

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 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 9:36 a.m. on Friday, December 5, 2014.

Chairman Scott said, good morning and welcome. You may be seated. I'll ask that you remain seated until Pastor White completes his message, and when he indicates it's time to pray, if you would please re-stand and remain standing through the Pledge of Allegiance. We have Commissioner Farrell of the 4th District to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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II. INVOCATION

Chairman Scott said, it's an honor and a privilege to have with us today the pastor of one of Savannah's oldest churches. The historic Christ Church, and I know most of you in this room will be familiar with that church, but in case someone is out there listening and not familiar with it, it's at 28 Bull Street. It's one square over, and it oversees what I consider a lot of activities in that square over the years, and just a very short block from City Hall and a very short block from the County Commission meeting facility. At this time I will ask the Pastor of that great church, Pastor Michael White to come forth and lead us in our invocation. Pastor White.

Reverend Michael White said, thank you. Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, it is an honor to be with you this day as you do the work of the people of Chatham County, and as a resident of this county, I thank you for your work on our behalf. As we gather this Friday in December, I can't help but be aware that all of us are experiencing what these beautiful poinsettias represent which is a reminder of the season in which we find ourselves, but also the busyness of the season, the commitment, the responsibilities, the opportunities for engagement both as individuals, as families, civic, professionally, religious wise, and I'm sure your calendar like mine as you look over these next weeks is filling in rapidly, and as we move through these sacred days, it is often I find important to find some anchor, some hallmark, some element to hold onto through these days to keep us centered in the deeper meaning of these sacred days.

Reverend White said, during these few moments, I would hold up for us three markers, three principles that we might hold onto as we walk through the busyness of this holiday season. The first principle, idea, is that of thanksgiving. I love the reality in our culture, in our country that we move into this sacred season beginning with the celebration of Thanksgiving, when we are reminded of the importance of thanks -- thankfulness and giving thanks for all of the blessings of our lives, but also giving thanks to the people in our lives, and if we do that, if we can carry that forward, that spirit of giving thanks, daily giving thanks through these days we can stay a little more anchored even in the hectic reality of our lives during this sacred season. The second principle I would hold up for us is the idea in this season of worship, and worship no matter our faith tradition or even for that person that may not have a faith tradition, the idea of worship is to step away and look at our lives in a larger context and recognize that we are not all that is. We are not the whole world. We matter. We matter to God; we matter to others, but we live our lives in a larger picture, in a larger vision, in a larger purpose, and the idea, the concept, the principle of worship it to continually remind us of that reality and help us to see the bigger picture as we go about our daily lives.

Reverend White said, the third concept or principle that I would hold up to anchor us through the busyness of the season is to remind ourselves continually that we are to live lives in service to others. When we are serving another, we are made more whole. When we are serving a brother, a sister, someone in need or someone that we just know and care for and want to have an expression of care for that person, when we make an intentional act of service, the world is made a little more whole. You and I and all of us together are enriched and our lives are deepened when we are made aware that we are all God's children living together on this earth, our island home. This season it is my hope that each of us can hold on to these ideas, thanksgiving, worship and service to others, and in that spirit and in that context as a person or worship who my vocation is to provide opportunities of worship for others, it is an honor to be with you in this space. I say thank you. I give thanks for you for the work that you do on behalf of all the residents of our community, and not just for us. Savannah is such an important part of the State of Georgia that the work you do here is also a light in service to the whole State of Georgia, the nation, and the world. And I also want to thank you for -- you may not always frame it in this way, but when you gather in this place -- space, you are serving. You are serving all of us in this community. When you go about your lives doing your work as Commissioners, wherever that may take you, you are serving. You are serving the people of our community, and I as one member of this community, thank you for your service to all of us and the work that you do on our behalf. And in that spirit, I would now like to offer a prayer of thanksgiving and blessing for you in your work on our behalf. Let us pray.

Reverend White gave the invocation as follows:

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we pray for the Commissioners of Chatham County. Send down upon them the spirit of wisdom, charity and justice, that with steadfast purpose they may faithfully serve in their offices to promote the well-being of all your people. It is in your name we pray. Amen.

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

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III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Farrell led all in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

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CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Chairman Scott presented Reverend White with a certificate of appreciation for appearing before the Board and giving the invocation.

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IV. ROLL CALL

Chairman Scott said, the Clerk will call the roll.

The Clerk called the roll.

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

Also present: Lee Smith, County Manager
 R. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney
 Janice Bocook, County Clerk

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CHATHAM COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION

Chairman Scott said, I'll recognize our vice Chair, Commissioner Priscilla Thomas, for the purpose of introducing the members of the Youth Commission who are with us today.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission, ladies and gentlemen. We're delighted to have with us this morning, Aliyah Dorsey, sophomore attending St. Vincent's Academy; Phillip Dove, he's also a senior at Bethesda Academy; and Kennedi Cunningham, a junior attending Woodville Tompkins. Welcome.

Commissioner Shabazz said, good morning. Good morning.

Youth Commissioner Phillip Dove said, good morning.

Commissioner Shabazz said, good morning.

Chairman Scott said, thank you, and we appreciate you being with us today, and we hope that this will be an extension of your learning and education, and that -- Van Johnson always told me that you all would rather be in class rather than here because you're also studious, but we do appreciate you being here. Thank you.

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V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**1. PROCLAMATION FOR DR. HENRY LEWANDOWSKI ON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER 17 YEARS AS CHATHAM COUNTY'S MOSQUITO CONTROL DIRECTOR.**

Chairman Scott said, the next item that we have on the agenda, some might say it's a time of happiness, and some might say it's a time of regret, but I'm going to just share with you a -- some of the proclamation information, and then I will ask all the members of the Commission, if they would, join me down front to present this -- a framed copy of this proclamation to this individual, and I hope we can do it without any interference from the Sheriff's Department.

Chairman Scott read the following proclamation:



WHEREAS, Chatham County is privileged to have employees of high caliber that take great pride in their duties and responsibilities, and in that regard, we salute Dr. Henry B. Lewandowski, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Henry B. Lewandowski, Jr. retired as Commander of the Medical Service Corps of the United States Navy in 1997; and began his employment with Chatham County on January 13, 1997 in the Mosquito Control Department as Mosquito Control Director; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lewandowski developed a highly successful strategy for minimizing West Nile virus transmission in Chatham County through a multi-faceted approach based on the principles of Integrated Mosquito Management. He transitioned the Department from a ground-based to an aerially-based mosquito control program; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lewandowski served as a facilitator to encourage Chatham County departments to adopt "green" policies and procedures and was instrumental in the adoption of the County Board of Commissioners resolution calling for Chatham County to become the "Greenest County in Georgia"; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Lewandowski served in multiple capacities in the American Mosquito Control Association, Mid-Atlantic Mosquito Control Association and the Georgia Mosquito Control Association. He has also received several commendations for his participation in these associations.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Albert J. Scott, Chairman, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby salute:

DR. HENRY B. LEWANDOWSKI, JR.

upon his retirement and express sincere appreciation for seventeen years of dedicated service to the citizens of Chatham County and the Department of Mosquito Control and extend best wishes for a long, happy, healthy retirement. Dr. Lewandowski's leadership qualities, wisdom and compassion will be missed in the Chatham County family.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 5th day of December 2014.

ATTEST:

Albert J. Scott, Chairman
Chatham County Commission

Gail F. Gordon, Administrative
Assistant to the Chairman

Chairman Scott said, this is not in the proclamation, but he's also served, and we have pictures of it as a deputy sheriff on an occasion, not necessarily to serve arrest warrants or eviction notices or secure to the court systems of Chatham County but rather to raise money for the United Way of Chatham County. He has what I consider a sense of humor. He's always willing to help others. He's been just a -- an extreme dedicated employee for 17 years, and I think that more than anyone else the County Manager will miss his advice and counsel, and I certainly will miss his disposition and his approach. He's always very gracious to anything that you request of him, and therefore as Chairman and on behalf of the entire Board of Commission, I do hereby salute, Dr. Henry B. Lewandowski, Jr., on this occasion of his retirement after 17 dedicated years to this County. We'll miss you, doctor, and we wish you the very best in whatever you plan to do in the future. I -- I know there are no more corvettes in your life, but there's nothing I can do about that. The only thing that we can possibly provide you with is a rocking chair. At this time I will invite the members of the Commission to join me in presenting a framed copy of this proclamation, as well as the County Manager and any staff members from the county who wish to join us.

[NOTE: Chairman and Board presented the framed proclamation to Dr. Lewandowski.]

Chairman Scott said, we congratulate you and wish you the very best, and we hope that you will keep this some place to remind us -- to remind yourself of your good days. Please don't let it remind you of the bad days, and occasionally if you want to put on your uniform and just look at it, that's fine as well. I asked the Sheriff and he did not bring any charges against you or issue any warrants for the return of any equipment or uniforms that you may have in your possession.

Dr. Henry Lewandowski said, thank you. I appreciate that. [Applause.]

Chairman Scott said, I give you one last time to address the Commission, and please introduce your wife and family members if you have any of them with you.

Dr. Lewandowski said, Chairman Scott, Dr. Thomas and members of the Commission, good morning and -- and thank you very much. I have many, many people to thank this morning, but first I would like to introduce my wife, Connie, and thank her for more than 40 years of adventures. It's been a lot of fun. First I -- I thank all of you. You have created an environment, a healthy environment, healthy work place of encouragement and cooperation, and I promise you it's unlike anything that I have seen all across the country, the support you have given our Mosquito Control program, and I'm very, very grateful for the support that you have all given us, and I was talking earlier, this is one of the few times I'm not coming before you to ask for money, so.

Dr. Lewandowski said, I -- I particularly thank our County Managers, Russ Abolt and Lee Smith, who gave me and have given me the opportunity to be here and it's been my privilege and honor to work with both of these gentlemen, and it's been both personally and professionally rewarding beyond anything that I -- I ever imagined. It's been wonderful, and thank you so very much.

County Manager Lee Smith said, thank you.

Dr. Lewandowski said, I'm very, very grateful to our staff. We have many members of our staff here this morning, and if I have had any success, it's only because of our staff members. Their -- their -- their commitment, their knowledge that they have brought to the program and to Chatham County. I am most proud of our response to West Nile virus and the protection we've given the community. I'm proud of our work, our cooperation with the Corps of Engineers and our ditching work, our mechanical mosquito control work along the Savannah River. I'm very proud of our aviation unit and their cooperative work with the police department, the sheriff's department and CEMA. I think it's been a -- a -- a great marriage of resources that has done our community a lot of good. I'm -- if you look at our facility, and -- and the maintenance of the equipment, again, that's a combined effort of our entire staff, and it -- it takes a real commitment and dedication. This is -- this month actually marks the 12th year that we have been at our new facility on Dean Forest Road, and that facility still looks brand new. It functions as well as the day that we moved in, and I thank former Commissioner Patrick Shay for an amazing design that's just ergonomically sound and 100 percent. He did a marvelous job designing that facility.

Dr. Lewandowski said, I guess lastly I would like to -- and not the least by any means, I really thank the residents and business leaders of Chatham County who have supported us and I promise you we have done our best to serve the citizens and our businesses and yet try to find a -- a good balance with environmental concerns. And -- so a -- again, it's -- it's been my honor and privilege to work with and for Chatham County, to be a public servant for Chatham County, and I am very grateful to the time that I had here at -- in the County and at Mosquito Control. Thank you very, very much.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Before you leave, we have one other presentation to make, and Russ Abolt is not here, and if he's listening out there, before we make this presentation, I've got to provide some instructions to you and to Russ. You all are not allowed to take this rocking chair to church.

Dr. Lewandowski said, thank you so very, very much. Thank you. It's gorgeous. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, we -- we figured you didn't want a lamp, that you would prefer just to -- you would prefer just to sit in the dark --

Commissioner Farrell said, it would attract mosquitos.

Chairman Scott said, -- in your rocking chair. So instead of giving you a lamp, we're presenting you with an official Chatham County rocking chair.

Dr. Lewandowski said, it is gorgeous. I'm going to try it out today. [Applause.]

