

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, MARCH 22, 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 9:38 a.m.

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II. INVOCATION

Chairman Scott said, at this time it's with a great deal of pleasure that we welcome the Reverend Donna DeVoe Baker here, and for the purpose of an introduction I am going to call on Commissioner Holmes from the Second District to introduce our devotional leader for today. I will also instruct you to -- while she's doing the devotional portion of her presentation that you may be seated, and once she indicates it's time for prayer please stand and remain standing through the Pledge of Allegiance which will be led by Commissioner Holmes.

Commissioner Holmes said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. We have about 300 or 400 --

Chairman Scott said, you may be seated.

Commissioner Holmes said, -- churches in the Second District, and it is very tough to locate someone who is so diligently working in the community in the Second District, and our Invocation for today is the wife of Pastor Joseph E. Baker, and they have two sons, Joseph E. Baker and Gene. She's the first lady of Townsley Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church; the Pastor of St. Luke African Methodist Episcopal Church, both of Savannah, Georgia. She's a teacher and a student of the Word. A product of the Barnwell County School systems. She went on to graduate from the University of South Carolina with a Bachelor of Science in Business. But the most important thing that I want to say about this young lady, serving her community, she's a chartered member of the Hilton Head Island/Bluffton Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, where's she's served as treasurer and member of the Executive Board and member of the Order of Eastern Star. But the most dynamic thing, and she quotes God has called her to the body of Christ, and she refused to be a -- a part of denominational barriers. With a little faith in big God, she believed that all things are possible through him who strengthen her. Her motto is a mustard seed of faith yields a multitude of blessings.

Commissioner Holmes said, ladies and gentlemen I want to introduce to you our Invocation for this morning, is no other than my Second District Pastor, Reverend Donna DeVoe Baker, St. Luke AME Church. Ms. Baker.

Reverend Donna DeVoe Baker said, I don't think I've had an introduction like that before.

Commissioner Holmes said, one in a million.

Reverend Baker said, good morning.

Board of Commissioners collectively said, good morning.

Reverend Baker said, when you look in the book of Genesis around the 41st Chapter and the 41st verse, you find where Pharaoh has now elevated Joseph who has gone through his own share of trials and tribulations and Joseph is now the ruler, second in command over all of Egypt. The thought I would leave with you this morning as you prepare to embark upon the responsibilities that this County has given unto you is to be as Joseph did, To hold true to the expectation of the One who has called you, and to be true to the God in whom you serve. That in whatever you do, trust in him to be the one that leads and guides your decisions in every step of the way and everything will always turn out all right as it did with Joseph. For he knew that a famine was coming to the land although they were in the middle of a time of prosperity, but because of his following his faith, following his heart, and following his good common sense, he knew to tuck away a little bit of what came in during those seven years so that when famine hit Egypt, they were prepared to not only take care of those in Pharaoh's responsibility in Egypt but those that also came that needed refuge. Let us pray.

Reverend Baker gave the invocation as follows:

Our gracious and eternal God, we come before you now just as humble as we know how. We ask Dear God that you will invoke your presence in this place. While we know that you were here before we got here and you will be here after we leave, we ask Dear God that you feel free to reign and super reign in this place. Move, God, from heart to heart and from breast to breast.

Allow, God, that we will be able to conduct the business of this County, the business of this Commission, the business of the people in a harmony that is in right standing with you. Where there is confusion God we ask that you will bring peace. Where there is disagreement, we ask Dear God that you will ask -- you will allow us to come together on one accord. Bless Dear God the Commissioners that you have allowed to represent us across this County. Touch their hearts, touch their minds, touch their lives. Bless them God like only you can. This we ask in Jesus name. Amen.

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III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Holmes said, we will all stand for the Pledge of Allegiance of the Flag.

Commissioner Holmes 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, the Clerk will 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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PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Commissioner Center said, Mr. Chairman, may I say something to Ms. DeVoe before she leaves?

Chairman Scott said, we don't have any members of the Youth Commission here, and Commissioner Center would like to make a comment.

Commissioner Center said, yeah. Reverend Baker I just want to say I -- the forces that be move in mysterious ways that you talked about Pharaoh and Egypt because not only is our President in the Middle East today, but Monday starts the first night of Passover for the Jewish community in which we celebrate individual liberty and freedom and our release from slavery, and I just thought it was very opportune that you mentioned that and it moved me particularly. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Shabazz would like to make a comment.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes. Good morning Reverend DeVoe Baker. I would like to just say that I have a great deal of respect for women clergy. You know contrary to popular belief, you know, I think they make very good clergy people. One of the reasons why is my wife is a Bishop in -- from the order of the African Methodist Church, and I just want to say that because it's -- I believe in -- in inclusiveism in terms of the cloth and the ministry of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

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V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. RECOGNITION FOR OFFICERS WHO REPAIRED MS. DELL MITCHELL'S FENCE (COMMISSIONER CENTER).

Chairman Scott said, Item V, we have -- I want to recognize Commissioner Center to recognize some special guests and to also -- for comments. Commissioner Center.

Commissioner Center said, do it here or out there?

Chairman Scott said, either way would be fine.

Commissioner Center said, I'll go out front for you. And I'm going to ask Major Richard Zapal -- Zapal?

County Manager Russ Abolt said, Zaapal (phonetic).

Commissioner Center said, Zaapal (phonetic) and Sergeant Henry Brown to step forward with me. Mr. Chairman I want to thank you and my fellow Commissioners for allowing this opportunity. I read in the newspaper -- Eric [Curl], I read in the newspaper last week a wonderful story about Ms. Dell Mitchell who just rebuilt a fence, and when our police were chasing a suspect, as I told you earlier, he didn't just run through her fence and make a body imprint like you see on the cartoons, he demolished her whole fence. Her house had burned down before and she had a problem getting it fixed, and Major Richard Zapal and Sergeant Henry Brown took it upon themselves at their personal time, their expense to go out and rebuild her fence. And as we know that the majority of the comments you hear publicly about our police in action are -- are negative and -- and critical, and I just thought this was a wonderful thing that they did. I felt that they should be recognized by the entire County, particularly the Commissioners and I asked if we could bring them forth and present them with commendations to thank them for going above and beyond. I know they didn't do it for award, but it's -- it's just -- it's just thrilling and chilling and exciting to see policemen do this kind of work, and I am appreciative, and I thank the Commission for inviting them here to give them this commendation. This is Major Zapal -- Zapal.

Major Richard Zapal said, thank you. Zapal.

Commissioner Center said, Sergeant Brown. [Applause.]

Chairman Scott said, thank you all for being here and it goes without saying that the type of display that you made in repairing that fence will go a long ways in my opinion in solving crimes because I think it will foster community by-in and support of our men and women in uniform, and that's so critical to policing and protecting our community, and we really thank you. And at this time if you'd like to make any comments, we will certainly afford you an opportunity to do so.

Major Zapal said, it was the right thing to do.

Chairman Scott said, we have the vice-Chair of the Commission, Dr. Priscilla Thomas would like to make some comments.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I -- I just want to applaud my colleague, Commissioner Tony Center for bringing this to our attention this morning, and I cannot find the words really to express my gratitude and thanks personally because this demonstrates what goes on in terms of extra what they call curricular activities, and for me you have gone beyond the call of duty as you are so charged to do. So we are grateful, and we are very appreciative for what you have done for the people of this community. Thank you so very much.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Shabazz.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes. It's -- it's good to see that there are still good people in the world. I -- I -- I firmly believe that there are three stages of goodness and that is duty and obligation or responsibility is one and then one is doing it without wanting to receive a reward.

Commissioner Thomas said, yes.

Commissioner Shabazz said, and then the third, last but not least is just doing good for the sake of goodness because you have a good nature. I think that the two of you all have displayed that this morning. We honor and we thank you for that.

Major Zapal said, thank you, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, no further comments. Thank you so much for --

Commissioner Stone said, may -- may I make a comment?

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Stone our Commission Pro Tem.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you. Commissioner Center I appreciate you bringing these gentlemen here today because when we go about our daily routines we don't acknowledge some of these good acts that do take place in our community, and I've always felt like that if something like this were to occur, it's a wonderful thing to bring it before the Commission so that the citizens of this community can be aware of the good heartedness and love that is often shared. And so I thank you Commissioner Center for bringing this forward.

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, again, thank you all.

Sergeant Henry Brown said, thank you.

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VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

Chairman Scott said, we don't have anything under Chairman's items or Commissioner's items.

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VII. COMMISSIONER'S ITEMS

None.

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VIII. TABLED/RECONSIDERED ITEMS

<p>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 (*).</p>

- * 1. **PRESENTATION OF HOTEL PEER REVIEW STUDY AND BOARD CONSIDERATION OF A DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE PROPOSED TRADE CENTER CONVENTION HOTEL AND CONFERENCE CENTER. *At Board meeting of March 8, 2013, vote on this item was postponed to the meeting of March 22, 2013. Please note that agenda item contains a revised Development Agreement with Exhibits***

Chairman Scott said, and that will take us on to Item number VIII on the agenda. That's the presentation of the hotel peer review study and the Board consideration of a Development Agreement for the construction of the proposed Trade Center convention hotel and conference center. You -- you all may recall at the Board meeting of March 8th, we voted to -- to postpone this item until today's meeting. Please note the agenda item contains a revised Development Agreement per instructions of members of the Commission, and we tried to incorporate all suggestions that was made by members of the Commission to the agreement. At this time I will have a review of - of the Agreement from staff.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, motion to remove from the table.

Chairman Scott said, it's not on the table.

County Attorney R. Jonathan Hart said, it was continued to this week.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, oh, I thought it was -- it's under tabled items.

Chairman Scott said, no.

County Attorney Hart said, at the last Commission meeting we requested some time to make some changes to the Development Agreement, and the Development Agreement basically has been completed and the developer has agreed to all the changes that the County staff have made to the agreement. And then Commissioners have also made two or three suggestions which we have also run by the developer and the developer is in agreement with those changes. We have made the Agreement very clear in its language that

it is a non-binding agreement and essentially requires that the developer go forth, try to secure financing that's sufficient enough to provide the comfort degree that this Commission feels would be appropriate to go forward with the project. They have also provided a timeline of all the things that really need to be done to complete it. The Agreement has sufficient statements in it that it is clear from the standpoint that the County is essentially allowing time for the developer to do the necessary due diligence to bring back a proposal for a more definitive agreement, and at this point in time, we do have three changes to the agreement that is in your book. Under item 1.1(a) it was to increase Savannah's convention business and the language has been substituted Chatham County's convention business.

County Attorney Hart said, there was some discussion in the pre-meeting as to whether in 1.2 the sentence, *the project can best be achieved through a partnership of public and private investment* should be deleted from the Agreement or kept in the Agreement as is. From the County Attorney's standpoint, we can live with that language in or out, and that's really at the discretion of the Commission whether they would choose to keep it in or to strike it. As far as any substantive effects on the agreement itself, we do not believe it has any. And then we made a change on 1.3.3 at the suggestion of Commissioner Center which was to include in Section 3 all of the subparts of that from 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 7, and 8, which I -- I think was a good idea and also is something the developer has no problem with. We're at the point from a staff standpoint that we just need to know whether to proceed or not.

Chairman Scott said, okay. First let me -- let me address Commissioner Kicklighter. Commissioner Kicklighter as a point of order, the reason we did not need a motion to remove this from the table. At the last meeting we took a vote to postpone this further discussion until a day certain, and the day certain is today, and for that reason, we did not need a motion.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, sir.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

County Attorney Hart said, that is correct.

Chairman Scott said, any Commissioners have -- Commissioner Holmes.

Commissioner Holmes said, yes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. When this project first came before us, when we all read it, the word risk was very strongly on the radar, and we worked and worked and worked until we minimized the risk of this project dealing with personal money, the public money. What I would like to ask now with the change, Mr. Hart, or maybe Michael [Kaigler] might want to answer it, with the change that we're looking at now, we all realize there's a risk possibility in any project of this magnitude, but how much does that minimize the risk now? Or does the risk stay the percentage-wise?

County Attorney Hart said, well, there's always a risk in every project.

Commissioner Holmes said, exactly.

County Attorney Hart, said, and I'm more of a lawyer than I am a -- a calculator of risks for real estate projects. The concept was to build in a number of fallbacks or revenue sources in -- in an effort to -- to minimize the risk, and those include tourism development sales tax rebate, a 3 percent hotel/motel tax, a payment in lieu of taxes under an Intergovernmental Agreement which would lower the taxes for a period of time to allow the period of time to operate, and an imposition of a resort fee. It is also felt that the 3 percent hotel/motel tax was an opportunity to allow our visitors help us pay for that hotel. So those types of things are -- are built into the situation, and the developer had intended to leave a -- a sum of money available to us as sort of a reserve should there be a default, and typically in these type situations there's not a total default, there's a partial default.

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

County Attorney Hart said, that doesn't mean total can't happen. So if you're talking about if you had to step in and fund the debt service you would obviously be legally obligated if all these things failed to fund it, but at the same time, it may not be funding the whole thing. That was one of the things if you will recall we looked at with Memorial at figuring that even in a bad situation and all the other things we set up failed, it would probably only be a partial default in which the County would be responsible after exhaustion of all the other resources to pay part of that. There's no way to take total risk out of this project like there is in any other project, but I think staff has used those tools that are available to it to try to do that.

Commissioner Holmes said, Mr. Kaigler, you want to add anything?

