

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 2013, 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 Albert J. Scott called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. on Friday, January 25, 2013.

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**II. INVOCATION**

Chairman Scott said, good morning. It's my pleasure, along with the Commissioner from the 7<sup>th</sup> District to welcome the most able pastor, Mr. Herbert Hubbard, from Bible Baptist to do the invocation and prayer. I -- I would request that -- that you be seated until the Pastor indicates a call for prayer. At that time remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Pastor Herbert Hubbard said, thank you, Chairman Al Scott, appreciate it very much. I was very privileged to receive this letter. I'm a 1970 grad of Savannah High, and I've also had the privilege of pastoring my home church for 19 years, so I certainly have a lot invested in our city and in our community here. I did notice on the letter that you've marked five minutes. It was all marked in red just to remind the Pastor that I kept things within that time frame.

Pastor Hubbard said, our reading is out of the Book of Philipians, Chapter Number 2. Paul found himself in prison and I think it's a good portion of scripture to help us as we begin this new year. He says, if therefore there be any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, or any bowels and mercies, fulfill you my joy that you be like-minded, having same love, being of one accord, of one mind. Let nothing be done through strife or vain glory but lowliness of mind that each esteemed other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things but every man also on things of others. And then he says, let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.

Pastor Hubbard said, I tell my church all the time I believe in unity and -- and -- but I don't believe in uniformity all the time. Not everybody drives a certain color of car, but we can be in unity and I pray for our county and pray for you, and I want you to know we -- we live by Romans 13, when we lift you up in prayer in our church. A number of you have been in our church. We've been privileged to have you in our church, and there are many other churches and Pastors and Priests and Rabbis that pray for you as well and our desire is to see God use you in our community to -- to make the differences that we need as residents. And there's a little story I want to share as I finish out my part. Years ago I read this and -- and have thought about it many, many times. I've had the privilege of being in Nigeria twice on a medical missionary, around the world on some other trips, and the story's told of a time when a little child in an African village wandered off in the tall jungle grass and could not be found. The tribe looked and searched all night and all day. The next day the tribal members all held hands and walked through the grass together. This enabled them to find the child, but due to the cold night he had not survived. In her anguish and through her tears the mother cried if only we could have held hands sooner. And I think as Christians we need to hold hands sooner. And I appreciate once again, Chairman Scott, you allowing me to be here. It is my privilege and thank you as -- as Commissioners and -- and we pray God's wisdom upon you as the Book of James teaches. Okay. Let's have a word of prayer.

Pastor Hubbard gave the invocation as follows:

Heavenly Father, as one who has been a part of Savannah for so many years, I thank you for the Chairman and for these Commissioners who would allow somebody like me to be here today, and my desire is to let them know that there are many of us who pray for them and pray for them for God's direction and wisdom, and we thank you for them. We thank you for their willingness to serve our county, and we do not take that lightly. And Lord, I know that there's not always going to be uniformity, but I do believe there can be unity, and I pray that you'll just continue to keep your hand upon them. Let them know that we at Bible Baptist Church specifically appreciate them very, very much. And I pray, specifically, also, that your hand will be with Chairman Scott, and thank you for him allowing me to be part of this very special time. We love you, and we thank you for loving us. For it's in Christ's name that we pray. Amen.

Chairman Scott said, thank you so much, Pastor.

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**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Chairman Scott said, we will be led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Commissioner Kicklighter.

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

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**IV. ROLL CALL**

Chairman Scott said, will the Clerk call the roll?

The Clerk called the roll.

Present:            Albert J. Scott, Chairman  
                      Dr. Priscilla D. Thomas, Vice Chairman, District Eight  
                      Helen L. Stone, Chairman Pro Tem, District One  
                      James J. Holmes, District Two  
                      Tony Center, District Three  
                      Patrick K. Farrell, District Four  
                      Yusef K. Shabazz, District Five  
                      Lori L. Brady, District Six  
                      Dean Kicklighter, District Seven

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

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**V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

- 1. PRESENTATION AND PROCLAMATION DECLARING FEBRUARY 2013 AS CHATHAM COUNTY WALK GEORGIA MONTH. JACKIE OGDEN WILL BE PRESENTING AND RECEIVING.**

Chairman Scott said, proclamations and special presentation. We have a proclamation declaring --

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**CHATHAM COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION**

Chairman Scott said, before -- before we get to that, I need to recognize the Vice-Chair, Dr. Priscilla Thomas, Commissioner from the 8<sup>th</sup> District for the purpose of introducing our Youth Commission members who are present today.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. And good morning, Ladies and Gentlemen. It is my pleasure to introduce Jermiah Gordon, who is a sophomore attending St. Vincent's Academy. She is representing the Chatham County Youth Commission today. For those of you who may not know, the Chatham County Youth Commission is a vital part of this Commission. They give their voices. They lend their support in any way that they can. They are the official youth group of Chatham County. They are recognized all over the State, as well as the nation, and we are very proud to have her here today. Thank you.

Youth Commissioner Jermiah Gordon said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, thank you for being here and look forward to your participation.

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- 1. PRESENTATION AND PROCLAMATION DECLARING FEBRUARY 2013 AS CHATHAM COUNTY WALK GEORGIA MONTH. JACKIE OGDEN WILL BE PRESENTING AND RECEIVING (cont'd).**

Chairman Scott said, now we'll have the presentation and proclamation declaring February 2013 as Chatham County

Walk Georgia month. Is Jackie Ogden here? Jackie [Ogden], would -- you know we're -- we're all looking at ways in which we could curb healthcare costs, and we were just out at Memorial this week, and they were talking about healthy lifestyle and exercising three times a week, and Jackie [Ogden] sorts of -- sort of leads this effort, and we wanted to recognize her efforts in -- in this particular activity. And we have a proclamation here for her, and it says:

Chairman Scott read the proclamation as follows:



**WHEREAS**, Walk Georgia is a 12-week physical activity program provided by University of Georgia Cooperative Extension; and

**WHEREAS**, Walk Georgia can provide the support Chatham County needs to get moving; and

**WHEREAS**, the goals of Walk Georgia are to help people become fit, develop the habit of regular physical activity, get support from others interested in moving more, and have fun; and

**WHEREAS**, physical activity has proven health benefits; and

**WHEREAS**, people in Chatham County may participate as individuals or teams of four to electronically chart a course as they "walk" Georgia.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Albert J. Scott, Chairman, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim the month of February 2013 as:

**CHATHAM COUNTY WALK GEORGIA MONTH**

and urge the people of this community to take advantage of the opportunity to become more aware of this special program which gives people the chance to get active together and on their own as part of Chatham County Walk Georgia, and to join us in recognizing the unique partnership between our county and our University System.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 25<sup>th</sup> day of January 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Albert J. Scott, Chairman  
Chatham County Commission

**ATTEST:**

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Gail F. Gordon, Administrative  
Assistant to the Chairman

Chairman Scott said, and I want to present this to you Jackie [Ogden] and then recognize you for comments.

Ms. Jackie Ogden said, thank you so much, Mr. Chairman. And I do have some folks that are helping us lead this effort. It can't be one person.

Chairman Scott said, no, it cannot.

Ms. Ogden said, thank you so much.

Chairman Scott said, oh, you're welcome.

Ms. Ogden said, thank you. If I may take a moment and ask that we tell you a little bit about the Walk Georgia.

Chairman Scott said, yes, please.

Ms. Ogden said, our county has been leading the way, and, of course, we thank you, Mr. Chairman for continuing that effort of leading. Our previous Commissioners really rallied behind this and supported the local Chatham County Cooperative Extension, but this could not have happened without the leadership here in the County, as well as county departments. We could have not been recognized state-wide as having the winning team among several others in the State in this several year [sic] competition, as well one of the top individual participants. So today we do have with us a very special lady, who happens to be a Chatham County employee, and I'm going to ask her to come up so I can present her a presentation for her participation, but also to let her tell you a little bit about Walk Georgia and what it's meant to her personally, as well as to the team that she created that was one of the top teams in the State. And that team was made up of citizens, as well as county employees. Marquerite [Engram]?

Commissioner Thomas said, very good.

Ms. Marquerite Engram said, good morning, and thank you. It's an honor to be here, and I appreciate the opportunity. Walk Georgia has caused me to exercise more. It motivates you to do more than just the average workout. It -- because you're competing against people in -- in the entire Georgia, you are motivated to do more. So at one point I was exercising 5:00 o'clock a.m., 12:00 o'clock, and 5:00 o'clock p.m., three times a day. So Georgia Walk -- the Walk Georgia has meant a lot to me, and I am honored to be here in your presence. Thank you. [Applause.]

Commissioner Thomas said, great.

Ms. Ogden said, it's -- it's a million dollars worth of us because it's saving your health and also to help to create and motivate others to work with their life style so that they are being good examples for children. We know that childhood obesity is definitely on the rise, and we as adults helping to lead that way. This is just a small token, Marquerite [Engram], it's a Walk Georgia shirt, a bottle, and on the back, after you do all that walking, a little -- a special tenderness for those feet.

Ms. Engram said, thank you.

Ms. Ogden said, so we do thank you so very, very much.

Ms. Engram said, thank you. I appreciate it. [Applause.]

Ms. Ogden said, and I also would like to take a moment too to introduce Ms. Trish West, our 4-H agent, who's leading a strong effort with our 4-Hers here throughout Chatham County in our public school and community 4-H clubs, as well as to ask her to introduce our star 4-Her here in the County.

Ms. Trish West said, it is my pleasure to introduce Kirsten Morris, State Officer. [Applause.]

Commissioner Thomas said, all right.

Miss Kirsten Morris said, my name is Kirsten Morris, like Ms. Trish said, and on behalf of Georgia 4-H and Chatham County 4-H, thank you for this opportunity to be here. [Applause.]

Commissioner Thomas said, wonderful.

Ms. Ogden said, in Extension, we're built on an advisory system of community leaders and partners, and leading the effort is Ms. Gaylen Young, a resident from the Landings who is the Chairman of our Family and Consumer Science Advisory Group. Gaylen [Young], if you would please come up and say a word.

Ms. Gaylen Young said, thank you Jackie [Ogden], Mr. Scott, Commissioners. It's really a pleasure to be here, and I've been working with Jackie [Ogden] and the County Extension Office for the last year of the last century, so that makes me as old as Methuselah. They're a great group of people, and I know I've watched -- Walk Georgia's about five years old now? Yeah. And it's -- it's a fun program, and you don't just have to be using barbells and on machines. You can use the vacuum cleaner or swim, and anyway, it's good to be here. Thank you. Oh, I want to introduce one more person. She didn't expect it. My volunteer, Jean Levine, has been a consummate volunteer for activities with the Extension Service, and she's my good friend. Thank you.

Ms. Ogden said, thank you Gaylen [Young]. Also, we have other partners with us that are very, very important to us, as well, as that is Ms. Yolanda Fontaine, with the Housing Authority of Savannah. We have strong efforts with the residents there. Yolanda [Fontaine].

Ms. Yolanda Fontaine said, good morning. Again greetings to the entire Commission. Commissioner -- Chair, Mr. Scott, we are excited to continue our partnership with Georgia Extension. Jackie [Ogden] has already been in contact with many of our -- our resident leaders. I'll be taking information back so that we can start our community-wide efforts in support of Walk Georgia. Thank you so much.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Ms. Ogden said, thank you, Yolanda [Fontaine], And of course the schools are important, and PTA leader and president, Sandra Cason.

Ms. Sandra Cason said, thank you all very much. PTA is the oldest child advocacy group in the country, and we are -- we stand on the health and wellness and education of the children. In the past few years, you've probably seen a dramatic change in PTA. We don't -- we're not cupcake makers anymore. We're policy makers, and we are proud to be a part of this. We have a health and -- and wellness agenda. We are currently working with the Savannah-Chatham school district to rewrite the health and wellness policy as part of the healthy kids initiative set up by the Obama administration, and that will be presented to the school board in February. We appreciate your support, and we will continue to work with our youth because we know if we can get the basics like safety and health and wellness underway and covered, then we can educate them. But without them having proper nutrition and proper exercise, we don't stand a chance in moving them forward educationally. Thank you.

Ms. Ogden said, and again, I cannot brag enough about our colleagues here in County government. Tamala Fulton has helped us lead the charge since day one, and Tamala [Fulton], I just thank you because this lady has been the motivator behind our -- so much involvement with our employees.

Commissioner Thomas said, yes.

Ms. Tamala Fulton said, good morning, Mr. Chairman, Board of Commissioners.

Commissioner Thomas said, good morning.

Ms. Fulton said, I am very, very excited and proud that our fellow county employee was number one in the State of Georgia. The county employees have been participating with Walk Georgia since its inception. In 2010 we had a top -- a team that was in the top three as well, so I'm excited, and I'm challenging county employees to get on board and join again this year. So thank you for your support of this program, too.

Ms. Ogden said, and thank you, Tamala [Fulton], and all of our citizens in the county need to know about all the great facilities that Chatham County government provides for their recreational use, and we are just very grateful to Mr. Lipsey and to Vicki [Blumberg] and to Robert Drewry and have asked them to come today, both Robert [Drewry] and Vicki [Blumberg], to share so our citizens in TV land know about all these great initiatives and recreational opportunities that have the magic word, free, and that's available to them to use year round.

Chairman Scott said, supported by your tax dollars.

Ms. Ogden said, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Robert Drewry said, good morning, Robert Drewry, I'm the Director of Public Works and Park Services, and the first thing I want to do, more of on a selfish nature is let you know that Marquerite Engram, the top walker in Georgia, is an employee of Public Works and Park Services.

Commissioner Thomas said, great.

Mr. Drewry said, that was not mentioned, so I wanted to make sure everybody knew that. Secondly, Vicki Blumberg is our recreation superintendent, and she has intimate first-hand knowledge of all of our county-owned and operated facilities. She has a wonderful program that she does at the beginning of every year to advise and -- and let the public know what our -- our -- our programs are out there at our facilities. I think you brought those, did you not?

Ms. Vicki Blumberg said, I did. Yeah, I left each one of you a copy of our facilities and activities guide for this year. So I hope you'll take a chance to look through it. The -- the last three pages in particular will emphasize some of the fitness programs that we offer and facilities that we have that citizens can participate in.

Ms. Ogden said, again, thank you. We will display this in the County Extension office in this building, and we thank each and every Commissioner and the county department heads for helping to promote this effort. Thank you and have a wonderful day. [Applause.]

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, you're welcome.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

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- 2. BOARD INVITATION TO THE CERTIFICATION CEREMONY OF THE NEW KEEP CHATHAM BEAUTIFUL AFFILIATE ON FEBRUARY 5<sup>TH</sup> AT NOON AT THE RESOURCE CONSERVATION EDUCATION CENTER ON EISENHOWER DRIVE. PRESENTED BY KEEP CHATHAM BEAUTIFUL PRESIDENT RICK HAMILTON.**

Chairman Scott said, now we -- we have someone who wants to come and extend all the members of the Commission an invitation. At this time I'd like to call on Keep Chatham County Beautiful President Rick Hamilton.

Mr. Rick Hamilton said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. My name's Rick Hamilton. I'm an employee of Weyerhaeuser Port Wentworth Mill and also a citizen and resident of Chatham County. We thank you for the opportunity to provide and extend an invitation to what is going to be a certification ceremony event for Keep Chatham Beautiful. That event's going to be on February 5<sup>th</sup> at noon at the nice facility, if you've had an opportunity to go to the Resource Conservation and Education Center, that's on 1321 Eisenhower Drive. This ceremony really represents a culmination of over a -- a year's worth of effort, an affiliation of a lot of members, Tybee, Pooler, Thunderbolt, Port Wentworth, Garden City, a lot of us from around the community who have been taking time to develop what we see as a good vision for Keep Chatham Beautiful. This affiliation is with the larger Keep America Beautiful organization. For those who may remember, one of the first things that they really came out with that -- that really made a difference and touched people was the crying Indian. Keep Chatham Beautiful's mission is going to -- basically to engage individuals to take greater responsibility for the Chatham County environment. So our focus in the first year is going to be around education and also harnessing a lot of that volunteerism that the county already benefits from. We have a lot of good organizations that work on clean up events; a lot of good organizations that look for ways to improve the environment, as well as general participation. So those are going to be some of our key first year focuses. You know, with that, again, just really want to say thank you for the opportunity to provide this invitation and particularly to say thanks for the support from the County and from the Commission in the over one year process it's taken us to really kind of look at what we have here as resources and work toward being an affiliate with Keep America Beautiful, and as an organization we really look forward to again building on education first, the volunteerism that we already benefit from, and then develop and program and really take that next step to help improve that image of what we live in and we know of as -- as Chatham County that also will help benefit it for tourism, as well as just that general pride that everyone as a resident and a citizen expects to be able to feel. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Rick [Hamilton], thank you and thank you for really volunteering your time to work on this program, and we look forward to being with you.

Mr. Hamilton said, absolutely. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

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## **VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS**

### **1. SET BOARD BUDGET GOAL SESSION.**

Chairman Scott said, okay. We're on Item VI, the Chairman's Item, and this is to set the Board budget goal session. I think Ms. Gordon polled everybody and we came up with a consensus date, Mr. Manager of?

County Manager Russ Abolt said, my understanding, sir, is talking with Ms. Cramer it would be the 12<sup>th</sup> of February. It will be at the Trade Center, and we will work with all the departments who may wish to come before you at that time, sir. But if you would by motion adopt that as an official gathering of the Commission so that it will adhere to the open meetings requirements and then we'll get the notification to the media.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, make a motion.

Commissioner Brady said, so moved.

Commissioner Thomas said, second.

Chairman Scott said, it's been moved and seconded. We will set aside February 12<sup>th</sup> as the set the budget goal session. All in favor of that indicate by voting yes.

County Manager Abolt said, the place will be the Maritime Trade Center.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, what time?

Chairman Scott said, opposed, no.

County Manager Abolt said, I believe 9:00 o'clock, sir. So. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, it will run approximately 9:00 to 4:30.

County Manager Abolt said, yes, sir. Correct, sir.

Chairman Scott said, so it's an all -- it's an all day session.

County Manager Abolt said, and we will provide food.

Chairman Scott said, thank you. It -- it could run longer, but that's the projected time. Okay?

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioners Kicklighter and Brady moved to set the Board's budget goal session for Tuesday, February 12, 2013, at the Trade Center. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**VII. COMMISSIONER'S ITEMS**

- 1. REQUEST TO ADD TO THE AGENDA: NEW BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR POURING LICENSE FOR 2013. PETITIONER: CAROL GWEN SCHNEIDER D/B/A COCOA'S DESSERT BAR, LOCATED AT 4 WILMINGTON ISLAND ROAD. (COMMISSIONER FARRELL.)**

Chairman Scott said, Item VII, Commissioner's Item. This is a -- a request to add to the agenda, and I'm going to recognize Commissioner Farrell from the 4<sup>th</sup> District to -- for comments.

Commissioner Farrell said, thank you. Yes. This is a -- a small business that is changing hands, and in order to continue their business in the month of February, we needed to push this up a little bit on the schedule. You know, normally, we just keep them, you know, quite a few of them at a time at different times in our agenda. So I just ask that we could put this on the agenda to vote on it today in order to keep a small business in business and working and -- and making progress. They're located on Wilmington Island, and my understanding the police chief didn't have any problem with renewing the pour license. So if there's not any questions, I'd like to make a motion that we approve.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, second.

Commissioner Stone said, what is --

Chairman Scott said, it's been moved and seconded.

Commissioner Stone said, what is the name of the business?

County Manager Abolt said, it is Cocoa's -- Cocoa's Desert Bar, 4 Wilmington Island Road and as Commissioner Farrell said --

Chairman Scott said, it's been -- it's been properly moved and seconded. Question.

County Manager Abolt said, oh, sorry.

Commissioner Stone said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, now.

Commissioner Stone said, I was just curious as -- as to who it was and certainly want to support it, and I just was -- wanted to know who I was supporting.

Chairman Scott said, okay. All right. And I will also comment that I spoke with the Manager about it on yesterday, and he assured me that all the research had been done, they reviewed complaints, police records and everything else, and that there was absolutely nothing wrong with the application.

County Manager Abolt said, correct, sir.

Chairman Scott said, all in favor indicate by voting yes, opposed, no. The motion carries.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Farrell moved to approve a new beer, wine and liquor pouring license for 2013. Petitioner: Carol Gwen Schneider d/b/a Cocoa's Dessert Bar, located at 4 Wilmington Island Road. Commissioner Kicklighter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM: VII-1**  
**AGENDA DATE: January 25,**

2013

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** R.E. Abolt, County Manager

**FROM:** Gregori S. Anderson, Director of Building Safety and Regulatory Services  
Willie Lovett, Chief of Police

**ISSUE:**  
Request for new beer, wine and liquor pouring license for 2013. Petitioner: **Carol Gwen Schneider, d/b/a Cocoa's Dessert Bar**, located at **4 Wilmington Island Road, Savannah, Georgia 31410**.

