

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2015, 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

Commissioner Priscilla Thomas called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. on Friday, March 13, 2015.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you. Our invocation will be given by Commissioner Shabazz for Coach Holmes today, who is unable to --

Commissioner Holmes said, Shabazz.

Commissioner Thomas said, Shabazz --

Commissioner Shabazz said, I will be -- I will be --

Commissioner Thomas said, you will be introducing the -- the --

Commissioner Shabazz said, pastor?

Commissioner Thomas said, pastor, yes. Okay?

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II. INVOCATION

Commissioner Thomas said, all right. We're ready. All right. We will have the invocation by the Reverend Andre J. Osborne, First Tabernacle Baptist Church, and following that we will have the Pledge of Allegiance led by Commissioner Tony Center.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, every -- everybody can be seated.

Commissioner Thomas said, you can be seated until that time, please.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes. Good morning. We have with us this morning the Reverend Andre Osborne. He is the pastor of Tabernacle Baptist Church. But one -- one -- one -- one second I would like to say a few things about Reverend Osborne. He exemplifies the type of person that -- unique in terms of the cloth. In this world there are three people who are placed under attack, and that is the scholar, who shares knowledge with those who are ignorant. It is the wealthy person who shares their wealth with the poor, and it is the individual man or woman who has knowledge of the word of God, and one of the reasons why this person is placed under attack and also feared is because they have within their mouth or in their being the power to crush the world of satan and to crush the world of evil. I present to you none other than Reverend Andre Osborne of the Tabernacle Missionary Baptist Church. Let us receive him. Thank you.

Reverend Andre J. Osborne said, good morning.

Members of the Board collectively said, good morning.

Reverend Osborne said, it is a privilege indeed to speak to this honorable council of Commissioners this morning. I am honored to be in your presence and have an audience with you this morning, and I count it a privilege to stand before such a great Board. Would you bow your heads with me.

Reverend Osborne gave the invocation as follows:

Father we thank you for this privilege. We thank you for life, for health and for strength. We thank you because we know that you are the reason that we are here this morning. Because if it had not been you keeping us, you holding us, you holding us together, Lord, we would not be here this morning. For it is in you that we live and move and have our being. Lord, would you be with us these few moments we pray. In Jesus' name. Amen.

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

Commissioner Thomas said, would you just remain.

Commissioner Shabazz said, he's going to do our invocation. He's going to do our invocation.

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III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Commissioner Thomas said, the Pledge of Allegiance, Commissioner Tony Center.

Commissioner Center said, please join with me.

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

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CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Commissioner Thomas said, I'm going to ask Pastor Osborne to meet me right here. I'd like to present a certificate of appreciation. Any Commission members who'd like to join me.

Commissioner Thomas said, it is our pleasure to present to you and to have you with us today, this Certificate of Appreciation for providing devotional service and invocation at the March 13th, 2015, Chatham County Commission meeting which established a perfect beginning to a successful session. On this the 13th day of March, 2015. Albert J. Scott, Chairman. Thank you very much. We appreciate your being here this morning. [Applause.]

Commissioner Thomas said, you did great. You did great. Thank you.

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PERSONAL PRIVILEGE

Commissioner Thomas said, before the Clerk calls the roll, I would like to announce that the Chairman, Commissioner Al Scott, could not be with us this morning because he has death in his family, which was unexpected. We want to ask each and every one of us to keep he and his -- the members of his family in prayer and, we certainly hope that everything will go well. So at this time, we'll ask the Clerk to call the roll.

County Manager Lee Smith said, Madam Chairman, before you do that, also we want to remember Ms. Brady had death in the family also, so that was part of her -- I -- I know we talked about that.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay. That's exactly right. She is absent for this time, and we want to make sure that we keep Commissioner Brady and her family in our prayers as well.

County Manager Smith said, yeah. Yes. We got a call early this morning. Yes.

Commissioner Thomas said, you know, these are -- these are trying times.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I'll make a motion after we call the roll to excuse them.

Commissioner Thomas said, right. All right. These are trying times, and we all are facing a lot of death and etcetera in our families today so we want to keep each and everyone in our prayers. Thank you.

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IV. ROLL CALL

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: 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
 Dean Kicklighter, District Seven

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

Not present: Albert J. Scott, Chairman
Lori L. Brady, District Six

Commissioner Thomas said, yes.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, at this time I will make a motion to excuse Chairman Scott and Commissioner Brady from the meeting today.

Commissioner Stone said, second.

Commissioner Center said, second.

Commissioner Thomas said, do I have a second?

Commissioner Shabazz said, second.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay. All in favor, please vote. The motion is carried and both are excused. Thank you very much.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to excuse Chairman Scott and Commissioner Brady from the Commission meeting. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

1. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MOSQUITO CONTROL DIRECTOR, JEFF HEUSEL.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay. We will now go to our proclamation and present -- special presentations. We have the introduction of our new Mosquito Control Director, who will be introduced by our County Manager.

County Manager Smith said, yes, ma'am. Thank you, Madam Chair. This morning it's with much pride that Team Chatham establish a new relationship with a new director of Mosquito Control. The one thing I learned in the national search, we were -- we were reaching out in all of North America into Canada for professionals, and interviewed a number of folks, and the cream rises to the top, and I will tell you Jeff Heusel was put through the mill by the team, and we know that we owe that to you and to the tax payers of this community to do that, to bring the best service that we can with the best team members.

Commissioner Thomas said, yes.

County Manager Smith said, one thing that we absolutely learned in this process is that Chatham County is the best in this program in the nation. People look to Chatham County to model mosquito control like Chatham County. The people we interviewed said -- we asked one question, what would you do to improve, and they would sit back and go, we don't know. There might be some tweaking, but you're that good. Now, you know, I would say, okay, are they blowing smoke? No, there's proof because the national associations, international associations actually call upon this county as a model and look at our standard operating procedures. So, in that search, we had from HR, our management team. We had, you know, face time interviews, and then we had actual face interviews with various teams, and through this process, Jeff Heusel, who was assistant director, was chosen by our team, and we would like to ask Jeff to come forward now. I was going to say this, Jeff, when he comes up, while he's coming up, he started in September of 1982. I had graduated from high school three months prior to that, so anyway, that was 32 years ago. So -- anyway, he was also like 21, I think, so anyway.

Mr. Jeff Heusel said, that's wishful thinking, but anyway.

County Manager Smith said, okay. All right. So I present to you today, your new Mosquito Control director, Jeff Heusel, and any words he has.

Mr. Heusel said, thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Mr. Heusel said, Dr. Thomas, members of the Commission, I want to start first of all by saying how truly honored I am to be standing here as the new director of a department for which I have spent the last 32 years of my life working. I'm deeply humbled to be selected to follow in the footsteps of two

individuals who I hold in the highest regard and have the utmost respect and admiration for, and, of course, I'm speaking of the late Thomas Oscar Fultz, Jr. and my good friend, Dr. Henry Lewandowski, Jr. I had the rare opportunity to work with these two individuals, these two extraordinary gentlemen, and I count myself truly, truly fortunate to have had that experience. Their hard work and dedication has produced one of the finest mosquito control programs anywhere here in -- in the US, and it's my intention to continue this tradition. The success that this department has achieved could not have occurred without the overwhelming support of this Commission and the ones -- and -- and your predecessors, as well as the tremendous support from the citizens of Chatham County. It's taken a team effort to get this far, and I'm going to thank the County Manager in particular for giving me the opportunity to lead this part of the team. I'm blessed to be working with an outstanding staff, and I look forward to working with this Commission to keep that tradition going, and to make this County a healthy, pleasant place to live, work and visit. Thank you. [Applause.]

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank -- thank you so very much. We -- we certainly welcome you, and we look forward to working with you. We -- I -- I really feel that you're going to do an outstanding job. We certainly appreciate the hard work and all the things that have been done by the other two, but we look forward to working with you as well. Anything we can do to help facilitate whatever you need to do, just call upon us.

Mr. Heusel said, thank you, Dr. Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you so very much.

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CHATHAM COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION

Commissioner Thomas said, I'd like to just back track a little bit. Thank you very much. I'd like to back track a little bit. I forgot to have the Youth Commissioners introduced, and our Commissioner Pro Tem, I'll get it, Helen Stone, will do the honors this morning.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you Madam Vice Chairman. It is my pleasure to introduce Nicholas Williams, who's with Savannah Early College and Isis Howard, who's with the Islands High School. We are very grateful for your participation today.

Commissioner Shabazz said, that's right. Good morning. Good morning.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you. We welcome you.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes.

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VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

Commissioner Thomas said, okay. There are no items under the Chairman's part.

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VII. COMMISSIONER'S ITEMS

1. PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE "I WISH I KNEW" PROGRAM (COMMISSIONER THOMAS)

Commissioner Thomas said, and we come to the Commissioner's Items. We have one. The Public Defender's office, "I Wish I Knew" Program. I'd like to have Michael Edwards and others who are here to talk about this program. I'm very delighted to have them here today, and he will tell you why they are here.

Mr. Michael Edwards, Public Defender, said, good morning.

Commissioner Shabazz said, good morning.

Commissioner Thomas said, good morning, and please introduce anyone else that you have with you.

Mr. Edwards said, I will. Thank you Madam Chairman.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Mr. Edwards said, thank you all the distinguished members of the Commission for having us here this morning. I'm Michael Edwards. I'm your Public Defender. Today with us, you see we've got a -- a number of individuals from the Public Defender's Office who are here. Some of them you are going to hear from. I'll try to quickly run through who they all are, but I'll also tell you in just a moment while -- why they are all here this morning. We have Mark Nathan, who is our deputy -- he's the chief of our juvenile court division, who is actively involved every single day with juvenile justice issues. June Fogle is here who is a member of our early intervention program in our Recorder's Court team. We have Fallen Cox here, who is a member of our major crimes division; Bob Attridge, who is also a member of our major crimes division, oversees that division. Bill Lewis, who is our chief assistant. Many of you know Bill, he's been appearing here with me for the last ten (10) years. We have John Rodman, who is a member of our -- currently a member of Judge Bass' trial team. Has been a member of the major crimes division for the last couple of years. We're making some transition, moving some people around. Chris Middleton, who is also one of our management team members, who is in -- in a division chief role presently helping us out with some training issues with some of our other felony division younger lawyers, and the two of them have become sort of our ad hoc chairmen of this program, I Wish I Knew, that we're going to speak about in a few moments. Behind them Daniel Crovatt, who's our operations director. He's been with us for a number of years. All of you know Daniel. He does a fantastic job keeping our ship afloat. We're really grateful to him for that, and Amy Ihrig is also with us. Amy is also a member of our management team. She oversees our appeals. She also oversees our interns. She also assists in the accountability courts. She is a -- a -- an individual who wears many, many hats in our office, and we're grateful to have them all here.

Mr. Edwards said, now -- and I think that's everybody. Now, the reason they're all here is because all of these individuals are either members of a team within our office that work with our -- our I Wish I Knew program directly, or like I was mentioning with Mark, they are lawyers in the office who work directly with juveniles or they are people in our office who have just continually expressed an interest in juvenile justice issues and concerns about juveniles within our community, and so they're all here today to let you know by their presence that -- that this is an issue that's extremely important to us and has been for many years.

Mr. Edwards said, I will -- I will try to be relatively brief, but I do want to give some introductory remarks. Several of you know much of this because we've talked about it before. Some of it will be new to some of you, and then I want to turn the program -- the -- the presentation over to a couple of the lawyers that are going to talk with you about more specifics about the program and perhaps take questions, which we hope you'll have. But let me just tell you a little bit about -- about the I Wish I Knew program from -- from a -- a macro perspective, a -- a big picture perspective. First of all I want to tell you all that we -- we've celebrated our tenth anniversary as the Public Defender's office this year, and you all, this -- this County Commission have been extremely tremendous partners for our office, and we are very, very grateful. There has never been a time that we haven't come to this -- to this Board and the staff of the county and -- and requested assistance with anything that you haven't been gracious in giving with that, and we're deeply appreciative of that.

Mr. Edwards said, in truth, we haven't been over here a great deal recently because we have just been trying to do the work of the citizens here in the community. Our case loads have -- have increased over the years. We're busier and busier and busier than ever. We stay in the court all the time, which also, again, the presence of all these folks here today I hope demonstrate to you how important this program is to us, that they've taken the time to be here. We thank you for your support. Several years ago, by way of a little bit of history, several -- well, even before that, let me back up even further. We have, of course, been aware of and familiar with the County Commission's Youth Commission programs and the Summer Bonanza programs that -- that many of you, of course, with Dr. Thomas' leadership, that many of you have supported and fostered over the years, and we've always found that -- those programs to be really valuable programs. As I have told you all on many occasions, it would -- it would be a wonderful day for me to be coming in here to tell you that I'm sorry, but we're going to have to close the Public Defender's office down because we just don't have any business. Sadly I don't see that in the immediate future, but we're doing all that we can to address issues to minimize -- frankly to minimize the county's need for our service, and that sounds rather odd coming from a department head, I'm sure, but it would be wonderful if we could really cut down on the number of people that come through the system that need our services.