Assistant County Manager Michael Kaigler said, no, I think Mr. Hart summed it up --

Commissioner Holmes said, okay.

Assistant County Manager Kaigler said, -- quite well. The only thing I'd add is if the Board decides to go forward with this, we'll certainly flush out all of those details to make sure that everything that we can do to minimize the County's risk is there and we're covered.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Any other Commissioners? Commissioner Brady from the Sixth District.

Commissioner Brady said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I -- I cannot support removing the sentence, *the project can be best achieved through a partnership of public and private investment*, and if it doesn't make that much of a difference to my colleagues, then I highly suggest we leave it in because it will, in order for it to be achieved to -- at the level that it's explained here in this Agreement, if you go to the next page and you look at 2.1.2, it says facilitate and issue bonds as a County responsibility. So there would be public investment in the hotel. So I can't support removing that. Mr. Chairman, is it -- is it okay if I ask other questions that I asked in the Green Room at this point or is this specific to the changes in the Agreement?

Chairman Scott said, no. We're -- we're going to talk about the -- the entire Agreement --

Commissioner Brady said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, and at some point I'm going to rule that we will need to perfect the Agreement by adopting or rejecting the suggested changes to the Agreement as written in your book. And so I'm going to call on each of the individual changes, all three of them, for a vote at some point.

Commissioner Brady said, all right. Well then I'll just make a couple more comments and then -- and then --

Chairman Scott said, you have the floor.

Commissioner Brady said, -- I won't take everything. I had a question in the pre-meeting in reference to a letter that was sent to the Chairman here in reference from Hilton Worldwide, and my question was is that and please keep in mind I'm a newly elected Commissioner, and I wasn't here when a lot of this -- this information was provided over the last -- since 2008, but from what I understand that at one time Hilton -- it was said that the Hilton was so excited about the project that they were going to commit \$20 million to the project. First of all, I'd like to know if that's accurate, and the second question I have is is that it certainly doesn't indicate a commitment from Hilton Worldwide to the Chairman that they are still willing to commit \$20 million to his project.

Chairman Scott said, I will just respond by saying in the letter that I received from the Hilton did not indicate any financial commitment. They -- it was only an indication of support. If there's anybody in the audience who can document whether or not there were financial commission [sic], I would recognize them at this time. You're recognized to respond to Commissioner Brady's question.

Mr. Ruben Rodriguez said, thank you. My name is Ruben Rodriguez, representing the developer, Journeyman Austin Holdings. The 20 million is not correct. The amount of commitment from Hilton to participate in the financing is between 12 to 18 million. It may be more as we get into the details of the -- of the project and go toward the definitive agreement. They have never changed their enthusiasm and their financial support for this project.

Commissioner Brady said, well, I -- I guess my response to that, and first let me say this, this has nothing to do with you, Mr. Rodriguez or Journeyman Austin.

Mr. Rodriguez said, I understand.

Commissioner Brady said, this has to do -- it would be -- I would be asking these questions whoever was standing up there as the developer, so this has nothing to do with you. But my question is, if that's the case, if I were Hilton Worldwide, and this is probably more of a comment, and I was making a financial commitment to a development that I knew was questionable by the County officials, and I was sending a letter to --

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Brady, do you have any more questions for Mr. Rodriguez?

Commissioner Brady said, no.

Chairman Scott said, if not, I'm going to let him sit down.

Commissioner Brady said, you -- you can sit down, sweetie.

Chairman Scott said, please.

Commissioner Brady said, oh, sorry to call you that.

Chairman Scott said, carry on.

Commissioner Brady said, I call everybody sweetie. But -- but my comment is is that there's nothing in this letter that says there's a financial commitment from Hilton Worldwide, so that right there in itself ought to throw up a -- that to me throws up a red flag. The bottom -- the bottom line is this for me, and I -- 'cause I talked a lot at the last meeting. I know I did, but if we support this today, even though this Agreement says it is non-binding to the County, if we support this today, we know this for a fact at this point in time that this County's going to have to issue bonds and provide public money for a private hotel development. Bottom line. So if you support this

today, basically what you're saying is that you support a public investment in a private hotel, and I'll leave it at that.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman Scott said, and in -- in all due respect, Commissioner, that's your interpretation on what we will be voting on today. Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just want to hit on a few points. We all received a letter from the Kessler Collection, as well as North Point Hospitality Group, and I just want to highlight a few points. They wrote asking us not to enter the Development Agreement for the construction of the hotel on Hutchinson Island. They go on to state that they have recently purchased land from Georgia Power Company at either end of River Street for the purpose of building a hotel and retail projects. They said the total cost combined will be over 200 million and 400 new hotel rooms to the area. They go on to state that it will be built next -- the proposed hotel on Hutchinson Island -- proposed at 500 rooms would be the largest hotel ever built in Chatham County, and it would be built next to a 400-room hotel that ran at 60 percent capacity in 2011 and 52 in 2010. They say that if -- if this is supported by the County and eventually built that the impact will be felt by all existing hotels and hinder the development of their projects and impact the operations of all hotels in the Savannah market. They state that they'll suffer damages, including placing an undue burden on them to secure financing for their projects. They said since the early 1990s we have seen a doubling of the total rooms in supply in Chatham from 8,000 to 16,000 rooms, and they point out that that happened naturally without government interference or involvement. They go on to tell us that the 55 million of County subsidy on the project represents 40 percent of the total -- total hotel development cost, and the magnitude of involvement by the County creates an unfair advantage which will have negative lasting economic impacts on our project -- on their projects and those projects pre -- presently operating in the County.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, my concern with a project such as this is this would be government competing against the private sector, and by supporting it it puts the tax payers at risk at a time in my lifetime that I can't think of worst timing to put them at risk. I believe that we must all ask ourselves why did the Kessler Collection and North Point groups purchase land from Georgia Power across from the river -- across the river from the Trade Center rather than purchasing the land right beside the Trade Center and building their hotel on that site? My guess would be that's it's not profitable, and that's what private industry does. They look at how to actually profit from business where government sometimes we are chartered to do things that there's no profit, but in this case this is a choice. I would ask everyone here to let the private sector to continue to invest in our area. They believed in Chatham County, believe in the Savannah area, believe in all the other municipalities around here as shown by their huge investments in the area over the years, and I think this would send a message for future development that -- that the County may possibly jump in in other efforts and occasions and unfairly present them with competition. I would ask people such as Mr. Kessler and Mr. Patel of these two things, to please be very considerate of the highly skilled labor workforce that we have here represented by the unions and to utilize their services on every occasion possible. These guys are trained second to none, and it would be very much appreciated if they would take a good look and do that in the future. But I ask that we please not support this. It's just in my opinion the worst timing possible to move in this direction. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, thank you, Commissioner Kicklighter. Now I recognize Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I concur with what has been said by Commissioner Brady and Commissioner Kicklighter, but I'm also going to ask this question, how fair is it to the other hoteliers that some of these incentives, along with the \$50 million bond are going to be extended? A sales rebate of 1.6 million per year for up to ten years; an ad valorem tax exemption of an undisclosed amount we don't even know yet; waiver of water and sewer fees; tax credits for new hires; and a city -- city rebate of hotel and motel taxes of 3 percent per year. We're giving these to this proposed hotel. How fair is that to Kessler or to anyone else that's coming in to this community to try to build a hotel -- a hotel here on their own. Over the last couple weeks, I've received numerous emails, phone calls, and being stopped at my daily routine of people saying please don't do this. We've been taxed enough. We've been challenged enough. Memorial Hospital needed our assistance. This is our county hospital that serves the welfare of this community. We stepped up to the plate. Now we've got Chatham Area Transit that is going to need some financial assistance. We've got to have a public transportation system in this community. Now we're being asked for this \$50 million bond. What is all of this going to eventually do our bond rating? This puts us at a great deal of risk. And finally, I'm going to say that I spoke to someone who was a higher ranking employee at Georgia Power, and he told me, he said, if I come to Savannah and bring people to Savannah, I don't want to stay on the other side of the river. I want to go where I can walk to the restaurants, the shops. The ferry system is there but it's not always on time, it's not always when I want it, and God forbid if I drive my car from Hutchinson Island to downtown, there's no here to park. So you bring all these people here and other than the Hyatt -- the Westin and the convention center, what restaurants are there? What shops are there? And we're going to put tax payers' money at risk for this. I cannot see it. I cannot support it, and I would be remiss if I felt like I didn't say anything that would potentially hurt the bond rating of this County and the citizens of this County. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Any other comments? I've got Commissioner Holmes -- in this order, Commissioner Holmes, Commissioner Farrell, Commissioner Center.

Commissioner Holmes said, you -- you know I listen to everything what is said and who's saying it, even from the citizen, and it's one thing I have always told myself to respect and listen and then listen and respect are the same thing that my colleagues may hear, you know, there are some things that I've heard in here. And the things that I hear about this hotel is let me make it clear, this is just not an ordinary hotel. It's a conventional hotel, something that we do not have in Chatham County. I've listened for almost a year and a half to the comments that was given to us, and let me say from the bottom of my heart, I respect every person opinion about how they look at and how they view making decisions. But don't get erratic about the other party who making a decision.

Commissioner Thomas said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Holmes said, now my opinion about this is based solely on the information that I read, the information that we looked into, the study that we have done. That's not to say what I've heard my other colleagues say and the citizens say that I say you -- you are wrong. I'm not telling you you are wrong. But when you in a decision to make a decision you have to base that on what you have, and the same thing I'm hearing up here about someone running to you and tell you this, well two or three people running to me and tell me something different, so that mean my opinion is different from the other person opinion. But when this whole thing get off the radar, I want to look to my left and right and look at you with all deepest respect. We ain't going to hurt each other's feelings up here making a decision about this hotel, and we definitely are not going to hurt the citizens of Chatham County when it come to their dollars, but I do say this, each one of us got one vote. Respect my vote for what I'm going to do. I'm going to respect your vote, but I don't believe that we're going to -- to be honest with you, I think the last time I mentioned and talked of this in 2012 I talked about having some marbles in my pocket, and I don't know if y'all remember this --

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes.

Commissioner Holmes said, but anyone who play marbles, when you go to a marble game, your pockets are full with a lot of marbles. When this project came before us, my pocket was full, and I went to the marble game. But when I left the marble game, both of my pockets -- all of my pockets was full up. I won some marbles. But as this thing keep prolonging, that's the worst thing can happen to anything is prolonging a decision. Now whether we go up or down, I'm going to vote how I want to vote today in due respect to everyone, but I'm asking that we get this hotel convention off the map. Either it's going up or it's going down. We've got other issues to face us as a Board, and we are wasting a lot of time I would say dealing with this one issue. So to my colleagues and the new Chairman and the new Commissioners that came on board, let's bring this thing to a closure. Let's put the shovel in the ground and get it started or we close the book on it and move on to something else. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Farrell from the Fourth District.

Commissioner Farrell said, thank you. I've been involved with this project since it's -- was originally handed to the Commission a number of months or in this case years ago. I followed it very closely, and I agree that there are merits to having a convention hotel next to the Trade Center, that it would be beneficial to the community, and it would have a lot of other side benefits. However, it -- this thing has dragged on for quite some time. I've been involved in the business community my entire life, and my colleagues and acquaintances in the business community have told me time and time again here in Chatham County and shared their opinion that they didn't think that this was the best approach or the best way of going about building a convention center, and I -- I agree with them. The -- I -- I would recommend that we give this project back to the folks that handed it -- put it on our desk for consideration, and there's been quite a number of instances and information that have come up since we were originally handed this proposal, and I'd like to give it back to those organizations that are looking out for our best interests, the Trade Center, Visit Savannah, and others, and ask them to re-evaluate with all the information, being cognizant of the public sentiment about using so much of the borrowing capacity of this County to -- to help this thing get off the ground. See if we can come up with a better deal, 'cause I -- I -- I believe we can make this project happen but sometimes when you're negotiating and when you're working on a -- on a business proposition the first go around may not be successful and it may not be in the best interest, and although I'd like to see this built, and I think it will be built, I'd like to give it back to those organizations that brought it to us at this time and let them retool it and maybe include some other partners instead of relying solely on this Commission and this County.

Commissioner Farrell said, perhaps they could -- they could interest the State of Georgia who it is my understanding has helped substantially in the Jekyll Island Convention Hotel. Their pockets are much deeper than the County's pockets. This particular project is located in the city limits of Savannah, Georgia. If it's the will of the City Council that it's a worthy project, perhaps they would consider taking a piece of this and then there's three major governments that could take a bite at this apple to try to make it happen in some way, shape or form, but at this point, I think we've -- as my Commissioner Holmes has said, we've been kicking this around a long time. It hasn't really gotten going. The -- the -- the proportion that's being asked from the -- from this Commission seems to me to be rather large in comparison to the end product and for the room block that we're ultimately purchasing. It would be my recommendation that we -- that we give this

project back to the ones that handed it to us and let them retool it and maybe it comes back in a -- in another more acceptable form in the future, and we can get this convention -- convention hotel built in a more acceptable manner for -- for the community because ultimately there's 265,000 citizens in this county that would one way or another will -- will be holding the -- the credit card that may or may not have to be tapped into to -- to pay for this at some time in the future. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Third District Commissioner Center.