**BACKGROUND:**  
Ms. Schneider requests approval of a new beer, wine and liquor pouring license and Sunday Sales license in connection with an existing restaurant. The business at this location meets the requirements of the Chatham County Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance.

- FACTS AND FINDINGS:**
1. The application was reviewed by the Police Department for compliance of the applicant and site distance requirements and approved.
  2. The returned application was reviewed by Building Safety. The County Fire Marshal inspected the site for compliance and approved the facility.
  3. The applicant and business meet the requirements of the Chatham County Alcoholic Beverage and Sunday Sales Ordinance.
  4. The applicant has been notified in writing of the date and time of the hearing.

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

**District 4**

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

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Gregori S. Anderson, CBO

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Chief Willie Lovett

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**VIII. TABLED/RECONSIDERED ITEMS**

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

1. **INFORMATION ON THE RESULTS OF THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) FOR PERFORMING A CONDITION ASSESSMENT SURVEY (CAS) OF THE SOUTHBRIDGE STORMWATER DRAINAGE INFRASTRUCTURE. NOTE: STAFF WILL MEET WITH THE AFFECTED NEIGHBORHOOD GROUPS TO DISCUSS THE RESULTS OF THE SOLICITATION. ITEM WAS TABLED AT THE DECEMBER 21, 2012, BOARD MEETING. (SEE ATTACHED MOST CURRENT INFORMATION REGARDING "MORE CHALLENGES WITH SOUTHBRIDGE INTEREST GROUPS.")**

Chairman Scott said, Item VIII is a tabled matter. We have not had a request to take any action on that.

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**IX. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL ACTION**

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

1. **TO REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND TRANSFERS: 1) in the GENERAL FUND M&O: (a) transfer \$44,850 from**

**Contingency to the County Commission budget for salary adjustments, and (b) transfer \$15,000 to the Human Resources Department salaries and benefits line items from Community Outreach (\$10,000) and ADA Compliance (\$5,000) line items, 2) in the CONFISCATED REVENUE FUND: appropriate \$116,300 to the Counter Narcotics Team, 3) in the SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND: a) transfer \$8,710 from Contingency to Transfer Out to Building Safety and Regulatory Services Enterprise Fund, b) transfer \$3,740 from Contingency to the Building Safety budget, 4) in the Building Safety and Regulatory Services Enterprise Fund increase revenues and expenditures \$8,710, and 5) in the MULTIPLE GRANT FUND increase revenues and expenditures \$13,980 additional grant revenue awarded to the Sheriff's Office.**

Chairman Scott said, next item for Individual Action is Item IX. The first item is to request approval from the following budget amendments and transfers: (1) in the General Fund M&O: (a) transfer \$44,850 from the Contingency to the County Commission budget for salary adjustments, and (b) transfer \$15,000 to the Human Resource Department salaries and benefits line item from Community Outreach (\$10,000) and ADA Compliance (\$5,000) line items, (2) in the Confiscated Revenue Fund: appropriate \$116,300 to the Counter Narcotics Team, this is Confiscated Revenue; in the Special Service District Fund: a transfer of \$8,710 from Contingency to Transfer Out of the Building Safety and Regulatory Services Enterprise Fund, b) is transfer \$3,740 from Contingency to the Building Safety budget, (4) is increase Building Safety and Regulatory Services Enterprise Fund and increase revenues and expenditures by \$8,710, and (5) in the Multiple Grant increase revenue and expenditures from \$13,980 additional grant revenue awarded to the Sheriff's Office.

Commissioner Holmes said, so move for approval.

Commissioner Thomas said, second.

Chairman Scott said, it's been moved and second. All in favor of those transfers, please indicate by voting yes. Opposed. Okay.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Holmes moved to approve the following budget amendments and transfers: in the General Fund M&O: (a) transfer \$44,850 from Contingency to the County Commission budget for salary adjustments, and (b) transfer \$15,000 to the Human Resources Department salaries and benefits line items from Community Outreach (\$10,000) and ADA Compliance (\$5,000) line items, 2) in the Confiscated Revenue Fund: appropriate \$116,300 to the Counter Narcotics Team, 3) in the Special Service District Fund: a) transfer \$8,710 from Contingency to Transfer Out to Building Safety and Regulatory Services Enterprise Fund, b) transfer \$3,740 from Contingency to the Building Safety budget, 4) in the Building Safety and Regulatory Services Enterprise Fund increase revenues and expenditures \$8,710, and 5) in the Multiple Grant Fund increase revenues and expenditures \$13,980 additional grant revenue awarded to the Sheriff's Office. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: IX-1**

**AGENDA DATE: January 25, 2013**

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

**ISSUE:**

To request the following budget amendments and transfers: (1) in the General Fund M&O: (a) transfer \$44,850 from Contingency to the County Commission budget for salary adjustments, and (b) transfer \$15,000 to the Human Resources Department salaries and benefits line items from Community Outreach (\$10,000) and ADA Compliance (\$5,000) line items, 2) in the Confiscated Revenue Fund: appropriate \$116,300 to the Counter Narcotics Team, 3) in the Special Service District Fund: a) transfer \$8,710 from Contingency to Transfer Out to Building Safety and Regulatory Services Enterprise Fund, b) transfer \$3,740 from Contingency to the Building Safety budget, 4) in the Building Safety and Regulatory Services Enterprise Fund increase revenues and expenditures \$8,710, and 5) in the Multiple Grant Fund increase revenues and expenditures \$13,980 additional grant revenue awarded to the Sheriff's Office.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The Board of Commissioners approved pay adjustments for the incoming Board at their December 21, 2012 meeting. A General Fund M&O contingency transfer of \$44,850 is needed to fund the increase.

2. The Assistant County Manager/Director of Human Resources and Services is requesting an increase to the Human Resources Department salaries and benefits line items to cover compensation adjustments related to departmental realignment. Available funds in the Community Outreach and ADA Compliance departments will be transferred. Correspondence is attached.
3. The Counter Narcotics Team Director has requested appropriations of \$116,300 confiscated revenue for the purchase of a rapid response vehicle and 55 desktop computers. The request has been sent to the County Attorney for review. Staff reports are attached.
4. The Building Safety and Regulatory Services Director has received a salary adjustment. A Special Service District contingency transfer is needed to provide funding. The salary is divided between the Special Service District and the Building Safety Funds. The transfer to the Building Safety Fund requires a budget amendment. A resolution is attached.
5. In April, 2012, the Sheriff's Office was awarded a Homeland Security grant through Georgia Bureau of Investigations from GEMA. Since that time the Sheriff's Office has received an additional \$13,980. Correspondence and a resolution to amend the Multiple Grant Fund are attached.

**FUNDING:**

Funds are available in the General Fund M&O, Confiscated Revenue and Special Service District Funds for transfers. The budget amendment will establish funding in the Building Safety and Regulatory Services Enterprise and Multiple Grant Funds.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. That the Board approve the following:

**GENERAL FUND M&O**

- a) Transfer \$44,850 from Contingency to the County Commissioners budget for salaries and benefits.
- b) Transfer \$10,000 from Community Outreach and \$5,000 from ADA Compliance to Human Resources for salaries and benefits.

**CONFISCATED REVENUE FUND**

Appropriate \$116,300 to the Counter Narcotics Team for the purchase of a rapid response vehicle and desktop computers.

**SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND**

- a) Transfer \$8,710 from Contingency to Transfer Out to Building Safety Enterprise Fund.
- b) Transfer \$3,740 from Contingency to the Building Safety budget for salaries and benefits.

**BUILDING SAFETY AND REGULATORY SERVICES**

- a) Increase revenues \$8,710 transfer in from the Special Service District Fund.
- b) increase salaries and wages \$8,710.

**MULTIPLE GRANT FUND**

Increase revenues and expenditures \$13,980 for additional grant revenue through the Georgia Bureau of investigation for GEMA.

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

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**2. BRIEFING BY CHIEF LOVETT. (ALSO, THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY WILL COMMENT ON THE PAROLE OF THE CONVICTED FELON. SEE ATTACHED.)**

Chairman Scott said, Item 2 on the -- on the agenda is a briefing by Chief Lovett, and as stated by the County Manager in the pre-meeting, the Chief had an unexpected obligation that he has to take care of and instead he has asked one of his Lieutenant's --

County Manager Abolt said, Major Branson, sir.

Chairman Scott said, Major? Major Branson.

County Manager Abolt said, will be present, and we also have the District Attorney here, also, which I appreciate very much, sir.

Chairman Scott said, and we also have the District Attorney, the Honorable Meg Heap here as well. And at this time, Major, if -- if you'd come up and give us a briefing on the status of crime in Chatham County.

Major Larry Branson said, yes, sir. Good morning, Mr. Chairman, Honorable Commissioners, Mr. Abolt. It's my pleasure to be here today. I'm Major Larry Branson with the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department, and again on behalf of Chief Lovett, he expresses his regrets that he could not be here today. I do not have a particular briefing except to tell you that we are working on the two latest homicides that we have very diligently. We are employing the help of the neighborhoods that are affected by this. We have been out the last three nights with our area -- Savannah Area Regional Intelligence Center staff, our crime enforcement officers out of the Southside Precinct, our patrol officers, our detectives are working hard to solve this case. Otherwise, as you know, we have enjoyed our -- our lowest numbers in 2012 for quite some time, all under the leadership of Chief Lovett. The lowest numbers prior to this year, this past year, was when he served as the acting chief. So, and if -- unless I can answer some specific questions.

County Manager Abolt said, and we'll have Chief --

Chairman Scott said, Major, I'm sure there may be a few questions for you.

County Manager Abolt said, and we'll have Chief Lovett here in two weeks.

Chairman Scott said, yes. Commissioner Brady from the 6<sup>th</sup> District.

Commissioner Brady said, Major Branson, I -- I don't want to put you on the spot because these questions are really for Chief Lovett.

Major Branson said, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Brady said, but I have to ask this in reference to your comment about the lowest numbers in 2012.

Major Branson said, yes.

Commissioner Brady said, I think everyone here understands and have heard the accusations about police officers not writing reports or -- or -- and telling crime victims, you know, you really don't need to write a report for this. We all know that the accusations have been made. Is there an investigation -- a current investigation within the police department to look into that situation?

Major Branson said, yes, ma'am. Chief Lovett takes this very seriously. I can tell you that we're -- we're very disturbed by these allegations. I'm a Savannah native, lived here my entire life, been a police officer for over 26 years, and I was shocked to hear this. I'm -- I'm telling this Commission, I've never -- I've never in 26 years heard anyone in the former Savannah Police Department or the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department say lower the numbers, call it something else. I -- I can't say that that hasn't been done in the past, but -- but it is not at the extent that it is alleged, no, ma'am. But there -- yes, to answer your question, yes there is an investigation going on now.

Commissioner Brady said, the -- and who's handling that investigation?

Major Branson said, our internal affairs division.

Commissioner Brady said, can -- can I just ask all my questions or do you want me to let somebody else go?

Chairman Scott said, no, you're -- you're recognized, and after you will be Commissioner Shabazz from the 5<sup>th</sup> District has questions.

Commissioner Brady said, what -- what is the department doing other than what you just mentioned? Can you expand on what the Department is doing in terms of while we all recognize there's crime in all of these -- all of our Districts.

Major Branson said, yes.

Commissioner Brady said, we recognize that this is a joint police department, but we also recognize that there were two homicides in two days in the 6<sup>th</sup> District.

Major Branson said, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Brady said, what are y'all doing to assure the community and us as elected officials, the citizens, 265,000 citizens in Chatham County that y'all have this under control?

Major Branson said, it is -- it is important, it is vitally important that your police department be completely transparent, and that you know exactly what we're doing. We have begun saturating these neighborhoods that were affected. I

can tell you at this point, we do not believe these homicides were related. We are very much in contact with our Counter Narcotics Team, with the Savannah Area Regional Intelligence Center, as I said. Our -- our detectives are working overtime to investigate these crimes. We are eliciting conversations with the community, meeting with the community, keep everyone informed as to what we're doing. We're pulling out all the stops to -- to solve these crimes.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Brady, any additional questions?

Commissioner Brady said, well, and I just want to -- I've got a whole list of questions but it would be more appropriate to ask Chief Lovett, but I do -- I -- I'm going to ask you.

Major Branson, yes.

Commissioner Brady said, there have been four unsolved murders in the 6<sup>th</sup> District, two in the City of Savannah and two in unincorporated county. Has there been any progress on -- on those four murders?

Major Branson said, we do not allow any of our homicides to grow cold. We continually investigate every lead that we have. If -- if you'll think of the analogy of the branches on a tree. We'll follow a lead until we get to the end of that branch, until there's no more information, and we can go no further. We don't close these cases. We -- we -- we'll get a tip on a homicide, and we'll follow through to it, and we'll work until we solve it. We're continually working on these cases.

Commissioner Brady said, well, and my -- and my last comment, and then I'll pass until Chief Lovett's in front of us in two weeks. My profession in this community, I'm a realtor.

Major Branson said, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Brady said, I was sitting in my office yesterday, and a lady came in, and I overheard her say that she was renting property around one of these crime scenes, and she wanted to know if she could get out of her lease because she was so frightened. And I say -- and I make that comment to let you know as the Major and Chief Lovett know that folks are scared.

Major Branson said, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Brady said, they are absolutely frightened to death, and this family happened to be a military family. This -- these people have been deployed to Afghanistan, and, you know, overseas, and they're afraid to be in Savannah, which leads me to this, the Windsor Forest area has had issues repeatedly, and it's starting to cause property values to drop in that area. It is -- so it's -- it's -- it's not just a crime issue, it's an -- it becomes an economic issue, and I'm -- I'm sure that the police department knows that, but I want that to be also in the forefront of what we think about when we have these crime issues.

Major Branson said, yes.

Commissioner Brady said, and then on my last note is -- is I commend your efforts as -- as a Savannah Metro Police Department, and y'all are in a very bad situation right now with what has happened in this county, not just the 6<sup>th</sup> District.

Major Branson said, yes.

Commissioner Brady said, and just -- go find these people.

Major Branson said, absolutely. Thank you, ma'am. Yes, we're -- we're asking the community to -- to please talk with us. We're having meetings. I -- I would just say one more thing to that, the Chief recently placed another Captain in that southside precinct. He's been there about two weeks now, Captain Dean Fagerstrom, who has nearly 30 years experience as a law enforcement officer. He has already started to make some changes within that precinct, and -- and we'll -- we're confident that he at the patrol level is going to be making some significant end roads meeting with the public and making some real changes out there. On the criminal investigation side, we won't stop. We'll keep on until we find these folks.

Commissioner Brady said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Shabazz -- any other questions, Commissioner Brady?

Commissioner Brady said, I'll pass. I'll wait till Chief Lovett's here. I think that's fair.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Shabazz.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes, is there any effort to find the root causes of these crimes that's being committed in the community, and how is it that you're working with the community to solve these murders and crime that's in the community?

Major Branson said, yes, sir. To -- to the first question, we are consistently seeking dialogue with the public. We are constantly talking with our allies with the Counter Narcotics Team, with the community service agencies that -- you know, it's -- it's not -- it's not just a crime problem, it's a social issue, in many of our communities, and you know, I'm -- I'm -- I'm a very big advocate for helping those with mental illness, and -- and so we know that as a police department we cannot do this by ourselves, and we rely upon those services that are available within the community. A lot of our crime is drug-driven. We -- we know that. That's been the case for many, many years. And so we have a tremendous working relationship with our Counter Narcotics Team. The Chief is in the process of installing a -- a street level drug enforcement unit, and I think we'll see some big changes there. But -- but unless we have some very sincere, continuous ongoing dialogue with our community, I -- I don't think you're going to see any real change, but that is happening.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, anything else, Commissioner Shabazz?

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes, I have another question.

Major Branson said, yes?

Commissioner Shabazz said, what are you doing to -- like you said, it's drug related, are -- is there any efforts to deal with the drug trafficking, not just on the street level, nickel and dime, but on a higher level, on a higher scale, because it has to be brought in here some kind of way.

Chairman Scott said, that -- that'd be a good question for the next presenter.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, 'cause he's going to talk --

Major Branson said, absolutely, and I would say that we do depend upon the Counter Narcotics Team for mid-level and upper drug -- level drug enforcement. We're just not capable of doing it at the level that CNT is.

Commissioner Shabazz said, well I'm glad that you recognize that it's -- it's partly a social issue as well.

Major Branson said, yes, sir, absolutely.

Commissioner Shabazz said, thank you.

Major Branson said, yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, next you have a question from Commissioner Center from the 3<sup>rd</sup> and then we'll have a question from Pro Tem Helen Stone from the 1<sup>st</sup> District and then our Vice-Chair from the 8<sup>th</sup> District has a question for you.

Major Branson said, okay.

Commissioner Center said, thank you, Mr. Chairman and Major Branson, thanks for coming today.

Major Branson said, thank you, sir.

Commissioner Center said, I listen to you and these murders are horrific.

Major Branson said, yes, sir, they are.

Commissioner Center said, and they occurred on the southside, but you have a whole county. You talked about transparency and solving problems. I want to hear a little bit more about visibility, particularly in the downtown area. There was a report in the paper today of an assault and -- and hold up on York and Lincoln. Before I came on Commissioner Stone interrupted a -- an assault and robbery in one of the squares downtown. And I hear particularly about, you know, there's no one even walking a beat on Broughton Street -- which has crowds -- just up and down the street. When you talked about interacting, having dialogue with the community, having beat officers helps that dialogue.

Major Branson said, absolutely.

Commissioner Center said, and, you know, in particularly I hear people -- could somebody at least be on one of these -- a bicycle that go from square to square on a road? Can you tell us a little bit about are you -- on how you're working on prevention, I know you can't prevent a lot of crimes, and visibility.

Major Branson said, I'll speak specifically to the downtown precinct.

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

Major Branson said, Captain Mike Wilkins, who has been there for quite some time, very proactive, very pro-community. He's had some terrific ideas, not only in the downtown business district, but in the public housing areas and the homeless camps, and -- and the residential areas and along River Street. He's made tremendous impacts there, by just as you say, by getting officers out of their cars, requiring them to walk in the neighborhoods, along the businesses. We do get our bicycle patrols out. We understand that prevention is key. We would much rather prevent crime than to have to take the report for it. It's great when we can catch them, and we love to catch the criminals, but it's much better if we can prevent it. Horse patrols, foot patrol, bicycle patrols, that's the way we used to do it before we had bicycles [sic], unfortunately, when we got cars, we got air conditioners and heaters in them, and we rolled up our windows, and we went from call to call to call. We recognize that is not the way to police our community. It's going to be imperative that -- that we are seen out there and we recognize that. Yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you. Major Branson, I appreciate you're being here, and I'm sorry the Chief can't be here because these questions are really directed at him. But as a result of some of the information about the police department not wanting to write reports and -- and keep true crime statistics, I did hear from a couple people, and one I sought out, and the one that I sought out was the young lady who owns a business, or owned a business at Oglethorpe Mall, and her frustration with the cooperation from our police department led her to close her doors. This is not what we need in our community. And I do have an in depth report from her about some of the incidents, and I would like to know why these allegations and why her concerns were not properly addressed, which ultimately led for her to close her business? That's not a good thing. The second concern that I had came from a fellow worker when I was on the Metropolitan Planning Commission, and she and her husband own some rental property in the west side of -- of Chatham County, and after reporting numerous incidents, everything from no answer at 9-1-1 to an officer actually stating to them that they chose a really bad place for business. This is not professional. This is not conducive to good business, and I want to follow up on these. I also had a phone call from a gentleman who is a student at the Savannah Technical College. His car was broken into while he was in school. His wallet was stolen. His credit card was being used around town, and the Metropolitan Police wanted to say that it was the Technical -- Savannah Technical College's police responsibility, and they wanted to say it was Metro's responsibility. This type of back and forth is not going to solve crimes, and I think that this is what -- these are some of the things that I need addressed to give answers to people that have come to me looking for answers.