Mr. Edwards said, well, the way to do that is two-fold. The first way is to keep them from coming into the program -- to -- to our system at all, and that's what I Wish I Knew was about. The second way is to help them to eliminate recidivism, and we have another program in our office that I'm hoping we can come back perhaps in a few weeks and talk with you about, which -- which is a -- a recidivism reduction program, a re-entry like program that we're also working on, but today I want to focus on the front end, and the front end is helping young people to know and appreciate the consequences of -- of their actions and their behavior so that hopefully they make better choices, and -- and they have a -- a greater level of knowledge about what their obligations are to their fellow citizens, and that's really what this is about. We want to keep the individuals from getting in -- into trouble and coming to our attention, but we also want them to be good citizens, and so we -- we're trying to find ways to do that.

Mr. Edwards said, several years ago for a number of years the -- the County Commission worked with the Carl Vinson Institute of Government out of the University of Georgia for a -- a management training course that --

that was conducted, and when that was going on, we had a -- a number of people that went through that program different years. One year, I think the last year we had the program, and I hope that maybe that's something that could be reconsidered at some time in the future at the appropriate time. I think that was a really valuable program for the county and the -- that may be something that -- that -- that could be revisited at some point. But I believe it was the last year, if I recall correctly that that program was -- was in effect was 2011, and Bill Lewis, our -- our chief assistant was our member who was going through that -- that training at that time. Part of that program requires every individual course member to develop a project. You do a class project, but then you also did an individual project, and -- and the intent there is to have a return on investment and to show everybody what the value of the program. Well, Bill, like so many of us, had been doing this work for a number of years, was -- was contemplating a program, or -- or -- or a project during the time that he was going through the program, and he started thinking about this recurring theme of I Wish I Knew, and what that is is the comment that we hear probably more regularly than any other comment that we hear. When we go out to the detention center to see our clients for the first time, particularly those young clients, and that number's increasing all the time as all of you know, the first thing that we would hear when we would tell them the basic outline of what the circumstances are that they find themselves in, what the charge is, where they are, is, well I wish I knew.

Mr. Edwards said, and what we learned from that is that young people just don't know what the consequences of their behavior may be. They don't know. You know we tell -- we tell our young people all the time to know who you're hanging out with, know what you're doing, and, you know, that's just not parental advice or -- or guardian advice, it's -- it's legal advice because when people are involved with other people that are engaged in conduct that -- that breaks the law or violates some rules, they are too. And so the I Wish I Knew program developed as a way to try to come up with a way to reach out to -- to young people in the community to talk about those type of issues, to let them know the sorts of things that -- that can -- that can, you know, effect their long-term interest. So Bill put this project together as part of his leadership program. He worked with a number of lawyers in the office, some of whom you're going to hear with. He worked with Pete Nichols, who is just, as you all know, amazing, absolutely extraordinary, put together among other things, put together a video that still shows on your -- on your government channel, Channel 16. We didn't bring it today because you can see it anytime you want. We didn't want to take up time doing that, but it's a video where we have lawyers talking about some of the issues of -- of concern to us, as they relate to -- to -- to juveniles and youthful offenders and demonstrate sort of a -- a scenario of how things can kind of go a rye, and we -- we've -- we've gone through a -- a process of going to different schools and different community groups to show that video and to talk about some of these issues, and it's been incredibly valuable, we believe.

Mr. Edwards said, we've gotten a lot of strong, good feedback from it, and a few weeks ago, Dr. Thomas came over to our office, and she came over and spoke with a number of us, some of us that are here and some that couldn't be here today, about this program specifically and about some other programs that we're working with in the office, and we were very, very grateful for her to give us the time. You know we talked about the possibility of partnering with the Youth Commission, partnering with the Summer Bonanza, locating through all of you other entities, groups, organizations with whom we could partner to try to spread the message that -- that we're trying to get out with I Wish I Knew. And so we're really grateful to be here this morning and -- and I've already gone on longer than I wanted to, and I haven't even talked about the details of the program. So what I want to do now is I want to call up Chris Middleton and John Rodman, who as I said earlier, they've sort of become the ad hoc, the co-chairs of this project. There's so many people in our office that work on it, but they really are leading the charge and really spear-heading it, so I wanted to ask them with -- with the Commission's permission to come up and speak a little bit, and as they do I also want to say this, a bit of a side note, but I'd be remiss not to point it out having this opportunity. Chris Middleton, who is a long-time member of our Public Defender's office was recently a recipient of the State Bar of Georgia's Chief Justice Robert Benham Award for community service, in part because of the work that he has done with this program and so many other community-based activities that he's involved in. So we're really proud of Chris. It was a well-earned honor. And he and John are going to come up now and speak with you about some specifics about the program and take questions. Thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Mr. John Rodman said, good morning Dr. Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, good morning.

Mr. Rodman said, and esteemed Commissioners.

Members of the Board collectively said, good morning.

Mr. Rodman said, you know, Mr. Edwards really hit the nail on the head when he talked about the title of the program, where it came from, that really was the -- the birthing point of this program. Mr. Lewis was able to link us into the school system, and we have attended quite a number of elementary schools, middle schools, high schools and colleges in Savannah. Interestingly, the message has been given to children as young as fourth and fifth grade, and it is amazing how much interest children at that age have in criminal liability and culpability in the community and how much exposure they have to siblings and peers who have run a foul of the law. It's also amazing how many high school students and college students believe that they do understand what can expose them to criminal culpability but they understand it erroneously. They don't grasp the full picture or the --

all of the ways in which they can become criminally culpable. You know, issues like being party to a crime, being present in a vehicle at the time that someone else in the vehicle has recently committed a crime or being in possession of recently stolen -- stolen material and all the potential charges that that can open up for those people.

Mr. Rodman said, essentially, and -- and perhaps even most importantly what so many of the youth in our community don't understand is the exposure as far as sentencing goes on what they can be exposed to for being involved in certain activities, like being in a car from which an armed robbery has been committed recently and all the sudden being exposed to a mandatory minimum sentence of ten years without the possibility of parole. They have no concept that they can in the span of a -- the snap of a finger suddenly find themselves in that situation, and so that's really the effort that we're undertaking in trying to spread that message.

Mr. Chris Middleton said, middle school levels, high school levels, at the end of the day we're asking our clients this question, drop out rates, unacceptable; juvenile recidivism rates, unacceptable; what do we do? There's a need. What's the answer? There's a issue. What's the solution? Well the solution is taking initiative, going into these classrooms, talking to these kids, telling them the collateral consequences of criminal actions. It starts there. The spin off to it is now you got two young looking individuals coming into these classrooms, now they're looking at, one, they have education; two, they see two positive role models, individuals to emulate, and so by doing that, these actions, we're hoping that it keeps them on that path, the right path to graduation, the right path to being productive citizens of Chatham County.

Mr. Rodman said, and what makes our program different from others?

Mr. Middleton said, we keep it absolutely honest. We make ourselves completely vulnerable to the classroom settings. A lot of times speakers will go into the classrooms and lecture the students. We don't take that position. We say, hey, we were kids at one point. We know the pitfalls. We know the trials. We know the tribulations. These are the courses that -- course of actions that we took, and, you know what, we want to make sure that you do not follow into these footsteps. We're going to be your bridge builders. If you listen, if you let us guide you, we're going to take you and steer you in the right direction.

Mr. Rodman said, and we always make ourselves available for continued counseling.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay. Thank you.

Mr. Rodman said, we'd be happy to field any questions.

Commissioner Thomas said, are there any questions?

Mr. Rodman said, yes, sir, Mr. Center.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I have some questions.

Commissioner Center said, good morning. Very impressive. Do y'all go into classrooms or assembly situations?

Mr. Rodman said, we have done both. We -- in fact, I -- I believe it's fair to say that our audience is generally increasing. You -- generally when we started we were speaking to classrooms of 15 to 20 students. We have now begun to speak to gatherings of 60 students. We have spoken in assembly halls now. We're trying to get into neighborhood association meetings. We recently spoke at a -- a class for the CAP program, the construction apprentice program, which is a really -- a -- a very productive and positive re-entry program in and of itself, so we really are willing to speak and have spoken at a diverse collection of environments.

Mr. Middleton said, including churches and Savannah State University as well.

Commissioner Center said, this is a -- so you work closely with the school board? They call you and target certain schools or you just say you want to hit all of them or?

Mr. Rodman said, yes. We -- we actually have made a connection through Bill Lewis with Barbara Foley, and she has done wonders to organize opportunities for us to get into various schools, and also one of the other things that's happened is as we have gone into these schools and spoken for this individual teacher or that individual teacher or -- or these -- or this particular group of students, we've almost without exception been invited back by that teacher or another teacher who happened to observe or find out about or involvement with the school.

Commissioner Center said, well thank you. Thank you both.

Mr. Rodman said, thank you, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, go ahead. Go ahead. Go ahead.

Mr. Rodman said, Mr. Holmes.

Commissioner Thomas said, Commissioner Holmes and then Commissioner Shabazz.

Commissioner Holmes said, good morning.

Mr. Rodman said, good morning.

Mr. Middleton said, good morning.

Commissioner Holmes said, of course you know I applaud that department, working with all of you all over the past years, but let me ask you something. When you go to juvenile home, and you're speaking to some youth who already violated some cause, and you go to a school setting, what's the different in the information, and how do you approach them?

Mr. Rodman said, I would say the difference is minimal to none because when we first began this program we began with the idea that we would have a target audience, and we tried very hard to identify what that target audience is, and then we -- we've realized that any youth is a member of that target audience. We actually began with the erroneous idea that, well, we'll target on poorer communities or communities -- or places within the community where available resources may not be as great, and then we realized, you know what, we've spoken out at Islands High School, and it's the same kids with the same issues, the same potential pitfalls, and the same need for information. There -- any -- any -- particularly when we're talking about the youth, anyone between the age of 12 and 20, which is what we have identified as our target age range, though we do work outside of that age range, anyone in there can make the same simple mistakes that can lead to huge criminal culpability consequences for that person, and so, you know, we don't want to leave anyone behind, so we have embraced and -- and we try to address all of them equally, and it's amazing that when you talk to a high school student, who has never been in trouble, and your message is to warn them away from trouble, it's amazing how similar their interests are to that client in the jail cell that you're talking to. It's the same -- they are the same people from the same community with the same interests at the end of the day.

Mr. Middleton said, our message is the same from Scott, to Grove, to Johnson, to Jenkins. It's still the same. Very effective.

Commissioner Thomas said, Commissioner Shabazz and then Commissioner Stone, and then we're going to try to wrap this up in the next few minutes.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. Okay.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay?

Commissioner Shabazz said, I had maybe three questions, but you've answered two of them already in terms of how and what's your message. You told me what your message was. I want to know how do you measure your success rate with the Public Defender's office in -- in general in terms of receiving justice, your clients receiving justice. Because there's -- there's a thinking in society that if you really want to get justice you have to have some money, you know?

Mr. Rodman said, absolutely.

Commissioner Shabazz said, and -- and -- and also, you know, you all are appointed to the clients, is that right?

Mr. Rodman said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. So how do you measure that?

Mr. Rodman said, well, how we measure it is this, first of all our mission in part is to change the culture.

Commissioner Shabazz said, mm-hmm.

Mr. Rodman said, because really we live in an American system, a capitalist system, and it is just part of our philosophy that you get what you pay for. That just kind of comes with who we are, where we come from, the society in which we're raised, so I understand that belief.

Commissioner Shabazz said, mm-hmm.

Mr. Rodman said, what we're trying to do and have been trying to do since before I joined the office, since the in -- the inception of the office in 2005, is to change that culture, and I think the culture has shifted exponentially. Since I've been in the office in 2008, the culture has shifted to a degree that I can't even begin to define. What we focus on is client-centered representation. That's what chief circuit -- circuit Public Defender Michael Edwards preaches, that's what everyone in this room has embraced. That is our philosophy, client-centered representation.

Commissioner Shabazz said, mm-hmm.

Mr. Rodman said, so when you ask how do we measure successfully representing our clients, that's how we do it, by meeting -- finding out what the needs and interests of each individual client is in each individual case, and then striving to meet the needs of that individual client in that individual case.

Commissioner Shabazz said, mm-hmm.

Mr. Rodman said, it's not about a -- a win/loss percentage rate. You can't measure the value of a human life that way. What we do is we go in and we say in this case we have this set of circumstances, this is what's on the line for this client, this -- this is what our client expresses as their interest, this is what they need out of this situation. What do they need? Do they need to be hooked up with a social worker to try and re-integrate into society? Do they need a better opportunity to get into school or to get -- or to find employment after this is all over? We provide that for them. Do they need minimal exposure? Can they survive on extended probation that can give them the supervision and perhaps provide them with some tools to find success? If so, that's where we're going to go, and at the end of the day everyone of us are trial lawyers as well, so if we have to litigate, we will.

Commissioner Shabazz said, let me -- let me -- one last question.

Mr. Rodman said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, one last question. You are -- you're an attorney right?

Mr. Rodman said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, and you also represent clients in the Public Defender's office?

Mr. Rodman said, yes, sir, with pride.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. How many have you cleared of charges?

Mr. Rodman said, I won a jury trial yesterday, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I mean how many have you -- since you've been there?

Mr. Rodman said, hundreds.

Commissioner Shabazz said, and how many have you lost?