Commissioner Center said, thank you Mr. Chairman. I want to start by thanking you Mr. Chairman on how you've run the discussions two weeks ago and today and thank the Board for giving me personally two more weeks to read into this material. I took those two weeks to read into this material. I took those two weeks to read our 52-page report which has now grown to 50 -- 62, and I read this entire three-ring binder of the history. I also want to thank my fellow Commissioners, particularly Commissioner Farrell for taking time to discuss the history of -- of this project and other projects and for those who have been on the Board that I've come to who've helped catch up 'cause I've been here since January, and two and a half months, and I appreciate very much the insight on stuff that's happened before I got here, and I thank you for that.

Commissioner Center said, I want to point out what we're voting for today. We're not voting to issue any bonds. We're not voting to obligate the County any way financially. We're voting whether or not to extend the opportunity to Journeyman Austin, the people, to continue with this project. I'm going to vote yes to extend it, and I want to tell you why. Everything that -- that my friend Commissioner Farrell just said can still be done even if we sign this. Journeyman Austin can still take every single point that Commissioner Farrell very eloquently and correctly pointed out and examine all those points and maybe bring back a deal. Hypothetically they can come back and say County thank you we don't need you at all we found a way to do it without you.

Commissioner Center said, I also want to say that I've listened to everybody's call. I've taken every single call. I appreciate Rusty Ross taking the time to -- to talk with me, tell me his viewpoint. Yesterday I met with Whip Triplett and Michael Owens. I cannot tell you how much I appreciate their taking time to give me their viewpoint on it. And -- and, you know, I've talked with everyone who's asked me to listen to try and learn. I point out that this existing proposal has been in existence -- or that the Memorandum of Understanding has been in existence for a number of months, I think y'all said two years, and yet it has not stopped anyone else out there. It has not stopped any single private developer who's wanted to come here to build a new hotel. I mean Kessler Collective [sic] and North Point Hospitality, we're thankful for it, are still going ahead with their plans even though there is in presence today an arrangement with Journeyman Austin to do the hotel across the river. So I don't see how extending their opportunity would hinder any other developers who see a need in this market, opportunity in this market and have the experience to come here because they're doing that.

Commissioner Center said, you know, I lean a lot on my what my dad did for 23 years in city council, and he was known as being very fair, and I want to be fair. And in reading all these documents, I started from -- from -- from the beginning, the Trade Center Authority, I think in a unanimous vote sent out a request for proposal and asked developers to come here. No one came to us and asked us could they do this deal. I think seven responded, they were vetted down to three, those were vetted down to Journeyman Austin. I think all seven had to put up \$100,000 non-refundable payment to play in the game, and the only one that didn't get it back was the was that was chosen, Journeyman Austin. The others got it back, and if I read the documents right, they put up another 150,000, so there may be 250,000 non-refundable. In addition they spent an exorbitant amount of time, energy and effort. That request for proposal demanded certain things be included, and -- and -- and I read Commissioner's Stone letter, that request for proposal demanded that the architect, the contractor, and the engineer be named. There's an extensive report in our three-ring binder. All the people named have exceptional resumes and past history of -- of success. Also in this binder for those who have read it, every letter was in here, the pros and the cons. It was not just one way that was given to us.

Commissioner Center said, no one person, certainly Journeyman Austin can be blamed for the economic downturn we've received in the past two years, and why this was delayed two years, I wasn't here, but I think they deserve the opportunity to try and continue this deal. And we're not binding the County today, we're just voting whether or not to continue or expand the Memorandum of Understanding into a little more developed language, but we're not binding the County, we're not issuing bonds, and, you know, hopefully, we can all work together as Commissioner Farrell said to -- to get a hotel done. The one thing I took out the meeting two weeks ago is every single person who spoke whether for or against the particular project that calls for bonds and -- and backing, every single person on both sides says we should have a hotel over there. And I didn't serve in the military, the military during the war said, just -- well Mr. Abolt could tell us, just get it done. Don't look for ways not to get it done. So I think it's fair to give them a chance, particularly with four new Commissioners on the Board and the energy that we have that we're going to bring and add to the energy and expertise and intelligence of this Commissioners [sic] to help get it done with minimum -- we prefer no, but with minimum County risk in the future. And I'm going to vote yes for it, and I ask my fellow Commissioners to consider that. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Our vice-Chair, Dr. Priscilla Thomas, is recognized.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Members of the Commission, I'm going to be very brief. I am sitting here, and I'm trying to reflect back several years ago when we first embarked upon this

project. The present facilities that are located on Hutchinson Island, which is the Trade and Convention Center, the Westin Hotel, were in question at that time when those two facilities were being discussed as being placed over on Hutchinson Island. I'm one of the original persons, and I sit here today, I went through a whole lot because I supported the Westin and the Trade Center, and I'm sitting here today, and I'm wondering if I'm hearing the same thing. I'm going to be true to myself and true to the people of this community as I always have. I will make my decision based on what I know, which are the facts, and I think my colleague, Commissioner Center, really explained it quite thoroughly. And so today whichever way we go, I'm hoping that this Commission will get back on track and let us try to all work together regardless of our differences. It doesn't make us a bad person because I vote one way and you vote another. It's okay as long as you know in your heart that you have given your best, your best to the people of this county, and that's what I plan to do today. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, any further comments? Hearing none, I have a -- a number of questions of staff and then a point of clarification and then we'll begin voting if there are no further comments.

Commissioner Stone said, I think some people in the audience want to speak.

Chairman Scott said, yeah, we did that last -- at the last meeting.

Mr. Michael Walters said, a point of order, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, you're not -- you're not recognized for a point of order.

Mr. Walters said, there will be no opportunity for the public to make further comment after reading those two reports which you the Commissioners have had a chance to read? I believe I have a right to comment on that.

Chairman Scott said, we spent --

Mr. Walters said, I've -- I've read those reports --

Chairman Scott said, we spent the entire meeting last meeting hearing from the public.

Mr. Walters said, but the public had not had a chance to read those reports which are allegedly the due diligence needed to make the decision. I respectfully ask for the opportunity to make a statement, and I'm a tax paying member of the public. I have no skin in this game other than a tax payer, and I have comments that are relevant to this situation, and I'm a professional, and I've spoken before this Commission before on this. I believe I have a right to speak on this, and you should not shut off public discussion on this.

Chairman Scott said, were you at the last meeting?

Mr. Walters said, no. I wanted to read the report. The comments at the last meeting were fine, but just as you Commissioners didn't have a chance to read the report, I've had a chance to read the report. I've previously submitted -- my name is Mike Walters. I've previously submitted suggestions on what due diligence ought to be on this, and I looked in those reports. There's not sufficient due diligence in those reports.

Chairman Scott said, have you gotten all of your comments in?

Mr. Walters said, no, I have not.

Chairman Scott said, I will recognize you for two minutes.

Mr. Walters said, okay. I'll just highlight what Mr. Abolt said, said you need time to do due diligence by the developer. My main comment in my last testimony on this last year was you can't rely on those who have skin in the game to do your due diligence, that's like asking the fox to build the chicken coop. I gave six -- in a public letter to the Commission last year, and I reiterated and sent it again this year and sent it to the paper.

Chairman Scott said, just for the record, restate your name and --

Mr. Walters said, Michael A. Walters, private citizen of Savannah, past president of the Casualty Actuarial Society. Before I was president I was head of programs and conventions. There are major issues here that have not been done the due diligence, like finding out if national conventions will even come here. I looked in the reports that were presented, silence. In fact the one study that -- one study you just had done basically criticized the idea. The second study was merely a peer review. They did not even observe that the original study was silent on air traffic. I also pointed out that at the major hearing held at the Trade Center, of which I attended, the independent financial consultants of the Trade Center, Dick Layton, basically said this is a pending financial disaster, and he gave reasons: no national air lift and the convention center was built on the wrong side of the river. You have not done the due diligence. The major question will national conventions come here? You've had ample reports showing that other cities have doubled down trying to

get conventions. The number of conventions has dwindled. You got a much greater capacity chasing much fewer -- less demand, and Savannah is trying to enter this game competing with major cities, New Orleans, Chicago, Las Vegas, for national conventions. If you ask national organizations will they come here? Savannah's a nice city to visit as a tourist but why haven't they come in the past? No -- no triple air lift to get here and so forth, and -- and across the river. It's not ideal. So how can you possibly make a decision on this without getting major, independent due diligence. You cannot rely on the developer to do your due diligence for you. I thank you for the two minutes.

Chairman Scott said, oh, you're welcome. You only used a minute and a half though. Thank you.

Commissioner Farrell said, he warmed for 30 seconds.

Mr. Roy Lynch said, my name is Roy Lynch, and I would like a couple minutes, please.

Chairman Scott said, you were at the last meeting, were you not?

Mr. Roy Lynch said, yes, I was.

Chairman Scott said, did you not make comments at the last meeting?

Mr. Lynch said, I did make comments at the last meeting.

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Mr. Lynch said, but things have changed and (inaudible).

Chairman Scott said, I will not recognize you at this point. Out of abundance of -- of caution I recognized Walters because he was not at the last meeting, and he wanted to make his comments. He's been vested in this project for a long time so I recognized him, but I'm not going to entertain any further comments from the audience at this point. There will -- there will be a -- future opportunities for the public to make comments.

Mr. Lynch said, I came to this meeting because this is the meeting that the decision is going to be made at. I came to the last meeting because I thought it was going to be made then and to be excluded -- to exclude the public from making a comment just prior to a vote is outrageous. This is not really in the public's best interest. I'm sorry. You're wrong, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, thank you. I have a -- a couple questions of staff. One it's been said in this meeting that we would waive water fees. If this hotel was built, would we be the suppliers of water?

County Manager Abolt said, no, sir. The City of Savannah.

Chairman Scott asked, who would be the supplier of water?

County Manager Abolt said, the City of Savannah.

Chairman Scott asked, can we demand that the City of Savannah waive fees?

County Manager Abolt said, no, sir.

Assistant County Manager Kaigler said, no, sir.

Chairman Scott said, okay. I didn't think so. Hotel/motel tax is collected by the City of Savannah.

County Manager Abolt said, yes, sir.

Chairman Scott asked, can the County force the City of Savannah to waive or dedicate hotel/motel tax for this project?

County Manager Abolt said, not at all, sir.

Chairman Scott said, okay. The forgiveness of property taxes, can the County -- the County can in fact forgive property taxes, but not without action from this body.

County Manager Abolt said, correct.

Chairman Scott asked, can the County demand that the City forgive their share of the property taxes?

County Manager Abolt said, no, sir.

Chairman Scott asked, can the County demand that the School Board forgive their share of the property taxes?

County Manager Abolt said, no, sir.

Chairman Scott said, the reason I raise those points for a point of clarification, this project, what we are voting on today will simply extend this project. The City will have to agree to dedicate hotel/motel taxes, there will have to be some dedicated source of funding to service the bonds. If there's a forgiveness of water fees the City will have to forgive those fees not the County. If there are a waiver of property taxes for a X number of years, the City, School Board and everybody else who are receivers of property taxes will have to make those decisions. That's not decisions that's made by this Board. I want to make that very, very clear to the audience here and the audience who are not here. And so what we are doing today is that we are extending an opportunity for the developer to answer all these questions, to see if they can get the City to do all those things that people allege that we are doing here today that we are not doing, and the reason that I'm not going to entertain any further questions, before we have further votes and before we vote to issue bonds, I can assure you that I will have an exhausted public hearing on this matter. But that's not what we're doing here today, and I really don't believe any further discussion will change any votes on this issue. And -- and that's -- that's the reason that I -- I'm reluctant to open it up for further questions, although I did entertain everyone who wanted to ask questions and make statements at the last meeting, and I wanted to hear those points because I have not heard them as Chairman. I've -- I've heard most of them either in person or in writing and believe me via email I have heard from mainly opponents to this project, from friends and foes, and I respect their position. I respect Richard Kessler whom I've known for, oh, 30 plus years, and -- and everyone else who's in the hotel business who are personal friends of mine or political supporters. I certainly appreciate their input, but that's -- we're not finalizing issuing bonds, obligating the County or spending tax payers' money here today.

Chairman Scott said, and that's all the questions I have of staff. I wanted to clarify several items. Now what we will do is perfect the Agreement. You've been given three suggested changes. I want to vote on those changes one at the time. The first one is on page six, item 1.1(a), that's change the word Savannah to Chatham County. And that's in reference to tourism. Commissioner Center, you are the author of these changes, do you want to make any comments on them?

Commissioner Center said, yes, sir. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I read through it and I asked for three changes which could be described --

Chairman Scott said, speak to one first.

Commissioner Center said, speak to one? All right. To change Savannah to Chatham County. This Board represents Chatham County. This is an agreement with Chatham County. It's been my personal point of interest to make sure we use the word Chatham County instead of Savannah when we speak on our own behalves.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Hearing the comments on the changes, are there any comments from members of the Commission on change one? If not, I'm going to ask that you vote all in favor of making the change one to the Agreement, please indicate by voting yes. Those opposed no. Changing Savannah to Chatham County has been adopted.

Chairman Scott said, change Two, and if you have the -- the Agreement, it's near the very bottom, delete the sentence, *the project can best be achieved through a partnership of public and private investments*. Commissioner Center.

Commissioner Center said, again, I -- I asked for this sentence to be deleted just to open up the range of alternatives for completing this project and not make anyone think it's bound just to, you know, putting up \$50 million bonds and -- and -- and debt support I'll call it or -- or loan guarantees. I -- as -- as the County Attorney has said the pre-meeting, or -- and in this meeting, it doesn't change the substance of the Agreement, but I just feel better having that sentence out to let everyone know mentally that this is an entire range of possibilities from zero to infinity on how to complete this project.

