

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2016, 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 9:34 a.m. on Friday, September 9, 2016.

Chairman Scott said, good morning and welcome. Please be seated. I ask that you take your seat now until such time our devotional leader has concluded his remarks and indicate that it's time for prayer. And, at that time, would you please re-stand and remain standing through prayer and through the Pledge of Allegiance. We will be led in the Pledge of Allegiance this morning by our Commission Pro Tem, Commissioner Stone, from the 1<sup>st</sup> District.

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**II. INVOCATION**

Chairman Scott said, we have with us today as a devotional leader someone who was born in Nebraska, but -- but he's been in Savannah since 1955 and is a graduate of Jenkins High School. In fact, he graduated the same year I did from Beach High from Jenkins. So the fact that he was born in Nebraska, we certainly cannot hold that against him. I'm sure by now he's no longer talking about Nebraska. He's probably cheering for the Bulldogs and the Pirates and all the things that you do in Georgia. But it's a pleasure to have with us someone who's been a true leader in this community and dedicated his life to helping others, but not only that, he's served his country in the military with pride. Served in Vietnam, and all of this before really being called to -- to preach. And so it's great pleasure this morning that we welcome Mr. Lionel Mackalhord [sic], who is -- well, Marmolejo I guess is the correct way of pronouncing it, to lead us in our devotion this morning. Mr. Marmolejo.

Pastor Lionel Marmolejo said, yeah. It's Marmolejo. I was raised at Bethesda Home for Boys, and I found out real quick after living with 65 other boys that getting in a fight over my name wasn't something I wanted to do anymore, especially when I got whipped too many times. I decided that wasn't it. Well, Ms. Gail [Gordon] asked me if I'd give the devotion today, and I appreciate that, and it's an honor to stand before you ladies and gentlemen this morning. She told me I had five minutes. That's hardly enough time to even open up the book.

Ms. Gail Gordon said, take as long as you need, sir.

Pastor Marmolejo said, take as long as I want?

Ms. Gordon said, as long as you need to, if it's okay with the Chairman.

Pastor Marmolejo said, no, I'll -- I'll keep it --

Ms. Gordon said, as long as the Chairman says it's okay. It's okay with me, sir.

Commissioner Farrell said, it's okay with her.

Pastor Marmolejo said, I'll -- I'll keep it within five minutes, I'm -- I'm hoping. I'm not going to be like that guy, you know, who was invited to preach, had 20 minutes to preach, and he started preaching, and he went on for 25 minutes, then 30 and then 45, hour, hour and fifteen minutes. Finally the lady sitting behind him on the front pew couldn't take it any more, picked up a hymn book and threw it at him. Well he -- he moved out of the way, but he -- the book hit one of the ladies in the choir loft, and as they gathered around her, they could hear her say, hit me again, I can still hear him. Well, there's nobody back -- I'm sure somebody's got some books back here, but I won't give them the opportunity to do that. 1 Timothy Chapter 2 and verses 1 through 2 the Bible says, first of all then I urge that entreaties and prayers, petitions and thanksgivings be made on behalf of all men for kings, for all who are in authority, which you are, so that we may lead tranquil and quiet life in all Godliness and dignity.

Pastor Marmolejo said, two things I'd like to bring to your attention this morning real quickly, and that is as a citizen of this -- and as a citizen of the -- of Chatham County, I am obligated as a Christian to obey the laws of Chatham County. I do that gladly, except for tax laws. I grumble about that a little bit, but it's my responsibility as a Christian to obey these laws, but it's your responsibility to act justly and with justice as you enact certain laws for the good of the community. It makes it very clear in this passage of scripture that if we want to live a tranquil life, a life of peace, then we must obey the laws of the land. And God has given to every Christian, every person who calls himself a Christian the instructions that we are to obey, and that we are to honor you because

you are in a position of leadership, of authority, for which one day you will give an account before God Almighty. So you have a grave responsibility. We honor you for that. We voted to put you here, and you are the servants of the people.

Pastor Marmolejo said, I just want to read three passage of scripture out of the Book of Proverbs, and then we'll have a prayer. Proverbs Chapter 8, verse number 20, the Bible says, I will walk in the way of righteousness in the midst of the path of justice. Obviously, I'm speaking from a Christian world point of view. That's for God's people, and that's instructions that we are to govern righteously and in justice. In Proverbs 20 and verse number 8, the Bible says a king who sits on the throne of justice despises all evil in his eyes. Who can say I have cleansed my heart and I am pure from my sin? Differing weights and differing measures, both of them are abomination to the Lord. It is by his deeds that a lad distinguishes himself if he conducts it pure and right. In your judgment as you consider the things that need to be done in Chatham County, those things need to be considered in righteousness and purity before God that the people of this County may be blessed.

Pastor Marmolejo said, and then in Proverbs Chapter 21, verse number 3, the Bible says to do righteousness and justice is desired by the Lord more than sacrifice. You can sacrifice all you want. You can give to the Lord all you want. You can do all of those things, but God requires even before that righteousness and justice, and that's to come from you. Let's bow our head's in prayer. Would you stand, please?

Pastor Marmolejo gave the invocation as follows:

Our Father, what a great responsibility these Commissioners have. And while it is a great responsibility, it's a great blessing too. Citizens from this community have voted them into this position that they have of authority. We pray for them, Lord. We honor them. We respect them, and we pray, God, that they will govern with justice and righteousness. Protect them and their families. Give them wisdom and give them what they need to govern in justice and righteousness. In the name of Jesus I pray. Amen.

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

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**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

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**CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION**

Chairman Scott presented Pastor Marmolejo a Certificate of Appreciation for his devotion and invocation.

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**IV. ROLL CALL**

Chairman Scott said, the Clerk will call the roll.

The Clerk called the roll.

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

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

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## CHATHAM COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION

Chairman Scott said, at this time I will recognize our Vice Chair, Commissioner Thomas, from the 8<sup>th</sup> District, for the purpose of introducing the members of the Youth Commission who are here today.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Members of the Commission, ladies and gentlemen, serving with us today from the Chatham County Youth Commission are Aliyah Dorsey, Chair, St. Vincent's Academy; Lydia Poole, Secretary, Bible Baptist; Morgan Dent, Vice Chair, St. Vincent's Academy. We're delighted to have you with us today and please feel free to participate in all discussions, okay? As well as -- what I'm about to say, I'm expecting you to participate. Okay? All righty.

Chairman Scott said, and welcome.

Chatham County Youth Commissioner Aliyah Dorsey said, thank you.

Chatham County Youth Commissioner Lydia Poole said, thank you.

Chatham County Youth Commissioner Morgan Dent said, thank you.

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## V. PROCLAMATIONS AND SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

### 1. PROCLAMATION DECLARING FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2016 AS POW/MIA DAY. JOE MITCHLER WILL BE RECEIVING THE PROCLAMATION.

Chairman Scott said, now we're on proclamation and special presentation, and it's a great pleasure to have with us today members of the military who have served -- veterans of the military who have served our country with honor, and we wanted to do a proclamation to talk about POW's and those who are missing in action. And the proclamation, I'll read a portion of it.

Chairman Scott read part of the following proclamation:



**WHEREAS**, Chatham County and all of its citizens join the Nation in honoring the memories of all our Prisoners-of-War (POWs) and all of our soldiers Missing-in-Action on this very special POW-MIA Recognition Day; and

**WHEREAS**, the members of the Vietnam Veterans of America-Savannah Chapter 671, along with their friends and families, will be holding their annual recognition to honor over 82,000 POW/MIAs who remain unaccounted for, as well as those former POW-MIAs who have faithfully returned; and

**WHEREAS**, on September 16, 2016 at 6:30 p.m., the American POW-MIA flags will be proudly flown above the Vietnam Memorial in Emmett Park in salute of the former POWs from the Chatham County area; and

**WHEREAS**, in observing POW-MIA Recognition Day, Vietnam Veterans of America-Savannah Chapter 671 is helping to keep alive the memories of and prayers for those 1,627 POW/MIAs still unaccounted for.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Albert J. Scott, Chairman, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim, Friday, September 16, 2016 as:

### **POW/MIA RECOGNITION DAY**

in Chatham County as we honor the memories of the 3,347 POW-MIAs from World War I; 73,137 from World War II; 7,807 from the Korea War; 1,618 from the War in Vietnam; 126 from the Cold War, and 6 from the War on Terror and others. In recognition of the 82,694 husbands, sons, and fathers - LEST WE FORGET,

and ask all citizens to join in thanking and in paying very special tribute to all POW-MIAs for the sacrifices they made to their nation -The United States of America.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 9<sup>th</sup> day of September 2016.

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Albert J. Scott, Chairman  
Chatham County Commission

**ATTEST:**

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Helen L. Stone, Chairman Pro-Tem  
Chatham County Commission

Chairman Scott said, and with that I'm going to ask Mr. Joe Mitchler, a long-time friend, if he would come forth to accept a framed copy of this proclamation.

[NOTE: Chairman Scott presented Mr. Mitchler with a framed copy of the proclamation.]

