

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 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**

Chairman Albert J. Scott called the meeting to order at 9:39 a.m. on Friday, November 20, 2015.

Chairman Scott said, good morning and welcome. I'm going to do something a little different while you're standing. I'm going to ask that we all bow our heads in a minute -- in a minute of silent prayer for our Chatham County high Sheriff. As many of you know or have read in the newspaper that he is undergoing treatment for cancer. He's in the battle of his life, and at this time if you would join me in a moment of silent prayer, if you're so inclined, to wish our Sheriff a speedy and complete recovery.

[NOTE: A moment of silence was had for Sheriff Al St. Lawrence.]

Chairman Scott said, amen. You may be seated. I ask that you be seated now and once I've introduced our devotional leader for this morning's meeting, once he has shared his message and indicate it's time to pray, I would ask that you re-stand at that time and remain standing until we are led in the Pledge of Allegiance by Commissioner Brady of the 6<sup>th</sup> District.

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**II. INVOCATION**

Chairman Scott said, and our devotional leader this morning is Minister David Chavis. Now in reading his bio I think there are only a couple things that you need to know and that he is led by the voice of God and that he -- he is a devoted, devout Christian, family man. But what impressed me is that one of the people that he hold in high esteem and take advice from is his grandmother. Is his grandmother. And then the other thing I'm certain you can appreciate is that he's an Army veteran having served in combat zones in Afghanistan, in Iraq, in Kuwait. He's also a person who's tried to improve himself by going back to school and having gotten his degree. He spends a lot of time counseling young folk. He has a daughter. His wife is here with him. And he will receive his first assignment as a pastor on Sunday. And it's a pleasure to have him here with me and have him here with you today. Minister David Chavis.

Pastor David Chavis said, thank you all for inviting my wife, Rashema (phonetic), and myself out. We feel honored to be here on this day. Just want to bring you a little -- words of encouragement from the book of Philippians, Chapter 4 where Paul says, I've learned the secret of living in every situation. It is worth -- whether it is with full stomach or empty, with plenty or little, for I can do everything through Christ who gives me strength. I just want to encourage you for a little bit and tell you that God is by your side. And Paul wrote this letter to encourage and strengthen those Christians who were persecuted because they were in hostile environments due to the environment that they were up against. We all get persecuted at times, and -- and you all get persecuted at times simply because of the decisions that you make, and you all make decisions on the issues and taxes and citizens and the problems in the community that affects every day lives of the every day people, and the position you are in puts you at risk to be persecuted and even challenged. Sometimes working together as Commissioners -- Commissioners can even be a challenge as well. And on top of that you're faced with day to day challenges of keeping revenue and raising revenues and keep everybody happy, which sometimes causes you to make critical decisions on taxes. Well what are you saying? All of your day to day tasks can sometimes put you in a stressful state -- in a stressful state, but at sometimes you can realize that with God you can do all things through him who strengthens you, and you can achieve and over come all of your goals and your challenges just as Paul did. Just be grateful of what God has done and rely on his strength in everything that you do, and you'll realize that with Christ's help, you can do everything and achieve and even accomplish difficult things. Even though it may look a little dim at times, just remember that God promised us that weeping man do it for a night, but joy comes in the morning. Let us all pray.

Pastor Chavis gave the invocation as follows:

Heavenly Father, we thank you for this day. We thank you for this opportunity Heavenly Father. We thank you for this hour. We thank you for everyone that has assembled themselves here on today to get better and stronger as we move on in our lives. Lord God, we ask that you just continue to bless this county; continue to bless this city; continue to bless this state. Bless those who are in positions of authority, encourage them, strengthen them in their time of health, strengthen them in their time of weakness. Be with them, but most of all, bring down the spirit of unity to unite to everybody to move forward and come together for a greater cause. I ask that you just continue to bless the family of those who sacrifice each and every day their time, efforts and countless hours for people, Lord God, that are

living in this city. And we are careful to give you all the honor, the glory and the praise. In your most holy name we do pray. Amen.

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

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**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

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**CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION**

Chairman Scott presented Pastor Chavis with a certificate of appreciation for his devotion and invocation.

Commissioner Shabazz said, Chairman I -- Chairman, can I?

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Commissioner Shabazz said, good morning, sir. Good morning, pastor. Good morning, pastor.

Pastor Chavis said, good morning.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I enjoyed your invocation and welcome to Chatham County. I wish you much success with your new assignment. And, one last thing I wanted to ask, you said the book of Philippians. Can you give me the -- the reference number? The scriptural number?

Pastor Chavis said, Chapter 4, verse 12 and 13.

Commissioner Shabazz said, chapter 4, verse what?

Pastor Chavis said, 12 and 13.

Commissioner Shabazz said, 12 and 13. Thank you very much. Enjoyed you.

Pastor Chavis said, thank you.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

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**IV. ROLL CALL**

Chairman Scott said, next we have a roll call. The Clerk will call the roll.

The Clerk called the roll.

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

Also Present: Lee Smith, County Manager  
R. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney  
Janice Bocoock, County Clerk

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## CHATHAM COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION

Chairman Scott said, our Vice Chair, Priscilla Thomas, is recognized for the purpose of introducing the members our Youth Commission who's here today.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Members of the Commission, ladies and gentlemen, it is always an honor to introduce these young people who serve as Chatham County Youth Commissioners. Serving today are Erica Ellison, a junior, Johnson High School; Morgan Dent, a junior, St. Vincent's Academy. We're delighted to have you, and we want you to know that you have the same rights as all of the other Commissioners. Please feel free to ask any questions you so desire. Welcome. And while I'm at that, Mr. Chairman, if I may take an additional privilege. I see someone in the audience that I need to recognize if I may.

Chairman Scott said, I recognize the vice Chair for the purpose of an introduction.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman, members of the Commission. I'm delighted to see in the audience with us today Bishop Willie Ferrell, who is the pastor of the Royal Church of Christ and he is also the assistant executive director of Summer Bonanza Youth Group, and that is one of the reasons why I wanted to make sure that he was introduced because he's going to be fulfilling a lot of responsibilities in the days ahead. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, you're welcome.

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## V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

### 1. **PROCLAMATION IN RECOGNITION OF THE CALVARY GIRLS CLASS A STATE VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIP. HANNAH HUNTER (HEAD COACH); CHAD CARVER (ASSISTANT COACH.)**

Chairman Scott said, the next item on our agenda are a proclamation, and it's really a pleasure here to recognize the Calvary girls Class A state volleyball champions, and the coach is here, and I'm going to read a little bit of the proclamation. I think the assistant coach is also here. Yeah. And I'm going to -- in a little bit, I'll ask Coach Hunter and Assistant Coach Carver to come up to accept this proclamation. But let me just share a little bit of it with you.

Chairman Scott read part of the following proclamation:



**WHEREAS**, Chatham County is fortunate to have among its learning institutions an educational facility that provides education in a family atmosphere with caring, loving, nurturing faculty and staff, and in that spirit, we salute with pride, Calvary Day School; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1959, Dr. John Tippet along with several involved parents, began the process of planning for the creation of a Christian school founded on the developmental principles of Luke 2:52 and since its inception in 1961, Calvary Day School has been dedicated to remaining a deliberately Christian school; and

**WHEREAS**, over the years, Calvary has enjoyed tremendous athletic and non-athletic team success having finished in recent years as region champions in football, girls basketball, and baseball, and on October 31, 2015, Calvary made its first state appearance in the history of the school and won that unforgettable match.

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

**CALVARY DAY SCHOOL'S GIRLS  
VOLLEYBALL TEAM**

for winning the 2015 Georgia Volleyball Championship and applaud its head coach, Hannah Hunter, and assistant coach, Chad Carver for their skills and leadership making it possible for the team to achieve this high honor.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of November 2015.

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Albert J. Scott, Chairman  
Chatham County Commission

**ATTEST:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gail F. Gordon, Administrative  
Assistant to the Chairman

Chairman Scott said, and I will invite members of the Commission who wish to join me in presenting this proclamation, and I invite Coach Hunter and Assistant Coach Carver up.

[NOTE: The members of the Board presented the Coaches and Headmaster James Taylor with the proclamation, as well as copies of the proclamation for each member of the team and congratulated them on their season.]

Chairman Scott said, and I'm not going to ask one of the coaches to speak unless the headmaster asks, because I don't want to get you all in trouble. So I'm going to recognize the headmaster for comments.

Headmaster Dr. James Taylor said, thank you so much. Good -- we're just -- we're just so pleased -- we are just so pleased to -- to be able to have -- have this recognition this year. These girls have worked -- have worked remarkably hard this year. They have come together as a team. We have said it throughout the year, that they stopped playing as individuals, and they played as one unit, and -- and really and truly that -- that effort brought them a victory. We -- we made sure at the game we had talked a lot about the idea that -- that it was so important for us to bring glory to God through that championship, and -- and we were so privileged and so pleased to be able to -- to -- to bring glory to God through that victory and to be able to have that recognized. And -- and we have just two phenomenal coaches, Hannah (Hunter) and Chad (Carver) are just really and truly everything you could want in a -- in a Christian coach, and they have just been phenomenal leaders for our girls, phenomenal leaders at our school, and we are so grateful for them. So thank you all for this recognition. [Applause.]

Chairman Scott said, can I ask you to introduce the players and any of the family members who may be here, because I would certainly just like to see them and --

Coach Hannah Hunter said, while I do that can we present each one of you with a volleyball?

Commissioner Thomas said, oh.

Chairman Scott said, you may.

Coach Hunter said, we got you all a little --

Dr. Taylor said, brag gifts.

Coach Hunter said, we wanted to tie them in in that way. As we do that, they can hand you one. And I'm just going to go down the line. First one is Rachel Hill; she is a junior. Just pick one out. Madison Sprosty; she is a freshman. Then we have Helen Chisolm; she is a freshman. Talia Hatch; she is a senior. Then we have Jessica Lanier ; she is a senior. Sara Daniel; she is a sophomore. Then we have Morgan Pearson; she is a sophomore. Southern Britt; she is a junior. Alena Kramer; she is a junior. Basia Peragine; she is a freshman. Then we have Claudia Chisolm; she is a junior. We have Hannah Carver; she is a junior. Lexie Pitts; she is a junior. A lot of juniors. And then last but not least, Kailtyn Beasley. She is a junior as well.

[NOTE: The girls presented the Board members with a token volleyball as appreciation for their recognition.]

Chairman Scott said, don't go away. I think some of the members of the Commission may have a -- some questions for -- for the coaches. I recognize the Commissioner from the 3<sup>rd</sup> District, Commissioner Center.

Commissioner Center said, all right. Con -- wait, if -- if I may, I want to congratulate you, but I ask a question. Do y'all wear that funky black tape that I saw on the Olympians?

Coach Hunter said, no.

Commissioner Center said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Farrell of the 4<sup>th</sup> District.

Commissioner Farrell said, first of all I want to certainly congratulate each and every one of you for pulling together as a team, working with a common goal and achieving the highest standards in the State of Georgia for your division. That's -- that's no small feat, and you should be very proud of yourselves. I know you're all very humble, but you should still be very proud of yourselves and your accomplishment. That's not a -- that's not something that happens very often to very many people. There's 10 million people in this state, and to be the championship -- state champion speaks volumes about your effort, and your skill level, and your dedication. On another note, is there anyone in this room that may have had Ms. Farrell for second grade? (Several girls raised their hands.) How many hands we got?

Dr. Taylor said, three.

Commissioner Center said, is she tough?

Commissioner Farrell said, that was -- my wife was a teacher at Calvary for 16 years, and she enjoyed every minute of it, and -- it never amazes her how her second graders just keep right on going, and they're -- they're married and got children and just -- you know, so anyway I'm sure she sends her congratulations to all of you and especially her former -- former students. So, have a great -- a great rest of the year.

Chairman Scott said, we have Commissioner Holmes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and our Pro Tem, Commissioner Stone, of the 1<sup>st</sup> District.

Commissioner Thomas said, and --

Chairman Scott said, in that order.

Commissioner Holmes said, congratulations ladies --

Chairman Scott said, and our Vice Chair from the 8<sup>th</sup> District.

Commissioner Holmes said, congratulation. Show of hands, how many seniors? (Two girls raised their hand.) Two? Have y'all signed scholarships yet?

Ms. Jessica Lanier said, for soccer.

Commissioner Center said, soccer?

Commissioner Holmes said, soccer. Okay. How many freshmans on the team? (Three girls raised their hand.) Okay. Three. Sophomores? (Several girls raised their hand.) Okay. So -- so you have a nuclear of -- a good group of athletes coming back, so what's the chance of repeating for next year?

Coach Hunter said, that's our goal.

Commissioner Holmes said, great. Great. Coaches, you have done a good job. Headmaster, you have done a good job. That's a school that is not too far from my home. I've always followed that program. I visit that school many times on athletic activities. I watch you practice. I had some relatives that went to that school. So congratulation. You would always be a person that I watched and looked at, and now that you're moving on to higher things, I will now keep my eyes a little bit more and see if you can repeat. Congratulation.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Congratulations. This is truly a high honor, and I want to thank our Clerk for bringing this to our attention that we've sat here and many times honored young men and their accomplishments, and she said we have some young ladies here that have done the exact same thing. So in watching the school grow, I'm -- I'm very proud of you all, and I think it's wonderful of your accomplishment, and so thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, our Vice Chair.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, I'm sitting here, you know, with all bubbles, and -- and I have to tell you just a little short story. When I found out that you all won, I was in my room screaming, and -- and I kept saying, that's the way to go. That's the way to go, and my husband came around the corner, and he said, are you operating with a full deck? And I said, yes, I am. Why you ask? He said, I didn't know what was going on around here. I heard you screaming and going on so. But, anyway, I was just so excited to hear the good news, and I knew that you could do it, and I hope you the very best in the future.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Kicklighter of the 7<sup>th</sup> District.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I just want to ask -- 'cause Commissioner Holmes left them out, juniors, raise your hand. (Several girls raised their hands.)

Commissioner Thomas said, all right.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, there you go. Just a little recognition for y'all there too, but congrats to all of you. One thing the headmaster pointed out a minute ago was the great Christian coaches, and I just want to point out that one of them's kind of a local legend rock star in the area, lead singer, and he's -- he's actually pretty awesome, so everybody needs to go out, check him if -- if you get the chance. So. Anyhow congrats to all of you, great job.

Chairman Scott said, okay. One of our Youth Commissioners have a question. Headmaster, we in -- we invite members of Calvary to become part of the Youth Commission core.

Commissioner Thomas said, oh yes.

Chairman Scott said, thank you. Youth Commissioner Ellison.

Chatham County Youth Commissioner Erica Ellison said, on behalf of the Chatham County Youth Commission, we would like to congratulate you on your win. We greatly appreciate your win. It makes our city look wonderful. Thank you.

Dr. Taylor said, thank you so much.

Chairman Scott said, again. Thank you all for being here. We really appreciate you taking the time out to come down and really honor us with your presence and congratulations. The very best to you. [Applause.]

Dr. Taylor said, we're going to take them back to school.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay.

Commissioner Farrell said, party's over girls.

Chairman Scott said, if -- if y'all have not worshiped at Calvary, I'd highly recommend it. I have. They've got a dynamic pastor in Dr. Grant, and how I got familiar with the church, Doug Weathers, have been there forever, and if he doesn't see me occasionally, he'll call me up and said, you haven't been by lately. But anyway, it's a great institution.

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## **2. RECOGNITION OF SGT. JOHN CAIN FROM THE 4<sup>TH</sup> PRECINCT WHO ACCOMPANIED AN INJURED RUNNER TO THE FINISH LINE OF THE ROCK 'N' ROLL MARATHON.**

Chairman Scott said, the next on -- on our list of folk to honor, and this is to recognition, Sergeant John Cain of the 4<sup>th</sup> Precinct. Sergeant, would you come up, and everybody else who's here with you. And I'm going to -- I'm going to turn the mike over to our County Manager who wanted to just say a word of thanks to you. He's the person who is responsible for managing the Chatham County -- Savannah-Chatham County Metro Police, and he was excited to see Sergeant Cain assisting a runner across the finishing line, and Sergeant, I -- I said in -- in the Green Room that if I knew you were going to assist people, I would have signed up because you and I could have done the whole marathon together, 'cause I know I couldn't have made it to the finish line without help. But anyway, I'm going to recognize our County Manager, Lee Smith, for comments.

County Manager Lee Smith said, yes, sir. Thank you. You know, to Sergeant Cain, the one thing that was important, not just to you as an individual, this is a great event that was going on, but we talk a lot about the -- the merger, police, you know, government issues, but when it comes right down to it, it's about you guys as individuals.

Commissioner Thomas said, mm-hmm.

County Manager Smith said, that's important to me as a citizen. That's important to my daughter. That's important to these people here, and these people here, and the almost 300,000 people in this community that depend on you. We talk about the military on a daily basis, about the job they're doing overseas and here, but we forget to thank you guys. You keep us safe. But, then you go a step farther and when I saw this -- and I was out of town and saw it, and I was like you -- you -- we see this a lot from our officers, from our sheriff's officers, you guys go above and beyond not because you have to because you want to.

Commissioner Thomas said, mm-hmm.

County Manager Smith said, and so personally I wanted to thank you, and I know our Board Members wanted to say thank you, and anything from -- from you guys -- it was a great event. It -- we had some unfortunate issues that day, but it was still a great event overall, but I wanted to say thank you, and I know our Board did also for the kindness -- and that you guys had -- you work hard. We forget to say thank you. So thank you. So --

Chairman Scott said, Sergeant, before you comment, if -- if you would indulge us -- members of the Commission who would just like to walk down and personally congratulate you. I invite them to personally do so.

[NOTE: Board members thanked and congratulated Sergeant Cain for his actions.]