Commissioner Stone said, I'm hoping that with our new District Attorney there will be more collaboration in that office and possibly to get to the bottom of some of these situations. But if -- if there are flaws in our existing police department, I want to address those item by item by item. If 9-1-1 -- if someone is not picking up there, that's not acceptable. And again I understand that -- that you're here filling in for the Chief and -- and I'm not here to -- to point fingers at you, but this is our police department, and these are issues that are affecting our constituents and our citizens, and we need to take care of them because when we all raised our right hand and took that oath, public safety is number one. You can forget everything else if you do not have public safety. So I -- I just want to go through these items with our Chief, and I'll get with the County Manager. I really want to go line by line down with some of these concerns so that I can give appropriate answers to my constituents. And I too have a murder in my District that's over six months old, and this family is -- is grasping for answers and nothing. Nothing. So, I think we all share this county-wide that none of us in our Districts are immune to these problems, but I think we've got to start addressing them, and if it takes the Chief going item by item with all of the concerns that have been raised here today, then that's -- that's our job, and that's what we need to do.

Major Branson said, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you.

Major Branson said, may I reply?

Commissioner Stone said, yes.

Major Branson said, respectfully, ma'am. As a -- as a citizen of this County, as a Major with the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department, I'm -- I'm appalled as well at those instances. I can tell you that the Chief is not happy about these allegations. I -- I know the -- the store owner that you mentioned. I -- I've known her for many, many years. When -- when these charges show up in the Savannah Morning News or -- or come to the Commissioners or -- or come to our Council members, we would just ask to have an opportunity to investigate. You know the 9-1-1 center everything is recorded, and so if we didn't answer, then there will be action taken on that. If an officer told someone you really don't need to take a report, those are the instances we want to know about so that we can act on those, and I can assure you the Chief has made it clear to every one of us that we will indeed act on these.

Commissioner Stone said, well that's what I need to give answers to my constituents, and I would feel that the rest of us up here, this is what we need is accountability for our police department, and you all do not have an easy job. I recognize that, and I appreciate that. I appreciate every officer that is willing to go out every day and put their life on the line for the safety of this community. However, if we are not getting true statistics because reports are not being made for whatever the reason, that needs to be -- that needs to stop.

Major Branson said, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Stone said, we need to have a true picture of what's going on in this community.

Major Branson said, that's right.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Vice Chairman --

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, -- Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, given the facts of everything that has been said this morning, first of all, I -- I would like to applaud Chief Lovett and all the officers. Personally I -- I do know that they are out there. They are doing everything they can, but let me say this, to better demonstrate our commitment to this cause, it's going to take each and every one of us, Commissioners, every citizen, along with the police department, anyone that we can find. I am not going to sit up here today and say or accuse the -- the -- the department of not doing their jobs. We have citizens who know, have information, and they will not report it. I come across that each and every day, and when they tell me this, I immediately say, don't tell me if you don't want me to report it because I am going to report it. If you know who these people are who are committing these crimes, then we need to get them off the streets. So, therefore, what I'm trying to say that these are challenging times. It's either we are in this together or we will sink together. It has to be a commitment on the part of each and every individual, and that starts with our citizens, and everybody that's concerned. I like to have the facts when I am talking about something. We hear a lot of innuendos and stuff like that. So before I get into this any further, I want to learn more about what's going on. We -- I -- my family, I've lost four family members very dear to me. We have not found the people that killed them, and this has been like four years ago, and just six months ago I lost my nephew. How do you think my family feels? But we are not pointing a finger, we are out there trying to find and help the cause. So I am saying to each and every one of us today that if we have that true commitment, let's get out there and help the police department do their job.

Chairman Scott said, okay. We have a follow up question from Commissioner Brady, and then we have a question from Commissioner Kicklighter from the 7<sup>th</sup> District.

Commissioner Brady said, Major Branson, I heard you talk about prevention.

Major Branson said, yes.

Commissioner Brady said, and -- and I have to ask this question because it's -- it's been all over the media that in fact the last homicide on Sharondale, that that house had repeatedly had police officers at that house. The neighbors reported that on TV. Now I -- I too want to get to the facts. Is that factual that that house had a lot of police calls made to it?

Major Branson said, there was one 9-1-1 call regarding that residence in that area, that specific residence, that address, and in that area, there was one 9-1-1 call that came in. There were numerous self-initiated police officer stops in that area checking that particular residence and in that block. There was one 9-1-1 call.

Commissioner Brady said, but when you say several -- several police initiated stops there, how many of those would you say that there were? Do you have any idea?

Major Branson said, I -- I don't recall the exact number. Less than a dozen, I believe.

Commissioner Brady said, well, and that leads me to my point. In terms of when -- and I'm not questioning the police abilities. I commend you going out there every day and putting your life on the line. Everyone of you, but -- and I'm pretty -- I can be pretty simple-minded, but if you've got -- you've identified a house and you -- and -- and the police department identified that house as -- as a problem house, now we've got a homicide coming from that residence. To me, I would put a police officer riding up and down that street every day or sitting out in front of the house, and from what I understand there's actually a police car within the range that apparently lives there, so apparently that hasn't been a detriment to whatever's going on in that house. I don't know what's going on in some of these houses. I can tell you there's a lot of them in Windsor Forest right now, and -- and we've got to deal with it. But, again, my point is this, when y'all identify a house, you know, I don't know what your strategy is, and that's in a -- that's probably me sitting down with y'all and trying to figure out what the strategy is, and I can go over to the Fourth Precinct and -- and talk to the captain over there, but it bothers me when I see citizens saying that they're seeing police over at a house numerous, numerous, numerous times, you know, through the media, I mean, it just -- it just looks poorly to me when you see stuff like that.

Chairman Scott said, any response to that?

Major Branson said, if I may. We -- we do use every available asset. If -- if there are people loitering, that's not a crime, obviously. If they're consuming drugs or alcohol out on the front lawn or out in the street, we can address that. If it's a code enforcement issue, we can address that. If it's a loud music complaint, we can address that, but a -- a number of people congregating at a residence absent some crime, we are aware of it, we keep an eye on it, we do maintain a presence in that neighborhood. We're limited.

Commissioner Brady said, and I have one last comment, Mr. Chairman, and -- and I need to tell this story because this is a story that I experienced within the last six months. One Saturday morning, and I live in Windsor Forest, one Saturday morning, I got up around 10:00 o'clock I saw a police car out in front of my house. I live on a double-ended cul-de-sac, so when you see a police car, you go outside. Went out my driveway, there was six police units on my street, double-ended cul-de-sac, and I'm thinking, God help us, what has happened? Those six police units and their officers were chasing a goat. A goat. Now, when I questioned them, I said, what are you going to do when you catch that goat 'cause you have no means to -- to transport that goat. They informed me that they had called Animal Control and Animal Control wouldn't come out. That's a whole 'nother issue. But my point here is this, I've got six police units on my streets chasing a goat. I would think that the service delivery would have been much better than having six units, I'm talking six police cars running on my street for almost an hour and a half. They had been chasing -- that was at 10:00 o'clock in the morning. They had been chasing that goat since 7:30 a.m. off of White Bluff. So I -- I -- I tell you that because when -- when I see stuff like that, and of course, everybody's out on my street, and they're like, how many Savannah Metro police officers does it take to catch a goat. And -- and literally I was so concerned about that because I thought that was a waste of police time and effort trying to catch a goat. And I'll -- I'll just leave it at that.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand and appreciate and share the concerns expressed by this Board, and -- and by everyone up here on the Commission, and -- but I think we have at this point a little bit of a -- a misplaced good intentions at this point. It's not under our elected or sworn duties, and -- and we actually do not have the legal ability or authority to tell the police departments of the City of Savannah, Bloomingdale, Pooler, Tybee Island, Thunderbolt what to do when policing their cities. At this point what we've done, we, being not most of us up here, but a County Commission in the past agreed to hire services from a City, 85,000 people living in the unincorporated area pays a separate tax for police services. We then contracted the City of Savannah to police the unincorporated areas with that money. That service, that cost has gone from about \$4 million to over \$14 million since the merger, and yet, our concern at this point should be why does Southbridge have to pay for a police officer -- a off duty police officer to ride around their neighborhood? That's where what we have the authority and oversight to actually make a difference is -- do we know how many officers we have patrolling the unincorporated areas? No. We knew before we contracted the City to do that. Our only legal abilities is to best police the unincorporated areas of Chatham County. That's ours. Other than that, county-wide the Sheriff has the authority to police everything county-wide, and what -- what's going on with the questioning, and again, I understand it. I want -- I want them to straighten it out, but it's no different than us seeing crimes going on in -- on Tybee and us telling them what to do. We have simply hired this police department to police the unincorporated areas, and it's no different than Pooler, they contract Waste Management to pick up the garbage. It's no different than their Mayor and Council calling Waste Management about complaints in Garden City because they also contract Waste Management. We have no authority. We have no ability. The contract, which was a flawed contract, we get what we signed back then. That Chief --

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, -- this department answers to Savannah.

Chairman Scott said, I know --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, they do not legally answer to us. So we need to restructure to be able to get these answers, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, yeah, I understand, but we have the Major here, and do -- do you have anything specific to address, 'cause I understand your frustration, and --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yes, sir. No, sir. Thank y'all for -- for trying, and I -- I would like to say one thing that I would like to see. I would like to see all of the county form a citizens group that would actually oversee one of the main problems. Y'all catch -- y'all being police throughout the country. Y'all catch a lot of the flack, when in fact, if we could have groups that would follow -- chart everything from the moment -- call it a Citizens Sentence -- Sentence Enforcement Group that charts judges from the time of trial from what the maximum sentence was allowed to what they actually sentenced these criminals to, and chart releases where when citizens -- it's very obvious. We talk about open sunshine laws. It's very easy to elect a government that sits here on television and talking 'cause you -- you know, you -- you see it. You hear it. But what we don't know, we don't see is the hard work. We don't see that you've put that thug that killed somebody a year ago in jail 25 times because we don't even know who let them out. We -- we have no idea. If we had that in front of us as citizens, then we can start putting a bite -- taking a nice little bite out of crime, because I venture to think that most -- the majority of murders without knowing stats, that -- that the murderers themselves have committed multiple crimes, and they should have been removed from society all together, but we have a system in general that keeps letting us down and they -- they -- they keep us in danger, and that's the core of the problem. I appreciate the obstacles you're up against, and I thank you. And keep trying to figure something out.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Major, thank you. I've got two follow-up questions. One, leading from a comment that Commissioner Kicklighter, can you tell the Commission how many patrolmen you have in the unincorporated area assigned on any given day?

Major Branson said, I -- I apologize. I do not know that number right off the top of my head. I'd hate to give you an inaccurate figure. I can provide that for you --

Chairman Scott said, can you provide that for me?

Major Branson said, -- today, yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, the second question I have, can you please share with the Commission the reporting authority on major crimes, such as a crime involving weapons or -- and certainly homicides. How is it reported up the chain of command and at what time?

Major Branson said, I have a very real need to know as the CID commander of what's going on real time so that I may inform the Chief so that he may inform the City and/or County Manager as to what's going on. As I've stood up here, my cell phone has vibrated several times, and I -- obviously I'm not going to check my phone while I'm standing up here in front of you. I've got my phone with me 24 hours a day. All of my staff, all the CID staff keep me informed as things are going on around the clock, but the Chief is constantly aware of crimes as they occur out in the community. The major crimes that you're talking about. Does that address the question?

Chairman Scott said, for instance, if there's a homicide in the 6<sup>th</sup> District, what is the time lag between the occurrence and when you and the Chief know?

Major Branson said, I know immediately. If -- if -- if it's a shooting, not a homicide, I'm made aware of it. We have Blackberry notifications. If it appears that it's going to be a homicide, I know within -- within 15 minutes of the officers being dispatched to the scene. Once an officer's on scene, determines, oh, this is bad, it's -- it's a homicide, it's probably going to be a homicide, my staff calls me. I immediately call the Chief, at home, on his cell phone, at the office, wherever he happens to be. There's immediate notification.

Chairman Scott said, and do you have awareness of the lag time between when you inform the Chief and when the Chief inform the City Manager or Mayor or County Manager?

Major Branson said, I am not aware of that, no, sir.

Chairman Scott said, can you provide that for us?

Major Branson said, yes, sir. Absolutely.

Chairman Scott said, and -- and lastly. Is it possible that you could -- you all could put out a electronic notification to elected officials on major, major crimes, such as homicide, crime involving weapons. We don't want -- I personally don't want to know about the goat chases.

Major Branson said, I'll -- I'll convey that to the Chief and ask him to coordinate with the County Manager and see if we can accommodate that, yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman, may I explain one thing? I promise I'll make it really fast to clarify one thing to the citizens.

Chairman Scott said, I trust you, Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you. I promise I'll make this fast.

Chairman Scott said, you have the floor.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, just so you'll know at home, when -- when we talk about the unin -- when we talk about what used to be the Chatham County Police Department, the big misconception is that it was a county-wide police department. We're simply talking about the unincorporated areas police department. That's all areas of the county that's not in one of our cities. So, to just let you know at home where I'm coming from a little bit more on that, that police department's paid for -- was paid for by those people in the unincorporated areas, and this -- this contracted service is still paid for by those 85,000 people at home. So -- just so you'll know, because the misconception is county police, they could have done anything county-wide. No, they're -- they had no legal abilities or authority to do that whatsoever, so I just wanted to clarify. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, and the Manager has.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, with your permission I want to take advantage of having Major Branson before you. There's talk about reporting of crimes and how we handle it, but Commissioner Stone and others will testify to a somewhat modest comment by Major Branson as far as his involvement with mental health, and what he has done over the many months with NAMI and other organizations to educate merchants and others who may have contact with people who are mentally ill so they did not over react, and it's not a crime, it is in fact it's a function of their mental state, and this man, like few others, has done so much, along with those in the Sheriff's Department to educate law enforcement on how to deal with situations when in -- where in effect the superficial appearance is a crime is being committed when in fact it is a function of the state of that individual, and this man has done wonders for it, and for that I'm very appreciative.

Major Branson said, thank you, sir.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Stone said, yes. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Major, I thank you, and please tell the Chief that we look forward to hearing from him in two weeks.

Major Branson said, yes, sir, absolutely. Thank you so much.

Chairman Scott said, okay, and as a follow-up to a question that Commissioner Kicklighter -- it's very timely. We have the DA with us, and, he was talking about, if I understood his comments, about repeat offenders, and the DA is here to talk -- comment on parole of convicted felon.

District Attorney Meg Heap said, good morning. I was asked -- Mr. Abolt contacted me and asked me to address I believe an issue that the Chief expressed concerns back in November before I took office, and I actually researched. It was an individual who was charged with murder. It went to a jury trial, just to give you some background. Went to a jury trial, he was convicted of aggravated assault, was sentenced to 17 years to serve. It went up on appeal. The Court of Appeals found error. It was sent back, and I believe in November, before I took office, they sentenced him to 17 years -- 22 years probation with time served. It is someone on the southside. What I'm taking into -- from that -- well a couple things. First of all, I've hired some experienced prosecutors so -- to address issues. If someone's charged with murder, I want capable people handling the case. Come February 1<sup>st</sup>, we're rolling out the major crimes division, which means all murders, armed robberies, sexual assaults, child molestation, will be handled by two judges. That's Judge Karpf and Judge Walmsley, and I've assigned eight prosecutors there -- well, nine. One will be handling all crimes against children, and I've put the experienced prosecutors there. They know how to handle the issues, they're working with the police. In terms of repeat offenders, we have drafted a policy, if you are charged with a crime and -- and I call it the Recidivist policy, Commissioner Kicklighter. I think that is a serious issue. I've talked -- I've spoken with all the police across the county. If you are charged with crimes, and you have prior convictions, when you are indicted or charged as a crime, you're going to be indicted as a Recidivist. And, you know, evidentiary, taking that aside, if there's some problem with the case, we'll have to deal with it, but you're going to hold those charges with you, and, you know, the Court has some alternatives, but if you're indicted as a Recidivist, and you're a three-time Recidivist, they don't have many alternatives. And I think that's the DA's part. That's what I have to do.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, wonderful.

District Attorney Heap said, and also to work with the law enforcement. You know, we did hear their concerns. Another area that I've heard, you know, over the past year, cases are being disposed of without ever talking to the police, without ever talking to the victim. And we've already set that policy. You don't do that. You meet with your law enforcement, and you -- you -- you make sure you meet with your victims, because sometimes we discover evidence we didn't know before. It can make a case stronger that we thought was weak to begin with. So we are -- we've already taken steps to rectify that problem.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, wonderful.

District Attorney Heap said, any other questions?

Commissioner Stone said, Mr. Chairman? I -- I have a question.

Chairman Scott said, we have Commission Pro Tem Stone from the 1<sup>st</sup>, and then we have Commissioner Holmes from the 2<sup>nd</sup>, who have questions.

District Attorney Heap said, yes, ma'am?

Commissioner Stone said, thank you. If I understand this correctly, this guy that got out on parole for murder --

District Attorney Heap said, he didn't get out on parole. He went to a jury. He was acquitted of the murder. He was convicted of the aggravated assault. The Judge sentenced him to 17 plus years to serve. It went up to the Court of Appeals. Court found error, said there was something wrong done at the jury trial. It came back, and last November they sentenced him to 22 years probation.

Commissioner Stone said, so he's on probation because of an error in the jury trial?

District Attorney Heap said, during the jury trial, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Stone said, that's pretty frightening. I mean to think that somebody that is potentially dangerous is out due to an error during the jury trial. And error occurred by whom?

District Attorney Heap said, evidence was not allowed in. There was an argument of whether it should go in or not.

Commissioner Stone said, but --

District Attorney Heap said, and it was decided that it would not be allowed in and the Court of Appeals -- Appeals felt that it should have been let in. It was not retried. That is an option. So, you know, I was not a part of that, when that -- the plea --

Commissioner Stone said, I understand. I'm just trying to get to where the problem existed that this individual is now out on our streets that is potentially dangerous.

District Attorney Heap said, just to let you I am meeting with the head of probation on Monday. Again, it's another area that needs to be addressed and to be dealt with, but, you know, this is a plea that was entered into back in 2012, and -- and the sentence is there. Those were the conditions. I will work with the police if there are any issues, if he violates his probation, we're going to, you know, hop on it.

Commissioner Stone said, yeah, I mean, you know, we -- we're --

Chairman Scott said, Madam DA, to further answer her question though, it would take a judge to disallow that evidence.

District Attorney Heap said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Stone said, but I guess -- I guess when we're sitting here concerned about homicides and violent crimes in this community, and we've got a situation like this, this is bad, and -- and I'm glad you're there, and I'm glad you're going to be looking in and ask -- into these things and asking the appropriate questions, but again, this goes back to my statement is that our first mandate and responsibility to the citizens of this community is public safety, and so, I -- I really don't -- I -- I hope that we won't hear of a situation like this in the future. And I appreciate what you're doing.

District Attorney Heap said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Holmes?

Commissioner Holmes said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ms. Meg [Heap], keep doing the work up.

District Attorney Heap said, thank you very much.

Commissioner Holmes said, you're doing a great job. These report that you're giving us, will there be a written report or they all will be oral?

District Attorney Heap said, I'm -- I'm sorry?

Commissioner Holmes said, you're report that you're giving us now, can we get that in writing?

District Attorney Heap said, oh, yes, sir. I'll do that. And -- and just to let you know this information that I gave you is public knowledge. You can go into the criminal justice system, go to clerk's office, pull it up, type in this individual's name, and it will list exactly what happened, but I'll be more than happy to supply that to you.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay. Would you be giving us an annual report or some six-month report from your office?

District Attorney Heap said, I -- I -- what would you like to know out of that?

Commissioner Holmes said, the datas that you process and what you were just talking about just now.

District Attorney Heap said, okay. I can do that.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay.

District Attorney Heap said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Center, you?

Commissioner Center said, no. I -- I don't need to ask a question. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, any other questions?

Commissioner Farrell said, yes.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, we have one. Commissioner Farrell from the 4<sup>th</sup> District has a question.

District Attorney Heap said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Farrell said, congratulations.

District Attorney Heap said, thank you.

Commissioner Farrell said, and welcome to the -- back to the District Attorney's office. We're looking forward to four more good years. You know, when the information came last year about this situation, I think collectively the entire Commission was quite dismayed about what had happened. So I -- I look forward to the future that this type of thing does not repeat itself, and I feel confident that -- that under your leadership this -- this will not -- hopefully will not occur again because it's quite frightening to find that someone that our police department charged with murder and was indicted for murder somehow slipped through the cracks and is back on the street and available to -- to strike again if you will if he -- if he so chooses. So I think it's very important as we look at the public safety that we don't singularly go to the police department only, and that we comprehensively look at the entire package from the time of arrests through the court system, into the prison system, into the probation system, and that we have a comprehensive idea of what's going on so that we can make the streets of Chatham County as safe as possible, and that our system works as well as it possibly can. And I just wanted to make that statement and -- and I'm still dismayed that a person that our local police department charged with murder is in a situation, and I guess with double jeopardy, you can't reach back and -- and do anything else. I mean mistakes were made, and the citizens are at risk going forward that if this fellow does this -- repeats his crime again, then someone's going to get hurt, where if he was serving his term in jail that they would be better served -- the community would be better served. Thank you.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, and Mr. Chairman?