Mr. Joe Mitchler said, as a representative of the Vietnam Veterans of America Chapter 671 and the friends and family of those 29 Americans from Georgia still missing and unaccounted for, I accept this proclamation with many thanks. Susie Stevens Harvey, who is with me today is the Regional 2 coordinator, who represents 15 southeastern states with the National League of POW/MIA families. Again, I accept this proclamation with many thanks and hope to see many of you at our next Friday, the 16<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 p.m. at our monument at Emmett Park on Bay Street. Thank you. [Applause.]

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

Commissioner Stone said, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman Scott said, Joe [Mitchler], before you leave, I -- I got a member of the Commission that wants to make some comments, Commissioner Stone, from the 1<sup>st</sup> District.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to encourage as many of you all to come out on the 16<sup>th</sup>. I've had the privilege of attending that ceremony on numerous occasions, and if you've never been, it is a beautiful ceremony. It -- it's very well presented, and I would love to see some of my fellow Commissioners there, as well as members of this community to support this cause. So thank you very much.

Ms. Susie Stevens Harvey said, thank you, Helen.

Mr. Mitchler said, thank you, Helen.

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

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**2. PROCLAMATION TO DECLARE SEPTEMBER 2016 AS "SICKLE CELL AWARENESS MONTH." MEMBERS OF THE SICKLE CELL ASSOCIATION OF SAVANNAH WILL BE ACCEPTING THE PROCLAMATION.**

Chairman Scott said, next we have a proclamation declaring September 2016 as "Sickle Cell Awareness Month." And we have members of the Sickle Cell Association of Savannah here present to accept the proclamation. Again, I'll read a portion of it and then invite them up to accept the framed copy.

Chairman Scott read a portion of the following proclamation:



**WHEREAS**, the Sickle Cell Association of Savannah, Incorporated, an affiliate of the National Sickle Cell Association, Incorporated, was organized in 1973 and is a nonprofit organization, and

**WHEREAS**, the Sickle Cell Association of Savannah, Incorporated is dedicated to educating, screening, counseling, and providing health care and supportive services to persons and families who are affected with sickle cell disease, and

**WHEREAS**, there are many warriors in the Chatham County community who fight a battle from the pain of sickle cell disease and many are the fallen, who have lost their lives from the complications of the disease, and

**WHEREAS**, there is only **one** known survivor in the Savannah/Chatham Community, among a few nationwide, who has been cured of sickle cell disease; yet, hope remains for a cure for all, and

**WHEREAS**, the month of September is recognized as National Sickle Cell Anemia Awareness month and the Association will convene for its 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Luncheon Program on September 10, 2016, and

**WHEREAS**, the Chatham County Youth Commission has partnered with the Sickle Cell Association for a Carnival for the Cure on September 24, 2016.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Albert J. Scott, Chairman, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners, do hereby proclaim September 2016 as:

**SICKLE CELL ANEMIA AWARENESS MONTH**

in Chatham County and urge all citizens to show support at the Carnival for the Cure.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 9<sup>th</sup> day of September 2016.

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Albert J. Scott, Chairman  
Chatham County Commission

**ATTEST:**

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Gail F. Gordon, Administrative  
Assistant to the Chairman

Chairman Scott said, and with that, I will invite representatives from the Association. If you would, please come down.

[NOTE: Chairman Scott presented members of the Sickle Cell Association with the framed proclamation.]

Mr. Joe Finney said, well, there's only one person in Savannah who has survived the sickle cell anemia disease. Medically it was thought that it was an incurable disease. I know a lot of attention has been given to Alzheimer's, heart attack and stroke, but this is a deplorable disease that still affects hundreds of thousands of Americans, and especially here in Savannah. I want to bring forward Mr. Joseph Sheppard, who's son is one of a few in the United States of America that has survived. So, at this time, I'd like for Mr. Sheppard to please come forward. I have served almost 20 years as Chairperson for the Association and our partnership includes Emory University Medical Center, Augusta Sickle Cell Anemia Center, and the Backus Children's Clinic here in Savannah, Georgia, and I also want to recognize Dr. Martin Greenberg, who helped us begin what was called the Genetics Hematology Clinic in 1973, and at this time, Mr. Sheppard.

Mr. Joseph Sheppard said, thank you. Thank you, Mr. Finney, and good morning to everyone.

Commissioner Center said, good morning.

Members of the Board collectively said, good morning.

Mr. Sheppard said, I want to first of all thank you all for acknowledging this month, September, as being sickle cell awareness month. Sickle cell is a disease that is very deadly in our community, and education and research is very important. We were fortunate in our family to have our third child, who was born with sickle cell, to have a bone marrow transplant, because the bone marrow transplant cured the sickle cell, and that's something that we want everyone to take out of here this afternoon. That there are options, and the bone marrow transplant is an option, and we're just fortunate enough to have my oldest son to be his donor, because the bone marrow transplant is not a surgical procedure, it's just an infusion, for those who may not know. So, once again, we wanted to thank you all for acknowledging us. It's not only that we do try to help families that are challenged with this disease and for those who are still living with the disease, we want to give them as much support and as much understanding, because there's a lot of misunderstanding when it comes down to sickle cell anemia, and we want to be a part of the -- providing the information as to what it is and -- and what we can do to assist and be advocates for families. Thank you very much.

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

Chatham County Youth Commissioner Sydnei Richardson said, good morning. My name is Sydnei Richardson, a senior at Savannah Early College. I am the parliamentarian of Youth Commission, and I have been fighting sickle cell for 15 years, and I continue to fight this battle daily. In honor of sickle cell awareness month, Youth Commission will be hosting Carnival for a Cure on September 24<sup>th</sup>, 3:00 p.m. in Johnson Square. Thank you for taking the time to acknowledge sickle cell diseases. And -- thank you. [Applause.]

Chairman Scott said, and thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, Mr. Chairman?

Ms. Tracey Richardson said, good morning. I'm Tracey Richardson, and Sydnei is my daughter, and I'd just like to take the time out to thank you all for acknowledging the fact that we have sickle cell disease here in Savannah, and you all are taking -- making an effort to get educated on a disease that is so deadly in our community. Thank you. [Applause.]

Chairman Scott said, thank you. And be -- and -- and before you all leave, Commissioner Thomas wanted to make some comments.

Mr. Finney said, I just wanted to --

Commissioner Thomas said, good morning.

Mr. Finney said, -- thank Mr. Johnson for assisting us with the activities this year. He's been a very strong supporter. I also want to mention the fact that it's psychological, as well as it's financial. When patients go into crisis, \$25,000 a day for blood transfusions is a very, very minimal price that you pay before you exit the hospital.

Commissioner Thomas said, good morning. Just want to say thank you so very much for stepping forward to allow the community to understand what sickle cell is all about and what we can do together to help each other and perhaps we can do a better job with it. I just want to say that it's not an easy task for parents nor a child when you, you know, get something of that nature. So just want to say thank you, be steadfast and continue to support.

Mr. Van Johnson said, Mr. Chairman, Members of the Commission, thank you so much for your acknowledgment of sickle cell, which people fight every single day. We're so proud of Sydnei [Richardson] because less than a year ago, Sydnei would not tell anybody that she's had sickle cell because she was so ashamed of it, and as we do in the Youth Commission, as we do in Team Chatham, if one fights something, we all fight something. So she lives daily with sickle cell and fights sickle cell is now the fight of the Youth Commission and certainly the fight of Chatham County to ensure -- to uplift her and support her and all of the other young people that are born with this -- this -- this malady. Thank you so much.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, and a big shout out to the Youth Commission for taking this on. Thank you so much.

Commissioner Thomas said, yes.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

Mr. Finney said, let me just mention three individuals who are no longer with us who were part of the back bone of sickle cell. All are deceased, Paul Parks, the former director of the United Way, who gave me a call; Martha Faye, who was a geneticist here in Savannah, and also the late Ben Tucker. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, hold one minute, we have -- we have a few more comments from members of the Commission. I recognize the Commissioner from the 5<sup>th</sup> District, Commissioner Shabazz.

Commissioner Shabazz said, good morning. Good morning. I'd like to thank you, Mr. Finney, for your work in working with the sickle cell, and also, Mr. Sheppard, thank you for your courage and your wife and your family's courage and the young lady and her mother here because it's -- we -- we can't really imagine what you go through in terms of dealing with this condition, and we hope and pray that things look up and get better for you, and I'd like to just thank the Chatham County Youth Commission for supporting and giving the support for this. Like Mr. Johnson, Alderman Johnson said before she was reluctant to even come forward. But I would just like to say with every difficulty comes ease and every hardship there's relief, and Mr. Sheppard set some precedence and his son being cured of this condition sets a precedence for what could happen and just thank you very much for coming forward and working with this. Thank you.

Mr. Richardson said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, thank you all so much.

