

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 2014, 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 9:33 a.m. on Friday, April 11, 2014.

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**II. INVOCATION**

Chairman Scott said, good morning and thank you for being here. I will ask at this time that you be seated. We will have an introduction of our devotional leader by Commissioner Kicklighter of the 7<sup>th</sup> District, and after Pastor Hubbard makes his remarks and indicate that it's time to pray, if you would stand at that time and remain standing through the Pledge of Allegiance. We'll be led in the Pledge of Allegiance by our Commission Pro Tem Stone, and -- and if you will remain standing throughout the Pledge of Allegiance. Thank you so much. At this time, Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I am truly honored to introduce this Pastor. He came into Pooler in recent years, and -- and just really jumped right in the community helping out, getting things done. Anyhow, he's a really good man, and I'm honored, and I actually nominated him when you first asked for nominations, and I guess 'cause his father has more years, they -- they brought his dad in instead. But at this time I'm truly honored to introduce the Pastor of Bible Baptist West, and that would be Mr. Jeff Hubbard.

Pastor Jeff Hubbard said, thank you very much. Thank you very much for the invitation. I -- I'm very happy to be here, so, -- and to be in my dad's shadow seems to be a continual problem. But -- no, it's a -- it's a good thing. He always tells me he's the better looking one because he has more hair than I do. So, it's sad to be without hair at this young age, but we enjoy it anyway, and I like my hair style, so.

Chairman Scott said, I will also add that -- I will also add your -- that your dad has a terrific choir, too.

Pastor Hubbard said, he does. He does. So -- we haven't moved to that point. We're in a movie theater right now, so. But everything that -- I -- I thank you for the kind words. Pooler has been very good to us. We started the church about three years ago with 50 people, and we're up to about 225 right now and continuing to grow, meeting in a movie theater and in the process of purchasing 15 acres right at the entrance of Sangrena Woods, so, the Lord has been very good to us. So we thank you for what you do as a council also. So, let me read just a few passages of scripture, and then I'll -- I'll give just a little bit of a challenge, and then we'll pray. Ephesians Chapter 4, verse 1, he says, I, therefore, a -- a -- a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the spirit and the bond of peace. There is one body and one spirit. Just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all but grace was given to each one -- each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift. And -- and I think about a -- a room that we stand in right now, and -- and the -- the talents and the gifts and abilities that each one of you have been gifted with and -- and given to, and that you don't run from those, that you shared those. And -- and I see the Youth Commission here, and I see different people like that that you're continually investing in and continually sharing with, and I want to say a big thank you that you do walk worthy, and I would challenge you just a little bit in this that in everything that we do that we would practice humility, gentleness, patience, kindness, but above everything else that we would produce love. And -- and so I appreciate the way that you love our county, the way that you love our city, and that you love the people that are involved in that also. So, let us pray.

Pastor Hubbard gave the invocation as follows:

Dear Father, we come to you. We thank you for the way that you love us. Lord, we thank you for this time of year where we celebrate the -- the crucifixion -- the crucifixion, the death on the cross, and -- and the -- the arisen Savior that we can worship. Lord, I thank you for Paul's letter to Ephesus. Lord, I thank you for the challenge that's in there. Lord, I thank you for each one of these men and these ladies that serve the county so -- so willingly, so faithfully, and Father I pray that you would help us to, Lord, admire their example, but, Lord, that ultimately we would admire your example of -- of what you've done for us. Father I thank you for the opportunity to be here, and -- and to -- to teach your truths and to teach your scriptures. We thank you for the way that you love us. In Christ's precious and holy name we pray. Amen.

Members of the Commission and Members of the audience collectively said, Amen.

Pastor Hubbard said, thank you guys very much.

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

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**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

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**CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION**

Chairman Scott said, Pastor Hubbard, if you would come forward, please. We are not allowed to compensate you, but we do want you to know that we appreciate you, and for that, we wanted just to present you a Certificate of Appreciation for coming here and leading us in those wonderful words today.

Pastor Hubbard said, well, thank you very much. It's quite the honor.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, sir.

Pastor Hubbard said, thank you very much.

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**IV. ROLL CALL** (Introduction of Youth Commission members present)

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
- Yusuf 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 Bocoock, County Clerk

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**CHATHAM COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION**

Chairman Scott said, at this time I will introduce our Vice Chair Commissioner Thomas for the purpose of introducing the members of the Youth Commission who are present today.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, ladies and gentlemen, our Youth Commissioners serving today are Lindsey Mitchell, a student attending Windsor Forest, Simone Greene, Saint Vincent's and Kendyl Parker, from Savannah Christian. We're delighted to have you here today.

Youth Commissioner Kendyl Parker said, thank you very much.

Chairman Scott said, thank you all for participating, and if -- if something is said, and you don't fully understand it, if you want to ask questions, please feel free to do so.

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## **ORDER OF THE AGENDA**

Chairman Scott said, at this time we're going to deviate slightly from our printed agenda. We're -- if you'll look at Section VI, Item 1, the confirming or the selection of the County Manger. We're going to move that up ahead of some of the proclamations and special presentations that we have here today.

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[NOTE: Items VI 1 and 2 were heard at this time.]

## **V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

### **1. PRESENTATION OF NATIONAL MENTOR DRUG COURT AWARD TO THE SAVANNAH-CHATHAM DRUG COURT PROGRAM BY A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE NATIONAL DRUG COURT INSTITUTE AND BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE. JUDGE BASS WILL INTRODUCE THE MOMENT.**

Chairman Scott said, we're on Section V, and now we'll have a presentation on National Mentor Drug Court Award to Savannah-Chatham County Drug Court, and at this time I will recognize the Honorable James Bass, Judge, and let me also just acknowledge that our Senator, Senator Lester Jackson is in the back of the room.

Commissioner Center said, welcome home.

The Honorable James F. Bass, Jr., said, thank you Mr. Chairman. I want to thank the County Commission for inviting us here this morning, and I want to introduce some of the members of our drug court team, who are seated here -- right here in the front row here, and if they don't mind, will you stand when your name is called? Jane Cottier, who is our drug court coordinator. Will you stand, please? DeVita Slaughter, who is our treatment provider director. Reginald Martin, who is our assistant district attorney representative; Laura MarcAntonio, who is with the public defender's office; Todd Martin, also from the public defender's office; Bret Esckridge, who is from the Counter Narcotics Team; Cassandra Barnwell, from the Sheriff's Department. Is Ron here? Ron Robinson? Ron, from the Sheriff's Department. Now, these are the folks who make drug court work. They spend an inordinate amount of time in putting together what we need to do in order to make the program work the way it has worked for over the last 13 years. Thank you so much for coming this morning.

Judge Bass said, now, there's some people are not here that I want to recognize as well. Laura Miller, who is from our State Probation office; Daniel Haddad, Katrina Chisholm, Caitlin Hammrick, and Khaliah Robinson, are also treatment counselors that couldn't be with us. But the drug court program works because we have a lot of funding sources, and I want to recognize those funding sources, being the Department of Behavioral Health with the State, the Criminal Justice Coordinating Committee, and of course, you folks, the Chatham County Commission. Without your contributions, drug court would not have been able to operate as long as we have, and thank you so much.

Judge Bass said, what do we know about drug court? It works. Eighty percent of the people who interface with the criminal justice system have some type of substance abuse problem, either drugs, alcohol, or a combination of both. We also know 60 to 70 percent of them will re-offend within three years upon release from incarceration if they don't get treatment. We also know that that recidivist rate will be reduced to 15 percent if they get drug treatment, and that's what happens in our drug court program. We've served approximately 428 people since we've been in existence. We've graduated 221. So we have a -- a graduation rate of over 50 percent, and that's a big thing when you consider how difficult it is to treat an addict. But the program works, and we've been recognized for what we've been able to do, and at this point I'm going to ask Sonya Harper who is from the National Drug Court Institute to come forward, and she has some words she wants to make.

Ms. Sonya Harper said, thank you, Judge Bass. It was 25 years ago that the first drug treatment court was established in Miami, Florida, and the development of that program changed the way that the criminal justice system here in the United States addresses substance abusing -- substance abusing offenders, and today there are over 2800 drug treatment courts across our country. They exist in all 50 states and all of the U.S. territories. And those courts have -- they successfully treat 142,000 criminal justice offenders annually, and since -- over the course of these 25 years of -- of the development of drug courts, drug courts are responsible for saving approximately 1.3 million lives and have saved billions of dollars in tax -- tax dollar funds. Our mission at the National Association of Drug Court Professionals is to ensure that there are drug courts in reach of every person who needs them, and part of the process of ensuring that we accomplish that goal is the development of the adult mental court network. This network is a project that is managed by the National Drug Court Institute and our partners at the Bureau of Justice Assistance at the U.S. Department of Justice.

Ms. Harper said, every three years we solicit applications from drug courts from across -- across the country. We are looking for those programs that utilize best practices, that are consistent with research, and are producing best outcomes, and it is our intention to select those programs, have them part of the network, and have them train and direct other courts across the country as they develop new drug courts or look to retool

existing programs. And so, I am -- those courts that apply to be part of this process, they undergo an extremely rigorous selection process. Their -- their practices are reviewed by other criminal justice practitioners in the field from across the country, as well as a review conducted by the National Drug Court Institute. So I am quite pleased today to be here to recognize the outstanding accomplishments of the Savannah-Chatham County Drug Treatment Court as they were selected to be one of ten mentor courts across the country. This drug court will serve for the next three years as an exemplary example, as a -- a -- a program that we at the National Drug Court Institute encourage other drug courts across the country to replicate. And so it is with great privilege that I would like to present on behalf of the National Drug Court Institute, and our partners at the Bureau of Justice Assistance at the U.S. Department of Justice, I would like to present the Honorable James F. Bass, Jr., and the remainder of the -- and the -- the other members of the drug court team with this plaque. [Applause.]

Commissioner Center said, very nice.

Chairman Scott said, Judge, congratulations.

Judge Bass said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Appreciate it very much.

Chairman Scott said, and at this time I'll recognize the Commissioner from the 3<sup>rd</sup> District. He wanted to make some comments.

Commissioner Center said, thank you, and -- and let me give a waiver. I have no cases pending before Judge Bass, so these comments don't have any reflection on that. First let me congratulate all of you in the Judge court -- in the -- in the -- in the drug court for participating. I went to the last graduation ceremony, and I also want to congratulate the graduates who are the stories. I think in that ceremony you showed their arrest picture and then had them come up on stage, and to see the pride, not only in their accomplishments and their -- and the comments they made, but their families, their parents, their children, their spouses, their siblings, I mean you -- you saved whole families, and Judge Bass, I know when you run for office, there's -- there's basically, you know, a slate of what you're going to do when you're a judge, and this is basically volunteer time on top of being a judge, and I want to personally congratulate you and thank you, because this is civic duty you're putting in more than judge duty when you do this. And I congratulate all of you, it's a very impressive program, and on behalf of the County, I thank you, too.

Judge Bass said, thank you.

Commissioner Stone said, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman Scott said, we recognize Commissioner from the 5<sup>th</sup> District, Commissioner Shabazz for comments, and then our Vice Chair, Dr. Priscilla Thomas, also for comments.

Commissioner Shabazz said, good morning Judge Bass and your staff. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your work. We know that greatness is measured by the amount of service, and we thank you for your service in this area, this arena, and the idea that drugs destroys the moral fiber of our families and since the community and society's made up of individual families, it destroys the moral fiber of the society as well. I -- I truly believe that if we see a wrong in society, we should first try to remove it with our hand, and if we can't remove it with our hand, we should speak out against it, and if not, we should disagree with it in our heart, but that is the weakest among us. And I thank you for your efforts, including your staff to eradicate this crime and -- and -- and drugs in our community because all of us are affected by that. Not one of us can say that we don't know someone that's affected by drugs, a family member, a neighbor, maybe a son or daughter, and just the work that you do is so phenomenal, and I take my hats off to you and your staff for that today. Congratulations again. Thank you.

Judge Bass said, thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Words spoken by the Commissioner from the 5<sup>th</sup> District, it's extraordinary. Judge Bass, thank you for allowing the groups that I work with for your knowledge, your consideration, your staff. You've been a tremendous help to a lot of people, and I hope that you will continue as long as you possibly can. You certainly, you and the staff and all those that are affiliated with the drug program, have certainly made a difference in this county, but we still have a long way to go. Thank you.

Judge Bass said, thank you.

Commissioner Shabazz said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, we recognize our Commission Pro Tem, Commissioner Stone from the 1<sup>st</sup> District.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Congratulations to all of you. This drug court, as well as our DUI court and our mental health court, which I have from time to time attended their graduations are incredible. Not only does this cut down on recidivism in all areas, but it's saving lives and reuniting families, and that's the message that -- that comes to me and hits my heart is that you take individuals in -- in -- in all of these courts that have for one reason or another gone awry, and to see them and to see their families there supporting them and then being reunited with their families in many instances is -- is just overwhelming, so, you all are not

only doing your job, but you're making a huge difference in the lives of individuals in Chatham County, and I thank you so much.

Judge Bass said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, now we recognize Commissioner James Holmes from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Commission District.

Commissioner Holmes said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Judge Bass, you a tough judge. Very tough judge. I done been into your courtroom and I done see you operate, and you have such a demeanor with you in handling them cases. You remember I came before you with my family member, and the way you handled him, I can say thumbs up. But you mentioned something just now that you're staff what keeps your drug court running and going and working, but there's another part that I notice when I come to your graduation, and that is the candidates that went through your program, how they return to support your program, and I want to say that's a element that I have ran into some of them through the public, and we talk, and the only thing they can say is how well they want to support it because of what your staff does. So don't forget those candidates that went through your program and comes back at that graduation in support of it. They are your tongue and ears in the public that promote this program. So keep the good work up.

Judge Bass said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, okay. That -- again, congratulations and thank you so much for all that you do.

Judge Bass said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. [Applause.]

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

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## **2. RECOGNITION OF THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE EXPLORER POST 876, SHERIFF ST. LAWRENCE WILL EXPLAIN THE MOMENT.**

Chairman Scott said, at this time I'll call on our Sheriff, Sheriff St. Lawrence, to come up, and this is a recognition of the Sheriff's Explorer Post 876. Sheriff St. Lawrence will explain the moment.

Sheriff Al St. Lawrence said, I don't know if they're stage fright or what?

Commissioner Center said, nobody likes to be summoned by the Sheriff.

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, Mr. Chairman and members of the Commission, I'm very proud of these young people. They're part of our Explorer group. They must keep up their grades to be a part of it. They went to their third national competition this past year, and I'm not going to dwell on that, I'm going to let them speak, or -- or let Colonel Counihan and them speak as to what they did. They finished first in three exercises and a second in another exercise, and very, very hard work training and so forth, and I got members of my staff here that -- that do the training and help them out as much as they can, but it really paid off for us this year. I'm very proud of them, and I'm going to ask Colonel Counihan and Rhonda Bryant to come up here. They're the -- they're the -- they're the -- they're the work horses behind this program.

Corporal Rhonda Bryant-Elleby said, good morning.

Members of the Board Collectively said, good morning.

Corporal Bryant-Elleby said, my name's Corporal Bryant-Elleby, I'm the Post advisor for the Chatham County Sheriff's Office, Explorer Post 876, and once again I want to say thank you to Chairman Al Scott and the rest of the members of the Board of Commissioners here. So thanks again for affording us the opportunity to come here and share our achievements and our accomplishments at WinterFest 2014. As we say in the south, Chatham County Sheriff's Office Explorer Post 876 showed up and they really showed out, so we're proud of that. But just to give you a brief overview of the Explorer Post 876 again, it's a program for young men and women between the ages of 8, 7 -- between the ages of 14 and 20, that express the interest in law enforcement as a career. Not only do they go through that program and learn the basic funda -- fundamentals of law enforcement and what we do, we also offer them a mentorship, so we get them ready to be productive citizens in today's society. We also give them an opportunity to do community service and get community service hours. And we also want them to stay focused in school, maintain that C average or better. So we really do stress education. We also compete in national and local competitions, and just to backtrack, we participate in at least three to five -- three out of the five parades. But to also mention we also meet the first and third Thursday of every month, at least one and a half to two hours, and we do that voluntarily, as far as the advisors doing training. The advisors are back here behind us. We have volunteers - I meant we volunteer that -- that time. So just so you're aware of that. We're dedicated. Without that, this would not be possible. Not only do the deputies here do it, but we reach out to other agencies. So again, it takes a lot, but we love what we do.