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I'm so glad you got up and spoke. The problem is so much deeper than arresting these people on the streets. One thing that utilizes your resources which takes away from your actual prosecutions is -- is very flawed State laws. There's -- there's so many areas that we can look at and influence from our position where again I think we're gearing it to a specific area where we -- we do not have the authority but we can influence together like State laws. One example is a convicted murderer has the ability to file an appeal him or herself on line now and our State law entitles them to a hearing. There is -- it's my understanding there's no limitations on the amount of times a convicted murderer can do this, and that's going to prompt actually above but you would have to coordinate with the State level --

District Attorney Heap said, attorney general.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yeah, attorney's general's office. Coordinate with them to go sit in an appeal hearing where a criminal can just over and over and over and over appeal it now without an attorney. There's -- there's areas like this that again if we could have groups that track or a citizen's group that'll put the efforts in -- in areas where we can make a difference because we are arresting these people as all stats will show, and thank you what you shared. And -- and anything anybody out there can -- can do to feed off of those efforts to help influence State laws that are logical would be wonderful because we live in a society without logical laws unfortunately. Thank you.

District Attorney Heap said, you're very welcome.

Chairman Scott said, anything else for the DA?

Commissioner Brady said, no, sir.

Chairman Scott said, If not, thank you so much, ma'am.

District Attorney Heap said, thank you very much.

#### **ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

For information only.

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### **3. CNT MONTHLY REPORT GIVEN VERBALLY BY DIRECTOR RAGAN. NOTE: GARDEN CITY POLICE CHIEF LYONS WILL BE PRESENT TO ADDRESS "THE PROBLEM WITH REPEAT OFFENDERS."**

Chairman Scott said, next we have a report coming from our Chatham County Narcotics Team Director, and -- Director Ragan, and then we also have the Garden City Police Chief Lyons with us. Is he?

Director Everett Ragan said, yes.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, with your permission, I would like to help introduce the subject which is a continuation of what you've just been discussing.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

County Manager Abolt said, back -- back in November the Board began to pick up more on this information on the plague of repeat offenders, and at that time the Board asked what could be done to hear from law enforcement leaders in the community, and at that time I suggested because we have a Drug Advisory Board that by its very nature and composition are all the law enforcement leaders, both at the local, State and federal levels, that they would become another authority on this. You'll notice as you correctly introduced Chief Lyons as a member of that Board, he will be a spokesperson for it, and I will underscore what Commissioner Kicklighter said, but I also want to recognize the Chairman that was present, as was Dr. Thomas and I believe Commissioner Stone and Commissioner Holmes when there was an announcement of a major drug bust a few weeks back which took almost two years of CNT time. The shocking thing about the presentation was when they did an organizational chart of the bad people that were doing this, and we're getting at the very issue that Commissioner Shabazz talked about, the networks of -- of bad people. Everybody on that chart was known and had been arrested, and that is what is happening. It's happening at a rate where it has to stop. These officers are doing their job and -- and -- and it is -- it is not just embarrassing, it is a basic threat to public safety in this community when you see a rogue's gallery of individual's that have been arrested 10, 15, 20 times. Director Ragan.

Director Ragan said, thank you, sir. Good morning, Mr. Chairman. Good morning, Commission.

Chairman Scott said, good morning.

Director Ragan said, I'm going to be very quick on the monthly report 'cause I'm sure we'll have follow-up questions, and, of course, I want to get Chief Lyons an opportunity to -- for his explanation. During the month of December we initiated 89 investigations. We've already closed out 54. Wound up with a total of 45 arrests -- excuse me 34 arrests for the -- for the month. Seized two additional weapons off the streets. Picked up at least 10 pounds of marijuana in one case, so -- and spent our -- our -- see our usual breakdown of the hours spent in the -- each municipality and the City of Savannah. I'm glad we were able to get you the reports now at least ahead of time so you're -- you're able to go over -- if you have any questions about the monthly report, please just let me know.

Director Ragan said, and just -- just to continue with the briefing with what Mr. Abolt just said with the investigation that we concluded in -- in November with the 39 Indictments. Out of the 39 people that we indicted, now we indicted the kingpins, their lieutenants. We indicted the females who were getting the cell phones in their names, renting the cars in their names, getting the houses in their names, trying to cover for the drug dealers. Out of the 39 people that we indicted, 23 of them now have been indicted in January by the Southern District of Georgia federal court, so we're looking at very strict guidelines, and one of the individuals who was a cooperating witness for us has actually already agreed and has already been sentenced to 20 years in prison, and that's under federal time, which he'll do 85 percent of that time in the federal system.

Director Ragan said, another tidbit, there's -- you saw over the weekend the chase that came out of Liberty County, through Bryan County, through Chatham County, ended up running into one of our police cars and injuring -- slightly injuring the officers and cumulating in a foot chase through Armstrong, through Garden City. That individual was actually under indictment. He was wanted, had not been picked up. We had -- we had indicted him and so had the feds for the same narcotics investigation on the cocaine. So -- and two weapons were recovered out of the car -- excuse me, the truck that they were in. So, but right now I'd like to open it up for questions and then we can get to Chief Lyons, please. If we have any.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Brady.

Director Ragan said, yes, ma'am?

Commissioner Brady said, good morning.

Director Ragan said, good morning. How are you?

Commissioner Brady said, I'm good.

Director Ragan said, good.

Commissioner Brady said, y'all have been doing a really great job, but I -- I do have two quick questions.

Director Ragan said, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Brady said, out of this report, 'cause it's hard for me to tell what it means when you have the drug investigations hours worked by zone.

Director Ragan said, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Brady said, just to put it in simple terms, would you -- what would you say the percentage of the arrests made -- that CNT has made -- what are the percentages versus unincorporated county and municipalities. Do you have any idea?

Director Ragan said, I don't have any idea. I can -- I can find that out. I will -- I will find that out for the next meeting, the next time I come. But again, as we pointed out, the individuals on this last -- this last major case was that the

several of the kingpins were spending -- were living in Garden City and Pooler, and we were spending time and surveillance out there but they were actually selling the drugs in -- off of Park Avenue, off of 60<sup>th</sup> Street, and in -- in the Cuyler-Brownsville area is where they're -- and off -- off of Liberty Parkway where one of the kingpins was living. So. It shows a lot of time we maybe did surveillance in Garden City where we -- where they're living at, and then we will make the arrests and they may be in Savannah when we make the arrest. They -- they are -- they move so much. They are very -- very transient. So, I'll try to get that breakdown for you, however.

Commissioner Brady said, well, it is true though that -- are -- is the drug unit fully funded by Chatham County?

County Manager Abolt said, yes, ma'am.

Director Ragan said, the drug unit is completely funded by Chatham County, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Brady said, that's where I was going at with that. It's fully funded by Chatham County, and I think that the community needs to see a breakdown of where these arrests are being made and where -- where we're focused at.

Director Ragan said, yes, ma'am. We can do that.

County Manager Abolt said, if -- if I may -- and I'm not -- not trying to interrupt, but I do want to point out and this is in the -- the material that Director Ragan sends you, we show you the number of hours.

Commissioner Brady said, that -- but I couldn't figure out where is -- is my point.

County Manager Abolt said, yeah, and that -- that'll be another iteration will come to you. I think the important thing in looking at, you know, -- I don't want to assume what you're -- where you're going with this, arrest is a measurement of -- of -- of work.

Commissioner Stone said, gotcha.

County Manager Abolt said, but also a measurement is time.

Commissioner Brady said, here --

County Manager Abolt said, and a commitment in -- in an area -- the metropolitan area of the city or the unincorporated area, we can show you that.

Commissioner Brady said, okay. It's -- it's in here.

Director Ragan said, it's in there.

Commissioner Brady said, it's in here.

Director Ragan said, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Brady said, and most of -- most of the hours expended have been expended in the City of Savannah.

Commissioner Stone said, City of Savannah. That's why I asked for it.

Director Ragan said, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Brady said, well, I don't want to put you on the spot.

Director Ragan said, put me on the spot. I don't --

Commissioner Brady said, but we've got Savannah Metro Police Department trying to set up a drug unit of 30 officers when the Chatham County drug unit is expending most of their hours in the City of Savannah.

Director Ragan said, yes, ma'am. If I may just take a minute to address that.

Commissioner Brady said, mm-hmm.

Director Ragan said, I've worked with Chief Lovett, in fact we're helping right now with his -- his selected person to head up his street level narcotics team is with us and has been with us for the last couple of weeks so he can get some basic knowledge. What you're looking at -- I don't want to speak out of turn, but in my conversations with Chief Lovett and the County Manager and the City Manager and -- and all, is basically when you have complaints of individuals who are on the corner loitering, they may or may not be drug dealers, okay? That is a perception problem that the community has that needs to be addressed by the police department. If they're drug dealers, let's get them off the street. If they're not drug dealers, let's check them out. CNT primarily investigates the middle to upper level. We make a lot of street level drug cases. We buy from parking lots and -- and the McDonalds and this type of thing, but it usually comes out of a house, comes to us. The fact that they need to address those perceptions and the concerns of the residents living

there seeing the individuals on the corner, that's what Chief Lovett's unit will address. They will not get into the long-term type investigations that -- that we are capable of, and that's -- and that's what we do. So. Yes, ma'am. But there's -- there's no conflict between Chief Lovett and CNT with what their proposal is, and what they should be -- what they should be doing to answer the questions for the --for the citizens and -- and those neighborhoods where those problems exist.

Commissioner Brady said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Pro Tem Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, one quick comment. Commander Ragan, I really am very grateful that you're now breaking this out like I requested a few months ago, 'cause we can see the hours that we do expend, that Chatham County does for the City of Savannah.

Director Ragan said, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Stone said, which brings me to one very brief point a little off the subject, but this is why I do believe in my heart of hearts that with the LOST negotiations, that Chatham County because of things like this is due their fair share of the LOST money, as well as the --

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Stone, you're out of order.

Commissioner Stone said, I understand, but I just want to point that out.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Shabazz.

Commissioner Shabazz said, what -- what constitute a kingpin?

Director Ragan said, a kingpin?

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes.

Director Ragan said, we take -- we like to consider anybody who is a multi-ounce to a kilo dealer, multi-kilo dealer. In this operation that we just completed, we had probably seven multi-kilo dealers that we arrested, along with their lieutenants. And a kilo -- a kilo of cocaine is 2.2 pounds of cocaine is what we -- is what we have. The individual that we've -- the two individuals that we got coming back in -- we were on with 23 kilos, which put it over that, over 50 pounds that they were coming in, but we consider ounce -- multiple-ounce dealers as individuals who really do impact the -- impact the community. Now what you have is people who will come in with a kilo, and then they'll break it down, two ounces here, two ounces there. There's people who break it down a gram here, a gram there, two grams there. And so, when we get an organization, we will get the multi-kilo dealers. We will also get their lieutenants who come in and pick up two ounces, two or three ounces. Listening on in -- and not getting into a lot of evidentiary aspects of that case, listening in on the seller -- on the telephones, we knew whenever he was coming back, of course, we had surveillance on him all -- physical surveillance on him also, but we knew he was coming back to a residence over off of 35<sup>th</sup> Lane near Florence Street --

Commissioner Shabazz said, mm-hmm.

Director Ragan said, and was calling on the phone for his people to meet him in the yard -- it's what they call the yard, and they were going to break that 23 kilos down into ounces and others -- or kilos and sell that.

Commissioner Shabazz said, so -- so there's -- there's -- there's an evolution of the street level dealer after they -- after the evolution takes place, they become a kingpin. Is that right?

Director Ragan said, yes, sir. These -- these guys started out and -- and we did a real long debriefing with one of these individuals that -- a lot for training purposes. He was -- once he realized that he was had, he -- he did a real long, like I said, interview for training to how we can better surveillance what -- what -- what they look for for surveillance and this type of thing. He actually helped us out a lot with that. But yes, he started as a street level dealer and worked his way up. 'Cause he -- you know, with the money that's involved, you can -- you can take two ounces and return enough to maybe go in there and buy a quarter kilo, and then you take that quarter kilo, and you break it down, and you go -- maybe next time you get a half a kilo, then you move yourself on up into that, and each one of those organizations as I said, then have lieutenants who help -- who help do the selling. So.

Commissioner Shabazz said, right. So, at -- at some point someone had to finance this individual.

Director Ragan said, well, you --

Commissioner Shabazz said, that's -- that's the point that I'm getting at. Is there any effort to find out who's actually behind the financing of these individuals who are selling the drugs in our community, trafficking the drugs in our community?

Director Ragan said, yes, sir. We -- we --

Commissioner Shabazz said, even before they get to that point?

Director Ragan said, -- just put a bunch of them in jail. The individual, the two individuals who left -- when they left Savannah, they went to Atlanta to pick up -- pick up the 23 kilos, and we watched them all the way up and all the way back. District Attorney at the time we were -- requested that we make sure they have the drugs to come back State conspiracy charges also. So they got the drugs and came back, and when they left Savannah that morning, they left with over \$700,000 in canvas bags in the back seat of their car, is what they took. So they chipped in, three of them chipped in money that they had, over \$700,000 and went up and got the 23 kilos, came back. When we took them down, there was still \$24,000 left in the car, plus the 23 kilos of cocaine. When we did search warrants on their houses, we got another 69,000 out of one house, another 60,000 out of another house. So they spend time and -- and they may not have graduated high school, but they can count money, and they can -- they can -- they can do the math on the money and what they can get for a gram a lot quicker than I can. So, they can keep track of that.

Commissioner Center said, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman Scott said, what about the 700,000?

Director Ragan said, that went to the Mexicans up in Atlanta.

Chairman Scott said, and they were not arrested?

Director Ragan said, they were not arrested at that time, no, sir. There's still a current investigation going on. That's -- we -- we pressed the envelope a little bit sending our people up there. You see. But, yeah, DEA is aware of them. They're partners with us, so yeah, yeah, they're -- they're over at Atlanta.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Director Ragan said, we're currently working to -- to -- on that investigation.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Center from the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Director Ragan said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, I had the same question. Want to follow up to that. Is there -- is there good cooperation with the agencies that are following that 700,000?

Director Ragan said, there is excellent cooperation with the agencies that we have. Now on that aspect of it, that'll be a federal -- that's federal, and -- and I'm not kept abreast of that. But that information that we obtained all went to the federal agency for that. And -- and for those of you who don't know, the hub of all the drugs coming into the southeast is no longer Miami. It is Atlanta, Georgia. That's where -- that's where you get cocaine. That's where the marijuana comes through. That's where the crystal meth comes through. We try to -- you know, we have a meth problem, which is the one pot method that makes sloppy methamphetamine, but to get the good crystal methamphetamine that was being sold out of a bar down here, we had to make contact with the individual -- individual, and he had to go to Atlanta to bring us two ounces of crystal meth back. We don't see very -- very much crystal meth around here.

Commissioner Center said, when that 700,000 is eventually confiscated, is there a formula since it originated in Chatham County?

Director Ragan said, if that is confiscated, I don't know that it will ever be confiscated. That money may be gone, but yes, there is a formula. There's a formulating agreement for the local seized assets that we have, and under the federal -- if it's seized by the feds, they take 20 percent off the top, and then they'll take and will divide it up between the agencies participating in that investigation.

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

Director Ragan said, but we have a very good seizure program with the District Attorney's office, and they're -- they're attorneys handle our -- our seizures.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Director Ragan said, Chief Lyons.

Chairman Scott said, thank you. We'll hear from Chief Lyons at this time. Chief, thank you for being with us.

Chief David Lyons said, thank you Mr. Chairman, members of the County Commission. My name is David Lyons. I'm the Chief of Police in Garden City. I'm also a member of the advisory board of the Chatham County Narcotics Task Force, and it's in that capacity that I'm here this morning to speak about -- very briefly about a -- an issue that is becoming increasingly important to all the municipalities and law enforcement agencies in the county, and that's early release of -- of inmates, particularly in the area of narcotics investigations and arrests. I've been here in Garden City almost 11 years, and in that 11-year period, I keep seeing the same individuals over and over and over. I would estimate, a very conservative estimation that of the people that we arrest for -- for felony drug cases, over 80 percent

of them have a previous criminal history, and it's all money -- money driven. The Governor of the State has decreed that all of the State departments cut their budget, I think -- the figure I heard was at least 7 percent, be prepared to go to 10 percent, and that's across the board cut, which means corrections, probation, parole, state patrol, everybody. I understand budgets. I'm a municipal police chief. Believe me I understand budgets. I understand there's only so much money to go around. The problem becomes -- it's the trickle down effect. What goes on at the State Department of Corrections eventually trickles down to pardons and parole, and they're under pressure to release these individuals as quickly as possible. So a person gets 15, 20-year sentence for drug trafficking, winds up doing 11, 12, 13, 14 months of that sentence, and then they're paroled out and they're right back on the streets of Chatham County wanting my -- my department or one of other the municipal police -- municipal police departments comes in contact with that individual again, and it's just a big revolving door. Sheriff's Department tells me that 78 percent of -- of their guests down there have a prior criminal history.

Chief Lyons said, that's -- that's unacceptable, and as has been pointed out here, the -- the first and primary responsibility of a government at any level is the safety and security of its citizens, and that goes for any government from the government of the State of Georgia all the way down to the government of the City of Garden City, and those individuals that we keep seeing over and over again as repeat offenders are taking away my resources. They're taking away the County's resources. They're taking away the District Attorney's resources; all of the law enforcement agencies resources to reinvestigate the crimes that these individuals are repeating over and over again. I would ask that -- that as a County Commission you exert any influence that you may have over our State elected officials to curb this reduction in corrections and pardon and parole budget and to curb this effort to reduce the sentences of individuals so we can get bed spaces out of the State correction facilities because it's affecting all of us here, and I think you've seen -- you've seen incidences talked about here this morning where that's been the case. Except for your questions, that concludes my short briefing.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Farrell of the 4th District has a question for you, Chief.

Chief Lyons said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Farrell said, Chief, I -- I appreciate you coming to -- to help inform the Commission and myself about what's going on, and I -- I agree that something -- as I spoke earlier to the District Attorney, you know, we have to look at the whole picture of -- of safety for our citizens, and this is a very major piece of it that doesn't seem to get much attention. So whatever I can do or whatever this Commission can do or -- or whatever as far as bringing some sunshine, I think the more information that is shared with our media, with the newspaper and the -- and the television stations about what's going on to help -- to help us all understand that you can't continually ask all these wonderful, hardworking police officers throughout our county to keep putting away the bad guys, and as soon as you put them in, you know, the ones they put out of service six months, 18 months, 24 months ago, they're right back on, and they're having to deal with -- with -- with -- with the same repeat offenders. I think it would be very helpful that the Commissions, the - the City Councilors, the Mayors of the community, and especially all of our citizens, get the information about what -- what's going on. How -- how this is affecting them so that they're informed, and then perhaps, the authority figures in other areas of government will feel some more input from -- from different people to let them know that this is unacceptable. We -- we just cannot continue to task our local policing departments with arresting and re-arresting and re-arresting the same individuals to try to keep our -- our people safe. So, in summation, I believe that the more information that is shared with -- with -- with the Commission and with the community is better and could perhaps change the mind set of some of the decision makers farther up the food chain if you will that, you know, we -- we bear the result of, which is a lot of repeat offenders back on our streets. Thank you.

Chief Lyons said, thank you, sir. I agree.

Commissioner Brady said, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Brady from the 6<sup>th</sup> District.

Commissioner Brady said, well, folks you're absolutely right about what's going on at the State level. You've got a Governor who is trying to reduce sentences on -- on -- and -- and how long these -- these folks stay in jail, in our prisons. All of us and City Council and many others are going to be in Atlanta next week, and we will have a voice. When we sit down and talk to the highest ranking legislators, the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, and our delegation, and we need to speak out, and we need to speak out loud about what's going on in Chatham County and let them know that we do not support what they are doing as far as how they handle prisoners. So let's do it.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I agree.

Chairman Scott said, any other questions for the Chief?

Chief Lyons said, thank you, sir.

Chairman Scott said, Chief, thank you so much for coming.

Chief Lyons said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, I appreciate it.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

For information only.