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**3. PROCLAMATION IN MEMORY OF DAVID LOWE, DIRECTOR OF CHILD SUPPORT ENFORCEMENT, WHO PASSED AWAY AUGUST 18, 2016.**

Chairman Scott said, next we have a proclamation honoring a former employee, and I -- again, I will read a portion of that, and then invite Mr. Lowe's wife to come up and receive the framed copy.

Chairman Scott read a portion of the following proclamation:



**WHEREAS**, Chatham County shares in the loss of one who spent his life serving his county and the citizens of Chatham County, David W. Lowe; and

**WHEREAS**, David W. Lowe served his county honorable receiving four Meritorious Service medals, four Army Commendation medals, four Army Achievement medals and numerous overseas ribbons; and

**WHEREAS**, he served as Director of Child Support Services since 1995 and during his tenure, Chatham County Child Support received recognition as an Outstanding Office by the National Child Support Enforcement Association; and

**WHEREAS**, David W. was a warrior for his country, the underserved children of Chatham County, and having fought a valiant battle with cancer, passed away on August 18, 2016.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Albert J. Scott, Chairman, on behalf of the Chatham County Board of Commissioners do hereby salute the dedication, commitment and tireless service of:

**DAVID W. LOWE**

to the Child Support Division of the Office of the District Attorney for the Eastern Judicial Circuit and extend our condolences to his mother Lorraine, his loving wife Sheila, son Christopher, and daughter Megan.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of Chatham County, Georgia to be affixed this the 9<sup>th</sup> day of September 2016.

**ATTEST:**

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Albert J. Scott, Chairman  
Chatham County Commission

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Gail F. Gordon, Administrative  
Assistant to the Chairman

Chairman Scott said, at this time I'm going to ask that his wife, Sheila, if she would come forward and any members of the County Commission who wish to join me in presenting this proclamation to Mrs. Lowe. And I might add that since he was a member of the District Attorney's office, that our DA, Meg Heap, join us as well.

[NOTE: Chairman Scott and the Members of the Commission presented Mrs. Sheila Lowe with the framed proclamation.]

District Attorney Meg Heap said, it should also be noted that employees from Child Support are here to honor Mr. Lowe.

Mrs. Sheila Lowe said, I just wanted to thank the county for their support and comfort and care, and I think Dave would be the first to say that his success and the office's success is due to his team and not to him, and he was honored to be part of the Chatham County family, and honored to be part of the Child Support team, and so thank you so much, and thank you to Meg [Heap] and the District Attorney's office for all their care and support. We're very, very humbled by it. [Applause.]

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#### 4. SWEARING-IN CEREMONY OF THE 2016-2017 CHATHAM COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION.

Chairman Scott said, the next item is the swearing-in of the 2016-2017 Chatham County Youth Commission. And at this time I will invite our own Alderman Van Johnson up to -- to do the honors. And, I would also just like to acknowledge all the parents of the Youth Commission who are in the audience. Would you please stand so we can applaud you, please? All the parents. [Applause.]

Chairman Scott said, thank you so much for allowing your children to participate in this program. I had an opportunity to greet them earlier in the week, and I hope that you can appreciate that this will be a very beneficial program, and I hope it will be a forever changing program for all of you youth who are participating. Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Van Johnson said, thank you, Mr. Chairman, Dr. Thomas, Ladies and Gentlemen. Again, good morning. It has once been said that we should strive to plant seeds that will provide shade that we will not enjoy. And with that, it's my pleasure to introduce the 2016-2017 version of the Chatham County Youth Commission. For the past 24 years, you have planted seeds of hope, seeds of encouragement, seeds of expectation for young people in this county. Many of -- now are their 40s, and while many of them hold titles of prestige, such as doctor, lawyers, military officers, judge, teachers, professionals, all of them hold the titles of high school graduate, and more importantly, the title of law-abiding, self-sustaining citizen. Through your support and through Dr. Thomas' vision, the Chatham County Youth Commission as you know is recognized nationally as a best practice, and as you are aware, we are the only youth program in the nation that is recognized by not only the National Association of Counties, but the National League of Cities; not only the Association of County Commissioners of Georgia, but the Georgia Municipal Association, and they all recognize that Chatham County is the best practice.

Mr. Johnson said, to Dr. Thomas our -- our angel, our founder, certainly we cannot say enough for her, and certainly as she winds down a stellar career of -- of public service, one of her legacies, of her many, is over the 500 young people that have been touched through the Chatham County Youth Commission. And certainly we thank all of you for all of you in your own ways interact with our young people, encourage our young people. We saw Commissioner Farrell in -- in Long Beach, and I thought he was going to play them in whatever they were playing, but I guess you decided not to do that because there was a rough game going on over there. But, to all of you --

Commissioner Farrell said, they were very enthusiastic, and I didn't think I could compete, so I -- I gracefully watched.

Mr. Johnson said, well, you noticed, I took pictures. I didn't even get involved, but, to all of you, I mean, you -- you interact with them, you encourage them, and -- and for you they -- you are their role models. You are their rock stars. They -- they see you all on TV, see you and interacting and it is a pleasure for them to have relationships with you. To our County Manager, Lee Smith, for his -- his unwavering support of our initiatives. To my director, Carolyn Smalls, and then the team of professionals that assist in this endeavor. No one can do it by themselves. Octavia Brown, who's here. Ms. Brown. Marilyn Rodriguez; Linda Gordon; and then some folks who could not be with us, Sala Menaya, Idell Biles, and Tameka Tribble. And certainly to parents, grandparents, aunties, uncles, who -- who cart these young people back and forth, who are personal ATM machines in -- in so many ways. We -- we salute them as well. We know that it takes a village to raise a child, and we thank them for allowing Chatham County and specifically Youth Commission to be a part of their village.

Mr. Johnson said, it was a long, hot summer this -- this year as over 35 young people embarked on the journey to become members of the Chatham County Youth Commission. They had to sacrifice their time. They had to sacrifice fun events with their friends. They had to be willing to think differently. They had to be willing to learn differently. They had to be willing to do differently. We challenged them. We angered them at times, and after almost 100 hours of unpaid community service, after a whole summer of wearing these white, dreaded t-shirts, after an entire summer of learning about their community and learning about the work that you do every day, we have -- from that 30, we have what we call the sweet 16 to join our family today, and we will add that to the 17 Youth Commissioners that are returning for another term. So, Mr. Chairman, Dr. Thomas, if you would come down, once I call the names to offer the office -- oath of office to these young people.

Mr. Johnson said, our chairperson is a senior from St. Vincent's Academy. She's in her third term, Ms. Aliyah Dorsey. [Applause]. Vice Chair, a -- a senior at St. Vincent's Academy in her second term, Morgan Dent. [Applause]. Secretary, from Bible Baptist, in her second year, she's a junior, Lydia Poole. [Applause.] You've already met the outstanding Sydnei Richardson from Savannah Early College. She's a senior in her second year. [Applause.] Erica Ellison from Johnson High School is a senior in her third year. [Applause]. T'Amarr Grant is a senior at Jenkins High School in her third year. [Applause]. Aundrea Linton is a junior at Savannah Early College in her second year. [Applause]. Wytney Benyard is a senior at Woodville-Tompkins in her second year. [Applause]. Kayah Brantley is a sophomore in -- from Savannah Arts Academy in her first year. [Applause]. Michaela Bryant is a junior at Bible Baptist. She's in her first year. [Applause]. Taylor Cobin is a senior at Savannah Arts Academy in his second year. [Applause]. A'lani Coppock is a sophomore at Savannah

Arts Academy. She's in her first year. [Applause]. Aniah Daniel is a junior at Savannah Christian. She's in her first year. [Applause]. Lindsey Dixon at Savannah Christian. She's a sophomore in her first year. [Applause]. Madison Dubroc is a sophomore at Savannah Early College. She in her first year. [Applause]. Jonathan Gibson from Woodville-Tompkins is a sophomore. He's in his first year. [Applause].

Mr. Johnson said, Nafia Hamilton from Johnson High School. She's a senior. This is her third year. [Applause]. Amaya James is a sophomore at Calvary Day School. She's in her first year. [Applause]. Michaela Kaigler is a sophomore at Savannah Arts Academy. She's in her first year [Applause]. Nisi King from the Habersham School. She's a junior. This is her second year. [Applause]. JaNarvis Ling from Islands High School. He's a junior. This is his first year. [Applause]. Jada Mosely from Windsor Forest. She is a junior. This is her first year. [Applause]. Ahmad O'Neal from Savannah Early College. [Applause]. He's a junior. This is his first year. I don't know what happened, but. Bryanna Pacheco. A senior at Savannah Arts Academy. This is her second year. [Applause]. Michael Pal from Savannah Country Day. He's a senior. This is his third year. [Applause]. Nykobe Richardson from Bible Baptist. He is a sophomore, and this is his first year. [Applause]. Corteria Roberson is a senior at St. Vincent's Academy. This is her second year. [Applause]. Bria Sanders from New Hampstead. She's a senior. This is her second year. [Applause]. Gabrielle Sanders from Woodville-Tompkins. She's a junior. This is her second year. [Applause]. Mika Scott, Jenkins High school. She's a senior. This is her third year. [Applause]. Mar -- Marcia Williams from Woodville-Tompkins. She is a senior. This is her third year. [Applause]. Raven Williams from Savannah Early College. She is a senior. This is her second year. [Applause]. And Riché Williams, a sophomore at Savannah Arts Academy and this is her first year. [Applause].

