree more particularly as follows:

SECTION 1. The West Broad Street YMCA agrees that it shall provide, including, but not limited to, the following services:

- 1. Early learning opportunities for children from low wage earning families at a sliding fee
- 2. After school and summer enrichment for children from low wage earning families
- 3. Adult education opportunities including GED
- 4. Utilize the funds approved by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners as a cash match for the grant from J. Bulow Campbell Foundation.

SECTION 2. The County, for and in consideration of the delivery of the above described services agrees more particularly as follows:

- 1. Provide \$30,000 in funding as a cash match for the grant from J. Bulow Campbell Foundation.

SECTION 3. Terms of Memorandum of Understanding

The West Broad Street YMCA agrees that the subject appropriation by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners shall be used only for the purposes outlined within this Memorandum of Understanding. The West Broad Street YMCA agrees to maintain in accordance with generally acceptable accounting principles, records of all expenditures pertaining to funds granted under this Memorandum of Understanding and shall allow County auditors complete access for purposes of verifying the appropriate expenditure of funds within the meaning of services to be provided.

This Memorandum of Understanding will remain in effect for a period of one year unless amended or terminated by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners or the West Broad Street YMCA upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party.

West Broad Street YMCA

Witness

BY: _____
Peter R. Doliber
Executive Director

CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:

R. Jonathan Hart
Chatham County Attorney

BY: _____
PETE LIAKAKIS, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: _____
Janice Bocook
Clerk of Commission

=====

7. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH STEP UP SAVANNAH, INC.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved the Board for approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with Step Up Savannah, Inc. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

AGENDA ITEM: X-7
AGENDA DATE: October 5, 2012

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

ISSUE:
To request Board approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with Step Up Savannah, Inc.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The approved FY2013 General Fund M&O budget includes an appropriation of \$204,480 for the Step up Savannah Chatham Apprentice Program (CAP). The appropriation includes an amount for payments to Step Up Savannah, Inc. A contract for services is required.
2. The contract amount is for the balance of the appropriation, net of the salaries and benefits paid to the two employees on county payroll. The balance to be paid for FY2013 is \$65,490. The payments will be made quarterly.
3. The County Attorney has reviewed a Memorandum of Understanding with Step Up Savannah, Inc., which is attached and submitted for Board approval.

FUNDING:

Funds are available in the General Fund M&O Chatham Apprentice Program budget (1007660-52.11001).

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board approve the contract and authorize the Chairman to sign.
2. Provide other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

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

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve Alternative 1.

Prepared by: Read DeHaven

STATE OF GEORGIA)
)
 COUNTY OF CHATHAM)

**CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS' MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH
 Step Up Savannah (Step Up Savannah, INC.)**

This Memorandum of Understanding is made and entered into this 27th day of September, 2012, by and between Step Up Savannah, Inc. (hereinafter called Step Up Savannah) and the Chatham County Board of Commissioners (hereinafter called the County).

W I T N E S S E T H :

WHEREAS, Step Up Savannah's mission is "The Step Up collaborative will enhance economic independence in Savannah by encouraging residents to take personal responsibility and organizations to identify and work to reduce barriers to self sufficiency; by finding, redistributing or creating the necessary resources; and by evaluating outcomes."; and

WHEREAS, Step Up Savannah at the request of the Chatham County Commission created the Chatham Apprentice Program known as CAP in 2006; and

WHEREAS, Chatham County, Step Up Savannah (a collaboration of 106 organizations led by the City of Savannah and Chatham County working to reduce poverty in Chatham County), the Home Builders Association, and Savannah Technical College began a partnership in 2006 to train people from the high poverty areas with classroom and on the job training in construction and then place them in well paying jobs. The original conception for this program came from the Chatham County Commission and County Manager; and

WHEREAS, Step Up has received subsequent direction from Chatham County to diversify training into other high-yield sectors for low-income residents; and

WHEREAS, Step Up Savannah and Chatham County train 100 individuals per year from the high poverty areas, and link them with well-paying jobs within Chatham County; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Commissioners is the governing authority of Chatham County; and

WHEREAS, the County has expressed that low income residents benefit from the services provided by Step Up Savannah.

NOW, THEREFORE, Step Up Savannah and the County enter into this Memorandum of Understanding for Services and agree more particularly as follows:

SECTION 1. Step up Savannah agrees that it shall provide, including, but not limited to, the following services:

1. Step Up Savannah agrees to oversee the implementation of the Chatham Apprentice Program ("CAP") to ensure that the purpose, goals and objectives of the program are met;

- 2. Step Up Savannah agrees to ensure that 100 people complete the program annually and that at least 50 people obtain employment annually.
- 3. Step Up Savannah will provide regular reports to the County Commission for their review to ensure that the goals are being met;
- 4. Step Up Savannah will manage and oversee the budget and expenses of the program to ensure that the program remains under budget;
- 5. Step Up Savannah will leverage funds within its 501c(3) status in an effort to maximize grant funding;
- 6. Step Up Savannah will supervise the full time program manager and full time program coordinator on a regular basis and will ensure that their performance plans and review are done annually; and
- 7. Step Up Savannah will work to ensure that the program changes or adapts in accordance to specific industries and environment to ensure that the Step Up participants are entering employment that leads to self-sufficient wages.