Chairman Scott said, any discussion or question on change two?

Commissioner Farrell said, I have a question.

Chairman Scott said, I've got Commissioner Brady and then Commissioner Farrell on change two.

Commissioner Brady said, thank you, Mr. Chairman, and Commissioner Center I appreciate your -- your diligence on looking over these agreements as we all have, but I cannot support removing that sentence because when you go over to page 7 of the Agreement, it outlines the responsibilities that says the County agrees to provide the following as its investment in the property -- in the project. It talks about \$20 million in bonds for the cost of utility and road infrastructure. It talks about guaranteeing a loan amount that shall yield net proceeds in the amount of 30 million. I mean it goes on to say everything that the County's doing so there -- there is County involvement and -- and public money. So I think it's misleading to the public if we

remove that because while it certainly is open for them to come back and not ask for County money, in this entire Agreement, it's saying that they're going to get County money. So I'm -- respectfully I will oppose that change to the Agreement. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Commissioner Center said, can I respond?

Chairman Scott said, yes, in just a minute, but Commissioner Farrell.

Commissioner Farrell said, I just needed a point of clarification perhaps from the County Attorney. If the public/private part of this is taken out, does that mean it's open to everyone or are we just dealing with one entity, Journeyman Holding?

County Attorney Hart said, during the period due diligence, you're -- your dealing with Journeyman.

Commissioner Farrell said, period.

County Attorney Hart said, they're going to be spending some -- some significant time and expense in going out there trying to secure the financing and do the other due diligence items. Now if you terminate the Agreement or if you don't reach a Definitive Agreement, that's on their dime.

Commissioner Farrell said, but for a point of clarification, I was unclear. Does that mean another private enterprise can come in and say we want to build a convention hotel on this one and we're going to make this proposal to the land owner?

County Attorney Hart said, well during the term of the Agreement that -- that is -- they would not be able to do that.

Commissioner Farrell said, so --

County Attorney Hart said, but you've got the ability to terminate the Agreement. So --

Chairman Scott said, at any time.

County Attorney Hart said, yeah. So -- and you would be in a situation where, you know, you'd probably have to do the condition precedent of cutting the discussion off with Journeyman and then proceeding whatever.

Commissioner Farrell said, okay. So we're dealing exclusively with one entity?

County Attorney Hart said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Farrell said, thank you.

Commissioner Center said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to respond to Commissioner Brady. Even though we're voting on these one by one, I suggested -- I suggested these changes as a group because as you did point out in the sections that the County is going to do a, b, c, d or 1.1 -- whatever the numbers are, item 3 the -- the change -- if you'll read the change for item 3, it says the expectation --

Chairman Scott said, don't -- don't talk about item 3.

Commissioner Center said, well I'm talking item 2 and why I -- why I suggested it. It's the expectations of the additional provisions shall be as follows, and I extended all those are just expectations and not anything that the County's agreeing to do today, and that's why I felt more comfortable with item 2 also.

Chairman Scott said, and -- before we vote on item 2, because I just allowed Mr. Kicklighter to leave for a moment to return a phone, let's go ahead and have a discussion on item 3, and then we'll come back and vote on item 2 if there's no objection. Commissioner Center on item 3.

Commissioner Center said, and again --

Chairman Scott said, we -- we here talked about changing the last line to read agreement shall be as follows and the 1.3 1.1 through 3.8.

Commissioner Center said, that -- that's the lawyer's way of saying we want to wear suspenders and a belt. That I just want to be absolutely clear that all of the following items were expectations, not just 1.1 -- 1.3.1, 1.3.2, 1.3.3. I want to make it clear that everything following that was an expectation.

Chairman Scott said, any discussion on item 3? Hearing none, we will go back and vote on item 2. Y'all have heard it. Any further comments? If not, all in favor of the changes proposed -- change 2, please indicate by voting yes; opposed no. Okay. Change number 2 is adopted.

Chairman Scott said, number 3, is there any further discussion on change number 3? Hearing none, all in favor of the changes indicate by voting yes; opposed no. Change number 3 is adopted. Now we've perfected the agreement. It's adopted, change number 3. Technically we've perfected the Agreement. Before we vote on it out of an abundance of cautions, if there is anybody in the audience who was not here at the last meeting who would like to have two minutes to make a comments [sic] please so indicate. If you were here at the last meeting --

Ms. Maryanne Heimes said, I was here but I did not speak.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Well I will now recognize you for two minutes.

Ms. Heimes said, my name is Maryanne Heimes. I represent those of us who are on a fixed income finding it more difficult to go to the grocery store or the gas station or anywhere else today. That said, I've read a lot of the letters, the editorials, the reports, and I can see valid issues on both sides, but I think what we are doing is betting that time will improve -- times will improve and the new hotel will be filled as our Trade Center takes on larger conventions. This is what we hope for. What will happen? I don't have a crystal ball, perhaps all of you do. I've never been much on betting with my own money, and I guess if I'm betting on someone else's money I wouldn't worry so much. And this is what you will do if you approve the plan, betting with your tax payers' money, and I wonder if you're willing to take that risk at this time. I -- I just believe -- I know this has been going on since 2008, and it's wasted an awful lot of time. It seems like it should come to a conclusion, but I don't see any conclusion coming whether you approve it or not. I think it's just going to go on and on. So I would respectfully ask that you refuse today. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, thank you for your comments. Okay. We're ready to vote to extend the agreement, and it's been discussed, I will -- all in favor of -- of Item --

Commissioner Farrell said, don't we need to make a motion and second it and all of that?

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

County Attorney Hart said, we need a motion on the floor. Somebody make a motion.

Chairman Scott said, okay. We can -- we will now entertain a motion for -- for adoption.

Commissioner Center said, Mr. Chairman, I move that we approve the revised Development Agreement with Exhibits.

Commissioner Holmes said, second.

Commissioner Thomas said, second.

Chairman Scott said, it's been properly moved and second that we adopt the perfected extended agreement. All in favor of that motion with -- before -- before we vote on it, is there any discussion on the motion? Hearing none, all in favor of the motion indicate by voting yes; opposed no.

Commissioner Center asked, which was has not voted?

Commissioner Farrell said, Fifth District.

Chairman Scott said, all right. The motion fail.

County Attorney Hart said, Mr. Chairman?

Commissioner Center said, Mr. Chairman, point of order?

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, I think the ordinance requires every Commissioner to vote unless the rest of the Commission votes to let them abstain.

County Attorney Hart said, that is a correct statement.

Chairman Scott said, if -- if you're here, you're required to vote. Who has not voted, Madam Clerk?

Clerk said, Commissioner Shabazz.

Chairman Scott said, Mr. Shabazz. The motion carry by a 5-4 vote.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

In order to perfect the Development Agreement, the following changes were made to the Agreement submitted to the Board:

- a. The Board voted unanimously to change the word Savannah to Chatham County on page 6, Section 1.1(a) of the Agreement.
- b. The Board voted 6-3 to delete the sentence at the bottom of page 6: *The project can best be achieved through a partnership of public and private investments.* Chairman Scott, Commissioners Holmes, Center, Farrell, Shabazz and Thomas voted yes; Commissioners Stone, Brady and Kicklighter voted no.
- c. The Board voted 8-1 to incorporate subsections 3, 3.4 through 3.8 as expectations. Chairman Scott and Commissioners Stone, Holmes, Center, Farrell, Shabazz, Kicklighter and Thomas voted yes. Commission Brady voted no.
- d. Commissioner Center moved to adopt the revised Development Agreement with Exhibits. Commissioners Holmes and Thomas seconded the motion and it carried in a 5-4 vote with Chairman Scott, Commissioners Holmes, Center, Shabazz and Thomas voting yes and Commissioners Stone, Farrell, Brady and Kicklighter voting no.

AGENDA ITEM: ~~IX-2~~

AGENDA DATE: ~~March 8, 2013~~

AGENDA ITEM: **VIII-2**

AGENDA DATE: **March 22, 2013**

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: R. E. Abolt, County Manager

FROM: Linda B. Cramer, Assistant County Manager

ISSUE:

Board consideration of a development agreement for construction of the proposed Trade Center Convention Hotel and Conference Center and presentation of peer review study which confirms prior economic analysis.

BACKGROUND:

At the October 5, 2012 meeting, the Board approved extending by 180 days (extension #3) a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Hutchinson Hotel Holdings (HHH) for a public-private partnership to develop a convention hotel as part of the expansion of the Savannah International Trade & Convention Center (i.e. Chatham Conference Center). As part of extending the MOU, the Board adopted an action plan, including funding, which included a peer review study of the hotel feasibility and economic analysis. Also, moving forward with the project would be contingent on completion of the checklist of performance items by the County, as well as by HHH as the hotel developer, which included Step 1 - execution of a Development Agreement; Step 2 - approve a Definitive Agreement, and Step 3 - execution of bond documents.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. To provide detailed background information, including prior studies, financial analyses, proponent's views as well as critics' views, staff has compiled a historical reference divided into chapters. The notebook includes several hundred pages of documents in an attempt to provide a fair and complete reference of the issue to date. Pending the new Board's desire to move forward to continue to explore this project - and without any commitment nor penalty until Step 2 - the next step would be approval of a Development Agreement.
2. The proposed Development Agreement (see Attachment I - Page 6) for a convention center hotel would be non-binding. The agreement would supercede the Memorandum of Understanding. This would be Step 1 and enable the County to continue its due diligence and confirm other safeguards to minimize any public risk. Meanwhile, HHH would be able to obtain draft term sheets to secure commitments of the private equity and financing. The key will be whether both the County and the developer can successfully complete the checklist of 13 items on the Task List (see Attachment II - Page 11).
3. Besides adoption of the Development Agreement (Step 1), two more steps would remain before any binding decision. This time would enable new Board members to better understand the issues until the next steps and any final obligation, as follows:

- 3.1 Step 2 - Definitive Agreement: Both parties would enter into a Definitive Agreement which would become contingently binding (until bond issue) with performance guarantees and liquidated damages.
- a) County's obligation -- By the Definitive Agreement, the County would create a tax allocation district and take steps to issue bonds for expansion of convention facilities (i.e. Chatham Conference Center) through the Savannah Economic Development Authority. The County would not spend any general tax dollars on bond payments but rather rely on new on-site taxes (i.e. hotel-motel taxes, resort tax and hotel developer incentives) generated in the tax allocation district. The Chatham Conference Center would be leased on the private hotel owner. The public risk would be the hotel owner's default on its lease payment for the Chatham Conference Center and that on-site taxes and incentives would be insufficient to fund fully the Debt Service Reserve Fund.
 - b) Developer's Obligation -- By the Definitive Agreement, the developer must deliver binding Letters of Intent on its capital investment, including its equity and private loans.
 - c) Room Block Agreement -- The County, in concert with Visit Savannah and the Trade Center Authority, would need to approve the booking agreement, which commits the hotel to 80% of its rooms for conventions two years and out and at group rates to promote more community business. *This requirement distinguishes a convention hotel from other hotels and lends credence to its public purpose.*
- 3.2 Step 3 - Bond Issuance: The final step would be adoption of a bond resolution, trust indenture or other documents which set forth terms for issuance of bonds for the Chatham Conference Center. Until this decision, the Board can exercise full discretion not to move forward with public participation in the project.
4. The proposed Development Agreement and Task List follow the same format as the Hospital Authority refinancing for Memorial Health University Medical Center. Likewise, the due diligence, review of financial analysis and sensitivity analysis and implementation of safeguards remain similar. The County's Financial Advisor, PFM, would be reviewing the financing structure and confirm adequate safeguards.
5. The proposed private-public development follows guidance from the Trade Center Authority, which initiated this project as part of a strategic plan to move toward the next level of competitiveness and overcome lost opportunity in the market. The Authority preferred limited public participation and by resolution suggested that the annual debt service on any publicly-supported bonds should not exceed funds from "all special revenue sources" and cover reasonable reserves for debt coverage. In essence, this suggestion offers consideration that any amount of County obligation be limited to the dollar value of known public incentives and incremental value of new tax revenues and not count on net income payments from the hotel. These would include the following:
- a) Tourism Development Sales Tax Rebate from the State of Georgia encourages private investment for qualified projects, including specific reference to a "convention hotel." Value would total between \$1.7 million to \$3.3 million annually for 10 years. HHH has agreed in the Development Agreement that should the state not approve the rebate, the developer would maintain \$3 million in an irrevocable line of credit with the County as named beneficiary to guarantee any shortfall. The coverage ratio, in addition to debt service reserves equivalent to requirements in the Memorial Health University bond guarantee, serves to safeguard against any County funding liability.
 - b) 3% Hotel-Motel Tax credit would refund half of the incremental value of the hotel-motel taxes generated by guests of the hotel (Visit Savannah and the Trade Center Authority would receive the other half.).
 - c) Payment in lieu of taxes plan (PILOT).
 - d) The hotel operator would impose a resort fee.
 - e) Other sources which may be available once a determination can be made from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs about the Job Tax Credit. The Job Tax Credit would generate \$770,000 annually for five years.

These revenue sources would be used to protect any County obligation ahead of the owner/operator and include the excess funds from these sources be placed as a further safeguard into a Debt Service Reserve account which could be released upon pre-agreed limits. This provision would be written into the loan covenants. These are similar to the ongoing strategy from the start to protect any public obligation and limit risk.