County Manager Smith said, and as they're shaking hands for -- for our audience, if you haven't read it, and if you didn't know it locally, this made national news about the -- about the Rock 'N Roll Marathon, about Sergeant Cain assisting an injured runner to the finish line. So as the Chairman said, had we all known that, we might have gone out there and -- and run too, but it was a pretty amazing event. Mr. Chairman, I don't know if Sergeant Cain or any of the --the folks with him had anything to say.

Chairman Scott said, yeah. I -- I -- I invite you for any comments you wish to make, and I'm sorry if we embarrassed you, but we think it was deserving.

Sergeant John Cain, County Commissioner and -- and distinguished members -- members -- service members, I would just like to say thank you for this opportunity. I could not have done this alone. There was several members that helped me out from the EMTs to the other policemen that -- that took up my post while I assisted this runner. During this time I saw a lot of people come together from the citizens of Savannah to Chatham County residents to the runners all working hand in hand, and I believe that if all law enforcement officers had the opportunity that I had, they would seize it just to see the community and -- and other folks coming together, and I'm very thankful that I was a spotlight for not only this county but for this city and every law enforcement officer out there doing the same thing I do every day. [Applause.]

Chairman Scott said, thank you so much. Commander -- Lieutenant, you --

Major Larry Branson said, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, Mr. Manager, the Sergeant has remained very humble throughout all of this. Never in his wildest dreams did he imagine that he would get up this morning that this occurred and do what he did, but as he said, he did this just like any other law enforcement officer, just like any other emergency worker would have done, and that is the nature of the job, of the commitment that we have. So, we're all very proud of the Sergeant. We're all proud of what he's made of. This is not unusual for him. He always goes above and beyond in what he does, so thank you for recognizing him today and -- and thank you for all of your appreciation.

Commissioner Holmes said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Lieutenant, you have anything?

Major Branson said, do you have anything to say?

Lieutenant Ashley Brown said, no. He said it all.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Thank you all so much. Hold on the Commissioner from the 3<sup>rd</sup>, he wants to make a comment.

Commissioner Center said, thank you very much, Mr. Chairman. As I -- as I told you when I was down there, you know, my grandfather was with the Savannah Police Department. There was a story of his running down a runaway horse and buggy. But I say, you know, we all know, and -- and read the paper every day of so many articles downgrading policemen across the country. Some deserve it because of their actions, but when you picked up the paper, and saw that picture of you helping that runner across the line, and I understand it went viral around the country, it's such a great testament to what we don't hear because when we hear -- the -- the harsh stuff makes the news and sells the papers, but the majority of the police officers, sheriff's officers, majority of the public, public citizens, are good people, which makes our country strong. It's just so great, even though you got the highlight, to see a picture of a police officer doing what you did and bringing the notoriety of how dedicated you are, and I know it's just instinct that got you to do it. It's just -- it's a fantastic demonstration of what the rank and file, the majority, and the bulk of our public servants, police officers, are like. And I -- I appreciate you doing that and just -- it brought to attention that we really do have good people serving us. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner from the 7<sup>th</sup> District, Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Chairman. Sergeant, I want to just -- on a lighter note, ask you are you a runner?

Sergeant Cain said, no, sir.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, you're not? I -- I read it was like a half a mile that you actually ran.

Sergeant Cain said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, were you glad at the end of it it was only a half a mile? Hey, I was -- I was very proud of you. Don't answer that, but --

Sergeant Cain said, I -- I was glad we both crossed the line standing.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yes, sir. Hey, that was -- that was very impressive, and thank you. It was great to see -- see some good news where the media picked it up and actually put good news about -- about you and all of the guys out there. Y'all do a great job daily, and unfortunately, the media focuses on the one possible bad apple throughout somewhere in the country rather than focusing on all the good things that takes place daily. So thank y'all, and I also want to congratulate, we've got Lieutenant Brown back there. I believe he was just elected, right sir?

Lieutenant Brown said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, our -- our new Pooler City Council person, so we'll -- we'll get the opportunity to actually work with Lieutenant Brown on issues coming up. So congrats to you, and thanks -- thank y'all. All of you. [Applause.]

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Commissioner Stone said, thank y'all.

County Manager Smith said, thank y'all.

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**3. PRESENTATION OF CHATHAM APPRENTICE PROGRAM GRADUATES (JIM STEVENSON, CAP BOARD CHAIRMAN; ISAAC FELTON, CAP PROGRAM MANAGER).**

Chairman Scott said, the next item on the agenda is -- is the presentation of the Chatham Apprentice Program graduates. And this is a occasion -- occasion that we look forward to every year, and we have with us Jim Stevenson, who is past Chair of the Board. We also have with us, the executive director of the Board, and we also have with us Isaac Felton, who is the CAP program manager, and anybody else Jim you want to introduce.

Mr. Jim Stevenson said, okay. I'll be happy to.

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Mr. Stevenson said, and Chairman Scott, I'm -- I'm still the Chairman of the Board. I only have a couple left thank goodness. But I'm doing it again.

Chairman Scott said, that's -- that's correct. It -- it -- it shows here that you're still Board Chair.

Mr. Stevenson said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, I'm not trying to rush you off.

Mr. Stevenson said, that's okay. I'd be glad to anytime, sir. Hey, but before I do that though, Dr. Thomas, I -- I wanted to tell you my two boys, Mark and Neal, were members of the Chatham Youth Commission, and they both graduated from college, and they both are employed. I just wanted you to know that.

Commissioner Thomas said, wonderful.

Mr. Stevenson said, so thank you very much.

Commissioner Thomas said, great example.

Mr. Stevenson said, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Mr. Stevenson said, and I appreciate all that they gained from being a part of this program, and ladies, it's -- it's a good thing. It really is.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you very much.

Mr. Stevenson said, well, Step Up has -- has been pleased to manage the Chatham Apprentice Program since 2006 when it was initiated serving over 700 individuals in that time period. CAP is an intensive job readiness program for Chatham County adults and assists with job placement and financial education. CAP is a critical piece of Step Up Savannah's poverty reduction efforts. The -- the idea that individuals step up to improve their lives, and this is a great example of being able to do that on an individual basis. I'd like to introduce Isaac Felton who's CAP's manager for his remarks.

Mr. Isaac Felton said, good morning Chairman Scott --

Chairman Scott said, good morning.

Mr. Felton said, -- Commissioners, County Manager. I'm Isaac Felton, the Chatham Apprentice Manager. I would like to thank you for giving CAP this opportunity to recognize it's participants who have completed the program. We are excited for them, and it is because of your support and ongoing dedication that this program has been a success. The E-3 program, which stands for educate, empower and employ is about making change in our community, and that is what we are doing, and we will continue -- continue to do. We know that CAP is headed in the right direction because we designed this program around individualized career pathway counseling, behavior counseling, financial education, general ed -- general adult education, employability and workforce skills, fork lift safety certification training, record restriction, and professional interviewing skills.

Mr. Felton said, this has been an exciting and productive year for the Chatham Apprentice Program. We had 109 participants to complete our program with a completion of program to job placement rate of 55.5 percent. 62 percent of the people who secured employment are earning \$9.00 and more per hour, 45 percent -- with 45 percent of the participants maintaining their employment. CAP held a special class for single women at the Wesley Community Center. We were able to support with child care and transportation passes for the women who needed that service to ensure their completion and success of the program. We implemented a forklift safety certification training in partnership with Savannah Technical College, in order to provide a hard skill for our participants. We noticed an average pay rate of \$10.16, and a pay rate increase of 24 percent.

Mr. Felton said, this year the Chatham Apprentice Program partnered with United Way 2-1-1 transitional housing program to assist several families facing housing challenges. CAP has done some work to help return the citizens in our community. We've done outreach at the Chatham County Detention Center and at Coastal State Prison to inform those offenders about our program and the services we provide once they have completed their sentence. Since our last graduation class in April, we identified 22 percent of our participants who had some kind of criminal background record, and they were able to secure employment.

Mr. Felton said, moving forward, in 2016, CAP looks to serve more participants, offer more fork lift safety classes, support more participants with GED scholarships, offer a class to individuals who would like to obtain their TWIC, transportation workers' identification card, offer more child care service to our participants who need that in order to complete our program, and provide more one on one case load service. At this time, I would like to acknowledge our employers and community partners who has assist CAP in our success: United Way of the Coastal Empire and 2-1-1; Goodwill of the Coastal Empire; Lucky's Market; City of Savannah; Chatham County Commissioners; Star Construction; The Pelote Corporation; Higher Ground Electrical Company; IKEA; Dirk; Savannah Technical College; Thunderbolt Marine Corporation; Coastal Workforce Investment; Coastal Transitional Center; Social Apostolate; Union Mission; Waffle House; Food Lion; West Broad Street YMCA; Moses Jackson Advancement Community Center; Savannah Metro Rotary Club; Carrabba's Ital -- Italian Restaurant; Georgia Department of Labor; Georgia Legal Services; HUGS, Head's Up Guidance Services; and CCCS, Customer's Credit -- Consumer Credit Counseling Service.

Mr. Felton said, now at this time we would like to hear -- we will hear several testimonies from past participants and tell how CAP has helped and encouraged them. We will start with Mr. John Jackson, followed by Ms. Doretha Green; and Mr. James Steel.

Mr. John Jackson said, good morning Commissioners --

Commissioner Holmes said, good morning.

Mr. Jackson said, it's a pleasure for you to give us this opportunity to tell you about how this program is changing lives. It certainly has changed mine. In my case, I -- I first read about the program in a newspaper article, and it was -- certainly seemed like a program that could benefit me at the time. I don't come to you -- I don't have a criminal background, but it was -- I saw a program that could, like I said, really benefit me, so I jumped on the opportunity to take advantage of it and truly glad I did -- plus it was for free. So I certainly wanted to take advantage. I came into the program wanting to get more help with re-writing my resume. I wanted to lay out a more clearer career path, and I also wanted -- I know I needed more education, so I wanted to come up with a more efficient way of making that. I participated -- signed up for the program, and I'll tell you that I was able to accomplish those goals, but I also got a lot more. And not only do we get all of the ins and outs of resume writing, talked about interview preparation. We had mock interviews with different business professionals from throughout the community. We talked about counseling, stress and anger management as it relates to the job, and it was -- it was really a productive situation for, and something that you really appreciate, and to have all of those resources under one program, I can't tell you enough how much of a peace of mind that is because those resources address the challenges that we face in re-establishing ourselves back into the job market. And -- so over the past four weeks, we took in a lot of information.

Mr. Jackson said, so I want to thank the staff at E-3 for helping us to digest that information, analyze it, and get immediate feedback. That was so important for me, and something else I'd to thank them for as well, for encouraging us each day. That meant a lot, and I'm sure -- speaking for myself and the rest of my classmates how much that meant to get that encouragement each day. It helped you move forward toward accomplishing your goal. So I want to thank my classmates. We've all taken that initial step toward rebuilding our lives, and I want to tell you that this is certainly a -- a win/win program from my perspective, especially those who participated and decided to take advantage of it and move forward in their lives. Again, thank you for having the program. Thank you for supporting it. [Applause.]

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Ms. Doretha Green said, good morning.

Members of the Board collectively said, good morning.

Ms. Green said, my name is Doretha Green, and I first found out about this program through United Way. I'm going to tell you a little bit of why I was at United Way so you can understand why this program was important to me. The reason why I went to United Way was because I was in a domestic violence situation which caused me to have my unborn child early. My unborn child did survive, but I went to United Way for help. So when I was in United Way, they informed me of a flyer about this program, and me reading the flyer I seen that this program was -- was interesting. So I decided to give Mr. Felton a call, and after I gave him a call, he told me to come in. When I came in, he gave me a interview, and I didn't know we were going to interview on the first day because I never been interviewed before. So in that interview, you know, he -- he told me to just be yourself and just to let me know what do you want from this program, what -- where do you want to go? And I didn't know any of those questions, but he -- he -- he gave me a lot of confidence, so -- and he told me -- he supported me, and he told me he wanted to see me back. And I knew I couldn't let him down so I came back, and I didn't know -- I have four kids, so I didn't know how I was going to do it, but I end up getting -- I had like six babysitters, and so four days, they swapped half of the day, and I came to this program every day.

Ms. Green said, Ms. Crook gave the biggest smile and made me feel so comfortable, and also, the counseling service in this program, which I really needed, HUGS, I thank them also. And the con -- and we learned a lot about conflict and how to resolve our conflict and I learned my conflicting style from Ms. Johnson, and I knew that I was pretty much a -- my conflict style was avoiding. So they help you not to change, you know, who you are, but they help to -- to give you better advice on what you can do. Maybe you don't need to be -- maybe you don't need to avoid everything. So we also read a book called *Who Moved My Cheese*, and that helped me also, 'cause I could place myself in each one of those characters, and that also motivated me to move my cheese. That -- that motivated me to -- to want better for myself, as well as my kids. This program was really, really helpful to me through the financial guidance counselor that came. I had things on my credit report that I didn't know about, and I -- it probably would have stayed on there. He helped me through that. I was going to go back to school and take out loans, which was a bad idea, and he -- the financial counselor from Savannah State gave me advice on what I should do and the scholarships that's out there to help me further my career, and also the mock interviews from the step it up program.

Ms. Green said, we -- after I did those mock interviews I was ready. I was ready to go interview, and I was confident, and I did end up getting a job, two jobs, thanks to the step it up program. And -- because -- because -- also because of this program, every time we had to speak in a class, they made us stand up, and that's how I'm able to stand up before you guys today. So I just want to say thank you guys so much for this program. It gave me hope because I had to start all over again with just me and my kids, and if it wasn't for this program, I just really don't know how I would have did that. And so I want to thank Mr. Felton, Ms. Johnson, Ms. Crooks, Ms. Allie, for presenting me with a smile every day, for encouraging me that I can do it, and that's it. Thank you. [Applause.]

Mr. James Steel said, good morning.

County Manager Smith said, good morning.

Members of the Board collectively said, good morning.

Mr. Steel said, my name is James Steel. I'm one of the participants of the program. The program has given me --

Chairman Scott said, would you pull your microphone up?

Mr. Steel said, the program has given me confidence --

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes, sir.

Mr. Steel said, you know, utilize my skills and what I needed to do, and basically most of the things that I learned from the class was that it teaches you to give you the confidence in yourself. Once you learn that you can beat anything.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes, sir.

Mr. Steel said, and then the classes -- some of the classes we took was the forklift operating class. The jobs that we go on certify you through the company, but when you're state certified through OSHA, it's a whole 'nother game changer and most employers want to accept you and want you 'cause you have that skill, and I just want to tell you all guys thank you and thank you Mr. Felton, Ms. Crooks, Ms. Johnson and everyone else. Thank y'all. [Applause.]

Commissioner Shabazz said, thank you.

Mr. Felton said, at this time, will all E-3 CAP graduates please stand. Thank you. [Applause.]

Chairman Scott said, Mr. Felton, we're not going to present the certificates today or you've already presented them?

Mr. Felton said, do we have time to do that?

Commissioner Holmes said, your time.

Chairman Scott said, yeah. We have time if you want to do it.

Mr. Felton said, yes, we would love to acknowledge them.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Ms. Crooks said, good morning Commissioners.

Chairman Scott said, good morning.

Ms. Crooks said, okay. The first certificate will go to Angela Alfred (applause); Ms. Artesha Brown -- Barnes, I'm sorry (applause); Ms. Theodore Brennan (applause); Ms. Yolanda Brown (applause); Ms. Kuwana (phonetic) Collier (applause); Ms. Yvonne Clark (applause); Ms. Doretha Green (applause); Ms. Sabrina Griffith (applause); David Hayes (applause); Maritsa Aribanan (phonetic) (applause); Mr. John Jackson (applause); Ms. Tammy James (applause); Ms. Dorothy Lopez (applause); Mr. Elliott Richardson (applause); Mr. James Steel (applause); and Mrs. Sharon Stewart (applause).

Commissioner Thomas said, Mr. Chairman, may I address them from my seat?

Chairman Scott said, yes. Vice Chair Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, I'm sorry. I'm sorry I couldn't make it down this last time. I've been kind of pushing it all morning. I am so excited about what I just -- or what we have just witnessed here this morning, and I wanted to say to the instructors, you did a great job, and to those of you who decided that this was an opportunity and that you were given a choice, and you accepted that choice. And you spoke about education; you spoke about empowerment; you spoke about the skills that you've learned -- sorry, all right. You spoke about the skills that you've learned. We talked about empowerment. We talked about education, and we talked about the motivation, and I'm hoping and trusting that you are truly motivated. That you will carry forth all of the things that you were taught and all of the things that you've learned. And I listened very attentively at each of you this morning, and I'm very excited, and I feel very good about the program, and I feel very good about each of you. So I want to challenge you to continue to do good, make us all feel very proud of your -- of you and you feel proud of yourself. Make sure that those of you who have families, make sure that you reach out and you also instill in them the hope -- hope and the empowerment that was given to you. And that is going to help make our world a better place. Thank you. [Applause.]

Mr. Stevenson said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner from the 5<sup>th</sup> District, Commissioner Shabazz.

Commissioner Shabazz said, good morning.

Mr. Felton said, good morning.

Commissioner Shabazz said, good morning to all the participants and graduates of the Chatham Apprentice Program as well. I'd like to thank Mr. Jim Stevenson and Mr. Isaac Felton and your staff for your service because it takes dedication, and I would just like to congratulate all the graduates of this program, especially those ones that made the presentation because it was heartfelt. I know that the -- a journey -- a journey of a thousand miles begins with the first step, one step, and you all have done that, and I wish you all the success on your journey because it's a journey for you. And I'd especially like to thank Mr. Jonathan Jackson for his -- I'm -- I'm just want to say that -- to him that I'm very proud of him. You know, we were classmates, and I'd just like to say that. I'm very proud of you, sir. Thank you very much.

Chairman Scott said, one of our Youth Commissioners, Ms. Dent.

Chatham County Youth Commissioner Morgan Dent said, on behalf of the Chatham County Youth Commission I would like to congratulate you all for completing this program, and I wish you nothing but the best for the future. [Applause.]

Commissioner Thomas said, wonderful.