**AGENDA ITEM: IX-3**

**AGENDA DATE: January 25 2013**

**Chatham~Savannah  
Counter Narcotics Team  
December, 2012**

**NARCOTICS INVESTIGATIONS**

Investigations Initiated During the month	89
Total Number of Investigations Cleared (Arrest, E.C., Unfounded)	54

**DRUGS SEIZED**

Drug Type	Value	Approx. Weight	Approx. Total Value
Powder Cocaine	\$100 per gram*	30 Grams	\$3,000.00
Crack Cocaine	\$100 per gram*	5.70 Grams	\$570.00
Methamphetamine	\$100 per gram**	2.6 Grams	\$260.00
Marijuana	\$140 per ounce*	256 Ounces	\$35,840.00
Heroin	\$250 per gram*	0 Grams	\$0.00
Ecstasy	\$25 Dosage Unit	0 D/U	\$0.00
Misc. Pills	\$30 Dosage Unit	1271 D/U	\$38,130.00
Hallucinogens	\$10.00 per gram *	0 Grams	\$0.00
Synthetic (Steroids)	\$10.00 per ml *	0 ml	\$0.00

1999\*Source: Office National Drug Control Policy

\*\* Source: Established regional average price

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

**DRUGS SEIZED—YEAR TO DATE**

Drug Type	Approx. Weight	Approx. Total Value
Powder Cocaine	23,236.38 Grams	\$2,323,638.00
Crack Cocaine	238.8 Grams	\$23,880.00
Methamphetamine	919.5 Grams	\$91,950.00
Marijuana	2,398.2 Ounces	\$335,748.00
Heroin	9.7 Grams	\$2,425.00
Ecstasy	825 D/U	\$20,625.00
Misc. Pills	3,368 D/U	\$101,040.00
Hallucinogens	20.5 Grams	\$205.00
Synthetic (Steroids)	40 m/l	\$400.00

**DRUGS PURCHASED**

Drug Type	Value	Approx. Weight	Approx. Total Value
Powder Cocaine	\$100 per gram*	8.0 Grams	\$800.00
Crack Cocaine	\$100 per gram*	.5 Grams	\$50.00
Methamphetamine	\$100 per gram**	0 Grams	\$0.00
Marijuana	\$140 per ounce*	4.75 Ounces	\$665.00
Heroin	\$250 per gram*	0 Grams	\$0.00
Ecstasy	\$25 Dosage Unit	0 D/U	\$0.00
Misc. Pills	\$30 Dosage Unit	23 D/U	\$690.00
Hallucinogens	\$10 Dosage Unit	0 D/U	\$0.00

Source: Office National Drug Control Policy

\*\* Source: Established regional average price

**WEAPONS SEIZED**

Firearms (including hand guns and long guns)	2
Year To Date Totals	<b>46</b>

**PERSONS ARRESTED**

Felony*	16
Felony Sales/Trafficking	15
Misdemeanor	2
Felony Non-Drug**	1
Total Arrests	34
Year To Date Totals	<b>435</b>

\*Felony includes Manufacturing Methamphetamine or Marijuana

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

ADOPTION CASES FROM OTHER AGENCIES		
DATE	AGENCY	OFFENSE
12/8/12	GEORGIA STATE PATROL	POSS OF MARIJUANA W/INTENT TO DIST

DRUG COMPLAINTS INVESTIGATED		
Drug Complaints	Received	Assigned
Project Log/Official Complaints	0	0
Hot Line / Call-In Complaints	6	6
Green Sheets/ Outside Agencies	1	1
Crime Stopper Complaints	23	22
<b>DRUG COMPLAINTS—YEAR TO DATE</b>	<b>494</b>	<b>475</b>

### DRUG INVESTIGATIONS HOURS WORKED BY ZONE

SCMPD – All Precincts	1,974
Municipalities	<u>752</u>
(Unincorporated Chatham County—227 hours)	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,726</b>
Administrative Hours	640
Case Administration	520
Pharmaceutical Diversions	320
Central Intelligence	480
Out of County (Task Force Operations, etc.)	186
Assistance Rendered to Outside Agencies	14
Training	746
Court Hours	<u>40</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,946</b>
<b>Total Hours Worked</b>	<u><b>5,672</b></u>

### SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- On 12/19/12, CNT agents concluded a joint investigation with the U. S. Postal Inspector's Office with the arrest of 3 people who were receiving marijuana through the U. S. mail. These people were charged with Trafficking in Marijuana and over 10 pounds of marijuana were seized.
- During the month of December, CNT agents arrested 7 people for the Manufacturing of Methamphetamine in unrelated cases. Three people were arrested while in the process of purchasing the necessary components to manufacture meth and four others were arrested for the operation of a meth lab. One of the subjects was out on bond for manufacturing meth in Bryan County.

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### PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Chairman Scott said, before -- before we moved [sic] on to item 4, as a -- as a former member of the State Senate, I still get periodic email from the State Capitol talking about cuts. The cut -- the Governor has asked Departments to reduce their budget not by 7 percent but by 3 percent in this -- in this budget year, and it's all due to the lack of tax revenue. However the most recent report shows a significant increase in sales tax revenue, so that -- it may be looking up.

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- CHATHAM COUNTY DETENTION CENTER CONSTRUCTION PROJECT: LOCAL PARTICIPATION UPDATE PRESENTED BY MICHAEL SAVIDAKIS WITH HUNT/MILLS CONSTRUCTION.**

Chairman Scott said, the -- Item 4 is the Chatham County Detention Center construction project, and the previous Commission have periodically had the contractor to come in and to give us an update, Hunt/Mills, and at this time I'd like to invite Mr. Michael Savidakis to come up and give us an update.

Mr. Michael Savidakis said, good morning. Before I get into the details of the report, I would like to offer recognition and show -- show appreciation to the past and the new Chatham County Board of County Commissioners and the Chairman for its vision and leadership in continuing to support this collaborative mission that we're all working together on and continue through this project and on future projects to improve the quality and qualifications of individuals for increasing their opportunities for local workforce participation. As we continue to work diligently together on the Chatham County detention center project in its final months, and on future projects in Chatham County. We want to continue to develop and embrace this model for improving workforce development 'cause it's pioneered it's utilization on future projects, not only in Chatham County but on future programs, and we hope that the citizens of -- of Chatham County embrace this initiative, this great model to those that are aspiring to gain employment opportunities and -- and improve their skills for future employment opportunities.

Mr. Savidakis said, as we get into the report, this is the -- the period from September of '012 through November. We continue to -- to demonstrate a relatively constant local -- local labor participation since February of -- of 12. As many of you recall, in January we had 50 percent local labor participation. In February of last year, it jumped up to 57 percent, and it has continued to to hover between 57, 58, gone up to 61 percent. It -- it decreased a little bit do to some of the phasing on the project and the demand, and we are at an all-time high in the month of November at 59 percent. For everyone's benefit, I did want to reiterate that the actual participation is really dictated by the sporadic resource demand during this multi-phased project. The demand's going to continue and has continued to fluctuate from month to month. Some trades are sporadic for limited durations of time, they only require certain individuals based on what that trade demand is during that period. But as -- right now we are in the next month and a half we will be completing a major portion of the project, and it's actually the two new housing units. There's a lot of finish trades going on in there, and we see this percentage continuing to -- to grow in that aspect. In the final months of the project we will basically be down to concentrated areas within the secure perimeter of doing mainly renovation work.

Mr. Savidakis said, as the local businesses look at their -- their employees, they will first look at the employees that have been working for their company, have tenure with them, and then as needed, as the demand requires, then they will solicit other employees that they would hire locally for -- for their portion of the work. We're happy to report that we continue to meet our 66 percent participation requirement for local businesses. We are just under 71 percent for the period through November. We'll continue this commitment. When you look at the MSA report, the -- the percentages are hovering within 71 to 73 percent, 73 being our -- our high in the month of November. These individuals within the MSA, we all understand that they come into Chatham County, they work here, and their spending their dollars locally. As we look at the month to month comparison on the reports, from -- by trade, as we committed several months ago, we -- we saw that there would be an increase in those percentages as -- as the data shows with several of the finish trades. In many cases, the -- the demand increased and -- and they remained at 100 percent for several of the finish trades, painting, sealing, carpentry fluctuated up and down because of the phasing demand, and the mechanical, electrical and plumbing trades increased and those percentages are -- are not at 100 percent. However, there -- they've shown some peaks during the -- the high demand times. There are a couple of trades that did not have significant amount of hours and their involvement was very sporadic and limited during the -- the phasing and that -- that equated to trades like the equipment operator, the glazers, and the water proofer, which is actually a specialized security caulking, which we only had one individual on the project for the last several months.

Mr. Savidakis said, when we look at the month to month comparison by subcontractor with the highest percentage of work hours performed, you can see that there is a -- a very positive percentage with the electrical, mechanical, plumbing, the efface work, the exterior skin of the building, the high performance painting, and the masonry. And as many of you recall, the masonry has been a very, very big struggle through this project. We had gone through four masonry contractors that -- that failed, and -- but MCN Construction is doing the masonry on the project now. They are at 100 percent local participation and continuing to do a great job on our -- on our project. Another category is the labor line item that you will see on the report, and there are -- there are two companies, Trojan Labor and MDT Personnel that are supplying workers to many of these trades. Now those -- those statistics don't show on the individual line item, but if they were at -- divided up there those percentages would increase even higher. As an example, fencing is one, and we committed here at -- near the end of the project -- of this phase with the housing units, the fencing company is actually using some of their specialty people, as well as using folks from -- from the local labor agencies teaching them the trade, doing the concrete walls that go below the fence line. There are -- there are other trades, masonry, mechanical plumbing, concrete and drywall and painting that are utilizing these individuals in a mentoring capacity so they can -- they're teamed up with skilled workers and they can learn the skill set associated with that subcontract trade. That is part of our continued commitment with workforce development.

Mr. Savidakis said, our future efforts are going to continue with -- with not only good faith but working and encouraging our subcontractors for the remaining phases to work through the Chatham Apprenticeship Program. We'll continue to collaborate with Savannah Tech and the Department of Labor communicating the needs by the various trades that -- subcontractors that need trade individuals. The challenge continues with many individuals to -- to use self-motivation to take the initiative. We -- we -- it's a collaborative effort. We have to all continue to work towards, incentivize those individuals. On January 5<sup>th</sup>, I participated in the Woodville-Tompkins student success expo, and I got to visit with a lot of young students that were looking at what careers they needed to look at pursuing, and, of course, I was the cheerleader for the -- the construction industry and all of the exciting things we do to build facilities for -- for -- for Chatham County and other communities across the country. So we've got to continue our joint effort with -- with that, and -- and the numbers can only increase with everybody's participation in it. The project continues to go well. As I

said a few minutes ago, the -- the new housing units, which is a major portion of the project will be completed within the next couple of months. Inmates will be moving in there, and then we will go in to renovating the remaining areas within the existing facility.

Mr. Savidakis said, I would like at this time to offer some recognition to a -- excuse me, a subcontractor that has -- we had not worked before with on this project -- on -- on any project. They came recommended. This is the epoxy, resinous flooring which there are tens of thousands of square feet of that epoxy flooring within the facility, in the jail cells, in the kitchen, several other areas. The company, Environmental Painting Alternatives, has opened an office here in Chatham County. They see a strong potential for growth opportunities of its business within Chatham County. They've been utilizing local workers with a mentoring program, investing their time and money into providing them with hands on training for this particular trade. So I'd like to recognize Environmental Painting for their commitment to grow their business in Chatham County and also implement this model for workforce development for the citizens of Chatham County. We do have with us here, they're the owner of this small woman-owned business, Nancy Couch and Marvin Couch, and I would like Nancy [Couch] to say a couple words if that's okay.

Mrs. Nancy Couch said, hi. I'm Nancy Couch. This is my husband, Marvin [Couch]. I'm the president of the company, and he's vice president. I'd like to thank the Board and Mike [Savidakis] and Hunt Construction for inviting us here. We started working on the detention center back in June and we just fell in love with the area, and we opened an office here in July. We've been hiring local residents and training some of the guys that Arneja [Riley] has supplied us with a list in resinous floor application. We're currently working also at Hunter Air Force Base and at Ft. Stewart doing framing, painting, and wall covering. We're also working at a Firestone store here in town, and we do hire from the local workforce. We plan to build our business and, Lord willing, maybe buy a home here eventually. We don't just do painting and wall covering, we also try to serve our community. We go as a family on several mission trips every year. Marvin [Couch] just got back from Cuba last week, building a church there. We also like to serve our local community. We look for local projects where we supply the labor to paint widows or single mom's homes, and we just are really thankful for the opportunity to do that. So we'd like to thank you for having us here and look forward to continuing our -- our business here.

Commissioner Stone said, wonderful.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Any -- any questions of Mr. Savidakis? Yes.

Commissioner Thomas said, first of all, thank you very much.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Thomas, Vice Chair, Chatham County Commission.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you very much. We -- we applaud you for the work that you've done thus far and for including our local people in the projects. And I want to also elaborate on the -- on the point in terms of the workforce development for our new Commissioners that are now serving. Last year at the end of the year we had several conversations and workshops and etcetera in terms of workforce development for Chatham County. We have engaged Ms. Arneja, I get that name right, Riley, to help us coordinate those services for Chatham County. To date I'm sure that we're going to be able to be moving some of these young people who have been incarcerated and they're in our streets and they're getting involved in other things because they have no skills or anything like that. So we hope to be working with those. We have some companies out there similar to yours that are willing work with these young people. One company told me they had 125 positions ready, and so I have spoken with Ms. Riley about this and asked her to get moving on it so that we can get these people involved. The more people that we can get in training, the better off that will be. So I appreciate the fact that you are doing a lot of work locally. And I'm going -- I'm sure that Ms. Riley will have something to say at some point in time.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Shabazz has a question, and you have Commission Pro Tem Stone has a question, and then Commissioner from the 2<sup>nd</sup> District, Commissioner Holmes, and the Commissioner from the 3<sup>rd</sup> District, Commissioner Center, has a question for you. In that order.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes. Good morning.

Mr. Savidakis said, good morning.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I would like to commend you on your project with the jail. I visited the jail and I thought -- I was very impressed with the facilities, but I wanted to ask you a question in terms of the local and minority participation. It says 66 percent to date.

Mr. Savidakis said, the -- the -- the local business is broken down into -- into four categories, the local -- local small; local large business, if it's over 14 million a year; local women business; and local minority businesses.

Commissioner Shabazz said, right. So the local and minority is -- is together on that?

Mr. Savidakis said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, what -- what's the percentage of -- of minority?

Mr. Savidakis said, our commitment was 66 percent for -- for the total of local businesses. As -- as I mentioned before, we're at just under 71 percent total. As it relates to minority businesses, we're at about 14 percent minority business.

Commissioner Shabazz said, and the company that you just introduced there, that's minority business?

Mr. Savidakis said, they're -- they're a women-owned business.

Commissioner Shabazz said, that's considered minority, right?

Mr. Savidakis said, yes.

Commissioner Thomas said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. What other minorities do you have working on that?

Mr. Savidakis said, there are Hispanic companies out there also.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. Hispanic. Any other? Do you have any African Americans working on that?

Mr. Savidakis said, yes, we do.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Mr. Savidakis said, MCN Construction as an example started this project doing approximately \$200,00 worth of work scope.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Mr. Savidakis said, they are now over \$912,000, and they are an African American local minority business here.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. Any others?

Mr. Savidakis said, there -- there are -- I can give you a list of names. I'd be glad to provide that for you.

Chairman Scott said, will you provide that for the entire Commission, please?

Mr. Savidakis said, absolutely. I'll get that to you this afternoon.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. Thank you. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, pro tem --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I -- I just --

Chairman Scott said, Pro Tem Stone.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, oh, sorry.

Chairman Scott said, and then Holmes, Center, and then Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Real quickly, I appreciate this update and following on what our Vice-Chairman said about workforce development, which has been a huge concern of mine, do we just not have fence erectors or water proofers or glazers in this community? Is that -- I mean help me understand why the non-local participation in that is 100 percent and was 100 percent in September, it's still 100 percent. Are we just lacking in this area? Is this something that we as a community need to look at -- at developing so that for future projects such as this we would have our own workforce here?

Mr. Savidakis said, I would agree with your statement, but I -- I also want to clarify the -- the water proofing trade as it's identified is the security sealant trade that we have out there. When you do detention centers, it's a specialized type of a trade, and there have -- we had not found -- the subcontractor was from out of the area had not found any -- any workers that were skilled in being able to install security sealant. Now, however, in -- in -- as sealants and caulking as it's also known as, the painting trade uses caulkers, and that's part of what you're seeing in the 100 percent number within the painting trade.

Commissioner Stone said, I mean I just want to identify where we in this community can look to have people to fill these jobs and to keep our citizens employed. That's -- that's simply why I'm asking the question. Is this an area that we are not providing enough training and certification in so that we can have these folks employed? Our local folks.

Mr. Savidakis said, I would look at through the -- through the painting trades and the local painting companies here that could be an avenue that we -- we can all look at together collaboratively that as they expand into the specialty portion of -- of sealant work, that -- that would be a good start of where -- where they could do that.

Commissioner Stone said, okay. Thank you.

Mr. Savidakis said, to answer your second question regarding fencing.

Commissioner Stone said, mm-hmm.

Mr. Savidakis said, this -- this specialized type of fencing that they have involves several parts of the construction. They -- they set these poles that are not the standard fence poles, and we're using local labor for that. This fencing also has four to five rows of barbed wire, coils, and that takes a real skill to be able to install that without causing damage to yourself or -- or others. So that is -- as -- as there is more work in that trade here, I think some of your local fencing contractors and MJS is our contractor here, they are using another contractor with them to perform that work. So that -- that's where that workforce development can continue, along with the local labor that they are using. The other -- the last portion of that fencing is the concrete work. If you imagine the fencing goes at least two feet below the ground and it is filled with solid concrete. That involves carpentry work, forming, laborers to place the concrete, and concrete finishers. All that's being done with local labor through -- through Trojan Labor and MTD.

Commissioner Stone said, okay. Thank you.

Mr. Savidakis said, you're welcome.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Holmes.

Commissioner Holmes said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mike [Savidakis] keep the good work up.

Mr. Savidakis said, thank you, sir.

Commissioner Holmes said, let -- let -- let me ask you a question, and it may related to the company you just hired, what's the procedure and payment of the employees once they get hired? The subcontractors?

Mr. Savidakis said, let me make sure I understand your question. As -- as the general contractor --

Commissioner Holmes said, yes.

Mr. Savidakis said, we subcontract the work to various companies like Environmental Painting and the electrician and several, you know, we have about 50 subcontractors on the project, and then they have sub-tier subs. They submit a pay application to us each month that has an agreed upon schedule of values that breaks down the cost of their bid and the subcontract amount. We -- we review that information and then we populate our pay application that goes to the owner that we submit every month, and we're -- and it's based on a percentage of work complete for that particular line item, and this pay application has several hundred line items on it. The work is -- is submitted, or the pay application is submitted on the 25<sup>th</sup> of the month, projected for the remainder of the month, and then we are paid by the County within 30 days, and then we deposit the check in our account, and then we distribute the funds to the various subcontractors. As far as the workers go, each individual company pays their works on -- on -- on a weekly or bi-weekly basis depending on their -- their arrangement. And then in the following month when we submit our pay application to the owner, we provide the certified payrolls that all of these companies show to us. You know, the -- all the information regarding the payroll.

Commissioner Holmes said, and all these payments is being done by check?

Mr. Savidakis said, yes.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay. You mentioned something in your statement just now about mentoring. Could -- could -- could you come back to the mike, please?

Mr. Marvin Couch said, I -- I handle the operations, so I might be more able to answer this question.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay. You -- you -- do you have a mentoring program?

Mr. Couch said, yes, we do.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay. So who do you recruit --

Mr. Couch said, well --

Commissioner Holmes said, -- to work for you that need mentoring?

Mr. Couch said, well Arneja [Riley] is the one who's been supplying us names primarily, and -- and sometimes we use the local labor force like Trojan, and we find that -- we have some skilled people that are willing to learn a trade, and then they -- we -- we can hire them on if -- if they're someone who wants to learn a new trade. And that's what we're trying to do. We're trying to teach people -- because resinous flooring is a very specialized field, and very few people do it. It's very expensive equipment. It's very -- but we're trying to teach people here locally how to do it because

there's -- there is work that's happening primarily in prisons and hospitals and schools where the resinous flooring is used, so we're trying to train them so that we can go after other work and use this workforce to continue to build.

Commissioner Holmes said, so what agency do y'all go to to recruit?

Mr. Couch said, well primarily, like I said, we -- Arneja's [Riley] been the one helping us out with names. We'll contact her, who -- can you give us some people that are looking -- that are looking for training or willing to learn a trade, and that's primarily how we've been doing it.

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm. Okay.