SECTION 2. The County, for and in consideration of the delivery of the above-described services agrees more particularly as follows:

- 1. Provide \$65,490.00 in funding for operating costs, payable in quarterly installments with the first quarter beginning on July 1, 2012. Operating costs are defined as the annual adopted budget for the Chatham Apprentice Program minus the adopted budget for salaries and benefits; and
- 2. Promote the Step Up Savannah training program to key stakeholders, and the community at large.

SECTION 3. Terms of Memorandum of Understanding

Step Up Savannah agrees that the subject appropriation by the County shall be used only for the purposes outlined within this Memorandum of Understanding. Step Up Savannah agrees to maintain in accordance with generally acceptable accounting principles, records of all expenditures pertaining to funds granted under this Memorandum of Understanding and shall allow County auditors complete access for purposes of verifying the appropriate expenditure of funds within the meaning of services to be provided.

This Memorandum of Understanding will remain in effect for a period of one year from the date of execution, unless amended or terminated by the County or Step Up Savannah upon thirty (30) days written notice to the other party.

Step Up Savannah, Inc.

BY: _____
 DANIEL DODD
 Executive Director

Print Name: _____
 Witness

CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

BY: _____
 PETE LIAKAKIS, Chairman
 Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: _____
 Janice E. Bocook
 Clerk of Commission

REVIEWED AND APPROVED BY:

 R. Jonathan Hart
 Chatham County Attorney

=====

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved for approval to award bids as follows: (Please note that new purchase thresholds of \$10,000 or more have been enacted; however, contracts and change orders of a lesser amount still will appear.) Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ITEM	DEPT.	SOURCE	AMOUNT	FUNDING
A. Engineering services contract to design the Smith Canal Maintenance Road Crossing and Extension at the Pipemakers Canal drainage improvement project	Engineering	EMC Engineering Services, Inc. (Sole Source)	\$21,200	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Drainage, Pipemakers Canal
B. Construction contract to complete the Mims Street Paving project	Engineering	Southbend Company, Inc.	\$125,819	•SPLOST (2003-2008) - Unincorporated Roads, Mims Street •SPLOST (2003-2008) - Unincorporated Roads, Beard Creek Lane
C. Contract for the re-striping of various roads within the unincorporated area for Public Works and Park Services	Public Works	Peek Pavement	\$20,808	CIP - Public Works
D. Design services contract for the expansion of the Anderson/Cohen Weightlifting Center	Public Works	Barnard Architects	\$39,940	SPLOST (2008-2014) - Anderson/Cohen Weightlifting Center
E. Confirmation of emergency Change Order No. 2 to the construction contract for the Basin Road Bike Path project	Engineering	Sandhill ALS Construction, Inc. (MBE)	\$150,625	•SPLOST (2008-2014) - Unincorporated Projects - Roads, Coastal Georgia Greenway •SPLOST (2003-2008) - Unincorporated Projects - Roads, Coastal Georgia Greenway
F. Annual contract for four (4) one (1) year renewals to provide janitorial services at the Wilmington Island Tag office, Frank G. Murray Community Center, 408 Broughton Street, Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Precinct #5 and the Records Center	Facilities Maintenance	Goodwill Industries of the Coastal Empire, Inc.	\$37,835	•General Fund/M&O - Various •SSD - Various
G. Upgrade existing irrigation control systems at the Henderson Golf Club	Parks and Recreation	Pate Turf (Sole Source)	\$26,993	•CIP - Recreation Department •General Fund/M&O - Parks and Recreation
H. Survey and design services for Ashley Road Outfall	Engineering	Hussey, Gay, Bell, & DeYoung, Inc. [HGBD] (Sole Source)	\$11,800	CIP - Wilmington Island Outfall
I. Terminate previous agreement and issue a new professional services contract to manage the renovation, relocation and historical interpretation for the Mother Mathilda Beasley home	Special Projects	Anne Roise	\$65 per hour, not to exceed \$40,000	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Mother Mathilda Beasley Park
J. Mobile Filing Equipment for Building K, for the CCDC Expansion	Detention Center	Patterson Pope	\$30,139	CIP - Detention Center Expansion Project
K. Contract to conduct a claims audit for the Chatham County Employee Health Plan	Human Resources	Buck Consultants (Sole Source)	Not to exceed \$31,000	Employee Health Benefits Fund

AGENDA ITEM: **X-8 A thru K**
AGENDA DATE: **October 5, 2012**

TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

THRU: R.E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER

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

SUBJECT: AWARD OF BIDS

ITEM A

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$21,200 sole source engineering services contract with EMC Engineering Services, Inc., for professional services to design the Smith Canal Maintenance Road Crossing and Extension at the Pipemakers Canal drainage improvement project.