Mr. Rodman said, lost? See when you start talking about win/loss, that's a dangerous road.

Commissioner Shabazz said, that's what I want to -- I want to -- I want to know.

Mr. Rodman said, well, it depends on how you calculate wins and losses. When I have a client --

Commissioner Shabazz said, mm-hmm.

Mr. Rodman said, -- who admits to having done wrong --

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Mr. Rodman said, -- and I can minimize their exposure --

Commissioner Shabazz said, right.

Mr. Rodman said, -- as great as possible but the case does end in a guilty plea, is that a win or a loss?

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Mr. Rodman said, I think it's a win for the community; it's a win for the individual charged; and it's a win for me as well.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Mr. Rodman said, I don't consider having had too many losses ever.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, you should consider becoming an attorney.

Mr. Rodman said, thank you ,sir.

Commissioner Center said, he is.

Commissioner Farrell said, he is an attorney.

Commissioner Shabazz said, thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Mr. Middleton said, Commissioner Shabazz, to go further on your question --

Commissioner Shabazz said, yeah.

Mr. Middleton said, -- in regards to the program --

Commissioner Shabazz said, yeah.

Mr. Middleton said, -- of I Wish I Knew --

Commissioner Shabazz said, yeah.

Mr. Middleton said, we're still finding ways that we could actually put together information to gauge the success --

Commissioner Shabazz said, uh-huh.

Mr. Middleton said -- of our interactions, our initiatives.

Commissioner Shabazz said, right.

Mr. Middleton said, but I know that we have a student that we -- we lectured to, we spoke with --

Commissioner Shabazz said, uh-huh.

Mr. Middleton said, -- was later --

Commissioner Shabazz said, right.

Mr. Middleton said, -- given a full scholarship to the Naval Academy.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes, sir.

Mr. Middleton said, another one of our say graduating candidates was a person that was honored before this honorable body, Kendal Duff.

Commissioner Shabazz said, uh-huh. Yes, sir.

Mr. Middleton said, worked for the county --

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes, sir.

Mr. Middleton said, -- worked for the Chatham County Commission, so -- Chatham County Sheriff's Department, so these are two examples of success stories that with the I Wish I Knew program that we could --

Commissioner Shabazz said, mm-hmm.

Mr. Middleton said, -- actively speak on, but we're working on a way that we can actually bring those numbers to you.

Commissioner Shabazz said, thank you. Thank you.

Mr. Rodman said, these are success stories that actually came to us and said, we have succeeded in this because we avoided trouble based on the information you gave us.

Commissioner Shabazz said, thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you. Commissioner Stone and then we have one follow-up comment by Commissioner --

Commissioner Center said, Center.

Commissioner Farrell said, Center.

Commissioner Thomas said, -- Center, and then we're going to close this portion out.

Commissioner Shabazz said, thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you. Just a quick question. When you all go into the schools and into the classrooms, do you all take any reformed offenders with you?

Mr. Rodman said, we -- there are -- what we have done, he and I both, in fact, each represented an individual -- or he represented an individual and I also represented an individual, both of whom got involved in the GED program out at CCDC, and in fact, I believe it was WTOC or WJCL, one, who did a feature story on them, and we took footage of that story. We have taken footage of that story before. We have not actually brought any reformed offenders in. I -- I think there's a number of issues that we're working through in -- in realizing that possibility. We're not there yet, but it is something that we have considered before and may consider further in the future.

Commissioner Stone said, the only reason I bring that up, I'm a former teacher and found that children can relate to someone who's been there and done that and has all the battle scars to prove it, and if they can say, I -- I have experienced this, I can tell you it's not the road to go down, I've lived it, and all the losses I've suffered because of it, seems to have a tremendous impact on folks --

Commissioner Thomas said, yes.

Commissioner Stone said, -- and especially young people. So I don't know if that's something that could be looked at down the road but it -- it really does carry a lot of weight with people when -- when someone can share a personal life experience with them and -- and the bad that went on -- in that case went along with it, it seems to have a tremendous impact.

Commissioner Thomas said, absolutely.

Mr. Rodman said, I agree wholeheartedly, and what we do have is -- at this point in time is video footage of two individuals doing just that, and it -- and it is powerful, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, Commissioner Center.

Commissioner Center said, thank -- thank you very much, Commissioner Thomas. I -- I just wanted to follow up a little bit with Commissioner Shabazz's question about it -- there's a perception that you need money to get a good defense lawyer. It always helps no matter what your situation you're in to have lots of money, but I'm going to tell you, in my practice of law here, I actually tried a case, it's a civil case that Michael [Edwards] took over when he became Public Defender, but he did it without money because he felt he was indebted to the lawyer -- to the -- to the client. So I've litigated with Michael Edwards. I've shared a co-defendancy with Amy Ihrig. I -- I've seen Bill in court a number of times, and I've known Mark Nathan all my life. Our -- our parents worked together. I'm going to tell you, you can spend a lot of money and hire a lawyer who may or may not do a good job and the fact that you hire -- get a public defender or pay for a lawyer, it depends on the individual, and every individual I work with in this Public Defender's office has been exceptional in their work, in their dedication, and you can tell in -- in how they feel about their cases. So it's not necessarily -- it's always helpful no matter what your situation is to have more money than you -- than -- than not, but you are not going to get a finer lawyer just 'cause you have more money than the guys you see standing before you in this courtroom.

Mr. Rodman said, thank you.

Commissioner Center said, I mean in this -- in this -- in this building.

Commissioner Farrell said, it's a former courtroom.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Commissioner Center said, former courtroom.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you. Thanks to each and every one of you, and I really want to thank you for coming today, and we would -- we look forward to this partnership with the Youth Commission, as well as the Summer Bonanza program which are two county, you know, programs, and I wanted the Commissioners to hear and to know what we were doing or about to do with the Public Defender's office so that there would be no surprises, and we look forward to this partnership, and we'll be getting back in touch with you. And thanks to each and every one of you for coming here today, taking out the time from your busy schedule. We really do appreciate it. Thank you so very much.

Mr. Edwards said, thank y'all.

Commissioner Shabazz said, thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Mr. Rodman said, thank you so much for your time and consideration.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you so very much. All right. Thank you Commissioners.

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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 (*).

Commissioner Thomas said, we have no tabled or reconsidered items at this time.

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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 BUILDING SAFETY AND REGULATORY SERVICES ENTERPRISE FUND APPROPRIATE \$7,860 NET ASSETS FOR MERIT INCREASES; 2) IN THE SALES TAX III FUND: a) INCREASE REVENUES \$2,394,518 FOR REIMBURSEMENTS FROM GDOT AND b) INCREASE THE BAY STREET WIDENING PROJECT, \$2,394,518; 3) IN THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM FUND: a) TRANSFER \$381,440 FROM CIP M&O CONTINGENCY TO TRANSFER OUT TO THE GENERAL FUND M&O FOR THE TAX COMMISSIONER'S IAS WORLD SYSTEM, b) TRANSFER \$55,000 FROM THE LAKE MAYER SEWER LIFT STATION PROJECT TO THE POOL-HVAC PROJECT, AND c) TRANSFER \$45,000 FROM THE RODNEY J. HALL BOAT RAMP LIFT STATION PROJECT TO THE POOL-HVAC PROJECT; 4) IN THE GENERAL FUND M&O: a) INCREASE REVENUES \$381,440 TRANSFER IN FROM CIP, b) INCREASE ICS EXPENDITURES \$381,440, c) TRANSFER \$110,000 FROM JUVENILE COURT CONTINGENCY TO THE JUVENILE COURT OPERATING BUDGET, d) INCREASE REVENUES \$267,774 A/R CITY OF SAVANNAH AND e) INCREASE THE JUDICIAL CASE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM PROJECT, PROBATE COURT MODULE, TYLER ODYSSEY SYSTEM \$268,774; 5) AMEND THE MULTIPLE GRANT FUND TO INCREASE REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES \$356,363 FOR GRANTS CONTINUING FROM PRIOR YEARS; 6) AMEND THE FISCAL 2015 BUDGET RESOLUTIONS FOR SALES TAX FUNDS 1, II, III, IV, and V TO RECOGNIZE AUDITED FISCAL 2014 FUND BALANCES AND APPROVE THE REVISED PROJECT BUDGET SCHEDULES; 7) INCREASE SALES TAX REVENUES \$11,149,860 IN THE SALES TAX VI FUND AND ESTABLISH PROJECT BUDGETS AS OUTLINED IN THE PROJECT BUDGET SCHEDULE; ~~8) IN THE SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND TRANSFER \$6,540 FROM CONTINGENCY TO THE COASTAL AREA REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT BUDGET;~~ AND 9) IN THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT FUND APPROPRIATE \$34,000 NET ASSETS FOR THE PURCHASE OF A TRACTOR.**

Commissioner Thomas said, we will now move to Items for Individual Actions. Number one, to request approval of the following budget amendments and transfers: in the Building Safety and Regulatory Services Enterprise Fund appropriate -- appropriate \$7,860 net assets for merit -- merit increases -- do we have any? Number 2) in the Sales Tax III Fund: a) increase revenues \$2,394 --

Commissioner Center said, two million.

Commissioner Thomas said, I mean two million. Thank you \$2,394,518 for reimbursements from GDOT and b) increase the Bay Street Widening Project, \$2,394,518; number 3) in the Capital Improvement Program Fund: a transfer of \$381,440 from CIP M&O Contingency to Transfer Out to the General Fund M&O for the Tax Commissioner's world system -- ias world system; number b) transfer \$55,000 from the Lake Mayer Sewer Lift Station Project to the pool-HVAC project, and c) transfer \$45,000 from the Rodney J. Hall boat ramp lift station project to the pool-HVAC project; 4) in the General Fund M&O: a) increase revenues \$381,440 Transfer In from CIP, b) increase ICS expenditures \$381,440, c) transfer \$110,000 from Juvenile Court Contingency to the

Juvenile Court Operating budget, and d) increase revenues \$267,774 A/R City of Savannah and e) increase the judicial case management system project, Probate Court module, Tyler Odyssey System \$268,774; number 5) amend the Multiple Grant Fund to increase revenues and expenditures 356 -- \$356,363 for grants continuing from prior years; number 6) amend the Fiscal 2015 Budget resolutions for Sales Tax Funds I, II, III, and -- what's that four or five?

Commissioner Center said, four.

Commissioner Thomas said, IV, and V to recognize audited fiscal 2014 fund balances and approve the revised project budget schedule; 7) increase Sales Tax revenue \$11,149,860 in the Sales Tax VI Fund and establish project budgets as outlined in the project budget schedule; and 9) in the Solid Waste Management Fund appropriate \$34,000 net assets for the purchase of a tractor. Are there any questions?

Commissioner Farrell said, so moved.

Commissioner Stone said, I'll make a motion for approval.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, second.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay. Just -- you have questions?

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay.

Commissioner Shabazz said, the Bay Street widening project. Can you give me some insight on it?

Commissioner Thomas said, the Bay Street widening?

County Attorney R. Jonathan Hart said, we'll have -- what -- what's the question about?

County Manager Smith said, is there something specific?

Commissioner Thomas said, what's the question regarding?

Commissioner Shabazz said, you want to in -- increase. Why -- why is there a need for an increase?

Commissioner Thomas said, the --

County Attorney Hart said, well, we're -- we're condemning 107 parcels of land --

Commissioner Thomas said, right.

Commissioner Shabazz said, mm-hmm.

County Attorney Hart said, -- and you have to pay people for that, so some of that money is to -- to, you know, to pay -- to pay for the purchase of the land to widen the road.

Commissioner Thomas said, right. Taking away some of their --

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

County Manager Smith said, so that's kind of our portion of the project, correct?

County Attorney Hart said, yeah. Now we'll be reimbursed from that eventually from the State.

Commissioner Shabazz said, so -- so -- so -- so you increased it from -- what is it -- what -- what was it before you increased it?

County Attorney Hart said, I -- I -- I --

County Manager Smith said, we'll have to get them in here.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

County Manager Smith said, I can get Suzanne [Cooler] to come in in just a moment. She can go through that. Let me see, 'cause they're -- they're listening so -- there she is. Step on up.

Ms. Suzanne Cooler, Assistant County Engineer said, I literally just ran down the stairs.

County Manager Smith said, that's all right. That's what I figured. We all have -- we have them on standby.

Ms. Cooler said, okay. So I missed part of the question. What was it?

County Manager Smith said, basically it was on the Bay Street widening, and there was an increase. We're changing the funding. Jon just pointed out, you know, about the what -- condemnations or -- or properties. So we were looking at what was it originally?

Ms. Cooler said, oh, well, we currently have an agreement with GDOT. We will get reimbursed for right of way acquisitions not to exceed \$11 million. As we make those acquisitions, we can file for reimbursement, so this is partial. We may not get to \$11 million, but we can get up to 11 million reimbursed.

Commissioner Shabazz said, right. So, have all the acquisitions been taken care of already?

Ms. Cooler said, no, sir. We're still in the process.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yeah. 'Cause when I ride through there I see a lot of the buildings gone, you know.

County Manager Smith said, so we're amending as we go.

Ms. Cooler said, as we go we're requesting those reimbursements so we can get those funds and --

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Ms. Cooler said, -- and not wait till the very end to get it all.