Corporal Bryant-Elleby said, to get back to the competitions, we do the competitions here and also in

Tennessee, Gatlinburg. To get to the competitions, we were really, really excited. This is our third year going back. Last year was our first time, so it was a little bit rocky, but again we competed and we did place in the talent show, but hey, we placed, and we came in first place, which was Ms. Andrea Stokes. But now to get to the law enforcement competitions this year, like the Sheriff mentioned, we placed first place in three competitions, however, we did compete in six competitions, and we placed in four of those competitions. So without further adieu, I would like to ask Chairman Al Scott to help us present these Explorers with their plaques. The first place competitions were uniform inspection, and we had three of -- three Explorers that participated in that. We had Andrea Stokes, if she would come up, and might I add they were very, very particular about the uniform inspections. They went from head to toe looking for lint, looking for thread. It took us about an hour, hour and a half on each uniform with the finger nail clippers. We have Zachary Brooks; and we have Scotty Carson. We also placed first in bomb threats. This event we couldn't even go in and watch our kids. We just had to let them go in on their own. They were in there for a long time, so we said, okay, no news is good news, and low and behold, when they said Chatham County on the screen, I thought some of the advisors were going to run on stage, literally. We have Jada Cooper, Scotty Carson, Andrea Stokes, and Zachary Brooks.

Chairman Scott said, we don't have any more bomb threats? He don't have one.

Corporal Bryant-Elleby said, you know what? Uh-oh, somebody has an extra bomb threat? Andrea, check yours. They made an extra one. I'll give you yours at the office. Sorry.

Chairman Scott said, sorry about that.

Corporal Bryant-Elleby said, the next one is talent show. Talent show is Andrea Stokes. I might add that Andrea also won the talent show last year. She came in first place and the year before she came in third place.

Commissioner Center said, what was the talent?

Corporal Bryant-Elleby said, she can sing. That girl can sing.

Commissioner Thomas said, wow. All right.

Chairman Scott said, you want to hum a few notes here for us?

Commissioner Shabazz said, yeah. Yes. Yes.

Corporal Bryant-Elleby said, she sung the National Anthem. She's a really good singer -- we taught her. That's one of the things we do as well.

Chairman Scott said, we'll -- we'll invite you back to do the National Anthem for us.

Miss Andrea Stokes said, yes, sir.

Corporal Bryant-Elleby said, and the other challenge was a caving challenge, which is very, very strange. This young man, this box started out, maybe, no exaggeration, like this big (demonstrating), the next thing you know, it shrunk to five and three quarters, and he's very tiny, but with the help of some of the advisors, he managed to get through that space. He's not that big himself. Where's Jamare? He made it. So with a round of applause, we were very excited for our Explorers. Like I said, they showed up and they showed out. [Applause.]

Corporal Bryant-Elleby said, and along with the advisors and the volunteers, we put in a lot of hard work. We trained on Thursdays. We trained on Saturdays. Some of the hours were long. We did from 9:00 to 3:00 on Saturdays and we put in a lot of hard work and dedication. We would also like to ask the parents, the family and friends that were able to make it today if they would also stand up. I know I saw some parents. I saw Jamare's mom. I see Tonya. [Applause.]

Corporal Bryant-Elleby said, I just want to thank you guys for coming out because if it wasn't for you guys getting them to practice and everything and being dedicated, it wouldn't be possible because we know some of them are not drivers yet. So again, we thank you guys for all the hard work and dedication that it takes.

Colonel Counihan said, I do want to thank these kids again for coming out and doing what they do, and especially the advisors again. These guys, like she said, they volunteer their time. Saturdays they spend a lot of time to take care of these kids, and I do want to thank the Sheriff for supporting us in this. We started about three and a half, four years ago. He's given us everything we needed to do it, and it's really showed -- we've really showed progress with these young men and women. Hopefully we can expand this thing and get a little bigger and be back next year with you.

Chairman Scott said, we've got two members of the Commission that have either questions or comments, and we have Commissioner --

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, and I just wanted to add that they raise their own money. They sell -- sell calendars and whatever -- bake sales or whatever they do, but they raise their own money to accomplish what they do.

Commissioner Thomas said, great.

Chairman Scott said, that's terrific. Commissioner Pat Farrell, and then our Vice Chair, Commissioner Priscilla Thomas.

Commissioner Farrell said, yeah. Congratulations, guys. What a -- what a great project that y'all are working on. Could -- could we recognize the volunteer advisors so everybody could --

Commissioner Thomas said, yes.

Commissioner Farrell said, -- they could step up to the podium and recognize each of the advisors that volunteer to work with our local youth --

Corporal Bryant-Elleby said, sure.

Commissioner Farrell said, -- and we would like to show our appreciation for these individuals.

Corporal Bryant-Elleby said, sure, and just also mention too, we have -- we have kids from a variety of different schools, public and private. Right here we have Sergeant Lemiles Hill; Corporal Gary Murphy; Lieutenant James Moore; Lieutenant Carlos Michael; Lieutenant Mark Eichenlaub; and that's Deputy Wayne Marmoth; Colonel Brian Counihan; and that's Deputy Christopher Blount. [Applause.]

Commissioner Farrell said, well I -- make sure that they get some recognition for their -- for -- for what they're doing for -- for our -- for our youth, thank you.

Corporal Bryant-Elleby said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you. To Sheriff St. Lawrence, Corporal Elleby --

Corporal Bryant-Elleby said, yes.

Commissioner Thomas said, and to all of you, when I first met Corporal Elleby, I thought she was a high school student.

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, she's not very big.

Commissioner Thomas said, and then I -- I, you know, I said, well, she's carrying a weapon and all of that, so she can't be in high school. But I am sitting here, I am just bubbling. I'm just thrilled to death because I've followed you from day one. Just wanted to say keep up the good work. We have some additional things for you to do because we are now in the process of having you partner in some certain ways with the Youth Commission, as well as the Summer Bonanza kids. We do have one representative from your office, Sheriff St. Lawrence, that you're aware of, that works with these groups. This is what it's all about, making a difference in our young people. Giving them opportunities where they can excel, and so I say to you keep up the good work, we're looking forward to hearing bigger and better things in 2015.

Corporal Bryant-Elleby said, thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Sheriff, thank you so much --

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, -- for allowing us to be a part of this, and we really appreciate that -- the work of all of you all who volunteer, and Sheriff, your support of this organization is greatly appreciated.

Corporal Bryant-Elleby said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, get back to work.

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**3. PROCLAMATION DECLARING APRIL AS DONATE LIFE MONTH. AMANDA HOLLOWELL WILL BE PRESENT TO ACCEPT.**

Chairman Scott said, we have a proclamation, however, Ms. Holloway [sic] had to leave, but I wanted to make note of some of the things in their proclamation, and one of them is that -- is to declare April as donor month in Georgia, and one of the most meaningful gift that a human being can bestow upon another is the gift of life. There are more than 121,000 men and women throughout the country, and children, awaiting life saving, life enhancing organ transplant. And of that 121,000, 4,200 resides in Georgia. Whereas the need of organ, eye and tissue donation grows daily and as a new patient is added to the national waiting list for an organ transplant every 11 minutes. The crucial donor shortage remains a public health crisis as an average of 18 people die daily due to the lack of available organs. And it's because of that that we wanted to declare April as organ donation month and to encourage all citizens of Chatham County to participate, and the statistics that was provided is that in Chatham County we have 144,886 citizens who have already registered as organ donors, and we encourage everyone to consider registering as an organ donor. And with that, we'll make sure that a copy of the proclamation reaches Ms. Holloway -- or Hollowell, and we regret that she had to leave, and we'll make sure that she gets the proclamation. Any comments?

The proclamation reads as follows:



**WHEREAS**, one of the most meaningful gifts that a human being can bestow upon another is the gift of life. More than 121,000 men, women, and children await life-saving or life-enhancing organ transplants, of which nearly 4,200 reside in Georgia; and

**WHEREAS**, the need for organ, eye, and tissue donation grows daily as a new patient is added to the national waiting list for an organ transplant every 11 minutes. The critical donor shortage remains a public health crisis as an average of 18 people die daily due to the lack of available organs; and

**WHEREAS**, organ, eye, and tissue donation can provide families the comfort of knowing the gift of donated organs and tissue endows another person with renewed hope for a healthy life; and

**WHEREAS**, donating life through organ, eye, and tissue donation is the ultimate act of generosity and kindness Chatham County citizens can perform. Chatham County has 144,686 citizens that have already registered their decision to Give the Gift of Life; and

**WHEREAS**, LifeLink of Georgia is the non-profit, community service organization dedicated to the recovery of high quality organs and tissues for transplantation therapy and Chatham County supports LifeLink of Georgia's life-saving mission.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Albert J. Scott, Chairman, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim April 2014 as:

#### **DONATE LIFE MONTH**

in Chatham County to honor all those who made the decision to give the gift of life, to focus attention on the extreme need for organ, eye, and tissue donation, to encourage all residents to obtain the facts about donation, to sign up on Georgia's Donor Registry at [www.donatelifegeorgia.org](http://www.donatelifegeorgia.org), and encourage family and friends to commit to be donors.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 11<sup>th</sup> day of April 2014.

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Albert J. Scott, Chairman  
Chatham County Commission

**ATTEST:**

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Gail F. Gordon, Administrative

Assistant to the Chairman

Commissioner Thomas said, congratulations. That's wonderful.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

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#### 4. CHATHAM APPRENTICE PROGRAM GRADUATION.

Chairman Scott said, and now we -- we have on our agenda, an activity that we look forward to, and that's the Chatham County Apprentice Program graduation. And I would recognize folk from Step Up who are here.

Mr. John Willis said, thank -- thank you, Chairman Scott and Commissioners. My name is John Willis, and I'm the president for the Consumer Credit Counseling Service, and I also serve in the capacity as chairman of the board for Step Up Savannah, and I realize that the Chatham Apprentice Program would -- would not be possible if it wasn't for the strong commitment and support of the County Commission and -- and the Commissioners, but we're here today to recognize our most recent graduates from the Chatham Apprentice Program. They've worked so hard over the last few months, and we are so very, very proud of all of their accomplishments, but as chairman of the Board, I just wanted to say that on behalf of the full Board of Step Up Savannah, we thank you for your ongoing commitment to this program, your continued support, and the foresight to initiate this opportunity for many citizens within our community. And with that I'd like to pass it over to our acting director, Suzanne Donovan, for a few comments.

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

Ms. Suzanne Donovan said, thank you very much and thank you, Mr. Chairman and Commissioners. I'm Suzanne --

Chairman Scott said, good morning. How are you? I'm speaking to you, Suzanne.

Ms. Donovan said, oh, I'm sorry, and you were looking right at me, so I should know. I'm doing well, thank you, and I am acting executive director of Step Up Savannah, and I appreciate the opportunity today. I really -- today really is the time for Chatham Apprentice Program graduates, and we're really, really excited about that, but I also wanted to just take a minute to recognize someone who has really also been a central player in this program. Nine years ago we had several Commissioners from this Board, Commissioners Farrell, Holmes and Shay, in particular, that had the idea to try to partner with a non-profit to create a work force development program, but it was County Manager Russ Abolt and our former director Daniel Dodd who made this a reality, and initially, it was a construction apprentice program, so it was a partnership amongst the home builders, the county and Step Up, but really right from the start County Manager Abolt saw how critical employability skills were to that equation, and how we really needed to skill up in -- in our community, and more importantly the Commissioners and our County Manager recognized that poverty unaddressed impacts our economic growth and potential. So the county, I think, has just been incredibly innovative in this program. I just wanted to reiterate that. The CAP program has won critical praise over the years, and our Commissioners, I think, have given poverty reduction really a place at the County table, which I think shows a great deal for you. So I want to just give this over to Nick Deffley, who is running the program now, and again, thank you so much.

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

Mr. Nick Deffley said, good morning.

Members of the Board collectively said, good morning.

Mr. Deffley said, thank you again, Chairman Scott, and the Commissioners for giving us this opportunity to recognize these great individuals behind me here. We are very proud of them. It is because of your strong and ongoing support that this program has been able to continue and these participants are here today to be recognized for their progress that they've made. They're going out into the community to better their lives, and we are now here to encourage them on their path to improve themselves, as well as the vitality of this community. So for me this is the best part of our job. In this year we have redesigned the CAP program from top to bottom. The new job training is called E-3, which stands for educate, empower and employ. It's an 80-hour training program over four weeks, and we treat it like a job. We expect a high level of commitment from all of our participants to come ready to work, on time and engaged and enthusiastic about the program and ready to learn. One of the components we've added to it is an application process which includes a drug screening, background check, a one on one interview, and then also a basic skills assessment in math, reading and language. The primary components of this program are individual -- individualized learning program that builds on basic math, reading and language skills, again specific to what each individual's needs are in the program. We also have soft skills training, which includes -- includes professional development skills, conflict resolution, team work, and just general body language and non-verbal communication. We also provide financial education, which includes topics like home and personal budgeting, credit, building your credit, rebuilding your credit and just learning about credit. We also provide behavioral counseling, which is provided

by Heads Up Guidance Services, and that's both in a group and one on one setting once a week these classes get to have that counseling provided to them. And then finally we have coaching, which is one on one that we provide for up to six months to all graduates so that we're helping with job assistance, as well as just any challenges they might have along the way and make sure that they are facing fewer barriers along their way to get a job.

Mr. Deffley said, so, CAP is redesigned program with our partners to be more responsive to the needs of area employers. Now what we heard from area employers was we needed more customer service ability in our work force, we needed more communication skills, and higher levels of basic functional literacy in math, language and reading, and that is now we started to redevelop about the program, and now we actually know that we're on the right track because we just had the release of the Chatham County Workforce Development Study that was put on my Savannah Economic Development Authority, the Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce, the United Way of the Coastal Empire, and Armstrong University, and we found that the skills that the employer, their employers were saying that were lacking in our work force are the exact same skills that our program is now addressing, so we are very happy to know that we are on the right track. I would like to take a moment to just thank and acknowledge a few of the organizations, partner organizations, that we work with that really help come together and make this program successful. First that would be Consumer Credit Counseling Services, which provides financial education; Savannah Technical College; Heads Up Guidance Services; the United Way of the Coastal Empire; Moses Jackson Advancement Center; the West Broad Street YMCA; Savannah Metro Chatham Police Department, and then the J.C. Lewis Health Care Center. They all partner on each one of these classes to provide all the different benefits that we provide in this class.

Mr. Deffley said, I would also like to recognize a couple individuals who have recently joined our team. The first is Ms. Rasheena Johnson. Ms. Johnson I think is here today. Thank you. Ms. Johnson has been the instructor in the last two classes. We've recently brought her on, and she has done an fantastic job of really inspiring the students, engaging them, as well as just modeling a very high level of professionalism in the class, and then the second individual is Ms. Anna Morgan, and Ms. Anna is back there as well. Ms. Morgan is Step Up Savannah's most recent AmeriCorps Vista volunteer who has come into our group, and she is specifically working with the CAP program and provides a great amount of energy and really helps push the program forward, and we are very happy to have her with us. And then also Commissioner Holmes I would like to thank you directly as well for coming into our class and speaking to the last class that we just had. You are always very inspiring I think and you engage the class, and I can't tell you how many of these folks came afterwards up to me and said, man, I got to get to know that guy better, and I really loved how he spoke, and it just really encouraged them, so thank you very much. Yeah.

Mr. Deffley said, and then I would also like to thank a few of the area employers who have partnered with us either in providing guest speaking to the class and encouraged them along the way, or also who have hired them or perhaps even both. Those organizations are IKEA, Gulfstream, Goodwill of the Coastal Empire, Dixie Crystal, and Kroger, and I just have a brief story about Kroger. If you all remember back in November we had the last graduation, and one Ms. Frieda Jones, one of the graduates came up here and spoke, and she actually in December got a job at the new Kroger market on Mall Boulevard, and as a result of that, the Kroger manager saw how well she did in that program, they -- and she spoke very highly of the CAP program, the tools that it gave them to excel in the workplace and how it impacted her life, and so Kroger has hired over eight additional CAP employees -- or graduates to come in and start working there, and I believe there are even more on the way. So very happy about that. I think that really represents a bit of what this program is all about and the larger impact we can have. At this point I would like to introduce Mr. Isaac Felton, my colleague at Step Up Savannah and the CAP program. He's the coordinator for the Chatham Apprentice Program to share a little more specific information about these two classes that are graduating today. Thank you.

Mr. Isaac Felton said, good morning Commissioners.

Members of the Board collectively said, good morning.