Mr. Johnson said, and I'd like to note, Mr. Chairman, and members of the Commission that all of our young people are CPR certified and they are Rotarians, as we have a interact club with Rotary Savannah East. So we are very proud of that distinguishing characteristic of our organization as well, and we ask you give them all a round of applause. [Applause]. We'd ask for all of them to stand.

Chairman Scott said, now, when I say I, I want you to repeat your name, please. I -- your name.

[NOTE: Chairman Scott gave the oath of office to the Youth Commissioners.]

Chairman Scott said, I, a citizen of the United States of Georgia and a member of the Chatham County Youth Commission do solemnly swear or affirm that I will support the Constitution of the United State and the Constitution of Georgia. That I will honestly and faithfully perform the duties assigned to me. And that I will at all times abide by and conform to the laws and ordinance, rules and regulations approved by Chatham County Commission. So help me God. You are hereby sworn in. [Applause].

Commissioner Thomas said, all right. Congratulations.

Chairman Scott said, any comments, Dr. Thomas?

Commissioner Thomas said, I just want to say that I am elated over the continuation of the Chatham County Youth Commission, but first of all let me say thank you to the Honorable Alderman Van Johnson who took it upon himself to assist me years ago because I was carrying both organizations at the same time. I don't have to worry at all about the Youth Commission because he has it going. As a matter of fact, he is tougher than some of their parents, and I just want to say, Mr. Johnson, thank you for all the hard work for all of these years and to our parents, thank you so very much for standing tall with us and helping our young people today who will not only be our leaders tomorrow but in years to come. We need them badly. There are so many things going on in our community. Too many -- too many people are shooting and killing and this kind of thing, and they -- these young people are role models, and we are hoping that they will help us to be able to make those changes. And to you -- you -- thank you for taking the oath, and we're expecting big things from each and every one of you. Again, God bless and thank you and congratulations. [Applause].

Mr. Johnson said, Mr. Chairman, I -- they -- they are really excited and they really want to go back to school, so if you would excuse them. I do not want to keep them away from school. But they just -- they told me to please, you know, make it short so they can get back to school.

Commissioner Thomas said, that's right.

Chairman Scott said, at this time, if there's no objection from the Members of the Commission, we will excuse the Members of the Youth Commission so they can return to class. I know they are very anxious to do so.

Commissioner Thomas said, all right.

Chairman Scott said, and again, thanks to all you parents who --

Commissioner Thomas said, yes.

Chairman Scott said, -- took time to be here this morning as well.

Commissioner Center said, Michael [Kaigler] can go back to work now too.

Chairman Scott said, hmm?

Commissioner Center said, Michael [Kaigler] can go back to work now too.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

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## **RECOGNITION OF GUESTS**

Chairman Scott said, while they are continuing to clear out, let me just acknowledge a couple people in the audience. We have Commission hopeful, Mr. Bobby Lockett, who's here visiting. I -- I guess this is a further portion of your tutorial. Thank you, Bobby. And we have with us our former Chairman of the Chatham County Commission, Mr. Pete Liakakis, who's over there supporting Mr. John Finney against the wall. Pete, it's good to see you.

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### **5. PRESENTATION REGARDING YOUTH INTERCEPT: A VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM. MEG HEAP, SHERYL SAMS AND BERNARD HUGGINS WILL BE MAKING THE PRESENTATION.**

Chairman Scott said, the next item on the agenda is a presentation regarding the Youth Intercept program: A Violent Intervention Program. And at this time I will invite our DA, Ms. Meg Heap, Sheryl Sams and Bernard Huggins, who -- it -- will be making a presentation. If they would come up, please.

District Attorney Heap said, good morning.

Members of the Board collectively said, good morning.

District Attorney Heap said, thank you very much for allowing us to be here today. We just wanted to show you a part of the District Attorney's office and -- and I guess all the accolades goes right here to this lady, about all the work that we are doing to make outreach to children in the hopes that they never come in -- into the criminal justice system. The program is the Intercept. It is spearheaded by Sheryl [Sams] and all these people with her, and she has done a phenomenal job in the past three years in terms of growing it. She's going to explain to you briefly, we promise, about what the program does, but one of the things I want to make sure y'all know is that we were nominated by the White House for the Congressional Black Caucus Annual Conference for next week, and we're going to be notified today. If this program makes it, we'll be going up next week to do a presentation to the -- at the conference, which we think is phenomenal. And it is in large part for the work that they do. They're available 24/7, and they're at the hospital for when we have victims, children who come in, and -- and she'll go into it, who come in with violent injuries. And the statistics show that if somebody does not intercede that we will have a homicide or that something else will occur.

District Attorney Heap said, they have made great strides in reaching into the other hospitals and also the -- also the schools, but I just wanted to say that they're the -- nobody ever gets to notice what they do, but they're non-stop, and it really goes hand in hand with the District Attorney's office, because we'd love to stop anybody from ever coming into the criminal justice system. Cheryl Rogers is our -- is our director of Victim Witness. She has been a victim advocate for close to 30 years now, and it's their office, which is a part of the DA's office that, you know, -- their first and foremost is to protect -- to protect and to help anybody who's been injured by a crime. So with that, I'm -- I'm really pleased to say that I am a part of an organization like Intercept. So, this is Sheryl Sams, who is the director of the program.

Commissioner Thomas said, great.

Ms. Sheryl Sams said, good morning --

Commissioner Thomas said, good morning.

Ms. Sams said, -- Mr. Chairman and also the Commissioners. I thank you for allowing us the opportunity to speak with you briefly about our program. And our program is a three-fold program, but, of course, first I would like to introduce my staff. Mr. Bernard Huggins, who is actually a part of the adopt a school and summer law program. I have Sylvia Spaulding, who is actually our intervention specialist. She's primarily hospital based, but she also works with the school system. And Mr. John Bush who is our community intervention specialist who works at night, and he also drives our van to pick up our youth from different schools in the community, as well as providing coordination for mentorship for our children.

Ms. Sams said, and just to provide a brief description of what our program -- program does, like I said, it is a three-part program, and the first program started in 2010 at Memorial Hospital. We have a collaboration with

Memorial Hospital, and we are basically providing -- responding to victims of violent, intentional crimes. We actually respond -- well, provide wrap around services for those individuals between the ages of 12 and 25. So, you know, those -- some of those services include employment, housing, mental health and also substance abuse. We have responded this year to over 193 victims, and we also -- I would say since 2010, we've actually responded to over 1200 victims in Memorial Hospital. This year we've also collaborated with St. Joseph's/Candler, and we have an office there, and we just started providing services to them as well.

Ms. Sams said, and then our second part of the program is the prevention program, which is in the school system, and as we started to look at the statistics in responding to the individuals in the hospital, we saw some of the dynamics and some of the issues that was going on with those individuals that we, you know, responded to, and we looked at some of those risk factors, and Meg Heap basically decided that perhaps we should go in the school system and do a prevention piece so we can keep our youth out of that, you know, system where they're coming into the hospital, and they are injured or perhaps even deceased as a result of some of the risky behaviors.

Ms. Sams said, we have currently 45 students in that program, and we provide various services. We actually provide youth mentoring, career services, tutorial on a -- on -- every three days. We also -- also provide life skills as well, and we take them on field trips in the county -- well in the city and the county, as well as outside. Our -- our actual -- I would say our success rate, I'm sorry, we have 20 percent increases in academics for the students who participate with us and also 75 percent increase in school attendance. And what we looked at was over an average of about -- well, most of our students were missing on an average about 85 days of school, so we consider that, of course, to be a great success rate. And then we have our adopt a school and summer program, and I'll have Mr. Bernard Huggins talk about that. Thank you so much.

District Attorney Heap said, and -- and one thing let me interject here. This is -- we receive federal funding. We applied for grants. So this is all funded by -- through federal funds. And what she doesn't say is they are the ones who are now getting the calls in the middle of the school day when somebody is acting up. They are the ones who sit there and find out why Johnny is having issues, and -- and they work with the parents. As you stated, you know, we've had kids who have missed 85 days of school. You're not getting an education. You're going to fall behind, and then you're going to see truancy, and then they're going to drop out. The hope is -- is by staying in school and being the support that they need, they're going to become citizens here, which we want, and they have jobs -- opportunities, and then contribute to society. I just wanted to make sure you mentioned it.

Mr. Bernard Huggins said, good morning Councilmen.

Commissioner Shabazz said, good morning, sir.

Members of the Board collectively said, good morning.