Mr. Couch said, and we've hired some people from Trojan too.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay. And when you receive these people, then you begin mentoring those?

Mr. Couch said, yes.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay. In what areas?

Mr. Couch said, well, we don't just do resinous flooring. We are a painting contractor, and we do dry wall. We do --

Commissioner Holmes said, okay.

Mr. Couch said, -- framing. We have Tony working at Hunter Air Force Base. We've trained him. He's become our supervisor now, and so yeah, we keep training people to do other things besides resinous flooring. We are a business that's moved to Chatham County. We are registered in Chatham County as a business, doing business in this county. We want to be a part of the fabric and community that's here and to -- to continue to build.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay. And up to date.

Mr. Couch said, yes?

Commissioner Holmes said, all of your employees that you've recruited --

Mr. Couch said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Holmes said, -- have been paid on a weekly basis?

Mr. Couch said, yes.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Center.

Commissioner Center said, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, then Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Center said, welcome to Chatham County. We're glad to have you, and Mr. Savidakis, impressive brochure you gave us on our desks too. I appreciate it. I was also interested in the workforce development, and you talked about -- you mentioned the word trades. In point eight you talk about -- it's shown that you work Savannah Technical College, Woodville-Tompkins and others. I wanted to also point out another resource is Savannah Regional Central Labor Council. Their leader, Mr. Brett Hume, is in the audience. You might be able to talk with him also about finding skilled workers.

Mr. Savidakis said, okay.

Commissioner Thomas said, Mr. Chairman? May I -- may I make a comment to the?

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Kicklighter's next.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, and then the Vice-Chair, Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to thank you for keeping it local simply because all local citizens need to eat, no matter what their skin color is, no matter what country their great grandparents were born in, no matter whether they're male or female. As a white guy, I thank you for keeping it local because we all need to eat, and -- and -- and I would expect nothing less than you to select the best bidder on everything from locals. And if that is 100 percent African American, hire 100 percent African American, but the fact is we're supposed to be one community and keeping it local will feed everyone, and I appreciate that. That was the intent of mine when I supported

it. I don't feel as if a female, white or black or blue or green, should have an advantage over me because I was born white. That's discrimination. And I appreciate you keeping it local. And -- and thank you.

Mr. Savidakis said, well, thank you. I mean Hunt Construction takes great pride. You know we -- we work all over the country. I've lived here in Chatham County for over two years. We -- we hope that we can continue to stay here in Chatham County working with these partners because we are in a sense partners, and -- and as we do all over the country, we look for local. We -- we've always exceeded our -- our local participation goals, and we're proud of that, but it is a collaborative effort with -- with y'all's support too, and we thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Thomas and then Commissioner Brady from the 6<sup>th</sup> District.

Commissioner Thomas said, very briefly. I did not see Mr. Brett Hume in -- in our audience today, and I do want to acknowledge him, and to say that our workforce development through the county was initiated because of his concerns, and we had met at a workshop, and we had dialogue about this, and immediately he suggested some things to me and Commissioner Stone and Commissioner Holmes and others who were at this particular workshop, and this is what we're talking about when I say Chatham County workforce development. This is what I'm referring to through Mr. Brett Hume who have been very helpful with us, and so we will be moving forward with that.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Brady.

Commissioner Brady said, thank you for your report today. I really just want to make a comment, and that is -- is I've -- I've toured the jail. I did about a week or so ago, and I was out there for what, almost two hours. Very impressive. Very state of the art. Very clean construction site. I can't tell you how impressed I was. I was so impressed I came back to the County Manager, talked about what I had seen out there. Y'all are doing great work. I highly recommend, if you have not toured it to please tour -- tour the jail. I got to be honest with you, I'm claustrophobic, and he wanted me to go into one of the cells that had the metal doors, and I was like, no, no, no, no, no, no I'm not going in there. But I did come up with an idea, and I brought it back to the -- the County Manager, and that was -- is to have tours for our high school students and let them tour the jail prior to us obviously moving prisoners over there and -- and of course to anyone else that would -- would -- would want to tour the facility. Obviously we've got a security issue that we have got to deal with over there because it is on a -- on a site, but again, Michael [Savidakis], y'all are doing great work, and I was very impressed with the tour.

Mr. Savidakis said, thank you very much.

Commissioner Brady said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, I don't think there are any further questions. Thank you so much.

Mr. Savidakis said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, we look forward to your next report.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

For information only.

**AGENDA ITEM: IX-4**  
**AGENDA DATE: January 25, 2013**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners  
**THRU:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager  
**FROM:** Michael A. Kaigler, Assistant County Manager

**ISSUE:**

To provide a Local Participation Update for the Chatham County Detention Center Expansion Project.

**BACKGROUND:**

In December of 2010, Hunt/Mills submitted an all inclusive plan for local participation for the construction of the Chatham County Detention Center Expansion Project. For accountability, Hunt Construction Group is required to submit monthly local business, as well as local labor utilization reports, with each request for payment.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. This update reports progress made at month 23 of 32 and represents dollars paid through the present date. The total contract, including alternates and change orders, is \$71,288,136.

2. We are projecting at least **66%** local and minority business participation. However, Hunt/Mills is reporting 70.9%, according to their most recent monthly update. To be included as "local" in the report, firms are required to have a local street address in Chatham County.
3. Local Participation Reports are included with every request for payment. The Local Participation Report was designed to illustrate which local firms are working and distinguish local small businesses, local large businesses, local minority and local women owned businesses. Furthermore, it states the size of each contract and which firm is getting paid each month. The report further states how much of their contract has been earned to date.
4. Hunt/Mills is prohibited from making changes without due cause. Therefore, Engineering does not proceed with payment until we review the monthly report for unexpected things in dollars awarded to local contractors.
5. As per their contract, Hunt/Mills is required to report local labor utilization. Hunt/Mills committed to hiring 76% local workers from Chatham County. However, the local labor remains below the target number. The percentage is averaging 57% overall for September, October and November 2012, with regard to overall local labor hours.
6. The ID Card system allows us to track local labor demographics, and we can report approximately 230 Chatham County workers and 200 non-Chatham County workers as of November 2012. There are currently a total of 429 full and part-time workers. This places the local headcount at an estimated 50%.
7. As stated previously, the Contractor, Hunt/Mills, has been faced with realistic challenges associated with finding local labor.
8. The M/WBE Office is working with Savannah Technical College, Woodville Tompkins and Hunt/Mills to assess local construction programs and assist in student recruitment for the sole purpose of increasing the number of ready, willing and able construction workers in this community.

**FUNDING:**

N/A

**RECOMMENDATION:**

This item is for informational purposes only.

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**X. ACTION CALENDAR**

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

Chairman Scott said, okay. You're now on your Action Calendar, and that's page 6 through 8 on the agenda.

Commissioner Farrell said, I make a motion.

Chairman Scott said, Item 10, and before I entertain a motion on the action calendar, I want to know if any Commissioner want anything removed from the Action Calendar to be voted on separately? Hearing none, I will now entertain a motion on the Action Calendar.

Commissioner Farrell said, motion to approve the Action Calendar.

Commissioner Stone said, second.

Commissioner Farrell said, items 1 through 6.

Chairman Scott said, okay. It's been moved and second. All in favor of the motion indicate by voting yes, opposed, no. Okay. The motion carries. The Action Calendar has been adopted.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Farrell moved to approve the Action Calendar, Items 1 through 6 and under Item 6, Items A through L. Commissioner Stone the motion and it carried unanimously.

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

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1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF JANUARY 11, 2013, AS MAILED.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Farrell moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of January 11, 2013, as mailed. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

=====

2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 3, 2013 THROUGH JANUARY 16, 2013.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Farrell moved to authorize the Finance Director to pay the claims against the County for the period January 3, 2013 through January 16, 2013, in the amount of \$8,663,686. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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- 3 REQUEST BOARD APPROVE THE BACK RIVER BRIDGE SALTWATER MITIGATION AGREEMENT WITH THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (GDOT) FOR THE US 17 BACK RIVER BRIDGE REPLACEMENT PROJECT.  
[DISTRICT 3.]

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Farrell moved the Board to approve the Back River Bridge Saltwater Mitigation Agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) for the US 17 Back River Bridge replacement project. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM: X-3**  
**AGENDA DATE: January 25, 2013**

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

**ISSUE:**

To approve the Back River Bridge Saltwater Mitigation Agreement with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) for the US 17 Back River Bridge replacement project.

**BACKGROUND:**

The GDOT designed a replacement for the S.R. 404/US 17 bridge to South Carolina. The existing structure is structurally deficient and requires replacement. The GDOT in coordination with the South Carolina Department of Transportation is managing the project. Construction is waiting on the approval of the mitigation for the project.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The agreement stipulates that the County will debit 4.1 saltwater marsh credits for the project as approved by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) by permit. The credits will come from the Salt Creek Mitigation Bank developed and owned by Chatham County for saltwater mitigation.

2. The GDOT finalized the plans for replacement in Fiscal Year 2012. Due to permitting issues the project was delayed. Once the agreement is approved the GDOT will let the project to construction. Construction is expected to begin summer 2013.
3. The GDOT will pay \$25,000 per credit. The total proceeds to the County will be \$102,500, which will be deposited into the SPLOST fund from which the purchase and construction of the Salt Creek Mitigation Bank was funded.
4. The agreement was reviewed and approved by the County Attorney as to legal form.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. To approve the Back River Bridge Saltwater Mitigation Agreement with the GDOT for the US 17 Back River Bridge replacement project.
2. That the Board not approve the agreement.

**FUNDING:**

No funding is required at this time.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The Board must approve intergovernmental agreements.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.  
District 3.

**AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
STATE OF GEORGIA  
AND  
CHATHAM COUNTY  
FOR THE  
BACK RIVER BRIDGE SALTWATER MITIGATION**

**THIS BACK RIVER BRIDGE SALTWATER MITIGATION AGREEMENT** (hereinafter "Agreement") is made this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013, by and between the **GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**, an agency of the State of Georgia, hereinafter referred to as the "DEPARTMENT", and **CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA**, acting by and through its Chairman and Board of Commissioners, hereinafter referred to as "COUNTY", both parties hereinafter collectively referred to as the "PARTIES."

**WITNESSETH:**

**WHEREAS**, the DEPARTMENT represented to the COUNTY the need to replace a structurally deficient bridge on S.R. 404 Spur/US 17 over the Back River located approximately one mile north of the City of Savannah, in Chatham County, Georgia, currently described as Georgia Department of Transportation Project Number NH000-0009-00(093), P.I.N. umber 522920, hereinafter referred to as the "PROJECT"; and

**WHEREAS**, the DEPARTMENT applied to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ("USACE") for an individual permit, Department of the Army (DA) Permit Number SAC-2011-01156/SAS-2007-01163, for the PROJECT pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) to allow for authorization for discharge of fill activities in waters of the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, the COUNTY maintains the Salt Creek Mitigation Bank ("Bank"), USACE Project Number 200500769, for the purpose of providing compensatory tidal mitigation for projects with impacts to jurisdictional saltwater wetlands permitted by USACE under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, with saltwater mitigation credits (hereinafter "Credits") available for use; and

**WHEREAS**, as a condition to the issuance of permits from USACE for the PROJECT, the DEPARTMENT is required to compensate for said saltwater wetland impacts, and elects to do so through the purchase of saltwater mitigation credits from an approved Bank; and

**WHEREAS**, GDOT has explored all possibilities and determined that said saltwater mitigation credits are available only through the Bank maintained by the COUNTY; and

**WHEREAS**, COUNTY agrees to sell, and DEPARTMENT agrees to purchase Credits from the Bank on the terms and conditions below to be used to offset saltwater wetland impacts associated with the proposed development of the PROJECT; and

**WHEREAS**, the number of Credits from the Bank required to be purchased by DEPARTMENT is 4.1 saltwater marsh credits; and

WHEREAS, the DEPARTMENT understands and agrees that the COUNTY'S agreement to this sale and transfer of 4.1 saltwater marsh credits to the DEPARTMENT does not impose upon the COUNTY any obligation to sell credits to the DEPARTMENT in the future; and

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants hereinafter contained, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the Parties hereto, each intending to be legally bound, do hereby agree as follows:

- 1) **RECITALS:** The recitals are hereby incorporated by this reference.
- 2) **COUNTY'S RESPONSIBILITIES:** The COUNTY shall cooperate with the DEPARTMENT and the USACE and other applicable regulatory agencies to facilitate and expedite the debt of 4.1 saltwater mitigation credits to the DEPARTMENT to fulfill the mitigation requirements of the DEPARTMENT's permit.
- 3) **DEPARTMENT'S RESPONSIBILITIES:** DEPARTMENT shall pay the Purchase Price (as hereinafter defined); and
- 4) **Terms of Purchase.** The purchase price (hereinafter "Purchase Price") of the Credits is one hundred two thousand five hundred U.S. Dollars (\$102,500) for 4.1 credits at twenty five thousand U.S. Dollars (\$25,000) per credit. COUNTY agrees to reserve and sell to the DEPARTMENT the aforementioned Credits under this Agreement as may be required by the USACE. All payments shall be paid to the account of the Chatham County Salt Creek Mitigation Bank. The balance shall be paid within 30 days of execution of this Agreement.
- 5) **Conditions of Transfer of Credit.** Prior to the debit of Credits, the DEPARTMENT shall provide a true and correct copy of the Section 404 permit with exhibits. Upon receipt of above, COUNTY shall provide to the DEPARTMENT within five (5) business days thereafter documentation as required to effectuate the debit of Credits as per the conditions of the DEPARTMENT's permit.
- 6) **Breach of Seller.** If, for some reason, the Credits have not been debited to DEPARTMENT due to a breach of the Agreement by COUNTY, then COUNTY shall refund all monies received from DEPARTMENT upon written notice of said breach.
- 7) **Applicable Law.** This Agreement shall be construed and enforced in accordance with the laws of the State of Georgia.
- 8) **Notices.** All notices required by this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be sent by certified or registered mail or hand delivered to the addresses set out below. Notices shall be deemed delivered and given when mailed, if mailed, or when delivered by hand, upon receipt.

NOTICES TO COUNTY: Salt Creek Mitigation Bank  
 Attn: Leon Davenport, P.E., Bank Manager  
 P. O. Box 8161  
 Savannah, Georgia 31412

NOTICE TO DEPARTMENT: Georgia Department of Transportation  
 Attn: Glenn Bowman, P.E.  
 One Georgia Center, 16<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 Atlanta, Georgia 30308

Any notice or demand so given, delivered or made by United States mail shall be deemed so given, delivered or made on the third business day after the same is deposited in the United States Mail, registered or certified letter, addressed as above provided, with postage thereon fully prepaid. All Parties agree that any notice may be faxed to any of the above Parties or their attorneys. Buyer and Seller may from time to time notify the other of changes with respect to whom and where notice should be sent by sending notification of such changes pursuant to this paragraph.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the DEPARTMENT and the COUNTY have caused these presents to be executed under seal by their duly authorized representatives.

DEPARTMENT OF  
TRANSPORTATION

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
Chatham County, Georgia

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Al Scott, Chairman

ATTEST:  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signed, sealed and delivered this \_\_\_\_\_  
day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013, in the  
presence of :

Treasurer

\_\_\_\_\_  
Witness

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

This Agreement approved by the Chatham  
County Commission at a meeting held at

\_\_\_\_\_  
this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Janice E. Bocook, County Clerk

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**4 REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING STAFF TO APPLY FOR A COASTAL INCENTIVE GRANT FROM THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES COASTAL RESOURCES DIVISION IN ORDER TO FUND MANAGEMENT PLANS FOR PROPERTIES PROTECTED THROUGH THE CHATHAM COUNTY RESOURCE PROTECTION COMMISSION PROGRAM.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Farrell moved for approval of a Resolution Authorizing staff to apply for a Coastal Incentive Grant from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Coastal Resources Division in order to fund management plans for properties protected through the Chatham County Resource Protection Commission Program. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM: X-4**  
**AGENDA DATE: January 25, 2013**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners  
**THRU:** R.E. Abolt, County Manager  
**FROM:** Thomas L. Thomson, Executive Director

**ISSUE:**  
Adoption of a Resolution authorizing staff to apply for a Coastal Incentive Grant from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Coastal Resources Division in order to fund management plans for properties protected through the Chatham County Resource Protection Commission (CCRPC) program.

**BACKGROUND:**  
The Chatham County Resource Protection Ordinance, established by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners in 2008, states that the CCRPC must adopt a Site Acquisition Policy that addresses the management of protected properties.

In March 2009, the CCRPC adopted a Site Acquisition Policy, which states that the Resource Protection Professional and the Technical Advisory Committee will develop management plans for each property acquired or protected by Chatham County for resource protection.

The Georgia Department of Natural Resources Coastal Resources Division has solicited proposals through the Georgia Coastal Management Program for Coastal Incentive Grants. Such funds could be utilized for the development of management plans for acquired properties. The proposal requests funding for the development of four management plans over a two-year period. If selected, the grant contract will run from October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2015.

- FACTS AND FINDINGS:**
1. The CCRPC Site Acquisition Policy requires the development of a management plan for each property acquired by Chatham County for resource protection.
  2. If selected, funds from the Georgia Coastal Management Program Coastal Incentive Grant would aid in the expense of developing four management plans by the CCRPC. The properties include the Hudgens Tract, Westlake Tract, Great Ogeechee Lakes Property and a pending acquisition. The amount requested is \$11,436.96.

3. The local matching fund requirement would be met through "in-kind" services by CCRPC Technical Advisory Committee, Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission staff and Chatham County staff for regular staff duties.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Adopt Resolution authorizing staff to apply for the Coastal Incentive Grant to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Coastal Resources Division for funding the development of four management plans for properties.
2. Do not adopt a Resolution authorizing staff to apply for the Coastal Incentive Grant to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Coastal Resources Division.

**FUNDING:**

All Coastal Incentive Grants must be matched one local dollar per federal dollar awarded (1:1 match). Match may be either cash from local, state or private sources or "in-kind" services. All proposed match for the application is "in-kind" services from CCRPC Technical Advisory Committee, Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission staff and Chatham County staff for regular duties.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The purpose and intent of the Chatham County Resource Protection Ordinance is to establish a uniform procedure to provide for the protection in perpetuity for the use of areas with significant natural, historic, cultural, or aesthetic interest or value and for the use of areas which protect current or future sources of potable water. Developing management plans for properties protected by Chatham County will ensure that the natural, historic, cultural, and aesthetic values of each property are perpetually preserved and maintained. The Coastal Incentive Grant, if awarded, is a means to assist in the funding of the development of said management plans.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board approve Alternative 1.

Prepared by: Debbie Burke, Resource Protection Professional



RESOLUTION OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS TO APPLY FOR A COASTAL INCENTIVE GRANT AND COMMIT UPON AWARD OF THE GRANT TO ENTER INTO A PROJECT AGREEMENT WITH THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES COASTAL RESOURCES DIVISION.

**WHEREAS**, Chatham County has acquired over 3,000 acres within the past five years for open space and/or conservation, and

**WHEREAS**, a goal of the open space/conservation program is to increase recreational opportunities for the public, and

**WHEREAS**, the mission of the Coastal Incentive Grant as a part of the Georgia Coastal Management Program is consistent with the goals of Chatham County's open space/conservation program, and

**WHEREAS**, Chatham County is desirous of obtaining a Georgia Department of Natural Resources Coastal Incentive Grant for the development of four management plans for properties acquired for open space/conservation.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Commissioners of Chatham County,

Does hereby authorize staff to apply for a Coastal Incentive Grant through the Georgia Department of Natural Resources Coastal Resources Division. Upon award of the grant, the Board of Commissioners shall enter into a Project Agreement between the Board of commissioners and Georgia Department of Natural Resources Coastal Resources Division.

Adopted, the \_\_\_\_\_ day of January, 2013.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
CHATHAM COUNTY

\_\_\_\_\_  
Albert J. Scott, Chairman

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
County Clerk

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**5. REQUEST BOARD FOR NEW BEER, WINE AND LIQUOR POURING LICENSE FOR 2013. PETITIONER: JAMES A. SHANKS, D/B/A FIORE ITALIAN BAR AND GRILL, LOCATED AT 7360 SKIDAWAY ROAD, 31406. [DISTRICT 3.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Farrell moved the Board for new beer, wine and liquor pouring license for 2013. Petitioner: James A. Shanks, d/b/a Fiore Italian Bar and Grill, located at 7360 Skidaway Road, 31406. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM: X-5**  
**AGENDA DATE: January 25, 2013**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners  
**THRU:** R.E. Abolt, County Manager  
**FROM:** Gregori S. Anderson, Director of Building Safety and Regulatory Services  
Willie Lovett, Chief of Police

**ISSUE:**  
Request for new beer, wine and liquor pouring license and Sunday Sales license for 2013. Petitioner: **James A. Shanks d/b/a Fiore Italian Bar and Grill**, located at **7360 Skidaway Road, Savannah, Georgia 31406**.