Chairman Scott said, have a seat. See if there are any defects.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, see if it works.

Dr. Lewandowski said, ahh. Thank you. It is gorgeous.

County Manager Smith said, Mr. Chairman, real quick. I just wanted to say, I know we talked at his retirement -- or going away party of sorts. We did have the forms, I think, that morning, and I told him I hadn't signed his retirement forms, so he just thinks he's retiring, but I actually did sign them. But the one thing I mentioned at the event the other day is Henry is, and the whole team out there, when I went out, the thing I was impressed with, he knew all of his staff. The one thing he said is our staff take initiative and they do the job without ever having to ask them, and I -- and I really -- they set a bar for the other departments. We've got great departments, but Mosquito Control sets the bar. When I interviewed with the Chair in Atlanta eight, nine months ago, when I went back and did more research on the area, the one thing, when I called in the region, one of the first things that was mentioned was the model program of Mosquito Control, that Chatham County set the example for the southeastern United States. That was huge. But last, as far as Henry's concerned, we've known each other six months, seven months, and I've said if I could strive to be anyone, it would be Henry. It's because not just of his work ethic but because of who he is, the type of person he is in his heart. That's a huge accomplishment, and for that we're grateful. Thank you.

Dr. Lewandowski said, thank you very much. [Applause.]

Chairman Scott said, Henry, before you leave, we have one of our Youth Commissioners want to say something, Ms. Cunningham.

Youth Commissioner Kennedi Cunningham said, on behalf of Chatham County Youth Commission, I would like to say congratulations on your retirement.

Dr. Lewandowski said, thank you and God bless you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Shabazz from the 5th District has comments.

Commissioner Shabazz said, good morning, sir. Good morning and -- and congratulations on your retirement, but I would just like to say this. You afforded me the opportunity to take a flight up in one of your helicopters to view the District, and all before I just had a -- a -- a concept of the District off of a map, but when you gave me the opportunity to go fly up in one of the helicopters, it gave me an opportunity to see the -- the area view of the District, and I thought it was very nice, and I'd like to thank you for it. And also, the wonderful photographs that you printed for me. I have those framed in my home, you know, and I'd like to say thank you very much and congratulations once again.

Dr. Lewandowski said, thank you, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, thank you, sir.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Kicklighter from the 7th District, and no he's not going to complain about your budget.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I understand you not flying me and printing pictures for me, 'cause I've never voted for the budget issues and items, but I just want to tell you that as often as I -- as much as I actually voted against budget items, I appreciate your dedication to have nothing less than the best Mosquito Control facility in the country, and as far as counties goes, I -- I truly do believe that you have achieved that with your leadership. And I just want you to know, and your staff to know also, like when I walked in the door, I faced a \$12 million deficit, so I would have settled for maybe half the best Mosquito Control in the nation, but you're a wonderful person. You are what every manager dreams of having, a person that's relentless until they achieve that goal of having the very best. So I -- I sincerely appreciate everything you've done and wish you the best. Thank you.

Dr. Lewandowski said, thank you very much, sir.

Chairman Scott said, we have our Vice Chair, Commissioner Priscilla Thomas would like to make some comments.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Given all that has been said, in addition I just want to personally thank you for the time that you and your staff have taken over the years to make sure that the

children, the young people of Chatham County understood what mosquito control was all about. Not only did you work with the Chatham County Youth Commission, but you also worked with the younger group that we also have, the Summer Bonanza young people, and believe it or not, they have learned a lot. They are continuing to talk about mosquito control, the helicopters, and the this and the that. We even have some people -- some young people who really want to go into that particular area. So, just thank you for the services that you have rendered to these young people getting them to understand what it was all about, and you did it -- you and your staff, you did it so well, and the children learned a lot. So thank you so very much.

Dr. Lewandowski said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, we have Commissioner Farrell from the 4th District.

Commissioner Farrell said, I -- I want to express my appreciation for the -- the -- the friendship and the -- the great work that you provided to this county and the important service that you provide to this county. I was recently reading a -- a book, and it mentioned the yellow fever epidemic in the late 1800s right where we're standing within -- right in downtown Savannah where 400 children lost their lives in one year, and they traced it back to the mosquitos that live in -- naturally in this area. So we've come a long way, and to have virtually no incidents for year after year after year, from where we've come from and our history of this county, speaks volumes of the value of this department and the value that you added to make it rise to the pinnacle that it -- it currently holds, and certainly hope that the next person that fills your shoes has the ambition and the ability to continue with that excellent work. So I thank you and thank Connie for being here tonight -- today, and hope -- hopefully we'll see you around town.

Dr. Lewandowski said, thank you very much.

Commissioner Farrell said, all right.

Chairman Scott said, we have Commissioner Holmes of the 2nd District.

Commissioner Holmes said, oh god, I hate to miss you. Look here, let -- I got one request I want to ask of you before you go into retirement, or you can take this as a homework for us. Work on a formula that we can get rid of sand gnats, and if you put it together, I will get Kicklighter to agree with us to purchase it from you.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I might actually vote for that.

Commissioner Holmes said, congratulations on your retirement and enjoy yourself.

Dr. Lewandowski said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Doctor, thank you, and thank you for your service to your country, as well.

Commissioner Brady said, thank you.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you.

Dr. Lewandowski said, best holiday wishes to everyone.

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Commissioner Farrell said, Merry Christmas.

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VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

Chairman Scott said, we don't have any Chairman's item except for the comments to the chief in which we did in the Green Room.

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VII. COMMISSIONER'S ITEMS

1. **UPDATE FROM SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT ON WORK RELEASE PROGRAM (COMMISSIONER STONE).**

Chairman Scott said, so at this time I'm going to recognize our Commission Pro Tem, Commissioner Stone, to just sort of introduce Commissioner's Item and invite folk from the Sheriff's Department to come up to talk about our work release. Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman and you for this opportunity. This really sort of surfaced last Commission meeting when we were talking about the budget at the jail and what was going on, and I want to thank the Sheriff, and the Deputy Sheriff, and Mr. Sprauve for their insight on something that we started a few years back, and that was a work release program for non-violent offenders, mainly for the -- the folks that were not paying their child support so that number one they could be out of jail and work so low and behold they could pay their child support. But it has been a wonderful program. I've gone out there and -- and looked at it, walked around. Right now they are -- are trying to juggle a lot of balls by moving these inmates around so that they can get them ready to go out for the day, and I think that what we're about to do will certainly help with that, but I'm going to let them explain it to you, but these are the things that I think make Chatham County great, and that is our insight to look at problems and to try to find solutions that are a little bit different that -- that ultimately will be a win-win situation for everyone. So thank you, Mr. Sheriff.

Sheriff Al St. Lawrence said, thank you. My role here this morning is just to introduce to you for those of you who don't know him, Mr. Rodney Sprauve, who is a -- a principal consultant over the work release program, and I'm going to let him make his presentation to you.

Mr. Rodney Sprauve said, oh, good morning to -- to all of you this morning. I believe you have our presentation on your -- on your screen, so we'll get right to it. I'd like to tell you first of all that over the course of this year, to date, we've had upward of about 150 who have come through the work release program. Currently at this time we have about 37 active participants. Those are males and females in the community work release program. Eleven of them right now are going out to work in the community every day. Eight of those participants are in what we call Operation New Hope, which is our dog program, which many of you are aware of. They are both dealing with Operation New Hope, as well as going out and working with the Humane Society. We've got nine participants at the Sheriff's Office range; five in the warehouse; and four in night sanitation. Now you notice those four categories, of those four categories, those people are right -- currently in our Blue Suitor program where we have incorporated the Blue Suitor program into work release. So these -- these folks who are in the Blue Suitor program are receiving pre-employment training, they're getting assessments prior to consideration to actually work in the community. What we found was that it was necessary for us to do additional screening because we want to make sure that we're making the best possible decisions when we're -- when we're taking low level offenders and bringing them back out into the community, that we're doing the appropriate training, that we're doing the appropriate assessments, that we're making sure that when we do this, that the risk is as low as it can possibly be.

Mr. Sprauve said, next up you'll see why so -- the question then is why? Why pre-employment training and assessment? Because the Blue Suitor program really is functioning as the gateway to our community work. There is a higher likelihood of long-term success in the community work release program if a participant receives pre-employment training, screening, assessment, and those now are program requirements. You cannot come into the work release program without doing those things. All of those who are in the program are on GPS leg monitors because they are being allowed to go beyond the secured perimeter. The monitoring is consistent. It provides real time knowledge at all times during the day or in the evenings if they're out working. And if a Blue Suitor cannot successfully work for the Chatham County Sheriff's Office on the inside, we will not risk him or her working in the community.

Mr. Sprauve said, next up, this is a -- a -- been a good year for us. We have actually, back in September, we moved some of our office space out of the -- the unit five area because we needed to have some additional training space, and this is a part of what the Commissioner was talking about, that in moving around so that we could have a training space so that we could have a place where we could have a com -- a computer lab, for example. As you notice on this slide, we got eight computers that were donated, desktop computers from the University of Phoenix, Savannah campus, to the program, but we had nowhere in Unit 5 to put them where we could secure them, and so we had to move out of that space in order to do so. The computers are now operational. I have a nice picture here for you of some of the inmates working in the computer lab, as well as us doing some training the new training facility, but these are temporary spaces. These are not the -- the permanent spaces because they are not in the Unit 5 area.

Mr. Sprauve said, so in terms of our growth opportunity. Chief, you want to come up for this one?

Chief Deputy Roy Harris said, sure. This program is not particularly that old with Chatham County. Mr. Sprauve has worked very diligently in meeting with our judges. I've been present during many of those meetings, to encourage them to look for participants in the program. It was originally conceived in this country as a deadbeat dad program to pay child support. We wanted to go beyond that. If somebody came to our facility that was not a danger to society, and they had a job, we want them to keep the job. That way they can help pay their way through their incarceration. If they have the ability to get a job and can fit into the program then certainly we will help them find a job, and that's what Mr. Sprauve's job is. As he mentioned, they are monitored very closely with GPS devices. There are parameters on those. If they go to an area they're not supposed to be an alarm goes off, and they are notified, and then we go to see what's wrong with them. Under the new systems we have, we can even page their device to have them call in. We had one this week. The inmate went into an area at one of the schools that was in a very heavily concreted area. The device lost signal. The device -- that tripped

an alarm. They were able to page the inmate, and the inmate immediately called control and explained the situation, so -- we were able to verify that. Mr. Sprauve and his people do as much as they possibly can to ensure the safety of the public while allowing these inmates to participate in the program.

Chief Deputy Harris said, once we move to second phase, and we can reconfigure Unit 5, then we anticipate all of Unit 5 being a part of this program with 80-something beds that we can house, both females and males in that program. Currently only males are housed in that unit. The females have to come from about a half a mile away from one of the other units to get there. All of you have been in the jail and knew how long the corridors are. We would want to take the old K-9 building and redo it, and that will be the administrative training area and the dress out area. When the inmates go out, they have to be in street clothes, they have to be dressed out. The monitors are then attached. When they come back, all of that is reversed, and they're again searched, so we ensure no contraband is brought into the building. That is our ultimate goal to move forward toward that in Phase 2, which you, ladies and gentlemen, will be looking at in the very near future. Rodney.

Mr. Sprauve said, so that pretty much concludes. I put some slides up there but I wanted to just make sure that the Commissioners do know that the remodeling of Unit 5 will not increase capacity. No new beds. So there isn't going to be any need for the payment of any new beds, that the project will enhance the safety bubble for work-release participants. That these work-release participants will not be in the same area as the more dangerous offenders. That there will be no additional correctional personnel that's going to be required, where a stand-alone building would have required additional personnel, and the estimates that we're looking at right now is an annual savings of about \$900,000 a year. So we'll open it up for questions or comments.

Chairman Scott said, any questions?

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes. Yes.

Commissioner Thomas said, good job.

Chairman Scott said, we have the Commissioner from the 3rd District, Commissioner Center and then we've got Commissioner Stone from the 1st, and the Commissioner from the 5th District, Commissioner Shabazz, and our Youth Commissioner, Commissioner Dorsey.