Mr. Felton said, I would like to say first of all, I want to thank Commissioner Holmes, Commissioner Stone, Commissioner Shabazz and the County Manager, Mr. Lee Smith, for attending our program, and I would like to personally invite each one of you all to take the opportunity to come and visit our program next year and see some of the things that we are doing and how this program is making a impact on the citizens in our community. Thank you.

Commissioner Shabazz said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, thank you. Congratulations to all of you. [Applause.]

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#### **4. PRESENTATION BY SOUTHSIDE FIRE DEPARTMENT.**

Chairman Scott said, next we have a presentation by the Southside Fire Department, and would you please introduce yourself and what role you have with it, so we'll -- 'cause I don't have it on my notes, here.

Mr. Tim Blanco said, yes, sir. My name is Tim Blanco, and I'm the president of the Board of Directors for Southside Fire Department. I'm joined by Chief Noha, who's the head of fire, and I'm also joined by -- we'll get to it in a little bit about some of our Pulse Point sponsors, but also some of our additional Boards of Director members.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Mr. Blanco said, Mr. Chairman and Board of Commissioners, on behalf of Southside Fire, EMS, and Security, thank you for allowing us with this opportunity to update you on our operation and announce some exciting advancements and some news. My name is Tim Blanco, and I'm the president of the Board of Directors for Southside Fire, EMS, and Security. Southside works very closely with County Manager Lee Smith's office. Our team recently updated the Manager's team with some exciting changes and news and feel that it is important to update the entire Board. We appreciate the -- his leadership in this opportunity. Southside Fire EMS is a true model of cooperation between a local not for profit enterprise and government. As you are aware, our operation utilizes about 150 volunteers and 300 career professionals to provide fire service for much of unincorporated Chatham County and EMS service for all of Chatham County. This partnership has provided a best in class emergency response organization while keeping cost out of the county's budget. Similar size county's in Georgia have an annual fire and EMS spend in excess of \$25 million. Chatham County's complete spend on fire and EMS last year was less than 1 million. Property owners under the Southside Fire Department voluntary subscription model experience an annual cost of fire coverage of under \$300 per home. In comparison most regional tax models have a cost in excess of \$800 per home. In addition to the direct savings to tax payers, Southside also saves the county by dispatching our own calls. We don't utilize a county dispatcher for fire. We handle all the billing for fire and EMS. Chatham County does not have to administer a fire or EMS operation.

Mr. Blanco said, Chief Wayne Noha is the head of our fire, security and dispatch operations. Chief Noha will provide you with a over view and some exciting developments within Southside Fire. After Chief Noha provides an update, I'm going to walk you through our latest value added service for Chatham County. Thank you, and I now turn it over to Chief Noha.

Chairman Scott said, and will you -- will you introduce the other Board members who are here?

Chief Wayne Noha said, I can do it.

Mr. Blanco said, okay.

Chief Noha said, is that okay?

Mr. Blanco said, okay.

Chief Noha said, good morning Chairman --

Chairman Scott said, good morning.

Chief Noha said, -- Scott and Commissioners, County Manager, thank you for the opportunity. It is -- it's really an honor and a privilege to stand before you today. I'm Wayne Noha. I have been with Southside Fire Department for 33 years. Last September of 2014 I came on as the Assistant Chief of Fire Operations. Prior to that I was with Montgomery Fire Department, one of our divisions, and Chief there for 22 years. I am -- I'm also over the security division, our dispatch, and our training department. Southside Fire was founded in 1961

by a group of concerned citizens on the Southside of Savannah where there was no fire protection. We are also a not for profit company. We now provide fire, EMS and security for the citizens and visitors of Chatham County. We currently employ over 250 full-time personnel, and we have 140 volunteers on staff. These personnel consist of fire fighters, EMTs, paramedics, dispatchers, security officers -- officers, and office personnel.

Chief Noha said, Southside has its own in-house training department for all of these disciplines. As well we have a vehicle maintenance facility staffed with six full-time certified emergency vehicle technicians and an office assistant. Our fleet consists of 39 ambulances, 40 -- 42 fire apparatus which includes engines, ladder trucks and tankers, as well as nine support vehicles. In 1972 Islands Fire merged with Southside; Skidaway Island in 1975; Montgomery fire in 1978; and 7<sup>th</sup> District in 1991. Our fire division covers the entire unincorporated Chatham County with the exception of Isle of Hope. We also provide mutual aid to every fire department within the county. Our fire engines are equipped with AEDs, automatic external defibrillation units, and they are first out medical first responders. There are 22 stations strategically situated throughout the county. We have an EMS station in each municipality within the county and the first ever to do so.

Chief Noha said, we are very pleased to announce that as of December 1<sup>st</sup> of this year Southside will have an ISO, the Insurance Services Office, class rating of a 2/2x. This places Southside in the top two percent in the country, understanding that a class one is the best and a class ten is no fire department at all. Our goal is to become the first combination paid and volunteer department to become an ISO 1. One item needed to do that is that we must have fire hydrants or water sources throughout the county.

Chief Noha said, our EMS division responds to over 50,000 emergency and non-emergency calls per year and we are responsible for all the 9-1-1 medical calls in the county. So if you dial 9-1-1 that call immediately comes into the county 9-1-1 center. If this call is EMS then they dispatch for Southside to respond via radio. We use our AVL or the automatic vehicle locating -- locating system, as well as CAD or the computer-aided dispatch systems to send the closest unit to the medical emergency. If it is fire then they transfer the call while still on the line to our dispatch center, which we in turn dispatch the appropriate unit. So, how do we make that better? In February of 2016 we will open our new state of the art dispatch center. This center in -- this includes \$400,000 in new equipment which consists of eight dispatch stations in our class five hurricane rated complex on Dean Forest Road. This center is equipped with dual fuel power generation in case of power failure.

Chief Noha said, this map shows our 22 sites places throughout the county. Fire's in red and the EMS is in blue. And at this time I would like to recognize the other members of our organization.

Commissioner Brady said, I have a question.

Chief Noha said, yes -- yes, ma'am.

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

Chief Noha said, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Brady said, you talked about fire hydrants.

Chief Noha said, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Brady said, the county's trying to get out of the water business.

Chief Noha said, correct.

Commissioner Brady said, and I want to know how that's going to impact Southside Fire with the hydrants, because it appears we need more hydrants, as far as water pressure.

Chief Noha said, we do need water sources and hydrants. I have been in communication for the last year or so with Water Utility Management. They are currently working on an improvement on Burnside Island to do that. So I would hope that we would have that continued success -- relationship with them or -- or with the county with fire hydrants throughout the county. Yes.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Farrell of the -- wait a minute, do you have any -- was that?

Commissioner Brady said, well I -- I would hope that the Water Utility Management Company would make a commitment to Southside Fire to resolve the issues involving these fire hydrants.

Chief Noha said, we have been in communication with them, and they -- we -- we've worked well in the past, and I would -- I don't see a reason that we would not continue to do that.

Commissioner Brady said, okay. Thank you.

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

Chief Noha said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Farrell said, is there anything that the Commissioners can do to assist in having the proper amount of fire hydrants placed at strategic locations in the unincorporated area at this point knowing that we're possibly moving out of the water and sewer business, or at least the water part of the business?

County Manager Smith said, well before -- well, I'll tell you we've had discussions, I know, Jon [Hart], myself and when I met with Southside, and even with the transfer of the water system, the one thing that we know we're going to have to do as a municipality, we have to do as a county, we've got to partner with them. There are grants available and in some cases -- I've done this in the past when I've brought in cooperative water systems, brought them together or either sold them, we -- we'll have to look as a county to invest. I mean it's -- the water systems only has so much responsibility. So if we want to further fire safety out there and fire protection, then the county, the municipalities are going to have to invest. But that may be in participating in grant opportunities. 'Cause there are some out there. So we've talked about that, and obviously, the water system buyer, we're talking about that and discussions about advancing that, but it's going to be a partnership. So we're having those talks right now.

Chief Noha said, that's correct.

Commissioner Farrell said, is there anything that needs to be done before we divest ourselves of the -- our water systems if that's the will of the Commission in the near future?

County Attorney R. Jonathan Hart said, we've got some -- we've got some language in the proposed contract about extending and improving the fire hydrant system within the unincorporated area of the county, and in our discussions with the purchaser, they have recently undertaken putting in fire hydrants out there I believe in the Isle of Hope area.

County Manager Smith said, yes.

County Attorney Hart said, I'll let them speak for themselves there, and they've done it on the basis of basically providing the installation costs and all the things that need to go --

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

County Attorney Hart said, - with it, and then whatever group that is seeking the fire hydrant itself actually purchases the -- the hydrant part --

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

County Attorney Hart said, -- so it ends -- it's -- it appears to have worked pretty good. The only down side I see in the unincorporated county that -- that can be problematic, and I think Chief Noha knows this well, and it really has nothing to do with whether we keep the system or sell the system is that in the 50s and 60s we developed some subdivisions in the unincorporated county with two-inch lines.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

County Attorney Hart said, that's two-inch water line systems all throughout the subdivision. So it doesn't matter whether you sell it, buy it or whatever --

County Manager Smith said, our hydrant can't handle it.

County Attorney Hart said, -- you're not going to get a fire hydrant that's going to put 250 gallons out, you know --

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

County Attorney Hart said, -- it's just a two-inch line, and in order to upgrade that line, you're talking about putting a new water system in a subdivision. So that's -- that's been some issues.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

County Attorney Hart said, at the same time as we've extended lines on main thoroughfares, water lines, that have been four-inch lines, we've located fire hydrants very close to the subdivision so you have plug in for the fire service provider, and Southside has a -- a large number of -- of tankers that they have had to acquire to accommodate that, 'cause a lot of times just in an unincorporated area, you have a fire in the middle of nowhere, and in those cases you've got a tanker called -- that go out. They also have what they call throw down bladders, which is big -- what it sounds, where they put bladders out and put two tankers, one keeps that bladder full, the other one goes and fills up --

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

County Attorney Hart said, -- and they just trade back out. So it's -- you know, it's a system that's not ideal, but it's a system that is -- you know, it is what it is and it has been very functional.

County Manager Smith said, but, you know, we also have opportunity, and I think we have some of the dry hydrant system where we actually can go into canals, water ways, get permits to do that, and that's part of some grant opportunities in rural areas we may have to go to those. And I mean they're perfectly functional. So we need to look at those opportunities. So as we look -- you know they've got a great GIS system, and we look at what the water system is, where we're lacking, those resources, and the county needs to look at how we invest in that, because I -- we're going to have to. We're going to have to join up on the grants. We're going to have to do that anyway, so -- but, that's working together now, and I just looked at the potential water buyer, and we've all nodded that's -- that's where we're headed. So this is going to partnership forever.

Chairman Scott said, we've got Commissioner Center from the 3<sup>rd</sup>, Commissioner Shabazz from the 5<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Center said, I just want to know if you could either go back to that picture of the map 'cause I -- just so I could look at it. I don't know if you've got it on paper so I don't take time, but I -- I didn't have a chance to look at it more fully, and I just --

Chief Noha said, we can provide you with a copy.

Commissioner Center said, all right. Thank you.

Chief Noha said, yes, sir.

County Manager Smith said, yeah. We've got one that's clearer than this, 'cause we just did the PDFs.

Commissioner Center said, if you can leave that up, I'll probably ask questions. I can study it.

Chief Noha said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

Commissioner Shabazz said, that's -- that's --

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

Commissioner Shabazz said, you finished, Tony?

Commissioner Center said, yes, I'm done. Thank you.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. Good morning.

Chief Noha said, good morning, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I wanted to -- the County Manager touched on what I wanted to ask. What about alternative sources for providing water because to put out a fire, do you necessarily need the same water that's domestic water?

County Manager Smith said, you don't have to have potable water necessarily.

Chief Noha said, right. As the County Attorney stated, we have tanker trucks with portable pools that we drop and transport water to the fire scene.

Commissioner Shabazz said, mm-hmm.

Chief Noha said, we also have a couple of dry hydrants that go into -- one goes into a lagoon, another one into one of the canals.

Commissioner Shabazz said, right.

Chief Noha said, and we're looking at exploring those options now.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. So the possibility of providing water at those sources the way you need it, what about like wells or something and the drilling to provide water in those areas that's -- that's lacking?

Chief Noha said, they would have to be large wells, as he stated --

County Manager Smith said, they would have to be large wells. Your problem now is -- is -- I know Jackie [Teel] over at MPC is working on this with all the municipalities and the City of Savannah and the county, is when you drill now for these larger wells, you -- right now, it's hard to get the permits. You can do shallow wells, the problem with the shallow wells, you can't get the volume, you've got to have deep wells. Well, now there's this capacity use where they're reducing the withdrawal rate, so to get those type wells, it's very hard to do.

Commissioner Shabazz said, mm-hmm.

County Manager Smith said, so we've got to look at some of these canals, rivers, waterways, or upgrading like four-inch plus --

County Attorney Hart said, correct.

Chief Noha said, at a minimum.

County Manager Smith said, -- up to six-inch, at least six-inch which would be better to be able to get to these water sources closer.

Commissioner Shabazz said, so when you -- when you use the canals and other water streams --

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Shabazz said, -- the cost then would be the -- the plumbing or the piping for that.

County Manager Smith said, that's correct.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

County Manager Smith said, and in a lot of cases the water -- what I've done in the past, I've had the water provider that I've, you know, have a contract with would install it, but the county or the city would actually apply for the grant, get the equipment or keep some on hand, and they install it, and they maintain it.

Commissioner Shabazz said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Stone of the 1<sup>st</sup> District.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you. Chief Noha this may sound like a ridiculous question, but it's something that I worry about all the time. How safe are these hydrants as far as being secured? Do they -- are they key operated or --

Chief Noha said, no, not any that we have --

County Manager Smith said, no.

Chief Noha said, -- are not locked.

Commissioner Stone said, I don't know if that's something for the future we need to look into, but I -- I've always --

Chief Noha said, they're tested --

Commissioner Stone said, -- been concerned about contamination --

Chief Noha said, right.

Commissioner Stone said, -- intentionally of water supplies and so it's just -- through fire hydrants. It's just something that I worry about --

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Commissioner Stone said, -- and I didn't know if you all looked at that or talked about it, but it -- it could be --

County Manager Smith said, that's really going to be the water source issue. So I guess as we get into the discussion about the water system, it may be something we may want to ask Mark [Smith] or someone from his area how -- how that's being done or from our Public Works. I mean that is a consideration --

Commissioner Stone said, mm-hmm.

County Manager Smith said, -- but, you know, there's -- there's a risk in all things. I mean even your water source itself. So, anyway we'll -- we'll talk to the water system folks about that.

Commissioner Stone said, okay. Thank you.

County Attorney Hart said, the -- the fire hydrants are tested on a regular basis.

County Manager Smith said, yes.

County Attorney Hart said, so --

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Commissioner Stone said, well that's good. I mean I just -- something could happen so quickly --

County Manager Smith said, sure.

Commissioner Stone said, -- with contamination through fire hydrants and could affect so many people.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Stone said, so it's just -- it's just something that I am concerned about.

County Manager Smith said, it's -- it's -- sure. We'll look at that.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you.

Chief Noha said, can I introduce --

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Chief Noha said, -- our staff?

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Chief Noha said, our assistant general manager, Anne Andrews; our HR director, Tiffany Stewart; our general manager, Chuck Moore; a Board of Director, Charlie Teel; my mind just went totally blank.

Chairman Scott said, you'll pay for it.

Chief Noha said, oh, I've missed Mr. Bob Egan -- oh, I know. Another Board member -- I'm -- it clicked -- Mr. Bob Egan; Ms. Penne Allison, another Board member; and our EMS battalion chief, Dave Johnson. Did I miss anybody? I believe that's it. I'm sorry.

Commissioner Thomas said, great job.

County Manager Smith said, that's all right.

Chairman Scott said, thank you, Chief.

Chief Noha said, thank you. Thank you.

Mr. Blanco said, so now some exciting news. This is a game changer, and this is the first in the State of Georgia, and I'm proud that we have some of our sponsors here with us that made this cost neutral. But, the most important thing when someone experience a cardiac arrest are three things, you get professional help dispatched immediately, you administer CPR, and you apply an automatic external defibrillator, and AED. Since the 1970s, the first of those three items has been pretty easy to provide. You dial 9-1-1 and professional resuces -- rescuers are dispatched. However, the second of the two items has been a little more complicated. Is someone available that knows CPR and where is the nearest AED? All too frequently we hear the statement from medical professionals and first responders, if I had known that someone was in trouble, I would have acted, I would have helped. Expanding our model of cooperation between a local not for profit enterprise and government, Southside Fire EMS has partnered with Colonial Oil, Thomas J. Sheehan Insurance, the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, Vaden Automotive, Gamble Funeral Home; Sonny Dixon; and numerous over -- other private and anonymous donors to bring Pulse Point to Chatham County.

Mr. Blanco said, we're excited to announce that Chatham County will be the very first county in Georgia to have this type of live saving technology deployed. A few meetings ago Commissioner Brady commented that Chatham County should be utilizing more Smartphone technology. Pulse Point is Smartphone technology that is free and open to the community. When a south -- when Southside Fire Department receives a dispatch for medical assistance that appears to require CPR, multiple ambulances are automatically dispatched to that location and the Pulse Point app -- app -- application is activated. The nearest registered users of Pulse Point are notified of the need for CPR, and they're also provided with the location and a picture of the nearest AED. We have a brief video to show you exactly how this works from Pulse Point organization out of California.

[NOTE: A brief video was shown.]

Mr. Blanco said, so as you can see Pulse Point allows us to match volunteer first responders and AEDs with critical patients instantly via Smartphone application. Our goals associated with this application are to save lives by matching CPR providers with patients instantly; to increase the number of people trained to perform CPR and administer an AED in Chatham County; to catalog and publish all the AEDs that are currently available in Chatham County; and to increase the number and accessibility of AEDs within our county. This is truly a game changing development for our county. We appreciate the donors that have made Pulse Point possible, many of them are here today. Through three -- through these donations and the support of this Commission, I am very pleased to announce that Pulse Point effective December 2<sup>nd</sup> will be fully launched. We will officially be providing help instantaneously and providing the location of the nearest AED. Just so you know, the AED on

the first floor has already been cataloged and in the system here, so if you download the app, you'll be able to see it. Thank you again for your partnership.