Mr. Felton said, first I would like to say thank you for your dedication and your support for the Chatham County Apprentice Program. This program is about making changes in the lives of the people in our community. One of the unique qualities of this program is that it attract people from all walks of life, ex-offenders, single mothers, individuals who have graduated from college and just having a hard time to enter into the workforce, but the common factors that the individuals shared are that they all desire to make change in their life, and with the respect -- and with the support of you, the Chatham County Apprentice Program, we're able to make those changes and help them make those transitions. We have a total of 31 graduates. Now all was not able to attend because they are working, some are working, and that's a good thing because that's our objective, to put them back to work. We had 17 from the Moses Jackson Community Center -- Advancement Center and 14 from the West Broad YMCA. We have a 30 -- a 53 percent job placement rate, 82 percent retention; 54 percent of our participants are young ladies, 45 percent are males, and we also have 43 percent are ex-offenders. Fifteen of our graduates have gone on to continue their education with Savannah Technical College through either general education development, two year associate programs, certificates and certifications. And now I would like to introduce Natasha Lewis and Octavian Moore to hear their testimony about how CAP has changed their life.

Ms. Natasha Lewis said, how you doing? My name is Natasha Lewis. I'm a single mother of three. Upon going into the Moses Jackson Advancement Center, I was unemployed but I hoped -- looking for a job. Ms. Amber at the front desk let me know that they had a E-3 program, and through the E-3 program I was able to meet Mr.

Nick, Mrs. Rasheena Johnson and Mr. Felton. Upon going into the program, I thought I could just sign my name and walk out the door, but it was a process, so I had to return the next day, which I did. Entering the class it was -- seemed easy to do every day without a job, but it did become -- it became overwhelming with no money. This organization did not give you cash in your hand or anything like that, but they did give you support. They did give us gift cards, they did have like bus tickets and gas cards. I didn't use any of them 'cause I didn't find out till the end. I was riding on E, but -- it -- it prepared you with your resumé skills. Ms. Rasheena Johnson, I call her the lady of the hour. She taught you very well how to put all your skills together. I am a student at Columbia College on base. I am in the associate program for business, and even though I go to college, and I have had Savannah Technical College too -- resumé classes and everything, but she really broke it down on how to combine your skills. I was wondering why I couldn't ever get a job but I had the experience, and she taught me how to combine it, and I left -- I recently just came from Jacksonville as a bookkeeper from Winn Dixie, so, you know, Mr. Nick talked with me, and it became overwhelming, and I just didn't want to do computer work because I'm like, I'm already in school, and he was like, you know, he took me one on one in the room, and he asked me what I really wanted to do, and I really wanted to do office work, but I -- I know that I have to start from the bottom and go up. So I proceeded to apply for the bookkeeping position that I was doing in Jacksonville, and through that Mr. Felton told me that Krogers was hiring. I did get a offer there as well, but Bi-Lo came with more money, so, I'm with Bi-Lo, and I'm in Sandfly, and so, that's part of my story of the E-3 program, and how the -- it says educate, empowerment and employ, and I received all three. It wasn't easy. The four weeks seem easy. Sometimes I even cried, and I know a lot of people say it's not that serious, but if you want to get ahead in life it was serious, and I thank God for the program. We would not only -- at first I was a participant. When we first started out everybody was supporting each other, but at the end we really became a family, and even at the end, they still gave you a drug test. Thank you. [Applause.]

Commissioner Thomas said, congratulations.

Commissioner Farrell said, congratulations.

Mr. Octavian Moore said, good morning.

Commissioner Shabazz said, good morning, sir.

Members of the Board collectively said, good morning.

Mr. Moore said, my name is Octavian Moore, and I'm happy to have been selected to tell you a little bit about the experience I had at the CAP program. First I would like to tell you a little bit about myself. I grew up and went to school in Savannah. When I was about 18 years old I made some poor decisions to include substance abuse. My problem with substance abuse also caused me to have to spend time incarcerated, which really saved my life. After my release I could not find a job anywhere and thought that I had ruined the chance of having a successful future or being able to take care of myself. One day while talking to my mother, she told me about the CAP program that was being offered through Step Up Savannah. I signed up for the program, and it was like being given a second chance. Not only has it helped to renew my faith in myself, but I have learned that mistakes I was making when seeking employment. I am currently enrolled in Savannah -- in a program at Savannah Tech to obtain my GED and hopefully further my education. This is yet another benefit of being involved with the CAP program. I have still not found employment, but I know that I am on the right path. I owe it all to my re-commitment to God, to Isaac and -- and the others involved in this much needed program. It is my hope to become successful and mentor other young men who are struggling to succeed. Thank you for giving me this opportunity this year. [Applause.]

Commissioner Thomas said, fantastic.

Commissioner Farrell said, thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, congratulations. So proud.

Mr. Felton said, those are some wonderful stories. Right now we're going to award the participants their certificates. Commissioners, do y'all have any comments or questions?

Chairman Scott said, we have a question from a member of our Youth Commission, Ms. Mitchell.

Youth Commissioner Lindsey Mitchell said, I would like to know long has this program been around?

Mr. Felton said, this program has been in -- in existence -- Step Up has been in existence with the CAP program since 2006, but we redesigned the E-3 program the beginning of last year.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Holmes.

Commissioner Holmes said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just -- I was hoping all of y'all would have been somewhere working. You -- you -- you know when I met you over there, you -- you were so enthused about moving on and finding employment, so I know from today, we will be in the right path to doing what we have to do. I want to say congratulation to all of you all. There's something about this day that's sort of special to all of us, and that is just to see how Chatham County is working with youth.

Commissioner Thomas said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Holmes said, when you see these three young ladies sitting to this table here, part of our Youth Commission. You saw the youth group that came from Sheriff St. Lawrence, now this.

Commissioner Thomas said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Holmes said, you all are part of a movement in Chatham County which I labeled that as the youth movement in Chatham County. Ain't no telling what this county's going to look like with people like you all in the next 20 years.

Commissioner Thomas said, that's right.

Commissioner Holmes said, stay on the right path.

Chairman Scott said, now I recognize our County Manager.

County Manager Abolt said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ladies and Gentlemen, to further answer to the young lady who asked the question, where -- where did this all start? It really started, yes, after Step Up, but it began with Commissioners Holmes, Farrell and Shay, and they looked at what Step Up could do but wanted to refine it simply with the idea of seeing young men and women given an opportunity for being employed, particularly at that time giving a still robust home building industry, and they would have jobs in fact in that industry. It was a great beginning, but I think the important thing about the visions of Commissioners Holmes, Farrell, and Commissioner Shay, and now this Board is it -- it's morphed. It -- it's been improvised based on the fluctuations in the economy and it's still successful. But it's this County Commission, and this previous County Commission that made this all possible.

Commissioner Thomas said, yep. That's correct.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Shabazz --

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes.

Chairman Scott said, -- from 5<sup>th</sup> District, and then we'll --

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. Good --

Chairman Scott said, all right. Youth Commissioner Parker and Youth Commissioner Greene after.

Commissioner Shabazz said, good morning once again. I'd like to thank you for your service with the Chatham County Apprentice Program and the Steps Up -- Step Up Savannah, and I was listening to the gentleman here when he was saying some of the things that they do in terms of soft skills and how a lot of people take it for granted that we naturally have those things, but certain things we don't know, and if we don't know, we have to be taught those things, and I truly believe that you all were sent to be teachers, and I -- I thank the participants of this program for receiving the instruction because only a fool rejects the wisdom and instruction when it's comes to them and those things that's necessary for you to go on in society and be productive members of this society, and I -- I -- I thank you once again for preparing the next generation to take over the responsibility in terms of work force readiness and being able to step up into opportunity when that opportunity presents itself, and I thank you for joining the partners that come in and assist you like Consumer Credit and Savannah Tech and the YMCA and the police department, as well as J.C. Lewis Healthcare. That's very important, and I'd just like to thank you once again. It's -- the work that you do is unparalleled. Thank you.

Mr. Felton said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

Mr. Willis said, Mr. Chairman, we -- we would be -- we would be honored if we could have the County Manager present the certificates to our recent graduates.

Chairman Scott said, the Commission would be honored to have him do it.

County Manager Abolt said, thank you. Thank you.

Mr. Willis said, thank you.

County Manager Abolt said, I would be honored to have the Commission join me too.

Mr. Felton said, Franklin Albright [applause]; Michelle Seiler [applause]; LouAnne Barnes [applause]; Tiara Brown [applause]; Danny Corgin [applause]; Brandon Edwards [applause]; Thomas Houghton [applause]; Latasha Johnson [applause]; Albert Lawyer [applause]; Edward Lewis [applause]; Natasha Lewis [applause]; Damien Logan [applause]; Octavian Moore [applause]; Linda Moses [applause]; Elizabeth Stafford [applause];

Kenneth Thompson -- Thomas, excuse me [applause]; William Tolbert [applause]; Aretha Williams [applause]; Audria Williams [applause].

Mr. Deffley said, Chairman Scott, Commissioners, on behalf of all of us at Step Up Savannah and the Chatham Apprentice Program, and now our new graduates, we very much thank you for your time. It has been a joy. Yes.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I'd like to ask you how can I come over and see the work that you're doing in your facility where you're at?

Mr. Deffley said, you have done it. I will give you a call.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Mr. Deffley said, yes.

Commissioner Thomas said, two of us.

Mr. Deffley said, yes. Absolutely.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Thank you so much.

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[NOTE: Items VI 1 and 2 were heard prior to the Proclamations and Special Presentations.]

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

### **1. SELECTING COUNTY MANAGER.**

Chairman Scott said, and at this time I will entertain a motion to confirm the nomination of William Lee Smith, as your next County Manager. At this time I recognize the Commissioner from the 7<sup>th</sup> District for the purpose of a motion.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Are we okay here? Okay. First I would like to thank you, Mr. Chairman, for taking the lead with this. I believe you did an outstanding job, and I just want to thank you and tell you I do truly appreciate this. I'd like to thank Stanton Chase, the search firm, for doing an outstanding job, and before I make the motion I'd like to thank Russ Abolt, the man that has been the corner stone of Chatham County's government for many, many years. I just want to thank you, sir, and let you know that you will truly be missed, and at this time, I'm honored to make the motion to approve the Chairman's nominee, Mr. William Lee Smith, for County Manager of Chatham County, Georgia.

Commissioner Stone said, I'll second.

Chairman Scott said, been properly moved and second.

Commissioner Thomas said, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman Scott said, motion was made by Commissioner Kicklighter. It was second by our Pro Tem Stone, and at this time I'll recognize our Vice Chair, Commissioner Dr. Priscilla Thomas, for the purpose of comments.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman, fellow Commissioners, ladies and gentlemen. I asked for the privilege of making a few comments. First of all, let me state that I have had the pleasure of interviewing the candidate, just as all of the other Commissioners have. As a matter of fact, I had three pages of questions. He said, my Lord. However, I do have some concerns just as the people that I represent from District 8, as well as other calls that I've gotten from all across Chatham County. The question is what happens when you have a qualified person that could fill a position and yet they are not -- they are overlooked in a sense. The answer is that -- particularly young people are asking a lot of questions. Do we now not apply for a position in Chatham County when we graduate or do we consider moving out of Chatham County? I want to say to the young people, those that are at the table, those that are sitting in the audience, those that are out in the communities all across Chatham County, no, you do not have to go out of Chatham County. You will have a place. Once you have graduated, you meet all the requirements, as long as I live, I will make sure that that happens henceforth.

Commissioner Thomas said, one last thing that I want to say that during my interview with the candidate, I was very pleased with his -- all of the answers that he gave me. He was very sharp. He did not dodge any of my questions. He understood where I was coming from because I am a person who likes to be honest, and I said this to him, I want an honest answer from every question that I ask you. So, therefore, in conclusion, being a member of the Chatham County Commission, we have been working so hard to do things together for the benefit of the citizens of Chatham County. Therefore, with that said, I will vote to confirm the candidate. Thank

you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, there's further discussion. I will now recognize Commissioner Center of the 3<sup>rd</sup> District.

Commissioner Center said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to take this opportunity to explain to the constituents of the 3<sup>rd</sup> District and the entire county why I'm going to vote the way I am going to vote. Firstly I want to talk about the process. The first thing I did when I was elected to this Commission was read the county's charter. The law that sets out how we operate. Well, I found out that the county's charter is different from the City of Savannah's charter. In the county, it's very clear, the Chair nominates, and the Commission votes on that nomination. I told the Chair privately and now am confirming publicly that I had no issues and no problem with his method of selecting a nominee. He had success -- success with this method when the Port Authority hired Curtis Fultz, and everyone has agreed that was a good hire. Secondly, I did my own research. I went on line. I found Lee Smith's resumé. He was surprised when I met him when he handed me my resumé -- when he handed me his resumé I already had it. I read stories about his taking a leave of absence in December 2013, about his paid administrative leave in January 2014, about the law suit against the county by EMS employees. I even went to federal resources, Judge Bass may be proud of this, and read the complaint and the law suits and the answers.

Commissioner Center said, then I telephoned people in Wayne County, the reporters who wrote the stories and Commissioners who knew him. These were the comments I got back from Wayne County. Lee Smith was a quality manager. Wayne County is on a great fiscal footing because of Lee Smith. There was no problem until the Board of Commissioners changed. I think six or seven Commissioner changed in 2012-2013. They brought a new philosophy of management. New Commissioners wanted a greater input in the details of County Management. People said they were impressed with how Lee led Wayne County. All his hires were first class employees. He has a positive perception in the community. He played a big role in intergovernmental relationships, the Air Force base, the school board, and the municipalities within Wayne County. They said many counties in North Carolina are known for revolving door of county managers, and he was there, I think, 13 years. Then I met with Lee for about two hours. I asked questions about his December leave, his January leave, and his resignation, and I'm satisfied with his answers. I talked to my fellow Commissioners who are all satisfied and impressed with Lee Smith. I talked with business leaders in the community here that he met with. They were all satisfied and impressed. Now, we may consider a red flag, but even the Savannah Morning news wrote an editorial asking us to confirm. Even Marcus Howard's April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014, front page story, he expressed the same positive answers that I received. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, I'm going to vote to confirm your nomination.

Chairman Scott said, thank you. Further discussion by Commissioner Stone, our Pro Tem from the 1<sup>st</sup> District.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I want to echo some of what's already been said, and I don't want to be redundant, but I do appreciate your leadership in this role. I know it's been a long journey, and I know, Russ, you're ready to walk out that door so fast, but we are going to miss you. You've done so much for this county, but I too did a little bit of research on this candidate and had a wonderful interview with him, and there were some things that really struck me. The RFP, the request for proposals, that were sent out and his resumé lined up very well, and -- and that was very re-assuring to me. He seemed to understand some key issues that -- that I feel are important going forward, cost reduction strategies. We all need that now in government. Community consensus building. I like the idea that he's willing to work with other entities be them government entities or private entities and -- and fold them in to county government to enhance our county government. He believes in strategic planning, which I think is critical going forward. Economic development. We are so prime in -- in the City of Savannah and Chatham County and in the State of Georgia, but we've got to be able to connect the dots. Public and private partnership and business development. This will take us forward for many, many, many, many years. So I believe that this candidate is certainly capable. I think he's -- his energy and his enthusiasm will serve us very well going forward, and I thank you for -- for bringing this nominee to the forefront for us to vote on today, and I will confirm his appointment.

Chairman Scott said, we have further discussion on the motion by Commissioner from the 2<sup>nd</sup> District, Commissioner Holmes.