County Manager Lee Smith said, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman Scott said, yes.

County Manager Smith said, your microphone.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Center said, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. Good morning. Thank you for your presentation. What's the 900,000 savings from?

Chief Deputy Harris said, the 900,000 savings would be the approximately 17 correctional officers we would have to hire if we moved into a stand-alone building, and that's computing their salaries, annual training and everything that goes with that. As we stay in Unit 5, those existing personnel there will merely take over those other duties.

Commissioner Center said, thank you very much.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Do we have any statistics yet on how this has helped with the Recidivism for any of these inmates?

Mr. Sprauve said, I can tell you, Commissioner, that in the two years I've been there, actually it doesn't seem that long, but two years now, of the -- and I can give you the hard numbers. We'll get them to you, but of the probably close to 300 and some in the last 24 months, we've not seen more than probably eight that have come back through who have gone through the program successfully.

Commissioner Stone said, well that's -- that's a huge savings to this county and certainly to a -- a family and to the productivity of that individual. So I am -- I am obviously very pleased about this program and would like to in the future expand this in any way that we can, again, for those that are not a threat to this community. But I believe in my heart that if an individual is out working, they're a lot less likely to recommit crimes and end up back in our jail. So thank you very much.

Chief Deputy Harris said, one of the keys to this program is family participation, and each cycle that goes through where they actually train the inmate, we have a graduation day. The family people are invited to be there. In fact, we kind of insist that they be there. They are a key part of it, and the graduation day is where they are actually graduating from a program. Some of them for the first time, and the other day -- I -- I typically speak at that at Rodney's request to give them a little upbeat talk about what they're going to do, and as we

were waiting, all of the -- the men, there was nine of them, two females and the rest men were sitting on the front row, and each time the back door opened in the muster room, all the heads swivelled around, and I took note of that, and as I spoke to them, I told the family that you may not have seen this, but I did, that each time that door opened, they were looking for some loved one to be here, and you do not know how much it means to them that you took the time to come out here and for you to support them in this program. And that means a lot.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Shabazz.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes. Good morning, sir.

Chief Deputy Harris said, good morning.

Commissioner Shabazz said, are this -- the program, the training that you have related to this, is it any way tied to a GED program or something?

Chief Deputy Harris said, we have a separate GED program that the Savannah Technical Institute is contracted to do at the office.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Chief Deputy Harris said, we do that aside from this. This -- this is more of a work program, and I'll let Mr. Sprauve address that further. But to get them out, the GED is very important.

Commissioner Shabazz said, right.

Chief Deputy Harris said, the GED is very important.

Commissioner Shabazz said, right.

Chief Deputy Harris said, and the reason we do with Savannah Tech is they're a certified agency for GED programs. They train, they test, and if the inmate happens to get out before completing it, they can still go out to Savannah Tech and complete that GED which as we all know is very critical for someone in our -- in our workforce.

Commissioner Shabazz said, so the pre -- the pre-requisite for one to -- to enter into this work release program, what -- what's the requirements? How do you go about selecting those individuals?

Mr. Sprauve said, well, it -- it varies. You can for example through child support.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Mr. Sprauve said, that has been our primary focus or was the primary focus of the program initially, and the primary reason for that is if you're sitting in jail you can't work. If you can't work, you can't pay.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes, sir.

Mr. Sprauve said, and so we try to get them out -- into a job and back out into the community so that they can work and pay off that purge.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Mr. Sprauve said, that's one. But what we're also looking at are -- are other ways of getting people into the program so that if they're a low-level offender, a probation violator, for example, or we've got a lot of work that we've been doing with the DUI court where Judge Fowler needs to provide a sanction for somebody who's not been compliant in the program, but the individual has a job and they don't -- he doesn't want them to lose the job, but he wants them to understand that the program is a serious program. He will in his stipulation in the order put them into the work release program so that we can do an orientation with them, get them to understand the seriousness of the program, put a leg monitor on them, and then send them out to work. But when we send them out to work, we create exclusion and inclusion zones by way of the monitor. So if he needs to be at work between eight and four, we create an inclusion zone to make sure he's there between eight and four. When he leaves work and needs to go to, for example, Recovery Place for his therapy, and he needs to be at Recovery Place from five until eight, then we create an inclusion zone there from five to eight, so it tells us that he is actually there when he's supposed to be there. So we ramp up the accountability with folks and get them to understand on the front end that we're doing that because we want them to succeed.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. So there's -- there's not a window there for them to deviate away from those areas?

Mr. Sprauve said, no. We -- we -- we -- we maintain a very tight window when they're out in terms of where they are, how long they're there, when they move from one place to another, and we also create exclusion zones. For example, if you're in the program, you cannot go home. So every person in the program, automatically, we create an exclusion zone, usually about three or four blocks around their home so that if they go near they're home, we'll know.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. What -- what -- what are some of the courses that you offer to prepare the inmates for the work release program?

Mr. Sprauve said, well, one of the things that we try to do is, for example, the GED question was a good question. If we think that someone really needs to -- to get on the GED program, then -- then we collaborate with the G -- with the program's department to make sure that they are able to take the GED courses through Savannah Tech. But what we try to do in terms of the training that we do is primarily job readiness. What do you need to be doing to be ready not only to secure a job, but also to maintain a job? And so everything from resume development to presentation, doing what we call your -- your 60-second infomercial. How can you tell someone about you in a minute and convince them that you're someone they should consider for a job? We talk about barriers, the fact that you already have this barrier of having a record. Well, how do you talk to an employer about the fact that you have a record because they're going to ask you. And so we try to get them to -- to become conversational about where they are and what their skills are and what they bring to the table. And I should also let you know that most of the people who come through the program and finally go out and get jobs, get a job within two to three weeks of coming into the program.

Commissioner Shabazz said, last -- last but not least. There was recently a town hall meeting in the 5th District concerning crime and everything like that, and somehow the subject of the jail came up, and they wanted to know the programs that were in the jail, and to your credit, this seems like it's a very good program, and I commend you all, the Sheriff, as -- as well as the Chief and yourself and the staff for really putting this program to work.

Mr. Sprauve said, thank you very much, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, really appreciate you.

Chairman Scott said, Ms. -- Ms. Dorsey has a question and then Commissioner Kicklighter.

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, let me add this for Commissioner Shabazz.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes, sir.

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, we have 12 programs right now running out at that jail. No other Sheriff's department I can find --

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes, sir.

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, -- in the State of Georgia has as many programs as we do. For instance, a 28-day substance abuse program, GED program.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes, sir.

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, and -- and many others that -- again right now we have 12 programs in that jail try to help inmates.

Commissioner Shabazz said, mm-hmm. Thank you, sir.

Chairman Scott said, Ms. Dorsey.

Youth Commissioner Aliyah Dorsey said, hello. I just wanted to say I think it's really fantastic what you guys are doing. During candidacy over the summer myself and a lot of other candidates went to the jail, and we saw some of the programs there, and I think it's really great.

Chief Deputy Harris said, thank you for that. We always enjoy having you folks come out and sharing with you what we're trying to do at the facility, and it's always good to have your support among your peers, that you do tell them that that is going on, and hopefully they won't end up there. And before we conclude, I'd like to thank again Commissioner Holmes --

Chairman Scott said, no, we -- we have a --

Chief Deputy Harris said, I'm sorry.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Kicklighter has a -- has a question.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Kicklighter of the 7th District.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, how --

Chairman Scott said, -- and then Commissioner Farrell of the 4th District.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, how much is it to actually fund a GED for a person through the jail?

Chief Deputy Harris said, I don't know the exact number and no public funds are used in any of these programs. The money comes from the inmate welfare account. Sheriff, what is it, about \$25,000 a year?

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, yeah, 24 something. We had a outfit known as Get Skills. They wasn't accredited. We made a change last year in -- in 2013. We brought Savannah Tech on board because they're accredited, and they're handling all that now, and it's -- cost us less than it cost it was costing us before. So.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, how -- how much is it to put a person through a 28-day substance abuse program? Do y'all know right off the top of your head? And I know that --

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, I can't give you that. I'll get it for you.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay.

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, but you got to remember we got a captive audience there, and some of the judges will make that part of their sentencing order.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, no, I commend -- I commend you for both, and my -- my thoughts is that it's just sad that we're in a society where you have to commit a crime to be able to get your free GED or to be able to go into a substance program.

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, well, we may be paying instructors, but other than that to conduct these programs, 'cause we want people to know what they're doing if we're going to institute a program in that jail.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yeah. You're doing a great job. I'm -- I'm just stating that maybe that's something we can look at in the future to add is providing some type of classroom, because I don't know the cost. Maybe people can't afford to go get their GED, you know. I -- I have no idea of what it would cost.

County Manager Smith said, sure. Sure. We'll get more details. We're making a list of things that were asked for that we'll get to.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, but if we can help people before they get to jail maybe get off of drugs and get an education, maybe they won't go to jail. So. Maybe we can just take a look and see what it would cost. Thanks. Y'all are doing a great job by the way. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Farrell of the 4th District.

Commissioner Farrell said, I noticed that you're using some of the candidates in the jail to perform different temporary services. Is there any consideration that hopefully as this program grows that some of the other county departments will partake in some of the temporary labor provided by the folks that are hopefully transitioning out of the jail system and into regular, everyday life?

Chief Deputy Harris said, that -- that's something we -- we'd certainly look at in the future. We have for many, many years had Blue Suitors because they wear a blue jump suit, which identifies them as non-violent offender, one that can work both in and outside the facility. We've had them doing jobs, and they get a small stipend for that, which the law requires us to pay. Recently though in looking at the program over all, it was determined it would benefit, not only us but these inmates to have them in the work release program. Before they got no training about what job they were going to do. They may work in the laundry, in the kitchen; they may mow grass, repair the burms at the range, whatever assignment. If we actually trained them for job skills and used this as a credit for when they get out, they have a better opportunity to get work. That's why they were included into the program, and I think that's going to be very successful.

Commissioner Farrell said, okay. Well, like I say, I'd -- I'd like to, you know, see in the future more and more coming out of behind the bars and into a work release program. I think it's a better solution for -- for all involved, and I know there's some positions that are temporary in nature, especially in Public Works that could probably use some -- some motivated individuals to -- to perform.

County Manager Smith said, we can work with the Sheriff's office. We have to work with HR because in talking with the Attorney just a second ago, we'll have to look at our personnel policies, the Act that we have because there's some -- you have to change our policies in order to allow it, but we'll look at it.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Brady of the 6th District.

Commissioner Brady said, actually, thank you, Commissioner Farrell. That was my question. First I want to commend you for the work that you're doing with these inmates, but we suffer from lack of -- of staff in our Public Works department, and we're behind on just dealing with some of the duties that we serve as -- as -- as the county, and I've always asked this question, why can we not have some of the inmates, and -- and I'm not saying this should be a punishment of any kind, but some work release. I mean they could be in a landscape artist or whatever, and -- and work for the county and -- and -- and I understand the stipend, but I think we need to -- to really look into that because we could use some help.

Chief Deputy Harris said, okay.

County Manager Smith said, we're going to look at it.

Commissioner Brady said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, but -- but you also need to be mindful that the -- the only way it works, it has to be on a voluntary basis. You can't force them.

Chief Deputy Harris said, that's correct.

Chairman Scott said, the law, State law won't permit it.

Commissioner Thomas said, that's true.

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, that's one of the problems we run into it with child support.

Commissioner Brady said, well --

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, (inaudible).

Commissioner Brady said, well -- well and you -- well and --

Chairman Scott said, the only reason I mentioned it I wanted -- I wanted the public to know that, that you have a state law that prohibits mandatory labor.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Chairman Scott said, that you can do it but it has to be on a volunteer basis.

County Manager Smith said, they have to volunteer.

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, absolutely.

Commissioner Brady said, and -- and -- and I -- and I appreciate you saying that Mr. Chairman, but when I -- when I'm driving down I-16 or something I see a big white bus that says, you know, prisoners, and they're out there working on the -- the highway. So what is the difference --

Chairman Scott said, it's the State.