County Attorney Hart said, but there's a substantially -- 85 percent of it has already been acquired and been settled. We've got about seven or eight that the -- that will be -- end up being in some type of litigation, and that's because we've made an offer, and they think their property is worth more than that, so eventually the courts will sort that out.

Commissioner Shabazz said, right. Right. So that's the law of eminent domain came in -- stepped into that situation there?

County Attorney Hart said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, and -- and -- and when you say fair market value -- that's what -- they determine what the fair market value is?

County Attorney Hart said, it -- it -- it's really works to ways, most of these things we go out and negotiate with the people --

Commissioner Shabazz said, mm-hmm.

County Attorney Hart said, -- and try to settle it without ever having any legal problems. Billy Gordon, our right of way consultant's been doing it for about 30, 35 years --

Commissioner Shabazz said, mm-hmm.

County Attorney Hart said, -- and -- and quite honestly, probably 70 percent of them they've reached an agreement just between themselves and us.

Commissioner Shabazz said, mm-hmm.

County Attorney Hart said, the other 30 percent sometimes end up starting out in litigation but get settled, and then about three, four times a year we end up trying a condemnation case, and let a jury decide whether we're paying too little or not enough or too much for that matter.

Commissioner Shabazz said, mm-hmm. Okay. Yes, sir.

Commissioner Thomas said, I can -- I can say, this is my District and I -- I pretty much stay on -- on top of -- of this situation with the, you know, people that are there and --

Commissioner Shabazz said, right.

Commissioner Thomas said, -- and are -- and are involved. So I'm pretty much in agreement with what's going on at this time and the constituents are as well.

Commissioner Shabazz said, right.

Commissioner Thomas said, and whenever they have any questions or concerns they have certainly given them to me, and I have passed them on to those who are working on it.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. Well, one of the reasons why I had some concerns about it, I grew up in that area, and I still have a lot of relatives over there too.

Commissioner Thomas said, right.

Commissioner Shabazz said, that's why I wanted to know about it.

Commissioner Thomas said, well, we're going to make sure that --

Commissioner Shabazz said, mm-hmm. Thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, -- you know, everything's --

County Manager Smith said, above board.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Thomas said, the motion?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, with your permission, I will make a motion to approve.

Commissioner Farrell said, second.

Commissioner Shabazz said, second.

Commissioner Thomas said, all in favor of the motion.

Commissioner Center said, tell me what we're -- I thought we just did it. What are we voting on now?

Commissioner Stone said, I --

Commissioner Thomas said, pardon?

Commissioner Farrell said, item 1.

County Manager Smith said, Item 1.

Commissioner Thomas said, item 1. Item 1. Item 1.

Commissioner Center said, I thought we already voted.

Commissioner Farrell said, no, we haven't.

Commissioner Thomas said, Item 1. Please vote. Oh I keep forgetting -- I keep looking over there at District 8 and wonder why my light's not coming on, but --

County Manager Smith said, your light has changed.

Commissioner Thomas said, I'll get it, yeah.

Commissioner Center said, you can run down there and vote and run back.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay. Okay. Bear with me.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve the request for the following budget amendments and transfers: 1) in the Building Safety and Regulatory Services Enterprise Fund appropriate \$7,860 net assets for merit increases; 2) in the Sales Tax III Fund: a) increase revenues \$2,394,518 for reimbursements from GDOT and b) increase the Bay Street Widening Project, \$2,394,518; 3) in the Capital Improvement Program Fund: a) transfer \$381,440 from CIP M&O Contingency to Transfer Out to the General Fund M&O for the Tax Commissioner's ias world system, b) transfer \$55,000 from the Lake Mayer Sewer Lift Station Project to the pool-HVAC project, and c) transfer \$45,000 from the Rodney J. Hall boat ramp lift station project to the pool-HVAC project; 4) in the General Fund M&O: a) increase revenues \$381,440 Transfer In from CIP, b) increase ics expenditures \$381,440, c) transfer \$110,000 from Juvenile Court Contingency to the Juvenile Court Operating budget, d) increase revenues \$267,774 a/r City of Savannah and e) increase the judicial case management system project, Probate Court module, Tyler Odyssey System \$268,774; 5) amend the Multiple Grant Fund to increase revenues and expenditures \$356,363 for grants continuing from prior years; 6) amend

the Fiscal 2015 Budget resolutions for Sales Tax Funds I, II, III, IV, and V to recognize audited fiscal 2014 fund balances and approve the revised project budget schedules; 7) increase Sales Tax revenues \$11,149,860 in the Sales Tax VI Fund and establish project budgets as outlined in the project budget schedule; 8) ~~in the Special Service District Fund transfer \$6,540 from contingency to the Coastal Area Regional Development budget;~~ and 9) in the Solid Waste Management Fund appropriate \$34,000 net assets for the purchase of a tractor. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Scott and Commissioner Brady were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-1**AGENDA DATE: March 13, 2015**

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: Lee Smith, County Manager
FROM: Amy Davis, Finance Director

ISSUE:

Request for the following budget amendments and transfers: 1) in the Building Safety and Regulatory Services Enterprise Fund appropriate \$7,860 net assets for merit increases; 2) in the Sales Tax III Fund: a) increase revenues \$2,394,518 for reimbursements from GDOT and b) increase the Bay Street Widening Project, \$2,394,518; 3) in the Capital Improvement Program Fund: a) transfer \$381,440 from CIP M&O Contingency to Transfer Out to the General Fund M&O for the Tax Commissioner's ias world system, b) transfer \$55,000 from the Lake Mayer Sewer Lift Station Project to the pool-HVAC project, and c) transfer \$45,000 from the Rodney J. Hall boat ramp lift station project to the pool-HVAC project; 4) in the General Fund M&O: a) increase revenues \$381,440 Transfer In from CIP, b) increase ics expenditures \$381,440, c) transfer \$110,000 from Juvenile Court Contingency to the Juvenile Court Operating budget, d) increase revenues \$267,774 a/r City of Savannah and e) increase the judicial case management system project, Probate Court module, Tyler Odyssey System \$268,774; 5) amend the Multiple Grant Fund to increase revenues and expenditures \$356,363 for grants continuing from prior years; 6) amend the Fiscal 2015 Budget resolutions for Sales Tax Funds I, II, III, IV, and V to recognize audited fiscal 2014 fund balances and approve the revised project budget schedules; 7) increase Sales Tax revenues \$11,149,860 in the Sales Tax VI Fund and establish project budgets as outlined in the project budget schedule; 8) ~~in the Special Service District Fund transfer \$6,540 from contingency to the Coastal Area Regional Development budget;~~ and 9) in the Solid Waste Management Fund appropriate \$34,000 net assets for the purchase of a tractor.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Merit raises were approved with the adoption of the FY2015 budget. An appropriation of net assets is needed to provide the funds for the merit increases in the Building Safety and Regulatory Fund. A resolution to amend the fund \$7,860 for the merit increases is attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
2. The Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) has reimbursed Chatham County \$2,394,518 for right of way acquisition cost for the Bay Street Widening project. The County Engineer has requested an amendment to the Bay Street Widening project budget for the reimbursements. Correspondence and a resolution to amend the Sales Tax III Fund are attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
- 3a4a. The Board of Commissioners approved negotiations with Tyler Technologies for a billing, collection and CAMA system for the Tax Commissioner's office at their meeting held November 21, 2014. The project cost is \$3,104,494 over a three-year period ending in fiscal year 2018. The first year cost due in FY2015 is \$381,440. A transfer from the Capital Improvement program (CIP) budget to the General Fund M&O is requested. Funding for fiscal years 2016 through 2018 has not been determined. Annual recurring costs after FY2018 are unknown. Resolutions are attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
- 3b/c. The Director of Parks and Recreation has requested \$45,000 transfer from the Rodney J. Hall Boat Ramp Lift Station CIP project and a \$55,000 transfer from the Lake Mayer Lift Station Replacement CIP project to provide sufficient funds to cover the cost of filters and bleacher HVAC at the aquatic center. Correspondence is attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
- 3d/e. In September 2014 the Board approved the purchase of software and related services for the various courts. Probate Court was not included in the initial scope of work. The price included Probate Court is \$268,774. A detailed staff report and a resolution to amend the CIP fund are attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
- 4c. Funds were set aside in a contingency account for Juvenile Court with the adoption of the FY2015 budget. Based on staff analysis charges for indigent defense will exceed the

budget. An \$110,000 transfer from contingency account to the Juvenile Court operating budget is requested. Correspondence is attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).

5. Chatham County has grants continuing from prior years. A resolution to increase the Multiple Grant Fund by \$356,363 and a list of the grants are attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
6. The Chatham County Sales Tax I Fund budget amendment decreases the budget by \$763,030 to reflect a fund balance of \$5,063,468. The latest revised project budget schedule and a resolution are attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).

The Chatham County Sales Tax II Fund budget amendment decreases the budget by \$118,966 to reflect a fund balance of \$5,063,468. The latest revised project budget schedule and a resolution are attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).

The Chatham County Sales Tax III Fund budget amendment decreases the budget by \$926,845 to reflect a fund balance of \$33,718,541. The revised project budget schedule and a resolution are attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).

The Chatham County Sales Tax IV Fund budget amendment decreases the budget by \$7,760,481 to reflect a fund balance of \$46,391,264. The revised project budget schedule and a resolution are attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).

The Chatham County Sales Tax V Fund budget amendment increases the budget by \$29,155,314 to reflect a fund balance of \$79,132,229 and revenues of \$17,947,262. A revised project budget schedule and a resolution are attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).

7. In November 2013 voters approved a special purpose local option sales and use tax (SPLOST). The adopted fiscal year 2015 Sales Tax VI budget only showed projects related to the required municipal distributions. The project schedule and resolution amends the budget to incorporate County Projects are attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
8. The Coastal Regional Commission approved a \$0.30 increase in membership dues effective April 1, 2015. \$87,200 was approved with the adoption of the FY2015 budget. Due to the increase in fees an additional \$6,540 is being requested from Special Service District contingency. The impact on the FY2016 budget will be an increase of \$26,158. Correspondence is attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
9. The Director of Public Works and Park Services has requested an appropriation of \$34,000 net assets in the Solid Waste Management Fund the purchase of a tractor. Correspondence and a resolution to amend the Solid Waste Management Fund are attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).

FUNDING:

The budget amendment will establish funding in the Building Safety and Regulatory Fund, the General Fund M&O, the Sales Tax III Fund, the Sales Tax VI Fund, the Multiple Grant Fund, the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Fund, and the Solid Waste Management Fund. Funds are available in the Fund Balance for Sales Tax I, II, III, IV and V. Funds are available in the Special Service District Fund contingency. Funds are available in the General Fund M&O and the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Fund for the transfers.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board approve the following:

BUILDING SAFETY AND REGULATORY SERVICES

Appropriate \$7,860 net assets for merit increases.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (CIP) FUND

- a) Transfer \$381,440 from General Fund M&O Contingency to Transfer Out to General Fund M&O.
- b) Transfer \$55,000 from the Lake Mayer Sewer Lift Station project to the Pool-HVAC project.
- c) Transfer \$45,000 from the Rodney Hall Boat Ramp Lift Station project to the Pool-

- HVAC project.
- d) increase revenues \$268,774 A/R - City of Savannah.
 - e) Increase the Case Management System Project \$268,774 for Probate Court.

GENERAL FUND M&O

- a) Increase revenues \$381,440 Transfer in From CIP.
- b) Increase ICS expenditures \$381,440.
- c) Transfer \$110,000 from Juvenile Court contingency to the Juvenile Court budget.

MULTIPLE GRANT FUND

Increase revenues and expenditures \$356,363 for grants continuing from prior years.

ONE PERCENT LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX I FUND

A budget amendment to decrease fund balance appropriation by \$763,030 with a corresponding decrease in expenditures.

ONE PERCENT LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX II FUND

A budget amendment to decrease fund balance appropriation by \$118,966 with a corresponding decrease in expenditures.

ONE PERCENT LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX III FUND

- a) Increase revenues \$2,394,518 reimbursements from GDOT.
- b) Increase the Bay Street Widening Project \$2,394,518.
- c) A budget amendment to decrease fund balance appropriation \$926,845 with a corresponding decrease in expenditures.

ONE PERCENT LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX IV FUND

A budget amendment to decrease fund balance appropriation by \$7,760,481 with a corresponding decrease in expenditures.

ONE PERCENT LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX V FUND

A budget amendment to increase fund balance appropriation by \$11,208,052 and revenues \$17,947,262 with a corresponding increase in expenditures.

ONE PERCENT LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX VI FUND

- a) Increase revenues \$11,149,860 sales tax.
- b) Establish project budgets as outlined in project budget schedule attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).

SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND

Transfer 46,540 from contingency to the Coastal Georgia Regional Development commission budget.

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Appropriate \$34,000 net assets and increase expenditures.

- 2. Amend or deny the request.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

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

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve Alternative 1.

Prepared by: Estelle Brown

=====

2. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH TYLER TECHNOLOGIES FOR A BILLING, COLLECTIONS AND CAMA (COMPUTER-ASSISTED MASS APPRAISAL) SYSTEM FOR THE TAX COMMISSIONER'S AND BOARD OF ASSESSOR'S OFFICES.