Mr. Huggins said, just to be brief about the adopt a school program, this is pretty much a second step phase of an initial -- initiative that took place last summer, it's called the summer law. What we did was we understood that the kids in our community, they have a little bit indifference when it comes down to law officials or law institutions, not only just locally but nationally. So the District Attorney has took it upon themselves to say, hey, let's go beyond our walls, get involved in a community, and, you know, bridge the gap between some of the -- the things that may lack there. So what we did was we pulled students from the public school systems, particularly, we send out apps throughout the summer, a majority of our schools -- students that participated come from title one schools. The tremendous -- we had a great response. Most of our students ranged from the age of 13 to about 16 at times. We have about -- nearly for two weeks, we set these kids up out of their normal schedules for the summer. We bring them downtown. We host them. We get them to -- a chance to interact with not only lawyers, judges, but other law officials in a different way than they may know in their own context. Also, with those activities that we hold for two weeks, we pretty much started psycho-educational talks for them, so they can be able to share with us some of their views and opinions, not only about law but rules and other things that may be socially concerning for them, and we allow the individuals that play a major role in the success and the -- the -- the pretty much the healthiness of the community that we have here in Savannah to pretty much explain their roles, the responsibilities they have as lawyers, judges, police officers, and the challenges that they face to be able to do their job effectively.

Mr. Huggins said, so the dialogue is not just one way, it's two way so the kids can walk away with a healthy medium from what -- what should I take away from the individuals that really work to serve me the best that they could. So, what we just decided to do was for the school year of 2016 and the '17 calendar year, we decided to take that and incorporate that into schedules for some of the schools. Right now we are in Hubert Middle School and East Broad. They have a block called the flex block where we take those same individuals that are in the community, and we bring them there to expose this type of dialogue, interaction and all of those things for them on a continuous basis. So it's just not throughout the summers that they get this exposure and this healthy dialogue and interaction with individuals, that often times it may be in a negative way that they have interaction with them in their home context. We give them opportunity to be exposed in a very healthy way. So, just to say a little.

Commissioner Shabazz said, thank you. Thank you.

Ms. Sams said, and, of course, you can see on our slides some of the partners that we have. We take them on career fairs at Savannah Technical College, of course, we are in 13 different schools right now, and primarily in the inner city schools. Memorial Health, we have a representative here today with us, as well as some parents, and we also are with local churches that assist us with the mentoring aspect of it. We are at Carnegie Library taking the kids there as well. They participate in Toast Masters throughout the summer and also we are now in St. Joseph's/Candler. So I would like to acknowledge we have two parents, we have our kids here today, and this is just a representation of our kids who attend --

Chairman Scott said, now, would the parents please stand? [Applause].

Ms. Sams said, and also, if Ms. -- Ms. Ramirez would come down. She's actually from Memorial Health. They are actually a critical part of, you know, the program. And we could not do what we do without the support of staff, family, you know, and also our students who are willing to take part and make a difference and, you know, change the way that they're -- in the direction that they're going. So I thank you for your time and the opportunity just to allow us to speak to you today.

District Attorney Heap said, and -- and -- and -- and the children really, I think, have been waiting to come up here before y'all. They're like, when is it our turn?

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Thomas said, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman Scott said, we also have some comments from members of the Commission. I'll start with our Vice Chair, Commissioner Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. To each and every one of you, I sat here attentively, and I'm just so excited to hear all of the wonderful things that you are doing. I do want to invite you to be a part of the Youth Commission, as -- working with them is what I'm trying to say or either becoming a part of them, because you -- the more you work together, the more we can get done, and I'm just excited about the outreach in the community, and when you come together as -- as a group, you can reach more people. If you have the same ideas, the same thoughts, the same outcome that you're looking for, and what you have done, I am excited about it. I support you wholeheartedly, and anything that we can do to help facilitate even more what you are trying to do, just let us know and let us work together as a group in Chatham County and make it even bigger and better. Thank you. Keep up the good work.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Holmes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> District.

Commissioner Holmes said, good afternoon. Look, let me ask, if someone want to come in and help, how do you all recruit?

Ms. Sams said, we have an application process.

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

Ms. Sams said, and you just basically provide -- provide us with the information that's in your application --

Chairman Scott said, the mike, please.

Ms. Sams said, I'm sorry. I am so sorry. But we do have an application process. We would just send over an application, you fill it out.

Commissioner Thomas said, great.

Ms. Sams said, we provide background checks, and once that is completed, we actually match you up with either youth or several youth and also invite you to participate in any events that we have.

Commissioner Holmes said, it look like all what you all are doing, you don't have enough hands here. I'm going to have to pull one of your recruiter. Let me ask you something else. Do you all have a tracking system that you track the --

Ms. Sams said, yes, we do.

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm. And how does it look?

Ms. Sams said, well I'd like to --

Commissioner Holmes said, what percentage is it now?

Ms. Sams said, the percentage as far as how many youth --

Commissioner Holmes said, success.

Ms. Sams said, well, like I said, with the -- last year we showed 20 percent increase in their academic success and also 75 percent increase in their attendance at school.

Commissioner Holmes said, great.

Ms. Sams said, of course -- of course that with some of the kids that we actually participate in -- participate with, they have been involved with risky behaviors, but since they've been enrolled in our program, there's no repeat offenses of actually, you know, doing thing that -- doing things that would cause them to receive a referral to juvenile court.

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

District Attorney Heap said, so they're not entering into the juvenile justice system is what we're trying to prevent.

Commissioner Thomas said, great.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay.

District Attorney Heap said, they have one success story, and I know that Sheryl [Sams] has told me this before. There was two brothers -- if I may?

Ms. Sams said, yes.

District Attorney Heap said, one of them that they actually inter -- inter -- intercepted -- interceded, went on to graduate. First in his family and is into a welding school. They reached the -- offered the services to a -- a -- a cousin?

Ms. Sams said, yes, a cousin.

District Attorney Heap said, who did not and is -- is now in our jail. So, you know, our hope is -- is to find out what the issues are, to intercede and help them. You know, it -- it -- it -- the biggest thing is to know that someone's there, it's -- what's -- what are their issues? Is it mental? Is it they need help with school? Do they need help finding a job? So mentors, we welcome. We need them. Male mentors more than anything else.

Commissioner Holmes said, I'm very impressed.

Chairman Scott said, are we going to hear from the kids?

Ms. Sams said, yes.

District Attorney Heap said, we want them to. Come on.

Ms. Sams said, anyone who wants to?

Master Ezekiel McPherson said, Ezekiel McPherson.

Commissioner Holmes said, what's your name?

Master McPherson said, Ezekiel McPherson.

Commissioner Holmes said, and how old are you?

Master McPherson said, thirteen.

Commissioner Holmes said, thirteen. What school you attend?

Master McPherson said, Isle of Hope.

Commissioner Holmes said, Isle of Hope. Thanks.

Commissioner Thomas said, don't be shy. Speak up.

Commissioner Shabazz said, can we turn the lights on? I can't see -- I can't hardly see him.

Chairman Scott said, lights.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yeah. That's better. Yes, sir. Thank you.

Master McPherson said, okay. Some things that I like about the Youth Intercept program is that they make sure that we have what we need by behavior wise, attitude, and make sure we stay out of trouble.

Commissioner Thomas said, that's a big plus right there.

Ms. Sams said, what else?

Master McPherson said, oh, and the program helps me because it has helped me with my attitude, my homework, my grades, and it helped me do better in school.

Commissioner Thomas said, very good.

Chairman Scott said, terrific.

Master McPherson said, the Youth Intercept program helped me better myself, and they're working to make me a better young man by giving me examples from things that they've been through in their life. [Applause.]

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Thomas said, yes. Yes. All right. You did it. You did it.

Master Troy Robinson said, my name is Troy Robinson.

Chairman Scott said, just raise the mike a little bit, Troy. That's good. You're a little bit taller.

Master Robinson said, my name is Troy Robinson. I go to CAN Academy. The program is a cool program. I -- I like it. We go -- we go different places and other stuff, and that's it basically.

Commissioner Holmes said, what school you go to Robinson?

Master Robinson said, CAN Academy. [Applause.]

Commissioner Holmes said, CAN. okay.

Master Robinson said, yeah.

Master Anthony Taylor said, good morning.

Chairman Scott said, good morning.

Members of the Board collectively said, good morning.

Master Taylor said, I attend Beach High School. I like this program because it like -- it teaches us young kids, like, you shouldn't -- should want to do your school. It teaches you, like, a better attitude, and it keeps you out of trouble. You know, because some kids could be out there doing bad things. The juvenile system and this program keeps you out the streets. They take us out on field trips, make sure we do our work, feed us. We -- that's all. [Applause.]

Commissioner Thomas said, very good. Very good.

Chairman Scott said, anyone else? Okay.

Commissioner Thomas said, don't be shy. Come on.

Master JaShad Richardson said, my name is JaShad Richardson. I go to Meyers Middle School, and I like this program because I like the -- I just like what the -- the type of stuff that they do with us. Like they help us with our school work and all and if you're doing good, they give us -- like they bring fun stuff to do, like take us different places. [Applause.]

Commissioner Thomas said, very good.

Master Richardson said, like -- like this summer we went to Carowinds because everybody was doing good. [Applause.]