6. The project dates back to 2008, when the Trade Center Authority implemented a strategic plan to move toward the next level of competitiveness and overcome lost opportunity in the

group meetings market. The plan has two specific goals: 1) Meet current demand from convention center customers but who need more room near the convention center; 2) Create more demand, newer business. The key components include:

- 6.1 Hotel Feasibility and Economic Analysis - A contract with HVS Consulting proved the economic viability of a convention center headquarters hotel, its size (rooms), expanded and new business capture rate, cash flow analysis and cost. It would be a full-service hotel of 500 rooms with 400 rooms committable for a convention. Staff previously provided the HVS study to the Board.
- 6.2 Economic, Fiscal and Employment Analysis - The Trade Center Authority contracted with Hunden Strategic Partners to determine the economic impact of a convention center hotel. The analysis projected investment in a 500-room, full-service convention center hotel would double convention business by inducing 83,000 new room nights (net) in area hotels, create 1,170 new jobs, add \$83 million in visitor spending, \$29 million in earnings and \$114 million in personal income. Staff previously provided the Hunden study.
- 6.3 With the extension of the MOU, the Board adopted an action plan that included a peer review study of the hotel feasibility and economic analysis, including the size (i.e. number of rooms) of the hotel and planned meeting rooms. It would not duplicate but confirm the methodology and major findings. Included would be a sensitivity analysis to project the financial impact at varying levels should the hotel not perform financially as projected. A peer review study of the economic, fiscal and employment analysis would review the methodology and major findings of Hunden Strategic Partners in its study on behalf of the Trade Center Authority to determine the economic impact of a convention center hotel. The analysis projected investment in a 500-room, full-service convention center hotel would double convention business by inducing 83,000 new room nights in area hotels, create 1,170 new jobs, add \$83 million in spending, \$29 million in earnings and \$114 million in personal income.
- 6.4 Since questions arose about the HVS and Hunden projections, the Board in late 2012 funded a peer review (see Attachment III - Page 17). Completed by Jones, Lang, LaSalle, the study verified HVS' general findings. While JLL offered some professional differences of opinion, and also recommended the County look at complexing (i.e. common hotel flagships to take advantage of efficiencies and overall savings), its study did not veer away from HVS' and Hunden's findings. Besides the JLL study, the County also contracted with Lindgren Associates to determine impact on existing hotels. The narrative report echoes the sentiment of the larger hotel managers and owners, Tourism Leadership Council and other convention voices in opposition to the County's participation in the project.

7. Project Overview - The funding structure continues to evolve based principally on a capital structure dependent on private investment in a capital market with a growing favorable outlook. The basic structure calls for a privately-owned convention hotel with public participation to develop and construct the Chatham Conference Center next to the Trade Center. Key issues include:
 - 7.1. Plans still call for a 500-room convention center hotel, with 400 rooms committable for conventions, but options include consideration of a smaller-sized hotel. The projected economic benefits of a full-service convention center hotel include doubling convention business by inducing 83,000 new room nights (net) in area hotels, creating 1,170 new jobs, adding \$83 million in spending, \$29 million in earnings and \$114 million in personal income (Hunden report).
 - 7.2 The proposed financial structure would be comprised of \$25 million in private equity (hotel owner) and \$55 million in a senior loan (bank loan) obtained by the hotel owner. These are proposed amounts and subject to private capital markets.
 - 7.3 The County would issue up to \$50 million in bonds, mixed between tax-exempt and taxable, for the Chatham Conference Center and parking garage, which the County would own in title and lease to the private developer (through a capital lease). The Chatham Conference Center includes publicly-owned improvements such as the ballroom/meeting rooms through taxable bonds, and a parking garage and central plant as tax-exempt. These are subject to final determination in the Definitive Agreement and pending review by bond counsel.
 - 7.4 To pay the annual debt service on the public bonds, the County would need to rely on the hotel's lease payments for the publicly-owned improvements. Before any distribution of tax incentives, such as the Tourism Sales Tax rebate, the incentives would secure the lease payment. The risk would be that the hotel does not generate sufficient net income and cannot make its lease payment to the County, and the required bond payment exceeds funds in the Debt Service Reserve Fund, which would require specific recourse to be negotiated in the lease agreement. This places the County's maximum risk in the first several years at about \$2.6 million annually.
 - 7.5 Some critics question any public participation and suggest that in several years,

capital markets will return to allow full private investment. However, during the best times for hotel investment in 2000-2004, none of the convention center hotels became funded and built without some level of public guarantee.

FUNDING:

Chatham County would not fund any project expense “out of pocket” but would depend upon a pledge of public revenues to safeguard its annual debt requirement.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board adopt the proposed Development Agreement for the construction of the Trade Center Convention Hotel and Conference Center.
2. That the Board take no action.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

Chatham County developed and funded the Savannah International Trade and Convention Center as an economic development project designed to increase convention and exposition visitors to this community. Through Chatham County’s investment to develop a first-class project in the Trade Center as the cornerstone to private investment on Hutchinson Island, prudent management by the Trade Center Authority and its day-to-day management by SMG, the Trade Center continues to meet its economic development mission. After 11 years, the record remains clear on the Trade Center’s economic impact on increased earnings; however, an economic analysis by Visit Savannah also indicates lost opportunity in the meetings market. The Trade Center Authority, which the Georgia General Assembly created to manage the facility, began a focus in 2008 on how to increase the Trade Center’s competitive position. The cumulative recommendations from economic analyses target the need for a Trade Center hotel.

RECOMMENDATION:

For Board consideration.

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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 TRANSFER \$8,500 FROM REIMBURSEMENT TO FUNDS TO TEMPORARY SALARIES IN THE PROBATE COURT BUDGET, 2) IN THE CONFISCATED REVENUE FUND APPROPRIATE \$13,697 CONFISCATED REVENUE FOR THE COUNTER NARCOTICS TEAM AND 3) IN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP) FUND TRANSFER \$40,000 FROM CIP M&O CONTINGENCY TO THE CIP RECREATION DEPARTMENT PROJECT FOR SECURITY CAMERAS AT L. SCOTT STELL AND CHARLIE BROOKS PARKS.**

Chairman Scott said, Item IX on the agenda, to request approval of the following budget amendments and transfer: 1) in the General Fund M&O transfer \$8,500 from reimbursement to funds to temporary salaries in the Probate Court budget, 2) in the Confiscated Revenue Fund appropriate \$13,697 confiscated revenue from the Counter Narcotics Team and item 3) in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) fund transfer \$40,000 from CIP to M&O contingency to the CIP Recreation Department project for security cameras at the L. Scott Stell and Charlie Brooks Parks.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, motion to approve.

Commissioner Thomas said, second.

Chairman Scott said, it’s been properly moved and second. All in favor of the motion, indicate by voting yes; opposed no. The motion carries.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve the following budget amendments and transfers: 1) in the General Fund M&O transfer \$8,500 from reimbursement to funds to temporary salaries in the Probate Court budget, 2) in the Confiscated Revenue Fund appropriate \$13,697 confiscated revenue for the Counter Narcotics Team and 3) in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) fund transfer \$40,000 from CIP M&O contingency to the CIP Recreation Department project for security cameras at L. Scott Stell and Charlie Brooks Parks. Commissioner

Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: IX-1
AGENDA DATE: March 22, 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 transfer \$8,500 from reimbursement to funds to temporary salaries in the Probate Court budget, 2) in the Confiscated Revenue Fund appropriate \$13,697 confiscated revenue for the Counter Narcotics Team and 3) in the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) fund transfer \$40,000 from CIP M&O contingency to the CIP Recreation Department project for security cameras at L. Scott Stell and Charlie Brooks Parks.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The Chief Clerk of Probate Court has requested a transfer of \$8,500 from reimbursement to funds to temporary salaries to maintain a temporary clerk. Correspondence is attached.
2. The Counter Narcotics Team Director has requested an appropriation of \$13,697 to pay surveillance fees incurred during major investigations. The request has been sent to the County Attorney for review. A staff report is attached.
3. The Board of Commissioners approved a General Fund transfer of \$40,000 to install security cameras at L. Scott Stell and Charlie Brooks Parks at their meeting held on April 14, 2012. The funds were not encumbered and lapsed at year-end. It is appropriate to budget a purchase of this nature in the Capital Improvement (CIP) fund. A transfer of \$40,000 from CIP M&O contingency to the CIP Recreation Department project will reinstate funding for this purpose. A copy of the previous Board action is attached.

FUNDING:

Funds are available in the General Fund M&O, the Confiscated Revenue and the Capital Improvement (CIP) Funds.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board approve the following:

GENERAL FUND M&O

Transfer \$8,500 from Reimbursement to Funds to Temporary Salaries in the Probate Court budget.

CONFISCATED REVENUE FUND

Appropriate \$13,697 from CNT contingency to CNT.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND

Transfer \$40,000 from CIP M&O contingency to the CIP Recreation Department project.

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. CNT MONTHLY REPORT GIVEN VERBALLY BY DIRECTOR RAGAN.

Chairman Scott said, next item on the agenda, we will hear from our Director of the CNT for his monthly report.

Director D. Everett Ragan said, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, Director Ragan.

Director Ragan said, thank you Commission. I'll try to have a self-imposed two minutes myself, so we'll hurry up and get through. Month of February 116 initiated cases. We closed out 63. You see drugs seized, we --

approximately about \$90,000 we received -- seized in drugs that month. Year to date seized, the only thing that really sticks out with what we got year to date is an increase in heroine. We have seen an increase in heroine January and this month coming up you'll see where we had significant seizure on some heroine this month. So we have seen an increase in heroine in -- in -- in the streets. You can see the -- seven firearms were seized, 13 for the year; 47 arrests for the month, 83 for the year. We adopted two cases from SCMPD. Again you notice the amount of time spent in the municipalities and in the different precincts. Again a significant amount of time spent in the City of Savannah. Couple of significant cases, and again, both of these cases show our degree of cooperation with -- with the other agencies in the -- in the Chatham County. One of the -- the first one was the cocaine that was seized. A Metro -- actually a Metro police officer stopped an individual on a traffic stop. He developed information, came to us, and that's when we sat surveillance on the Greyhound bus and recovered I believe 9 ounces of cocaine that was coming in. The man had a Guyton address but the cocaine was delivered -- was intentions to be sold in the -- in Chatham County.

Director Ragan said, the second one was in an apartment complex on the Southside, 10,000 block. Again working with federal parole, they had some information that the -- one of the parolees who was on federal parole was -- was dealing drugs. We went in on a knock and talk and a Fourth Amendment waiver, recovered a significant amount of marijuana, two guns, three arrests, his two sons and him and all three were convicted felons. So that -- that was off an apartment complex on the southside of Savannah.

Director Ragan said, I did want to make a couple comments that is not reflective in this, but -- but has actually happening in March. One is the participation with our unit and the homicide investigation unit of the City of Savannah. One of our agents had significant contact with a witness in the southside homicide, turned that witness and was able to bring that witness forward to identify the shooter in the Windsor Forest -- one of the Windsor Forest homicide areas. We worked very closely with them. And a couple of project logs that came from the westside in reference to a -- a disorderly house on Tuten Street that we helped with the downtown precinct. They didn't have the technical -- technical services that we do so we helped them to be able to make an arrest and shut that -- that disorderly house down. And a spice arrest coming off of 414 West Broughton Street where a business owner was selling spice. That's the report. Any questions?

Chairman Scott said, any questions of Director Ragan?

Director Ragan said, yes, sir?

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Holmes.

Commissioner Holmes said, Commander Ragan, the -- there were a killing --

Chairman Scott said, and then Commissioner Brady.

Commissioner Holmes said, -- on Waters and 54th --

Director Ragan said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Holmes said, -- this past week, and I happen to be going to a meeting when I saw that action out there.

Director Ragan said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Holmes said, when we got to the meeting, a debriefing came to the meeting, but they couldn't elaborate on what happened. But for the past three or four years, there are some series of action up in that area.

Director Ragan said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Holmes said, now what I didn't know is the timing. Every time a gun was fired for the last three years, there were kids leaving school returning home. This concern came to about four or five parents and the officer's that give his report. Can I get a history from your department? Do we have anything around there that -- that we can do --

Director Ragan said, I will -- I will be able to pull the information based upon the -- the information that we have gathered in that area.

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm. Okay.

Director Ragan said, right off the top of my head I do know that in that significant seizure we had with the 23 kilos that one of the individuals that has been arrested and charged with -- in that conspiracy --

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

Director Ragan said, had a 54th Street address just east of Waters Avenue, and -- so there is history there, but the exact numbers I'd have to research and get for you.

Commissioner Holmes said, they are concerned about the safety of those kids.

Director Ragan said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Holmes said, every time that happened their kids were returning from school.

Director Ragan said, I will -- will pull the numbers and get them to Mr. Abolt and --

Commissioner Holmes said, thank you, sir. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Brady.

Commissioner Brady said, Commander Ragan, this really isn't a question, but I need you to kind of help me along, and you'll probably hear me say this every time you do a report. Can you vocalize the percentage of the City of Savannah calls that you're -- you're handling? The percentage that are in -- is in your report?