Mr. Blanco said, we're open for any questions, and if it is too much of a favor to ask since social media really does play a big role in getting people to register as registered CPR users with us, there's going to be a huge media role out and launch where it's going to be Facebook and Twitter and Instagram and all of that, so we would like, since we're officially launching today to get a picture if we could of us launching it so that we can post that officially and move it out this afternoon. What questions do y'all have for us?

Chairman Scott said, okay. Any questions?

Commissioner Center said, is it all right? Would you introduce the donors who are here? You said there's some --

Mr. Blanco said, yeah, well, the donors are here. There's a little bit of over lap in the fact that several of them are anonymous and Board members but clearly Thomas J. Sheehan Insurance, which is represented by Jamie Hamrick is here. They were one of the first to step up and just say here's a concept. Colonial Oil is going to be for the December 2<sup>nd</sup> official media launch, they'll be represented; and Vaden Automotive is going to be doing all of our commercials.

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, question, Mr --

Chairman Scott said, our Vice Chair has a question for you, Vice Chair Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, do you provide assistance with the CPR training in the community?

Mr. Blanco said, yes, ma'am. Historically Southside Fire has been one of the largest providers of CPR education within Chatham County. Noting that we are not for profit and we are on a very limited budget, and we do use our current EMT and paramedic staff to provide that training.

Commissioner Thomas said, mm-hmm.

Mr. Blanco said, and so we do fulfill it as we can, and noting that a lot of that training is done off duty and for no compensation by the same EMTs and paramedics that you see running calls when they're on duty.

Commissioner Thomas said, right. So if I needed to contact someone should that be you or whom? The -- okay.

Mr. Blanco said, yeah, actually, if you go to Southside Fire, it's not active today, but it will be with the official launch, we're going to have a link that will be a form that organizations -- what we're really going to try to target are church groups, large employers, that have AEDs that have critical size --

Commissioner Thomas said, right.

Mr. Blanco said, that we can then go in and train, you know, two or 300 people at a time.

Commissioner Thomas said, that would be great. That -- that --

Mr. Blanco said, and we're going to have an app -- we're going to have a -- a link for that on our website, that you can register, and we'll send our paramedics out to train you.

Commissioner Thomas said, fantastic. Thank you very much.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Kicklighter of the 7<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I just want to recommend that y'all seek, and I can't think of their names, but there's a wonderful couple that comes here yearly.

Commissioner Brady said, Wilson is their last name.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, their last name is Wilson. Their son passed away when he was in college, and they -- every year in his memory, they -- they donate several of the --

County Manager Smith said, AEDs. Yeah.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, -- devices to -- to the county, as well as other places. There's not a time that they come up here that -- that I can think of like having like a dry eye after just watching -- listening to -- to their story. If you could somehow partner with them, because they have made it a -- their mission to make sure that these things are out and about everywhere because I believe it would have saved -- from -- it's my understanding that it possibly would have saved their son's life.

Commissioner Brady said, Cory.

County Manager Smith said, Cory.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, if y'all could get them somehow on board with y'all, speaking, I think you could -- you could -- you could -- the sky would be the limit as far as recruiting people in to -- to get them trained and -- and, you know, just becoming a part of it, because they are -- they are awesome. They are just great people and awesome parents, and they would -- they would I'm sure love to try to help y'all out with that.

Mr. Blanco said, that's a great recommendation, and we'll take that, and we'll -- we'll definitely reach out to them. And as an anecdotal comment, the -- when we have brought this as a beta test to people, we've shown them, you know, business leaders and -- in the community, they've all said, how do we help. In addition, the follow up comment that we've heard from almost every person is, when you find out where there's a lack of an AED, you call me, and we will put one there. And so, we have -- I mean numerous businesses have stepped up and said, show me where there's a desert of AEDs and I'll help get one there.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yeah, and also, I'd recommend that y'all utilize the government channel here, once you get some type of commercial, utilize it.

County Manager Smith said, yeah, we've talked to them about that. I also want to mention Mr. Chairman that we -- Nathan Benson and I, our safety -- our new safety department, we've talked about incentivizing our employees for CPR, but also, you think county-wide, we've got just about as many trucks as anybody else out on the road, with people, not just law enforcement, but Public Works, but to incentivize our employees to be first responders --

Commissioner Thomas said, great.

County Manager Smith said, -- and to have CPR training, for -- not for our own people, but they're going to be out there to assist. So if we partner with them, we're going to wrap this county up, and we're going to save lives.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yeah.

County Manager Smith said, and that's what it's about.

Commissioner Thomas said, excellent.

County Manager Smith said, so -- with not a lot of investment.

Commissioner Thomas said, excellent.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, awesome.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Chairman Scott said, the -- the program that Commissioner Kicklighter is referring to is that the have an annual charity ball game at our park, and we provide the park to them at no cost, and in return, they have been providing defibrillators to our various recreation facilities --

County Manager Smith said, correct.

Chairman Scott said, -- throughout the county, and -- and so it's been just a -- a great opportunity for us to highlight their program, and also to get this equipment installed at all of our recreation facilities in -- in hope if somebody's there and suddenly succumbed, then we'll have the equipment in place.

Mr. Blanco said, so we hope to match the qualified provider with that equipment.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

Mr. Blanco said, is really our goal so that somebody's there that knows how to use it and apply it.

Chairman Scott said, absolutely. Any further questions? If not, thank you so much.

Mr. Blanco said, thank you for your time. Could we burden y'all for a picture to role out to social media 'case we're going to officially launch.

Chairman Scott said, we'll be happy to.

Mr. Blanco said, thank you very much.

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**VI. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS**

Chairman Scott said, we don't have any Chairman --

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**VII. COMMISSIONER'S ITEMS**

Chairman Scott said, -- or Commissioner Items to consider.

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**VIII. TABLED/RECONSIDERED ITEMS**

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

1. **AT THE BOARD MEETING OF OCTOBER 23, 2015, A PORTION OF ITEM IX-1, BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND TRANSFERS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015, WAS TABLED. THAT PORTION IS SHOWN BELOW IN *ITALICS AND BOLD*. TO REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND TRANSFERS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2015: 2) *IN THE SPECIAL SERVICE DISTRICT FUND TRANSFER \$120,000 FROM CONTINGENCIES TO THE POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGET.***

Chairman Scott said, we have one tabled item. This will be the last meeting. It will roll on after the third meeting.

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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 MULTIPLE GRANT FUND INCREASE REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES \$84,345 FOR A GRANT AWARD FROM THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL (CJCC).***

Chairman Scott said, and now we're on Individual Action item. The first is to request approval of the following budget amendments and transfers: in the Multiple Grant Fund increase revenues and expenditures by \$84,345 for a grant award from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council of Georgia.

Commissioner Farrell said, so moved.

Commissioner Stone said, second.

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

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Farrell moved to approve the following budget amendments and transfers: in the Multiple Grant Fund increase revenues and expenditures \$84,354 for a grant award from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Kicklighter was not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: *IX-1***  
**AGENDA DATE: November 20, 2015**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager

**FROM:** Amy Davis, Finance Director

**ISSUE:**

To request approval of the following budget amendments and transfers: in the Multiple Grant Fund

increase revenues and expenditures \$84,354 for a grant award from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

The Chatham County Victim-Witness Program has received an \$84,345 grant award from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) to provide outreach to crime victims earlier in the criminal justice process. Correspondence and a resolution to amend the Multiple Grant Fund are attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).

**FUNDING:**

The budget amendment will establish funds in the Multiple Grant Fund.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. That the Board approve the following:

**MULTIPLE GRANT FUND**

Increase revenues and expenditures \$84,345 for a grant award from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC).

2. Amend or deny the request.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

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

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board approve Alternative 1.

Prepared by: Estelle Brown

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2. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF A PURCHASE AGREEMENT WITH CHATHAM WATER UTILITY, LLC, AND A SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH CHATHAM UTILITY MANAGEMENT, LLC, RELATED TO THE COUNTY'S WATER AND SEWER SYSTEMS. NOTE: NOT ACTION WILL BE TAKEN ON THIS ITEM UNTIL THE BOARD'S NEXT REGULAR MEETING, DECEMBER 4, 2015.**

Chairman Scott said, the second item on the agenda was to request Board approval for the purchase and agreement of Chatham Water Utility, LLC and a Service Agreement with Chatham Utilities [sic] Management, LLC related to the county water and sewer systems. And, this is on the agenda. Members -- at least three members of the Commission asked that we not take a vote on this until they have an opportunity to review the contract. We will honor that request, so we will not entertain a motion until our December 4<sup>th</sup> meeting, but if anybody have any questions or discussion, there are people in the audience who can answer them for you, and this would be an excellent time to get your question answered. So anybody --

County Manager Smith said, and if you have questions too over the next week or two we can get those and make sure we can return information to you.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

Commissioner Center said, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, I'd be interested if they'd respond to Commissioner Brady's questions about the hydrants. To hear from -- from them what they have to say about it.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

Mr. Mark Smith said, thank you very much. I'm Mark Smith, president of Chatham Water Utility. Yes, we have had a long track record of working with local fire departments. We recently just installed five fire hy -- hydrants on the Isle of Hope area in conjunction with Isle of Hope Fire Department on a cost-sharing basis. We -- we have the water system out at Rio Vista, which was identified by Southside Fire Department as the -- the area of greatest concern for Southside just recently with some recent adjustments to ISO ratings, and so we have just recently commissioned an engineering study to determine any possible enhancements that can be made to the Rio Vista fire -- water system to improve fire protection and provide a higher level of fire protection. As Mr. Hart mentioned, the contract does have a -- a paragraph in it which specifies that we will work with Isle of Hope Fire Department, and the Southside Fire Department to enhance fire flow capabilities throughout the county, and that we will make an annual report to the County Commission of those successes of those projects.

Chairman Scott said, any further question of Mr. Smith concerning the agreement or anything in the contract at this time?

Commissioner Center said, also Commissioner --

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

Commissioner Center said, thank you. Commissioner Kicklighter had a concern about the prices when this first came up a -- a month or so ago because it's -- right now the unincorporated areas are limited to being charged one and a half time the city. Could you comment on that? He's -- he's worried about those prices going up too quickly I believe.

Mr. Smith said, well the -- the -- the contract calls for prices to remain as they are for three years.

Commissioner Center said, thank you very much.

Chairman Scott said, any further questions of Mr. Smith? If not, we will have this back on the agenda on December 4<sup>th</sup>, at our first meeting in December for approval.

Mr. Smith said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, thank you. And in the meantime if anybody have any questions to Mr. Smith, would you please direct them through the County Manager, and he'll -- or you can --

County Manager Smith said, and we'll get you something back in writing.

Chairman Scott said, yeah, and -- so we can respond to any concerns or any questions anybody may have, and I'm certain that Mr. Smith will entertain any conversations you want to have directly with him. Thank you.

County Manager Smith said, thank you.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

No vote was taken on this matter today.

**AGENDA ITEM: IX-2**  
**AGENDA DATE: November 20, 2015**

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

**ISSUE:**

Request Board approval of a Purchase Agreement with Chatham Water Utility, LLC and a Service Agreement with Chatham Utility Management, LLC related to the County's water and sewer systems.

**BACKGROUND:**

Staff was directed to prepare a solicitation for the sale of the County owned and operated water and sewer systems. The solicitation was prepared and a Request for Proposals (#14-0122-7) was advertised. Responses were provided to the Board on August 14, 2015. The Board authorized staff to develop contract documents.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Chatham County owns and operates a collection of independent water and sewer systems throughout the County. The System has 3,503 customers including 478 sewer-only accounts. The County's system is composed of water wells, water distribution, sanitary sewer collection, real property/easements and a land application sanitary sewer treatment facility. More specifically, the System includes:
  - a. The Glen of Robin/Montgomery Area (Permit #CG0510109J/#CG0510099. 1.007 mgd)
  - b. Little Neck Plantation (Permit #CG0510124)
  - c. Modena on Skidaway Island (Permit #CG0510128)
  - d. Runaway Point (Permit #CG0510096)
  - e. West Chatham Water (Permit #CG0510133, 0.1 mgd) and the Pine Barren Land Application System (Permit #GA02-285, 0.06mgd)

2. As a result of an RFP process, the County received proposals from the City of Savannah, Water Utility Management, LLC (Chatham Water), and Consolidated Utilities, Inc. All proposers were interviewed. After the interviews the County requested a Best and Final Offer from the proposers. Results were presented to the Board on August 14, 2015.
3. The Board directed staff to develop a Purchase Agreement for the sale of the County's water systems and the Pine Barren sewer system to Water Utility Management Company, LLC or its affiliate, and the resulting agreement between Chatham County and Chatham Water Utility, LLC ("CWC") is attached to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file. The systems being sold include the Glen of Robin/Montgomery (water only), Runaway Point (water only) and the West Chatham/Pine Barren water and sewer system for a total value of \$6,861,000.
4. The Board also directed staff to develop a Services Agreement with the lead proposer for the wastewater/sewer system's operations, which is attached to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file, as an agreement between Chatham County and Chatham Utility Management, LLC ("CU"). Because of Savannah's reluctance to contract with a private provider for sewer treatment, the County is unable to effect an outright sale of the sewer system to a private company. The county will retain ownership of the sewer system's infrastructure and will still be responsible for most system maintenance. Sewer fees will be billed by WUM and remitted to the County to pay for the wastewater system's operation, net of a management fee. The Board of Commissioners will continue to set rates for sewer treatment for the remaining sewer customers in the Glen of Robin/Montgomery area and Runaway Point area.
5. Proceeds from sale of the water system will be deposited to the County's Water & Sewer Fund. Staff recommends that these funds be used to make needed infrastructure improvements to the County's sewer system.
6. Separate purchase agreements are being developed with other parties for the sale fo the County's two remaining water systems (Little Neck and Modena), and staff hopes to have both agreements to the Board on December 4, 2015.
7. The Services Agreement is intended to replace the County's current agreement with Chatham Water Company for the provision of billing and collection services for the County's sewer system in the Parkersburg area of Isle of Hope.
8. The County currently has back-up emergency water source agreements with the City of Savannah and Pooler. These agreements will terminate upon sale of the water system to the private provider. Both cities have indicated that they will not provide back-up services to the private provider within former County-owned systems.
9. Key provisions of the Purchase and Services Agreements mirror the original letter of intent as shown below:
  - a. CWC shall have the option only to the extent provided by law to purchase the County's wastewater system for 10 years at the price of \$1,000,000 should County elect to sell the systems at a future date.
  - b. Under the Services Agreement, the County will retain ownership of and hence retain significant maintenance and infrastructure costs for its sewer systems. 90% of all wastewater revenue will be remitted to the County and 10% retained by CU as a service fee. The County will use revenue to pay for sewer treatment and other remaining operating expenses.
  - c. Under the Services Agreement, compensation packages are being offered to current county employees. Packages are being developed in coordination with the County Human Resources Director.
  - d. CWC will maintain the current County water and the Pine Barren sewer rates for a three (3) year period following the sale of the systems, and will work toward a uniform system of billing rates for all of its water customers within Chatham County. The purchaser estimates that it will take approximately 12 years to make rates uniform across its customer base.
  - e. CWC will pursue opportunities to enhance fire flows and will provide the County Manager with an annual report of its efforts toward this goal.
  - f. CWC is authorized through the Purchase Agreement to make needed repairs at Runaway Point, Pine Barren and Glen of Robin in the amount of \$184,167 which will adjust the net sale proceeds at closing.

- g. The closing date under the Purchase Agreement will occur within ninety (90) days of the Board's approval of the agreement.
- 10. System customers will be notified of the transition of services through a joint letter from the purchaser and the county Finance Director. County staff will redirect any water or sewer payments received after closing to the purchaser.
- 11. The Purchase Agreement includes a number of asset transfers, and the Board's approval of this document will be construed as authorization for the County Attorney and Finance Director to make these transfers in accordance with the agreement, subject to final closing. After the closing and at a subsequent meeting, the Board will be asked to approve budget adjustments reflective of needed accounting entries related to the sale of the system's assets.

**FUNDING:**

Sale proceeds will be allocated to the Water and Sewer Fund to be used for future maintenance and upgrades of the wastewater system infrastructure.

**POLICY STATEMENT:**

Board action is required to dispose County property.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

- 1. Request Board approval of the Purchase Agreement with Chatham Water Utility, LLC and the Services Agreement with Chatham Utility Management, LLC, thereby authorizing the Chairman's execution of these agreements and related documents.
- 2. Provide staff with other direction.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Board approve Alternative #1.

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### **3. TO PRESENT THE FISCAL YEAR 2016 FIRST QUARTER REPORT DATED SEPTEMBER 30, 2015, TO THE BOARD FOR INFORMATION.**

Chairman Scott said, the next item, 3, is to present the fiscal year 2016 fiscal [sic] quarterly report dated September 30, 2015.

County Manager Smith said, I'll ask Amy Davis of the finance office to give the report at this time. Okay. Cue up.

Chairman Scott said, and you have a hard copy on your desk in front of you.

County Manager Smith said, yes, at your table -- you should have your hard copy. Also, I know Amy and I and Linda [Cramer], we've had discussions about -- in presentation of financials, one thing that I would ask as Manager, as you look at these, we -- we're always interested in what information do you want and in what format? So that's important to Amy and I, I know, because we want to make sure that you're informed on a regular basis, but that it makes sense to you and to the public. So if you see ways that we can improve that, if you would send those to my office, just give us a call, that way, because we -- we want to give you the information you want in the format you want. So we're going to keep trying to improve. So please let us know that as we move through the process. Thank you. Amy.