BACKGROUND: The Pipemakers Canal project is part of the 1998-2003 SPLOST Drainage Program. The County and (EMC) EMC Engineering Services, Inc., entered into the original engineering services contract RFP 96-4-1 Hydraulic Analysis for Various Drainage Basins in August 1996. The original contract was followed by multiple change orders and new contracts for design work and other professional services including services during construction of the Phase 1 and Phase 2, Section 1 drainage improvement projects.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Since late 1996, staff has been executing an improvement plan to Pipemakers Canal for the drainage deficiencies in the Pooler, Garden City and Bloomingdale Communities. The overall improvement plan consists of channel widening, bridge improvements, and construction of a tidegate structure.
2. EMC is the Engineer of Record for the Pipemakers Canal Widening Project. EMC provided the design of the improvements and developed the construction documents, including drawings, technical specifications and installation requirements. This design must be coordinated with available rights of way, permits and designs already acquired or produced for the Pipemakers Canal improvement project. Staff considers EMC to be the most qualified for this design project having already produced all of the design work for this project.
3. Staff solicited a proposal from EMC and finds that the level of service is in accordance with anticipated needs and that the cost represents fair compensation for the work provided.

FUNDING: SPLOST (1998-2003) - Drainage, Pipemakers Canal
(3224250 - 52.12003 - 32280213)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$21,200 sole source engineering services contract with EMC Engineering Services, Inc., for professional services to design the Smith Canal Maintenance Road Crossing and Extension at Pipemakers Canal drainage improvement project.
2. Provide staff other directions.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
ESTELLE BROWN

ITEM B

ISSUE: Request Board approval to award a \$125,819 construction contract to Southbend Company, Inc., to complete construction of the Mims Street Paving project.

BACKGROUND: The project involves 0.2 miles of grading, drainage, base and paving on Mims Street and Beard Creek Lane on Wilmington Island. The contractor has 90 days after the notice to proceed is issued to complete construction.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. This project was properly advertised and five (5) bids were received and opened August 28, 2012. The bids are as follows:

Southbend Company, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$125,819
Sitework Construction, LLC Savannah, GA	\$153,126

- * Clifton Construction, Inc. \$154,160
Garden City, GA
- Groundworks Contracting, Inc. \$216,995
Savannah, GA
- * E & D Contracting, Inc. \$275,786
Savannah, GA

*WBE firm

FUNDING: •SPLOST (2003-2008) - Unincorporated Roads, Mims Street (3234220 - 52.12003 - 32356697) \$25,819
•SPLOST (2003-2008) - Unincorporated Roads, Beard Creek Lane (3234220 - 52.12003 - 32356707) \$100,000

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval to award a \$125,819 construction contract to Southbend Company, Inc., to complete construction of the Mims Street Paving project.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM C

ISSUE: Request Board approval to award a \$20,808 contract to Peek Pavement Marking for the re-striping of various roads within the unincorporated area for Public Works and Park Services.

BACKGROUND: Each year streets and roads are identified for re-striping. Because the department has no commercial striping equipment, a solicitation was prepared based on the availability of funding. This year additional funding was provided outside the operational budget to support the re-striping effort.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Staff identified 193,358 linear feet of striping. Of that total, 18,360 linear feet will be thermoplastic paint to be used on Gulfstream Road due to the high volume of vehicular traffic. The other seven (7) routes will be striped using standard road paint. The streets and roads included in this contract, besides Gulfstream Road, include Penn Waller Road, Cornus Drive, Parkersburg Road, a portion of Skidaway Road, Norwood Avenue, Laroche Avenue, and Whitefield Avenue.
2. The solicitation was issued and bids were opened on September 6, 2012. Only one (1) bid was received then revised as follows:

Peek Pavement Marking	\$20,808
Columbus, GA	
3. During bid analysis it was discovered that the contractor misinterpreted the materials to be used and there was an administrative error on quantity. Since Peek Pavement Marking was the only bid received they were given the opportunity to revise their bid from \$19,633 to \$20,808. Staff believes the revised bid of \$20,808 is fair and reasonable.

FUNDING: CIP - Public Works (3504100 - 54.14001 - 35030817)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval to award a \$20,808 contract to Peek Pavement Marking for the re-striping of various roads within the unincorporated area for Public Works and Park Services.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM D

ISSUE: Request Board approval to award a \$39,940 sole source design services contract to Barnard Architects for the expansion of the Anderson/Cohen Weightlifting Center.