Chairman Scott said, keep it up.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay.

Master Kenny Taylor said, my name Kenny [Taylor], and I attend Beach High School. I'm a sophomore. I play basketball there, too. I like this program because this summer it helped me get a job. It helped me save my

money; helped me be more responsible. I feel like -- since I got in this program, I got more mature in what I think.

Commissioner Shabazz said, mm-hmm.

Master Taylor said, I like exploring my options more, and like I'm more serious with school.

Commissioner Thomas said, yes.

Master Taylor said, yeah.

Chairman Scott said, and you're playing basketball you said?

Master Taylor said, yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, and I see you're wearing a -- a Georgia jersey. That means that you going to -- you're going to have a chance to go to the University?

Master Taylor said, yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, you're going to give that a try?

Master Taylor said, yes, sir. [Applause.]

Commissioner Thomas said, all right.

Chairman Scott said, that's good.

Commissioner Thomas said, all right.

Master Jamal Richardson said, how y'all doing? My name is Jamal [Richardson]. I go to Hubert Middle School. I like this program because it's fun. They help us with our work. I'm more serious with my work. We go out places, fun places and stuff, and they feed us and stuff too. And they nice. They cool. [Applause.]

Commissioner Thomas said, nice and cool. All right.

Ms. Sams said, I also wanted to just briefly, if perhaps one of the parents or one of the collaborators would want to say something quickly, please.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

Commissioner Shabazz said, come on, mom.

Ezekiel McPherson's mother said, hi. I'm Ezekiel McPherson's mom, and I found out about this program through word of mouth, through my girlfriend. And so, when I did talk to Mr. Bush, I was so excited, I couldn't -- I was just so excited, I couldn't wait to do the paperwork. So I met with Ms. Spaulding, and we did the paperwork for Ezekiel, and it's been on since then. I -- I've enjoyed it. His attitude has changed. All I got to do is say, I'm calling Mr. Bush or Mr. Bernard, and that's it. So I -- I've enjoyed it, and I -- you know, it's going to be a successful program. Thank you. [Applause.]

Commissioner Holmes said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, does -- does anybody else from the group --

Ms. Amanda Ramirez said, hey there. I'm Amanda Ramirez. I'm the Manager for Trauma Outreach and Education at Memorial, and we are partnered with this program as the only Level I trauma center that serves this community. We are the ones who also service the folks that are most affected by violent crimes and so we -- we love this program. We back it 100 percent. I am currently doing a lot of grant research trying to find them funding to better keep up with their data so that we can get some true, hard numbers and good research going. As many of you probably are aware, we have the Ochsner Institute for Research and Injury Prevention that's housed at Memorial.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

Ms. Ramirez said, founded for the great Dr. Gage Ochsner before he passed, and that was one of his visions. So we are really looking forward to seeing this program blossom. There are programs similar to this throughout the country that are having great success, and our hopes is that we can continue that here and see a decrease

in the violent crimes here in our community and see these kids stay out of trouble and -- and just grow into successful, civic-minded, responsible citizens for Chatham County. [Applause.]

Chairman Scott said, thank you. Now we -- now, I'll recognize -- some members of the Commission had some comments or questions for you. Commissioner Shabazz of the 5<sup>th</sup> District.

Commissioner Shabazz said, good morning.

District Attorney Heap said, good morning.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I'd like to just thank and commend the District Attorney, as well as Ms. Sheryl Sams. Are you Sheryl?

Ms. Sams said, yes, that's me.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. And Bernard Huggins, and --

District Attorney Heap said, Mr. Bush.

Commissioner Shabazz said, Mr. Bush and --

District Attorney Heap said, Mr. Bush and Ms. Spaulding.

Commissioner Thomas said, Ms. Spaulding.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yeah, it -- it truly explains the proverb that it takes the entire village to nurture a child -- children, because it -- it seems as though you all have reached out into the community, and, you know, I've been one who has been very critical of law enforcement, as well as the District Attorney, in terms of incarceration, but it seems this is an alternative to that, and I -- I truly believe that a ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure. Something had to happen to prevent youth from being a part of the criminal justice system. And I think that you all are going in the right direction, and I just want to find the good and praise that. I want to praise that today.

Ms. Sams said, thank you.

Commissioner Shabazz said, and thank you for your work and for your vision and initiative with this -- with this. Thank you.

Ms. Sams said, thank you.

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

Commissioner Center said, thank -- thank you, Mr. Chairman. I want to ask the cool District Attorney a question, and -- and your last speech was a great segway into this. You mention you get a federal grant.

District Attorney Heap said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, how long will that last? How much do you need? And -- and she said she was writing grants. Where -- where is funding available?

District Attorney Heap said, well, and -- and Kristen [Fulford] -- let me also introduce -- this is my Public Information Officer slash grant writer, we're in the works. We're waiting for more grants we've applied for. It's probably by the end of September is when we're going to know. We're always, constantly looking for money to fund. So, if you want to pass some our way, we would greatly appreciate it. But this is -- it was a four -- three-year --

Ms. Sams said, three-year grant.

District Attorney Heap said, -- grant. We're on year three. So, we're searching.

Commissioner Center said, what is the cost per year? It has been?

District Attorney Heap said, I want to say it's -- \$230,000 a year. And by the way, the -- Memorial gives us a -- a place free of charge. So, they give us, and that's what we're hoping -- well, it's probably not free of charge for us, but it's not for them, and we graciously -- graciously appreciate it. But going into St. Joe's/Candler is the same. They're making room for us and give us a place so we can staff. I mean, because the calls usually come in -- somebody comes in with a gunshot wound, it's in the middle of the night, and it's a kid, and it's -- statistics show, and so we want to be there. Investigation is one thing, the other one is -- is how do we stop it. You know, that's our big thing. I'd love to work myself out of business, and it's to -- the big thing is -- is to get in there, look at the kid, talk to the parents, you know, how do we stop this because, you know, retaliation is huge.

Commissioner Thomas said, yep.

District Attorney Heap said, so, if somebody doesn't intercede, we see it statistically, you see it in the newspaper, that it's back and forth. So the money, we are looking frantically, but we -- we're going to keep it going however we can.

Commissioner Center said, well, thank you, and I do appreciate your efforts. It's been a -- it's been educating. You know, we had child support and now child violence, and I appreciate all the work you're doing.

District Attorney Heap said, well, thank you very much. And -- and with Dave Lowe, I mean, he -- he fought hard. You know, that's another thing, these kids, somebody's got to support them, and -- and he really fought hard for -- for the children. I mean, that's his ultimate goal. Gets a lot of people grumbling on the other side, but, you know, -- it -- it's a job that we think is -- is needed.

Commissioner Thomas said, that's okay.

Commissioner Center said, thank you, Madam Cool District Attorney.

Commissioner Thomas said, fantastic job.

Chairman Scott said, and good luck to you with the Congressional Black Caucus. I -- I hope that's a success.

District Attorney Heap said, and we will know this afternoon, and we will be heading up -- it's next Friday, so we're kind of --

Commissioner Center said, are -- are -- are there any other Georgians?

District Attorney Heap said, no.

Commissioner Center said, so --

District Attorney Heap said, we are the only one.

Commissioner Center said, so, if we have a connection with a Georgia member of that caucus, it would help?

Ms. Kristin Fulford said, to give you a little background on it, this grant that we have is -- there are nine grantees. We're the only District Attorney's office. The rest of them are all either health departments or regional health groups, and we're the only one of the nine grantees who've been nominated.

District Attorney Heap said, so the White House did, and we're waiting to hear, and we're going to -- I don't know if we're going to do a van ride up there overnight and come back, but we're going to head up.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

District Attorney Heap said, thank you again for allowing us to come. [Applause.]

Commissioner Thomas said, good luck.

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Commissioner Stone said, wow.

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**6. PRESENTATION ON THE NEW CHATHAM COUNTY-SAVANNAH COMPREHENSIVE PLAN. THE PLAN WILL APPEAR ON THE SEPTEMBER 23, 2016, AGENDA FOR THE BOARD TO CONSIDER ADOPTION. NOTE: THE PLAN IS NEARLY 600 PAGES LONG. ONE COPY IS AVAILABLE IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE AND IS ALSO AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD AT <HTTP://WWW.THEMPC.ORG/DOCS/LIT/COMPPLAN/2016/DRAFT.PDF>.**

Chairman Scott said, at this time I'm going to recognize our County Manager to introduce this next item which is a presentation on the Comprehensive Plan that's been put together by the Metropolitan Planning Commission. And we have Mr. Nick Helmholdt is going to come up.

County Manager Lee Smith said, if you have not had a chance to go on line, I've read the plan twice because Jackie [Teel-Jackson] told me I had to, so I did read it twice. I think that it has been truly a -- a community

process. We've had many meetings, but I will tell you the blueprint that the Board authorized almost two years ago is tied into this greatly, which is probably the first time we've been able to integrate all the issues from citizens at this level into a comprehensive plan and the municipalities are doing the same thing. So this has been a terrific process, and with that, I would thank Tom [Thomson], Jackie [Teel-Jackson] for all the work, and now I'll turn it over to Nick [Helmholdt] for a presentation.