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, State.

County Manager Smith said, state prisoners.

Commissioner Brady said, it's the state versus the county.

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, State. Yes.

County Manager Smith said, they're allowed to do it. They are allowed to do it, and we are not.

Commissioner Brady said, 'cause -- 'cause I'm guessing those guys are probably violent offenders, and our guys are not.

Chairman Scott said, but --

Commissioner Brady said, that are this work release program.

Chairman Scott said, you -- you also --

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, we don't have violent offenders in the program.

Commissioner Brady said, exactly is my point.

Chairman Scott said, yeah, but the -- the point is is that when the majority of the folk that are in our facilities are waiting to become state prisoners. They have not yet been convicted or sentenced --

County Attorney R. Jonathan Hart said, they are detainees.

Commissioner Thomas said, exactly.

Chairman Scott said, and -- and so we can't force them to work.

Commissioner Brady said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, and -- and so when they become state prisoners, they're in a different category, and so, what we do, a lot of them would love to volunteer, but we do it only with volunteers. You can't -- in other words you can't force it, and I wanted to make sure that distinction was out there.

Commissioner Brady said, I appreciate that Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Okay. Commissioner Center --

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, yeah. We can't force anybody to work. If they don't want to work they don't work.

Chairman Scott said, Commis -- Commissioner Center of the 3rd District.

Commissioner Center said, Sheriff, Roy, and sir, I just -- I want to commend you. It -- it's -- it's very refreshing given what our entire country's going through in the last few weeks to see such positive reinforcement coming out of law enforcement, and I'm very glad that -- that Commissioner Stone asked you to come today so that the public can see that there's some very positive efforts coming out of our law enforcement officials, and I appreciate that.

Sheriff St. Lawrence said, thank you.

Mr. Sprauve said, if I may, real quick final point that I -- from the programmatic point of view, and I really want to re-assure the Commissioners on this point. One of the things that I find in the last two years in doing this work for you is that people need hope and people need a reason. If you can give a person hope, and you can give them a reason, you can change their mind.

Commissioner Thomas said, mm-hmm.

Mr. Sprauve said, one of my primary goals in the training that I do with these inmates is first to give them hope. Hope in themselves, and for many of them for the first time them ever hearing someone say that I have hope about you.

Commissioner Thomas said, yes.

Mr. Sprauve said, when they walk into the training with me, they're not an inmate. You're a man or a woman, and I'm going to treat you with respect and dignity, and I'm going to help you understand how the program works so that you can make the program work for you. By giving them hope, it then gives them a reason to think about living differently, and I think one of the reasons why our Recidivism rate has been as low as it's been is because we try to give them that hope on the front end, and by giving them that hope and then holding them accountable, many of them rise to the occasion and they don't come back. So we want to continue that trend by making sure that we can create the best possible work release program that Georgia has, and then make it a model for other counties around -- around the state.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Shabazz said, very good.

Commissioner Thomas said, great job.

Commissioner Shabazz said, very good.

Commissioner Thomas said, great job.

Chairman Scott said, thank you. Thank you, Sheriff. [Applause.]

Commissioner Shabazz said, thank 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 (*)

1. **BOARD CONSIDERATION OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF SAVANNAH TO ALLOCATE THE COSTS OF THE RECORDER'S COURT OF CHATHAM COUNTY.**

NOTES:

- Item was pulled from the October 24, 2014, agenda at the request of the City of Savannah.
- At Board meeting of November 7, 2014, item was tabled.
- At Board meeting of November 21, 2014, item was tabled until the December 19, 2014, meeting.

Chairman Scott said, we don't have any Tabled Items because the item that's on the table is tabled to a date certain, which is the 19th of December.

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IX. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL ACTION

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

1. **TO REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND TRANSFERS: 1) IN THE GENERAL FUND M&O: a) TRANSFER \$10,150 FROM BUILDING AND LAND RENTAL TO SALARIES AND WAGES WITHIN THE SUPERIOR COURT ADMINISTRATOR'S BUDGET, b) TRANSFER \$11,600 FROM CONTINGENCY TO THE CORONER'S HEALTH INSURANCE BUDGET, AND c) TRANSFER \$5,589 FROM OTHER PURCHASED SERVICES TO SALARIES IN THE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT'S BUDGET, D) TRANSFER \$24,750 FROM CONTINGENCY TO THE ICS DEPARTMENT BUDGET; 2) IN THE SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND TRANSFER \$8,478 FROM OPERATING LINE ITEMS TO SALARIES AND WAGES WITHIN THE PUBLIC WORKS BUDGET, 3) IN THE RESTRICTED COURT FEES FUND APPROPRIATE \$200,000 FUND BALANCE TO SUPERIOR COURT AND 4) IN THE SALES TAX IV FUND AMEND REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES \$2,202 FOR A DONATION TO THE McQUEEN'S TRAIL.**

Chairman Scott said, and we have next is Items for Individual Action. It's on page 5. The first to request approval of the following budget amendments and transfers: in General Fund M&O a transfer \$10,150 from Building and Land Rental to Salaries and Wages within the Superior Court Administrative -- Administrator's Budget, and then transfer \$11,600 from Contingency to the Coroner's Health Insurance budget, and transfer \$5,589 from Other Purchased Services to Salaries in the Purchasing department budget, and d) transfer \$24,750 from Contingency to the ICS department budget; and in the Special Service District Fund transfer \$8,478 from Operating Line Items to Salaries and Wages within the Public Works budget, and in the Restricted Court Fee Fund appropriate \$200,000 Fund Balance to Superior Court; and 4) in Sales Tax IV Fund amend revenues and expenditures by \$2,202 for a Donation to the McQueen's Trail project.

Commissioner Stone said, so moved, Mr. Chairman.

Commissioner Center said, second.

Chairman Scott said, properly moved and second. Any unreadiness or discussion? Hearing none, all in favor of the motion indicate by voting yes, opposed no. The motion carries.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Stone moved for approval of the request following budget amendments and transfers: in the General Fund M&O: a) transfer \$10,150 from Building and Land Rental to Salaries and Wages within the Superior Court Administrator's Budget, b) transfer \$11,600 from Contingency to the Coroner's Health Insurance Budget, and c) transfer \$5,589 from Other Purchased Services to Salaries in the Purchasing Department's Budget, d) transfer \$24,750 from Contingency to the ICS department budget; and 2) in the Special Service District Fund transfer \$8,478 from Operating Line Items to Salaries and Wages within the Public Works Budget, 3) in the Restricted Court Fees Fund appropriate \$200,000 Fund Balance to Superior Court and 4) in the Sales

Tax IV Fund amend revenues and expenditures \$2,202 for d Donation to the McQueen's Trail. Commissioner Center seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: IX-1

AGENDA DATE: December 5, 2014

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: Lee Smith, County Manager

FROM: Amy Davis, Finance Director

ISSUE:

To request approval of the following budget amendments and transfers: 1) in the General Fund M&O: a) transfer \$10,150 from Building and Land Rental to Salaries and Wages within the Superior Court Administrator's Budget, b) transfer \$11,600 from Contingency to the Coroner's Health Insurance Budget, and c) transfer \$5,589 from Other Purchased Services to Salaries in the Purchasing Department's Budget, 2) in the Special Service District Fund transfer \$8,478 from Operating Line Items to Salaries and Wages within the Public Works Budget, 3) in the Restricted Court Fees Fund appropriate \$200,000 Fund Balance to Superior Court and 4) in the Sales Tax IV Fund amend revenues and expenditures \$2,202 for d Donation to the McQueen's Trail.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. General Fund:
 - (a) The Superior Court Administrator is requesting a transfer of \$10,150 from building and land rental to salaries and wages to address internal pay inequities for two staff members. Correspondence is attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
 - (b) A request has been made to transfer \$11,600 from General Fund M&O contingency to the Coroner's budget insurance account to cover the cost of the Coroner's participation in the County's insurance plan. Correspondence is attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
 - (c) The Human Resources Director is requesting a transfer of \$5,589 from other purchased services to salaries within the Purchasing Department's budget to cover additional salary costs to fill a reclassified position. Correspondence is attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
 - (d) The County Manager is requesting a transfer of \$24,750 from General Fund M&O contingency to the ICS budget for the purchase of eCivis software, which is a grant research and management software. Correspondence is attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
2. The Director of Public Works and Park Services is requesting a transfer of \$8,478 from operating line items to salaries and wages within the Public Works budget to fund reclassifications. Correspondence is attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
3. The Superior Court Restricted Fees expenditures has exceeded the amount budgeted for the fiscal year. An appropriation of fund balance will cover the expenditures and provide funding for the remainder of the year. Correspondence and a resolution to amend the Restricted Court Fees Fund is attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
4. Public Works and Park Services received a \$2,202 donation for the McQueen's Trail. A resolution to amend the Sales Tax IV Fund is attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).

FUNDING:

Funds are available in the General Fund M&O and the Special Service District Fund. The budget amendment will establish funding in the Restricted Court Fees and the Sales Tax IV Funds.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board approve the following:

GENERAL FUND M&O

- a) Transfer \$10,150 from building and land rental to salaries and wages within the Superior Court Administrator's budget.
- b) Transfer \$11,600 from contingency to the Coroner's budget.

- c) Transfer \$5,589 from other purchased services to salaries within the Purchasing Department's budget.
- d) Transfer \$24,750 from contingency to the ICS budget.

SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND

Transfer \$8,478 from operating line items to salaries and wages within the Public Works budget.

RESTRICTED COURT FEES FUND

Appropriate \$200,000 fund balance to the Superior Court Restricted Funds budget.

SALES TAX IV FUND

- a) Increase revenues \$2,202 for a donation to the McQueen's Trail.
- b) Increase the McQueen's Trail project \$2,202.

- 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 APPROVE THE COUNTY'S GUARANTEE OF THE RESTRUCTURED CHATHAM AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY LINE OF CREDIT AND TERM LOAN AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN REQUIRED DOCUMENTS. (CAT STAFF WILL PROVIDE AN OVERVIEW PRESENTATION ON CAT'S STATUS).

Chairman Scott said, Item 2 for Individual Action request Board approval -- request Board approve the County's guarantee of the restructure of Chatham Area Transit Authority line of credit and term loan and authorize the Chairman to sign the required documents. CAT staff is here to provide an overview, and at this time, Doctor.

Dr. Chad Reese said, thank you Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission. I want to talk briefly about just where we're at with some projects with CAT before we move on to the line of credit just to bring the Board up to date with some of our initiatives that we kind of talked about during the budget process in terms of getting the financial house in order. As you know, CAT was in a situation where we haven't balanced our operating budget in eight years, and we haven't balanced our -- our capital budget, funded depreciation, in about 12 years. So this is year is the first year that we're actually on track to bring in a balanced operating budget, but we're still not moving forward with the balance of the capital -- capital depreciation.

Dr. Reese said, in terms of service delivery, one of the things that we wanted to talk about, one of our tasks this year was to reduce service, we -- in terms of reducing overall cost. So we have reduced service by about -- approximately 15 percent, but even in that our overall ridership is up about five percent. That's up four percent in our fixed route service which is an aggregate increase of about 24 percent over the past four years. Our growth trends are showing with that 24 percent growth is that approximately one out of every five passengers who ride our services is now -- is under 30, non-minority, college educated. So we diversified our marketing approach, our target market. The second area of growth is in minority, Spanish speaking. So we continue to focus on those various -- those areas of growth which comprises where we're at with the 24 percent. As I said, with the reduction of service, productivity is up 18 percent. Our number one complaint now is over-crowding, particularly on the major corridors, where you look at Waters Avenue, Abercorn, MLK. Those major corridors are experiencing over-crowding.

Dr. Reese said, the other area is our Teleride program, as well as our -- our taxi program. With our Teleride program, the aggregate increase up -- is up about 28 percent over the past four years. It's up seven percent year to date. Our taxi cab program is up and running. Last month we carried about 850 on the taxi cab program. So we'll continue to see growth in the area of paratransit. Marine services up seven percent. In terms of the capital projects this year, year to date we've completed about 40 bus stop improvements with shelters, benches, so on and so forth. We should be closing out our ITS project within the next 45 days. We're going to start a bus hab -- bus rehab project for up to 29 vehicles. That should be going to our Board in March, and then we've recently completed Hutchinson Island. And there are some photographs of our Hutchinson Island Intermodal facility that's taking place.