BACKGROUND: The expansion of the Anderson/Cohen Weightlifting Center is included in the current SPLOST V program with a current budget of \$421,271.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Barnard Architects designed a 60 foot extension of the Anderson/Cohen Weightlifting Center in 1996.
2. Barnard Architects designed the new Public Works and Park Services Facility located immediately to the east and south of the Anderson/Cohen Weightlifting Center. The design anticipated the expansion of the Weightlifting Center.
3. Based upon the current budget, the expansion of the Anderson/Cohen Weightlifting Center will include approximately 2,000 square feet, interior modifications, and a new asphalt shingle roof.
4. It makes sense to utilize Barnard Architects to design the expansion of the Weightlifting Center since they have access to the pre-design data and design of both facilities including the location of the utilities.
5. Barnard Architects provided a proposal for design services that includes pre-design, schematic design, construction documents, bidding assistance, and construction administration in the amount of \$39,940.
6. Staff has reviewed the proposal from Barnard Architects and recommend approval to award a contract for design services.

FUNDING: SPLOST (2008-2014) - Anderson/Cohen Weightlifting Center
(3244980 - 52.12002 - 32460697)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval to award a \$39,940 sole source design services contract to Barnard Architects for the expansion of the Anderson/Cohen Weightlifting Center.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to award a sole source design services contract when it is in the best interest of the County.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
GLORIA SAUGH

ITEM E

ISSUE: Request Board confirmation of emergency a \$150,625 Change Order No. 2 to the construction contract with Sandhill ALS Construction, Inc., for the Basin Road Bike Path project.

BACKGROUND: On February 24, 2012, the Board awarded a construction contract to Sandhill ALS Construction, Inc., to grade (mill) approximately 10,050 square yards of asphalt, install a new box culvert and storm drainage system and construct a new bike path along Basin Road and a portion of Canebrake Road.

The design anticipated that below the existing asphalt was a concrete base adequate for the bike path and access road into the Chatham County Wetland Mitigation Bank. After milling, the concrete was found to be unsafe for the intended use. Staff developed a solution that involves providing an asphalt overlay and asphalt reinforcement fabric over the concrete to provide a safe traveling surface for pedestrians and vehicles.

On September 24, 2012, staff requested and received emergency approval and agreed to have the emergency change order confirmed at the next County Commission meeting. (see attached signed Request for Emergency Approval memo on page 13)

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Pavement reinforcement fabric (glass-grid) is required to stabilize the concrete base and provide additional strength to the asphalt overlay.
2. Staff believes that the price quoted for the additional work is fair and reasonable.
3. Contract History is as follows:

Original Contract (2-24-12)	\$ 795,262
Change Order No. 1 (5-25-12)	\$ 61,250
Change Order No. 2 (9-24-12)	<u>\$ 150,625</u>
Revised Contract Amount	\$1,007,137

FUNDING: •SPLOST (2008-2014) - Unincorporated Projects - Roads, Coastal Georgia Greenway (3244224 - 52.12003 - 32456647) \$139,000
 •SPLOST (2003-2008) - Unincorporated Projects - Roads, Coastal Georgia Greenway (3234981 - 54.14011 - 32356647) \$11,625

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board confirmation of emergency a \$150,625 Change Order No. 2 to the construction contract with Sandhill ALS Construction, Inc., for the Basin Road Bike Path project.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to confirm emergency change orders for construction contracts.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
 GLORIA SAUGH

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
 CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM F

ISSUE: Request Board approval to award a \$37,835 annual contract with renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms, to Goodwill Industries of the Coastal Empire, Inc., to provide janitorial services at the Wilmington Island Tag Office, Frank G. Murray Community Center, 408 Broughton Street, Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Precinct #5 and the Records Center.

BACKGROUND: Janitorial contracts have proven to be more cost effective than hiring personnel to perform the service "in-house".

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. This contract will provide for service at the following locations:
 - a. Wilmington Island Tag Office, 461 Johnny Mercer Boulevard, Suite C7
 - b. Frank G. Murray Community Center, 160 Whitemarsh Island Road
 - c. 408 Broughton Street
 - d. Police Precinct #5, 54 Johnny Mercer Boulevard
 - e. Records Center, 4225 Augusta Road
2. Bids were properly advertised and five (5) bids were received on August 30, 2012. The bids were received as follows:

Goodwill Industries of the Coastal Empire, Inc.	\$37,835
Savannah, GA	
ISC, Inc.	\$63,960
Suwanee, GA	
* Randall Green's Professional Cleaning	\$69,600
Savannah, GA	
* RIT Inc.	\$74,790
Savannah, GA	
** American Facility Services, Inc.	\$106,200
Alpharetta, GA	

*MBE firm
 **WBE firm

3. Goodwill Industries is a non-profit corporation designated as a 501(c)3 entity by the Internal Revenue Service.
4. Staff reviewed the bid and references provided by Goodwill Industries and believes their bid is fair and reasonable.