Director Ragan said, right at 70 -- 74 percent of the time that -- that we have spent has been spent in the City of Savannah, but the number of arrests, I can -- I can vocalize in the -- I can actually include in the report that we have. We do a -- I do a weekly report for -- for com-stat, what Metro has, com-stat and it outlines every -- each arrest that they had during the week, that we have in each precinct in the City of Savannah, so yes, I can capture that information.

Commissioner Brady said, well, and the reason I bring this up is -- is -- Mr. Abolt?

County Manager Abolt said, ma'am?

Commissioner Brady said, does the City of Savannah fund CNT by any means?

County Manager Abolt said, no, ma'am.

Commissioner Brady said, who fully funds CNT?

County Manager Abolt said, the County does through it's M&O budget, ma'am.

Commissioner Brady said, and 74 percent of your work's done in the City of Savannah.

Commissioner Stone said, that's right.

Director Ragan said, this month, yes, ma'am. It varies now there's -- there's times we're below that; there's times we're higher than that. We go where the drugs are. Where it takes us. But --

Commissioner Brady said, I understand.

Director Ragan said, -- but we do -- we do spend the most time in the City of Savannah.

Commissioner Brady said, well I just think it's important that we recognize as County Commissioners that we fully fund your organization, CNT, and you're spending the majority of your time in the City of Savannah and you're not funded by the City of Savannah.

Director Ragan said, I -- I think it's important the Commission understands that, but I think it's even more important that some of the other councils understand that.

Commissioner Stone said, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner --

Commissioner Stone said, just a follow --

Chairman Scott said, -- Center and then Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, I'm sorry.

Commissioner Center said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you, Commissioner Stone. Commissioner Brady had the exact thought I had, and I had done those percentages for you. If you went through the top four, City of Savannah is 74 percent of the hours expended. The CNT year to date have been the City of Savannah, 7.6 percent of the hours expended year to date have been in Garden City, 4 percent in Port Wentworth, 3.5 percent in Pooler, and I agree with you they don't help fund this organization at all. And I -- I don't know if this chart gets shown on our public channel, but I wish it would.

Director Ragan said, and actually this report is actually sent to all Commissions -- excuse me and all Councils throughout the entire County. So they all see it, they just don't comment on it.

Commissioner Center said, Commissioner Brady and I think alike so often.

Director Ragan said, yes.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. As Commander Ragan knows my concern with this because just for the new Commissioners, prior to this breakout, the City of Savannah was not individually listed, and I asked Commander Ragan to please put this on the chart to prove exactly what you all are seeing that the unincorporated area that's carrying this is a smidgen of the man hours and the money that is spent in the City of Savannah, but yet we fund the operation. And I thought it was very important -- we used to get the breakdown from the other municipalities but not from the City of Savannah, and I now -- it's come to fruition as to why this graph is so important, and it does show where your hours are being spent and where the dollars are being spent.

Director Ragan said, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Stone said, so -- so thank you for now putting this in there so that my fellow Commissioners can see on a graph exactly where the time and money for something that the City of Savannah does not fund is being spent.

Chairman Scott said, any further questions? If not --

Director Ragan said, thank you, sir.

Chairman Scott said, Director Ragan, thank you so much for coming.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

For information only.

AGENDA ITEM: IX-2

AGENDA DATE: March 22, 2013

**Chatham~Savannah
Counter Narcotics Team
February, 2013**

NARCOTICS INVESTIGATIONS	
Investigations Initiated During the month	116
Total Number of Investigations Cleared (Arrest, E.C., Unfounded)	63

DRUGS SEIZED			
Drug Type	Value	Approx. Weight	Approx. Total Value
Powder Cocaine	\$100 per gram*	319.30 Grams	\$31,930.00
Crack Cocaine	\$100 per gram*	3.70 Grams	\$370.00
Methamphetamine	\$100 per gram**	.5 Grams	\$50.00
Marijuana	\$140 per ounce*	322 Ounces	\$45,080.00
Heroin	\$250 per gram*	2.4 Grams	\$600.00
Ecstasy	\$25 Dosage Unit	0 D/U	\$.00
Misc. Pills	\$30 Dosage Unit	395 D/U	\$11,850.00
Hallucinogens	\$10.00 per gram *	0 Grams	\$.00
Synthetic (Steroids)	\$10.00 per ml *	0 ml	\$.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	322.5 Grams	\$32,250.00
Crack Cocaine	113.30 Grams	\$11,330.00
Methamphetamine	.10 Grams	\$10.00
Marijuana	1,084.19 Ounces	\$151,787.00
Heroin	1,013 Grams	\$253,250.00

Ecstasy	1 D/U	\$25.00
Misc. Pills	183 D/U	\$5,490.00
Hallucinogens	0 Grams	\$0.00
Synthetic (Steroids)	0 m/l	\$0.00

DRUGS PURCHASED			
Drug Type	Value	Approx. Weight	Approx. Total Value
Powder Cocaine	\$100 per gram*	0 Grams	\$0.00
Crack Cocaine	\$100 per gram*	0 Grams	\$0.00
Methamphetamine	\$100 per gram**	1.00 Grams	\$100.00
Marijuana	\$140 per ounce*	2.31 Ounces	\$323.00
Heroin	\$250 per gram*	1.70 Grams	\$425.00
Ecstasy	\$25 Dosage Unit	3 D/U	\$75.00
Misc. Pills	\$30 Dosage Unit	12 D/U	\$360.00
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)	7
Year To Date Totals	13

PERSONS ARRESTED	
Felony*	19
Felony Sales/Trafficking	20
Misdemeanor	2
Felony Non-Drug**	6
Total Arrests	47
Year To Date Totals	83

*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
2/4/13	SCMPD	POSS OF MARIJUANA W/INTENT TO DIST
2/15/13	SCMPD	SALE OF MARIJUANA

DRUG COMPLAINTS INVESTIGATED		
Drug Complaints	Received	Assigned
Project Log/Official Complaints	1	1
Hot Line / Call-In Complaints	5	5
Green Sheets/ Outside Agencies	7	7
Crime Stopper Complaints	22	21
DRUG COMPLAINTS—YEAR TO DATE	71	68

DRUG INVESTIGATIONS HOURS WORKED BY ZONE

SCMPD – All Precincts	1,979
Municipalities (Unincorporated Chatham County—98 hours)	520
TOTAL	2,499
Administrative Hours	640
Case Administration	884
Pharmaceutical Diversions	480
Central Intelligence	480
Out of County (Task Force Operations, etc.)	120
Training	390
Court Hours	37
TOTAL	3,038

Total Hours Worked

5,537

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- 1. On February 8, 2013, CNT agents concluded a joint investigation with the SCMPD. After receiving information that a Guyton resident was smuggling cocaine into Savannah, CNT undercover agents were able to identify the suspect. Agents stopped the suspect getting off a Greyhound Bus and seized 9 ounces of cocaine having a street value of \$14,400.00. The suspect was charged with Trafficking Cocaine.
- 2. On February 19, 2013, CNT agents concluded an investigation with Federal Parole Officers. They arrested a man and 2 of his adult sons on several felony charges to include Possession of Marijuana with the Intent to Distribute and Possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. The father of this group was on Federal Probation for previous drug charges and all 3 subjects are convicted felons.

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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, Item X on the agenda, the Action Calendar. Any --

Commissioner Stone said, Mr. Chairman, I would make a motion to approve the Action -- Action Calendar unless someone has any item they want to pull.

Commissioner Brady said, second.

Chairman Scott said, it's been properly moved and second that the Action Calendar be presented -- be approved as presented. Unless someone have any urgency to pull Item J? Hearing none, all in favor of the motion indicate by voting yes; opposed no.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, that's the first time Ms. Stone didn't pull something off that though so.

Commissioner Center said, he -- he -- he tried to entice it.

Chairman Scott said, all right. The action calendar's approved. The action calendar's approved. The motion carried.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved to approve the Action Calendar, Items 1 through 3 and under Item 3, Items A through N. Commissioner Brady seconded 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 MARCH 8, 2013, AS MAILED.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 8, 2013, as mailed. Commissioner Brady seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD FEBRUARY 28, 2013 THROUGH MARCH 13, 2013.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved to authorize the Finance Director to pay the claims against the County for the period February 28, 2013 through March 13, 2013, in the amount of \$3,938,280. Commissioner Brady seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

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

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
A. Construction contract to remove and reconstruct the storm system located within the intersection of Garland Drive and Brighton Place	Public Works	Sitework Construction, LLC	\$37,602	CIP - Public Works
B. Annual price agreement to purchase on an "as needed, funds available" basis, various 2013 model year compact and full size sedans	Fleet Operations	J.C. Lewis Ford	Various	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •CIP – Vehicle Replacement •General Fund/M&O – Various •SSD – Various •SPLOST (2003-2008) – Vehicle Replacement •Water & Sewer •Solid Waste •Various funds
C. Annual price agreement to purchase on an "as needed, funds available" basis, various 2013 model year trucks, vans, and sport utility vehicles	Fleet Operations	J.C. Lewis Ford	Various	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •CIP – Vehicle Replacement •General Fund/M&O – Various •SSD – Various •SPLOST (2003-2008) – Vehicle Replacement •Water & Sewer •Solid Waste •Various funds
D. Deductive Change Order No. 1 to the contract to discontinue monthly janitorial services at 408 West Broughton Street	Facilities Maintenance	Goodwill Industries of the Coastal Empire, Inc.	(\$938)	N/A
E. Deductive Change Order No. 11, to the contract to discontinue monthly pest control services at 408 West Broughton Street	Facilities Maintenance	Cox Pest Control	(\$360)	N/A

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
F. Change Order No. 6, to the contract to add monthly trash pickup service for the Pete Liakakis Government Building	Facilities Maintenance	Republic Waste Services	\$303 per month / \$3,636 per year	General Fund/ M&O - Facilities Maintenance
G. Amendment No. 2 to the contract with Oce' Imagistics, Inc., to provide multi-function copier equipment to recognize a name change	Various	Canon Solutions America, Inc.	N/A	N/A
H. Parking garage access and revenue control system for the Chatham County Parking Garage	Facilities Maintenance	Carolina Time Equipment Company	\$40,197	Parking Garage Fund
I. Change Order No. 1 to the construction contract for highway signs, steel posts, thermoplastic pavement markings and removal of existing striping on 26 County roads	Engineering	Peek Pavement Marking, Inc.	\$28,156	SPLOST (2003-2008) - LMIG (formerly LARP)
J. Emergency confirmation of Change Order No. 1 to the construction contract for the Shipyard-Lehigh Drainage Improvements project	Engineering	E&D Contracting, Inc.	\$74,720	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Drainage, Shipyard/Beaulieu
K. Professional engineering services contract for the Pipemakers Canal (Phase 1) Storm Water Pump Station drainage improvement project	Engineering	Moffat & Nichol, Inc. (Sole Source)	\$16,050	SPLOST (2003 - 2008) - Pipemakers Canal Drainage Improvements
L. X-Ray Inspection System for use at the entrance to the Pete Liakakis Government Building	Sheriff's Department	Smith's Detection (Sole Source)	\$32,898	General Fund/M&O - Sheriff's Department
M. Annual contract with renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms to provide janitorial services for the Pete Liakakis Government Building	Facilities Maintenance	Goodwill Industries of the Coastal Empire, Inc.	\$51,864	General Fund/ M&O - Facilities Maintenance
N. 172 annual license renewals of Go To My PC software	I.C.S.	Citrix Online	\$20,001	•General Fund/M&O - Various •SSD - Public Works •SSD - Engineering

AGENDA ITEM: X-3 A thru N
AGENDA DATE: March 22, 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 to award a \$37,602 construction contract to Sitework Construction, LLC, to remove and reconstruct the storm system located within the intersection of Garland Drive and Brighton Place.

BACKGROUND: Responding to a service request to repair a pothole at the intersection of Garland Drive and Brighton Place, staff found the corrugated metal pipe in the intersection failing due to corrosion.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. This project involves the removal of the existing storm system; to include 80 linear feet of corrugated metal pipe, 3 curb inlets and 300 square yards of asphalt pavement and installation of 90 linear feet of reinforced concrete pipe, 3 double wing curb inlets, 40 linear feet of curb and gutter and 272 square yards of asphalt pavement.
2. The project was properly advertised and five (5) bids were received and opened on February 26, 2013. The responses are as follows:

	Sitework Construction, LLC Statesboro, GA	\$37,602
*	Sandhill A.L.S. Construction, Inc. Port Wentworth, GA	\$39,990
	Groundworks Unlimited, LLC Savannah, GA	\$41,051
**	E & D Contracting Services, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$47,009
	Griffin Contracting, Inc. Pooler, GA	\$52,500

*MBE

**WBE

3. It is estimated that construction will begin within 10 days after receipt of Notice to Proceed. The contractor will have 45 days to complete the project.
4. Construction will be staged to accommodate traffic during construction.

FUNDING: CIP - Public Works
(3504100 - 54.14022 - 35038247)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval to award a \$37,602 construction contract to Sitework Construction, LLC, to remove and reconstruct the storm system located within the intersection of Garland Drive and Brighton Place.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM B

ISSUE: Request Board approval of an annual price agreement with J.C. Lewis Ford of Savannah, GA, to purchase on an "as needed, funds available" basis, various 2013 model year vehicles for Fleet Operations.

BACKGROUND: Each year staff develops and solicits competitive bids for this annual requirement for current model year.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Staff solicited bids for the following vehicles: Ford Fusion S; Ford Taurus SE and Ford Focus S.
2. Bids were publicly advertised and opened February 28, 2013. (See matrix page 16) In addition to the unit cost, bidders supplied pricing for options/upgrades along with time required for delivery.
3. Although many firms were solicited, only one (1) bid was received.