Commissioner Holmes said, thank you, Mr. Chairman and fellow members, and to the public, let me -- let me make it clear that I don't have any problem with Mr. Smith, not whatsoever. We all sit down and talked with Mr. Smith, and we looked at his resumé, and if I was Mr. Smith, I would come in here prepared also. I would come with all the -- the flags flying over me to be accepted, but all the promises that one go through in a search of this nature, neither of us know what we're receiving when Mr. Smith arrive. We all familiar with that process. I understand why we did what we did and how we did it, 'cause it's very plain and I applaud our Chairman for that, but there's a part of that process --

Commissioner Thomas said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Holmes said, -- that personally I don't accept. I will not get into that publicly. I will discuss that with the Chairman because we want to do things as a team, and me coming from the background in which I live, I'm a team player. I know the concept of what team is about, and one question I would ask, with all the candidates that we had, I want to know if we started from ten, what was the difference between Mr. Smith and the ten? And if we moved down to six, what was the difference between Mr. Smith and the six? And if I go

down to the last three, what was the different between Mr. Smith and the three, that our process sent Mr. Smith to us. How did he get to Savannah? What search -- what small part determined Mr. Smith from the last two? I don't know that, but by me being a team player and want to truly accept the best person, then I need to have been given more information to who I'm voting against. So, Mr. gentlemens -- ladies and gentlemen, to my Chairman, I accept everything what was done. I'm a team player in this process, but if we had to do it again, I want to know the difference between the one and the two.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Commissioner Holmes said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, any further discussion? Hearing none, let me just make this one last comment for the listening audience, as well as you all that are sitting in the audience. This process is sort of a three-prong process. One is that we hired a qualified -- one of the top ten search firms in the country, perhaps in the world, since they are a worldwide company to conduct a search. The search spanned approximately nine months and I personally interviewed six of the 41 or 42 candidates who applied for this job. Of the candidates I interviewed, we recommended that they take a personality and behavior screening, and if any of the six refused to take that personality and behavior screening, their name were taken off the list. Once that was conducted, we asked the remainder of the candidates to sign a consent form to allow a third-party, independent firm that specializes in background checks. You had to sign a consent form for a 20-year background check. Not five, not 10, but 20. The background check consisted of financial history, criminal, social media activity, print media activity. They research minutes of the counties in which this person had worked in. The sizes of the county that applicants managed ranged from 60,000 to 800,000, and if you were to simply reveal the first, the second, the third, or the fourth candidate resumé without having the information on their behavior and personality survey that was done by an independent third-party firm, without that information, you wouldn't understand how you weeded out the other candidates, and then to go further, without the 20-year background check information, you wouldn't know how we readed out -- weeded out even further, and -- and -- and that's the process, and the reason that a long list of candidates was not provided is that we tried to follow the charter, the law, the spirit of the law, the intent of the law, as the county charter is written, and I appreciate the support and the comments of all the members of the Commission. They've all been extremely supportive. They all have their opinion. They're all independent thinkers, and that is the way it should be, and -- and for that I really thank everyone for their support of this nominee, and if there's no further dis -- questions, I ask that all in favor of confirming William Lee Smith, as the next County Manager, vote yes, opposed no. It's unanimous. The nominee is confirmed. Again, thank you so much.

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

Commissioner Kicklighter moved for approval of William Lee Smith as County Manager for Chatham County. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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#### **2. RECOGNITION OF THE 100<sup>TH</sup> YEAR CELEBRATION CONFERENCE FOR THE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF GEORGIA. ROSS KING IS THE ACCG EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR. (CHAIRMAN SCOTT AND COMMISSIONER STONE.)**

Chairman Scott said, we have -- under that same section, Section VI, we have one other item that we need to take care of, and then we'll get back in the order of the -- of the agenda, but at this time I want to call up Mr. Ross King, who's the executive director of the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia. They are here in Savannah this -- beginning this weekend to celebrate their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and at this time I will recognize Commissioner from the 1<sup>st</sup> District and our Pro Tem, Commissioner Stone, for further comments.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is with great pleasure that I remind everyone that we have a huge conference in town this weekend, and not just the annual conference, but this is 100 years, and I know that Ross -- Mr. King, will give you a little background, but having the last year listened to the events leading up to this weekend, the history, why county government was founded, it's all very exciting, and I just -- I -- I am just so honored that you all are doing this here in Chatham County, and I know the citizens here are as well, and I think it's just going to be a spectacular weekend. You've got the correct weather. I don't know how you pulled that one off, but it's going to -- it's going to be beautiful, and I think that all of the training that the Commissioners will receive, the Commissioners from all over the State of Georgia, is going to be very meaningful and will make us all be better Commissioners and better stewards of this State and all of our counties. So I'm going to let you give a little bit of history about this 100<sup>th</sup> year celebration, as well as anything that you want to add. Thank you.

Mr. Ross King said, thank you so much.

Chairman Scott said, Ross, before -- before you speak, are all 159 counties a member of this association?

Mr. King said, yes, sir, they are.

Chairman Scott said, I just wanted to say that for the public to -- to know that this is an organization that represents all 159 counties in this state.

Mr. King said, yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, at this time I recognize Mr. Ross King, executive director of the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia.

Mr. King said, Chairman Scott, Commissioner Stone, other members of the Chatham Commission, thank you so much for honoring us and allowing me the opportunity to talk for a few moments about our centennial celebration. April 15<sup>th</sup> of 1914, 135 Commissioners joined at the Kimball House in Atlanta, Fulton County, for the purposes of establishing a state-wide organization. Their reason in joining together on that date was that the counties decided with the state being in a very poor financial condition that they would generate the bond funds necessary to put the state match on the table to allow for federal funds to be given to the State of Georgia for the establishment of the Georgia Highway Department, and for many, many years Commissioners in the state were recognized as Commissioners of roads and revenues. Our main focus was to put trade centers together and allow county seats to be enjoined and commerce to be established. And this organization, as the Chairman has just amplified, is made of 159 counties. For the first time in our organization's history at this centennial event, which we will now move to the Trade Center, also a first, every county will be represented. 770 elected and appointed officials will be joining for this next five days. We will have great glory with the opportunities along with the vendors that will join us and special guests, nearly 1400 individuals will be in this -- in this great county and will be able to embrace the history and the majesty of the organization.

Mr. King said, we focus, as Commissioner Stone has amplified, on four primary issues, and one of those I owe a great debt of gratitude to my dear friend, Commissioner Priscilla Thomas. Our core focus is that of civic engagement. The median age for a county Commissioner in the State of Georgia today is 56 years of age, so as I take a look at these young individuals in front of me, and I've worked for many, many years with the Chatham Commission as they've come and joined with us in programs at the state level and national level, we're looking to the next generation and hoping full well these individuals will be inspired by thinking about public service as a laudable vocation. And so our first pillar is a civic affairs foundation that Commissioner Thomas has helped to inspire. We've had over 250 interns working in 60 counties at this point around the State, and it's been joyful to watch those students embrace, and in some instances they've been hired by the counties in which they've worked. We also have a nationally recognized leadership development program, and we're quite proud of that. We have 77 new classes that we've added, and they've all been vetted by the Carl Vinson Institute at the University of Georgia. We focus very heavily on as the Chairman and others know on the issue of legislative advocacy, and we spend a great deal of time at the state house but also working very closely with members of Congress. And then finally we spend time on membership services. Not only for the members of our organization, but we also have programs that benefit the constituents.

Mr. King said, so its with great pride that we're here celebrating our 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. I thank you for the time to amplify our organization for a few moments, and as a point of personal privilege before I step away from the dias, I want to turn to my friend, Russ Abolt, and tell him how much I appreciate his mentorship, his friendship. We have shared joy together. We've shared pain together. He's a man that I have the highest respect for. He's a tremendous public servant, and with your actions just a few moments ago, I bid him a farewell but know that he and I will remain close friends in his retirement years. So, Mr. Chairman, thank you, and Russ, congratulations. God bless you.

Chairman Scott said, thank you. And we look forward to being with you throughout the week.

Mr. King said, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

County Manager Russ Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, if I may I --

Chairman Scott said, and -- and I don't know if there's another County Manager who's more tenured than Mr. Abolt in Georgia, 26 years. Is a long, long time.

Commissioner Thomas said, that's right.

Mr. King said, he is stellar in that service.

Chairman Scott said, Mr. Manager.

County Manager Abolt said, 26 years -- 26 years and 42 days. I -- I -- I do want to, because Ross has been so kind to me in all the years that I've known him, recognize the man. He's very unique in -- in the career choice he -- he has been upon. Very successful, but his strength of character makes him in my opinion, in all the years of public service, 45 plus years, seen heads of state and national organization comparable to ACCG, you will not find a better man than Ross King. Ross King is a human being not caught up in the moment or the ego or whatever, 'cause sometimes people are distracted, particularly at the state and national level when they get caught up in all the heady stuff of -- of state and -- and national politics. He's a human being. He's a special

person, and I will tell you this, he's a loving father.

Mr. King said, bless you.

Commissioner Thomas said, Mr. Chairman? May I make a comment, please?

Chairman Scott said, we recognize our Vice Chair, Dr. Priscilla Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ross, it has been a pleasure working with you over the past 24 years. I can recall many, many moments, and I won't mention one that he always reminds me of, called Toga, Toga, Toga. He knows what it is all about. He was so inspirational when I began as a new Commissioner and helped to walk me through many, many things, informed me as to the types of classes that I needed to become engaged in. So for the new people who have not taken those commission classes, so that you can become certified as a certified Commissioner, you need to do it, and Mr. Ross and others have done a splendid job. I look forward to working with you.

Mr. King said, thank you so much.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

Mr. King said, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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[NOTE: At this time Items from Section V were heard.]

## **VII. COMMISSIONER'S ITEMS**

### **1. YOUTH COMMISSION REPORT ON D.C. TRIP (COMMISSIONER THOMAS.)**

Chairman Scott said, at this -- at this time I will recognize our Vice Chair for the purpose of providing us with the Youth Commission report on their D.C. trip.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, Dr. Thomas. Members of the Board, we have had a full morning, and we are going to be very brief. However, I am very proud of our Chatham County Youth Commission. We are really, really going strong. We're in more than 27 states across the United States. We have been recognized by the National Association of Counties as the best youth group in the country, and I want to now call upon the director who guides the Chatham County Youth Commission, along with myself, Mayor Pro -- Pro Tem Van Johnson.

Mr. Van Johnson said, thank you Dr. Thomas. Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen, the time has been well spent, but thank you for the opportunity and privilege to serve as your gardener of youth potential in serving as the director of the Chatham County Youth Commission. Among the many wonderful things you do, the meaningful things you do, the bricks and mortar that you add to your county, you also add to the infrastructure the intellectual capital of our community through many of the programs that you've seen today, including the Chatham County Youth Commission. Over the last 21 years, over 500 young people have passed through this hollowed Chamber, and now they are all over the world serving and leading. We believe that if you change a child's experiences, and if you change what they're exposed to, if you can engage them and get them excited, then you can change their outcomes. Annually, you provide the opportunity for these young people to accompany you in Atlanta during the Savannah-Chatham Day activities, and likewise, for almost 18 years, we have represented Chatham County at the National Association of County -- National Association of Counties' conference where our young people have the opportunity to learn what you learn, to see what you see, understand the gravity of the decisions you make, and offer a youth perspective that -- of the issues that our nations commissioners, councilors, police jurors face on a daily basis. So consider this as the presentations are made, five days, three cities, over 2,000 miles, one bus, one bathroom, 42 of Chatham County's most outstanding young people, 42 iPods, iPads, MP3 players playing 42 different things at the same time, limited Wi-Fi, a crippling snow storm, and only one bottle of Tylenol, and you will get the picture.

Chairman Scott said, any flat tires?

Commissioner Thomas said, yes.

Mr. Johnson said, two flat tires, and a partridge in a pear tree. But, we survived, and today, to share their experiences and perspectives with you are three of our survivors, Simone Greene of St. Vincent's Academy, Lindsey Mitchell of Windsor Forest High School, and Kendyl Parker of Savannah Christian.

Youth Commissioner Simone Greene said, good morning. On our annual trip we visit many museums -- museums, learned many new things, and one of the new -- museums was the Newseum, which is a news -- museum of news and journalism and -- located in Washington, D.C., and this museum is like walking through time offering an opportunity to relearn hist -- historical events and relive the many new worthy -- newsworthy events of our time. At the Newseum we split up into groups and toured the museum and saw many displays that had -- that they had to offer. We saw things such as the 4-D movie, and 9/11 videos.

Youth Commissioner Greene said, and at the Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia, which is the United States Military Ceme -- Cemetery that honored those who served our nation. The Chatham County Youth Commission got to see the eternal flames at President John F. Kennedy grave site and watched the changing of guards at the -- at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldiers. And even though we were standing in the rain, it was an amazing experience. At the National Museum of American History which collects and preserves American historical in the area of social, political, and scienfital [sic] and military history. We got to walk around in groups and visit displays, and while walking around we saw the First Ladies' Inauguration gowns, and along with their kitchen china, and my group actually got to participate in the Presidential speech, and we got to make up our own. Overall the Chatham County Youth Commission trip was a memorable experience, and I would like to thank the Chairman and the County Commissioners for allowing us to experience it.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes.

Youth Commissioner Greene said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

Youth Commissioner Mitchell said, good morning.

Members of the Commission collectively said, good morning.

Youth Commissioner Mitchell said, on the Chatham County Youth Commission trip, we attended the National Association of Counties' conference. There my fellow Youth Commissioners and I made a presentation before the National Organization of Black County Officials for their sixth annual healthy living section -- session, which included socializing, smoking, sipping and sexting. The highlight of the trip was performing our skit to the County Commissioners from across the country about HIV. The skit gave information about HIV prevention and the dangers of unprotected sex. It also gave them the information about life after AIDS. With the Commissioners, we discussed with them having to get awareness out about HIV in their counties. We told them about the skate party the Chatham County Youth Commission held to get awareness out about HIV and to test people. Telling them about such a great event and the outcome there was encouraged them to hold their own.

Youth Commissioner Mitchell said, adult and youth communication was also discussed. The Commissioners wanted to know what is the best way for them to try to reach out and talk to youth. We explained to them that it is easy to communicate with youth when they are open, understanding and good listeners. They told us that we may think that we are the uncomfortable ones when talking, but in reality they are sometimes uncomfortable too. They explained to us that there are times when the youth should come to them. This was a conversation we all were able to interact in and get something from. My experience on the annual Chatham County Youth Commission trip is invaluable. I have learned many things that I can take on in life with me. On behalf of my fellow Youth Commissioners and I, I would like to thank Commissioner Thomas, Chairman Scott and the County Commissioners for allowing me this great experience.

Chairman Scott said, you're welcome.

Youth Commissioner Kendyl Parker said, good morning.

Commissioner Thomas said, good morning.

Youth Commissioner Parker said, the Youth Commission annual trip of 2014 was a once in a life time experience. We were able to experience so many things we would never have had the opportunity to do without this trip. We also learned so much about other counties and international affairs, which will help us to make more of a difference in our community and to make Savannah even better for you. On this trip the Youth Commission as a whole grew closer and had a truly amazing time. I wouldn't trade this experience for anything. On Tuesday morning we drew -- we drove to New York through the Lincoln Tunnel and passed the New Jersey/New York line between the two. We came out of the tunnel into midtown Manhattan. As we drove in we learned a little background about the City. New York City has 1.3 million people in five boroughs. New York City is also home to the number one media market in the U.S. The avenues go from north to south and the Streets go east to west. Then we arrived at the United Nations for the tour. I learned so much at the United Nations tour. The United Nations includes 193 countries and is made up of three councils. All are equally resent -- represented though only a member county -- countries can vote. Palestine and the Vatican City are the two non-member countries that can't vote. The council makes -- makes recommendations and is not binding. There are six official -- official languages. We even were able to walk through some of the councils while they were in progress.

Youth Commissioner Parker said, then we went to the World Trade Center Memorial. Standing in the spot that so many people lost their lives was really emotional, but the fact that these people are being so well remembered and respected with the Memorial and the Freedom Tower is a really positive thing. That night we went to see Motown on Broadway, a play about Motown's founder Barry Gordon [sic] and his journey to success, and it was amazing. The annual trip was an amazing experience, and I will remember it forever. I would like to thank Commissioner Thomas, Chairman Scott, and the other County Commissioners on behalf of the Chatham County Youth Commission for making this amazing trip possible.

Mr. Johnson said, thanks, and -- and -- and very briefly I -- I have to talk about the snow. It started out really, really nice. The weather was -- was cool but on Monday we ran into a snowstorm, and we -- we navigated to the hotel safely. The bus was on an incline at the Washington Hilton and Towers, so we -- we had our session, we got on the bus to leave, and the bus would not move. As a matter of fact, the bus started sliding backwards. So after -- after several tries we got everybody off the bus and we just decided we'll let the bus just slide down to the back of the street and then we will just go on about our way. Well, after the bus slid down and we tried to turn it, we realized we had two flat tires. Well, one flat and another one getting ready to be flat, and this messed us up. We had an appointment at the Supreme Court, which they were waiting for us, and so ultimately we had to miss. I -- a lot of our young people had never seen the snow before, and so to see these young people with snow everywhere, was just a -- a light-hearted experience for us. I'm sure it's something they will never, ever forget. Even in the midst of these streets being closed, the federal government being closed, except the -- for the Supreme Court that was waiting on us, and County Commissioners from across the country watching these kids just having the time of their lives in the snow. And I say that just to -- to talk about the measure of man in Russ Abolt and certainly the legacy that -- that he will leave with us.

Commissioner Thomas said, yes.