Ms. Amy Davis, Finance Director, said, Chairman, Commissioners, pleased to present our first quarter financial statements. It's rather anticlimactic since we haven't really received any revenues in, but there are a few bright spots. On our first page here, you -- we have a summary here of the General Fund. We have revenues of 12.8 million and expenditures of 40 million, which is about right for this time of the year. And the Special Service District had revenues of 2.3 and expenditures of 8.1.

Ms. Davis said, next slide is our Special Revenue Funds, and as you can see, there's a couple in there that have -- are negative, but there's reasons for it. They -- we -- we had the payments to the City of Savannah a little bit early this month, and so it kind of skewed the 9-1-1 off a little bit. On our Capital Projects Fund, in total in the first quarter we have spent 5.3 million on capital projects. So we are utilizing those funds and making a difference in the county. Our Enterprise Fund's next. Probably not the best picture here, but -- yes, sir.

Commissioner Farrell said, quick question. You -- you've got revenue for the first quarter on these different SPLOST projects, I'm assuming that's some sort of interest on the -- on all but the last one.

Ms. Davis said, correct. Yes.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Farrell said, okay. So -- and we've got a very conservative way to invest that. What's it bringing? Like 1 percent or something? Or less?

Ms. Davis said, absolutely. I mean we have traditionally left our money in our Georgia Fund One account, which is actually at this point in time earning about .17 percent. We have been actively pursuing more treasury and agency securities, as well as CD instruments that are earning us roughly on average about 1.5 percent. So in those types of securities, we have almost \$100 million earning about one and a half percent, which isn't a lot but it's better than .17.

County Manager Smith said, 17.

Commissioner Farrell said, well, in this current climate of extremely low returns on -- on -- on money, then a 1.5 percent is a -- is very good considering that the government cannot take any kind of risk and it has to be such a low risk that generally the return is -- is -- is -- is very close to -- to -- to nil, so.

Ms. Davis said, I will say though we don't have our final audit report in, but in 2014, we earned roughly 400,000 in interest earnings. In 2015 we earned 1.9 million.

Commissioner Farrell said, well that's a big jump.

Commissioner Stone said, it sure is.

County Manager Smith said, it is a big jump.

Commissioner Farrell said, and -- and what do you attribute that -- that's --

Ms. Davis said, just more actively into the bond and treasury market --

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Ms. Davis said, I mean the agency markets.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Commissioner Farrell said, staff being more active in -- in --

County Manager Smith said, in those investments.

County Attorney Hart said, and -- and the state legislature loosened up a little bit on what we could invest in --

County Manager Smith said, yes.

County Attorney Hart said, so. Gave us an opportunity to --

County Manager Smith said, that helped us out a lot.

Commissioner Farrell said, so that netted us over \$1 million in one year?

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, almost two.

County Manager Smith said, almost two.

Commissioner Farrell said, I mean increase.

County Manager Smith said, yeah. Yeah.

Commissioner Farrell said, an increase.

County Manager Smith said, by 1.5, 1.6. Yeah.

Commissioner Farrell said, so my hat's off to staff for paying attention to -- to trying to leverage our -- our finances in the correct direction. So thank you.

County Manager Smith said, yeah. Yeah, that's part of what with Amy, Linda and Diane McNabb, we've been talking about policies we'll be bringing you on investments on our reserves and the reasons why we're doing those things to bring back a good return, but also using the money, you know, because, you know, we hear a lot about SPLOST funds sitting there, well, now you're seeing SPLOST funds hit the ground. We're starting to build things, design things. So it's hitting the ground. So, this next calendar year, you're going to see a lot of activity.

Commissioner Farrell said, good.

Ms. Davis said, on our next slide, the Enterprise Fund, our water sewer fund is not -- about half a million down, but a lot of that is because of the improvements we're making in anticipation of the sale.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Ms. Davis said, as well as writing off some of our bad debts that have been sitting there. Yes, sir.

Commissioner Center said, I was going to say, on the solid waste fund, is that the -- the dry waste that -- that we had a debate several months ago about whether or not to raise the fee?

Ms. Davis said yes.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Ms. Davis said, yes and actually, those fees are billed the beginning of the year, so all of those \$42 fees have already been billed and most are -- mostly collected, so --

Commissioner Center said, all right. So the revenue there is basically collected.

Ms. Davis said, yes.

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, okay. I can --

Ms. Davis said, but I will say on a -- on another note, and again, I'm going to present a final year information next month, but at the end of 2015 it was in the black by about \$40,000.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Ms. Davis said, so. Our next slide is our SPLOST VI fund.

Commissioner Stone said, can --

Ms. Davis said, oh, I'm sorry.

Commissioner Stone said, I just need to go back to that other slide. When we were talking about the water. Can you go back one slide?

Ms. Davis said, oh, I'm sorry.

Commissioner Stone said, the water sewer fund --

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Stone said, you said that we had some expenses on improvements. I was under the impression that that was one of the reasons we were selling was because so many improvements need to be done. So is there a reason why we're --

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

County Attorney Hart said, yeah. There's a --

County Manager Smith said, yes.

County Attorney Hart said, -- it's a definitional issue about what an improvement is, okay? Technically I wouldn't put it in the improvement basis. I would put it back to getting it up to where it should be.

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Commissioner Stone said, okay.

County Attorney Hart said, when we -- when they --

County Manager Smith said, we're catching up.

County Attorney Hart said, -- initially -- when they initially bid the projects, they assumed certain pumps worked and certain connections worked and whatever. As they did their due diligence, it came forward that we had three major repair systems that we had been operating on a reserve, and they need to be fixed. And -- so the decision was made, do we fix it and then deal with the sale or do we find out if -- what it would cost us to do it

and if they can do it cheaper, allow them to do it, because if the sale goes through they're going to be operating the system, and we figured if they're going to be operating it, they -- they're -- they're going to be fixing it in a way that saves them money in the long term. So -- and all we're going to do is probably subtract those repairs off of the -- the purchase price, and they're going to be somewhere in the range all total of about \$200,000.

Commissioner Stone said, okay. Thank you.

County Manager Smith said, also, you need to keep in mind, I know this is kind of going into as you're looking at the contract for the -- the water sale and looking at the management services basically of sewer, remember, we still retain the sewer. When we look at the dollars, the proceeds from that sale, we're going to reserve those dollars for improvements to the sewer system. So we're -- because that sewer system is rather old, so we still will have that responsibility. It will be managed, but we've got to fix it, and we're talking millions of dollars. So we're going to be reserving those -- so we wanted to make clear, Amy, Linda and I had this discussion, they think, okay, oh boy, we're rich.

Commissioner Stone said, mm-hmm.

County Manager Smith said, we've got to reserve the dollars 'cause we have improvements to make on that sewer system.

Commissioner Stone said, I understand.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Commissioner Stone said, I just didn't want us spending money that --

County Manager Smith said, no.

Commissioner Stone said, -- if we're about to sell a system for improvements --

County Manager Smith said, this was part of the deal.

Commissioner Stone said, -- because I thought that was part of the deal.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Stone said, so thank you very much.

County Manager Smith said, yeah. Thank you.

County Attorney Hart said, you will see that in the contract also.

County Manager Smith said, yes.

County Attorney Hart said, the Runaway Point and the --

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

County Attorney Hart said, -- and the estimates attached to the contract.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you.

Ms. Davis said, our SPLOST funds are doing rather well. We've collected -- since inception of this 66.5 million. In addition we have the 474 in the TAVT revenues, for a total of 66.9, and it's fairly much ahead of schedule. On another schedule I think that was distributed previously showing how much has been distributed to the cities based on their budgeted amount, and looking at just the budgeted amounts, we've distributed almost 2 million more to the cities than what is on their budget.

Commissioner Stone said, okay.

Commissioner Farrell said, so the last SPLOST was little behind, and this one's --

Ms. Davis said, right.

County Manager Smith said, it's picking up.

Commissioner Farrell said, -- getting a little head.

Ms. Davis said, yeah.

Commissioner Farrell said, so we're kind of --

Ms. Davis said, starting off well.

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Commissioner Farrell said, good. Good. Good news.

County Attorney Hart said, we -- we were very conservative though in projections.

County Manager Smith said, oh, yeah.

Ms. Davis said, internal services --

County Manager Smith said, I'd rather be ahead.

Ms. Davis said, internal services funds, we have our Health Insurance and our Risk Management Fund. So far year to date both of those are doing well. And then finally on our last page -- sorry, our health insurance fund, just comparing our claims from last year to this year, the claims are up somewhat, but I have a good feeling that, you know, that's just a three-month number and maybe those averages will come down.

County Manager Smith said, well part -- part of -- let me -- two things. First of all, in our Health Insurance, but particularly in our Risk Management fund, at the next meeting, we're going to be bringing to you from our safety program two initiatives on helping to reduce cost. We're going to hire a third party manager to help our risk management to do investigations. Where we've had people who -- on modified duty for long periods of time. Things that we know we can literally save half a million up to \$1 million easily with the 20, \$30,000 investment annually. So we're going to be bringing that to you. But also you have seen in the Health Insurance Fund, you've seen that crawl up a little bit. Obviously, we've had a couple of folks who have been -- have been sick within our -- our funded system, but we have encouraged people to get their -- their physicals this year. We're giving, you know, like wellness points for them to participate, so as we've had our health clinic, people are doing a little more, but that's the preventative side. That will go up slightly whenever you start these programs, then it levels off. So we -- this is not surprising to me nor is it to HR, so I feel very comfortable where we are with those right now.

Commissioner Center said, so -- so you think this is just a blip? That this --

County Manager Smith said, well, I believe in that first year -- because when you push people to be healthy and get your physical, your number goes up. It's very typical. So -- and we knew that was going to happen, and we adjusted to make sure of that. So I don't feel like in -- in looking at some of the -- we've had a couple folks we've had some issues with, certain illnesses, you know, a little higher this year, but not unusual. So I would say right now, it's the preventative side that's pushed it up, and then you'll see it level off.

Ms. Davis said, and I would like to mention too --

County Manager Smith said, oh yeah.

Ms. Davis said, -- that 2014 was our real high year.

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Ms. Davis said, it was averaging about 2 million.

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Ms. Davis said, so it dropped down to the 1.4 --

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Ms. Davis said, -- in 2015. So.

County Manager Smith said, we're hoping that the preventative side is going to allow us for people to catch things in advance of their being acute. That's where it costs you so much. We need to catch it in early stages, whatever the issue is, if it's diabetes, if it's whatever. We need -- we need to catch things early for our employees and -- and being healthier. So.

Commissioner Holmes said, so, Mr. Smith?

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Commissioner Holmes said, the -- the position that we planned on putting in for the claim, had that person been in place, that figure would have been there?

County Manager Smith said, we -- it would be substantially lower.

Commissioner Holmes said, and that's what we're looking at --

County Manager Smith said, that's -- we absolutely in bringing on --

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

County Manager Smith said, and the one thing we promised with this team that I brought with Nathan [Benson] and James [Abersson], --

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

County Manager Smith said, Leigh [Herald], and --

Ms. Davis said, Greg Scott.

County Manager Smith said, -- and Greg, we're looking to expand our services on investigations of worker's compensation. You know there are times that it just flies under the radar --

Commissioner Holmes said, right.

County Manager Smith said, -- that costs you hundreds of thousands of dollars a year for an individual. That may or may not be our responsibility. So, we are -- we are letting our folks know that we're going to be very -- like modified duty, if you can work, we're going to bring you to work. So we're going to have to be tougher on those issues, but there are ways to save money in risk management, but also on the safety side of preventing injuries.

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

County Manager Smith said, and incentivizing the employees when they stay safer longer.

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

County Manager Smith said, incentivize that. It will save you money.

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

County Manager Smith said, I mean most of you have worked for these larger industries, they've been doing it for 50 years and government's just catching up, but we're -- we're going to treat our folks the same and people -- we've got to change our culture to to safety and healthier, and we're going to -- we're going to see a difference. So I think you'll be impressed next month.

Commissioner Holmes said, so Amy, there ain't that -- it -- it's not that much different --

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Holmes said, -- here from '14 to '15.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Commissioner Holmes said, but it can be much lower.

County Manager Smith said, oh yeah. It can be, particularly in risk.

Commissioner Holmes said, uh-huh.

Commissioner Center said, may I go back to page two and the child support fund? Is that money collected from one parent to pay another parent?

County Attorney Hart said, yes.

Ms. Davis said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, so why are we paying more than we're collecting?

Ms. Davis said, well, we -- it's a -- it -- I mean we pay out what we bring in, so you still have that administrative cost.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Ms. Davis said, so it's just the cost of --

County Manager Smith said, that's the cost of doing business. It's the cost of doing business.

Ms. Davis said, -- running the fund.

Commissioner Center said, this child support, I mean, what is the child support fund then?

Ms. Davis said, it's basically --

County Manager Smith said, court-ordered.

Ms. Davis said, -- a group of people that basically enforce the court order.

County Manager Smith said, that's been court ordered.

Ms. Davis said, yeah.

Commissioner Center said, so it's court-ordered payments from one parent to another one.

Ms. Davis said, yep.

County Manager Smith said, yeah, but then we've got to find sources by which to be able to collect, Jon, where we would go to attach their wages. I mean there's all sorts of ways.

County Attorney Hart said, we've got the -- we've got --

Ms. Davis said, we don't charge anything for that service.

Commissioner Center said, so, we -- we -- we incur a cost on top of the parents' responsibility?

Chairman Scott said, yes.

County Manager Smith said, oh on the administrative side, absolutely.

Chairman Scott said, yes. This is something that -- that when I start talking about unfunded mandates --

County Manager Smith said, that's one.

Chairman Scott said, -- these are the kind of things that you have. You have a program where you collect the money, but they -- there's no means of paying for the administration and sometime the state steps in and pay it one year or two years.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Chairman Scott said, and then it's on the counties.

County Manager Smith said, exactly.

Commissioner Center said, well, that's why I asked because what --

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Commissioner Center said, -- if -- if you go to traffic court and you get a fine that's all kind of add ons, they don't get collected, but to pay for the administration. But there's no add ons --

County Manager Smith said, we don't get that opportunity here.

County Manager Smith said, -- that's something that we should look at as a legislative --

County Manager Smith said, that's possible.

Commissioner Center said, -- agenda.

County Attorney Hart said, on average -- on average, our child support recovery system is probably the most successful one in the state.

Chairman Scott said, that's -- that's something you could talk to them about.

Commissioner Center said, it is?

County Manager Smith said, yeah. It's very successful.

County Attorney Hart said, we get about 40 percent more than the average county our size.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, but I -- I would -- may I?

Chairman Scott said, go ahead.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I would think that would be such a touchy subject.

County Manager Smith said, oh it -- it is touchy.

Commissioner Center said, deadbeat dads.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I'm saying to -- to pay -- yeah, 'cause the parents waiting on that child support check to feed the kids, and if the government's taking a little portion of it, that's just -- I'm just saying that would be a very touchy --

Commissioner Center said, add on. I understand.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, very, very, very touchy subject to take part of that away.

Chairman Scott said, but --

County Attorney Hart said, yeah. I don't think you're going to get any legislation on that.

County Manager Smith said, yeah. We bet legislation would be slim or none to get that.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yeah.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Chairman Scott said, but keep in mind -- keep in mind, tax payers are --

County Manager Smith said, are footing the bill.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yeah. Yeah. I mean, yeah. But I agree that that's -- that's very different that it does that, but --

Ms. Davis said, any other questions?

County Manager Smith said, okay. Thank you. Thanks.

Chairman Scott said, thanks Amy.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, just saving you the energy, Commissioner. You -- the state's not going to do anything about that. Yeah, they're not touching that.

County Attorney Hart said, heard that before.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yeah. They're not touching that.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

For information only.

**AGENDA ITEM: IX-3**  
**AGENDA DATE: November 20, 2015**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager

**FROM:** Amy Davis, Finance Director

**ISSUE:**

To present the Fiscal Year 2016 First Quarter Financial Report dated September 30, 2015 to the Board for information.

**BACKGROUND:**

Financial reporting conveys information concerning the position and activities of the County to its citizens and other interested parties. Interim financial reports generally are prepared for use by professional government managers and board members. Such reports monitor levels of year-to-date operations and determine compliance with budgetary limitations.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The First Quarter Report covers the County's funds and activities, presenting budget-to-actual comparisons. Adopted and amended fund budgets are shown as well as variance data. Comparative prior year numbers are presented on the General Fund and Special Service District Summary reports.
2. The amended budgets shown herein represent budget transfers approved through September 30, 2015. In some cases, subsequent adjustments have occurred. Year-to-date expenditure and project balances are presented. Open purchase orders and outstanding contractual obligations are not included in the year-to-date expenditure amounts.
3. Notable items include the following:

**General Fund M&O**

- The General Fund received revenues of \$12.8 million through September 2015 and expended \$42.5 million. This represented 7.6% and 23.6% of budgeted amounts respectively. Expenditures exceeded revenues by \$27.2 million. Cash balances in the fund were positive at the end of the quarter.
- General property tax collections were \$4.6 million or 3.5% of annual budget. Sales and use taxes were \$4.1 million or 27.2% of budget. Tax collection amounts are lower than this same period in FY2015 because of adjustments made in October 2014 whereas the adjustments were made in September 2015. Collections in October reflect an increase over prior year. Interest income of \$354,849 was recognized on investment in bonds and agency securities, which represents 157.71% of the annual budget.
- Expenditure variances significantly over the 25% mid-year budget for the following departments and function categories are explained below:
  - No departments were over budget.
  - Transfers to other funds were made in total in the first quarter.
  - Debt service payments have been made in accordance with the debt payment schedule.

**Special Service District (SSD)**

- Through September 30, 2015 the SSD Fund had received revenues of \$2.3 million, 7.59% of budgeted amounts. Expenditures of \$8.1 million were recorded or 26.31% of budgeted amounts. Expenditures exceeded revenues by \$5.8 million and the fund's cash balances were positive.
- General property tax collections were \$1.26 million or 6.12% of budgeted revenues.
- Expenditure variances significantly over the 25% mid-year budget for the following departments and function categories are explained below:
  - As a result of transfers to other funds, including CIP, BSRS and Risk Management occur at the beginning of the year, other financing uses reflect 66.11% of budget spent.
  - No departments were over budget.