FUNDING: •General Fund/M&O - Various
 •SSD - Various

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval to award a \$37,835 annual contract with renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms, to Goodwill Industries of the Coastal Empire, Inc., to provide janitorial services at the

Wilmington Island Tag Office, Frank G. Murray Community Center, 408 Broughton Street, Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Precinct #5 and the Records Center.

2. Provide staff other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
 READ DEHAVEN

ITEM G

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$26,993 sole source purchase to Pate Turf of Pensacola, FL, for equipment to upgrade existing irrigations control system at the Henderson Golf Club.

BACKGROUND: Park Services staff has received notification from the FCC that all irrigations systems that are satellite controlled must be converted to narrowband systems by January 1, 2013.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Pate Turf is the authorized regional distributor of the OSMAC Control System.
2. This equipment is necessary to be in compliance with FCC requirements. The equipment will be installed under the County's irrigation services contract by Turf Services Unlimited.
3. Staff believes the cost from Pate Turf to be fair and reasonable.

FUNDING: •CIP - Recreation Department
 (3506100-54.12009 - 35030967) \$25,000
 •General Fund/M&O - Parks and Recreation
 (1006100 - 54.25001) \$1,993

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$26,993 sole source purchase to Pate Turf of Pensacola, FL, for equipment to upgrade existing irrigations control system at the Henderson Golf Club.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to equipment purchases necessary for the upgrade of Chatham County facilities.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
 CHRIS MORRIS

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
 MELVA SHARPE

ITEM H

ISSUE: Request Board approval to award a \$11,800 sole source procurement to Hussey, Gay, Bell, & DeYoung, Inc., (HGBD) for survey and design services for Ashley Road Outfall.

BACKGROUND: The Ashley Road Outfall Drainage Improvement project, located on Wilmington Island, is part of the 1998-2003 SPLOST Drainage Program. In January 2011, Chatham County engaged the services of HGBD to evaluate the Ashley Road Outfall storm system. The evaluation showed inadequate capacity requiring drainage improvements.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Ashley Road Outfall extends from the cul-de-sac at the south end Ashley Road, under Wilmington Island Road to the marsh.
2. The existing drainage system is inadequate and requires improvements to prevent roadway flooding.
3. Staff investigated the expertise of local firms and determined that HGBD was most suited to perform this work based on past survey experience in the area. HGBD is the Engineer of Record for the Ashley Road Outfall Drainage Improvements.

FUNDING: CIP - Wilmington Island Outfall
 (3501575 - 52.12003 - 35038203)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval to award a \$11,800 sole source procurement to Hussey, Gay, Bell, & DeYoung, Inc., (HGBD) for survey and design services for Ashley Road Outfall.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve sole source procurement requests over \$10,000.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM I

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a not to exceed \$40,000 professional services contract with Anne Roise for the renovation, relocation and historical interpretation for the Mother Mathilda Beasley home.

BACKGROUND: The Board approved a professional services agreement with Ann Roise as part of a plan of action for managing more than 180 capital projects with a value in excess of \$325 million. The initial agreement with Ms. Roise will be terminated and a new professional services contract will be issued.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Anne Roise previously served as the Economic Development Director for the City of Savannah. She came highly recommended based on her previous work at redevelopment, community coalition building and project management experience.
2. Ms. Roise's specific scope of work are those phases of Mother Mathilda Beasley Park which relate to relocation of Mother Mathilda Beasley's house, renovation, historical interpretation, and commemorative statue in keeping with the master plan.
3. The previous contract will be terminated and a new contract will be issued with the following terms:
 - a. Work time through September 30, 2013.
 - b. Hourly rate will be \$65 hour, not to exceed \$40,000.
 - c. The contract administrator will be Gregori Anderson, Director of Building Safety & Regulatory Services.

FUNDING: SPLOST (2003-2008) - Mother Matilda Beasley Park
(3234150 - 53.17009 - 32370082)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a not to exceed \$40,000 professional services contract with Anne Roise for the renovation, relocation and historical interpretation for the Mother Mathilda Beasley home.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM J

ISSUE: Request Board approval of the \$30,139 sole source purchase of mobile filing equipment for Building K from Patterson Pope, Savannah GA, for the Detention Center Expansion project. Price includes furnishing, delivery and installation of new equipment for room K159 and relocating existing equipment.

BACKGROUND: The CCDC needs to purchase new mobile filing systems for storing medical records at the new medical portion of the expansion. Existing systems will be relocated to the new medical facility.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. CCDC's current medical office is being renovated and a new one is being constructed within the new Medical Building K.
2. The new medical records area will require new mobile filing equipment to be purchased. Existing medical mobile filing equipment will also be relocated to the new medical facility and used to archive existing medical records as required.