Commissioner Thomas said, nice.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes.

Dr. Reese said, challenges we face. Surface Transportation Program. The Surface Transportation Program has expired. It's been extended through May of 2015, however, the funds for this fiscal year have not been allocated yet, so we are waiting for Congress to allocate this year's funding for the federal -- Federal Surface Transportation Program. As you know, that also includes the role that the county plays with the highways, roads, bridges, so on and so forth. So it's all covered under the same program. Cash flow continues to be our major issue. As I said, we'll come in under budget this year. We're about 75,000 positive on budget year to date, which is the first time in a number of years we've been able to say that. However, cash flow continues to be an -- an -- an issue. Our major concern outside of the funding is the growth of our paratransit. We've put a few initiatives in place. Like I say, we've done the taxi cab program. In addition to that, we're doing the certification for people who have disabilities. We began the certification process this month just sending our citizens back through the process. It will take about two years -- two to three years for everyone to go through, but the notion is just because you have a disability -- disability does not necessarily make you eligible for the services. The criteria is your ability to use fixed route. So if you break your foot, that does not necessarily mean you qualify for paratransit services.

Chairman Scott said, now you're not -- you're not throwing off on our manager, are you?

Dr. Reese said, yes, sir, I was.

County Manager Smith said, I took it that way.

Dr. Reese said, but -- but the notion is just because you have a disability, which has been a long-standing tradition in this community, so, we are -- one of our board members, Wayne Dawson, is working with James Aberson with the county. Before we roll out the program, we'll remove people from the system, we're going to roll out a marketing and public information awareness program to say, hey, this is what's going to happen before it moves down the pipe. As well as we will continue to contract out some of the services, particularly, the productive -- not productive services in the evening time to our taxi cab program.

Commissioner Shabazz said, the -- the taxi cab program?

Dr. Reese said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, can you explain that to me a little and --

Dr. Reese said, we have a contract with Yellow Cab.

Commissioner Shabazz said, uh-huh.

Dr. Reese said, we have five taxis in the community -- we have -- we have five taxis in the community that we contract with Yellow Cab, and the way the program works is any time we're in a situation where we have an overload, we'll call the taxi cab company to provide some of those trips, number one. If a customer on our paratransit service needs same day service, they can call the CAT Freedom taxi program and be provided those services.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. Okay.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Center, you?

Commissioner Center said, I'm sorry. I thought -- are you through or are you in the middle of your presentation?

Dr. Reese said, I'm --

Commissioner Center said, I'll -- I'll wait till the end.

Dr. Reese said, okay. The other issue we're up against is half of our fleet has met it's useful life. We talked about the process of rehabbing about 29 of our vehicles. Right now we're at 98 vehicles, and the risk we run is once we're at the 100-vehicle threshold, all the federal guidelines change in terms of funding mechanisms. So we balance our operating budget through the use of federal funds because we're under 100 vehicles. If we were to expand the system and go over 100 vehicles, those funds become much more restrictive to that of capital and infrastructure and less of operating. So that's one of the risks we're up against. And the last risk we're up against is CAT has been around for a while under different names, so we have a very senior staff. So we began the process where we've been going about developing new managers, have a large number of pending retirement among operators, mechanics, so on and so forth, and availability of skilled labor to replace those is limited, so we're working to kind of offset that. Then Terri [Harrison] will talk about the line of credit. I can address any questions on the first part before we get to the line of credit.

Commissioner Center said, thank you. I'm confused about the cash flow. Does that mean you're just not making enough money or is it you have a -- an (inaudible) of cash?

Dr. Reese said, right.

Commissioner Center said, why after so many years have you not adjusted that you know when your cash flow is going to be weak so you have something in reserve? I don't understand why cash flow is a problem every single year.

County Attorney Hart said, because it's the government.

County Manager Smith said, government funding.

Dr. Reese said, it -- it -- it's been an issue where we couldn't raise revenue, we couldn't reduce service, so for a eight-year period you end up, and we're in the situation where our funding comes in at the end of the fiscal year. So we'll receive some funding in December and then the rest of the funding in June, so February, March, April, May, there's very limited cash flow. It comes in at the end of June, now your numbers look okay, and you --

Commissioner Center said, that's what I don't understand, after so many years, don't you adjust so you know when your cash comes in. You don't spend it all at that time.

Commissioner Thomas said, it didn't.

County Attorney Hart said, you -- you can't adjust to Congress. You can't adjust funding to Congress.

Dr. Reese said, right.

County Attorney Hart said, they -- they fund when they choose to fund?

Commissioner Center said, and it's different every year?

Dr. Reese said, it is.

Commissioner Thomas said, yes.

County Attorney Hart said, it is.

County Manager Smith said, and these are operational dollars and capital dollars, and they keep pushing out, I mean this is nationwide, they keep pushing out the dates. So used to you would have 30, 60 days, you would get your money. They now -- 90, 120, you know. It's going out six, eight, nine months, sometimes a year at least.

Commissioner Thomas said, right.

Dr. Reese said, and -- and -- and last year the federal government ended up with a cash flow issue itself.

Commissioner Center said, okay.

Dr. Reese said, so they pushed us back.

Commissioner Center said, all right.

Chairman Scott said, so you -- you've got -- you've got --

Commissioner Center said, it's -- it's not going to happen every month -- every -- the same time every year? It changes?

Chairman Scott said, -- multiple -- no. You've got multiple source of funds too. It -- you've got --

County Manager Smith said, yeah. It's a moving target.

Chairman Scott said, yeah. You've got federal funds. You've got funds arrived at -- from the digest, and then you've got grant funds.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Chairman Scott said, and then you've got revenue from ridership.

Commissioner Center said, that -- that --

Chairman Scott said, so there's -- there's a multiple fund source for the CAT.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Center said, that explains it, 'cause I didn't understand it.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

Dr. Reese said, and -- and -- and the biggest issue is --

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Dr. Reese said, -- up until 12 years ago that was a reserve --

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Dr. Reese said, so to kind of answer the question, when the reserve was eliminated 12 years ago, there's been a cash flow issue for the past 12 years.

County Manager Smith said, that's what they balance the cash flow on.

Commissioner Center said, all right. And -- and that -- I've noticed more and more out of towners riding the bicycles. How is the bicycle program doing?

Dr. Reese said, the bicycle program is successful, not this time of year, but you'll see -- it's on a down click now but you'll see it pick up. It kind of goes with the weather.

Commissioner Shabazz said, mm-hmm.

Dr. Reese said, so as tourism is up, weather is good, bicycle ridership -- and it's interesting, we always say they'll -- people will pay \$5.00 an hour to rent a bicycle and won't pay \$3.00 for a all-day pass. But -- but it's interesting, and we'll take it. But we received another grant to expand the bicycle program to add three or four locations.

Commissioner Center said, 'cause what -- they -- they lock it at some place?

Dr. Reese said, yeah.

Commissioner Center said, and then return it back?

Dr. Reese said mm-hmm.

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

Dr. Reese said, and so it's one of the programs that is a positive cash situation.

Commissioner Center said, and my last question, the marine? That's the water ferry?

Dr. Reese said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Center said, and does CAT come out positively on the water ferry?

Dr. Reese said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, okay. Thank you.

Ms. Terri Harrison said, I'm sorry. I didn't mean to over speak, Dr. Reese.

Dr. Reese said, that's all right.

Ms. Harrison said, good morning. County staff and CAT staff have been working together over the past six months so that when our debt was up for renewal this month we would have a restructure that would provide benefits to both sides. What we're proposing to do is -- is move 5 million of the current outstanding balance into a long-term note, and then also reduce the total availability and only have a \$1.5 million line of credit. Our total debt outstanding will be reduced 1.75 million by January 31st with an additional reduction planned for June. 1.5 will be reduced in June. The benefits to this restructure include the transfer of the majority of the debt to a long-term note with lower interest rates. Also, the overall credit line will be reduced from a 7.7 availability down to a 1.5. We have projected to make \$3.25 million reductions with the total debt at June 30th equaling only 4 million. And I'll answer any questions you may have about the debt. Yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Farrell from the 4th District.

Commissioner Farrell said, the revolving credit of a million and a half, we -- we just heard from staff about the extreme fluctuations in receiving revenues that you experience. In a given 12-month period, assuming you take out the whole million and a half, is there a point in that also in that 12 period -- month period where it will come to zero?

Ms. Harrison said, it -- it will --

Commissioner Farrell said, and then perhaps starting --

Ms. Harrison said, -- and it's required by the line of credit. That's planned for June 15th through July 15th to coincide with our June receipts.

Commissioner Farrell said, so, what -- what -- I guess the point I'm getting at is this something that helps smooth the -- the curve of --

Ms. Harrison said, yes, sir. Without --

Commissioner Farrell said, -- of -- of revenue or is this something that just, you know, we pay this years with next years credit -- pay this year's credit off with next year's credit?

Ms. Harrison said, basically what happens is there are historically low months of tax receipts. August -- well for example September of this year we only received 38,000, so the most recent increase was 750 to help us cover operating costs for September and October, which we will pay down next Friday with our December receipts.

Commissioner Farrell said, so --

Ms. Harrison said, so it varies.

Commissioner Farrell said, so you do at some point in a 12-month period pay it to zero?

Ms. Harrison said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Farrell said, before it starts up again?

Ms. Harrison said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Farrell said, to try to smooth out the -- the ups and downs of -- of revenue?

Ms. Harrison said, yes, sir. And -- and at the same time staff has focused their efforts at over all cost containment so we can begin to build a small reserve. As we build that operating reserve, we can lower the total availability from 1.5 to possibly one and then reduce the need all together over time.

Commissioner Farrell said, okay. And this 5 million that you're going to put on a long-term note, how many years do you plan on stretching that out?

Ms. Harrison said, we can make a \$1 million annual payment in January set to coincide with the large receipts in December, so that if -- without any additional funding that would allow us to pay it down quicker, this note will be at zero in January 2019.

Commissioner Farrell said, okay. So the \$5 million note you plan to have paid off in five years.

Ms. Harrison said, yes.

Dr. Reese said, but -- but equally as important that the notion here is at -- at first we looked at how do we pay off the debt, but we also looked at our long-term financial model. We -- it's not as simple -- simple as paying off the debt, it's how do we pay off the debt and keep from getting in more debt? So the way we've structured this is that over this five-year period we'll not only pay off the debt but we'll also have operating reserve set up to eliminate it moving forward.

Commissioner Farrell said, okay. 'Cause those are my concerns also that we don't try to balance the annual budget on a larger and larger credit.

Ms. Harrison said, right. We -- we're projecting to -- to build a reserve, small at first, but we'll build every year, 100 to 200 a year so within the next two to three years we should be able to permanently reduce the line of credit and also begin not to need it in the years after that.

County Manager Smith said, county recommendation -- the staff recommendation is definitely that they have this operating reserve. They have to have it or we're just going to stay in this cycle.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Farrell said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Center.

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, 3rd District.

Commissioner Center said, I -- I -- I just want to restate it to make sure I understand it. Right now the county is guaranteeing 7.7 million of debt.

Chairman Scott said, a revolving line of credit.

Commissioner Center said, and -- and -- and -- a revolving line of credit, and we're going to move that revolving line -- we're going to lower that outstanding balance to 6.2.

Dr. Reese said, 6.5.

Commissioner Center said, 6.5, and out of that 6.5, a revolving line of credit will be 1.5 and there will be a payment plan on the 5 million.

Dr. Reese said, that's correct.

Commissioner Center said, and as I heard you respond to Commissioner Farrell, you plan to pay off that 1.5 line of credit next year?

Dr. Reese said, yes, but it will be a revolving line, so we will have to pay it off each year and have it at -- set at zero for at least 30 days each year.

Commissioner Center said, and -- and do you anticipate a time when you'll not ask the county to guarantee that line of credit?