Chairman Scott said, and -- and we may also add that there's a copy on file in the Clerk's office and it's also available on line.

County Manager Smith said, correct.

Chairman Scott said, and --

Mr. Nick Helmholdt said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Thank you Lee [Smith] and members of the Commission for allowing me to make this presentation this morning. I'll try to be brief and allow some time for questions in case you have any. To sum up, I think it was a great summary of where we are. What we're asking the county today to do is to accept the draft here and review this and provide comments. So, I'll go through what this includes and help you navigate the document. So, the Comprehensive Plan update process -- give me one moment here. So the Metropolitan Planning Commission has prepared a Comprehensive Plan for the City and unincorporated -- unincorporated county since approximately the 80s, and the Comp Plan is a guiding document, sort of a vision document for both -- both jurisdictions to provide policy goals and visions for approximately a 20-year window. The Georgia Department of Community Affairs requires us to update this every five years, so we do have, you know, a bit of time to review and refine these goals as things come up.

Mr. Helmholdt said, you can sort of think of this as the vision plan. It paints with pretty broad strokes. So we don't get into a lot of the -- the fine grain detail that you might see in other planning documents or other -- other details out there, but we do get into specific policy issues that we believe are important and reflect the public's interests in the next years. So, one, oh, one, actually really important piece to mention here and -- and to make clear is that we have really reflected in its entirety the Chatham Community Blueprint. So this is the effort led by Tara Jennings and her group to collect a lot of public feedback on a variety of issues. So every vision and goal from that document is -- is reflected here. Some of them verbatim, some of them modified just slightly so that we can incorporate broader community issues that may have -- may have -- also reflect things that the MPC deals with on issues, such as land use and transportation. So, you'll see in some of the issues, such as public safety, health, economy, and education, items from the Blueprint are used exactly as you've seen them in previous versions.

Mr. Helmholdt said, so, the last full update to the plan was done in 2006. We did a minor modification in 2012, and we consider this next update for 2016 as a full update of the plan. We've gone through every piece of it and refined it and brought it up to speed. So, you'll see before you, you know, that this plan goes in the direction -- all the minimum requirements of the Georgia Department of Community Affairs. These include housing, land use, transportation and economic development. We also address some issues that we believe are really important for the Savannah community and Chatham County, and these go into what we call our quality of life category. So these include things like historic preservation, public safety, community health and -- pardon me, natural resources, thank you. So, you'll see that -- you'll see that index here on the following page here. This is -- this is a -- a summary of the table of contents of the plan, and this is a -- a good guide to what -- what all the sections are. So, if you really want to focus on the important pieces and, you know, kind of want to maximize your efficiency of reading through the plan, there are three key sections I would -- I would encourage you to -- to look at and -- and take in -- in detail. Those include Chapter 3, the Community Vision and Goals. The Future Land Use Map, which you can find in Chapter 5, and the Strategic Plan and Work Program in Chapter 9, and those really are the sort of guiding pieces of this plan. There are really important and interesting pieces in all the rest of the chapters. A lot of it is background information, things you may already be aware of, but there's also a lot of new information that's been updated through the past -- through the process here.

Mr. Helmholdt said, one other piece here to -- just for your consideration -- is to -- to bring you up to speed on, is the service delivery strategy. This is a 300-page document on its own, which goes into detail on how public services are provided throughout the county, and this includes things such as fire protection, police protection, water, sewer, schools, etcetera, etcetera. So, that really gets into the nitty gritty of how services are provided and provides maps for things that fall outside of normal jurisdictional boundaries. So what we're asking today to do is for you -- to begin the review process on the county level and to look at this document, consider it, ask questions, provide comments and input from the Commission level. We are aiming to bring this back to you at your next meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> [sic], and then submit -- and then with your approval, transmit it to the Coastal Regional Commission and the Georgia Department of Community Affairs, at which time they'll begin their review process, and we are aiming for a completed and final plan to be done by October 31<sup>st</sup>. At that point we will ask the -- both bodies to adopt the plan.

Mr. Helmholdt said, so, here's a timeline of where, and you can see at the most recent Metropolitan Planning Commission meeting, last week, Tuesday, the Metropolitan Planning Commission voted to approve the plan and move it to both -- both of these bodies, and you can see that timeline going forward here. We're really shooting to get this thing done by the end of October. So, with that, I will entertain any questions.

Chairman Scott said, any questions of Nick [Helmholdt]? Not at this time, Nick. There are no questions.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you.

Mr. Helmholdt said, thank you very much.

**AGENDA ITEM: V-4**

**AGENDA DATE: September 9, 2016**



**CHATHAM COUNTY - SAVANNAH**  
**METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION**  
*"Planning the Future – Respecting the Past"*

**DATE:** August 31, 2016

**TO:** Lee Smith, County Manager

**FROM:** Thomas Thomson, MPC, Executive Director

**SUBJECT:**

We are transmitting one copy of the new Chatham County-Savannah Comprehensive Plan to adopt.

On August 30, 2016, the Chatham County-Savannah Metropolitan Planning Commission voted unanimously to adopt a new Comprehensive Plan. This plan provides a unified, long term vision for the City of Savannah and Unincorporated Chatham County in the topics of land use, housing, economic development, transportation, and quality of life. MPC staff coordinated closely with local partners to ensure that the Comprehensive Plan reflects the vision and goals of the *Chatham County Blueprint* and other currently adopted plans.

A widespread community participation effort was used to gather public input which influenced this plan. Key elements of the Comprehensive Plan include the Future Land Use Map (contained in the Land Use chapter) and the Community Vision & Goals. The plan provides additional detail relevant to public policy in the Community Strategic Plan & Work Program chapter. Furthermore, this plan contains the Service Delivery Strategy for both jurisdictions: a document that outlines how all public services are provided to citizens.

A digital copy of the Comprehensive Plan can be downloaded using this link:  
<http://www.thempc.org/docs/lit/complan/2016/draft.pdf>.

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs requires that local governments update Comprehensive Plans every five years and provide progress reports on annual basis. Upon adoption of this plan by both Chatham County and the City of Savannah, it will be transmitted to DCA for final review and acceptance.

I am writing to request a time at the September 9<sup>th</sup> County Commission meeting to present background information on the Comprehensive Plan to the County Commission. This presentation will take approximately 10-15 minutes. I am also requesting that County Commission consider adoption of the Comprehensive Plan on its September 23<sup>rd</sup> agenda.

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**7. SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF PARTNERS BY SUMMER BONANZA PARTNERSHIP, INC. (COMMISSIONER THOMAS).**

Chairman Scott said, the next item we have is a special recognition of partners for the Summer Bonanza Partnership, Inc., and at this time I'll turn it over to our Vice Chair, Dr. Thomas.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Members of the Commission, we will be very brief. I think we've lost some of the people who had to go back to work who were to receive recognition this morning, however, there are a few. I would like to introduce to you one of the incoming -- well, he's already been -- been elected, Assistant Executive Director, Bishop Willie Ferrell and Ms. Elizabeth Ginn, who is the assistant to the founder of Summer Bonanza. They will be presiding and giving out these awards this morning, and we'll be very brief in doing so. And those persons who are not here, we will try to make sure that they get these awards, and let's be very brief as you make the presentations, please. Bishop Ferrell, if you'd like to begin by whatever you want to say to the group and move forward.

Bishop Willie Ferrell said, good morning. Certainly we want to thank the Chairman and the Commissioners that have been in support of the Summer Bonanza program for as long as I've been there, and that's 22 years, and I think I heard Alderman Johnson say about 24, 25 years. But without the support of the volunteers and without the support of partners with the community and without your support, none of this could be done. So we want to present in recognition for the support of the Summer Bonanza, Mr. Camden Mason, for your dedication,

efforts in child advocacy. Dr. Priscilla Thomas, Founder and CEO. [Applause.] Ms. Jackie Ogden, who needless to say was there not only when we need her, when we don't need her, she's always on the scene. [Applause.] Mr. Pete Liakakis, what can I say about our former Chairman. [Applause.] Oh, wow, he's probably the godfather of the Summer Bonanza Program.

Commissioner Thomas said, oh yeah.

Bishop Ferrell said, thank you so much.

Former Chairman Pete Liakakis said, thank you very much, and I'd like to thank, you know, the Chairman -- Vice Chairman of the County Commission because not only being the founder of the Chatham County Youth Commission and the wonderful things they've done and graduated and all, but even her time that -- in the summer time putting in the Summer Bonanza in there, and if you could go to some of those meetings and all, you'll see they turned a lot of the children around in the right direction and all, and she continues to do the things

and others in our community where they have helped many of the children in our community, and especially those that, you know, that really need it. Thank you. [Applause.]

Bishop Ferrell said, we have Mr. Russ Abolt. He's not here. Mr. Eric Sharpe.