Commissioner Thomas said, Item number 2, request Board approval to enter into a contract with Tyler Technologies for a billing, collections and C-A-M-A, computer assisted mass appraisal, system for the Tax Commissioner's and Board of Assessor's offices.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, motion to approve.

Commissioner Farrell said, second.

Commissioner Shabazz said, second.

Commissioner Center said, second.

Commissioner Thomas said, any discussion? All in favor please vote. The motion is carried. Thank you.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve the request Board approval to enter into a contract with Tyler Technologies for a billing, collections and CAMA system for the Tax Commissioner's and Board of Assessor's offices. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Scott and Commissioner Brady were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-2
AGENDA DATE: March 13, 2015

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: Lee Smith, County Manager
FROM: Daniel T. Powers, Tax Commissioner

ISSUE:

Request Board approval to enter into a contract with Tyler Technologies for a billing, collections and CAMA (Computer-Assisted Mass Appraisal) System for the Tax Commissioner's and Board of Assessor's offices.

BACKGROUND:

On November 21, 2014, the Board granted approval for contract negotiations with Tyler Technologies for a Tax Billing, Collection and CAMA system. Contract negotiations have been successful and the contract is ready for presentation to the Board.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. It is imperative that the Tax Commissioner's Office and Board of Assessors utilize the same software system in order to ensure a timely submission of both Digests and to facilitate automation in some areas of transactions between the two offices.
2. The Tax Commissioner's system will be Phase 1 of the project followed by the Board of Assessor's system. This is a three year project to be completed by March 2018.
3. The loss of functionality of the current billing system is a big driver in the purchase of a new system. The current system requires frequent programming. The County has been notified that the only remaining programmer for the current system is retiring in April, taking all institutional knowledge with him. The 2015 tax bills will be prepared on the new system.
4. The Tyler software will be a "cloud based" or hosted application on an Oracle-based platform. The County will incur costs for conversion, access, set-up, training and hosting. The ICS Director is supportive of the use of a hosted solution.
5. The County Attorney has reviewed the contract as to legal form.

FUNDING:

There are recurring annual costs associated with this contract. The annual hosting (SaaS) fee will be \$285,800 in fiscal year 2015 (due at contract signing) and \$309,800 annually in fiscal year 2016 and 2017. For fiscal year 2018 forward, the hosting fee may not increase more than 3% per annum.

There is also a cost for Chatham County specific programming of the software and system, converting current data and training staff. This cost is \$1,880,000. Under the contract the County will pay this cost as follows:

FY15 - \$ 95,650
FY16 - \$590,963
FY17 - \$818,008
FY19 - \$375,380

For fiscal year 2015, \$381,440 will be transferred from Restricted Contingency to the ICS Department budget. Funding will need to be established in the General Fund - ICS Department budget for subsequent fiscal year costs.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the signing of the contract to enter into the agreement with Tyler Technologies.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

It is consistent with Board policy to approve a contract after granting approval for negotiation.

=====

3. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF A CONTRACT AMENDMENT TO INCLUDE THE CHATHAM COUNTY PROBATE COURT IN THE TYLER TECHNOLOGIES ODYSSEY IMPLEMENTATION.

Commissioner Thomas said, number 3, request Board approval of a contract amendment to include the Chatham County Probate Court in the Tyler Technologies Odyssey Implementation.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, motion to approve.

Commissioner Farrell said, second.

Commissioner Shabazz said, second.

Commissioner Center said, second.

Commissioner Thomas said, any questions? All in favor. Motion is carried.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Kicklighter moved to approve the request for Board approval of a contract amendment to include the Chatham County Probate Court in the Tyler Technologies Odyssey Implementation. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Scott and Commissioner Brady were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: IX-3

AGENDA DATE: March 13, 2015

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: Lee Smith, County Manager

FROM: Linda B. Cramer, Assistant County Manager

ISSUE:

Approval of a contract amendment to include the Chatham County Probate Court in the Tyler Technologies Odyssey Implementation

BACKGROUND:

On September 26, 2014 the Board approved the purchase of software and related services for a unified case management system from Tyler Technologies. The system was intended to replace existing case management software in State Court, Superior Court, Magistrate Court and Recorder's Court. The system will also add an integrated financial or "general ledger" component for the courts. The County's external auditor has noted the lack of an integrated financial component as an audit finding for the past several years.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. In September 2014 the Board approved the purchase of software and related services for the various courts. The system, called Odyssey, is being provided by Tyler Technologies. The initial cost for software and related services, including implementation, was \$2,619,183.
2. Probate Court was not included in the initial scope of work. Within the past two months, Probate Court has expressed their willingness to implement the Odyssey product and has participated in a software demonstration.
3. The Clerk of Superior Court requested pricing from Tyler to include Probate Court in the implementation. The price is \$268,774 and includes data conversion, implementation and training. Annual maintenance costs will remain unchanged from the current agreement.
4. The adjusted cost for the Odyssey implementation would be:

Initial contract approved 9/26/14	\$2,619,183
Change Order 1 - Probate Court	<u>268,774</u>
Revised contract total	<u>\$2,887,957</u>

The initial contract costs will be split with the City of Savannah 50-50. Additional costs for vendor travel (\$172,316) will also be split with the City. Annual maintenance and support costs will be paid 75% by the County and 25% by the City. The County will pay 100% of the cost of Change Order 1.
5. The scope of work indicates that Probate Court would be first on the Tyler work plan for

system implementation.

6. By participating with the other courts, Probate Court will share licenses and databases with other courts and have a fully-integrated financial system tied to case files and/or individuals. Complete audit trails are another feature of the system.

FUNDING: CIP - Judicial Case Management System - \$268,774
(3502180 52.25001 35030670 - pending a budget adjustment for the City of Savannah's portion of the Recorder's Court case management system)

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The expansion of the system into Probate Court will provide operational efficiencies to Probate Court in terms of both financial and case management, and will also provide connectivity with the other courts.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Authorize the contract amendment with Tyler Technologies to add the Odyssey system to Probate Court, or
2. Provide other direction.

RECOMMENDATION:

Alternative 1 is recommended.

=====

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.

Commissioner Thomas said, now we've come -- come to the Action Calendar. Number 1, approval of the minutes of the regular meeting on February 27, 2015 as mailed.

Commissioner Farrell said, we can just do them all at the same time.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay. We'll do them all at the same time. Okay.

Commissioner Farrell said, yeah. I make a motion that we approve the entire action calendar as written.

Commissioner Stone said, second.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, may we --

Commissioner Farrell said, unless anybody wants to pull something.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I would like to pull Item 7 (H) if possible.

Commissioner Thomas said, 7 (H)?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, (H). Yes.

Commissioner Farrell said, except -- except for item (H) in -- in 7.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay.

Commissioner Farrell said, 7 (H).

Commissioner Stone said, second the motion.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay. All in favor of the said motion, please vote. Okay, with the exception of Item -- what was that now?

County Manager Smith said, (H)

Commissioner Center said, 7 (H).

Commissioner Thomas said, (H).

Commissioner Farrell said, I make a motion that we approve 7 (H).

Commissioner Center said, second.

Commissioner Thomas said, any discussion?

Commissioner Center said, Dean?

Commissioner Farrell said, Dean?

Commissioner Thomas said, Dean?

Commissioner Farrell said, any discussion on 7 (H)?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, sorry. 7 (H), I just want to be consistent.

Commissioner Farrell said, he always votes against the Aquatic Center.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I just want to be consistent with 7 (H) where I've been for the past 15 years. I think that our Aquatic Center is structured in a manner in which too many tax dollars goes down the drain, and 7 (H) is yet another half a million dollars for a filter, sand filter, I guess.

County Manager Smith said, HVAC. Something that's been on CIP for a number of years --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yeah.

County Manager Smith said, -- and I went out, and it's shutting down. I mean it really is.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. Well, I've sat here when prior Commissions paid \$115,000 for a door that was later removed, replaced roofs, and -- and the operating expenses are still out of control, and I really hope that one day we'll take a look at this as if we were some type of business to at least minimize our losses out there. And -- somebody can make a motion to approve it.

Commissioner Farrell said, it's already been made.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay.

County Manager Smith said, just to comment. The -- and we understand as a -- as a staff those issues, and the one thing we'll continue to do in the budget process is to look at those items that we could move into an enterprise type situation and some we can, some we cannot, but we will analyze those on an annual basis and actually give you notes that we can or cannot, if it's possible. So we -- we -- we hear where you're coming from absolutely.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you. I believe -- I believe at last check we were running around \$1.2 million loss every year in operating expenses alone, not including capital expenses, so I -- I think this is good that maybe we'll look at a way to reduce our losses. So.

Commissioner Thomas said, very good observation, and I think they hear you.

County Manager Smith said, we do.

Commissioner Thomas said, and no further discussion, all in favor of the motion to approve, please -- okay. One, two, three, four five, motion approved, right?

Commissioner Farrell said, motion approved.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

- a. Commissioner Farrell moved to approve all items on the Action Calendar, Items 1 through 7 and under Item 7 Items A through H with the exception of Item 7 (H). Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Scott and Commissioner Brady were not present.]
- b. Commissioner Farrell moved to approve item 7 (H), request Board approval to award a \$494,500 construction contract to Y-Delta, Inc., for the Chatham County Aquatic Center Sand Filter and Make Up Air Unit replacement. Commissioner Center seconded the motion and it carried in a 5-2 vote. Commissioners Stone, Holmes, Center, Farrell, and Thomas voted yes and Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter voting no. [NOTE: Chairman Scott and Commissioner Brady were not present.]

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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 FEBRUARY 27, 2015, AS MAILED.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Farrell moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 27, 2015, as mailed. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Scott and Commissioner Brady were not present.]

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2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD FEBRUARY 19, 2015 THROUGH MARCH 4, 2015.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Farrell moved to authorize the Finance Director to pay the claims against the County for the period of February 19, 2015 through March 4, 2015, in the amount of \$5,425,231. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Scott and Commissioner Brady were not present.]

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3. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH COASTAL GEORGIA INDICATORS COALITION RELATED TO THE COUNTY'S MEMBERSHIP IN THE COALITION.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Farrell moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with Coastal Georgia Indicators Coalition related to the County's membership in the coalition. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Scott and Commissioner Brady were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-3
AGENDA DATE: March 13, 2015

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: Lee Smith, County Manager
FROM: Linda B. Cramer, Assistant County Manager

ISSUE:

Board approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with Coastal Georgia Indicators Coalition related to the County's membership in the coalition.

BACKGROUND:

House Bill 491 (1997) required the Georgia Department of Community Affairs (DCA) to publish community indicators for local governments. DCA requires local communities to develop these indicators and include them within their Comprehensive Plan. Since 2009 the County has served as an Executive Partner/Sponsor of the Coalition.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. In 2009 the Board of Commissioners partnered with the United Way of the Coastal Empire and the City of Savannah to fund a community indicators feasibility study with Armstrong State University that measured the availability of desired community indicators.
2. Since 2009 the community has joined to form the Coastal Georgia Indicators Coalition. The purpose of the Coalition is to streamline community efforts in obtaining and reporting local community information. Data obtained can be used to analyze community needs. In addition, the data can be used in federal reporting and grant applications. Current members of the coalition include the United Way of the Coastal Empire, City of Savannah, Memorial Health University, St. Joseph's/Candler Health System, Medical College of Georgia-Savannah, Savannah State University, Step-Up Savannah, Youth Futures Authority, the Chatham County Health Department, the Metropolitan Planning Commission

and the Chatham County Safety Net Planning Council.

3. Indicator data is compiled in the following general focus areas:
 - A) Education
 - B) Economic Independence
 - C) Health and Wellness
 - D) Quality of Life
4. Members are requested to provide either in-kind services or funding for the program. Funding is utilized for the website portal and accumulation of related data.
5. The annual cost for an executive partner is \$17,000. United Way, the City of Savannah and Chatham County serve as executive partners/sponsors with the Coalition. The Agreement has been forwarded to the County Attorney's office for review. The agreement will automatically renew unless the Board of CGIC provides notification.
6. The Coalition is also the lead agency for the County's community strategic planning efforts, which fall under a separate contract.

FUNDING:

Funds are budgeted in the General Fund - Special Appropriations account.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

Development of community indicators is necessary to meet the requirement of House Bill 491.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the County and the Coastal Georgia Indicators Coalition to ensure the County's continued role as a Sponsor of the Coalition, or
2. Provide staff with other direction.

RECOMMENDATION:

Alternative 1 is recommended.



MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

This Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is entered by and between Coastal Georgia Indicators Coalition, hereafter referred to as "CGIC" and Chatham County Board of Commissioners, hereafter referred to as "County".

The purpose of this MOA is to specify arrangement and deliverables associated with the work of CGIC. It is understood by both parties that this agreement may be open for negotiations annually and may be amended anytime during the effective period provided there is mutual consent expressed by both parties.