Dr. Reese said, well it's the season of Thanksgiving, but, yeah, we -- we -- we do. The game plan is over the five-year period is that we need to have a line -- a -- we need to move into a situation where CAT has its own reserves.

Chairman Scott said, so once --

Dr. Reese said, which is something we have not had --

Chairman Scott said, -- once they build their reserve, they'll be able to get out of the line of credit.

Dr. Reese said, right.

Commissioner Center said, I -- I thank you very much, and I appreciate -- I know -- know it's not easy. I think I heard at a presentation by the Chamber a couple of years ago there's only one city in the entire world --

Dr. Reese said, Bogota.

Commissioner Center said, -- that is positive on -- on -- on mass transit.

Dr. Reese said, Bogota, Columbia.

Commissioner Center said, all right.

Ms. Harrison said, and -- and the cash flow Dr. Reese did mention is -- is our continued major challenge.

Commissioner Center said, all right. Thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, comment, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, our Vice Chair, Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to make a comment. I really want to thank --

County Manager Smith said, your microphone.

Commissioner Thomas said, -- our executive director and his staff. In my opinion has done an outstanding job. Not to say that others have not done a good job, but I have worn out my knees over the past years and when we were able to get Dr. Reese to come to Chatham County, he has certainly turned everything around in transit, along with the staff. We've been there, we have done that, and for those of you who have been on this Commission, you understand exactly where I'm coming from, and so I just want to make sure, I may not have this opportunity again, you never know, to say thank you for all that you have done and continue to do, along with the staff to bring transit into the form that it is now going in Chatham County. I get a lot of -- of calls, and they're positive calls, they're not negative, thanking us for what is happening in Chatham County with transit.

Dr. Reese said, thank you very much.

Commissioner Thomas said, so I just wanted to make sure that you heard those words today.

Chairman Scott said, our Youth Commissioner Dove.

Youth Commissioner Phillip Dove said, I would like to thank you for all the hard work you have done. It -- it has provided a lot of rides for younger people who have not been able to get their driver's license or just haven't chose to done it.

Dr. Reese said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Shabazz.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes. Good morning once again. Is there anywhere in Chatham county where the Chatham Area Transit does not cover? Is there any area that they do not cover?

Dr. Reese said, we -- we cover all the City of Savannah, part of the City of -- part of Garden City, and all the incorporated [sic] area. The other parts and municipalities are not a part of the CAT district, such as the City of Pooler, Port Wentworth, Tybee.

Commissioner Shabazz said, do they have a -- do they have a transit system out there?

Dr. Reese said, they do not.

Commissioner Thomas said, hmm-mm.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. Have we -- have we tried to -- is there some type of state restriction or what -- what -- what's keeping us from going out there?

Dr. Reese said, that -- that's -- I mean that's an issue that will have to be decided by the governing body of the taxing district itself.

Chairman Scott said, there's -- there's a line of thought that there are no restriction and it's whatever this Commission decides to do, and there are a line of thought that -- that we don't have the legal authority to do it. Commissioner Kicklighter of the 7th District.

Commissioner Shabazz said, what -- what -- I'm -- I'm asking if -- if -- if we --

Chairman Scott said, that -- that's the answer to your question.

Commissioner Shabazz said, no, but I have something else to ask him.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I can answer it also.

Chairman Scott said, go ahead.

Commissioner Shabazz said, in the event that we're allowed to go out there, would that increase revenue for -- for the -- for CAT?

Dr. Reese said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. That's what I wanted to ask.

Chairman Scott said, not -- I -- I -- I don't know if it will increase revenue either because you can't go out there without providing services, and that services has got to be paid for. So I would suggest to you that it would probably be initially revenue neutral. I -- I haven't seen the model, but I -- I don't -- I don't see it as a windfall if that's what you're asking. Commissioner Kicklighter of the 7th District.

Commissioner Thomas said, no.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to explain what -- what -- it's my understanding as far as why the cities aren't involved is that when Chatham Area Transit was created as a state-chartered authority that they were given the opportunity to opt in or opt out of being a part of CAT. The cities obviously did what was just stated, some opted in, some opted out, and it's my understanding that the only way that this -- the lines could ever change would be through the State of Georgia, the legislators, actually acting and changing the lines upon the request from a majority vote from the Mayor and Council of each city. So I believe from the creation, they are very much limited to force an expansion, because upon the creation that was the way it was worded, and that -- that's my understanding.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Any other questions?

Commissioner Brady said, I have a question.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Brady of the 6th.

Commissioner Brady said, in -- in reference to the -- to the Pooler and westside community, you know, I'm a real estate professional, and I work out in Pooler a lot, and there's that section that's the Highlands area which is in the city limits of Savannah, and I see a CAT bus sitting out there empty every time I'm out there just sitting on the side of the road. So, I mean, has -- is there a way to look at ridership out there? I mean are we going out there just to pick up one person? Two people? 'Cause, I mean, I'm seeing them empty on the side of the road.

Dr. Reese said, that -- that's the route three. It is a fairly new route. It goes through the City of Pooler, but it goes through the City of Pooler with the doors closed. On the other side is a stop 'cause you're back in the City of Savannah. That route is carrying 1,000 people a day.

Commissioner Brady said, really?

Dr. Reese said, yes.

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Commissioner Thomas said, yes. Yes.

Dr. Reese said, our ridership is 17,000 a day.

Commissioner Thomas said, there is a need.

Commissioner Brady said, wow. And --

Dr. Reese said, that route is carrying 1,000 a day.

Chairman Scott said, people actually walk --

Dr. Reese said, through --

Chairman Scott said, -- to that bus stop.

Commissioner Thomas said, yes, they do.

Chairman Scott said, through the City of Pooler to get to the bus stop that's in the City of Savannah.

Commissioner Thomas said, yes, they do.

Dr. Reese said, and so you'll also see it's a 40-foot bus, one of our larger buses because the first three trips in the morning are over crowded and the trips in the afternoon are over crowded. If you're looking in the middle of the day, it's kind of like the roads, where it has less people.

Commissioner Brady said, I'm -- I'm looking -- I'm actually out there in the middle of the day, and so that's why I'm seeing an empty --

Dr. Reese said, so -- so --

Commissioner Brady said, they are just waiting to pick people up then.

Commissioner Thomas said, yes.

Dr. Reese said, 60 to 70 people every hour.

Commissioner Brady said, wow.

Dr. Reese said, during the morning and afternoon rush.

Commissioner Brady said, okay. Thank you. I'm glad I asked the question.

Chairman Scott said, and part of it is -- is all the --

Dr. Reese said, factories.

Chairman Scott said, -- what I call work opportunities.

Commissioner Thomas said, yes.

Chairman Scott said, and every -- every new shop, every new restaurant requires people, and a lot of them do not have dedicated transportation because it may be a -- a wife who is working at one of the these facilities and the husband may have the car, and so that's the situation that you run into.

Commissioner Brady said, well -- well -- but let me ask you this, you say that when you drive through Pooler city limits it's -- the doors are closed.

Dr. Reese said, yes.

Commissioner Brady said, are you transporting folks from the Highlands area which is city limits of Savannah into Pooler?

Dr. Reese said, we --

Chairman Scott said, no.

Dr. Reese said, the -- the bus doesn't stop --

Commissioner Brady said, okay. Okay. All right.

Dr. Reese said, -- in the City of Pooler. It's like parts of Garden City where we go through and the doors are closed.

Commissioner Brady said, okay. Okay.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, and -- may I?

Chairman Scott said, yes. Commissioner Kicklighter has a follow-up question.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you.

Commissioner Brady said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, and then I'm going to recognize Commissioner Center for the purpose of a motion.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yeah, and to even further elaborate on that. Back before Mr. Reese was here when he has done so much good. Thank you, by the way for everything you're doing. There was an attempt, which was actually very much embarrassing at the time. The director at that time called the mayors in from all of the cities that do not participate, asked them to participate and pay the tax, and when I said could you present them the plan in which you will serve their areas with ridership, they had no plan. So basically, they just requested the tax, and at that point I made the point that the -- the director talked -- spoke of the jobs and all. At that time they were not -- CAT was not even serving the huge SEDA area out in that area which is in Savannah --

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, -- to take residents from Savannah to those jobs. So at least we got them out in the Savannah areas at that point. And, you know, I'm sure this fine gentleman here, if he ever seeks their -- their joining in will do a much better presentation and actually show that he would provide some type of service for the monies. But that's just a little bit more wrap up on that area.

Chairman Scott said, and before I recognize Commissioner Center, let me just say that CAT does not want to operate in any municipality where there's not a need for service 'cause it doesn't make sense financially. You can't recoup the costs of the salary or the equipment to operate. So even if you were to go into any city, it would have to be proven and demonstrated that there is a need for service and without the bus actually providing a needed service, we're of the opinion that you cannot collect a millage, and even if you go into a city, it doesn't mean you collect the millage city-wide, it means you collect the millage in the service district. And so those are the -- the misnomer that the public have about CAT going to a city. They think that it will now be city-wide taxes and CAT will be running through every street in the city which is not true because why would you when there's nobody to pick up and nobody to drop off. Commissioner Center.

Commissioner Center said, yes. I move that we approve the county's guarantee of the restructured Chatham County Area Transit Authority line of credit and term loan and that we authorize the Chairman to sign required documents.

Commissioner Stone said, second.

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

Commissioner Kicklighter said, just one comment. For the record, I believe -- I believe that I -- but I -- I wouldn't actually swear to it, I believe that in the past I voted against the line of credit, but I'm not certain about that, however, I will support the restructure right now in order to actually reduce the county's debt and -- and hopefully pay it off. So. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, any further unreadiness? All in favor of the motion indicate by voting yes, opposed no. Motion carries.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Center moved for Board approval Commissioner seconded the motion of the County's guarantee of the restructured Chatham Area Transit Authority line of credit and term loan and authorize the Chairman to sign required documents. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

AGENDA ITEM: IX-2
AGENDA DATE: December 5, 2014

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: Lee Smith, County Manager
FROM: Linda B. Cramer, Assistant County Manager
Amy J. Davis, Finance Director

ISSUE:

Request Board approve the County's guarantee of the restructured Chatham Area Transit Authority line of credit and term loan, and authorize the Chairman to sign required documents.

BACKGROUND:

On August 24, 2007 CAT established a line of credit with Wells Fargo Bank to facilitate cash flow needs. At that time the County and CAT entered into an intergovernmental agreement whereby the county would act as Guarantor for CAT's credit line. The line of credit offsets cash flow issues related to the timing of property tax payments, grant reimbursements and the monthly expense commitments of the Authority. The line of credit and related agreement have been renewed and amended several times by Wells Fargo Bank - October 5, 2007, November 7, 2008, October 8, 2010, December 2, 2011, December 21, 2012 and May 15, 2013.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. CAT has an existing \$7.7 million line of credit with Wells Fargo Bank that expires on December 31, 2015. The line of credit is backed by a guarantee from Chatham County via an Intergovernmental Agreement between CAT and the County. As of November 28, 2014 the outstanding balance on the credit line was \$7.25 million. CAT will repay \$750,000 on the current credit line in December to bring the overall balance to \$6.5 million.
2. CAT has asked Wells Fargo to restructure the current line of credit into two portions. First, the line of credit will be reduced to \$1.5 million. Second, CAT will establish a tax-exempt term loan of \$5,000,000 for its remaining debt. This will have a net effect of decreasing CAT's total available indebtedness from \$7,700,000 to \$6,500,000.
3. Under the new structure the County will continue to guarantee CAT's debt; however, the \$5 million term loan will have a structured debt service schedule with fixed annual payments and will be paid off in January 2019.
4. The term loan will have five equal annual principal payments due each January 20th beginning January 20th, 2015 and monthly payments of interest. The line of credit will have monthly payments of interest with principal due at maturity.
5. The CAT Board considered the restructuring transaction at its meeting on May 20, 2014 has forwarded the Intergovernmental Agreement (attached to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file) to the Chatham County Board of Commissioners for approval.
6. In addition to the Amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement, the Board should also approve other documents included herein, including the resolution (attached to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The Board of Commissioners has guaranteed the CAT line of credit in prior years. The line of credit provides CAT with cash at periods of low revenue collection.