**Water and Sewer Fund**

- Operating revenues were \$133,730 and expenses were \$372,606 for a net deficit of \$238,876. The fund uses cycle billing which delays the recording of revenue.

**Solid Waste Management Fund**

- Revenues at September 30, 2015 were \$1.4 million and expenses were \$745,697 for net income of \$669,946. TAVT revenues were \$128,344 and the total revenues include \$1.1 million transfer from other funds.

**Building Safety & Regulatory Fund**

- Revenues were \$230,674 and expenditures were \$237,863. Permit and fee revenues were \$223,885 or 40.71% of budget.

**Risk Management Fund**

- Claims of \$109,159 were incurred in the first quarter, which represents 54.58% of the annual budget.
- Total expenditures in the fund were \$1.2 million.

**Health Insurance Fund**

- Year to date claims totaled \$4 million with an average monthly amount of \$1.3 million. This is down from the average monthly amount in FY 2015 of \$1.47 million.

**Capital Projects Fund**

- \$4.65 million in capital project expenditures were incurred the first three months of the year.

**FUNDING:**

N/A

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

Interim financial reports provide revenue and budgetary oversight by comparing actual receipts or expenditures against budgeted amounts.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

N/A

**RECOMMENDATION:**

For information only.

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**4. CNT MONTHLY REPORT GIVEN VERBALLY BY DIRECTOR RAGAN.**

Chairman Scott said, Director Ragan with the monthly CNT report.

CNT Director D. Everett Ragan said, good morning Mr. Chairman. Good morning Commissioners.

Commissioner Center said, good morning.

Director Ragan said, I apologize if I got a little raspy voice, but I've got one of the little doses of Savannah crud, so. In reference to the October 2015 monthly report. In -- investigations initiated were 67. We closed out 22 of those. Agency assists, we had a couple hours with clean up for Precinct 4 meth clean up; drug presentation at the Savannah High School; and assisting Savannah Metro with a -- one pound marijuana seizure. So in the month we seized over 154,840 worth of illegal drugs. Drugs seized to date were right at 761,766, illegal drugs so far that we have -- we have seized. Drugs purchased again we see that heroin is a -- is our main player again. It's not unique to Chatham County but heroin is making a come back throughout -- throughout the nation.

Director Ragan said, we -- we seized eight firearms to bring the total of 107 so far; 13 arrests, making a total of 218. Pretty much the locations of the -- where the suspects lived are again, Savannah, Tybee, Bloomingdale, Garden City, Statesboro. We adopted two cases from Metro in reference to manufacturing marijuana and possession of marijuana with intent to distribute. Drug complaints, we had 22 from my hotline call ins; four from outside intelligence; and then 20 from Crime Stoppers. The next few pages again are areas of our -- that you see happens each week and it's highlighted by your -- your Districts. Hours expended in our precincts, again, Islands and Central Precinct lead. We have been spending some time on the -- on the southside, and, of course, the City of Savannah time spent is a -- again way out there.

Director Ragan said, drug investigations by our -- by zones are going to be the -- 1801 from -- for all precincts; the municipalities 494; and 180 -- 98 in the unincorporated area. And before I do the highlights, we'll go ahead get -- get started on the -- the Power Point. Again, this Power Point is basically a accumulation of some of the things we've done the last three -- three months that we can highlight a few -- a few different other things in-- in reference to these. Again, we had a -- a case with significant amount of heroin overdoses coming from one residence. We tracked nine overdoses with one fatality coming from one residence. A couple of sources of heroin coming from there. That investigation is still continuing with -- with a massive flow chart of -- of customers, EMS calls, people who took people to the hospital, and a person who died, so at one -- some point we'll be able to perhaps bring that whole flow chart -- chart in, but again it's -- it's still -- it's still an active investigation.

Director Ragan said, this heroin -- person who owned this house is -- is -- this heroin that we -- was one of the suppliers that came in. We'd already arrested one guy. This gentlemen, we followed up this search warrant on him, and again additional heroin and weapons for that individual. We have been -- been in contact with Metro homicide and with the DAs office seeing about furthering this in reference to the individuals who are -- were responsible for this death. This one house that we -- we investigated is off 59<sup>th</sup> Street. Again, it's an individual who was allowing people to come in -- it was like a -- a shooting gallery, and shoot up heroin, providing heroin. We found that that house is completely paid for. It was -- he's going to be in jail for a while, so we have initiated seizure proceedings on that house on 59<sup>th</sup> Street. So, again, seizing houses is sometime a pain, but eventually, we will get -- be able -- the county will get to sell it or make some other use of that house. But again, taking away their assets.

Director Ragan said, we're still seeing on occasion the conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine. Again, sudafed, lithium batteries, drink bottles, the one pot method. We're still seeing those. In this case again, they broke in to an unused garage and were -- had set up a meth lab in that. Again, investigation continuing, and one person's arrested, another person is -- two -- two people arrested. One burglary attached -- attached to it plus additional charges from Fulton County.

Director Ragan said, working with Tybee Island Police Department we seen an arrest in reference to crystal meth. Again, trafficking amounts of methamphetamine. This is the crystal meth -- this is what comes out of Mexico generally by way of Atlanta. It's extremely more -- it's extremely more potent than what the old one pot slush method -- method is, and this is the drug by choice of -- of a lot of people now, and it's -- that is developing into all aspects of society, is the crystal meth. It's cheaper and is more addictive. And you can order up in your

-- your friendly meth dealer, you can order up whether you want it the blue, the white or the brown. According to the meth heads, the different colors give different aspects of what euphoria you get from -- from this drug.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, can -- can you back up? That one individual was booked 33 times and arrested nine times? Is that what that is?

Director Ragan said, that person has been arrested 33 times over the course of his career. Not convicted on everything but again arrests. He has -- this is his ninth drug related arrest by CNT.

Commissioner Center said, has he been convicted of any of them?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, how in the world --

Director Ragan said, oh, he's been convicted of a bunch of them, and -- and Meg [Heap] and I had a -- had a conversation about this, and -- about this one individual, and, of course, she's fielded an extreme -- an enormous amount of phone calls from -- in reference to this case on this individual. But he had been convicted on multiple felonies before, and unfortunately, on -- like the case before this he was charged with a felony marijuana possession, and -- and the -- he just received probation on that, so even after his -- he was out on probation for -- for this from marijuana possession when we made the arrest.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, that would make a great like front page story in the paper, just that one individual.

Director Ragan said, well -- the --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, to show the public what -- how police actually do their jobs.

Commissioner Thomas said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, and they arrest over and over and over and over.

Director Ragan said, it --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, and it gives a little bit of info to the public to see that it's -- it's definitely not all about the police. It's a messed up judicial system.

Director Ragan said, in my conversations with Ms. -- with DA Heap, she caught a lot of flack on this one, when the -- when the person who was --

Chairman Scott said, let me make sure the public understand it is not the opinion of this Commission that the judicial system is messed up. It's Commissioner Kicklighter's, because -- because you -- you can't just broad paint all the judges because it's --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, no, and I agree, Mr. Chairman, it's -- but as the opinion of someone who's brother was murdered when I was 17, our judicial system is screwed up, and I'm not talking about Meg Heap. I'm just talking about if an individual can be arrested 33 times, nine drug related, and three by CNT, and he was arrested again, our judicial system's screwed up. So.

County Manager Smith said, but it's the -- honestly, and I -- I know we've talked about this with -- with Ragan and with, you know, Meg, and with the judges, it's the law.

Director Ragan said, it's the law.

County Manager Smith said, and unless that law is changed, it's pretty prescribed as to how judges are going to react. You know, so, even though we'll say, it's not even their fault, the law has to change because it's very prescribed and but for -- and correct me if I'm wrong -- now if there are weapons involved, then it goes to a higher level, and you don't see the repeat because they go to prison.

Director Ragan said, the current -- the current trend and -- and -- and particularly out of justice out of Washington, and it is feeding down to our federal partners, and even to our -- our state level that to get the added -- the incentive -- you know, used to have the -- used to have the crack cocaine incentive to increase sentences. No longer there. It's -- it's -- it's been -- it's being downgraded a lot of people being released, but if you get weapons and show violence, so we've done more partnerships within the last six months with ATF and DEA in reference -- and -- and with the -- Metro's UNIT and metro police in reference to guns and dope -- and that's where you're going to get the added incentives now is in guns and gun violence.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, and -- and to clarify, I want to make very clear, I don't think for one minute that Meg Heap was in office for all 33 arrests or all nine drug related --

Director Ragan said, oh, absolutely not.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, -- or all three CNT, so I'm not speaking of her whatsoever.

County Manager Smith said, it's been over many years.

Chairman Scott said, she may have been the assistant DA.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, she may have been, but I -- that's -- my thoughts on this is no reflection on Meg Heap whatsoever.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Director Ragan said, no. She -- she works extremely -- extremely well with us. Like I say, we're -- we're the only drug enforcement agency in the -- in the state that has two in-home ADAs assigned to us plus staff --

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Director Ragan said, -- that are at our disposal 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, right.

Director Ragan said, and we work their behinds off, I will tell you that right now.

County Manager Smith said, but the police and CNT, when you talk to all these different units, even with the chief, law enforcement's very, very frustrated.

Director Ragan said, oh, extremely.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, it's -- it's horrible.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

Director Ragan said, extremely.

Chairman Scott said, when -- when guns are involved though, it takes on a different color.

County Manager Smith said, absolutely.

Director Ragan said, it takes on a different --

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Director Ragan said, -- it takes on a different --

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Director Ragan said, -- a different life when you -- when we can associate with guns, and I'll --

County Manager Smith said, that's why they don't want to be caught with the guns.

Director Ragan said, and I'll show you a slide or two from now, I'll -- I'll be able to point that out. Again, we went over this once before, homeless camp. So it's not -- this is everybody. These are homeless who can either scrape up enough money for some sudafed, for a couple lithium batteries, some Coleman fuel, and mix all that together, and be out in the woods behind McAlpin Square, and cook up their own --

Commissioner Center said, that's where this was?

Director Ragan said, yes, sir. This was behind McAlpin Square. Yes it was. Homeless camp.

Commissioner Center said, and that's a Kroger cart?

Director Ragan said, yeah. This is one I wanted to speak about, this individual was really wanting to trade heroin for weapons. We were able to set up, and we used ATF. We swapped him these three guns. He was specific in pretty much what he wanted, assault type weapons. We were able to do a -- a reverse on him, and -- and he provided us the drugs. He had the guns, and when he walked out there -- of course inoperable and unloaded, but whenever he walked out the hotel room, he was swatted by Metro SWAT. So he -- he took a -- a -- a real rude awakening with this. Again, he was searching for drugs -- excuse me, selling drugs for weapons.

Commissioner Center said, these -- these weapons showing in the top right hand corner, that's an Uzi?

Director Ragan said, no, sir. Top right hand corner is a -- is an assault weapon. I think that's an M-4.

County Attorney Hart said, lower left.

County Manager Smith said, lower left.

Commissioner Center said, the one in the lower left?

Director Ragan said, the lower left is an Uzi.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Commissioner Center said, people don't -- people don't use those to hunt deer, do they?

Director Ragan said, no, sir.

County Manager Smith said, no, they do not.

Commissioner Center said, so what's the -- I -- I guess I'm going behind your expertise, what's the purpose of those being sold on the street?

Director Ragan said, massive kill power, fire power, massive destruction.

Commissioner Center said, yet, those can be legally bought by a qualified purchaser on the street.

Director Ragan said, Uzi can't.

Commissioner Center said, Uzi cannot.

County Manager Smith said, no. It's illegal.

Director Ragan said, Uzi cannot, no.

Commissioner Center said, so when you get an Uzi, do we have to re-sell that or we can destroy that?

Director Ragan said, no, sir. We can destroy it.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Commissioner Center said, okay. So there are certain categories --

Director Ragan said, the other -- the other two, we can get -- if we -- these are actually -- actually guns we -- we borrowed from ATF. They assisted in the investigation.

County Manager Smith said, but those other two would be an example of those we would sell.

Director Ragan said, yes, absolutely.

Commissioner Center said, we do -- do we destroy the Uzis?

Director Ragan said, sir? Yes, sir.

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, all right. So there's certain categories we can destroy.

Director Ragan said, yeah, I can, you know.

Chairman Scott said, can -- can you make us a slide, and you can email to me if you like or -- of all the guns that you've confiscated in the last 36 months that's been re-sold?

Director Ragan said, yes, sir. We -- we haven't sold that many. We tried I think we've sold six or seven bundles.

Chairman Scott said, I -- but I want -- I want to know the potential of being re-sold.

Director Ragan said, oh, the potential. I'll get you a slide of everything we recovered.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

Director Ragan said, with the potential of being re-sold in the last --

Commissioner Center said, great question.

Director Ragan said, yes. I'll get you that made up. Yes, sir. There's another -- this is one -- another aspect of CNT that we usually don't hit on, but sometimes that goes -- that goes by the -- without the attention that it deserves, participating in community outreach with the schools, the police departments, the communities. We

all -- and a big participant in the Red Ribbon week, which is in our Public school systems for the week of October. Youth education, these are two -- one was a -- actually showing the -- one elementary class who's one of my agents, one of the ones dressed is a -- is one of the agents, his son was in that class. So they --they asked for -- see what daddy does, so they always like to see the-- the getups, the gun. The other photograph is the -- is at Savannah high School where an intelligence officer goes in, we talk about drugs at Savannah High School.

Director Ragan said, again, this is a --

Commissioner Center said, oh. Okay.

Director Ragan said, this is a participation at the Islands during a -- a Halloween at the Islands Precinct, table set up and all with the kids again. We -- we -- we instruct not only the Tybee Island Police -- citizens' police academy, we instruct at the Savannah-Chatham Metro Police Department citizens' police academy. So we're always there to make a presentation. And any questions?

Chairman Scott said, any questions of Director Ragan?

Commissioner Center said, thank you very much.

Chairman Scott said, thank you, Director.

Director Ragan said, yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, appreciate it.

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

For information only.

[NOTE: CNT monthly Report filed in Clerk of Commission's meeting file.]

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## **X. ACTION CALENDAR**

<p>The Board can entertain one motion to adopt the below-listed calendar. Such motion would mean adoption of staff's recommendation. Any Board Member may choose to pull an item from the calendar and it would be considered separately.</p>
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Chairman Scott said, the next is the Action Calendar. There was no indication in the Green Room that anybody wanted to pull anything off, so at this point I'll entertain a motion for approval.

Commissioner Center said, I move we approve the Action Calendar.

Commissioner Shabazz said, second.

Commissioner Stone said, second.

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

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

Commissioner Center moved to approve all items on the Action Calendar, Items 1 through 6 and under Item 6 Items A through G. Commissioner Shabazz seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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

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- 1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 6, 2015, AS MAILED.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of November 6, 2015, as mailed. Commissioner Shabazz seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 29, 2015 THROUGH NOVEMBER 11, 2015.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved to authorize the Finance Director to pay the claims against the County for the period of October 29, 2015 through November 11, 2015, in the amount of \$5,539,615. Commissioner Shabazz seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**3. REQUEST BOARD ADOPT THE 2016 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved to adopt the 2016 holiday schedule. Commissioner Shabazz seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM: X-3**  
**AGENDA DATE: November 20, 2015**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners  
**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager  
**FROM:** Carolyn A. Smalls, Human Resources Director

**ISSUE:**  
To adopt the 2016 holiday schedule.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Chatham County Board of Commissioners recognizes eleven holidays each year on which County offices are authorized to close. Each year the Board of Commissioners sets the holiday calendar in order to allow departments to schedule business activities.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. In accordance with the Personnel Ordinance and Procedures Manual, employees appointed to full-time regular, part-time regular and seasonal positions shall receive regular compensation for eleven holidays per year, or any other day proclaimed by the Board of Commissioners as a holiday.
2. Attached is the proposed holiday schedule for January through December 2016. These holidays are recognized nationally and are not chosen based upon any religious uniqueness.

**FUNDING:**

No additional funds required. These days are currently budgeted as work days.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Adopt attached schedule.
2. Adopt attached schedule with modifications.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

Each year the Board of Commissioners authorizes eleven holidays on which offices are to be closed. It is the policy of the Board to provide paid holidays as an employee benefit. This practice is consistent with other major employers in the local and regional labor market areas.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.