Chatham County agrees to:

- Serve as a CGIC Sponsor by providing \$17,000 annually for participation in the decision-making process.
- Provide a representative to serve on the Executive Leadership team, participate in CGIC activities and sub-committees, and attend community events deemed significant to the work of the CGIC.
- Encourage use of the community indicators website for data collection and reference the site in reports, presentations and other media.
- Incorporate the community strategic plan priorities into the individual organization plan where appropriate and seek to implement strategies for community impact where applicable.
- Provide support in the understanding and clarity of data that the organization is most directly connected to and ensure point of contact for reference to the data is that specific to your organization.
- Represent CGIC throughout the community, Chatham County and Coastal Empire; through advocacy and public policy that reflects positively on the CGIC.

CGIC agrees to:

- Provide organization logo on the sponsor page of the website and acknowledge sponsorship during public venues. Provide and acknowledge partnership where appropriate in electronic format, social media and print.
- Maintain a public, user-friendly, up-to-date web site with community level indicators and report tools.
- Investigate creative fund raising opportunities to sustain the convening, planning,

implementing and evaluation of a community strategic plan; which supports the work of the CGIC.

- Host regular meetings and ensure consistent communication from leadership and throughout the Coalition through emails, newsletters, meetings, social media, etc.
- Annual updates on work completed to date and plan for sustainability and expansion of projects.
- Provide oral and written presentations to sponsor and/or partner organizations upon request in a timely manner for awareness, clarification and engagement of the community.

The effective date of this agreement is January 1, 2015. Both parties agree to automatic annual renewal of the agreement each January 1st thereafter for a period of four years, until December 31, 2019. Either party can terminate the agreement effective for the next calendar period with 60 days written notice provided to the other party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, both parties have caused this Agreement to be duly approved by their proper officers and so attest to their signature set hereto.

CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

BY: _____
Albert J. Scott, Chairman
Board of Commissioners

ATTEST: _____
Janice Bocook
Clerk of Commission

[SEAL]

COASTAL GEORGIA INDICATORS COALITION

BY: _____
Tara Jennings, Executive Director

APPROVED AS TO LEGAL FORM:

BY: _____
R. Jonathan Hart
County Attorney

=====

4. REQUEST AUTHORIZATION FOR CHAIRMAN TO EXECUTE APPLICATION FOR THE STATE OF GEORGIA ACCOUNTABILITY COURT FUNDING PROGRAM FY16 GRANT SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF THE CHATHAM COUNTY JUVENILE COURT’S FAMILY DEPENDENCY TREATMENT COURT.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Farrell moved to approve the authorization for the Chairman to execute the application for the State of Georgia Accountability Court Funding Program FY16 grant submitted on behalf of the Chatham County Juvenile Court’s Family Dependency Treatment Court. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Scott and Commissioner Brady were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-4
AGENDA DATE: March 13, 2015

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: Lee Smith, County Manager
FROM: Adam Kennedy, Juvenile Court Administrator

ISSUE:
Request authorization for the Chairman to execute the application for the State of Georgia Accountability Court Funding Program FY ‘16 grant submitted on behalf of the Chatham County Juvenile Court’s Family Dependency Treatment Court (FDTC).

BACKGROUND:

The Georgia Accountability Court (GAC) Funding Program was created in 2012 by the Georgia Legislature and by Governor Nathan Deal to provide courts with critical funding necessary to support the growth of Accountability Courts in Georgia to reduce the prison population. The application deadline is 5:00 p.m. on March 27, 2015. The grant requires that the Chairman of the County Commission sign the grant application at the time of the submission.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. At the direction of the Accountability Court Funding Committee, the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council is seeking applications for competitive funding for qualified new and existing Accountability Courts in the State of Georgia.
2. Applicants are limited to local entities for new and existing Accountability Courts. The Chatham County Juvenile Court's Family Dependency Treatment Court (FDTC) wishes to apply for this grant.
3. The application deadline is 5:00 p.m. on March 27, 2015.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Authorize Chairman to execute application for State of Georgia Accountability Court Funding Program FY'16 grant.
2. Do not authorize Chairman to execute application for State of Georgia Accountability Court Funding Program FY'16 grant.

FUNDING:

There is a 10% match required as part of this grant but the match will be covered (in-kind) without any additional cost to the County.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The Governor and the State legislature has provided funding to assist counties in implementing evidence based programs that are designed to reduce the prison population. The County and its at risk families would benefit from the implementation of such programs in Chatham County.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board adopt Alternative #1.

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5. **REQUEST APPROVAL FOR FOUR STATE GRANT APPLICATIONS TO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR THE ACCOUNTABILITY COURTS LISTED ABOVE AND AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN ANY DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE GRANT APPLICATIONS AND SUBSEQUENT AWARDS.**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Farrell moved for approval for four state grant applications to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for the Accountability Courts listed above and authorize the Chairman to sign any documents related to the grant applications and subsequent awards. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Scott and Commissioner Brady were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-5
AGENDA DATE: March 13, 2015

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: Lee Smith, County Manager

FROM: Jean Cottier, Coordinator, Savannah-Chatham County Drug Court

Steve Brown, Coordinator, Chatham-Savannah Veteran's Treatment Court and Chatham Savannah Mental Health Court

David Wood, Coordinator, Chatham County DUI Court

Crystal Cooper, Superior Court Administrator

Brian Hart, State Court Administrator

ISSUE:

To request Board approval for four state grant applications to the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for the Accountability Courts listed above and authorize the Chairman to sign any documents related to the grant applications and subsequent awards. Additionally upon awards, we request account codes and project numbers be assigned.

BACKGROUND:

In prior years, the Commission has approved the Accountability Courts' applications and receipts of grant funding from other federal and state agencies providing financial support to the program.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The four adult (Superior and State Courts) Accountability Courts are applying for funding from the State of Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for FY 2016. The application will request services to continue operation of the Accountability courts for a one year period.
2. The County is named as local fiscal sponsor for the grant.
3. The Commission Chairman is named the Authorized Representative for the grant.
4. There is a 10% match requirement which will be executed in kind with budget items currently in place.

FUNDING:

The grants receipts and disbursements will be reflected in the Multiple Grant Fund.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. That the Board approve the grant applications and authorize the Chairman to sign any document related to the grant application and subsequent awards; or
2. That the Board deny approval and provide other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The Criminal Justice Coordinating Council requires that awards be administered by a unit of local government.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board approve Alternative 1.

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6. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVE A REQUEST FROM MR. JUAN EADY FOR THE COUNTY TO DECLARE A PORTION OF ENTELMAN STREET RIGHT OF WAY AS SURPLUS AND TO QUITCLAIM THE RIGHT OF WAY.
[DISTRICT 5.]**

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Farrell moved to approve a request from Mr. Juan Eady for the county to declare a portion of Entelman Street right of way as surplus and to quitclaim the right of way. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Scott and Commissioner Brady were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-6

AGENDA DATE: March 13, 2015

TO: Board of Commissioners

THRU: Lee Smith, County Manager

FROM: Leon Davenport, P.E., County Engineer

ISSUE:

To present to the request Board a request from Mr. Juan Eady for the County to declare a portion of Entelman Street right of way (ROW) as surplus and to quitclaim the ROW.

BACKGROUND:

The petitioner owns the parcels (PIN 1-0748-06-002 and 1-0702-18-001) adjacent to the requested ROW. Refer to the map attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file). The requested portion of Entelman Street is unopened. Staff evaluated the ROW and determined it is not needed for drainage or roadway purposes.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The location of the request is shown on the map attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file). Mr. Eady requests quitclaim of the ROW. The ROW is approximately 0.09 acres in area.
2. Staff evaluated the ROW and determined the right-of-way is not needed for drainage or roadway purpose.
3. The petitioner was notified of the quitclaim consideration and advised as to the date and time of this meeting.
4. If approved, the petitioner must pay the County the fair market value for the ROW to be determined by a professional appraiser, deed, and plat all at his expense. The appraiser must be a State Certified General Appraiser by the State Real Estate Appraisers Board. Staff will review the submitted appraisal, deed and plat for completeness and reasonableness before the deed is sent to the County Clerk for processing and the fair market value payment check is sent to Finance for deposit.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. To approve a request from Mr. Juan Eady for the County to declare a portion of Entelman Street right-of-way (ROW) as surplus and to quitclaim the ROW.
2. Do not approve the request.

POLICY ANALYSIS:

The Board must declare County property surplus and approve all quitclaim actions.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Commissioners adopt Alternative No. 1.

District 5

PREPARED BY: Suzanne Cooler, P.E.

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

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

- a. Commissioner Farrell moved for approval to award bids as follows with the exception of Item H: (Please note that new purchase thresholds of \$10,000 or more have been enacted; however, contracts and change orders of a lesser amount still will appear.) Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Scott and Commissioner Brady were not present.]
- b. Commissioner Farrell moved to approve item 7 (H), request Board approval to award a \$494,500 construction contract to Y-Delta, Inc., for the Chatham County Aquatic Center Sand Filter and Make Up Air Unit replacement. Commissioner Center seconded the motion and it carried in a 6-1 vote with Commissioner Kicklighter being the lone no vote. [NOTE: Chairman Scott and Commissioner Brady were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: X-7 A thru H
AGENDA DATE: March 13, 2015

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 to renew the \$120,000 annual contract with Aon Hewitt Consulting to provide Group Healthcare and Employee Plan Consulting Services.

BACKGROUND: At the March 12, 2010 meeting, the Board approved a contract with Aon Hewitt to provide Group Healthcare and Employee Benefit Plan Consulting Services. Aon Hewitt provides a full range of services related to evaluation, design, implementation, maintenance, communication, and improvement of benefit programs that are currently offering, or may be offered in the future to employees and retirees.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Aon Hewitt provides services related to health plan design, analysis, and strategic planning for employees and retirees. In addition, Aon Hewitt was instrumental in leading Chatham County's efforts to open an Employee Health Center, and continues to be a strategic partner with the County in analyzing health center operations and utilization, which will be key as the County nears the end of its first full year of health center operations.
2. Aon Hewitt provided the actuarial and plan design work for significant changes to the County's health insurance plan that went into effect January 1, 2015, and will be assisting the County with analyzing any cost savings related to the plan design changes. Aon is also assisting the County with compliance issues related to the Affordable Care Act.
3. The County is currently working with Aon Hewitt to review and analyze potential changes to the health plan for retirees, which are being considered for the 2016 plan year.
4. Staff has been pleased with the performance of Aon Hewitt since the inception of this contract. Staff believes that a disruption in the services provided by Aon at this time would cause a delay in progress of important health related initiatives.

FUNDING: Insurance Plans
(6509130 - 52.12001)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval to renew the \$120,000 annual contract with Aon Hewitt Consulting to provide Group Healthcare and Employee Plan Consulting Services.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to award consulting services contracts to firms that are able to enhance employee well-being in a cost effective manner.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
MELVA SHARPE

ITEM B

ISSUE: Request Board approval to amend the contracts with Nationwide Financial and ICMA to offer the Roth 457(b) investment plan to employees.

BACKGROUND: Chatham County currently has a contract with Nationwide Financial and ICMA to provide traditional 457(b) investment services to employees. A 457(b) plan is a pre-tax savings vehicle that allows employees to defer up to \$18,000 or 10% of their wages to an investment account on an annual basis. A Roth 457(b) plan is similar to the traditional plan, except that deferrals are made on an after-tax basis.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. Chatham County offers 457(b) investment plans to its employees through Nationwide Financial and ICMA. Employees may elect to save up to \$18,000 or 10% of their pay per year in a 457(b) investment account. Traditional 457(b) plans defer savings on a pre-tax basis, which reduces employees' income tax liability during employment. Members pay taxes on distributions from the plan.
2. A Roth 457(b) is similar to a traditional plan, except that the employee's contributions to the plan are made on an after-tax basis. Because taxes on deferrals are paid at the time of deferral, distributions from a Roth 457(b) plan made at retirement are tax free.

3. The 457(b) plans are entirely employee-funded, and Chatham County does not contribute to these plans.
4. The current 457(b) arrangements with Nationwide and ICMA do not contain a provision for a Roth 457(b) plan. Numerous employees have requested that the County add the Roth 457(b) vehicle to the plan to provide them with options and more flexibility in retirement planning. Staff has reviewed the Roth 457(b) provisions, and believes that it would be a sound addition to the 457(b) plan.

FUNDING: No funding required.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval to amend the contracts with Nationwide Financial and ICMA to offer the Roth 457(b) investment plan to employees.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to provide benefits that contribute to the financial well-being of employees.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
MELVA SHARPE

ITEM C

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$13,980 Deductive Summary Change Order No.1 to the construction contract with L-J, Inc., on the Pipemakers Canal Double 24" Pipe Replacement project.

BACKGROUND: The Pipemakers Canal Double 24" Pipe Replacement Project is part of the 1998-2003 SPLOST Drainage Program. Problems addressed by the project include replacement of undersized and deteriorated storm drain pipes and elevation of the maintenance roadway to reduce periods of inundation.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The Board awarded the project to replace existing storm drain pipes and raise the elevation of the maintenance road on September 12, 2014. Construction began October 28, 2014. The project was determined to be substantially complete on January 27, 2015 and all punchlist items are completed.
2. The construction contract was awarded on a unit price basis. As construction progressed, some quantity totals exceeded the contract amount, while others were less than the contract amount. In addition, field conditions resulted in the addition of new items to fully complete the work. The summary change order results from measurement of final quantities installed at unit prices as well as adjustments to lump sum items resulting from field changes.
3. Contract History:

Original Contract (9-12-14)	\$212,426
Change Order No. 1 (pending)	-13,980
Revised Contract Amount	\$ 198,446

FUNDING: No additional funding required.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$13,980 Deductive Summary Change Order No.1 to the construction contract with L-J, Inc., on the Pipemakers Canal Double 24" Pipe Replacement project.
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 _____
ESTELLE BROWN

ITEM D

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$54,300 Change Order No. 2 to the engineering services contract with Thomas & Hutton Engineering Company (T&H) for professional engineering services for the

Gateway/Henderson Canal Drainage Improvement project.