FUNDING:

Since the County acts as guarantor, no funding is required unless the Authority defaults. Should that occur the Board would be asked to approve necessary budget amendments to ensure payment of the outstanding debt.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Authorize the Chairman to sign required documents for the County's approval and guarantee of the restructured Chatham Area Transit Authority line of credit and term loan, including an Amended and Restated Intergovernmental Agreement and a Resolution, or
2. Provide other direction.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

Staff recommends Alternative 1.

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X. ACTION CALENDAR

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

Chairman Scott said, now we're on the Action Calendar. There was no indication of any item on the Action Calendar needed to be voted on separately, so I will now entertain a motion for approval.

Commissioner Brady said, moved for approval.

Commissioner Farrell said, so moved.

Chairman Scott said, it's been properly moved by Commissioner Brady of the 6th --

Commissioner Farrell said, second.

Commissioner Center said, second.

Chairman Scott said, and second by Commissioner Farrell of the 4th. Any unreadiness? All in favor of the motion indicate by voting yes, opposed no. The Action Calendar is approved.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Brady moved to approve all items on the Action Calendar, Items 1 through 6 and under Item 6, Items A through G. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas did not cast a 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 NOVEMBER 21, 2014, AS MAILED.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Brady moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 21, 2014, as mailed. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas did not cast a vote.]

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2. **CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD NOVEMBER 13, 2014 THROUGH NOVEMBER 26, 2014.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Brady moved to authorize the Finance Director to pay the claims against the County for the period of November 13, 2014 through November 26, 2014, in the amount of \$8,902,840. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas did not cast a vote.]

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3. REQUEST BOARD TENTATIVELY SET THE DAYS AND TIME FOR REGULAR COMMISSION MEETINGS FOR 2015. THE BOARD WILL BE ASKED TO CONFIRM ADOPTION OF THE CALENDAR AT THE FIRST MEETING OF 2015.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Brady moved to tentatively set the days and time for regular Commission meetings for 2015. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas did not cast a vote.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-3
AGENDA DATE: December 5, 2014

TO: Board of Commissioners

FROM: Lee Smith, County Manager

ISSUE:

To tentatively set the days and time for regular Commission meetings for 2015. The Board will be asked to confirm adoption of the calendar at the first meeting of 2015.

BACKGROUND:

The County's Enabling Act requires the action be taken during the first meeting of the Board each year.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The Enabling Act states:
The Board of Commissioners shall hold two regular meetings each month except as may otherwise be determined by the Board of Commissioners, as the County seat for all matters requiring action of an administrative or policy nature, and for all matters advertised or scheduled for hearing in which the public will be asked to speak for or against the items under consideration, which meetings shall be open to the public. At the first meeting of the Board of Commissioners in January of each year, the Board of Commissioners shall set the days and the time when it will hold its regular meetings. Meeting hours for the public hearings may be changed by action of the Board of Commissioners and may be held at such hour as stated in the public notice of the date and time of such hearing. Special or additional meetings may be held as necessary upon call of the Chairman or any five members of the Board of Commissioners, provided all members of the Board of Commissioners have been notified at least 24 hours in advance of such special or additional meeting, and such notice shall specify the subject matter to be considered.
2. The Commission has met on the second and fourth Fridays of the month in the past except in January, November and December. When possible, the Board holds one meeting during the month of January. The meetings in November and December are held on the first and third Fridays to allow for the holidays. Changing to the first and third Fridays in November and December will allow at least two weeks between meetings.
3. The Chamber will hold Savannah-Chatham Day in Atlanta on January 29, 2015. This will not conflict with the second and fourth Friday schedule.
4. The ACCG District Day at the Capitol (formerly Capitol Connection Conference) will be Tuesday, February 10, 2015, in Atlanta. This will not be a conflict.
5. The NACo Legislative Conference will be February 21-25, 2015, in Washington, D.C. This will not conflict with the second and fourth Friday schedule.
6. The ACCG Annual Meeting will be April 17-21, 2015 in Chatham County. This will not be a conflict.
7. In 1998 the Board asked that in future years meetings not be scheduled on Good Friday. In 2015 Good Friday will be on April 3rd. This will not conflict with the second and fourth Friday schedule.

8. The NACo Annual Conference will be July 10 - 13, 2014, in Charlotte, North Carolina. This will conflict with the second and fourth Friday schedule. Since there are five Fridays in July, it would work to hold the July meetings on the third and fifth Fridays.
9. The ACCG Legislative Leadership Conference will be October 7-9, 2015, in Athens. This will be a conflict, but should not pose a quorum problem.
10. Currently the pre-meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. to be followed immediately by the regular meeting, generally at 9:30 a.m.
11. A calendar showing County holidays for 2015 and tentative Commission meeting dates is attached to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Set meeting time to immediately follow 9:00 a.m. pre-meeting and set dates for January 16th, the second and fourth Fridays in February through June, first and third Fridays for July, second and fourth Fridays in August through October, and first and third Fridays in November and December, schedule to be confirmed at first meeting of the year, January 16, 2015.
2. Set meeting time and dates as designated by Commissioners, schedule to be confirmed at first meeting of the year, January 16, 2015.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

Compliance with the Enabling Act.

FUNDING:

Not applicable.

RECOMMENDATION:

Alternative #1.

=====

4. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX PROCEEDS WITH THE CITY OF BLOOMINGDALE FOR THE JIMMY DELOACH PARKWAY AT US80 INTERCHANGE PROJECT (GDOT P.I. 0007259). [DISTRICT 7]

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Brady moved to approve an intergovernmental agreement for the distribution of Special Purpose Local Option Sales tax proceeds with the City of Bloomingdale for the Jimmy DeLoach Parkway at US80 Interchange Project. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas did not cast a vote.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-4

AGENDA DATE: December 5, 2014

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: Lee Smith, County Manager

FROM: Suzanne Cooler, P.E., Assistant County Attorney

ISSUE:

To request Board approval of an Intergovernmental Agreement for the Distribution of Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax Proceeds with the City of Bloomingdale for the Jimmy DeLoach Parkway at US 80 Interchange project (GDOT P.I. No. 0007259).

BACKGROUND:

The Jimmy DeLoach Parkway at US 80 Interchange project will construct a new grade-separated interchange to replace the existing, at-grade intersection. A planned extension of the Jimmy DeLoach Parkway, beginning at Interstate 16 and extending north to US 80 is currently in preliminary design (GDOT P. I. No. 522790). Both projects have construction funding in the Transportation Improvement Plan for Fiscal Year 2018 and will be let under one construction contract.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The City of Bloomingdale has water and sanitary sewer facilities that are in conflict with construction of the Jimmy DeLoach Parkway Interchange at US 80 project. These utilities must be relocated prior to construction of the project.
2. The City of Bloomingdale submitted documentation to establish prior rights for the water and sanitary sewer facilities. Based on this, costs associated with design and relocation of their utilities are reimbursable. The City is requesting \$49,000 up-front to alleviate cash flow issues and cover design costs.
3. The County Attorney has reviewed the agreement and concurs as to legal form.
4. The funds will be transferred after the City of Bloomingdale executes the Intergovernmental Agreement. Based on the agreement, the City must have their facilities relocated prior to GDOT let of a construction contract.

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 Bloomingdale for the Jimmy DeLoach Parkway at US 80 Interchange project (GDOT P. I. No. 0007259).
2. To not approve the Agreement.

FUNDING:

Funds are available in the amount of \$49,000 in the 2008-2014 SPLOST, Interchange US80/J. DeLoach Pkwy (Fund 324, Dept. 4220, Acct. Code 52.12003, Project 32451033).

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The Board must approve Intergovernmental Agreements.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval of Alternative #1.
District 7

STATE OF GEORGIA)

COUNTY OF CHATHAM)

JIMMY DELOACH PARKWAY AT US 80 INTERCHANGE IMPROVEMENTS

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL OPTIONS SALES TAX PROCEEDS BY THE COUNTY TO THE CITY OF BLOOMINGDALE FOR UTILITY RELOCATION DESIGN ASSOCIATED WITH THE JIMMY DELOACH PARKWAY AT US 80 INTERCHANGE PROJECT.

THIS AGREEMENT made and entered into this ____ day of _____, 2014 between the **MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLOOMINGDALE**, a municipal corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of Georgia (hereinafter referred to as the "City"), and **THE CHAIRMAN AND COMMISSION OF CHATHAM COUNTY**, a political subdivision of the State of Georgia, (hereinafter referred to as the "County").

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the County entered into a Project Framework Agreement (PFA) with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) for Preliminary Engineering for the Jimmy DeLoach Parkway at US 80 Interchange project; and

WHEREAS, the County completed preliminary plans, including NEPA and Location and Design approval for the project; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bloomingdale has water and sanitary sewer facilities within the project limits that must be relocated prior to construction; and

WHEREAS, the City has provided documentation to demonstrate prior rights such that the City's costs to relocate the utilities are reimbursable; and

WHEREAS, the City has requested help in funding the design of their utility relocations required by the project; and

WHEREAS, the City provided a cost estimate to the County for professional relocation design services for their water and sanitary sewer facilities.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual benefits to the parties, City and County agree as follows:

1. The County agrees to convey funds from the 2003-2008 SPLOST to the City for costs associated with relocation design services associated with the Jimmy DeLoach Parkway at US 80 Interchange project.
2. The City will use these funds for the purpose of developing relocation utility plans for their water and sanitary sewer facilities that are in conflict with the proposed project.
3. The City will complete design and relocation of their facilities prior to GDOT let of a construction contract for the project. Construction funding for the project is currently in Fiscal Year 2018.
4. Payment of Funds
 - a. The County will convey \$49,000 to the City in Fiscal Year 2014 for GDOT Project Identification Number 0007259. These funds are to be used solely for costs associated with the design of water and sanitary sewer relocation plans for the City.
 - b. The City will return any unused portion of the SPLOST funds to the County. SPLOST funds are subject to audit by the County to verify expenditures are SPLOST eligible.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the City and County have caused this agreement to be duly executed by their proper officers and so attested with their corporate seals affixed hereto set forth in multiple originals as of the date written above.

CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

BY: _____
Albert J. Scott, Chairman

ATTEST

Janice E. Bocook, Clerk of Commission

MAYOR AND COUNCILMAN, CITY OF BLOOMINGDALE

BY: _____
Ben A. Rozier, Mayor

ATTEST

Clerk of Council

=====

5. **REQUEST APPROVAL FOR NEW BEER AND WINE POURING LICENSE FOR 2014. PETITIONER: ABHAYKUMAR PATEL, D/B/A COUNTRY INN & SUITES, LOCATED AT 16 GATEWAY BOULEVARD EAST, 31419. [DISTRICT 5.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Brady moved for approval for a new beer and wine pouring license for 2014. The Petitioner is Abhaykumar Patel d/b/a Country Inn & Suites located at 16 Gateway Boulevard East, 31419. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas did not cast a vote.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-5
AGENDA DATE: December 5, 2014

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: Lee Smith, County Manager

FROM: Gregori S. Anderson, Director of Building Safety and Regulatory Services
Joseph Lumpkin, Sr., Chief of Police

ISSUE:

Request approval for a new beer and wine pouring license for 2014. Petitioner: **Abhaykumar Patel, d/b/a Country Inn & Suites** located at **16 Gateway Boulevard East, Savannah, Georgia 31419**.

BACKGROUND:

Mr. Patel requests approval of a new beer and wine retail license in connection with an existing hotel. The business at this location meets the requirements of the Chatham County Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The application was reviewed by the Police Department for compliance of the applicant and site distance requirements and approved.
2. The returned application was reviewed by Building Safety. The County Fire Inspector 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 4

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

Gregori S. Anderson, CBO

Chief Joseph Lumpkin, Sr.

=====

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Brady moved for approval to award bids as follows: (Please note that new purchase thresholds of \$10,000 or more have been enacted; however, contracts and change orders of a lesser amount still will appear.) Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas did not cast a vote.]