FUNDING:

- CIP – Vehicle Replacement
- General Fund/M&O – Various
- SSD – Various
- SPLOST (2003-2008) – Vehicle Replacement
- Water & Sewer
- Solid Waste
- Various funds

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of an annual price agreement with J.C. Lewis Ford of Savannah, GA, to purchase on an “as needed, funds available” basis, various 2013 model year vehicles for Fleet Operations.
2. Provide staff other directions.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve annual price agreements for the purchase of vehicles for using departments.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommend approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
READ DEHAVEN

ITEM C

ISSUE: Request Board approval of an annual price agreement with J.C. Lewis Ford of Savannah, GA, to purchase on an “as needed, funds available” basis, various 2013 model year trucks, vans, and sport utility vehicles for Fleet Operations.

BACKGROUND: Each year staff develops and solicits competitive bids for this annual requirement for current model year.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Staff solicited bids for the following vehicles: Ford F-150 XL; Ford F-250 XL 2x4; Ford F-250 XL 4x4; Ford E-350 XL EXT Wagon (15 passenger van); Ford E-350 XL Wagon (12 passenger van); Transit Connect XLT; Ford E-250 Cargo Van; Ford Explorer FWD; Ford Escape XLS; and Ford Expedition XL EL.
2. Bids were publicly advertised and opened February 28, 2013. (See matrix page 17) In addition to the unit cost, bidders supplied pricing for options/upgrades along with time required for delivery.
3. Although many firms were solicited, only one (1) bid was received.

FUNDING:

- CIP – Vehicle Replacement
- General Fund/M&O – Various
- SSD – Various
- SPLOST (2003-2008) – Vehicle Replacement
- Water & Sewer
- Solid Waste
- Various funds

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of an annual price agreement with J.C. Lewis Ford of Savannah, GA, to purchase on an “as needed, funds available” basis, various 2013 model year trucks, vans, and sport utility vehicles for Fleet Operations.

2. Provide staff other directions.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve annual price agreements for the purchase of vehicles for using departments.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommend approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
READ DEHAVEN

ITEM D

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$938 *deductive* Change Order No. 1, to the contract with Goodwill Industries of the Coastal Empire, Inc., to discontinue monthly janitorial service at the Special Projects Administrative Building, 408 West Broughton Street, effective March 8, 2013.

BACKGROUND: On 5 October 2012, the Board approved an annual contract for janitorial services with Goodwill Industries of the Coastal Empire, Inc.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. As of March 8, 2013, the Special Projects Coordinator will relocate to the fifth floor of the Judicial Courthouse, 133 Montgomery Street and the Business Property Satellite Office will relocate to the Pete Liakakis Building, 222 Oglethorpe Avenue, therefore, janitorial services will be discontinued at 408 West Broughton Street.
2. Contract History is as follows:

Original Contract Amount (10-5-12)	\$ 37,835/Year
Change Order No. 1 (Pending)	\$ (938) (7 months left on contract)
Revised Contract	\$ 36,897/Year

FUNDING: No funding required

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$938 *deductive* Change Order No. 1, to the contract with Goodwill Industries of the Coastal Empire, Inc., to discontinue monthly janitorial service at the Special Projects Administrative Building, 408 West Broughton Street, effective March 8, 2013.
2. Provide staff other directions.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommend approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
MELVA SHARPE

ITEM E

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$360 *deductive* Change Order No. 11, to the contract with Cox Pest Control, to discontinue monthly pest control services at the Special Projects Administrative Building, 408 West Broughton Street, effective March 8, 2013.

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.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. As of March 8, 2013, the Special Projects Coordinator will relocate to the fifth floor of the Judicial Courthouse, 133 Montgomery Street and the Business Property Satellite Office will relocate to the Pete Liakakis Building, 222 Oglethorpe Ave, therefore, pest control services will be discontinued at 408 West Broughton Street, building and bay area.
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 (1-25-13)	\$ (200) 10 months left on contract
Change Order No. 11 (Pending)	\$ (360) 8 months left on contract
Revised Contract Amount	\$22,580/Year

FUNDING: No funding required

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$360 *deductive* Change Order No. 11, to the contract with Cox Pest Control, to discontinue monthly pest control services at the Special Projects Administrative Building, 408 West Broughton Street, effective March 8, 2013.
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 F

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$303 per month Change Order No. 6, to the contract with Republic Waste Services of Savannah, to add monthly trash pickup service for the Pete Liakakis Government Building, 222 West Oglethorpe Avenue, effective February 15, 2013.

BACKGROUND: The new Pete Liakakis Building will be opened to the public five (5) days a week. The new building consists of 66,000 sq. ft. of office space.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Building houses five (5) departments: Child Support, ICS/Data Center, Tax Commissioner, Tax Assessor, Public Defender and includes a fitness room.
2. Republic Waste of Savannah agrees to supply a 6-yd. trash container on site and collect trash five (5) days a week.
3. Staff believes the price as quoted by Republic Waste Services to be fair and reasonable.
4. Contract History:

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 (01-25-13)	\$ (600)/Year
Change Order No. 6 (Pending)	\$ 3,636/Year
Revised Contract	\$59,700/Year

FUNDING: General Fund/M&O - Facilities Maintenance
(1001565 - 52.21101)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$303 per month Change Order No. 6, to the contract with Republic Waste Services of Savannah, to add monthly trash pickup service for the Pete Liakakis Government Building, 222 West Oglethorpe Avenue, effective February 15, 2013.
2. Provide staff other directions.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommend approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
MELVA SHARPE

ITEM G

ISSUE: Request Board approval of Amendment No. 2 to the contract with Oce' Imagistics, Inc., to provide multi-function copier equipment to recognize a name change to Canon Solutions America, Inc.

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

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Staff was notified by Canon Solutions America, 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. 2 to the contract with Oce' 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 H

ISSUE: Request Board approval to award a \$40,197 contract to Carolina Time Equipment Company, for a parking garage access and revenue control system for the Chatham County Parking Garage.

BACKGROUND: On August 2, 2011, Chatham County's Internal Audit Department performed an audit on the internal functions in the parking garage. According to the audit assessment, the garage access control and revenue control system along with the fee computer and software needed to be upgraded. The current system will not allow the Finance Department to access reports on daily transactions and/or financial performances. Also, the current system does not allow the Finance Department to review the inactive or active inventory showing the key card holder status. On October 8, 2012, Facilities Maintenance and Operations requested the replacement of the garage's current revenue control software fee computer and front and back proximity card readers.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. A request for proposal was issued for replacement of the current parking garage access and revenue fee computer/software, front entrance and back exit proximity card readers at the parking garage. Five (5) proposals were received. The proposals were scored by the evaluation committee. (See matrix page 18). Fees were included and scored as part of the proposal. Carolina Time Equipment Company is the highest scoring firm. Carolina Time Equipment Company is the original installer of the parking garage equipment and have been maintaining the current system.
2. The proposal responses are as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Total Score</u>
Carolina Time Equipment Company Charlotte, NC	77.8

ITR Georgia, Inc. Tucker, GA	70.55
CTR Systems Parking, Inc. Davie, FL	69.97
ASPIS Parking Solutions Atlanta, GA	67.35
Innovative Parking Concepts, LLC Woodstock, GA	47.51

3. Along with the fees, proposers also provided pricing for annual software and hardware maintenance support and upgrades. Additionally, proposers provided an hourly service rate and percentage mark-up on replacement parts.

FUNDING: Parking Garage Fund
(5557564 - 52.22001)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval to award a \$40,197 contract to Carolina Time Equipment Company, for a parking garage access and revenue control system for the Chatham County Parking Garage.
2. Provide staff other directions.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to award contracts to the highest scoring vendor.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommend approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM I

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$28,156 Change Order No. 1 to the construction contract with Peek Pavement Marking, Inc., for the Signing and Marking Safety Project.

BACKGROUND: The Signing and Marking Safety Project includes installation of signs and placement of pavement markings on 26 County Roads. On November 16, 2012, the Board awarded a construction contract to Peek Pavement Marking, Inc., in the amount of \$266,769.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. This Change Order No. 1 to the contract includes adding quantities for preformed plastic contrast pavement marking for striping on concrete. The additional quantity is needed to complete striping on the Veterans Parkway bridge from eastbound 204 which was inadvertently omitted from the original bid. The change order amount is based on the unit price listed in the contract.

2. Contract History:

Original Contract (11-16-12)	\$266,769
Change Order No. 1 (Pending)	<u>\$28,156</u>
Revised Contract Amount	\$294,925

FUNDING: SPLOST (2003-2008) - LMIG
(3234220 - 54.14001 - 32355657)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$28,156 Change Order No. 1 to the construction contract with Peek Pavement Marking, Inc., for the Signing and Marking Safety Project.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM J

ISSUE: Request Board confirmation of the \$74,720 emergency Change Order No. 1 to the construction contract with E&D Contracting, Inc., for the Shipyard-Lehigh Drainage Improvements project.

BACKGROUND: The Shipyard-Lehigh Drainage Improvements project is part of the 2003-2008 SPLOST Drainage Program. Problems being addressed include the limited drainage capacity and the lack of access to perform maintenance.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The Board awarded the project to upgrade several culverts, widen an existing ditch, and construct a maintenance road adjacent to the widened ditch on November 2, 2012. Construction began November 26, 2012.
2. Shipyard Road closed on January 8, 2013, to relocate utilities and replace existing culverts. After the roadway closure, staff re-evaluated the condition of the roadway and determined an asphalt overlay within the project limits would be necessary to help prevent further failure. Change Order No. 1 will replace failed roadway areas within the construction zone and provide an asphalt overlay within the project limits.
3. Staff requested emergency approval from the Chairman to authorize a Change Order No. 1 to perform the work while the roadway is still closed and to avoid further traffic delays. The Chairman concurred (see attached page 19) and directed staff to seek Board confirmation at their next scheduled meeting.

3. Contract history:

Original Contract(11-2-12)	\$ 280,865
Change Order No. 1 (pending)	74,720
Revised Contract Amount	\$ 355,585

FUNDING: SPLOST (2003-2008) - Drainage, Shipyard/Beaulieu
(3234250 - 54.14031 - 32380467)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$74,720 Change Order No. 1 to the construction contract with E&D Contracting, Inc., for the Shipyard-Lehigh Drainage Improvements project.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATIONS: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM K

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$16,050 sole source professional engineering services contract with Moffat & Nichol, Inc., for the Pipemakers Canal (Phase 1) Storm Water Pump Station drainage improvement project.

BACKGROUND: The Pipemakers Canal Drainage Basin Pump Station is part of the 2003-2008 SPLOST Drainage Program. Problems being addressed by this project include the limited drainage capacity within the drainage basin as caused by the effects of tidal water level fluctuations of the receiving stream.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Staff developed a professional engineering services scope of work to prepare the Phase 1 design of a pump station. The preliminary design work includes flood risk assessment, environmental permitting, operational issues and costs. The Phase 1 design includes developing a recommendation on what is the most cost-effective storm water solution.

2. The recommended alternative developed in the Phase 1 work does not include a master pump station as described by earlier reports and studies. The recommendation now consists of small community specific pump stations not constructed on the main channel, but located on tributary systems servicing these specific communities.
3. The contract scope of work and fee included an estimated level of effort to support staff with presentation of the Phase 1 design to the public. The effort described in the contract included time for attendance at meetings, creating exhibits and other materials. The change in project direction (community pump stations in lieu of a master pump station) requires a significantly greater effort to present to elected officials and neighborhood groups.
4. To maintain continuity and cost, State law allows contracting with the original professional engineering firm used for previous studies and plans without further competitive process when those existing studies and plans can be reused. Moffat & Nichol is under contract with the County for design of the pump station. The County stands to save by using the engineering calculations, collected data and expertise accumulated by Moffat & Nichol under this project.

FUNDING: SPLOST (2003 - 2008) - Pipemakers Canal Drainage Improvements
(3234250 - 54.14021 - 32380217)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$16,050 sole source professional engineering services contract with Moffat & Nichol, Inc., for the Pipemakers Canal (Phase 1) Storm Water Pump Station drainage improvement project.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to award sole source professional services contracts that are in the best interest of the County.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM L

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$32,898 sole source purchase of an X-Ray Inspection System from Smith's Detection, for the Sheriff's Department for use at the entrance to the Pete Liakakis Government Building.

BACKGROUND: The Chatham County Sheriff's Department has requested to purchase an X-Ray inspection system for the Pete Liakakis Government Building to maintain the safety and security of the facility.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Due to the need for compatibility, staff recommends purchase of the same equipment currently used at the Judicial Courthouse and Juvenile Court Facility. The new equipment will be added to the existing maintenance contract.
2. The prices includes delivery, installation, training, and one (1) year, full system warranty.

FUNDING: General Fund/M&O - Sheriff's Department
(1003300-54.25001)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$32,898 sole source purchase of an X-Ray Inspection System from Smith's Detection, for the Sheriff's Department for use at the entrance to the Pete Liakakis Government Building.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve the purchase of equipment necessary for facility security.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
RUSHEDA ADESHINA

ITEM M

ISSUE: Request Board approval to award a \$51,864 annual contract with renewal option for four (4) additional one (1) year terms, to Goodwill of the Coastal Empire, Inc., to provide janitorial services to the Pete Liakakis Building.