BACKGROUND: The Gateway/Henderson Canal Drainage Improvement project is part of the 2008-2014 SPLOST Drainage Program. The Gateway/Henderson watershed consists of approximately 700 areas located in the northeast quadrant of State Route 204 and Interstate 95. The project will define problem areas, design and implement conveyance improvements and provide maintenance access to the system. The original contract and Change Order No. 1 included surveys, wetland detention, preliminary design, final design of improvements, additional wetland an environmental permitting and construction period services. Change Order 2 will increase funding to cover additional costs associated with wetland and environmental permitting and design revisions resulting from agency review comments.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The original scope of work for the project provided for engineering services, wetland permitting, completion of a design hydrologic/hydraulic report, and preparation of preliminary engineering design. The Board approved a contract to T&H for this scope of work on July 26, 2013.
2. Following review of the preliminary submittals and improvement alternates, staff concluded that moving forward with the selected improvements to conveyance and access will maximize benefits for the impacted areas. Completion of final engineering design, permitting other than wetlands, development of contract documents and assistance during construction were needed to accomplish this. Chatham Order No. 1 to the existing contract with T&H (approved by Board on May 9, 2014), provided support for these actions.
3. As work proceeded on the project it became evident that the scope of services needed to obtain the required environmental permits, including removal of some wetland areas from protective covenants, was more involved than anticipated. Also, the amount of design effort required to satisfy reviewing agencies, including Chatham County, was greater than anticipated. Change Order No. 2 will provide funds to cover the costs of these increased efforts.
4. State law allows contracting with the original professional engineering consulting firm used for previous studies and plans without further competitive process when those existing studies and plan can be used. It is the opinion of staff that soliciting proposals from engineering firms at large will not result in lower cost or better service to the County, and will result in more time and cost required to coordinate and finish the design work.
5. Staff solicited a proposal from T&H (dated February 27, 2015) and find that the level of service is in accordance with anticipated needs and that the cost represents fair compensation for the work provided.
6. Contract History:

Original Contract	(7-26-13)	\$ 80,000
Change Order No. 1	(5-9-14)	84,100
Change Order No. 2	(pending)	<u>54,300</u>
Revised Contract Amount		\$218,400

FUNDING: SPLOST (2008-2014) - Drainage, Gateway/Henderson Drainage Project
(3244220 - 52.12003 - 32480623)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$54,300 Change Order No. 2 to the engineering services contract with Thomas & Hutton Engineering Company (T&H) for professional engineering services for the Gateway/Henderson Canal Drainage Improvement project.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____

MARK BUCALO

ITEM E

ISSUE: Request Board approval to award a \$15,000 annual contract with renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms with SeeClickFix, Inc., for a Citizen Request Management System.

BACKGROUND: The Citizens Request Management System will provide citizens with an easy way to report issues, such as potholes and graffiti, to their County government and provide a higher level of

government transparency. This type of interactive system provides citizens with visibility of known issues, a feeling of empowerment, and facilitates more efficient response.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. This solution will provide citizens with a “Chatham County” app for mobile devices that they can use to accurately report issues with associated GIS information and photographs.
2. This will be a hosted software as a Solution (SaaS) and will not require any additional hardware to be purchased.
3. This system enables citizens to report issues 24/7/365, and should reduce the number of services request calls.
4. The Request for Proposals was properly advertised and four (4) responses were received. The proposals were evaluated and scored by the evaluation committee. See attached matrix on page 9.

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Total Score</u>	<u>Fee</u>
PublicStuff, Inc New York, NY	73	\$11,400/year
WebQA Woodbridge, IL	50	\$12,400/year
SeeClickFix, Inc New Haven, CT	80	\$15,000/year
Qsend Technologies Waterbury, CT	45	\$45,088/year

5. The RFP requested pricing for all 5 years of the contract and fee proposals were evaluated based on the 5 year cost. SeeClickFix, Inc., proposed an annual cost for FY 2015 of \$15,000; FY 2016 \$15,000; FY 2017 \$15,450; FY 2018 \$15,914; FY 2019 \$16,391. The maximum escalation cap for future years is 3%. The evaluation committee believes the proposal from SeeClickFix, Inc., to be the best value for the County.

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

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval to award a \$15,000 annual contract with renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms with SeeClickFix, Inc., for a Citizen Request Management System.
2. Provide staff other direction.

POLICY ANALYSIS: It is consistent with Board policy to approve the purchase of essential software that will facilitate citizen interaction.

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

I.C.S. APPROVAL _____
NICK BATEY

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
RUSHEDA ADESHINA

ITEM F

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$445,295 construction contract with McLendon Enterprises, Inc., for the Wahlstrom Road Drainage Improvements project.

BACKGROUND: The section of Wahlstrom Road between the CSX Railroad tracks and the Savannah River is in an area of industrial development. The drainage system which currently serves the roadway and surrounding properties is undersized and is located on private property with no easement.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The project is located in the Wahlstrom Road Right-of-way from north of the CSX tracks to the Savannah River.
2. The project will construct a new storm drainage system to serve the roadway and contributory

adjacent properties. The project will install a new storm drainage system of pipes and structures within the right-of-way to the eventual outfall, improving drainage and providing easier access for maintenance.

3. The project was properly advertised and five bids were received and opened on February 24, 2015. The bid results are as follows:

	McLendon Enterprises, Inc. Vidalia, GA	\$445,295
**	Potter Construction, LLC Guyton, GA	\$478,900
*	Sandhill A.L.S. Construction, Inc. Pt. Wentworth, GA	\$537,600
	L-J, Inc. Columbia, S.C.	\$553,900
**	E&D Contracting Services, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$555,902
	*MBE **WBE	

FUNDING: SPLOST (2003-2008) - Roadway, Wahlstrom Road (Pending Board Approval of Budget Transfer)
(3234250 - 52.12003 - 32356627)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$445,295 construction contract with McLendon Enterprises, Inc., for the Wahlstrom Road Drainage Improvements project.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
MARK BUCALO

ITEM G

ISSUE: Request Board approval of a \$33,845 purchase of one (1) 2014 Kubota tractor from Hendrix Machinery, Inc., for Public Works and Park Services, and declare one (1) tractor as surplus and approval to sell at public auction or to dispose as scrap material.

BACKGROUND: The purchase of this tractor will replace one (1) tractor that is old and beyond economical repair. The new tractor will be utilized by the Solid Waste Section for maintenance at the drop-off centers.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. On January 16, 2015, the Board approved a purchase of four (4) Kubota tractors from Hendrix Machinery, Inc. based on pricing provided from a formal solicitation. Those four (4) tractors are to be utilized for roadside maintenance.
2. In February, the tractor being utilized by the Solid Waste Section became inoperable and was unable to be repaired economically.
3. Hendrix Machinery, Inc., has confirmed they will honor their bid pricing for the purchase of the new tractor.
4. The purchase of this tractor will replace one (1) with high mileage that is beyond economical repair. The equipment to be declared surplus is:

<u>Unit #</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Vin #</u>
11	1994 Mowing Tractor	BD42285

5. Staff believes the total cost of \$33,845, to be fair and reasonable.

FUNDING: Solid Waste (Pending Board Approval of Budget Transfer)
(5404501 - 54.22001)

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval of a \$33,845 purchase of one (1) 2014 Kubota tractor from Hendrix Machinery, Inc., for Public Works and Park Services, and declare one (1) tractor as surplus and approval to sell at public auction or to dispose as scrap material.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

ITEM H

ISSUE: Request Board approval to award a \$494,500 construction contract to Y-Delta, Inc., for the Chatham County Aquatic Center Sand Filter and Make Up Air Unit replacement.

BACKGROUND: The Chatham County Aquatic Center is a year round indoor facility with two (2) pools. The 50 meter pool is open to swim teams, water aerobics and lap swimming. It is a competitive pool that meets the standards set by USA Swimming. The recreational pool is a warm water pool used for water aerobics, swim lessons, recreational swimming and swim teams. Both pools require a filtration system to sanitize the pool per Health Department codes.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. The project was properly advertised and two (2) bids were received and opened on January 27, 2015. The bids are as follows:

Y - Delta, Inc. Statesboro, GA	\$494,500
* Pioneer Construction, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$513,910
* MBE firm	

2. There were seven (7) deduct alternates as part of the bid. Staff decided to use all seven (7) of the deduct alternates. The bids shown are the dollar amounts after the deduct were implemented. The order of the bidders did not change.

FUNDING: CIP - Aquatic Center
(3506124 - 3503601) \$219,500 (Pending Board Approval of Budget Transfer)
(3506124 - 3506002) \$275,000

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Board approval to award a \$494,500 construction contract to Y-Delta, Inc., for the Chatham County Aquatic Center Sand Filter and Make Up Air Unit replacement.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

BUDGET APPROVAL _____
CHRIS MORRIS

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.

1. BOARD CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES TO INCLUDE IN AN ORDINANCE TO ALLOW MOTORIZED CARTS (GOLF CARTS ONLY) TO TRAVEL ON CERTAIN STREETS, PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY OR PORTIONS OF NEIGHBORHOODS TO BE DESIGNATED AS MOTORIZED CART DISTRICTS.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay. We have First Readings, and as you know, we do not have any discussions on -- on our First Readings. Second Reading --

Commissioner Farrell said, you've got to read it --

Commissioner Thomas said, oh.

Commissioner Farrell said, -- into the record.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you. For the record, First Reading, Board consideration of an ordin -- ordinance to allow motorized carts, golf carts only, to travel on certain streets, public rights of way or portions of neighborhoods to be designated as motorized cart districts. Now I know that there were some people that wanted have some discussion on this, but --

County Manager Smith said, no discussion, but, Madam Chairman, the one thing I'm not sure if we do this or not, but the one thing we should be in practice of, and we'll make sure if not, we will do it today, is to make sure that anything that will be coming on a First or Second Reading, that it's in it's entirety and all back up will be on line for people to view --

Commissioner Thomas said, exactly.

County Manager Smith said, -- so they don't have to come to the courthouse or to a library, just to make it as easy as possible. So we'll make sure that it is there, and they can link from the front page.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you.

Commissioner Farrell said, great.

Commissioner Thomas said, very good observation.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you. That's -- that's good.

Commissioner Farrell said, that's good.

Commissioner Thomas said, that's wonderful. That's wonderful. Thank you --

County Manager Smith said, sure.

Commissioner Thomas said, -- Mr. Manager.

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XII. SECOND READINGS

1. BOARD CONSIDERATION OF THE ADOPTION OF AN ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO THE HENDERSON GOLF COURSE SO AS NOT TO PERMIT WALKING, RUNNING, EXERCISING, OR HAVING DOMESTIC ANIMALS WITH YOU ON THE GOLF CART PATHS AND TRAILS OF THE GOLF COURSE DURING OPERATIONAL HOURS.

Commissioner Thomas said, now we come to the Second Readings. Number one, Board consideration of the adoption of an Ordinance pertaining to the Henderson Golf Course so as not to permit walking, running, exercising or having domestic animals with you on the golf cart path and trails of the golf course during operational hours. Are there any discussions?

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes.

Commissioner Thomas said, Commissioner Shabazz.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes. I was -- I was supposed to have a Ms. Cook here this morning. Is -- is she here? Well -- well, she's not here.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I wanted her to express her concerns about things going on with the golf course. She lives adjacent to the golf course. I think she spoke with --

County Manager Smith said, I -- I've spoken with her twice by phone. The staff has visited with her at long -- a -- along with the contractor, and we exchanged emails.

Commissioner Shabazz said, right, but she -- I think she --

County Manager Smith said, she was one of the ones that said we needed some sort of -- some teeth in the ordinance to help protect that area and those around it. So that's really what brought that up and -- and your phone calls. Yes, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, uh-huh. Okay.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay. Okay. Thank you.

Commissioner Farrell said, I'll make a motion.

Commissioner Thomas said, do I hear a motion.

Commissioner Farrell said, motion to --

Commissioner Thomas said, approve?

Commissioner Farrell said, -- to approve the Second Reading as read.

Commissioner Stone said, second.

Commissioner Thomas said, all in favor be let it known by your vote. Thank you. The motion is carried.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, and if I can on this ordinance, this particular ordinance is -- is pretty much in line with every golf course in the country, right? I mean it's not allowed on any --

County Attorney Hart said, no.

County Manager Smith said, it's pretty generic.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. I just --

County Attorney Hart said, it -- it's -- it's really -- we're not trying to be the golf course police.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, right.

County Attorney Hart said, but occasionally you just have people who just abuse the right and they -- during golfing hours they're jogging or walking their dog, and it's a -- it's a dangerous situation, and usually the -- the golf cart ranger on the course will warn them and ask them to leave. Ninety-nine percent of the time they listen, one percent they don't.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, right.