Mr. Johnson said, because one of the -- the two things in this room -- two people in this room that are a part of that is Dr. Thomas and Russ Abolt, Russ Abolt being with us from the very beginning. It takes a lot of courage sometimes to do something that has not been done -- or not been done on the level that -- that we've been able to be done. This program would not be so successful, we would not have the young people across this country, across this world doing the wonderful things they are doing if it was not for Russ Abolt. Certainly our oldest Youth Commissioners are now 40 years old and are parents and in some cases grandparents, but the reality is they remember Dr. Thomas and they remember Russ Abolt, and to tell you the type of man that he is, we were very concerned because we had a dinner appointment in Philadelphia. We waited for six hours. We had no hotel in D.C., and we had a hotel in Philadelphia we were not going to be able to get to, and he got on the phone, and he said, you let us know whatever you need to do, let us know, and we got you. And I can tell you what type of assurance that is for a person like me and for Dr. Thomas having 40 some-odd kids that are not our own on a bus that is broken with -- with stores and places and repair places that are closed, with parents starting to worry to know that wherever we had to stay, whatever we had to do, he was going to make it happen. He said do what you have to do, and we'll take care of you. So I just wanted to thank him on behalf of our young people because certainly that was a blessed assurance that he has been such a blessing to us. But thank you all for your support of these young people, and again, these are opportunities, these are experiences, that as they grow up and as they get older, certainly you all remember times in your lives when those -- those moments that changed your life, and -- and these are the types of opportunities we are trying to create for these young people. Thank you very much.

Commissioner Thomas said, about how many kids we have enrolled this year?

Mr. Johnson said, we have 44.

Commissioner Thomas said, 44. Thank you. Mr. Chairman, just --

Mr. Johnson said, thank you all very much.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you so very much.

Chairman Scott said, thank you so much.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Commissioner Center said, he's not excused.

Chairman Scott said, Van --

Mr. Johnson said, sir?

Commissioner Shabazz said, come on back up.

Chairman Scott said, let me -- let me -- let me just tell you this, that -- and we don't want the Youth Commission to miss this moment.

Mr. Johnson said, they have to go back to school, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, I -- I understand -- but, in behalf of the --

Mr. Johnson said, 'cause we stress scholarship.

Chairman Scott said, -- and they -- they were present in the Green Room, but in behalf of the Susan B. [sic] Komen Foundation, the County Commissioners were so enthused about you wearing this pink -- what did you call it?

Assistant County Attorney Jennifer Burns said, tutu.

Chairman Scott said, tutu, that they ponied up to make sure that Jennifer were able to reach her goal just because they were looking forward to it. Now you don't have to try it on or audition, but the County Commissioners insisted in the Green Room that you're not allowed to wear khakis or street pants when you wear it.

Commissioner Thomas said, oh Lord.

Chairman Scott said, that you will have to be in tights or something equivalent in order to wear it, and we want you to know that -- that the money has been raised, and we wanted to make sure that she didn't fall short because we're looking forward to you wearing that.

Mr. Johnson said, I think we're still short.

Assistant County Attorney Burns said, no, we're not. In fact -- in fact if I could just take this opportunity to thank you, Mr. Chairman, to tell --

Chairman Scott said, and -- and if she is, then -- if she's short, then I've got another check for her.

Assistant County Attorney Burns said, Mr. Chairman, you would be surprised the number of people who have said that to me today. The generosity of the Commission and the employees of Chatham County has been amazing, and at this moment I think that we have raised closed to \$6,000. Almost 1,000 more than what I was required to get him in the tutu, and so I think we funded this project.

Chairman Scott said, and -- and the County Manager that you were bragging about, he's applauding the efforts.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman, rather than chanting take it -- take it off, let's chant, put it on. Put it on. Put it on.

Mr. Johnson said, well --

County Manager Abolt said, put it on.

Mr. Johnson said, well I've learned a very important lesson that you don't talk to lawyers without your lawyer being present. That's kind of how I -- I got caught in this, and I -- I really wasn't going to do it, but since the time and the word kind of got out, I have just been contacted and -- and people walking into me in the street, people who have either been survivors or people who have had someone affected. I was just not aware of the impact that breast cancer has had on our community. Everybody that knows somebody has been personally affected, and the good news is that there are survivors every day, more survivors every day, and so, if -- if humiliating myself for 3.1 miles means that we're able to raise \$6,000 to the cause of making sure that we have many more good stories, then -- then I'm -- I'm willing to be able to do that. Also men get breast cancer, and I -- I was not necessarily aware of that, so, get mammograms.

Commissioner Shabazz said, hold on. Hold on. They also partnered with Savannah Morning News to do a full page story on the front page.

Mr. Johnson said, thank you very much for your support.

Commissioner Farrell said, hey, you forgot something. Don't forget your uniform.

County Manager Abolt said, no. No. No.

Chairman Scott said, don't -- don't -- don't leave your wardrobe.

County Manager Abolt said, put it on.

Chairman Scott said, and to the members of the Youth Commission, thank you so much for that report.

Youth Commissioner Parker said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, I think pink's going to become you.

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## VIII. TABLED/RECONSIDERED ITEMS

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

Chairman Scott said, we don't have any Tabled Items or anything to Reconsider.

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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: IN THE SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND TRANSFER \$21,700 FROM CONTINGENCY TO MPC FOR A DIGITIZATION OF DATA PROJECT.**

Chairman Scott said, so we are now on the Individual Action Items. The first item, and this is Section IX, the first item is to request approval of the following budget transfer: in the Special Service District Fund transfer \$21,700 from the contingency to the MPC for the purpose of digitization of data project.

Commissioner Farrell said, so moved.

Commissioner Stone said, so moved.

Chairman Scott said, is there a second?

Commissioner Shabazz said, second.

Chairman Scott said, properly moved any second. Is there any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor of the motion indicate by voting yes, opposed no. Motion carries. The funds are transferred.

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

Commissioner Farrell moved for approval of the following budget transfers: in the Special Service District Fund transfer \$21,700 from contingency to MPC for a digitization of data project. Commissioner Shabazz seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Brady and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: IX-1**  
**AGENDA DATE: April 11, 2014**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners  
**THRU:** R. E. Abolt, County Manager  
**FROM:** Amy Davis, Finance Director

### **ISSUE:**

To request approval of the following budget amendments and transfers: in the Special Service District Fund transfer \$21,700 from contingency to MPC for a digitization of data project.

### **FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

The MPC Executive Director is requesting a \$21,700 contingency transfer to complete a Digitization of Data project. The transfer will be from the Special Service District Fund contingency. Correspondence is attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).

### **FUNDING:**

Funds are available in the Special Service District Fund contingency.

### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. That the Board approve the following:

**SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND**

Transfer \$21,700 from contingency to MPC for a Digitization of Data 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. REQUEST BOARD CONCEPTUALLY APPROVE A PLAN FOR RESTRUCTURING CHATHAM COUNTY'S DEBT THROUGH THE REFINANCING OF THE DOWNTOWN SAVANNAH AUTHORITY REFUNDING SERIES 2005 DSA BONDS, REDUCING ANNUAL DEBT SERVICE PAYMENTS IN THE GENERAL FUND M&O.**

Chairman Scott said, Item 2 is to request Board conceptual approval of a plan for restructuring Chatham County's debt through the refinancing of the Downtown Savannah Authority Refunding Series 2005 DSA Bonds and reducing annual debt service payment in the General Fund in M&O.

Commissioner Stone said, that's good -- I -- I move for approval.

Commissioner Holmes said, second.

Commissioner Farrell said, second.

Chairman Scott said, properly moved and second. Any discussion?

Commissioner Center said, yeah. As I'm reading this, this explains we're taking advantage of the downward trend in interest rates to get better rates, is that correct?

County Manager Abolt said, that's correct.

Commissioner Thomas said, right.

Commissioner Holmes said, exactly.

County Attorney R. Jonathan Hart said, essentially.

Chairman Scott said, right.

County Manager Abolt said, and we've done it before, but I do want to recognize the work of both Ms. Cramer and Ms. Davis on this. This is --

Commissioner Center said, I just wanted the public to know we're taking advantage of lower interest rates.

Commissioner Stone said, that's great.

Chairman Scott said, I think it's an opportunity to save about \$500,000.

County Manager Abolt said, yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, any further discussion? Hearing none, all in favor of the motion indicate by voting yes, opposed no. Motion carries.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Stone moved to conceptually approve a plan for restructuring Chatham County's debt through the refinancing of the Downtown Savannah Authority Refunding Series 2005 DSA Bonds, reducing annual debt service payments in the General Fund M&O. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Brady and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: IX-2**

**AGENDA DATE: April 11, 2014**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

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

**FROM:** Linda B. Cramer, Assistant County Manager  
Amy Davis, Finance Director

**ISSUE:**

To conceptually approve a plan for restructuring Chatham County's debt through the refinancing of the Downtown Savannah Authority Refunding Series 2005 DSA Bonds, reducing annual debt service payments in the General Fund M&O.

**BACKGROUND:**

The County's financial advisor, PFM Group, has analyzed debt service payments on the County's 2005 bond issue and has concluded that current market interest rates would provide savings to the County if the callable portion of the debt was refinanced.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The county issues \$29,055,000 million in revenue bonds through the Downtown Savannah Authority (DSA) in 2005. Approximately \$10.1 million of this issue remains outstanding with final maturity on January 1, 2026. The bonds pay interest between 4% and 5%, depending on their maturity date.
2. The County has the ability to refund bonds totaling \$9,555,000 from the 2005 bond issue, representing debt service payable in fiscal year 2016 through 2026. Bonds that will mature in January 2015 are not part of the refunding since they are not callable.
3. Interest rates are now lower than the 2005. Therefore, the County could refinance the bonds at a lower interest rate to take advantage of market conditions. Preliminary analysis by the financial advisor has indicated a potential net present value savings of approximately \$568,000. The refunded bonds would pay interest between 3% and 4%.
4. The savings would be spread out over the life of the bonds. Annual savings would be approximately \$50,000 to 455,000 per year.
5. A preliminary schedule has not yet been developed; however, it is anticipated that the bond refunding would be completed before the end of the fiscal year 2014. Future action of the Board will be required to provide direction to the Downtown Savannah Authority and finalize the bond sale.
6. The financial advisor will market this as bank qualified debt which means that a financial institution will most likely purchase the bonds.

**FUNDING:**

Debt service funding is provided in the county's General Fund M&O budget. The refunded debt would require less debt service than is currently needed and would be effective for fiscal year 2016.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

Chatham County has previously restructured bond debt to take advantage of lower interest rates, and this plan would provide similar benefits by lowering annual debt service payments.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. That the Board authorize staff to proceed with the refunding issue of the 2005 DSA bonds through the Downtown Savannah Authority.
2. Provide staff with other direction.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Alternative #1.

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### 3. BRIEFING BY CHIEF TOLBERT.

Chairman Scott said, the third item under Individual Action, we will now have a briefing by our interim police chief, Chief Tolbert, and I think she brought along a lot of brass with her. So it's Chief Tolbert and senior officers of the Department.

Chief Julie Tolbert said, good morning Mr. Chairman and Commissioners.

Members of the Board collectively said, good morning.

County Manager Abolt said, good morning.

Chief Tolbert said, to begin my report, I would like to first acknowledge the fact that recently we made a change within the West Chatham precinct. The current captain or commander of the precinct is Captain Charles Hall and the division man -- commander is now Major James Barnwell. Since taking over as interim chief a few months ago, numerous reassignments took place in order to move the department in the direction that we need to go and staying focused on our primary mission which is crime reduction and public safety. The first quarter of this year, through March, the West Chatham precinct is showing a decrease in violent crimes but an increase in property crimes and that's primarily due to auto thefts and thefts from buildings. The southside precinct is showing negative numbers in both violent crimes and property crimes, which is outstanding. One of the problems plaguing the southside precinct has generally been shopliftings in the malls, and we're still challenged to handle that aspect because it's real difficult when the shopliftings are, of course, taking place within the malls. The islands precinct is likewise showing a decrease to date in violent crimes and a slight increase in property crimes in comparison to last year numbers. Thefts seems to be the problem in the islands as well. When these increases occur, of course, the precinct commanders, as well as the majors, the executive staff, come together on a regular basis to re-assess strategies and look at patterns and determine what type of re-employment and additional resources -- sources are necessary in order to eliminate the problem.

Chief Tolbert said, marine patrol experiences relatively low problems on the water during the winter months and will assist the precincts when that occur. Now, they're gearing up right now for summer, and generally what happens, of course, as you know, is we have more boating activities during the summer months. They are partnering with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources to assist them in this process so that we can eliminate and reduce as much boating accidents during this summer's months as possible. The animal control unit recently re-evaluated the volunteer program to make the program work best for the shelter, and especially for the care of the animals. This consisted of revisiting the policies and developing handbooks to use as guides. We had an over -- overwhelming number of volunteers working within the shelter, which we truly appreciate -- appreciated and still appreciate, but they were running into each other because we had so many volunteers. It was necessary for the unit to re-evaluate the resources and to determine how to best utilize the services of these volunteers, and they're currently in that process right now. As you know, the shelter responds to a large volume of calls each year. This past year the shelter actually responded to 6700 animal complaint calls. In addition to the 5,000 that the beat officers or the patrol officers responded to for a total of about 11,500 calls that's -- just this past year.

Chief Tolbert said, one of my top priorities moving forward is in the area of recruitment, of course. Recruitment and retention has always been a challenge for the department, and in order for us to provide the quality services that we need to -- to this community, we've got to do much better in maintaining staffing. We have a long list of items actually that we're working on moving forward within the organization, everything from convincing you all as to why we need additional staffing in the animal control shelter for an example, pay incentives for the officers to motivate them and to keep them involved in, you know, different career developments that the police department offers to them to hold on to as many of them as we possibly can without the competition that we are constantly faced with in leaving -- them leaving us and going to other agencies. And here recently I was notified by the State that the department did satisfy all of the standards necessary in order to receive re -- re-certification, sorry, re-certification. The department worked extremely hard over the last several months to make sure that this happened. We definitely wanted to get this re-certification, and getting notified that we did exceed the standards and we will receive that over the next month or so, has been a real positive for us. And that's about it in terms of my presentation. If you have questions, I'll be glad to answer any questions.

Commissioner Center said, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman Scott said, we got Commissioner Holmes from the 2<sup>nd</sup>, Commissioner Center from the 3<sup>rd</sup>, Commissioner Shabazz from the 5<sup>th</sup>, and our Vice Chair, Dr. Priscilla Thomas from the 8<sup>th</sup> District.

Commissioner Holmes said, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, in that order.

Commissioner Holmes said, Chief, thank you for the report, but a couple of questions I want to -- you --- you -- you mentioned something just now that -- that I'm concerned about. Your recruitment. If -- if -- if we have -- how long a trainee go through training?

Chief Tolbert said, they -- they spend about three months in the academy and an additional three months at the department going through a process of training within the office -- agency with the officers.

Commissioner Holmes said, and when they comes out and gets sworn in, how long of a average trainee that we have with us after they get sworn in? Is -- is -- are we losing them within five years, three years or what?

Chief Tolbert said, yes. We -- we -- we have turnover. The competition, it -- it's -- it's great. I mean the officers are challenged to stay with the agency as a result of pay, equipment. They have a -- a mirror of different issues that come across that they are challenged with to determine whether or not we keep them or not, and we are

looking at those challenges. In fact, we recently went out into the precincts to talk with the officers to get feedback from them as to what it is that we needed to do internally if anything to hold on to them as long as we could possibly, and they gave us a list of items that they felt could help. Some of the items we could fix internally, and we are working on and some of the items above our authority that would be presented to the county and the city manager.

Commissioner Holmes said, how does our salary compare to other agencies in our area?

Chief Tolbert said, well, we're hearing things from officers in terms of three- and four- dollar differences from what smaller municipalities may offer them, and it makes a difference to them if -- if they're able to get a pay increase at an additional \$4 or \$5 per pay period.

Commissioner Holmes said, how often do they get pay increase?

Chief Tolbert said, we do annual increases.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay.

Chief Tolbert said, the city does and the county does as well.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay. 'Cause I -- I mentioned -- you -- you mentioned just now about pay incentive, are you working on some incentive to kind of hold onto them?

Chief Tolbert said, we are working -- we are looking at them to make a presentation to the Managers.

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

Chief Tolbert said, yes. There -- there are a number of ways that we -- we think we can come up with to help them with incentives, and it's not specifically just money. They would like, of course, take home vehicles --

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

Chief Tolbert said, -- more and better equipment. Items of that nature.

Commissioner Holmes said, so would it be safe to say we training them and then we're losing them?