**BACKGROUND:**  
Mr. Shanks requests approval of a new beer, wine and liquor pouring license and Sunday Sales license in connection with a new restaurant. The business at this location meets the requirements of the Chatham County Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance.

- FACTS AND FINDINGS:**
1. The application was reviewed by the Police Department for compliance of the applicant and site distance requirements and approved.
  2. The returned application was reviewed by Building Safety. The County Fire Marshal inspected the site for compliance and approved the facility.
  3. The applicant and business meet the requirements of the Chatham County Alcoholic Beverage and Sunday Sales Ordinance.
  4. The applicant has been notified in writing of the date and time of the hearing.

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

**District 3**

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gregori S. Anderson, CBO

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Willie Lovett

=====

**6. 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 Farrell 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 Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DEPT.</b>	<b>SOURCE</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>FUNDING</b>
A. Amendment to the contract with Océ Imagistics, Inc., to recognize a name change to Canon Financial Services, Inc.	Various	Canon Financial Services, Inc.	N/A	No funding required
B. Lease extension, for 30 Park of Commerce Way for six (6) months until the completion of the renovations to the Chatham County Detention Center Administration Building	Detention Center	T & H Realty Holdings, LLP	\$39,192	CIP - Detention Center
C. Lease extension, for 41 Park of Commerce Way for twelve (12) months until the completion of the renovations to the Chatham County Detention Center Administration Building	Detention Center	NDSS Plantation Center, LLC	\$37,620	CIP - Detention Center
D. <b>Deductive</b> Summary Change Order No. 1 to the construction contract on the Talmadge Canal Culvert project	Engineering	Sandhill ALS Construction, Inc.	(\$1,000)	No funding required
E. Change Order No. 1 for the Pete Liakakis Government Building	Special Projects	Modern Business	\$38,610	SPLOST (2008-2014) - Courthouse project
F. <b>Deductive</b> Change Order No. 5, to discontinue monthly trash pickup services at the Public Defender's facility	Facilities Maintenance	Republic Waste Services	(\$600)	No funding required
G. <b>Deductive</b> Change Order No. 1, to discontinue monthly janitorial service at the Public Defender's facility	Facilities Maintenance	Quality Cleaning Contractors	(\$14,000)	No funding required
H. <b>Deductive</b> Change Order No. 10, to discontinue pest control services at the Public Defender's facility	Facilities Maintenance	Cox Pest Control	(\$200)	No funding required
I. Amendment No. 1 to the contract to provide tuberculosis (TB) testing to Chatham County Sheriff's Department staff	Detention Center	Corizon Health Services, Inc.	\$3.75 per test	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
J. Two (2) month lease extension to include the option of a month-to-month renewal with a 30-day notice, at 408 West Broughton Street	Special Projects	410 West Broughton Street, LLC	\$9,698	SPLOST (2008-2014) - Courthouse project
K. Construction contract for the Whippoorwill Road Canal Outfall Structure Rehabilitation project	Engineering	Sandhill ALS Construction *MBE	\$154,750	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Drainage, Wilmington Park Drainage
L. Activation controller for WeatherWarn sirens	CEMA	McCord Communications	\$16,550	MGF - Homeland Security

**AGENDA ITEM: X-6 A thru L**  
**AGENDA DATE: January 25, 2013**

**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 Amendment No. 1 to the contract with Océ Imagistics, Inc., to provide multi-function copier equipment, to recognize a name change to Canon Financial Services, Inc.

**BACKGROUND:** On November 16, 2012, the Board approved a contract for multi-function copier equipment services with Océ Imagistics, Inc.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Staff was notified by Canon Financial Services, Inc., of the name change.
2. This amendment is needed to reflect the name change to the contract.
3. There will be no changes to the terms and conditions of this contract.

**FUNDING:** N/A

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of Amendment No. 1 to the contract with Océ Imagistics, Inc., to provide multi-function copier equipment, to recognize a name change to Canon Financial Services, Inc.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
 MELVA SHARPE

**ITEM B**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$39,192 lease extension, for 30 Park of Commerce Way for six (6) months with T& H Realty Holdings, LLP, until the completion of the renovations to the Chatham County Detention Center Administration Building.

**BACKGROUND:** The renovation of the Detention Center Administration Building is not complete.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The building at 30 Park of Commerce, owned by T&H Realty Holdings, LLP, provides space to house the Sheriff's Office Administration offices and staff.
2. The property leases for \$ 6,532 a month. Its convenient location makes the property ideal and its lease rates remains the same.
3. The lease expires in April 2013 but will be extended to run through October 2013.

**FUNDING:** CIP - Detention Center  
(3803355 - 54.25001 - 38060407)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$39,192 lease extension, for 30 Park of Commerce Way for six (6) months with T&H Realty Holdings, LLP, until the completion of the renovations to the Chatham County Detention Center Administration Building.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** Notwithstanding the legal authority for the Board to enter into lease agreements as a contract, as a practical consideration, the temporary office for the Sheriff's Department should be accessible to the Chatham County Detention Center.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
GLORIA SAUGH

**ITEM C**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$37,620 lease extension, for 41 Park of Commerce Way for twelve (12) months with NDSS Plantation Center, LLC, until the completion of the renovations to the Chatham County Detention Center Administration Building.

**BACKGROUND:** The renovation of the Detention Center Administration Building is not complete.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The building at 41 Park of Commerce, owned by NDSS Plantation Center, LLC provides space to house the Sheriff's Office Administration offices and staff.
2. The property leases for \$ 3,135 a month. Its convenient location makes the property ideal and its lease rates remains the same.
3. The lease expires Feb 28, 2013, but will run through February 2014.

**FUNDING:** CIP - Detention Center  
(3803355 - 54.25001 - 38060407)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$37,620 lease extension, for 41 Park of Commerce Way for twelve (12) months with NDSS Plantation Center, LLC, until the completion of the renovations to the Chatham County Detention Center Administration Building.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** Notwithstanding the legal authority for the Board to enter into lease agreements as a contract, as a practical consideration, the temporary office for the Sheriff's Department should be accessible to the Chatham County Detention Center.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
GLORIA SAUGH

**ITEM D**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$1,000 **deductive** Summary Change Order No. 1 to the construction contract with Sandhill ALS Construction, Inc., on the Talmadge Canal Culvert project.

**BACKGROUND:** The Talmadge Canal project is part of the 1998-2003 SPLOST Drainage Program. Problems being addressed include the limited drainage capacity and the lack of access to perform maintenance.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The project was completed in December 2012.
2. The contract for construction was awarded as a unit price contract to Sandhill ALS Construction, Inc. This deductive Summary Change Order adjusts the contract amount to reflect the actual quantities of materials provided.
3. Contract history:

Original Contract (7-6-12)	\$ 91,600
<b>Deductive</b> Summary Change Order 1 (pending)	<u>\$ - 1,000</u>
Revised Contract Amount	\$ 90,600

**FUNDING:** No funding required

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$1,000 **deductive** Summary Change Order No. 1 to the construction contract with Sandhill ALS Construction, Inc., on the Talmadge Canal Culvert project.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to approve summary change orders to contracts based on actual quantities.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:** Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
ESTELLE BROWN

**ITEM E**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$38,610 Change Order No. 1 for the Pete Liakakis Government Building workstations from Modern Business of Savannah, GA.

**BACKGROUND:** On January 11, 2013, the Board approved the purchase of 101 workstations for various departments in the Pete Liakakis Government Building.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. After departments reviewed the specifications, changes are needed to provide added privacy, shelving, glass panels and task lighting.
2. Contract History is as follows:

Original Contract Amount (1-11-13)	\$ 137,449
Change Order No. 1 (pending)	<u>\$ 38,610</u>
Revised Contract Amount	\$ 176,059

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

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$38,610 Change Order No. 1 for the Pete Liakakis Government Building workstations from Modern Business of Savannah, GA.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to approve the purchase for furniture necessary to the operation of Chatham County.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
GLORIA SAUGH

**ITEM F**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$600 **deductive** Change Order No. 5, to the contract with Republic Waste Services of Savannah, to discontinue monthly trash pickup services at the Public Defender's facility located at 540 East Oglethorpe Avenue.

**BACKGROUND:** On July 8, 2011, the Board approved an annual contract for container trash collection service with Republic Waste Services of Savannah.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. As of January 31, 2013, the Public Defender will relocate from 540 East Oglethorpe Avenue to the new Pete Liakakis Building at 222 West Oglethorpe Avenue, therefore, trash pickup services will be discontinued at 540 East Oglethorpe Avenue.
2. Contract History is as follows:

Original Contract Amount (07-08-11)	\$58,848/Year
Change Order No. 1 (9-23-11)	\$ 3,588/Year
Change Order No. 2 (10-7-11)	\$(4,572)/Year
Change Order No. 3 (01-13-12)	\$ (600)/Year
Change Order No. 4 (04-13-12)	\$ (600)/Year
Change Order No. 5 (Pending)	\$ (600)/Year
Revised Contract	\$56,064/Year

**FUNDING:** No funding required

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$600 **deductive** Change Order No. 5, to the contract with Republic Waste Services of Savannah, to discontinue monthly trash pickup services at the Public Defender's facility located at 540 East Oglethorpe Avenue.
2. Provide staff other directions.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is the Board's policy to issue change orders to essential service contracts to recognize changes in scope of services.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
MELVA SHARPE

**ITEM G**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$14,000 **deductive** Change Order No. 1, to the contract with Quality Cleaning Contractors, to discontinue monthly janitorial service at the Public Defender's facility located at 540 E. Oglethorpe Avenue.

**BACKGROUND:** On September 5, 2008, the Board approved an annual contract for janitorial services with Quality Cleaning Contractors.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. As of January 31, 2013 the Public Defender will relocate from 540 East Oglethorpe Avenue to the new Pete Liakakis building at 222 West Oglethorpe Avenue, therefore, janitorial services will be discontinued at 540 East Oglethorpe Avenue.
2. Contract History is as follows:

Original Contract Amount (09-05-08)	\$ 58,596/Year
Change Order No. 1 (Pending)	\$(14,000)/(8 months left on contract)
Revised Contract	\$ 44,596/Year

**FUNDING:** No funding required

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$14,000 **deductive** Change Order No. 1, to the contract with Quality Cleaning Contractors, to discontinue monthly janitorial service at the Public Defender’s facility located at 540 E. Oglethorpe Avenue.
2. Provide staff other directions.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is the Board’s policy to issue change orders to essential service contracts to recognize changes in scope of services.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
MELVA SHARPE

**ITEM H**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$200 **deductive** Change Order No. 10, to the contract with Cox Pest Control, to discontinue pest control services at the Public Defenders Office located 540 East Oglethorpe.

**BACKGROUND:** On November 21, 2008, the Board approved an annual contract for pest control services at various departments and agencies of Chatham County to Cox Termite and Pest Control, Inc.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. As of January 31, 2013, the Public Defender will relocate from 540 East Oglethorpe Avenue to the new Pete Liakakis building at 222 West Oglethorpe Avenue, therefore, pest control services will be discontinued at 540 East Oglethorpe Avenue.
2. Contract History is as follows:

Original Contract Amount (11-21-08)	\$18,740/Year
Change Order No. 1 (01-16-09)	\$ 300/Year
Change Order No. 2 (03-13-09)	\$ 540/Year
Deductive Change Order No. 3 (03-27-09)	\$ (180)/Year
Deductive Change Order No. 4 (09-11-09)	\$ (300)/Year
Additive Change Order No. 4 (09-11-09)	\$ 540/Year
Change Order No. 5 (05-14-10)	\$ 660/Year
Deductive Change Order No. 6 (10-22-10)	\$ (300)/Year
Additive Change Order No. 6 (10-22-10)	\$ 1,800/Year
Change Order No. 7 (04-29-11)	\$ 500/Year
Deductive Change Order No. 8 (09-21-12)	\$ (180)/Year
Deductive Change Order No. 9 (10-19-12)	\$ (600)/Year
Additive Change Order No. 9 (10-19-12)	\$ 1,620/Year
Change Order No. 10 (Pending)	\$ (200) 10 months left on contract
Revised Contract Amount	\$22,940/Year

**FUNDING:** No funding required

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$200 **deductive** Change Order No. 10, to the contract with Cox Pest Control, to discontinue pest control services at the Public Defenders Office located 540 East Oglethorpe.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
MELVA SHARPE

**ITEM I**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of Amendment No. 1 to the contract with Corizon Health Services, Inc., to provide tuberculosis (TB) testing to Chatham County Sheriff’s Department staff at a rate of \$3.75 per test.

**BACKGROUND:** At their meeting of February 26, 2010, the Board awarded an annual contract to Corizon Health Services, Inc., f/k/a Prison Health Services, Inc., to provide inmate healthcare services.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Due to the threat of TB in the inmate population, the Detention Center is required to test all staff as well as inmates. In an effort to expedite the process, staff requested quotes from the following medical firms:
 

Corizon Health Services	\$3.75 each test
Memorial Health	\$10.00 each test
2. Corizon will administer a two-step TB test for all Chatham County employees who are employed at the Chatham County Sheriff's Office on an annual basis. The County will be responsible for notifying and scheduling the test with Corizon.
3. Corizon will be responsible for administering the test and reading the results only. If any County employee has a positive test result, that employee will be referred to a community provider for follow-up treatment. Corizon will not be responsible for any costs associated with the follow-up treatment.
4. Corizon will not be responsible for maintaining any records of any tests administered to the County employees. Corizon will forward all original documentation and records to the County for their files.
5. Corizon will invoice the County \$3.75 per test for each test administered to a County employee. Payment will be made monthly by the County to Corizon for services provided.

**FUNDING:** General Fund/M&O - Detention Center  
(1003326 - 52.12006)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of Amendment No. 1 to the contract with Corizon Health Services, Inc., to provide tuberculosis (TB) testing to Chatham County Sheriff's Department staff at a rate of \$3.75 per test.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to amend existing contracts if it is in the best interest of the County.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
RUSHEDA ADESHINA

**ITEM J**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$9,698 two (2) month lease extension to include the option of a month-to-month renewal with a 30-day notice, at 408 West Broughton Street, with 410 West Broughton Street, LLC, until completion of the renovation of the Pete Liakakis Government Building.

**BACKGROUND:** The Pete Liakakis Government Building was scheduled to be completed December 2012. Due to scheduled delivery time for the office furniture, county offices will not relocate until then. County offices located at 408 West Broughton Street will need to remain in leased space for two (2) more months.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The building at 408 West Broughton Street, owned by 410 West Broughton Street, LLC, provides space to house the District Court Administrator, some Sheriff's Office operations and some Board of Assessor's staffing. More importantly, during the sequence of construction, it has served as convenient interim space as needs arise.
2. The property leases for \$4,849 a month (base price plus pro-rated taxes and insurance). Its convenient location makes the property ideal, and its lease rate remains competitive for commercial rental property in the Landmark Historic District.
3. The lease will be through March 2013.

**FUNDING:** SPLOST (2008-2014) - Courthouse Project  
(3244980 - 54.13011 - 32460727)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$9,698 two (2) month lease extension to include the option of a month-to-month renewal with a 30-day notice, at 408 West Broughton Street, with 410 West Broughton Street, LLC, until completion of the renovation of the Pete Liakakis Government Building.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** Notwithstanding the legal authority for the Board to enter into lease agreements as a contract. It is practical for Courthouse offices to be close to the Courthouse.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
GLORIA SAUGH

**ITEM K**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$154,750 construction contract with Sandhill ALS Construction, Inc., for the Whippoorwill Road Canal Outfall Structure Rehabilitation project.

**BACKGROUND:** The Whippoorwill Road Drainage project is part of the 1998-2003 SPLOST Drainage Program. The project will relocate a canal tide gate structure to a location that can be accessed for maintenance and improve the structure’s drainage capacity.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The project is located at the northerly terminus of Whippoorwill Road on Wilmington Island within unincorporated Chatham County.
2. The existing tide gate structure is located on private property and is undersized. The project will install a new structure accessible by County road right of way. The new structure will have approximately 50 percent greater capacity than that of the exiting tide gate.
3. The project was properly advertised and four bids were received and opened January 17, 2013. One bidder made an error and withdrew their bid. The bid results are as follows:

*	Sandhill ALS Construction, Inc. Pt. Wentworth, GA	\$154,750
	Quality Enterprises, USA, Inc. Chesapeake, VA	\$219,940
	Arco, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$257,614

\* MBE firm

**FUNDING:** SPLOST (1998-2003) - Drainage, Wilmington Park Drainage (3234250 - 52.12003 - 32380567)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$154,750 construction contract with Sandhill ALS Construction, Inc., for the Whippoorwill Road Canal Outfall Structure Rehabilitation project.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
CHRIS MORRIS

**ITEM L**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$16,550 sole source purchase from McCord Communications for the WeatherWarn System for the Chatham County Emergency Warning system for CEMA.

**BACKGROUND:** Chatham County has been selected by the Georgia Emergency Management Agency to receive an Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) to significantly improve the County's Emergency Warning Program. This purchase is 100% funded through the EMPG - Preparedness grant the Commission approved in October. Integration of this system will allow CEMA to individually activate and control each of the County's 60 outdoor warning sirens.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Implementation of this System will allow CEMA to selectively and automatically activate outdoor warning sirens on National Weather Service parameters and implement State recommended guidelines to continuously sound sirens throughout the duration of the threat.
2. The new controllers will automatically distribute information through social media sources, text messaging and email distribution groups, streamlining the distribution time.
3. Integration of this system will allow CEMA to individually activate and control each of the County's 60 outdoor warning sirens and it will eliminate the delay required for human intervention in the activation of the siren network.
4. The sole source purchase is necessary for compatibility with the existing system.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$16,550 sole source purchase from McCord Communications for the WeatherWarn System for the Chatham County Emergency Warning system for CEMA.
2. Provide staff with direction.

**FUNDING:** MGF - Homeland Security SIP  
(2503920 - 52.39001 - 25024322)

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to approve purchases in the interest of the community.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
RUSHEDA ADESHINA

PREPARED BY \_\_\_\_\_  
PURCHASING AGENT

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**XI. FIRST READINGS**

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

Chairman Scott said, we have no First Readings.

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**XII. SECOND READINGS**

1. **AMENDED AND NEW ORDINANCE OUTLINING RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP AND OBLIGATIONS OF ALL PET OWNERS TO THE COMMUNITY AT LARGE. THIS ADDS A REQUIREMENT TO MICROCHIP DOGS AND CATS AND FOR MANDATORY SPAY AND NEUTERING OF ALL DOGS AND CATS, WITH EXEMPTIONS.**

Chairman Scott said, and now for Second Readings. This is the Second Reading, and once it's completed this audience will be eligible for the calendar, once it's been read the second time. Amend [sic] and new ordinance outlining responsible pet ownership and obligations of all pet owners to the community at large. This adds a requirement to microchip dogs and cats and for mandatory spay and neutering of all dogs and cats, with exemptions. And, Mr. Manager, is that report --

County Manager Abolt said, the -- the -- in the bold print, sir? No. It's -- you've got a status report from the chief of police in concert with the health director and head of building and safety saying we do need more time to go in depth particularly when it comes to researching what other jurisdictions may have done in the light of similar legislation.

Chairman Scott said, okay. So the enforceability study and the report is not yet available?

County Manager Abolt said, that's correct, sir.

Chairman Scott said, okay. All right. Y'all --y'all have heard the Second Reading. What is the desire of the Commission?

Commissioner Stone said, Mr. Chairman, if -- if -- I'm sorry am I interrupting?

Chairman Scott said, well we -- there can't be any speaking on it at this point.

Commissioner Stone said, if --

Chairman Scott said, is there any action?

Commissioner Stone said, if the information -- I have a question.

Chairman Scott said, speaking at this point would not be in order. This is a Second Reading. We have not added it to the calendar. We have not tabled it. It's been read the second time, so it would not be appropriate at this point. Okay.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I'll -- for the purpose of discussion, at this point, I will make a motion to approve it. It y'all second, we can discuss and then y'all can remove that. If not, that's fine.

Commissioner Stone said, I -- I mean --

Chairman Scott said, that motion dies for lack of a second. Is there any other motions?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I will make a motion to deny it for purpose of discussion.

Chairman Scott said, that motion dies for the lack of a second. Are there any other motions?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I will make a motion to table it because I believe further discussion is needed obviously.

Chairman Scott said, there's been --

Commissioner Center said, I don't think there's anything to table, Mr. Chairman.