- 3. The reason for the sole source is that the equipment must be compatible with the existing file equipment which is manufactured by Spacesaver. Patterson Pope is the Spacesaver distributor for sales and service in this region and have also maintained the current filing systems since 1997.
- 4. Staff believes the cost of \$30,139 to be fair and reasonable.

FUNDING: CIP - Detention Center Expansion Project
(3803355 - 54.25001 - 38060407)

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1. Board approval of the \$30,139 sole source purchase of mobile filing equipment for Building K from Patterson Pope, Savannah GA, for the Detention Center Expansion project.
- 2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve the purchase of equipment necessary to the operation of the Chatham County Detention Center.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
GLORIA SAUGH

ITEM K

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a not to exceed \$31,000 sole source contract to Buck Consultants to conduct a claims audit for the Chatham County Employee Health Plan.

BACKGROUND: The County's Employee Medical Health Plan is administered through an agreement with Blue Cross Blue Shield of Georgia (BCBSGA). As a part of the County's external audit, it is a requirement that the County conduct a claims audit of its third party administrator.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- 1. The external auditors recommend that the County establish a program to verify the claims paid on the County's behalf annually. This can be accomplished by sampling claims paid on a periodic basis and reviewing the documentation that supports the payment.
- 2. This function was previously accomplished by the internal audit staff. Due to the limited staff in that department we were only able to perform this audit once every two (2) to three (3) years.
- 3. The County contracted with Buck Consultants to review the County's employee health benefits program. Buck has significant experience in auditing third party administrators. They performed this work for the City of Savannah a number of years ago when the City was under contract with BCBS to administer their health plan.
- 4. The County previously contracted with Buck Consultants with the assistance of Benalytics Consulting Group to conduct an audit of its self funded employee health plan. The fees for the prior fiscal year were \$30,936. Buck Consultants quoted staff a fee of \$28,825 plus expenses for the fiscal year which ended June 30, 2012. Staff is recommending that a contract be awarded to Buck Consultants for an amount not to exceed \$31,000.

FUNDING: Employee Health Benefits Fund
(6509130 - 57.30101)

ALTERNATIVES:

- 1. Board approval of a not to exceed \$31,000 sole source contract to Buck Consultants to conduct a claims audit for the Chatham County Employee Health Plan.
- 2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: The County contracts with external auditors to provide routine audits of various funds to maintain internal control and ensure that expenditures from these funds are properly managed. This contract will ensure that the medical claims are paid in accordance with the agreement between Chatham County and BCBSGA.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
MELVA SHARPE

PREPARED BY _____
PURCHASING AGENT

=====

XI. FIRST READINGS

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

1. **IT IS PROPOSED THAT AN AMENDMENT TO SECTIONS 2-3D, 2-3C, 2-38, 4-5, 4-51.1, 4-5.2 OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE BE MADE TO REFER TO THE ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE FOR THE NON-COMMERCIAL KEEPING OF ANIMALS AND TO PROVIDE CLARITY AND DISTINCTION BETWEEN COMMERCIAL AND PERSONAL AGRICULTURE. MPC RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.
MPC FILE NO. Z-120731-56930-1
TEXT AMENDMENT.**

Chairman Liakakis said, First Readings. It is proposed that an amendment to Sections 2-3d, 2-3c, 2-38, 4-5, 4-51.1, 4-5.2 of the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance to be made to refer to the Animal Control Ordinance for the non-commercial keeping of animals and to provide clarify [sic] and distinction between commercial and personal agriculture. MPC recommends approval. Need -- there's no action on First Readings.

=====

XII. SECOND READINGS

1. **IT IS PROPOSED THAT AN AMENDMENT TO REMOVE LANGUAGE FROM SECTION 4-13(5) OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY ZONING ORDINANCE WHICH REQUIRES THE REPLACEMENT OF NON-CONFORMING SIGNS WITH CONFIRMING SIGNS BY A CERTAIN DATE. MPC RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.
MPC FILE NO. Z-120802-00038-1
[ALL DISTRICTS - UNINCORPORATED AREA.]**

Chairman Liakakis said, we have a Second Reading, it is proposed that an amendment to remove language from Section 4-13(5) of the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance which requires the replacement of non-conforming signs with confirming signs by a certain date. MPC Recommends Approval.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, motion to approve.

Chairman Liakakis said, needs a second.

Commissioner Farrell said, second.

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

Commissioner Kicklighter said, great job again.

Commissioner Shay said, good -- good -- good report.

Mr. Lotson said, thank you.

Chairman Liakakis said, okay. Motion --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, and you're like two for two.