Chief Tolbert said, we're not losing all of them. I would say we do lose some.

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

Chief Tolbert said, but like I said, they -- they have a variety of reasons as to why they themselves choose to leave and go to other agencies.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay. Thanks, Chief.

Commissioner Center said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good morning, Chief.

Chief Tolbert said, good morning.

Commissioner Center said, first I -- I want to say that I -- I was fortunate with our Chairman Scott and Commissioner Stone to come to your luncheon yesterday, your meritorious service awards, and I'd like to ask Assistant Chief Enoch if you would email me that poem that he read at the end. I was very touched by that. You know, my grand -- I've told you and I've told Assistant Chief Enoch my grandfather was a Savannah City policeman.

Chief Tolbert said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, I know you stepped into the position at a very delicate and sensitive time, and to keep the public's trust and build the public's trust, and I appreciate what you're doing, all of you, to -- to build on that. I have a couple of questions -- and I also appreciate a few weeks ago you -- you shared your survey. You asked your individual officers what they want and you got a number of responses.

Chief Tolbert said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, and I appreciate you sharing that with us. I got an -- an email from a downtown neighborhood association earlier this week. There's been a -- a recent spike in phone snatchings, electronic phone snatchings downtown. I wanted you to speak a little bit on that, and also I wanted to make a suggestion that on, particularly Fridays and Saturdays, if you would think about having a uniformed officer walking Broughton Street. I think it adds a level of comfort to the citizens and to visitors to see a uniformed person there. I know Van [Johnson] has already left, but I think the City of Savannah has an anti-littering ordinance, and you'd probably pay the extra cost by just writing tickets for throwing cigarettes down on Friday and Saturday nights.

Would you speak about that, and also about these phone snatchings so the public will know more about it?

Chief Tolbert said, we have had a challenge with cell phones being taken, not just from someone coming up and snatching it from you, but people will -- will seize the opportunity when necessary if you lay it down, they'll take it and walk away with it. Police reports are being made. At one time we were not taking reports on cell phones because people were losing cell phones, they were dropping them and destroying them themselves and then turning around and making police reports to report them stolen, and we are seriously re-evaluating how we look at cell phone -- cell phone loss and taking reports on those loss, but in addition to that, the officers that circulated -- circulating around in the neighborhoods are taking closer looks at individuals with phones, and we're putting out media releases through the Facebook page, as well as our Twitter page to alert the public -- public to the thefts that's occurring and hoping that people will take more initiative in safe-guarding their property. In terms of, you know, officers walking in -- in the downtown area, that's been going on with the police department for quite some time. We have encouraged that for years that they get out of the cars and they spend more time in the precincts, not just downtown but in all of the precincts, walking and getting to know who their neighbors are and engaging the public more. And the downtown and the district -- the entertainment district has -- has really grown tremendously over the last several years with pedestrian traffic -- traffic, and of course, because of the tourists that frequents that area. We put officers in the parks and the squares to kind of keep an eye on that, but you may or may not see them as readily as you would like to because they also have to respond to calls for services when necessary, but we are doing everything that we can possibly do to encourage that.

Commissioner Center said, thank you. And -- and before I relinquish my time, I also say it -- it's a shame that, you know, there's no way to grab the headlines for the service that you rewarded yesterday, many life saving services.

Chief Tolbert said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, life-risking services --

Chief Tolbert said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, -- you know, we -- we -- we get the -- the lawsuit accusations make the headlines.

Chief Tolbert said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, it's a shame that -- that what you gave award for yesterday does not make the headline as readily.

Chief Tolbert said, that's right. The officers do an excellent, outstanding job. Every single day they risk their lives for this community, and we like to show our appreciation to that, even if sometimes they don't always get it from the public, but we want to make sure that they know that we do appreciate everything that they do to help motivate and encourage them to continue doing the work that they do.

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

Commissioner Shabazz said, good -- good after -- good morning.

Chief Tolbert said, good morning.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I'd like to first apologize Chief Tolbert for not attending your luncheon on yesterday because I had another engagement, and I told your husband. I was over at the EOA.

Chief Tolbert said, yes.

Commissioner Shabazz said, and I'd like to just also commend you for your service and your efforts in upholding the police department. I think you're doing a wonderful job.

Chief Tolbert said, thank you.

Commissioner Shabazz said, and I'd also like to commend you for your response in terms of resolution of conflict and your zero -- zero tolerance level for foolishness with the force.

Chief Tolbert said, sure.

Commissioner Shabazz said, and also reprimanding officers who are inappropriate. I'd like to thank you for that.

Chief Tolbert said, thank you.

Commissioner Shabazz said, and, you know, just recently my wife was attacked by the neighbors dog.

Chief Tolbert said, yes.

Commissioner Shabazz said, and I thank you for just responding to that immediately.

Chief Tolbert said, sure.

Commissioner Shabazz said, and we -- we went to the health department for a hearing, and we're supposed to appear in court, but just the idea how you responded, it softened our heart not to even pursue it anymore because the neighbors had -- began to contain their dog, you know, but it was all in the work that you did. I'd like to thank you for that.

Chief Tolbert said, you're quite welcome.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes, ma'am.

Chief Tolbert said, that's why we're here. Thank you.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes, ma'am. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Dr. Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you. I guess I had a lot to say today, and I'm about to finish, but first of all I'd like to thank you for stepping up to the plate, which you faced so many, so many challenges, but what I have seen thus far you have done an excellent job, as well as all of the officers. I can say nothing but praises for all of the officers in Chatham County, that includes the City and all, you know, all of the municipalities and everywhere, but particularly here in Chatham County. I see them every day back and forth, back and forth, and they're very professional whenever they are handling a situation. I want to also say that you have your fingers on the pulse of the negative criticisms -- situations. You've done it with great pride and honor. You're building upon the morale. I've talked with some officers. Some of them were kind of down earlier, but now they are feeling a little more confident. I want to say to the community, we need to support our officers, not just in the time of need but other times, and I just wanted to say that, and I want to ask the people of Chatham County to work with you and all the officers and then in doing so we can become a better community. Thank you for all that you have done. In my mmp years of living I've never had a personal experience until Sunday afternoon, and I'm not going to go into details and all of that, but I really had a great surprise, my husband and I while we were at home, and never thought that we would have imagined to see what we saw. But thanks to the police and the promptness, and we're alive today. Thank you very much.

Chief Tolbert said, well, you're quite welcome. That's the services that we are encouraging our officers and providing for this community. Thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, anything further? Commissioner Farrell, from the 4<sup>th</sup> District.

Commissioner Farrell said, recently we had some safety concerns in the Wilmington Island area that we discussed how -- how's that progressing?

Chief Tolbert said, actually, the officers that's assigned in the Wilmington area, and the park area, they're still focused on those issues. We're still en -- encouraging them to monitor on a weekly and daily basis to try to eradicate that problem. You mentioned that to me a couple of times. I've spoken with the traffic division, as well, and they haven't given up on that. They're going to continue to work and move forward to try to re -- reduce that problem.

Commissioner Farrell said, thank you.

Chief Tolbert said, you're welcome.

Commissioner Stone said, Mr. Chairman? Just real quickly.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Stone from the 1<sup>st</sup> District, our pro tem, has a question.

Commissioner Stone said, very quickly. I don't want to detain you all any longer, but there is a true sense of security because of what you all do in this community, and I know you've been through your ups and downs, and I know it hasn't been easy, but to the men and women that work with you in your department, I just want to say thank you. Keep your chins up. Keep doing what you're doing because it is being recognized. Thank you.

Chief Tolbert said, thank you. We apprec -- we definitely appreciate that.

Commissioner Stone said, and -- and I also appreciate your guidance and your support on an issue that I had to deal with recently. So --

Chief Tolbert said, most definitely, yes.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, I think that's it, Chief. Thank you so much.

Chief Tolbert said, okay. Thank you. Thank you.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

For information only.

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**X. ACTION CALENDAR**

<p>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.</p>
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Chairman Scott said, we're now on Section X, the Action Calendar. At this point I'll entertain a motion.

Commissioner Farrell said, motion to approve the Action Calendar --

Commissioner Thomas said, second.

Commissioner Shabazz said, second.

Commissioner Stone said, second.

Commissioner Farrell said, -- in its entirety.

County Attorney Hart said, Your Honor -- I'd -- I'd like to pull Section -- Section --

Chairman Scott said, wait a minute --

County Attorney Hart said, with the exception of Section F.

Chairman Scott said, -- it's -- it's been -- we have a motion and a second on the floor. Any discussion?

Commissioner Thomas said, section what?

Chairman Scott said, the County Attorney had a comment.

County Attorney Hart said, yes. Sure. I would like to approve the balance of the Action Calendar save and except F --

Commissioner Thomas said, yep.

County Attorney Hart said, and I'd like to have that pulled. They -- they have filed a letter, and I think they're represented by counsel, and he may have some remarks and procedurally, I just want to keep us straight.

Commissioner Center said, so do have to move to amend that motion?

County Attorney Hart said, yes. Just make a motion --

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, all right. Then I -- I move that we amend Commissioner Farrell's motion by approving the calendar with everything except 10-F.

Commissioner Stone said, I was the second, I accept that.

County Attorney Hart said, thank you.

Commissioner Farrell said, I agree.

Commissioner Thomas said, I agree.

Chairman Scott said, okay. The motion's amended. It's been properly second. Any further discussion? All in favor of the motion indicate by voting yes, all opposed no. Everything on the Action Calendar is approved except for F. Now a motion to approve F.

Commissioner Stone said, so moved.

County Attorney Hart said, I -- I would like to make a comment that I am interested in knowing if -- if the contractor who sent the letter is considering that letter to be a protest or a claim under the procurement ordinance.

Commissioner Center said, may I ask a question? If -- if we move to approve F, is the public allowed to comment or just the Commissioners?

County Attorney Hart said, we should not approve F until we find out whether we have a contest or not.

Commissioner Stone said, right.

Commissioner Farrell said, let's just -- let's just roll it till next meeting.

Commissioner Stone said, right.

Commissioner Farrell said, I think that's the suggestion that we're --

Chairman Scott said, is there any objections to postponing further consideration to F until our next scheduled meeting?

Commissioner Thomas said, fine with me.

Commissioner Farrell said, fine with me.

Commissioner Thomas said, 'cause I want to get it right.

Chairman Scott said, let's -- let's entertain a motion to that effect.

Commissioner Center said, I move that we table Item 10-F until our --

Chairman Scott said, postpone.

Commissioner Center said, postpone Item 10-F until our next meeting.

Commissioner Stone said, second.

Commissioner Shabazz said, second.

Commissioner Thomas said, second.

Chairman Scott said, properly moved and second. Any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor of postponing Item F on our Action Calendar until our next meeting, indicate by voting yes, opposed no. That Item is postponed until our next meeting.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

- a. Commissioner Farrell moved to moved to approve the Action Calendar in its entirety, Items 1 through 10 and under Item 10, Items A through K. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion.
- b. Commissioner Center moved to amend Commissioner Farrell's motion to approve all items on the Action Calendar, Items 1 through 10 and under Item 10, Items A through K, with the exception of F. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Brady and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]
- c. Commissioner Center moved to postpone Item 10-F to the next meeting of the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Brady and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

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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 28,**

**2014, AS MAILED.****ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of March 28, 2014, as mailed. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Brady and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

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**2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 20, 2014 THROUGH APRIL 2, 2014.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved to authorize the Finance Director to pay the claims against the County for the period March 20, 2014 through April 2, 2014, in the amount of \$6,557,976. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Brady and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

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**3. NAMING HUMAN RESOURCES BUILDING AFTER BEVERLY WHITEHEAD.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved to name the Human Resources Building after Beverly Whitehead. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Brady and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-3**  
**AGENDA DATE: April 11, 2014**

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

**ISSUE:**

To request Board approval to name the New Human Resources Building in memory of Beverly M. Whitehead.

**BACKGROUND:**

Chatham County has procured and is renovating 123 Abercorn Street, which will be used exclusively for Human Resources. The construction process is scheduled to be completed in May 2014, and Human Resources staff is expected to relocate shortly thereafter.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Beverly M. Whitehead, a native of Winston-Salem, North Carolina, came to us in 1988 as Chatham County's first Human Resources Director. She embodied the vision of a unified, cohesive government that would utilize the Human Resources Department serving as advocates for employees, both professionally and personally. Under her leadership, many of the innovations that we enjoy now in benefits administration, employee relations, community engagement and youth development were implemented. Beverly left us suddenly and unexpectedly on August 20, 1998.
2. Under the Mrs. Whitehead's leadership, the Chatham County Personnel Ordinance and Procedures Manual, Employee Assistance Program (EAP), a variety of employees and youth-based initiatives, Employee Recognition Receptions, and Wellness Initiatives, to name a few, were organized.
3. Beverly Whitehead engineered the development of the finest benefit plan in this area by working diligently with local health care providers to ensure that Chatham County employees had the necessary health care.
4. In the past, the Board of Commissioners has named county owned facilities after elected officials and department heads who have provided dedicated and exceptional service to

Chatham County, such as Chairman Pete Liakakis, Commissioner David M. Gellatly, Commissioner Julie Backus Smith, Thomas C. Sprague, Oscar T. Fultz and A. G. Bungard.

**FUNDING:**

No additional funding is required at this time.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Name the new Human Resources Building in memory of Beverly M. Whitehead.
2. Provide other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

It is within the Board's purview whether or not to name County owned facilities.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board adopt Alternative #1.

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**4. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE APPLICATION FOR THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL'S (CJCC) 2014 JUVENILE JUSTICE INCENTIVE GRANT (CONTINUATION GRANT) AND 2014 PROGRAM ENHANCEMENT PROPOSAL SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY JUVENILE COURT.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved for authorization for the Chairman to execute an application for the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council's 2014 Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant and 2014 Program Enhancement proposal submitted on behalf of the Chatham County Juvenile Court. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Brady and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-4**

**AGENDA DATE: April 11, 2014**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

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

**FROM:** Adam Kennedy, Juvenile Court Administrator

**ISSUE:**

Request Authorization for Chairman to execute application for the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council's (CJCC) 2014 Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant (Continuation Grant) and 2014 Program Enhancement Proposal submitted on behalf of the Chatham County Juvenile Court.

**BACKGROUND:**

In 2011, the Special Council on Criminal Justice Reform was formed to study Georgia's criminal justice system and was charged by Governor Deal with recommending policy changes. In 2013, CJCC and the Juvenile Justice Incentive Funding Committee offered a request for proposals seeking local juvenile justice projects that aim to reduce the number of youth served out of home. Chatham County submitted a grant request and received an award of \$432,435 to implement Functional Family Therapy (FFT), Aggression Replacement Training (ART) with clients at the Juvenile Court.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council is again seeking applications for local juvenile justice projects that aim to reduce the number of youth served out of home. The developed program must address the needs of youth who are typically committed to the Department of Juvenile Justice.
2. Applicants are required to include evidence-based program models that have demonstrated a reduction in juvenile recidivism.
3. The grant application will provide continuation funding of programs that were implemented during last years grant award. It also allows for an Enhancement Proposal to expand/enhance to the current services that are being provided.
4. The application deadline is 5:00 p.m. on April 28, 2014.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Authorize Chairman to execute application for the 2014 Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Program Request for Proposal (RFP), and the 2014 Juvenile Justice Grant Program Enhancement Proposal.
2. Do not authorize Chairman to execute application for the 2014 Juvenile Justice Incentive Grant Program Request for Proposal (RFP), and the 2014 Juvenile Justice Grant Program Enhancement Proposal.

**FUNDING:**

There is no county match required as part of the grant. All Funding would be from the grant.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The Governor and the State legislature has provided funding to assist counties in the implementing evidence based programs that are designed to reduce the number of youth being committed to the Department of Juvenile Justice. The County and its at risk families would benefit from the implementation of such program in Chatham County.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board adopt Alternative #1.