<u>Holiday</u>	<u>Date Observed</u>
New Year's Day	Friday, January 1
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Monday, January 18
President's Day	Monday, February 15
Memorial Day	Monday, May 30
Independence Day	Monday, July 4
Labor Day	Monday, September, 5
Veterans Day	Friday, November 11
Thanksgiving	Thursday November 24 Friday, November 25
Christmas Eve	Friday, December 23
Christmas	Monday, December 26

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4. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF THE VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT (VOCA) GRANT AWARD FROM THE GEORGIA CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR A NEW FULL-TIME VICTIM ADVOCATE POSITION IN CHATHAM COUNTY VICTIM-WITNESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO ASSIST VICTIMS OF CRIME FROM THE TIME OF ARREST TO EARLY VICTIM CONTACT AND SUPPORT; ALSO APPROVE A PART-TIME COMMUNITY OUTREACH SPECIALIST WHO WILL BE ON-CALL 24/7 TO RESPOND TO VICTIMS OF INTENTIONAL VIOLENT INJURIES AT MEMORIAL MEDICAL UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ROOM AND TRAUMA CENTER TO ASSIST WITH SUPPORT AND INFORMATION. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS ARE REQUIRED. THE 20% MATCH OF \$21,086 IS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE THROUGH THE VICTIM-WITNESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AS IN-KIND MATCH BY A PORTION OF DIRECTOR'S SALARY AND VOLUNTEER HOURS.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved to approval of the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant Award from the Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for a new full-time Victim Advocate Position in Chatham County Victim-Witness Assistance Program to assist victims of crime from the time of arrest to early victim contact and support; also approve a part-time community outreach specialist who will be on-call 24/7 to respond to victims of intentional violent injuries at Memorial Medical University Hospital Emergency Room and Trauma Center to assist with support and information. No additional County funds are required. The 20% match of \$21,086 is currently available through the Victim-Witness Assistance Program as in-kind match by a portion of director's salary and volunteer hours. Commissioner Shabazz seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM: X-4**  
**AGENDA DATE: November 20, 2015**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners  
**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager  
**FROM:** Cheryl W. Rogers, Victim-Witness Assistance Program Director

**ISSUE:**

- To request approval of the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grant award from the Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for a new full time Victim Advocate position in Chatham County Victim-Witness Assistance Program to assist victims of crime from the time of arrest with early victim contact and support.
- To also approve a part-time Community Outreach Specialist who will be on-call 24/7 to respond to victims of intentional violent injuries at Memorial Medical University Hospital emergency room and trauma center to assist with support and information. This position will also assist with our Youth Intercept Program working with at-risk kids who are in this

- program from the public schools. This position is 20 hours a week with no benefits.
3. To also authorize the Chairman's signature on any necessary award documents pertaining to this grant.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The competitive grant for **\$84,345** would include salary and benefits for a full time Victim Advocate position and a part time Community Outreach Specialist (20 hours with no benefits). It will also cover computer equipment for both positions for this year's grant award.
2. The grant requires a 20% match of **\$21,086**, which is already in place through the Victim-Witness Assistance Program with volunteer hours and a portion of the VWAP Director's salary as **in-kind match only**. No VOCA funds contribute to the Director's salary. **No additional funds from the county are required.**
3. The VOCA grant will run October 1, 2015 through September 30, 2016. It was just awarded on October 29, 2015 for VWAP's across the State for the sole purpose of early victim intervention.
4. The purpose of these two new positions is to collaborate with law enforcement to identify victims at the time of arrest to increase the number of services provided to early-identified victims to include crisis counseling and support.
5. The part-time Community Outreach Specialist will be able to respond to Memorial Hospital emergency room and trauma center when victims with intentional violent injuries arrive at the hospital to make immediate outreach with support and services instead of waiting until the following business day to respond.

**FUNDING:**

1. No additional County funds are required. The 20% match of \$21,086 is currently available through the Victim-Witness Assistance Program as **in-kind match** by a portion of Director's salary and volunteer hours.
2. The VOCA Grant has been available since 1986 and has a proven history of providing services to crime victims throughout the nation.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. That the Board approve the application for the new VOCA Grant Victim Advocate position through the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.
2. That the Board not approve the application for the new VOCA Grant Victim Advocate position through the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The Board of Commissioners has been the recipient of the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds with another position in VWAP (Bilingual Victim Advocate) for the past five years and in prior years as well. This grant requires no additional funds from Chatham County and the personnel position ends if no additional funds are secured from grant sources.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board approve Alternative 1.

Prepared by: Cheryl W. Rogers, Director

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5. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF A REQUEST FROM MR. AND MRS. GEORGE HAYES FOR THE COUNTY TO DECLARE A PORTION OF THE UN-OPENED JUANITA STREET RIGHT OF WAY (ROW) ADJACENT TO THEIR PROPERTIES AND AN UNOPENED ALLEY ROW LOCATED BETWEEN THEIR PROPERTIES ON CHERYL STREET AS SURPLUS AND TO QUITCLAIM THE ROW.  
[DISTRICT 3.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved for Board approval of a request from Mr. and Mrs. George Hayes for the county to declare a portion of the un-opened Juanita Street right of way (ROW) adjacent to their properties and an unopened alley ROW located between their properties on Cheryl Street as surplus and to Quitclaim the ROW. Commissioner Shabazz seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**AGENDA ITEM: X-5**

**AGENDA DATE: November 20, 2015**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners  
**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager  
**FROM:** Suzanne Cooler, P.E., Assistant County Engineer

**ISSUE:**

To present to the Board a request from Mr. and Mrs. George Hayes for the County to declare a portion of the un-opened Juanita Street right of way (ROW) adjacent to their properties and an unopened alley ROW located between their properties on Cheryl Street as surplus and to quitclaim the ROW.

**BACKGROUND:**

The petitioners own properties (PINs 1-0127 -01-024, -023, -034 and -033) which bound Juanita Street ROW on the east and the alley ROW on the east and west. The ROW was created when Gray's Subdivision was platted. It remains un-opened and is not maintained by Chatham County.

**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. and Mrs. Hayes request quitclaim of 30' of the Juanita Street ROW and the entire 5' wide alley ROW adjacent to their parcels.
2. Staff evaluated the ROW and determined this portion is of no use to the County.
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 appraisal and provide the necessary appraisal, deed and plat at his expense. The appraiser is selected by the petitioner and must be certified as a professional appraiser by the State of Georgia. 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. and Mrs. George Hayes for the County to declare a portion of the un-opened Juanita Street right of way (ROW) adjacent to their properties and an unopened alley ROW located between their properties on Cheryl Street 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 adopts alternative No. 1.

District 3

Prepared by: Suzanne Cooler, P.E.

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

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

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

**AGENDA ITEM: X-6 A-G**

**AGENDA DATE: November 20, 2015**

**TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**THRU: LEE SMITH, COUNTY MANAGER**

**FROM: LINDA CRAMER, ASSISTANT COUNTY MANAGER**

**SUBJECT: AWARD OF BIDS**

**ITEM A**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of Change Order No. 5 to the construction contract with The Industrial Company (TIC) for construction of the Turner's Creek Boat Ramp Improvement Project by extending the contract time to cover the work required to modify the boat ramp.

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

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Thomas & Hutton is the engineer of record for the Turner's Creek Boat Ramp Project. A construction contract was awarded to TIC on March 28, 2014.
2. Staff and Thomas and Hutton had a meeting on October 26, 2015, to discuss modifications to reduce the slope and improve functionality of the newly constructed ramp at Turner's Creek. As the construction contract for these improvements is open, the work to modify the ramp will be completed under the current contract as punch list work.
3. Funding for this work will be provided by Thomas and Hutton.

## 4. Contract History:

Original Contract ( 3/28/14)	\$3,856,786
Change Order 1 (12/5/14)	75,600
Change Order 2 (3/13/14)	32,371
Change Order 3 (5/8/15)	123,193
Change Order 4 (10/9/15)	0
Change Order 5 (pending)	0
Revised contract amount	\$4,085,950

**FUNDING:** No additional funding required.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of Change Order No. 5 to the construction contract with The Industrial Company (TIC) for construction of the Turner's Creek Boat Ramp Improvement Project by extending the contract time to cover the work required to modify the boat ramp.
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 \_\_\_\_\_  
CHRIS MORRIS

**ITEM B**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$3,465 Change Order No. 1 to the construction contract with A.D. Williams Construction Co., Inc., for construction of the East White Hawthorne Cul-De-Sac Project.

**BACKGROUND:** The cul-de-sac construction project for East White Hawthorne Drive includes grading, paving, curb and gutter, a concrete flume and drainage improvements. The contractor has 30 days after the notice to proceed is issued to complete construction.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Design of the East White Hawthorne Drive Cul-De-Sac was performed by Chatham County Department of Engineering staff.
2. Two (2) unit price line items exceeded bid estimates. An additional 72 cubic yards of undercut

excavation and 195 linear feet of silt fence were required for structural integrity of the road base and erosion and sediment control, respectively (\$3,465).

3. Contract History:		
Original Contract (15-0076-4)	\$	97,258
Change Order No. 1 (Pending)	\$	3,465
Revised Contract Amount	\$	100,723

**FUNDING:** SPLOST (2003-2008) - Unincorporated County Roads, East White Hawthorne Drive (3234220 - 52.12003 - 32356897)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$3,465 Change Order No. 1 to the construction contract with A.D. Williams Construction Co., Inc., for construction of the East White Hawthorne Cul-De-Sac Project.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

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

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

**ITEM C**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval to renew building, contents, computer, and related property insurance coverage provided by Cincinnati and Hartford Insurance Companies based on quotations provided by the County's insurance broker of record, USI Insurance Services, in the amount of \$803,100.

**BACKGROUND:** The County currently insures \$406.05 million of buildings, contents, and electronic data processing equipment through Cincinnati, and Hartford Insurance Companies. The County has chosen to purchase property insurance coverage through its broker of record, USI Insurance Services. The County has chosen to shift the risk of loss of its buildings, contents and electronic data processing equipment to insurance carriers rather than retain that risk.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Underwriting restrictions with regard to coastal property have significantly limited the number of insurance carriers willing to consider insuring County property. Cincinnati Insurance Company provides the most comprehensive coverage at the most reasonable cost. Although the quotation provided by Travelers is slightly lower, Cincinnati's coverage is greater with lower deductibles. AMRISC and CAN declined to quote as they were not going to be as comprehensive and competitive as Cincinnati and Travelers. However, their participation enabled our broker to maximize premium decreases and also enhance existing coverage. With the changes in the property market for coastal capacity, we were able to reduce the premium by \$16,144 over the expiring premium.
2. Cincinnati has flood coverage for all contents, office equipment and fixtures for all locations insured. Where applicable, flood coverage for buildings is provided under the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).
3. The Tybee Island Library, Pavilion and various communications equipment located at Fort Street are considered high risk property due to their susceptibility to wind and wave damage. Based on the high risk exposure, these properties are not eligible for coverage under the existing property and contents policies. The Tybee Pier is not insurable. Therefore, The Tybee Pavilion, Library and various communications equipment located at 801 Fort Street are covered under a separate property policy with a renewal date of July 23, 2016.
4. Hartford currently provides coverage for electronic data processing and remains the most competitive in that area.

**FUNDING:** Risk Management Fund - Insurance and Surety Bond Premiums (6259922 - 52.31021)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval to renew building, contents, computer, and related property insurance coverage provided by Cincinnati and Hartford Insurance Companies based on quotations provided by the County's insurance broker of record, USI Insurance Services, in the amount of \$803,100.

2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** The property risk exposure far exceeds the County's financial ability to retain that exposure. Commercial property insurance is the most economical and comprehensive method to address this risk.

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

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

#### ITEM D

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$85,941 purchase of two (2) mobile ADA restrooms from Comforts of Home Services, Inc.

**BACKGROUND:** The City of Tybee Island is working on renovations to the North Beach restroom facilities. The design is complete and will be under construction by the end of the year. The mobile restrooms will provide temporary services during construction and available to the County for future needs.

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

1. The restrooms are portable and can be deployed to various locations after the North Beach project is complete. The units are being purchased by the County and will be in the County's name.
2. The units will be ADA compliant and have the ability to connect to public utilities or serve as stand-alone units.
3. The project was properly advertised and two (2) bids were received and opened on November 4, 2015. The bid results as follows:

Comforts of Home Services, Inc. (60 day delivery) Montgomery , IL	\$85,941
Blu-John of Savannah, Inc. (90 day delivery) Savannah, GA	\$88,000

4. Local preference was not offered to the local bidder due to the longer delivery time.

**FUNDING:** SPLOST (2014-2020) - Tybee Island Beach and Facility Improvements, (3254981 - 53.17009 - 3256079Z)

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$85,941 purchase of two (2) mobile ADA restrooms from Comforts of Home Services, Inc.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

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

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

#### ITEM E

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$24,779 purchase of one (1) 2016 Ford F250 Truck from O.C. Welch Ford Lincoln, Inc., for Public Works Road Maintenance.

**BACKGROUND:** On June 26, 2015, the Board adopted the 2015-2016 budget which included the purchase of additional equipment for Public Works Road Maintenance section as part of new initiatives to maintain newly acquired medians on Whitefield Avenue.

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

1. An Invitation to Bid was publicly advertised and opened on October 20, 2015. Responses are as follows:

O.C Welch Ford Lincoln, Inc. Hardeeville, S.C.	\$24,779
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Roberts Truck Center  
Savannah, GA \$29,000

2. On March 27, 1998, the Board approved a local preference policy which, when a non-local firm submits the lowest bid, allows the lowest bidding Chatham County firm to match the non-local bid. If the local firm agrees to match the lowest bid, the local firm is awarded the purchase. Roberts Truck Center was offered the opportunity to match the non-local bid submitted by O.C. Welch of Hardeeville, S.C. and they declined.
3. Staff believes the pricing of \$24,779 for a 2016 Ford F250 Truck to be fair and reasonable.

**FUNDING:** SSD - Public Works  
(2704100 - 54.25001)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$24,779 purchase of one (1) 2016 Ford F250 Truck from O.C. Welch Ford Lincoln, Inc., for Public Works Road Maintenance.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

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

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

**ITEM F**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$21,507 sole source annual maintenance agreement for two (2) APC Service Chillers and six (6) UPS systems in the data center at the Pete Liakakis Government Building from Critical Components, Inc., for the I.C.S. Department.

**BACKGROUND:** The Chatham County Datacenter houses most of the hardware and software required for the operation of the Chatham County data network and telecommunications infrastructure and relies on a controlled environment for the network infrastructure to function properly. It also requires the use of UPS units, uninterruptible power supplies, in the event of power surges and power outages.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Critical Components, Inc., is the original installer of the hardware and software for this datacenter solution in the Pete Liakakis Government Building. As an APC certified vendor, Critical Components also maintained the services agreement following the installation of the datacenter solution.
2. This agreement covers all 7x24 hr tech support for all APC Symmertra UPS equipment, 5x8 PM visit, next business day (NBD) 5x8 hr. response time. Quarterly maintenance of the six (6) APC in row units with one (1) annual inspection and three (3) quarterly inspection during normal business hours on the APC hardware and on the two (2) Carrie Chillers.
3. Staff believes the total cost of \$21,507 to be fair and reasonable.

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

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$21,507 sole source annual maintenance agreement for two (2) APC Service Chillers and six (6) UPS systems in the data center at the Pete Liakakis Government Building from Critical Components, Inc., for the I.C.S. Department.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to approve the purchase of preventive maintenance contracts.

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

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

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

**ITEM G**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$16,013 annual preventive maintenance contract on four (4) Uninterruptible Power Supply units from Nationwide Power Solution of Henderson, Nevada for the I.C.S. Department.

**BACKGROUND:** All critical devices at each location utilize these UPS's. This preventive maintenance contract is for the UPS at the police annex 911 center, the Tag Office on Eisenhower Drive, Building Safety and Regulatory Services at the Citizen Service Center and the Administrative Court House.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Nationwide Power Solutions was the original vendor that the County purchased the UPS systems from. The authorized technicians to perform the preventive maintenance on these units come from Jacksonville, FL or Charleston, S.C.
2. I.C.S. recommends preventive maintenance contracts to prevent severe damage to County equipment and provide temporary power during power failures.
3. This support agreement provides 24 hour emergency support with four (4) hour response time and an extensive inventory of factory parts for this critical power equipment. It includes two (2) preventative maintenance checks on these systems during the period of 11-17-15 through 11-16-16.
4. Staff believes the total cost of \$16,013 to be fair and reasonable.

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

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$16,013 annual preventive maintenance contract on four (4) Uninterruptible Power Supply units from Nationwide Power Solution of Henderson, Nevada for the I.C.S. Department.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to approve the purchase of preventive maintenance contracts.

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

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

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

PREPARED BY \_\_\_\_\_  
PURCHASING DIRECTOR

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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. ADOPT A NEW PROCUREMENT ORDINANCE WITH AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF JANUARY 1, 2016.**

Chairman Scott said, we have a -- one First Reader to adopt a new procurement ordinance with the effective date of January 1, 2016.

Commissioner Center said, can I just ask a question?

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, we got this thick package with the new ordinance. Is this something that we individually need to read or is that proformer -- boiler plate language?

Chairman Scott said, no.

County Attorney Hart said, it's -- it's -- it's -- it's scintillating reading, I can assure you. Technically it's -- it's our purchasing manual revisited, and over the years, we made some policy changes that were never incorporated into it.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

County Attorney Hart said, and there's been some changes in law that we've been following but not necessarily -- that ordinance necessarily spells that out. So we sat down and made some improvements, and overtime time dollar amounts have become very insignificant so it's just --

County Manager Smith said, it's more industry standard now.

Commissioner Center said, okay.

County Attorney Hart said, yeah, and it's -- it's -- it's modeled after a couple of fairly wide accepted ordinances. Ours -- believe it or not ours was not in horrible disarray over the extended period of time that we had it, but it did need a lot of fine tuning here and there, so, yeah.

Commissioner Center said, that's why I say, I'm -- I'm going to trust you to read it. There's nothing sensitive or dramatic.

Chairman Scott said, no.

County Attorney Hart said, you may want to scan through it --

County Manager Smith said, I would still go through it, and if you've got any questions give us a call --

Commissioner Center said, okay.

County Manager Smith said, -- but some of it --

County Attorney Hart said, read the headings --

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

County Attorney Hart said, -- 'cause the headings are pretty definitive.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

County Attorney Hart said, and if there's something in there that catches your eye read it, 'cause, you know, we've got our minority stuff --

County Manager Smith said, yes.

County Attorney Hart said, -- and our women stuff in there.

Chairman Scott said, and -- the other thing, when was the last update to that procurement, Mr. Manager?

County Manager Smith said, '80 -- '89, I believe.

Chairman Scott said, that was the last update was '89, so --

County Manager Smith said, so -- and part of -- part of our --

Chairman Scott said, 25, 26 years.

County Manager Smith said, -- our management changes, we've looked at -- I talked to you earlier about our -- our policies, this is part of this process that we put in place a year ago to begin looking and formalizing, because we have a lot of common practices, but they're not documented. So when you get audited, you'll say what did you base that on? Well, we've always done it this way. Sorry, we need -- but the other thing is -- is we needed to do a better job as an entity to make payments faster, to expedite, and we're putting in our new automated HR/Finance system for accounts payables, receivables, and this is part of this whole process to get the policies in place and do a better job on paying out -- and how we handle money. So -- anyway --

County Attorney Hart said, it gives us greater flexibility --

County Manager Smith said, yes.