Chairman Liakakis said, -- passes.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved for approval of an of an Amendment to Remove Language from Section 4-13(5) of the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance which requires the replacement of non-conforming signs with confirming signs by a certain date. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: ~~XI-1~~
AGENDA DATE: ~~September 21, 2012~~
AGENDA ITEM: XII-1
AGENDA DATE: October 5, 2012

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Thomas L. Thomson, Executive Director

LEGAL NOTICE/AGENDA HEARING:

It is proposed that an amendment to remove from Section 4-13(5) of the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance which requires the replacement of non conforming signs with conforming signs by a certain date. MPC recommends approval. MPC File No. Z-120802-00038-1.

ISSUE:

The Chatham County Zoning Board of Appeals requested in a letter that the Town Center Overlay districts requirement to replace non-conforming freestanding signs be deleted from the ordinance because they believe it creates an inequity in regulations. After review, staff is recommending an amendment to Section 4-13(5) of the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance which addresses the replacement of nonconforming signs with conforming signs by a given date within the Town Center Overly Districts.

BACKGROUND:

The Town Center Overlay District was adopted by the County Commission in 2003. This amendment to the Ordinance came as a result of the community's desire to maintain a scale of development that would be consistent with the community character. The adopted standards emphasized development that is low in scale with a focus on landscaping and pedestrian access. The sign standards were designed to address both existing and future signs and the level of visual impact they would have.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. There are currently four areas that are governed by the Town Center Overlay standards. They include an area adjacent to Diamond Causeway near Pin Point, the Sandfly area, and areas on Whitemarsh and Wilmington Islands. Regarding sign standards, the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance, Sec. 4-13(5) requires the following: "Free-standing signs other than monument signs are prohibited. All such signs shall be replaced with conforming signs by December 31, 2008 for the Town Center Overlay districts lying east of the Wilmington River and December 31, 2010 for other areas."

This language provided for both the new sign regulations as of the adoption of the Ordinance, as well as the replacement of nonconforming signs with conforming signs in the Town Center Overlay as of the required dates.

2. Compliance with the regulations to date has been voluntary and enforcement has been handled in conjunction with permit requests for new signs or the modification of existing signs. The Chatham County Department of Building Safety and Regulatory Services is the agency authorized to grant sign permits in Unincorporated Chatham County. The replacement of nonconforming free standing signs with conforming signs has typically come about when an applicant seeks a permit to establish a sign or modify an existing sign within the Town Center Overlay District.
3. The language in the Ordinance, although well-intentioned, did not address the feasibility of requiring that existing signs be replaced with signs that meet the new requirement. Nor was the burden of enforcement of such a regulation adequately vetted prior to adoption. Although a number of signs have been replaced since the inception of the Town Center Overlay and meet the current standards, many more signs have remained nonconforming and have not been replaced.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve staff's recommendation to amend Section 4-13(5).
2. Deny staff's recommendation to amend Section 4-13(5).

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The existing language in section 4-13(5) of the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance which required that nonconforming signs be replaced with conforming signs by a certain date has not resulted in the originally desired outcome. The majority of signs within the Town Center Overlay Districts have remained nonconforming. Most signs have not been replaced with conforming signs. Considering the unlikelihood of voluntary compliance and the burden of enforcement, staff finds it appropriate to amend this section and repeal the language governing removal of nonconforming signs.

RECOMMENDATION:

The MPC staff recommends that Section 4-13(5) of the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance be amended as follows:

EXISTING

Section 4-13 Development Standards for Town Center Overlay (TC) Districts)

(5) Free-standing signs other than monument signs are prohibited. All such signs shall be replaced with conforming signs by December 31, 2008 for the Town Center Overlay districts lying east of the Wilmington River and December 31, 2010 for other areas.

PROPOSED

Section 4-13 Development Standards for Town Center Overlay (TC) Districts

(5) Free-standing signs other than monument signs are prohibited.

The MPC and Director of Building Safety and Regulatory Services recommend... Approval of the proposed Amended Language to remove the requirement for the replacement of non-conforming signs with conforming signs in the Town Center Overlay District.

PREPARED BY: Gary Plumbley, Interim Director
Development Services

August 7, 2012

Gregor Anderson, Director
BUILDING SAFETY AND REGULATORY SERVICES

DATE: AUGUST 7, 2012
TO: CHATHAM COUNTY COMMISSION
FROM: METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION
SUBJECT: MPC ZONING RECOMMENDATION

PETITION REFERENCED:

Text Amendment to the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance
Section 4-13(5)
MPC File No. Z-120802-00038-1

MPC ACTION: Approval of the proposed amendment to Section 4-13(5) of the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance as submitted.

MPC STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Approval of the proposed amendment to Section 4-13(5) of the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance as submitted.