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## **5. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN CHATHAM COUNTY AND THE SAVANNAH-CHATHAM SILVER CHEETAHS.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved for approval of an Agreement between Chatham County and the Savannah-Chatham Silver Cheetahs. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Brady and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-5**

**AGENDA DATE: April 11, 2014**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

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

**FROM:** Robert Drewry, Public Works and Park Services Director

**ISSUE:**

Request Board approval of an Agreement between Chatham County and the Savannah-Chatham Silver Cheetahs.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Savannah-Chatham Silver Cheetahs is an organization that provides a program for recreation and sports activities in the area of track and field. The Silver Cheetahs has demonstrated a proven record of a system of coaching, teaching and instilling a value system in its participants of integrity, self-reliance and responsibility. Chatham County entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with Silver Cheetahs in June of 2006. In the MOU Chatham County and the Silver Cheetahs stated their desire to work together in a united manner to broaden the opportunities for the youth of Chatham County in the area of track and field.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. As the original MOU states, the Silver Cheetah organization was getting compensated through reimbursements from receipts received for the administrative costs for the program.
2. This system seemed confusing and was not working well.
3. Chatham County Internal Auditors did an assessment of the program and found some discrepancies and suggested that the current practice of reimbursing the organization for receipts was not the best way of compensating the Organization for providing the service. The preferred method should be based upon performance.
4. Staff has put together objectives for the Silver Cheetahs to achieve in order to get compensated for administering the program. These objectives insure that the youth of Chatham County are registered in a certified program with certified coaches and that the children are participating in qualified track meets. The objectives also insure that the

Organization serves the County by providing a Track and Field meet locally that is administered by the Organization.

5. Initially the budget allocated \$28,000 for the program. Currently the allocation is \$17,000 annually.
6. It should be noted that the County entered into this Agreement to provide County youth a track and field program. There may be other youth recreation programs that the County does not provide the other organizations may want a similar arrangement.
7. The County Attorney, County Risk Manager, and the County Internal Auditor reviewed this Agreement.
8. There are no other similar certified track and field programs offered in Chatham County.

**FUNDING:**

The Silver Cheetahs can be compensated for the administration of the program up to but not exceed \$17,000 annually.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. The Board approves the Agreement between Chatham County and the Savannah-Chatham Silver Cheetahs.
2. The Board does not approve the Agreement.
3. The Board provides staff with other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

This is a continuation of the County's partnership with the Silver Cheetahs and complies with Public Works and Park Services' policies and procedures.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board approve Alternative #1.

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**6. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX PROCEEDS WITH THE CITY OF SAVANNAH FOR THE TRUMAN LINEAR PARK TRAIL, PHASE 2, IMPROVEMENTS. [DISTRICTS 1 AND 2.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved for approval of an intergovernmental agreement for the distribution of Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax proceeds with the City of Savannah for the Truman Linear Park Trail, Phase 2 improvements. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Brady and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-6**  
**AGENDA DATE: April 11, 2014**

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

**ISSUE:**

To request Board approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement for the Distribution of Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax Proceeds with the City of Savannah for the Truman Linear Park Trail, Phase 2 Improvements.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Truman Linear Park Trail, Phase 2 (GDOT P.I. No. 0007631) will provide a new handicap accessible, off-road multi-purpose trail linking the Phase 1 trail (Police Memorial/Daffin Park) to Lake Mayer Community Park. The trail consists of a combination of retrofitting existing sidewalk and a new 10-ft asphalt path. Canals will be crossed with timber bridges and wetlands will be crossed using timber boardwalks. The improvements include upgrading intersection crossings to safely accommodate

pedestrians.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The Board approved transfer of project sponsorship to the City of Savannah for the Truman Linear Park Trail, Phase 2 on February 14, 2014.
2. Chatham County and the City of Savannah sent a joint letter to the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) on February 19, 2014 requesting transfer of project sponsorship to the City. The GDOT and City of Savannah will execute a new project Framework Agreement (PFA), nullifying the current PFA between GDOT and Chatham County.
3. The City of Savannah is requesting the residual funds (\$70,000) approved for the Truman Linear Park Trail from the 2003-2008 SPLOST to continue work on the project. All plans and studies will be given to the City of Savannah to continue design.
4. The funds will be transferred after the GDOT and City of Savannah have executed a PFA for the project.
5. The County Attorney reviewed and approved the agreement as to legal form.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. To request Board approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement for the Distribution of Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax Proceeds with the City of Savannah for the Truman Linear Park Trail, Phase 2 Improvements.
2. To not approve the Agreement.

**FUNDING:**

Funds are available in the amount of \$70,000 in the 2003-2008 SPLOST, Open space and Greenway Projects, Truman Trail II (Fund 323, Dept. 4220, Acct. Code 52.12003, Project 32370450).

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The Board must approve Intergovernmental Agreements.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.  
District 1, 2

PREPARED BY: Nathaniel Panther, P.E.

=====

**7. REQUEST FOR NEW SUNDAY SALES LICENSE FOR 2014. PETITIONER: PATRICK J. DRISCOLL, D/B/A NORWOOD TAVERN, LOCATED AT 2130 NORWOOD AVENUE. [DISTRICT 3.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved to approve a new Sunday Sales license for 2014 for petitioner Patrick J. Driscoll, d/b/a Norwood Tavern, located at 2130 Norwood Avenue. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Brady and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-7**

**AGENDA DATE: April 11, 2014**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

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

**FROM:** Gregori S. Anderson, Director of Building Safety and Regulatory Services  
Julie Tolbert, Acting Chief of Police

**ISSUE:**

Request for transfer for a new Sunday Sales license for 2014. Petitioner: Patrick J. Driscoll, d/b/a Norwood Tavern, located at 2130 Norwood Avenue.

**BACKGROUND:**

Mr. Driscoll requests approval of a new Sunday Sales license in connection with an existing restaurant. The business at this location meets with requirements of the Chatham County Alcoholic Beverage

Ordinance.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

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

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police department and Regulatory Services recommend approval.

District 3

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Acting Chief Juliette Tolbert

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- 8. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO DISPENSE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES (BEER AND WINE) FOR A SPECIAL EVENT AT THE KIWANIS CLUB OF SKIDAWAY, 600 LANDINGS WAY. PETITIONER: THOMAS M. SHARP FOR THE KIWANIS CLUB. THE EVENT WILL BE HELD MAY 4, 2014. [DISTRICT 4.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved to approve a permit to dispense alcoholic beverages (beer and wine) for a special event at the Kiwanis Club of Skidaway, 600 Landings Way. The Petitioner is Thomas M. Sharp for the Kiwanis Club. The event will be held on May 4, 2014. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Brady and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-8**

**AGENDA DATE: April 11, 2014**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

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

**FROM:** Gregori S. Anderson, Director of Building Safety and Regulatory Services  
Juliette Tolbert, Acting Chief of Police

**ISSUE:**

Permit to dispense alcoholic beverages for a special event in Chatham County on May 4, 2014.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The Kiwanis Club of Skidaway, a non-profit organization, through applicant Thomas M. Sharp has filed a Special Event Application for a fundraiser at The Kiwanis Club on 600 Landings Way. The applicant has the intent to dispense alcoholic beverages (beer and wine) at the event.
2. Section 16-134(4) of the Chatham County Business/Occupational Tax Ordinance requires approval of the County Commissioners to issue a temporary permit to dispense alcoholic beverages in conjunction with a special event.
3. The ordinance grants the Board of Commissioners discretion to allow the consumption of alcoholic beverages in conjunction with a special event.
4. The ordinance grants the Board of Commissioners discretion to allow the consumption of alcoholic beverages in conjunction with a special event.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Grant permit to allow the dispensing and consumption of alcoholic beverages in conjunction with the requested special event at the Kiwanis Club of Skidaway.
2. Deny Permit.
3. Provide direction to staff.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The Alcoholic Beverages Code prohibits the sale, possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages during a special event without a permit and approval of the Board of Commissioners.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve Alternative No. 1

District 4

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**9. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO DISPENSE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES (BEER AND WINE) FOR A SPECIAL EVENT AT BYNUH'S FIELD AT BETHESDA ACADEMY. PETITIONER: NEILL F. MCDONALD FOR THE SAVANNAH SCOTTISH GAMES. THE EVENT WILL BE HELD MAY 8 AND 9, 2014. [DISTRICT 1.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved to approve a permit to dispense alcoholic beverages (beer and wine) for a special event at Bynuh's Field at Bethesda Academy. The Petitioner is Neill F. McDonald for the Savannah Scottish Games. The event will be held on May 8 and 9, 2014. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Brady and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-9**

**AGENDA DATE: April 11, 2014**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

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

**FROM:** Gregori S. Anderson, Director of Building Safety and Regulatory Services  
Juliette Tolbert, Acting Chief of Police

**ISSUE:**

Permit to dispense alcoholic beverages for a special event in Chatham County on May 10, 2014.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Savannah Scottish Games, a non-profit organization, through applicant Neill F. McDonald has filed a Special Event Application for a fundraiser to be held on Bynuh's Field at Bethesda Academy. The applicant has the intent to dispense alcoholic beverages (beer and wine) at the event.
2. Section 16-134(4) of the Chatham County Business/Occupational Tax Ordinance requires approval of the County Commissioners to issue a temporary permit to dispense alcoholic beverages in conjunction with a special event.
3. The ordinance grants the Board of Commissioners discretion to allow the consumption of alcoholic beverages in conjunction with a special event.
4. The ordinance grants the Board of Commissioners discretion to allow the consumption of alcoholic beverages in conjunction with a special event.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Grant permit to allow the dispensing and consumption of alcoholic beverages in conjunction with the requested special event at the Kiwanis Club of Skidaway.
2. Deny Permit.
3. Provide direction to staff.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The Alcoholic Beverages Code prohibits the sale, possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages during a special event without a permit and approval of the Board of Commissioners.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve Alternative No. 1

District 1

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**10. 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:**

- a. Commissioner Center moved for approval to award bids as follows with the Exception of Item F: (Please note that new purchase thresholds of \$10,000 or more have been enacted; however, contracts and change orders of a lesser amount still will appear.) Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Brady and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]
- b. Commissioner Center moved to postpone Item 10-F to the next meeting of the Board of Commissioners. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Brady and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DEPT.</b>	<b>SOURCE</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>FUNDING</b>
A. Extend the professional services contract for graphic design services for recreational signage projects (wayfaring)	Special Projects	Christine Doolittle Powell	\$40/hr not to exceed \$20,000	•SPLOST (2003-2008) - McQueen's Trail •SPLOST (2008-2014) - Open Space, Green Space and Bikeways
B. Annual contract with renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms to provide roadside vegetation management services	Public Works and Park Services	DBI Services/ DeAngelo Brothers	\$18,554	SSD - Public Works
C. One (1) used non-typical replacement vehicle, for CNT, and authorize the disposal of one (1) vehicle to be used as a trade-in	Fleet	Fairway Lincoln Mazda	\$19,000	CIP - CNT Vehicles
D. Purchase of two (2) 2015 refuse collection trucks	Public Works and Park Services	Freightliner of Savannah	\$329,898	Solid Waste
E. Labor and materials to replace the stairs at the Tybee Island Walter C. Parker Pier and Pavilion	Public Works and Park Services	CWA Development	\$21,975	CIP - Walter C. Parker Pier and Pavilion
F. Construction contract for the Montgomery Cross Road at Sallie Mood Drive Intersection Improvements	Engineering	JHC Corporation	\$384,400	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Unincorporated County Roads, Sallie Mood/Montgomery
G. Purchase of two (2) replacement 2014 Ford F150 XL pickup trucks for Engineering	Fleet	J.C. Lewis Ford	\$41,344	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Vehicle Replacement

ITEM	DEPT.	SOURCE	AMOUNT	FUNDING
H. Three (3) replacement 2014 Ford F150 XL pickup trucks for Facilities Maintenance and Operations	Fleet	J.C. Lewis Ford	\$52,083	CIP - Vehicle Replacement
I. Construction of Carver Heights Community Center Addition	Building and Safety	Tippins-Polk Construction, Inc.	\$799,000	SPLOST (2008-2014) - Carver Heights Community Center
J. Four (4) replacement 2014 Ford Fusion Hybrids vehicles for the District Attorney's Office	Fleet	J.C. Lewis Ford	\$103,220	CIP - Vehicle Replacement
K. Scoreboards for the Charles C. Brooks Sports Complex	Public Works and Park Services	Electro Mech Scoreboard Company	\$23,595	SPLOST (2008-2014) - Charles C. Brooks Sports Complex
L. To correct the awarded vendor for a purchase of seventy-eight (78) IP phones with related licenses and ten (10) cordless IP compatible headsets for the Detention Center Units 1-4	I.C.S.	Mitel Business Systems, Inc. (State of Georgia Contract)	\$27,311	General Fund/M & O - Detention Center

**AGENDA ITEM: X-10 A thru K****AGENDA DATE: April 11, 2014****TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS****THRU: R.E. ABOLT, COUNTY MANAGER****FROM: MICHAEL A. KAIGLER, ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER****SUBJECT: AWARD OF BIDS**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval to extend the professional services contract with Christine Doolittle Powell for graphic design services for recreational signage projects (wayfaring).

**BACKGROUND:** The proposed wayfaring project would provide common elements at various trails and recreational areas to designate informational signage and provide more user-friendly information.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. On August 10, 2012, the Board approved a one (1) year agreement for professional services. This agreement expired on November 27, 2013.
2. By extending this contract, Ms. Powell would continue developing a theme for the various county trails and recreational areas, design common graphics and coordinate fabrication and installation.
3. The contractor total would be \$40 per hour but not to exceed \$20,000 unless agreed by change order approved by the Board.

**FUNDING:** •SPLOST (2003-2008) - McQueen's Trail  
(3234985 - 54.11011 - 32370422)  
•SPLOST (2008-2014) - Open Space, Green Space and Bikeways  
(3244985 - 54.3011- 3247041Z)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval to extend the professional services contract with Christine Doolittle Powell for graphic design services for recreational signage projects (wayfaring).
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

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

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
MARK BUCALO

#### ITEM B

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval to award an \$18,554 annual contract with renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms, to DBI Services/DeAngelo Brothers to provide roadside vegetation management services for Public Works and Park Services.

**BACKGROUND:** The objective of a roadside vegetation management program is to suppress seed head growth of grasses and eliminate undesirable weeds which pose a negative impact to County right of ways and harm the ecosystem.

#### **FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The County has not had a herbicide management plan for several years. The herbicide management program assists by controlling the growth of grass and eliminating noxious weeds which pose a threat to the ecological environment.
2. Proper herbicide management has been effective in limiting the spread and reducing the density of weed infestations.
3. Herbicide management reduces the need for repeated mowing, which reduces overall cost to the County.
4. Bids were publicly advertised and opened on March 18, 2014. Bid results are as follows:

DBI Services/DeAngelo Brothers Jacksonville, FL	\$18,554
Gro-Masters, Inc Garden City, GA	\$29,556
Gregory Landscaping Lexington, SC	\$55,695
5. On March 27, 1998, the Board approved a "local preference" policy which, when a firm from outside Chatham County submits the "lowest bid" the policy allows the lowest local vendor to match the "lowest" bid. If the local firm does match the "lowest" bid, the local firm is awarded the purchase. As indicated above, a non-Chatham County firm offered the "lowest low" bid. Gro-Masters, Inc. was asked if they would match the outside firm's low bid, but they declined.
6. Staff believes the bid submitted by price of DBI Services/DeAngelo Brothers to be fair and reasonable.

**FUNDING:** SSD-Public Works  
(2704100 - 52.39001)

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval to award an \$18,554 annual contract with renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms, to DBI Services/DeAngelo Brothers to provide roadside vegetation management services for Public Works and Park Services.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

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

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

#### ITEM C

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$19,000 purchase of one (1) used non-typical replacement vehicle,

for CNT, from Fairway Lincoln Mazda, and authorize the disposal of one (1) vehicle to be used as a trade-in.

**BACKGROUND:** CNT has approved funding to replace vehicles through the CIP, Police Merger. This vehicle is no longer suitable for department operation. The trade-in will simplify the purchase of this vehicle.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. A standing request for “good” used vehicles is in place with local dealers and they are encouraged to let us know when they have a vehicle they feel we should consider.
2. Staff checked with local car dealers that normally respond to bids and came back with this proposal. This proposal provides CNT with maximum flexibility.
3. The Fleet Manager and a representative from CNT selected the following vehicle based on utility and value.
4. The vehicle selected is:
 

One vehicle	\$36,000
Less Trade - (Unit 1951-2011 Jeep Grand Cherokee Vin#7273)	<u>(17,000)</u>
Total purchase price	\$19,000
5. Staff researched the trade-in value being offered by Fairway Lincoln Mazda and compared it to the Kelley Blue Book trade-in value. Fairway is offering a higher trade-in allowance.
6. Staff believes the purchase price less the trade-in is fair and reasonable.

**FUNDING:** CIP - CNT Vehicles  
(3503222 - 54.22001 - 3503065Z)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$19,000 purchase of one (1) used non-typical replacement vehicle, for CNT, from Fairway Lincoln Mazda, and authorize the disposal of one (1) vehicle to be used as a trade-in.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to approve the purchase of replacement vehicles for law enforcement activities.