BACKGROUND: The Pete Liakakis Building is located at 222 West Oglethorpe Avenue. This facility houses the I.C.S. Department, Tax Assessor, Tax Commissioner, the Public Defender and Child Support.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The bid for janitorial services was publicly advertised and a pre-bid conference was conducted. Bids were received on March 6, 2013 and 10 vendors responded:

*	Keeclean Management, Inc. Duluth, GA	\$49,099
*	Jessclenz, LLC Savannah, GA	\$51,360
	Goodwill of the Coastal Empire, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$51,864
*	ICS, Inc. Suwanee, GA	\$52,200
*	Superior Janitorial Group Savannah, GA	\$64,800
	Jani King Savannah, GA	\$65,700
**	Tribond, LLC Barrow, GA	\$71,820
	Quality Cleaning Savannah, GA	\$77,472
*	Randall Green Professional Cleaning Savannah, GA	\$78,000
**	American Facility Services Alpharetta, GA	\$104,400

* MBE **WBE

2. Keeclean Management, Inc., was deemed non-responsive due to staff's inability to obtain responses from their references. Jessclenz, LLC, was deemed non-responsive due to not meeting the minimum experience requirements. The bid requires five (5) years of commercial experience and Jessclenz, LLC's experience was only residential.

FUNDING: General Fund/M&O - Facilities Maintenance
(1001565 - 52.21301)

ALTERNATIVES:

- Board approval to award a \$51,864 annual contract with renewal option for four (4) additional one (1) year terms, to Goodwill of the Coastal Empire, Inc., to provide janitorial services to the Pete Liakakis Building.
- Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to award contracts necessary for the maintenance and operations of facilities.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
MELVA SHARPE

ITEM N

ISSUE: Request Board confirmation of a \$20,001 renewal of annual software licenses and maintenance with Citrix Online, for I.C.S. for GoTo My PC software.

BACKGROUND: These annual service agreements cover user software licenses and system maintenance required for technical support, "bug" fixes and software updates for the GoTo My PC which is used by all departments.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The reason for the sole source purchase is that Citrix Online is the software publisher and must provide maintenance for their proprietary software.
2. GoTo My PC is a web base application used by numerous departments to remotely access their office computer from home or while traveling. The County currently has 172 licences.
3. Staff believes this total cost of \$20,001 to be fair and reasonable.

FUNDING: General Fund/M&O - Various
SSD - Engineering
SSD - Public Works

ALTERNATIVE

1. Board confirmation of a \$20,001 renewal of annual software licenses and maintenance with Citrix Online, for I.C.S. for GoTo My PC software.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to provide essential license agreements and maintenance contracts.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

I.C.S. APPROVAL _____
NICK BATEY

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
READ DEHAVEN

PREPARED BY _____
PURCHASING AGENT

=====

XI. FIRST READINGS

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

Chairman Scott said, XI, there are First Readers.

=====

XII. SECOND READINGS

Chairman Scott said, XII, there are no Second Readers.

=====

XIII. INFORMATION ITEMS

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

Chairman Scott said, XIII, there are some informational items. The Progress Report on the General Fund Contingency Account M&O and Special Service Districts. They are attached in your booklet.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A status report was attached as information.

=====

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

Chairman Scott said, a list of purchasing items between the amount of 2,500 and 9,999 are attached for your consideration.

Commissioner Center said, I -- I do, Mr. Chairman. I'm sorry. I'm looking on --

Chairman Scott said, the Action Calendar's been adopted.

Commissioner Center said, this is XIII, Information Items.

Chairman Scott said, Information Items, okay.

Commissioner Center, XIII-2, I'm on -- on the page that begins with two mobile video visitations, but I -- down at the bottom we've got five document scanners for the Detention Center for \$3630, and we bought ten document scanners for Entre Solutions at \$4,000. That means that the scanners for the -- the five for the Detention Center are \$732 each, the ten down below are \$402 each. Why is it a different price?

County Manager Abolt said, different scanners. I don't -- I don't know the answer, sir.

Commissioner Center said, okay.

County Manager Abolt said, we'll find out for you, sir.

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-2
AGENDA DATE: March 22, 2013

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

ITEM	DEPT.	SOURCE	AMOUNT	FUNDING
Two (2) mobile video visitation carts	Detention Center	Montgomery Technology Systems, LLC.	\$9,610	CIP-Jail Expansion Fund
71 respiratory escape hoods to assist during emergency evacuations	Detention Center	Elmridge Protection Products, LLC.	\$6,734	CIP-Jail Expansion Fund
Out of state prisoner transport	Detention Center	U.S. Prisoner Transport	\$3,304	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Telephone relocation to Pete Liakakis Government Building for Board of Assessors	I.C.S.	Integrated Network Solutions, Inc.	\$3,740	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Ford diagnostic equipment	Fleet Operations	Roberts Truck Center, Inc.	\$4,764	General Fund/M&O - Fleet Operations

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
Oil leak repair on unit #174- Public Works truck	Fleet Operations	Roberts Truck Center, Inc.	\$2,657	General Fund/M&O - Fleet Operations
Annual renewal of financial management system support	I.C.S.	Sungard Avantgard, LLC.	\$2,558	General Fund/M&O - I.C.S.
Five (5) licenses and subscriptions for webpage software	I.C.S.	Telerik Inc.	\$2,920	General Fund/M&O - I.C.S.
Warehouse shelving for Water and Sewer bay areas	Public Works and Park Services	Grainger	\$3,539	SPLOST (2003-2008) Public Works Building
Guardrail repair on Montgomery Cross Road and Hayners Creek	Public Works and Park Services	Leon's Fence & Guardrail, LLC.	\$3,000	CIP-Public Works
Five (5) document scanners for Detention Center	I.C.S.	Entre Solutions	\$3,630	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
5,500 fish to stock County wetland mitigation bank lake at the Al Bungard Conservation Area	Engineering	Envirolake, Inc.	\$4,125	SPLOST (1998-2003) Wetland Mitigation Bank
Ten (10) document scanners to utilize with document imaging	I.C.S.	Entre Solutions	\$4,020	File Tracking System
Design service for equipment wall screen at the Administrative /Legislative Courthouse	Facilities Maintenance and Operations	Greenline Architecture, PC	\$3,025	General Fund/M&O - Facilities Maintenance and Operations
Annual technical support and licenses for software for network infrastructure	I.C.S.	CDW Government, Inc.	\$4,381	General Fund/M&O - I.C.S.
Tax sale advertisements for months of February and March	Tax Commissioner	Morris Publishing Group	\$9,690	General Fund/M&O - Tax Commissioner
Motivational interviewing class for probation officers	Juvenile Court	Community Solutions, Inc.	\$3,452	General Fund/M&O - Juvenile

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3. ROADS AND DRAINAGE REPORTS.

Chairman Scott said, and also the Road and Drainage report. Is there any comment on any of those reports?

[NOTE: Commissioner Center had a question regarding the Purchasing Items. The colloquy is above under the Purchasing Items.]

Chairman Scott said, any other?

Commissioner Brady said, I do, on one of the reports.

Chairman Scott said, go ahead.

Commissioner Brady said, in the report in reference to Roads and Drainage, Facts and Findings -- in reference to number 2, the Diamond Causeway Bridge construction, I have a lot of folks that I know that live out at the Landings and it -- inevitably everywhere I go with somebody who lives at the Landings is inquiring about this bridge. Can someone give us an update about where we are on this bridge?

County Manager Abolt said, we -- we are in this case, we are GDOT, and we're giving our best estimate it will be open in June of this year.

Commissioner Brady said, so, does that mean that all of the issues have been resolved with the contractor and design?

County Manager Abolt said, GDOT is the lead on this, but reading correspondence I sent to Commissioner Farrell yesterday on this very subject the answer is yes based on their evaluation of the allowable -- and I use the term, design parameters.

Commissioner Brady said, and is there any way and -- and Commissioner Farrell, I don't -- I don't know if you would agree with this, there seems to be so much misinformation out in your District in the Landings about -- about this bridge because every time I go somewhere somebody's asking me that lives out there at the Landings that has to deal with this every day, and I believe you have to deal with it every day.

Commissioner Farrell said, I do.

Commissioner Brady said, to notify the people that -- that live out at the Landings 'cause I notice that one of the -- one of the letters that was sent by the developer on something else over there or one of the contractors had talked about the roadway not specific to -- to this bridge but a roadway closure I think at Whitefield at Truman Phase V, and gave the wrong dates, and so I think there's a lot of confusion about what is going on in that corridor if there's anyway to notify the citizens of what's going on.

County Manager Abolt said, all I can say is regarding the project Commissioner Farrell and Commissioner Stone can attest to this, GDOT has been very accessible to The Landings Association.

Commissioner Brady said, I know they went out there.

County Attorney Hart said, yeah, I can -- I live out there --

Commissioner Farrell said, I would like to respond.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Farrell wanted to respond to the -- to the comments that was made by Commissioner Brady.

Commissioner Farrell said, I -- I'm glad you're interested in -- in the Skidaway Island community, and we -- we have been working for many, many years with The Landings Association which represents the vast majority of the residents on Skidaway, certainly not all of them. What we've done is we've opened up communication with The Landings Association, and they have a comprehensive email list that reaches the vast majority of residents, and we disseminate information through that organization, and they have a -- they have the ability to shoot out these emails instantly. We've been doing it when the County does maintenance on the bridge to make sure that that community knows in advance, several days in advance, when we have to shut a lane down for the County to come in and weld some of the pieces that fell in the river and -- and shore it up until such time as we can decommission it, hopefully, which will be this summer. So we do have mechanisms there. They ask for information. I have to -- hats off to County staff. If they -- they -- they quickly answer their questions and get the information. Also, this is a Georgia Department of Transportation road project. This is a state road. This is not a county road or a city road. They are taking -- they are building this project. So even though it's their project and perhaps a -- a state representative or a state senator would be the elected official to answer these questions, myself and staff have gone the extra mile to find out the answers and answer it for them since we're apparently closer to the people than -- than the other legislative, elected officials perhaps. I don't know, you know, but -- but there are, you know, the County and staff has done -- taken tremendous strides over the last several years of using the new technology of email to communicate with as many people as possible, and it's -- it's a really good way to do it.

Commissioner Farrell said, and, you know, while I got a second here, CEMA has a -- a -- an information way if people will sign up voluntarily that they can get all kinds of different alerts about roads and different problems in real time through text and different things, which I'm sure CEMA could give you more detail. But -- but just because one particular neighborhood is well organized, not every neighborhood is that well organized that you can go to one governing body. So CEMA is an excellent point where people can get more quick information about what's going on in this County if it's of relevance.

Chairman Scott said, and I might also add that we've had meetings out there with The Landings Association, and I've also been given assurance from GDOT that if there's any delays or changes or any modification that they would certainly notify the -- the president or the director, the executive director of The Landings Association for her to be able to distribute it throughout the Landings community. So they are in constant communications.

Commissioner Brady said, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A status report was attached as information.

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-3 ROADS

AGENDA DATE: March 22, 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 March 2014.
2. Diamond Causeway. Bridge construction has resumed. Estimated open to traffic date is June 2013.
3. Whitefield Avenue. Construction underway by GDOT contract. Estimated completion September 2013.
4. Bay Street Widening. Environmental re-evaluation approved February 28, 2013. County is waiting on Notice to Proceed from the GDOT for right of way acquisition.
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 held on 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 December 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. Estimate beginning construction within 45 days, pending Board approval of contract award.
 - 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: March 22, 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. Design of improvements west of I-95 is underway.
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. Smaller pump stations to address localized problems are recommended. Staff is soliciting feedback from the municipalities of Garden City, Pooler and Bloomingdale.
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 began 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. Clarendon Road is now open to traffic and is the detour route for the Winchester Road closure. A project to improve drainage from the southern portion of Ashley Road is under design.
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. Design work is underway.
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 is underway and includes 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 underway and expected to be complete by June 2013.
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). Staff is negotiating a scope of work and fee for design and permitting of the improvements. The Board will be presented a recommendation for award of a professional services contract agreement upon conclusion of this effort.
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. Parts of a

conceptual plan developed in 2012 were determined to be infeasible. Improvements identified as feasible are under design.

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, hearing on further discussion on the information items, we will now entertain a motion for recess to executive session.

County Manager Abolt said, for the purpose of personnel.

Commissioner Center said, Mr. Chairman, I move we recess to litigation for the purpose of discussing personnel.

Commissioner Shabazz said, second.

Chairman Scott said, okay. It's been properly moved and second. All in favor indicate by voting yes; no, opposed. We will now go to the Executive Session.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Center moved to recess to executive session to discuss litigation and consultation with the County Attorney. Commissioner Shabazz seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The Board recessed at approximately 11:10 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 Farrell moved to authorize the Chairman to execute an Affidavit that the Executive Session was held in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present for the vote.]

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2. APPOINTMENTS

TRADE CENTER AUTHORITY

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Motion was made to appoint Commissioner Tony Center to the Trade Center Authority with his term set to expire May 1, 2016. The motion was voted on and carried unanimously. [NOTE: commissioner Kicklighter was not present for the vote.]

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ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the Commissioners, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 11:46 a.m.

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APPROVED: THIS _____ DAY OF APRIL, 2013.

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

JANICE E. BOCOOK, CLERK OF COMMISSION