MEMBERS PRESENT: 8 + Chairman

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Adam Ragsdale, Chairman | John Pannell, Vice-Chairman |
| Ellis Cook, Secretary | Russ Abolt |
| Ben Farmer | Stephen Lufburrow |
| Lacy Manigault | Murray Marshall |
| Joseph Welch | |

<u>VOTING FOR MOTION</u>	<u>VOTING AGAINST MOTION</u>	<u>*ABSENT OR **FAILING TO VOTE</u>
Adam Ragsdale Jon Pannell Russ Abolt Ellis Cook Ben Farmer Murray Marshall Joseph Welch Lacy Manigault Stephen Lufburrow	NONE	*Shedrick Coleman *Timothy Mackey *Tanya Milton *Susan Myers
FOR APPROVAL: <u>9</u>	FOR DENIAL: <u>0</u>	ABSTAINING: <u>0</u>

=====

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.

=====

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

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-2
AGENDA DATE: October 5, 2012

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>
Annual support services for fleet management software	Fleet Operations	CCG Systems, Inc.	\$5,780	General Fund/M&O - Fleet Operations
Repair of emergency generator at Police Annex	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	Cummins Power South, LLC.	\$9,706	Reimbursable Expenses
Mailing of tag renewals for month of October	Tax Commissioner	World Marketing	\$5,525	General Fund/M&O - Tax Commissioner
Auction fees for online sale of vehicles	Fleet Operations	GovDeals, Inc.	\$4,515	Escrow-Sale of Surplus Equipment
Field exploration test, seismic design evaluation and report for library project	Building Safety and Regulatory Services	Terracon	\$4,460	SPLOST (2003-2008) Islands Library
Inventory parts for the month of June	Fleet Operations	White Brothers Auto Parts Warehouse	\$2,676	Inventory Account
Inventory parts for the months of May and June	Fleet Operations	Fairway Lincoln-Mercury Inc.	\$3,462	Inventory Account
Panels and cabinets for workstations	Detention Center	McWaters Office Equipment Solutions	\$8,058	CIP - Jail Expansion Fund
Replacement fluorescent lighting at Thunderbolt Library	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	Georgia Electric Supply, Inc.	\$3,081	Reimbursable Expenses
50 radio batteries	I.C.S.	Savannah Communication & Electronic	\$4,437	General Fund/M&O - Sheriff
Three (3) chainsaws, one (1) pole saw and 13 trimmers	Public Works and Park Services	Lawnmower Store	\$6,975	SSD-Public Works
Retirement event at Civic Center	Juvenile Court	Paul Kennedy Catering	\$2,745	General Fund/M&O - Juvenile Court
Five (5) floor mounted pedestal benches	Detention Center	The G-S Company	\$3,128	CIP - Jail Expansion Fund
Hydraulic leak repair on unit #222 - refuse truck	Fleet Operations	Griffin Truck & Equipment Inc.	\$4,956	General Fund/M&O - Fleet Operations
20 desk chairs	Detention Center	Paper Clip	\$6,500	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Automotive repairs to unit #22-front end loader	Fleet Operations	Flint Equipment Company	\$4,932	General Fund/M&O - Fleet Operations
Four (4) commercial fans for locker rooms at Memorial Stadium	Public Works and Park Services	Grainger	\$2,740	General Fund/M&O - Parks and Recreation
Ryegrass for the Jennifer Ross Soccer Complex and the Jim Golden Sports Complex	Public Works and Park Services	John Deere Landscapes, Inc.	\$7,980	General Fund/M&O - Parks and Recreation

=====

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairman Liakakis said, we need a motion on the floor to recess to executive session.

County Manager Abolt said, personnel, litigation, land acquisition.

Commissioner Stone said, so moved.

Chairman Liakakis said, all right. We need a second.

Commissioner Shay said, second.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved to recess to executive session to discuss litigation and land acquisition. Commissioner Shay seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Gellatly was not present for the vote.]

The Board recessed at approximately 12:05 p.m.

=====

ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Holmes moved to authorize the Chairman to execute an Affidavit that the Executive Session was held in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Commissioner Kicklighter seconded the motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shay and Gellatly were not present for the vote].

=====

APPOINTMENTS

- 1. **Department of Family and Children Services**

Action of the Board:

Motion was made to approve the reappointment of Dr. Roenia Deloach, Dr. Quentina Miller-Fields, and Mr. Larry Dane-Kellog to serve on the Board of the Chatham County Department of Family and Children Services with their terms to expire June 30, 2017. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Shay was not present for the vote.]

=====

- 2. **Savannah Chatham County Council on Disability Issues**

Action of the Board:

Motion was made to approve the appointment of Pamela Howard-Oglesby to serve on the Savannah-Chatham County Council on Disability Issues with her term to expire September 1, 2016. The Board voted and the motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Shay was not present for the vote.]

=====

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the Commissioners, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 1:37 p.m.

=====

APPROVED: THIS _____ DAY OF OCTOBER, 2012.

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

JANICE E. BOCOOK, CLERK OF COMMISSION