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

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

**ITEM D**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$329,898 purchase of two (2) 2015 refuse collection trucks from Freightliner of Savannah for Public Works and Park Services.

**BACKGROUND:** The Solid Waste section of Public Works & Parks Services provides waste management services including; residential, bulk, and yard waste pickup for the citizens of Chatham County. The current fleet of trash compactors are aging and the new trash compactors will replace two (2) of three (3) compactors that are no longer operational. Replacing the trucks will allow Solid Waste to continue ensuring efficient collections to citizens.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Solid Waste currently has 11 refuse collection trucks. Three (3) have been decommissioned, five (5) are currently in operation and (3) units are currently in the County garage for repairs.
2. Several of the units are approaching their life expectancy and therefore are continuously in the garage for repairs.
3. Bids were publicly advertised and opened on March 4, 2014. Bid responses are as follows:

Freightliner of Savannah Savannah, GA	\$329,898
Roberts International Richmond Hill, GA	\$342,281

4. Staff believes the total cost of \$329,898 for the purchase of two (2) refuse collection trucks to be fair and reasonable.

**FUNDING:** Solid Waste  
(5404502 - 54.25001)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of the \$329,898 purchase of two (2) 2015 refuse collection trucks from Freightliner of Savannah for Solid Waste.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to ensure efficient Solid Waste collection operations to the citizens of Chatham County.

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

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

**ITEM E**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of \$21,975 for labor and materials to replace the stairs at the Tybee Island Walter C. Parker Pier and Pavilion with CWA Development for Public Works and Park Services.

**BACKGROUND:** The stairs were installed in 1997 and are in disrepair due to weather, age, and heavy usage. The condition of the stairs is becoming a safety issue for public use.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. A Request for Quote was issued and four (4) quotes were received on March 31, 2014. The quotes are as follows:

Christopher Hurst Construction Richmond Hill, GA	\$12,500 (withdrew quote)
CWA Development Townsend, GA	\$21,975
TIC - The Industrial Co. Savannah, GA	\$29,735
Rauch Marine Savannah, GA	\$48,746

2. After conversations with staff, Christopher Hurst Construction, realized an error in their bid and withdrew their submittal.
3. Staff believes the total cost of \$21,975 for labor and materials to be fair and reasonable.

**FUNDING:** CIP – Walter C. Parker Pier and Pavilion  
(3506100 - 52.22001 – 35031317)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of \$21,975 for labor and materials to replace the stairs at the Tybee Island Walter C. Parker Pier and Pavilion with CWA Development for Public Works and Park Services.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

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

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

**ITEM F**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval to award a \$384,400 construction contract to JHC Corporation for the Montgomery Cross Road at Sallie Mood Drive Intersection Improvements.

**BACKGROUND:** ~~The project includes replacement and upgrade of the existing traffic signal at Montgomery Cross Road and Sallie Mood Drive, as well as installation of pedestrian and pavement improvements.~~

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. ~~This project was properly advertised. Two (2) bids were received and opened on March 18, 2014. The bid results are as follows:~~

~~JHC Corporation \_\_\_\_\_ \$384,400  
Palmetto, GA~~

~~E&D Contracting Services, Inc. \_\_\_\_\_ Not Responsive  
Savannah, GA~~

2. ~~JHC Corporation's original bid was \$407,400. Because JHC was the only responsive bidder, staff negotiated the cost of the work and reduced the overall project cost to \$384,400.~~
3. ~~Staff believes the bid for JHC Corporation is fair and reasonable based on recent bids received for similar work.~~
4. ~~This project will be partially funded using the 2013 Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant(LMIG) awarded by the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT).~~
5. ~~The contract time for construction is 175 calendar days.~~

**FUNDING:** ~~SPLOST (2003-2008) - Unincorporated County Roads, Sallie Mood/Montgomery  
(3234220 - 54.14001 - 32356817)~~

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. ~~Board approval to award a \$384,400 construction contract to JHC Corporation for the Montgomery Cross Road at Sallie Mood Drive Intersection Improvements.~~
2. ~~Provide staff with other direction.~~

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

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

~~BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
MARK BUGALO~~

**ITEM G**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$41,344 purchase of two (2) replacement 2014 Ford F150 XL pickup trucks from J.C. Lewis Ford for Engineering.

**BACKGROUND:** On November 22, 2013, the Board approved an annual price agreement for the purchase of various 2014 model year trucks, vans and sport utility vehicles on an "as needed, funds available" basis.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The purchase of these trucks will replace older model trucks that are beyond economical repair.
2. The approved price agreement cost for a 2014 Ford F150 LX pickup truck is \$17,361 each. There are two (2) options required by Engineering which will be added to the purchase cost. The options include 4x4 drive and a trailer tow package. The total cost for the purchase of two (2) trucks will be \$41,344.

**FUNDING:** SPLOST (2003-2008) - Vehicle Replacement  
(3234985 - 54.22001 - 3236063B)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of the \$41,344 purchase of two (2) replacement 2014 Ford F150 XL pickup trucks from J.C. Lewis Ford for Engineering.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to provide the necessary vehicles for the using departments.

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

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
MARK BUCALO

#### ITEM H

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$52,083 purchase of three (3) replacement 2014 Ford F150 XL pickup trucks from J.C. Lewis Ford for Facilities Maintenance and Operations.

**BACKGROUND:** On November 22, 2013, the Board approved an annual price agreement for the purchase of various 2014 model year trucks, vans and sport utility vehicles on an "as needed, funds available" basis.

#### **FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The purchase of these trucks will replace older model trucks that are beyond economical repair.
2. The approved price agreement cost for a 2014 Ford F150 LX pickup truck is \$17,361 each. The total cost for the purchase of three (3) trucks will be \$52,083.

**FUNDING:** CIP - Vehicle Replacement  
(3501567 - 54.22001 - 35031378)

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$52,083 purchase of three (3) replacement 2014 Ford F150 XL pickup trucks from J.C. Lewis Ford for Facilities Maintenance and Operations.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to provide the necessary vehicles for the using departments.

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

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

#### ITEM I

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval to award an \$799,000 contract to Tippins - Polk Construction, Inc., for the construction of the Carver Heights Community Center Addition.

**BACKGROUND:** The Carver Heights Community Center Addition is an approximately 4,000 square foot area. The addition shall contain a multi-purpose room, reading room/library, computer room and fitness/exercise room. The facility shall contain special allocations to accommodate programs directed by the City of Savannah.

#### **FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The project also includes the addition of parking spaces, parking lot reconfiguration and handicap accessibility to the existing front entrance. This additional work was requested as Alternatives 1 & 2 in the Invitation to Bid. The requested contract amount of \$799,000 includes the base bid of \$579,000 plus \$175,000 for Alternate 1 (parking lot) and \$45,000 for Alternative 2 (front entrance/roof alterations/handicap ramp).

2. This project was properly advertised and three (3) bids were received and opened on March 26, 2014. The bids are as follows:

	Base Bid
Tippins-Polk Construction, Inc. Statesboro, GA	\$ 579,000
* Pioneer Construction, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$ 613,588
** Collins Construction Services, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$ 638,790

\* MBE firm \*\* WBE firm

3. Staff finds the bid from Tippins -Polk Construction, Inc., to be fair and reasonable and within the construction estimate.

**FUNDING:** SPLOST (2008-2014) - Carver Heights Community Center  
(3244980 - 54.13011 - 32470357)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval to award an \$799,000 contract to Tippins - Polk Construction, Inc., for the construction of the Carver Heights Community Center Addition.
2. Provide staff with other direction.

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

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

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
MARK BUCALO

**ITEM J**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$103,220 purchase of four (4) replacement 2014 Ford Fusion Hybrids from J.C. Lewis Ford for the District Attorney's office.

**BACKGROUND:** On September 13, 2013, the Board approved an annual price agreement with J.C. Lewis Ford Motor Company, to purchase 2014 model year Ford Fusion SE Hybrid vehicles on an "as needed, funds available" basis. The ordering date for the 2014 Ford Fusion has expired. The pricing offered by J.C. Lewis Ford is current retail pricing.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The District Attorney's office has a critical need for the purchase of four (4) 2014 Fusion Hybrids. These vehicles are used by investigators who rely on dependable transportation for frequent out of County trips. The current average odometer reading is over 121,000 miles. Age and needed mechanical repairs render these vehicles beyond economical repair.
2. Ford Motor Company has ceased production of 2014 Ford Fusion Hybrids. The factories are currently preparing for production of 2015 vehicles.
3. The need for reliable transportation prompted staff to go ahead and obtain "on the lot" pricing from J.C. Lewis Ford for 2014 Ford Fusion Hybrids. J.C. Lewis Ford is honoring agreement unit cost pricing of \$25,110 and an additional out of stock cost of \$695 per unit for a total of \$25,805 per vehicle.
4. Staff believes the unit cost of \$25,805 per vehicle to be fair and reasonable.

**FUNDING:** CIP - Vehicle Replacement  
(3501567 - 54.22001 - 35031378)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$103,220 purchase of four (4) replacement 2014 Ford Fusion Hybrids from J.C. Lewis Ford for the District Attorney's office.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to provide the necessary vehicles for the using departments.

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

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

**ITEM K**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of \$23,595 for scoreboards from Electro Mech Scoreboard Company of Wrightsville, GA, for the Charles C. Brooks Sports Complex.

**BACKGROUND:** This purchase is for scoreboard replacements. Parts for the existing scoreboards have been difficult to locate and repairs are not cost effective.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Charles C. Brooks Sports Complex has four (4) outdoor permanent baseball/softball fields and one (1) football/soccer field that required replacement.
2. The request for bids was publicly advertised and three (3) bids were received.

Electro Mech Scoreboard Wrightsville, GA	\$ 23,595
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Colorado Time Systems, LLC Loveland, CO	\$ 26,855
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BSN Sports, Inc. Dresher, PA	\$ 31,520
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3. Staff believes the total cost of \$ 23,595 for the scoreboards to be fair and reasonable.

**FUNDING:** SPLOST (2003-2008) - Charlie C. Brooks Sports Complex  
(3244981- 54.12009 - 32460207)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of \$23,595 for scoreboards from Electro Mech Scoreboard Company of Wrightsville, GA, for the Charles C. Brooks Sports Complex.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to approve purchases to the low, responsible bidder.

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

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
MARK BUCALO

**ITEM L**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval to correct the awarded vendor for a \$27,311 purchase from the State of Georgia contract, for seventy-eight (78) IP phones and related licenses, and ten (10) cordless IP compatible headsets for the Detention Center Units one (1) thru four (4). The correct vendor is Mitel Business Systems, Inc.

**BACKGROUND:** On March 14, 2014, the Board approved this purchase of seventy-eight (78) IP phones with licenses to Integrated Network Solutions.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Integrated Network Solutions is the locally authorized retail vendor to perform installation and services for Mitel Business System products. Although, Integrated Network Solutions provided the quote for this purchase, the purchase order must be issued to Mitel Business System, the state contract holder.

**FUNDING:** General Fund/M & O - Detention Center  
(1003326 - 52.32001)

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to approve purchases for necessary technology equipment for law enforcement in the interest of public safety.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval to correct the awarded vendor for a \$27,311 purchase from the State of Georgia contract, for seventy-eight (78) IP phones and related licenses, and ten (10) cordless IP compatible headsets for the Detention Center Units one (1) thru four (4). The correct vendor is Mitel Business Systems, Inc.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

I.C.S. APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
NICK BATEY

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

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

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**XI. FIRST READINGS**

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

Chairman Scott said, we have no First Readers.

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**XII. SECOND READINGS**

Chairman Scott said, no Second Readers.

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**XIII. INFORMATION ITEMS**

Chairman Scott said, we have under Section XIII information items for your consideration.

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

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

A status report was attached as information.

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

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

A status report was attached as information.

**AGENDA ITEM: XIII-2**  
**AGENDA DATE: April 11, 2014**

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

ITEM	DEPT.	SOURCE	AMOUNT	FUNDING
Stormwater pipes and bands	Public Works and Park Services	Cherokee Culvert Company, Inc.	\$5,708	SSD-Public Works
Replacement parts for mowing tractors	Public Works and Park Services	Miles Tractor Company	\$8,150	SSD-Public Works
One (1) commercial laundry washer	Detention Center	Tri-State Technical Service	\$9,196	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Asbestos abatement as part of Bay Street widening project	Engineering	Savannah Abatement Services	\$3,001	SPLOST (1998-2003) Bay Street Widening
Striping decal kits for transport vehicles	Detention Center	West Chatham Warning Devices, Inc.	\$4,200	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Hands free sanitizing cleaning system	Detention Center	Paper Chemical Supply Company	\$3,295	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Ten (10) law enforcement body cameras for recording evidence	Sheriff's	Safety Vision	\$4,535	General Fund/M&O -Sheriff

ITEM	DEPT.	SOURCE	AMOUNT	FUNDING
200 traffic cones	Public Works and Park Services	Safety Product, Inc.	\$3,484	SSD-Public Works
Accident repair unit #890 - metro law enforcement vehicle - other driver at fault	Fleet Operations	Low Country Motors, Inc.	\$3,293	General Fund/M&O -Fleet Operations
Vibration monitoring on Walthour Road as part of Betz Creek bridge replacement project	Engineering	Terracon	\$8,615	SPLOST (2008-2014) Walthour Road Bridge
Service fee for online sale of surplus vehicles	Purchasing	Govdeals, Inc.	\$3,627	General Fund
Two (2) laptop computers for Court Administrator	I.C.S.	Dell Marketing, L.P.	\$3,630	General Fund/M&O -Court Administrator
Three (3) laptop computers for Superior Court	I.C.S.	Dell Marketing, L.P.	\$5,446	General Fund/M&O -Superior Court
600 tons fill dirt for septic upgrade at Scott Stell Park	Public Works and Park Services	Crosby Paving Company, Inc.	\$3,900	SPLOST (2008-2014) Scott Stell Park
One (1) server for Juvenile Court	I.C.S.	Dell Marketing, L.P.	\$7,778	General Fund/M&O -Juvenile Court
Out-of-state prisoner transport	Detention Center	U.S. Prisoner Transport	\$4,034	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
One (1) commercial mower	Detention Center	Screven Outdoors	\$6,959	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Computer monitors, racks and cables for Detention Center	I.C.S.	Dell Marketing, L.P.	\$3,453	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Ice maker and dispenser	Detention Center	Baker Distributing Company, Inc.	\$3,923	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
25 portable radios	Sheriff's	Savannah Communication & Electronic	\$4,550	General Fund/M&O -Sheriff
Mailing of tag renewals for month of April	Tax Commissioner	World Marketing	\$5,054	General Fund/M&O -Tax Commissioner
360 tons of recycled concrete base for yard waste grinding area at the Wilmington Island Drop-off Center	Public Works and Park Services	ADRS Services, Inc.	\$5,400	Solid Waste Management
Soccer officials for youth season	Public Works and Park Services	Greater Savannah Soccer Association, Inc.	\$2,553	General Fund/M&O -Parks and Recreation
One (1) commercial laundry dryer	Detention Center	Tri-State Technical Service	\$5,937	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Liner and turbine parts for helicopter	Mosquito Control	Standard Aero, Inc.	\$3,882	General Fund/M&O - Mosquito Control
Parts for mulch tub grinder	Public Works and Park Services	Grinder Wear Parts, Inc.	\$3,518	Solid Waste Restricted
360 tons of washed sand for yard waste grinding area at the Wilmington Island Drop-off Center	Public Works and Park Services	ADRS Services, Inc.	\$3,600	Solid Waste Management

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## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Scott said, is there anything else to come before the Commission?

Commissioner Center said, move for --

Chairman Scott said, hearing none --

Commissioner Center said, wait, can we go to executive session?

Chairman Scott said, we do have need for an executive session.

Commissioner Center said, I move that we go to executive session for the purpose of personnel and litigation.

Commissioner Shabazz said, second.

Commissioner Stone said, second.

Chairman Scott said, okay. All in favor of going into executive session indicate by voting yes, opposed no. All right. We stand adjourned to Executive Session.

County Manager Abolt said, recessed. Recessed, sir.

Chairman Scott said, recessed to Executive Session.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved to recess to Executive Session for the purpose of litigation and personnel. Commissioner Shabazz seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The Board recessed at approximately 11:45 a.m.

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**ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved to authorize the Chairman to execute an Affidavit that the Executive Session was held in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Brady and Kicklighter were 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 12:25 p.m.

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**APPROVED: THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF APRIL, 2014.**

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

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