ITEM	DEPT.	SOURCE	AMOUNT	FUNDING
A. Change Order No. 2 to the annual contract to provide laser jet toner cartridges for various departments within Chatham County	All County Departments	VIP Office Furniture & Supply (WBE)	Various amounts per staff report	•General Fund/M&O - Various •SSD - Various
B. Enterprise Mobility Management System (EMM) for the I.C.S. department	I.C.S.	CDW Government	\$13,913	General Fund/M&O - I.C.S.
C. Change Order No. 1 and add 19 days to the contract for the construction of Montgomery Cross Road at Sallie Mood Drive Signal and Pedestrian Improvements	Engineering	JHC Corporation	\$1,210	SPLOST (2003-2008) - Unincorporated County Roads, Sallie Mood/Montgomery
D. Change Order No. 1 to the contract for construction of the Turner's Creek Boat Ramp Improvements project	Engineering	TIC - The Industrial Company	\$73,600	CIP - Turners Creek

ITEM	DEPT.	SOURCE	AMOUNT	FUNDING
E. Construction for Indigent Defense Department at the J. Tom Coleman Courthouse	Special Projects	Dayenesi, Inc. (MBE)	\$21,100	CIP - J. Tom Coleman Courthouse
F. Project Management Software	I.C.S.	Brightwork	\$19,875	General Fund/M&O - I.C.S.
G. Grant research, tracking and management software	I.C.S.	eCivis, Inc.	\$24,750	General Fund/M&O - I.C.S. (Pending Board approval of contingency transfer)

AGENDA ITEM: X-6 A thru G**AGENDA DATE: December 5, 2014****TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS****THRU: LEE SMITH, COUNTY MANAGER****FROM: MICHAEL A. KAIGLER, ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER****SUBJECT: AWARD OF BIDS****ITEM A**

ISSUE: Request Board approval of Change Order No. 2 to the annual contract with VIP Office Furniture & Supply of Savannah, Georgia, to provide laser jet toner cartridges for various departments within Chatham County.

BACKGROUND: On June 1, 2012, the Board approved the award of an annual contract with automatic renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms, to VIP Office Furniture & Supply.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

- VIP Office Furniture & Supply has recently provided a notification of price changes associated with the manufacturer imposed price increases.
- The price increase request was compared to our contract with Staples. Staff believes VIP Office Furniture & Supply request for the County to contractually recognize the manufacturer price increases to be fair and reasonable. Please see pages 2-6 for the current and revised pricing.
- Since the contract was initiated, new printers have been purchased necessitating adding additional items to the contract. Please see page 7 for the new items.

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

ALTERNATIVES:

- Board approval of Change Order No. 2 to the annual contract with VIP Office Furniture & Supply of Savannah, Georgia to provide laser jet toner services for various departments within Chatham County.
- Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve change orders for documented material price increases.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
READ DEHAVEN

ITEM B

ISSUE: Request Board approval of the \$13,913 purchase of Enterprise Mobility Management System (EMM) from CDW Government for the I.C.S. department.

BACKGROUND: Mobile devices are continually purchased by various departments and are of limited business use due to security risk. The EMM system enhances capabilities of mobile devices by providing better security and centralized device management.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The EMM system will enhance the usefulness of mobile devices by providing more access to County resources.
2. Mobile device management is critical for protecting County data resources while providing access to mobile users.
3. Request for quotes were requested and three (3) quotes were received. The responses are as follows:

CWD Government, Inc Chicago, IL	\$13,913
SHI International Corp. Somerset, NJ	\$14,223
Carasoft Technology Corp Reston, VA	\$14,532

4. Staff believes the total cost of \$13,913 to be fair and reasonable..

FUNDING: General Fund/M & O - I.C.S.
(1001535 - 52.22001)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of the \$13,913 purchase of Enterprise Mobility Management System (EMM) from CDW Government for the I.C.S. department.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

I.C.S. APPROVAL _____
NICK BATEY

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM C

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$1,210 Change Order No. 1 and add 19 days to the contract time to the contract with JHC Corporation for the construction of Montgomery Cross Road at Sallie Mood Drive Signal and Pedestrian 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. The Board awarded the project to JHC at their meeting on May 23, 2014.
2. The change order is for additional temporary striping that was not included in the original contract in the amount of \$1,725. The change order also provides for a credit (\$515) for re-using a storm structure top that the original contract proposed to replace. The net effect is a change order in the amount of \$1,210.
3. JHC is also requesting a 19 day extension on the contract time for delays associated with utility conflicts encountered during construction. Staff concurs with the 19 day contract time extension.

4. Contract History:

Original Contract (5-23-14)	\$384,400
Change Order No. 1 (pending)	<u>\$ 1,210</u>
Revised Contract Amount	\$385,610

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

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$1,210 Change Order No. 1 and add 19 days to the contract time to the contract with JHC Corporation for the construction of Montgomery Cross Road at Sallie Mood Drive Signal and Pedestrian Improvements.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
MARK BUCALO

ITEM D

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$73,600 Change Order No. 1 to the construction contract with The Industrial Company (TIC) for construction of the Turner's Creek Boat Ramp Improvements project.

BACKGROUND: The project includes base, paving, storm drainage improvements, a retaining wall, new boat ramp, new floating dock, additional parking and bank stabilization/restoration with oyster bags.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Thomas & Hutton is the engineer of record for the Turner's Creek Boat Ramp Project. A construction contract was awarded to TIC on March 28, 2014.
2. The existing conditions at the location of the new boat ramp will not work with the current design as depicted in the plans, which was based on an interpretation of a hydrographic survey of the river bottom at the ramp.
3. The boat ramp was redesigned for existing site conditions. The redesign incorporates sheet piles cut to grade that will provide protection against any future erosion of the creek bank and undermining of the ramp due to tidal currents. Staff believes that the price quoted for the work is fair and reasonable.
4. Contract History:

Original Contract (3-28-14)	\$ 3,856,786
Change Order No.1 (Pending)	\$ 73,600
Revised Contract Amount	\$ 3,930,386

FUNDING: CIP - Turners Creek
(3506100 - 54.14009 - 35030867)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$73,600 Change Order No. 1 to the construction contract with The Industrial Company (TIC) for construction of the Turner's Creek Boat Ramp Improvements project.
2. Provide other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM E

ISSUE: Request Board approval to award a \$21,100 construction contract to Dayenesi, Inc., for the Indigent Defense Department at the J. Tom Coleman Courthouse.

BACKGROUND: In April 2013, the Georgia Supreme Court issued an opinion that changes the means by which each Public Defender handles conflict of interest cases arising from multiple defendant cases. The legal representation in these felony cases needed to be facilitated through the use of private attorneys, instead of through Public Defender's Office. The County requested that this function and the

function of indigent representation on misdemeanor cases be transferred to a new unit supervised by the Superior and State Court Administrator's offices.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The construction for this project includes the renovation of approximately 620 SF of existing office space located on the 5th Floor of the J. Tom Coleman Courthouse, to accommodate the new Indigent Defense Department.
2. This project was properly advertised and two bids were received and opened on November 20, 2014. The bids are as follows:

*	Dayenesi, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$21,100
*	Satori Construction, LLC Savannah, GA	\$34,431

* MBE firm

FUNDING: CIP - J. Tom Coleman Courthouse
(3502180 - 52.22001 - 35037127)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval to award a \$21,100 construction contract to Dayenesi, Inc., for the Indigent Defense Department at the J. Tom Coleman Courthouse.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM F

ISSUE: Request Board approval of \$19,875 purchase from Aimware Inc., dba BrightWork, for project management software.

BACKGROUND: Project management software from BrightWork is currently in use within Information and Communication Services. After reviewing the software, the County Manager wishes to use the same software, with added features, in several other departments for project tracking and reporting.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. This software solution leverages the County's existing investment in Microsoft SharePoint.
2. The underlying technology provides simple data entry and conducive of remote access.
3. Executive dashboards are provided to allow quick access to project status and project issues.
4. Automated email alerting of milestones and project updates provide a means for more efficient project flow.

FUNDING: General Fund/M&O - I.C.S.
(1001535 - 52.21001)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of \$19,875 purchase from Aimware Inc., dba BrightWork, for project management software.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board Policy to approve purchases for software necessary for operational efficiency.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

I.C.S. APPROVAL _____
NICK BATEY

PREPARED BY _____
PURCHASING AGENT

ITEM G

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a sole source subscription in the amount of \$24,750 per year, for the next three (3) years with eCivis Inc., for grant research, tracking and management software.

BACKGROUND: The software will provide the County with substantial grant research capabilities. The County will be able to accelerate its grant research and management functions, thereby leveraging public dollars.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The eCivis software is a cloud based grants management system that is used by local governments to maximize their grant research capabilities. eCivis tracks new grant opportunities and provides information to its subscribers on how to access available funds.
2. Once grants are identified the County can apply for funding from public and private sources. eCivis provides education about grant writing. The service also has functionality for tracking and managing grant opportunities.
3. The subscription agreement is for 30 licenses. Licenses can be accessible to County staff or to outside agencies. eCivis has agreed to an annual price of \$24,750 per year for the next three (3) years.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve service agreements.

FUNDING: General Fund/M&O - I.C.S.
(1001535 - 52.39001) Pending Board approval of a contingency transfer

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a sole source subscription in the amount of \$24,750 per year, for the next three (3) years with eCivis Inc., for grant research, tracking and management software.
2. Provide other direction.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

I.C.S. APPROVAL _____
NICK BATEY

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

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, there are no First Readers.

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XII. SECOND READINGS

Chairman Scott said, there are no Second Readers.

=====

XIII. INFORMATION ITEMS

Chairman Scott said, everything else is for informational purposes.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A status report was attached as information.

=====

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A status report was attached as information.

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-2

AGENDA DATE: December 5, 2014

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

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
40 lithium batteries for mobile devices at Sheriff's department	I.C.S.	Dell Marketing, L.P.	\$3,919	•General Fund/M&O - Sheriff's - \$3,625 •General Fund/M&O - Detention Center - \$294
48" commercial mower	Public Works and Park Services	Andy's Lawn Machinery, Inc.	\$7,800	Reserve for Deductible
Youth soccer officials	Public Works and Park Services	Greater Savannah Soccer Association, Inc.	\$3,157	General Fund/M&O - Parks and Recreation
Engine and track repair to unit #5- Public Works excavator	Fleet Operations	ASC Construction Equipment USA, Inc.	\$9,593	General Fund/M&O - Fleet Operations
Vehicle accident repair to unit # 876- Metro law enforcement vehicle- other driver at fault	Fleet Operations	Rainbow Paint & Body, Inc.	\$4,135	General Fund/M&O - Fleet Operations
Fan clutch repair to unit #252- Public Works sewer vac truck	Fleet Operations	Roberts Trading Company	\$3,858	General Fund/M&O - Fleet Operations
Transmission repair to unit #232- Public Works dump truck	Fleet Operations	Powertrain, Inc.	\$3,162	General Fund/M&O - Fleet Operations
Hopper floor upgrade on two (2) refuse collection trucks	Fleet Operations	Consolidated Disposal Systems	\$2,900	Solid Waste-SSD Services
Restraint cage	Detention Center	Georgia Correctional Industries	\$7,250	CIP-Detention Center
Hands free sanitizing cleaning system	Detention Center	Paper Chemical Supply Company	\$3,295	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center

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3. COUNTY MANAGER'S REPORT.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A status report was attached as information.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

Commissioner Center said, I move we recess to executive session for personnel and litigation.

Commissioner Stone said, second.

Chairman Scott said, any unreadiness? Hearing none, all in favor of the motion indicate by voting yes, opposed no. All right. We are headed for executive session. Thank you. The motion carries.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Center moved to recess to executive session for the purpose of litigation and personnel. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Brady did not vote.]

The Board recessed at approximately 11:10 a.m.

=====

ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

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

=====

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to be brought before the Commissioners, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

=====

APPROVED: THIS _____ DAY OF DECEMBER, 2014.

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

JANICE E. BOCOOK, CLERK OF COMMISSION