County Attorney R. Jonathan Hart said, it hasn't been put to the agenda yet.

Chairman Scott said, hadn't been put -- what we would need if you want to discuss it, you will have to move to put it on the agenda, and that would have to be second and favorably voted on.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, is this -- is this not under a Second Reading right this second?

County Attorney Hart said, yeah.

Chairman Scott said, it's a Second Reading, it's now eligible for the agenda.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I guess it's dead.

Chairman Scott said, it's dead unless somebody wants to put it on the agenda.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I -- I'll make a motion to put it on the agenda.

Chairman Scott said, is there a second? Hearing none. Okay. Commission does not wish to consider this item at this time. It's considered dead. Commissioner Stone we just couldn't have a discussion on an item that was not before us.

Commissioner Stone said, I -- I'm not -- I understand, I just had a couple questions that I will ask the staff later. That's -- that's fine.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I can't wait to see how that's going to be written about in the paper tomorrow, Mr. Chairman. We were against, for, and it's dead.

Commissioner Brady said, well -- well -- and Mr. Chairman?

Chairman Scott said, yes?

Commissioner Brady said, can you explain publicly what just -- what just -- how this impacts the item?

Chairman Scott said, the -- the item is dead for the lack of action. It was read the second time. We did not have a motion to put it on the agenda, a motion and a second to put it on the agenda. If we had that motion, we would have voted on it, and then it would have been part of the agenda, I would have called the question, it would have been discussed, and then voted up or down. But because none of that happened, it's dead. In other words, it will not be enacted. Okay?

Commissioner Brady said, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, oh, you're welcome. The item, you know, unless somebody re-proposes it, it's no longer an issue.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

No action was taken on this item.

**AGENDA ITEM:** ~~VII-4~~  
**AGENDA DATE:** ~~December 21, 2012~~  
**AGENDA ITEM:** ~~XI-1~~  
**AGENDA DATE:** ~~January 25, 2013~~  
**AGENDA ITEM:** **XII-1**  
**AGENDA DATE:** January 25, 2013

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

**ISSUE:**

Request Board approval of amended and new ordinances outlining responsible pet ownership and obligations of all pet owners to the community at large.

**BACKGROUND:**

In the recent months, many issues involving the safety and welfare of Chatham County's pet population and how that pet population can co-exist in a healthy manner with the citizens of the County have arisen to include the issues of feral cat populations, dog welfare and other pet related issues.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. All animals housed in Chatham County should be kept and maintained in a safe, healthy environment.
2. The definitional sections of the proposed ordinance creates a definition of nuisance and defines responsible pet ownership.
3. The proposed amendment will require any person owning or harboring a dog or cat that is four months or older living within the County to have a microchip implanted in the dog or cat and requires the number of the chip be registered with the Animal Registration Division of the Building Safety Regulatory Services. The ordinance provides for a waiver of the microchip implantation should it have the likelihood of serious injury upon being certified by a licensed veterinarian.
4. The ordinance provides for mandatory spay and neutering for all dogs and cats save and except those which are exempt. The ordinance provides for registered breeders with the Department of Agriculture and a citizens request exemption for breeding person not to exceed one litter per year.
5. The proposed amendments do not directly address feral cat colonies save and except under the existing ordinance. Under the existing order feral cats can be trapped and managed by Animal Control in compliance with the Department of Agriculture's regulations.
6. The amended and additional provisions of the Animal Control ordinance shall be enforced under current Code Section 22-109 which calls for a fine of not less than \$100 and not more than \$1,000 for each violation.

**FUNDING:**

There is no additional funding necessary for this ordinance.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

It is consistent with Board’s policy as outlined in the past to establish an Animal Control Ordinance that protects public health and safety of its citizens and to promote general welfare of the citizens and animal residing within the County. While the County encourages and welcomes pet ownership, a strong emphasis is to be placed on responsible pet ownership.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

- 1. Approve the attached ordinance.
- 2. Do not approve the attached ordinance.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

For Board consideration.

STATE OF GEORGIA            )  
   )  
 COUNTY OF CHATHAM        )

Amendments to Animal Control Ordinances

BE IT ORDAINED by the Chatham County Board of Commissioners in regular meeting assembled and pursuant to lawful authority thereof, the Code of Chatham County is hereby amended by adding hereto as follows:

Amended §22-101 Statement of Purpose.

The Board of Commissioners of Chatham County does hereby repeal §22-101 of the Animal Control Ordinance in its entirety and substitutes in lieu thereof the following provisions of said ordinance set forth more particularly as follows:

Chatham County has undertaken to establish this Animal Ordinance to protect the public health and safety of its citizens and to promote the general welfare of the citizens and animals residing within the County. Animal ownership is encouraged and welcomed within this County; however, strong emphasis is placed on responsible ownership of animals as defined herein.

Animal owners are encouraged to respect the rights of their fellow citizens and also those of their animals. Primary responsibility is placed upon animal owners to properly train and/or secure their animals so as to prevent them from causing injuries and/or creating nuisances.

Amended § 22-102 Definitions.

The Board of Commissioners of Chatham County does hereby repeal §22-102 of the Animal Control Ordinance in its entirety and substitutes in lieu thereof the following provisions of said ordinance set forth more particularly as follows:

- 1. Animals - “Animals” shall mean any non-human living vertebrate creature, including but not limited to, all horses, ponies, mules, cattle, sheep, goats, swine, dogs, cats, rabbits, guinea pigs, hamsters, chickens, turkeys, geese, ducks, pigeons, and similar fowl.
- 2. Housing - “Housing” shall mean any building, shed, cage, pen or similar structure used for the keeping of animals and fowl.
- 3. Enclosure - “Enclosure” shall mean any uncovered, enclosed parcel of land where animals or fowl are kept.
- 4. Nuisance - “Nuisance” shall mean whatever is dangerous or detrimental to human life or health and whatever renders or tends to render soil, air, water, or food impure or unwholesome.
- 5. Person - “Person” means any person, firm, partnership, corporation, association or agency.
- 6. Health Officer - “Health Officer” shall mean the commissioner of health of the County of Chatham or his authorized representative.
- 7. Responsible pet ownership - “Responsible Pet Ownership” shall mean
  - a. An owner who provides both license, tag and permanent identification for pets (dogs, ferrets **and** cats).

- b. An owner that spays or neuters all pets unless that owner is a part of a registered breeder with Department of Agriculture of Georgia or as otherwise outlined herein.
- c. An owner who provides socialization, training and proper and ongoing medical care for pets.
- d. An owner who does not allow a pet to become a nuisance or a threat to the community.
- e. An owner who only procures pets from responsible and ethical sources.

Amended §22-201(2) Vaccination, Licencing and Registration of Dogs and Cats.

The Board of Commissioners of Chatham County does hereby repeal §22-201(2) of the Animal Control Ordinance in its entirety and substitutes in lieu thereof the following provisions of said ordinance set forth more particularly as follows:

- (a) It shall be unlawful for any person to own, keep, maintain or harbor any dog or dogs or cat or cats three months of age or older without first having the dog or dogs or cat or cats vaccinated against rabies and obtaining from the Animal Registration Division of the Department of Building Safety for each dog or cat the vaccination and license tag and the rabies certificate described in subsection (a) above. Such license and tag is to be obtained either in person or by mail for each dog or cat from the Animal Registration Division of the Department of Building Safety within thirty (30) days of such animal's annual inoculation.
- (b) Any person owning or harboring any dog or cat that is four (4) months or older living in the County must have a microchip implanted in the dog or cat. The number must be registered with the Animal Registration Division of the Department of Building Safety within thirty (30) days of the cat or dog being brought into the County or within thirty (30) days of the animal reaching four (4) months in age. At all times the owner or harborer of a dog or cat living within the County must maintain up-to-date contact information, including the address and telephone number with the Animal Registration Division of the Department of Building Safety within thirty (30) days of such change. If ownership of the animal is transferred to another individual, then it is the responsibility of the previous owner to advise the Animal Registration Division of the Department of Building Safety of the transfer. In the event that having a microchip implanted in a dog or cat has a high likelihood of causing serious bodily injury to the animal as certified by a licensed veterinarian, then the owner can apply for a waiver of having the pet not implanted.
- (c) Any person owning a dog or cat that does not comply with subsection (a) or (b) shall be in violation of this ordinance. Non-compliance and the issuance of an ordinance citation shall result in a set fine of \$50.00.

Adding §22-201 (14) Mandatory spay and neuter.

The Board of Commissioners of Chatham County does hereby adopt and add §22-201 (14) of the Animal Control Ordinance more particularly as follows:

- (a) Purpose. The County has determined that the unintended or uncontrolled breeding of dogs and cats within the county leads to many dogs, cats, puppies, and kittens being unwanted, becoming strays, suffering deprivation and death, being impounded and euthanized at great expense to the community, and constituting a public nuisance and public health hazard. It is, therefore, declared that every feasible means of reducing the number of unwanted dogs, cats, puppies, and kittens is encouraged.
- (b) Mandatory spaying, neutering of dogs and cats.
  - (1) Requirement. No person may harbor a dog or cat six months of age or older within the County that has not been spayed or neutered unless such person is granted an exemption as outlined below for each unaltered dog or cat, unless the dog or cat is otherwise exempt under this section.
  - (2) The owner of an animal seeking an exemption under this Code section shall submit a written affidavit to the Animal Registration Division of the Department of Building Safety at the time of the issuance of tag outlined in 22-201(2) which details the specific reason why the animal is to be bred and outlines that owner understands that no animal may have more than one litter per year.
  - (3) Any person who is a registered breeder with the Department of Agriculture of Georgia is automatically exempt under this Code Section and is not required to file any additional documents with the County except as required by the Department of Agriculture.

ADOPTED AND APPROVED, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2012.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Albert J. Scott, Chairman  
Chatham County Commission

\_\_\_\_\_  
Janice Bocook, Clerk  
Chatham County Commission

[SEAL]

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**XIII. INFORMATION ITEMS**

Chairman Scott said, all right on Item XIII, Information Items --

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**POINT OF ORDER**

Commissioner Center said, Mr. Chairman, may I ask a point of order?

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Commissioner Center, before we get to the end, did we ever approve the minutes and do we have to do that?

Chairman Scott said, you did.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, we did.

Commissioner Holmes said, we did.

Commissioner Stone said, we did.

County Manager Abolt said, it was on the calendar.

Commissioner Center said, okay. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, it was on the action item on the calendar.

Chairman Center said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, you did approve them.

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**XIII. INFORMATION ITEMS cont'd**

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

Chairman Scott said, progress report on the General Fund Contingency Account M&O and Special Service District. You've got an attachment there.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

A status report was attached as information.

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

Chairman Scott said, a list of purchased items between \$2,500 and \$9,999. You have an attachment.

**AGENDA ITEM: XIII-2**  
**AGENDA DATE: January 25, 2013**

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>
Lights and night strobes for radio tower	I.C.S.	Savannah Communication & Electronic	\$6,074	General Fund/M&O - Communications
Mailing of tag renewals for month of January	Tax Commissioner	World Marketing	\$6,966	General Fund/M&O - Tax Commissioner
25 electronic signature pads for Sheriff's Department	I.C.S.	GHA Technologies, Inc.	\$5,200	CIP-File Tracking System
Electrical engineering services at the 911 Call Center	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	Rosser International, Inc. (Sole Source)	\$3,007	Reimbursable Expenses
Inventory repair parts for month of November	Fleet Operations	Fairway Lincoln-Mercury, Inc.	\$3,133	Inventory Account
Clearing at the former Public Works facility to make additional parking areas for soccer field.	Public Works and Park Services	T Clearing (Sole Source)	\$9,280	CIP-Parks and Recreation
Land survey at Juvenile Court complex	Building Safety and Regulatory Services	Kern-Coleman & Company, LLC.	\$6,770	SPLOST (2008-2014) Juvenile Court complex
Replacement storm pipe and tidegate	Public Works and Park Services	Cherokee Culvert Company, Inc.	\$2,655	SSD-Public Works
20 retirement lamps	Human Resources and Services	Standard Chair of Gardner, Inc.	\$3,742	General Fund/M&O - Human Resources
Valve for Wilmington Canal drainage improvement	Engineering	Ferguson Enterprises, Inc.	\$2,690	SPLOST (1998-2003) Wilmington Park

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### 3. ROADS AND DRAINAGE REPORTS.

Chairman Scott said, you got your road and drainage reports.

#### **ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

A status report was attached as information.

**AGENDA ITEM: XIII-3 ROADS**

**AGENDA DATE: January 25, 2013**

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: A.G. Bungard, P.E., County Engineer

ISSUE: To provide information on the status of Chatham County road projects.

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

FACTS AND FINDING:

1. Truman Parkway, Phase 5. Construction underway by GDOT contract. Estimated completion December 2013.
2. Diamond Causeway. Construction by GDOT of a high level bridge over Skidaway Narrows to replace the bascule bridge will be delayed pending GDOT decision on how to resolve problems with installing mid-span bridge beams. Estimated completion of September 2013 will be delayed.
3. Whitefield Avenue. Construction underway by GDOT contract. Estimated completion September 2013.
4. Bay Street Widening. Project put on hold in 2010 pending another Assessment of Effects (AOE) to historic properties. Notice to Proceed for ROW acquisitions scheduled for February 2013.
5. Jimmy Deloach Parkway Phase 2 and Interchange of Jimmy Deloach Parkway at U.S. 80. Design ongoing. PFPR (Preliminary Field Plan Review) for Phase 2 is scheduled for February 5, 2013. ROW acquisitions expected to begin summer 2013.
6. SR 307 Widening from US 17 to I-16. Construction underway. Estimated completion in October 2013.
7. Islands Expressway Bridge Replacement. Design is underway on a high level bridge to replace the bascule bridge over the Intercoastal Waterway on Islands Expressway. ROW plans expected by summer 2013.
8. Local Roads.
  - a. Hunt Road and Faye Road Bridge Replacements. Bids for construction contracts for both bridges opens January 29, 2013.
  - b. Ridgewood Avenue, Beechwood Avenue and Elmhurst Avenue. Construction underway. Estimated completion March 2013.

RECOMMENDATION: For information.

Districts All

**AGENDA ITEM: XIII-3 DRAINAGE**  
**AGENDA DATE: January 25, 2013**

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

ISSUE: To provide information on the status of Chatham County drainage projects.

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

FACTS AND FINDING:

1. Pipemakers Canal. The project includes canal widening, bank stabilization, sluice gates and culverts. Construction of improvements upstream of Dean Forest Road to the west side of the airport is underway with completion scheduled for August 2014. Staff is working to identify and obtain canal rights of way west of I-95. A meeting with Garden City officials regarding construction of access for maintenance north of Briarwood was held on January 7, 2013. A meeting with citizens is scheduled for February 12, 2013 in Garden City.
2. Pipemakers Pump Station. The project was identified in the 2003-2008 SPLOST as a part of capital improvements to the Pipemakers Canal Drainage Basin. Preliminary design work on the pump station determined that a master pump station for the Pipemakers Canal is not warranted and that smaller pump stations to address localized problems will be more effective. Staff is in discussions to explain the preliminary design with officials of Garden City and Pooler is underway.
3. Queensbury Drainage Improvements. The project will improve drainage and provide maintenance access in the area south of Montgomery Cross Road and west of Ferguson Avenue (includes Tara Manor, Ennis Mobile Home Park-Elmhurst Court, and the Forest City Gun Club.) On December 21, 2012, the Board approved a contract to construct drainage improvements from Tara Manor to Lakeview Subdivision. Construction is anticipated to begin in February 2013 and last until August 2013.

4. Wilmington Park Canal. The Wilmington Park Canal extends from North Cromwell Road to the Wilmington River (about 1.4 miles). The project includes bank stabilization, culvert replacements and storm sewer upgrades. Construction work to replace four undersized culverts along the canal is underway with completion scheduled for August 2013. A project to improve drainage from the southern portion of Ashley Road is under design. The existing outfall from this area is undersized and not accessible due to a lack of drainage easements.
5. Ferguson-Winterberry Outfall Drainage Improvements. The project will improve drainage and provide access for maintenance for the Remington Canal from Ferguson Road to the outfall at Moon River. The outfall passes through the Winterberry private development. A contract to develop the preliminary design was approved by the Board on January 11, 2013.
6. Louis Mills/Redgate Canal. The project will correct inadequate drainage capacity and the lack of maintenance access to the canal. Design of improvements along the Marshall Branch Canal are underway and include construction of maintenance access and culvert replacements.
7. Whippoorwill Road Drainage. The project will relocate and improve a canal tidegate structure to a location that can be accessed for maintenance. The existing structure is undersized and was damaged by previous storm events. A project for construction of improvements is pending Board approval.
8. Norwood Drainage Outfalls. The project will improve drainage capacity and access for maintenance for two drainage outfalls from Norwood Avenue. Construction of improvements is complete at Norwood Place. Design work, permitting, and acquisitions are underway for the outfall near Skidaway Road.
9. Henderson/Gateway. Drainage is provided by the Little Neck Canal and the Henderson Branch Canal (combined length 2 miles). A contract for design of improvements to serve the Gateway commercial area was approved by the Board on January 11, 2013.
10. Shipyard-Beaulieu Area. The project will improve drainage capacity and access for maintenance. Phase I replaced an undersized storm drain pipe at Beaulieu Avenue was completed in January 2010. Phase II will replace three undersized storm drain pipes and reshape the existing ditch. Acquisitions of required easements are complete. Final design work and permitting are underway.
11. Lehigh-Shipyard Lane Area. The project will relieve roadside drainage issues causing nuisance flooding in the Lehigh Avenue and Shipyard Lane area. Construction began in November 2012 with completion scheduled for May 2013.
12. LaRoche Culvert. The project will replace a drainage culvert located under LaRoche Avenue north of Lansing Avenue. The culvert replacement is in response to a deteriorating brick arch culvert with several cracks. Bids opened in April 2012 exceeded project budget and were rejected. The design is being modified to lower construction costs.
13. Little Hurst Canal. The project will improve drainage capacity and access for maintenance along the canal. A design scope of work is under development.
14. Wymberley Area. The project will address inadequate neighborhood drainage including roadside ditches, culverts and rear yard areas not accessible for maintenance of public systems. In early 2012 staff presented conceptual plans to stakeholders of the Wormsloe Historic Site and received preliminary verbal agreement for the improvements. Design work is underway.
15. Cottonvale Road Drainage. The project will relieve drainage and maintenance access issues causing nuisance flooding in the Cottonvale Road area. Acquisition of a required easement is complete. Final design plans are underway.

RECOMMENDATION: For information.  
Districts: All

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## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Scott said, okay.

County Manager Abolt said, sir, we need you to read, then, the bold print on page 11 relative to the executive session which will be called for --

Chairman Scott said, we -- we getting to that, sir.

County Manager Abolt said, okay. I'm sorry, sir.

Chairman Scott said, okay. And now, we're going to ask for a motion that we recess into Executive Session which shall proceed no later than 3:00 p.m. and shall reconvene on Wednesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, at noon. Does everybody understand that?

Commissioner Thomas said, said that again.

Commissioner Stone said, what?

Commissioner Brady said, so moved, Mr. Chairman.

Commissioner Farrell said, second.

County Manager Abolt said, and the purpose --

Chairman Scott said, for what purpose?

County Manager Abolt said, the purpose of the executive session is to discuss personnel and litigation, sir.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Center said, do we have to move to go into Executive Session?

Chairman Scott said, it's been moved. We need a second.

Commissioner Center said, I'll second it.

Commissioner Farrell said, I seconded it.

Chairman Scott said, all in favor indicate by voting yes.

County Attorney Hart said, you did say what for.

County Manager Abolt said, personnel and litigation.

Chairman Scott said, opposed?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, and I don't understand that.

Chairman Scott said, the motion carries.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Brady moved to recess to executive session to discuss personnel and litigation. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The Board recessed at approximately 11:59 a.m.

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**ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

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

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**APPOINTMENT:**

2. **CHATHAM COUNTY EMPLOYEE PENSION BOARD**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Stone moved to appoint Chairman Scott to the Chatham County Employee Pension Board. Chairman Scott will remain on the pension board for the duration of his service on the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present for the vote.]

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**RECESS OF EXECUTIVE SESSION**

There being no further business to be brought before the Commissioners, the Chairman declared the meeting in recess at 1:00 p.m. until said meeting is reconvened at 12:00 on Wednesday, January 30, 2013.

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APPROVED: THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF FEBRUARY, 2013.

\_\_\_\_\_  
ALBERT J. SCOTT, CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF  
COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

\_\_\_\_\_  
JANICE E. BOCOOK, CLERK OF COMMISSION