County Attorney Hart said, -- in how we do projects, too.

County Manager Smith said, yes.

County Attorney Hart said, so --

County Manager Smith said, we wanted to expedite for instance, start SPLOST projects. We want to expedite. So. It's going to help us.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

County Manager Smith said, thank you.

**AGENDA ITEM: XI-1**

**AGENDA DATE: November 20, 2015**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager

**FROM:** Linda B. Cramer, Assistant County Manager  
Margaret H. Joyner, Purchasing Director

**ISSUE:**

Present a new Procurement Ordinance for adoption by the Board of Commissioners with an effective date of January 1, 2016.

**BACKGROUND:**

The County's Purchasing Ordinance and Procedures Manual has not had a major revision since 1989. The dollar thresholds for sealed bidding have not been updated since 1998. Purchasing staff surveyed other Georgia counties and found that Chatham County's bidding and department thresholds are below that of many other progressive counties which results in inefficiencies and delays in small purchases.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. This is a complete rewrite of the Purchasing Ordinance based on the American Bar Association Model Procurement Code for State and Local Government. The ordinance takes into account upcoming changes in the way the County does business including electronic signatures, on-line bidding, use of purchasing cards and capabilities of the new Tyler Munis software for workflow approvals.
2. The County's enabling legislation allows the Chairman to delegate signing authority as appropriate. This ordinance designates the County Manager to approve and sign contracts and Purchase Orders over the \$25,000 threshold once the Board of Commissioners have approved the contract for purchase.
3. Attachment I lists the major changes to the existing Purchasing Ordinance and Procedures Manual.
4. Attachment II (which is attached to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file) is the proposed ordinance in its entirety.
5. The County Attorney has reviewed the proposed ordinance.

**FUNDING:**

N/A

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The Procurement Ordinance must be approved by the Board of Commissioners.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Present the Procurement Ordinance for a First Reading November 20, 2015 and a Second Reading on December 4, 2015.
2. Provide the Purchasing Department with other guidance.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends approval of Alternative 1.

**Attachment I**

PROPOSED REVISIONS TO PROCUREMENT ORDINANCE

- Raise formal sealed bid limit from \$15,000 to \$25,000.
- Raise Board approval level requirement from \$10,000 to \$25,000 to be the same as the formal sealed bid limit.
- Increase departmental approval authority from \$1,000 to \$2,500.
- Allow for the use of P-cards by departments subject to the purchasing card policy.
- Allow departments with appropriate training to obtain a minimum of three written quotations for procurements up to the \$25,000 sealed bid limit subject to Purchasing approval of the quotes.
- Allow the Purchasing Director discretion in the acceptance of late proposals (RFP's only) when there is no advantage gained by the late submission.
- Allow the Purchasing Director discretion in correcting bid prices other than by the unit price when the bidder's intent is clearly evidence or the mistake made is obvious and can be corrected without consultation with the bidder.
- Revise local preference to require the local bidder to be within 5% of the non-local bidder to be offered the opportunity to match the non-local bid. Currently there is no limitation in the percentage difference required for a local vendor to match a non-local bid. This results in limited competition, particularly on vehicle bids.
- Consider all construction to be exempt from local preference since it is not allowable for public works construction projects (construction over \$100,000).
- Allow for electronic signatures, on-line bidding and electronic transmittal of bids where bonds are not required. This is not addressed in current ordinance.
- Allow Purchasing to extend an annual contract for up to 6 months instead of 90 days when necessary to complete the bidding process.
- Add a method of source selection titled "special procurements" which would allow for an abbreviated bidding period when Purchasing determines that strictly following the sealed bid limit requirements would be detrimental to the county's best interest. An example of this might be issuing a quick quote rather than a formal sealed bid for the purchase of police pursuit vehicles when we are bumping up against the manufacturer's cut off date for ordering. Another example would be obtaining three quotes rather than publicly bidding due to situations that are not necessarily an emergency but where timing is critical and there is a need to obtain Board approval at a particular Board meeting. This is not addressed in current ordinance.
- Revise emergency procurements to require County Manager approval rather than Chairman approval but continue to require Board approval at the next Commission meeting.
- Require the County Manager or his designee to sign purchase orders and contracts over \$25,000 rather than the Chairman once Board approval has been obtained. Change orders would also be signed by the County Manager once Board approval has been obtained.
- For non-construction contracts and Purchase Orders, Purchasing Director would sign change orders up to the \$25,000 Board approval threshold.
- Name changes and changes to the unit prices of annual contracts based on documents manufacturer's increases would be administratively approved by Purchasing Director.
- Require Purchasing to provide the Board with a list of purchases as information items for those purchase orders between \$2500 and \$24,999. We currently provide for up to \$10,000.
- Allows the use of all project delivery methods authorized under State law with Design-Bid-Build being the preferred method of project delivery.
- Set requirements for on call and annual contracts.
- Prohibit a vendor who has been paid for developing specifications to bid on a project. A vendor may assist with specifications and bid as long as there was no fee paid for the specifications and there is no fee expectation if the vendor is not the successful bidder. Purchasing will be responsible for insuring that the bid specifications do not result in an unfair advantage to any bidder.
- Allow exclusions as necessary from the procurement ordinance for items such as subscriptions, utilities, and professional services under \$25,000. A complete list is included in the ordinance.
- Allow for waiving of MWBE scoring on Request for Proposals where there is no opportunity for MWBE participation.
- Revise and strengthen section on suspension and debarment.
- Revise and strengthen section on employee and elected official ethics as it relates to procurement.

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## **XII. SECOND READINGS**

Chairman Scott said, there are no Second Reader.

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## **XIII. INFORMATION ITEMS**

Chairman Scott said, everything else is for informational.

**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: November 20 2015**

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

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
Thermoplastic striping for sign shop	Public Works and Park Services	Flint Trading, Inc.	\$4,345	CIP - Public Works
Annual service agreement for generators	Detention Center	Cummins Power South, LLC	\$6,861	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Accident repair to unit #992 - Metro Animal Control vehicle	Fleet Operations	Rainbow Paint & Body, Inc.	\$2,597	General Fund/M&O - Fleet Operations
Replace compressor unit in main lobby of the Civil Right Museum	Facilities Maintenance	Air Services and Refrigeration Specialties, Inc.	\$5,975	General Fund/M&O - Facilities Maintenance
Table and 36 chairs for Tax Assessor's Office	Tax Assessor	VIP Printing & Office Supply	\$3,132	General Fund/M&O - Tax Assessor
Annual renewal for data domain hardware maintenance	I.C.S.	Veristor Systems, Inc.	\$7,158	General Fund/M&O - I.C.S.
Install new controllers and hydraulic converters for the irrigation system at Henderson Golf Course	Public Works and Park Services	Turf Services Unlimited	\$4,305	CIP - Parks & Recreation
Four (4) scanners	Sheriff's Department	PCMG, Inc.	\$3,278	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Pre-owned plate tamper and mortar mixer	Sheriff's Department	Sunbelt Rentals	\$2,700	General Fund/M&O - Sheriff's Department
Mail meter rental for three (3) locations	Tax Commissioner	Pitney Bowes, Inc.	\$3,090	General Fund/M&O - Tax Commissioner
18 chairs for I.C.S. conference room	I.C.S.	VIP Printing & Office Supply	\$4,911	General Fund/M&O - I.C.S.
Printed file folders	State Court Clerk	VIP Printing & Office Supply	\$2,815	General Fund/M&O - State Court Clerk
Annual maintenance renewal agreement for FileTrail software	I.C.S.	FileTrail, Inc.	\$9,218	General Fund/M&O - I.C.S.
Youth football officials for September 8 - September 26	Public Works and Park Services	Coastal Football Association	\$3,270	General Fund/M&O - Parks and Recreation

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### 3. ROADS AND DRAINAGE REPORTS.

#### ACTION OF THE BOARD:

A status report was attached as information.

**AGENDA ITEM: XIII-3 ROADS**  
**AGENDA DATE: NOVEMBER 20, 2015**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager

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

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

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

#### **FACTS AND FINDING:**

1. Jimmy Deloach Parkway Extension and Interchange of Jimmy Deloach Parkway at U.S. 80. Design is on-going. Right of way (ROW) acquisition for both projects underway. Notice to Proceed with ROW acquisition issued October 3, 2014 for Extension project and notice to proceed with ROW acquisition issued March 12, 2015 for the Interchange project. Projects to be let together for construction by GDOT in Fiscal Year 2018.
2. Bay Street Widening. Reeves Construction is low-bidder. GDOT holding contract award pending receipt of reimbursement check for City of Savannah utility reimbursements.
3. SR 307 Widening from US 17 to I-16. GDOT accepted for ownership and maintenance the section from I-16 south to Hardin Canal. Project from Hardin Canal south to US 17 is substantially complete and open to traffic. Corrective work underway.
4. Islands Expressway Bridge Replacement. Design is underway on a high level bridge to replace the bascule bridge over the Intercoastal Waterway on Islands Expressway. Environmental document was approved on May 26, 2015. ROW authorization issued June 24, 2015. ROW acquisition underway.
5. SR 25 @ Pipemakers Canal. Board approved design contract with Moffatt & Nichol at their meeting November 6, 2015. Preliminary design underway.
6. SR 21 @ Pipemakers Canal. Staff is negotiating scope and fee with Moffatt & Nichol following the QBS process. Project will involve adding addition capacity to existing crossing of Pipemakers Canal. CORE MPO programmed M230 money for preliminary engineering in Fiscal Year 2016.
7. Interstate 16 @ SR307. Lump sum operational and safety improvement project. Chatham County is sponsoring preliminary engineering and GDOT is funding right of way and construction. No PFA required because preliminary engineering is locally funded.
8. Local Roads under Construction.
  - a. Road Resurfacing.
    - I. Construction is substantially complete for 2.9 miles of road resurfacing to include Albert Road, Cottonvale Road, Dove Lane, Goldfinch Court, Lansing Avenue, Lions Gate Entrance, Raleigh Road and Springhouse Drive. Corrective work underway.
    - II. Construction is substantially complete for road resurfacing of 1.5 miles of roadway including Diana Drive, Michael Court, Bellview Drive, McLeod Street, West Fox Chase Road, Legacy Boulevard, Gamble Road, Adams Avenue, LaRoche Avenue and Pine Barren Road.
    - III. County awarded construction contract to Preferred Materials for road resurfacing for 3.1 miles of roadway including Crossover Lane, Golden Isles Way, Hampshire Road, Off Shore Road, Old Dock Road, Olde Town Road, Penn Waller Road, Riverside Drive and Teakwood Drive.
  - b. East White Hawthorne Drive. Construction underway to install cul-de-sac.
9. Local Road Projects under Design.
  - a. Benton Boulevard. Preliminary design underway. Project will extend two lanes of

- Benton Boulevard north from its existing terminus at Highlands Boulevard to State Route 30. Public Information Open House scheduled for May 5, 2015. Preliminary plans anticipated in December 2015.
- b. Quacco Road. Board approved professional services engineering contract with Moffatt & Nichol on May 8, 2015. This phase will consider improvements from US 17 to the bridge crossing Interstate 95. Traffic counts, database preparation underway and concept development underway.
  - c. Skidaway Road. Project will provide improvements along Skidaway Road from Montgomery Cross Road to Ferguson Avenue. ROW plans are complete and ROW acquisition is underway.
  - d. Hill Road. Dirt road paving project. ROW plans are complete and final plans are under review. Relocation of City of Savannah waterline delaying ROW acquisition is underway.
  - e. Fairwind Road. Final plans to pave Fairwind Road complete. Project is out to bid for construction contract.
  - f. Bradley Point Sidewalk Improvements. Concept development complete. Preliminary plans and environmental permitting underway for the preferred alternative based on comments in support of the alternative received from the March 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.
  - g. Canebrake Road Improvement Project. Preliminary design underway for extension of the Coastal Georgia Greenway on the southside of Canebrake Road, a 5-ft sidewalk on the northside of Canebrake Road and pavement widening to provide two 11-ft travel lanes.
  - h. Truman Linear Park Trail, Phase 2-A. Revised concept development underway. Public Information Open House to be held December 3, 2015 at Jenkins H.S. from 4 to 7 p.m.
  - i. Crisp and Fisher Street Improvements. Dirt road paving project. Preliminary design by staff is underway.
  - j. Garrard Avenue Improvements. Project will provide improvements along Garrard and Lane Avenue from Chatham Parkway to Gamble Road. Preliminary design by staff underway. Design includes pavement widening to provide two 12-ft travel lanes and drainage improvements.

**RECOMMENDATION:** For information.  
Districts All

**AGENDA ITEM: XIII-3 DRAINAGE**  
**AGENDA DATE: NOVEMBER 20, 2015**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager

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

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

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

**FACTS AND FINDING:**

1. Ashley Road Outfall Drainage Improvements. The project will improve a drainage system from the Ashley Road cul-de-sac. Design work is underway.
2. Gateway-Henderson Drainage Improvements. The project will improve portions of the drainage system in the northeast quadrant of I-95 and SR 204. The project includes construction of maintenance access and drainage improvements. Design work and permitting underway.
3. Norwood Drainage Outfalls. The project will improve drainage capacity and access for maintenance for two drainage outfalls from Norwood Avenue. Construction of improvements is complete at Norwood Place. Design work, permitting, and acquisitions are underway for the outfall near Skidaway Road.

4. Louis Mills/Redgate Canal. The project will correct inadequate drainage capacity and the lack of maintenance access to the canal. Design of improvements along the Marshall Branch Canal is underway and includes construction of maintenance access and culvert replacements. All permits have been received and property acquisition is nearing completion. A contract has been approved and work will begin in December and should be complete by June 2016.
5. Ferguson-Winterberry Outfall Drainage Improvements. The project will improve drainage and provide access for maintenance for the Remington Canal from Ferguson Road to the outfall at Moon River. The outfall passes through the Winterberry private development. Design work is underway.
6. Shipyard-Beaulieu Area. The project will improve drainage capacity and access for maintenance. Design of a project to expand and relocate an existing outfall channel is underway.
7. Little Hurst Canal. The project will improve drainage capacity and access for maintenance along the canal. Field surveying and wetland delineation are complete. Design of improvements at the CSX and State Route 21 crossings is underway.
8. Willow Lakes Drainage Improvements. The project will relieve internal drainage issues within the Willow Lakes subdivision. The project will increase the storage capacity of the pond by lowering the existing water elevation. Design work is underway.
9. Wahlstrom Road Drainage Improvements. The project will relocate a part of a drainage system located on private property into the County right-of-way and an acquired drainage easement. Construction is underway with completion anticipated by January 2016.
10. Vidalia Road Canal Drainage Improvements. The project will improve conveyance and obtain easements for access and maintenance. Design and permitting is complete and the project is out to bid.
11. Concord Road Drainage Improvements. The project will include the replacement of the existing open channel along Concord Road with a closed system and improvements to the outfall system along Penn Waller. Design is underway.
12. Tiana Circle Drainage Improvements. The project will reconstruct a segment of the existing roadway which has settled and improve the drainage system to eliminate chronic street ponding. Design is complete and the project is out to bid.

**RECOMMENDATION:** For information.  
Districts: All

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## **COUNTY MANAGER ANNOUNCEMENT**

County Manager Smith said, Mr. Chairman, can I -- I mention, we sent a note out yesterday to everyone about the legislative session --

Chairman Scott said, yeah, let's -- let's mention that --

County Manager Smith said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, -- that I spoke with Ron --

Commissioner Center said, Stephens.

Chairman Scott said, Ron Stephens and got a preferred date of December the 15<sup>th</sup> --

County Attorney Hart said, 18<sup>th</sup>.

County Manager Smith said, 18<sup>th</sup>.

Chairman Scott said, I -- 18<sup>th</sup>. I said to him that it would be convenient to do it in conjunction with a meeting but not necessarily, and so he had given me the date of the 11<sup>th</sup> and the 18<sup>th</sup>, and I went with the 18<sup>th</sup>. Okay?

County Manager Smith said, so what we're going to do is we're going to bring to you on the 4<sup>th</sup> between now and then a list of things that you've talked about. Anything else that you want to add, send it to us so we can do some background, and then on the 4<sup>th</sup>, we want to be able to sit down kind of closer to the end of the meeting, almost in a workshop setting, talk about them, where you can vote on your --

Chairman Scott said, and we might want to call the list.

County Manager Smith said, yes, and you -- you -- you will call the list of what our priorities are, and we can have a presentation to our legislators on the 18<sup>th</sup>. That way we've got a voted on approved list.

Chairman Scott said, and -- and -- you know, and not just a list of 200 things.

County Manager Smith said, oh, no, no.

Chairman Scott said, that -- that's just going to fall on deaf ear.

County Manager Smith said, yeah. We're going to be asking for specific action. That's important, because they always say, what do you want us to do? How do you want to say it? Well, we want to put it in that format for them. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

County Manager Smith said, thank you.

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### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Scott said, now, we're going to have just a very brief executive session, legal and personnel.

Commissioner Center said, I move that -- are you ready for that?

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

Commissioner Center said, I move we recess to executive session to discuss legal and personnel.

Commissioner Farrell said, second.

Commissioner Stone said, second.

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

Commissioner Center moved to recess to executive session for the purpose of litigation, real estate and personnel. Commissioner Farrell seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Scott did not cast a vote.]

The Board recessed at approximately 11:48 a.m.

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### **ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

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

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

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2. **LOUISE WILLIAMS BEAUTY SHOP CONDEMNATION SETTLEMENT**

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

Commissioner Brady moved to approve the settlement of the Louise Williams Beauty Shop Condemnation claim for an additional \$6,538.00. Commissioner Center seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

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**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to be brought before the Commissioners, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

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APPROVED: THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF DECEMBER, 2015.

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

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