County Attorney Hart said, this gives us the ability to assist them in remembering to leave.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I just wanted the public to realize that.

County Attorney Hart said, sure.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, because I'm sure because someone that walks their dog will be angry when they hear that that passed, but that's normal everywhere, so.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Farrell moved to approve the adoption of an Ordinance pertaining to the Henderson Golf Course so as not to permit walking, running, exercising or having domestic animals with you on the golf cart path and trails of the golf course during operational hours. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Scott and Commissioner Brady were not present.]

AGENDA ITEM: ~~XII-1~~
AGENDA DATE: ~~February 27, 2015~~
AGENDA ITEM: XII-1
AGENDA DATE: March 13, 2015

TO: Board of Commissioners
THRU: Lee Smith, County Manager
FROM: R. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney

ISSUE:

For consideration to create an ordinance pertaining to the Henderson Golf Course complex making it impermissible to walk, run, exercise or have domestic animals with you on any golf cart path or trail of the Henderson Golf Course during the hours of operation in which the golf course is open to the public for play.

BACKGROUND:

A request has been made by Robert Drewry, Director of Public Works and Park Services, for the County to consider an ordinance prohibiting persons from walking, running, exercising or have a domestic animal with them upon the golf cart paths and other trails of the Henderson Golf Course during operational hours of the golf course open to the general public to play. The creation of a \$50.00 fine for trespassing during operational hours for walking, running, exercising or having a domestic animal upon the golf cart paths and other trails of the Henderson Golf course during operating hours.

FACTS AND FINDINGS:

1. A request has been made by Robert Drewry, Director of Public Works and Park Services, for the County to consider an ordinance prohibiting persons from walking, running, exercising or have a domestic animal with them upon the golf cart paths and other trails of the Henderson Golf Course during operational hours of the golf course open to the general public to play.
2. The creation of a \$50.00 fine for trespassing during operational hours for walking, running, exercising or having a domestic animal upon the golf cart paths and other trails of the Henderson Golf course during operating hours.
3. A copy of the proposed amendment to Chapter 23 of the Chatham County Code of Ordinances would be amended so as to create Section 23-101.4 which would read in its entirety as follows:

"It shall be unlawful for any individual to walk, run, exercise or have a domestic animal with said individual upon a golf cart path or trails of the Henderson Golf Course during operational hours of the course and when the golf course is open to play. Any individual found walking, running, exercising or having a domestic animal with said individual during regular operational hours upon the golf cart paths or trails of the Henderson Golf Course will be considered trespassing and subject to a \$50.00 fine. The exception shall be for service animals of members or guests of the golf course."

POLICY ANALYSIS:

Henderson Golf Course has had persistent complaints from golfers concerning individual citizens walking, running, exercising with themselves or their domestic animals on golf cart paths contiguous to the golf holes, so as to potentially create a hazard of individuals being struck by golf balls during the hours which the golf course is opened to the public.

FUNDING:

N/A

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Create an ordinance pertaining to the Henderson Golf Course complex making it impermissible to run, walk or have domestic animals with you on any golf cart path or trail of the Henderson Golf Course during the hours of operation in which the golf course is open to the public for play.
2. Do not create an ordinance pertaining to the Henderson Golf Course complex making it impermissible to run, walk or have domestic animals with you on any golf cart path or trail of the Henderson Golf Course during the hours of operation in which the golf course is open to the public for play.

RECOMMENDATION:

Alternative 1.

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XIII. INFORMATION ITEMS**1. PROGRESS REPORT ON GENERAL FUND CONTINGENCY ACCOUNT - M&O AND THE SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT (SEE ATTACHED).****ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

A status report was attached as information.

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

A status report was attached as information.

AGENDA ITEM: XIII-2

AGENDA DATE: March 13, 2015

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

ITEM	DEPT.	SOURCE	AMOUNT	FUNDING
Prisoner transport	Detention Center	U.S. Prisoner Transport	\$3,834	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Furniture for District Attorney's Office	District Attorney	VIP Printing & Office Supply	\$5,825	General Fund/M&O - District Attorney
Unlimited Skillsets online	I.C.S.	Skillsets Online Corporation	\$4,995	General Fund/M&O - I.C.S.
15 kg women's training bar	Weightlifting Center	Werksan Sports USA	\$3,695	General Fund/M&O - Weightlifting
Postal equipment rental for Wilmington Island and Chatham Parkway Tag Office	Tax Commissioner	Pitney Bowes, Inc.	\$3,879	General Fund/M&O - Tax Commissioner
March 2015 tag renewals and postage	Tag Office	World Marketing	\$5,731	General Fund/M&O - Tax Commissioner
February 2015 tax sale ads	Tax Commissioner	Shivers Trading	\$6,745	General Fund/M&O - Tax Commissioner
One-day training on addiction/criminal thinking for staff	Juvenile Court	Advanced Outcomes Consulting Group	\$6,000	MGF - Juvenile Court
25 year anniversary rings female/male	Sheriff's	Randy Roderick & Associates, Inc.	\$3,985	•General Fund/M&O - Sheriff's •General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Portable pitching mounds	Recreation	Plastic Creations, Inc.	\$4,735	General Fund/M&O - Recreation
Graphical network software editor license and maintenance	I.C.S.	Zones, Inc.	\$4,970	General Fund/M&O - I.C.S.
Non-contract printer cartridges	Finance	Staples Business Advantage	\$2,769	General Fund/M&O - Finance
IP telephones and related items	I.C.S.	Mitel Business Systems, Inc.	\$3,976	General Fund/M&O - Communications
2015 Autocad software for Engineering Dept.	I.C.S.	DLT Solutions, LLC	\$3,594	County Engineering Services
Locks and parts for inmate cells and security doors	Detention Center	Cornerstone Institutional	\$8,304	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Commissioner Thomas said, okay.

Commissioner Center said, do you need an executive session?

County Manager Smith said, no, sir. We said we would -- there were some items we would be bringing to you at the next agenda.

Commissioner Thomas said, right.

County Manager Smith said, for exec.

Commissioner Thomas said, right. We will have no executive session today.

County Manager Smith said, correct.

Commissioner Farrell said, meeting adjourned?

Commissioner Thomas said, meeting --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, motion --

Commissioner Shabazz said, question.

Commissioner Shabazz said, He has a question. He has a question.

County Manager Smith said, yeah. We just had two -- just two items we need to bring to the Board as information before we ended today.

Commissioner Thomas said, question? You have a question.

Youth Commissioner Nicholas Williams said, oh, may we entertain questions at this time?

Commissioner Thomas said, I -- I didn't understand you.

Youth Commissioner Williams said, may I entertain a question?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yes.

Commissioner Thomas said, yes.

Youth Commissioner Williams said, okay. Good morning. My name is Nicholas Williams I am a junior from Savannah Early College, and I represent the Chatham County Youth Commission today. Going back to the Second Reading, if I'm allowed to speak on the -- on that item.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yes, sir.

Youth Commissioner Williams said, okay. So just for understanding, the Second Reading is stating for the Board's consideration to adopt the ordinance that would -- that would not allow any domestic animals on any golf course in -- at the Henderson Golf Course, correct? Okay.

County Attorney Hart said, during -- during operation -- operational hours for golf.

Commissioner Center said, during operational hours.

Commissioner Thomas said, during operational hours.

Youth Commissioner Williams said, okay. And that is the only -- is that the only county --

County Attorney Hart said, yes, sir.

Youth Commissioner Williams said, -- golf course?

Commissioner Thomas said, yes, that's the only county --

County Attorney Hart said, yes, sir.

Youth Commissioner Williams said, okay. Okay. Thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, you're welcome. All right.

Commissioner Center said, Isis.

County Manager Smith said, just two items, Madam Chairman, if we could, for just a second. If there's nothing else.

Commissioner Thomas said, I'm sorry. Isis, did you have a question?

Youth Commissioner Isis Howard said, I just wanted to comment on something.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay.

Commissioner Shabazz said, go ahead.

Commissioner Thomas said, she wants to make your comment.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, pull your mike up.

Commissioner Thomas said, pull your mike up, sweetheart.

Youth Commissioner Howard said, I just wanted to comment on the -- the amazing work that you guys are doing right now, and all the hard work that you guys do for the community. Thank you.

Board members collectively said, thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you very much. Okay. All right.

County Manager Smith said, that's nice to hear.

Commissioner Shabazz said, that's a good one.

Commissioner Thomas said, now our County Manager.

County Manager Smith said, yes, ma'am, thank you. I typically would not speak on an issue as it relates to anything in the newspaper or editorial, but I have to do that today, Madam Chairman. I read the editorial, which is the March 13th 2015 --

Commissioner Thomas said, mm-hmm.

County Manager Smith said, -- and I do have to state there was an item, I've shared and discussed with Commissioner Center. I -- first of all, I have to commend the county staff and the Board. We have worked, and I will use the word, tirelessly on the merger issue. I can tell you in my 28 years in county government I have never worked on a project as detailed and as hard as I have on this issue, along with the team, to help understand the impacts to the community so that we can guide this Board to give the best service possible to the folks of the unincorporated area. We need to understand that as a Board of Commissioners you do not have jurisdiction as it retains -- as it pertains to police matters in any unincorporated -- in -- in incorporated areas only in the unincorporated area, therefore, it is our responsibility to provide superior service. The best service at the best cost. The only thing I was really struck by this morning in the editorial was on October 13th -- it says that on October 13th that the City offered to change patrol costs and negotiate those. That was not the case. That has not been done. That's why there is a meeting this afternoon of Linda Cramer, myself, Stephanie Cutter, and their finance individual. We will be meeting to continue negotiations. These items have not been completed. I'm -- I -- at the workshop we detailed with you in about an hour, I guess, about 25 items of which we had major agreement, two to three items that we do not. The patrol costs, the precinct lines, and the issue of --

County Attorney Hart said, CID.

County Manager Smith said, -- yeah, CID, was one, but we're pretty close on CID as it appears right now, and our liabilities as it relates to the employees, and that type thing. Do I think we can continue to have negotiations? Sure we can, but I just needed to make sure we had an understanding that that was not included in that October 13th draft. We had -- had we been offered that, we would probably be complete today with a merger agreement. We're not there yet. So I just needed to comment on that. Like I said, I don't normally do that, but if there's a mistake, we need to call it a mistake.

Commissioner Thomas said, exactly.

County Manager Smith said, so. The next thing is, we're end on a high note. You have in front of you St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee and Team Chatham is all green in many ways, and I will tell you next Tuesday, if you don't ride, we're going to come find you. The only one who said he couldn't do it was Pat Farrell because

he was already on a float. We want you on Team Chatham's float St. Patrick's Day 2015. We're at checkpoint C. We are -- that's at Lincoln and Henry Street. Your team members have built a beautiful float. These folks have had a great time and it is fantastic. So if you don't ride, you are missing out on a great opportunity. We're going to have some kids from Summer Bonanza with us -- a few kids to show -- to highlight some of our programs, but we invite you to be there. I think you'll be very proud. Team Chatham has a stand in this community, and it is that from this as I understand it in my eight months here, it is to make this community better, and that we are a part of this community. So we are asking you to be a part of Team Chatham and be on that float. We have to be there -- you'll see on the times. We need to -- we'll check in and get the float in place. If you have any difficulty as a member getting downtown, we will come get you, and we will make sure that we get you -- because it's going to be hard to get to that area. So just let us know by Monday, and we'll arrange pick up and delivery.

Commissioner Center said, did we negotiate with the city to give them a better position in the parade?

County Manager Smith said, I'm always negotiating. Come on. But we're excited about it. This is a great event. This is a good community event, and we're looking forward to everyone participating. So we look forward to seeing you next Tuesday morning.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Manager. And I just want to thank you and all those that are involved in the merger negotiations and so forth, and I am hoping that we will be able to come to an agreement because it's -- it -- it benefits the -- the -- the citizens of -- of -- of this county. We have always been a county that was always willing to do what was right for our citizens, and I don't see any reason for us not to do that at this point. I know the hard work that has gone in from the county's perspective, and I'm hoping and really praying, and I have prayed, prayed, prayed, believe me. I have prayed that we will be able to come to some kind of conclusion on this, and I don't see any reason why we cannot.

Commissioner Thomas said, and then for the St. Patrick's Day parade, as has been said, we have three of the Summer Bonanza students who will participate, and we have called them Team Summer Bonanza, and they are going to be the three top project winners from 2014 that have the pleasure of riding on the parade -- on the float. Thank you.

County Manager Smith said, yeah, along with the Board.

Commissioner Thomas said, yes. Thank you so very much. Do we have any other comments for any other Commissioner?

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ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Thomas said, at this time I now ask for a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Center said, so moved.

Commissioner Stone said, so moved.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, second.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you. Thank you for --

Commissioner Shabazz said, you did a good job.

Commissioner Thomas said, oh, thank you very much.

ACTION OF THE BOARD:

Commissioner Center moved to adjourn. Commissioner Kicklighter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Scott and Commissioner Brady were not present; Commissioner Farrell was not present for the vote.]

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

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APPROVED: THIS _____ DAY OF MARCH, 2015.

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

JANICE E. BOCOOK, CLERK OF COMMISSION