Commissioner Thomas said, Mr. Sharpe had a representative here at the other meeting, but we did not know that someone was here, but I wanted to just briefly say to -- to that, Mr. Eric Sharpe provided all of the computers for Summer Bonanza several years ago and sent someone out to teach our children how to use the computers, as well as parents, and I want you to know also the -- to this day, the computers are, you know, at Moses Jackson, and we have a really, really wonderful computer class ongoing at Moses Jackson because of Mr. Eric Sharpe.

Bishop Ferrell said, that is so true. Not only with the children but with the --

Commissioner Thomas said, with the parents.

Bishop Ferrell said, -- community.

Commissioner Thomas said, with the community at large. Thank you.

Bishop Ferrell said, we have Mr. Michael O'Neal, Parent University.

Commissioner Thomas said, his wife, I understand that was here but we did not know, and he too, Mr. Michael O'Neal, he is with Parent University, and he has partnered with Summer Bonanza, and he is working with the children -- with the parents of the children that we are working with. So while we are working with the children, he is working with the parents, so the parents are becoming educated and trained as well.

Bishop Ferrell said, I really applaud that effort because when they leave us and go back home, they need somebody to support them. The Savannah Chapter of Link.

Commissioner Thomas said, I don't see a representative here today, but these - these are ladies that are with us every year, and they do a magnificent job with our children, and we just want to thank them very much as well.

Bishop Ferrell said, we also want to recognize Mr. and Mrs. Mohammad Abdallah and family.

Commissioner Thomas said, they were unable to be here this morning. They are just wonderful not only with Summer Bonanza but in the entire community of Savannah and Chatham County.

Bishop Ferrell said, and always giving their support, every year.

Commissioner Thomas said, right. Their son was the outgoing president of the Chatham County Youth Commission. He is now in attendance at Georgia Southern.

Bishop Ferrell said, also supports us is the Garden City Mayor and Councilor [sic].

Commissioner Thomas said, yep. We'll see to it that they get there. They have been very supportive as well.

Bishop Ferrell said, Mr. Roy Harris.

Commissioner Thomas said, he's not here today, but he has been very, very supportive when he was in office.

Bishop Ferrell said, and Mr. Colonel George Bowens [sic].

Commissioner Thomas said, Colonel George Bowen refuses to come. He does not like to be in the forefront there, but he -- he's been outstanding, and we just wanted to let him know that we appreciate all that he does for Summer Bonanza. Okay.

Bishop Ferrell said, we also have certificates that we want to recognize individuals. Presented to Idell Biles.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay.

Ms. Elizabeth Ginn said, these certificates are for Youth Commissioners, young -- Youth Commission volunteers.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay. These are the -- the certificates for the -- the people that assist with the Chatham County Youth Commission. Okay. We'll make sure that Mr. -- Mr. Johnson gets them, and we just wanted to thank those persons as well, because he needed help, and they, you know, provide that assistance with him. Thank you. Okay. We can go to the next.

Bishop Ferrell said, five-year volunteers Mr. Donnie Cotton. All these are Summer Bonanza. Five-year volunteer Diane Morrell, Mr. [sic] Brittany Norman Kirkland. I think she's with the jail.

Commissioner Thomas said, a lot of people had to leave. Yeah.

Bishop Ferrell said, Mr. Wayne Branagh (phonetic). Ms. Sherry Brown. Mr. James Robinson.

Commissioner Thomas said, some of them were here earlier, but I assume they had to get back to work. Okay.

Bishop Ferrell said, community president of the Garden City.

Commissioner Thomas said, we'll make sure that they get their certificates.

Bishop Ferrell said, community president of Port Wentworth; community president Yamacraw Village; community president of Tatemville.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay. All right. The next one -- the -- the medallion goes to Janice Bocoock -- Bocoock. [Applause.]

Commissioner Center said, who's going to write this down? Run back and right that down.

County Manager Smith said, she's trying to.

Commissioner Thomas said, that's it, right? Thank you all so very much. We appreciate that.

Bishop Ferrell said, I -- I just want to say again, thank you for all that you do. As I sit there listening to all the different programs here in this county, wow, I wish the community could hear and see what I've heard and seen, and the little voice spoke to me, Mr. Chairman, and say that can -- we have a government channel, if somehow we could incorporate what these organizations have done and is doing and let the community see and hear and know. Without a vision, the people with perish. Without people the vision will perish. So some kind of way we've got to let the community know what we have at hand for them and for their families. Thank you.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you so very much. Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and Members of the Commission.

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

Chairman Scott said, the next item is Chairman items -- is Chairman Items. We do not have any.

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

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Items, we don't have any.

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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. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE SAVANNAH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY CONCERNING THE SAVANNAH AREA FILM OFFICE. NOTE: A REVISED STAFF REPORT HAS BEEN SUBMITTED FOR THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2016, BOARD MEETING.**

***NOTE: At Board meeting of August 12, 2016, item was tabled to meeting of August 26, 2016.***

***At Board meeting of August 26, 2016, no action was taken and item remained on the table.***

Chairman Scott said, and then we move on to a tabled item, and -- and this is for request Board approval of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Savannah Economic Development Authority concerning the Savannah Area Film Office. And at this time I would entertain a motion that we --

Commissioner Thomas said, so moved.

Commissioner Shabazz said, second.

Chairman Scott said, properly moved and second. Any discussion? I recognize Commissioner Stone from the 1<sup>st</sup> and Commissioner Center from the 3<sup>rd</sup> in that order.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have some questions about this MOU and because some of these films are being produced in other counties, are any other counties contributing to this as well?

County Manager Smith said, I don't think so. I think it's just municipal and County of Chatham, isn't it? Tripp Tollison and Linda Cramer are both here, and they've been working on the agreement.

Commissioner Center said, Cecil B. Tollison.

Mr. Tripp Tollison said, good morning.

Members of the Board collectively said, good morning.

Mr. Tollison said, thank you for this opportunity. No. The only providers that are funding the office right now are SEDA, the City of Savannah -- City of Savannah and hopefully Chatham County.

Commissioner Stone said, well, I guess my concern is that if films are being produced in other parts -- other counties and using employees from those counties and we're footing the bill to benefit bringing this industry here, and I -- it would just seem to me that they should contribute as well.

Mr. Tollison said, I think that that could happen over time. We're just getting started with this, and as we do scout and bring in customers and production companies that do want to go into other counties to film --

Commissioner Stone said, mm-hmm.

Mr. Tollison said, we are going to do that, but we have to kind of do this one by one. We have had talks with Liberty County. We've had talks with Bryan County --

Commissioner Stone said, right.

Mr. Tollison said, but we have not -- at least not yet with Effingham County. And may I do one other thing while I'm up here, Mr. Chairman? I just want to introduce our new film office director, so y'all can have a face with our office, Beth Nelson.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Mr. Tollison said, and this is Brent.

Commissioner Stone said, well, I mean I -- I -- again, I have some reservations about the -- us bringing -- connecting the dots for the other counties, and I want to make sure that the people in this county are the ones that have the employment and have the job opportunities. We're not bringing this industry here to benefit other communities and having the citizens of Chatham County pick up the bill.

Mr. Tollison said, and to clarify that even further, the incentive program that SEDA announced at the -- November of last year --

Commissioner Stone said, mm-hmm.

Mr. Tollison said, -- providing \$1.5 million worth of cash rebates for film, that only can apply for Chatham County. In other words, we can't incentivize a film that goes to Bryan County or another county, but what we do see from

time to time are scouting projects that do come in our office that want to go see something in Bryan, but they do not get any incentives at all from -- from this county -- or -- and SEDA in particular.

Commissioner Stone said, okay. And -- and how is this MOU different from the City's of Savannah -- the City of Savannah's?

Mr. Tollison said, I think in general this MOU really is -- is defined around the community blueprint. What this -- what the staff has done, what Tara has put together. I think those results --

Chairman Scott said, no that's -- but let me respond to that. The reason that we have a Memorandum of Understanding, any agency that receive county funds are now --

Commissioner Brady said, required.

Chairman Scott said, -- mandated to sign a contract with an understanding of deliverables.

Commissioner Stone said, right.

Chairman Scott said, now, I don't think that exists in other municipalities or other governmental agencies, but that's what we are doing.

Commissioner Stone said, and I'm -- I'm very pleased about that, I just -- I -- I was just curious how since we're both funding this, how our MOU would be different from the City of Savannah's. That's all.

Chairman Scott said, yeah. I'm -- I'm not certain that they have one, but in order to receive county funds, you've got to have one. We've got to have something in writing because we also want to right the audit.

Mr. Tollison said, and we do have an MOU with the City.

Commissioner Stone said, you do?

Mr. Tollison said, yes.

Commissioner Stone said, and is it similar to this?

Mr. Tollison said, yes, but you have more, I guess your MOU is -- is -- has more deliverables on reporting and things of that nature.

Commissioner Stone said, that -- that's a good thing. Okay.

Mr. Tollison said, yes.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you.

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

Commissioner Center said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good morning. I -- I just want some education on some of this -- some of these items, and I'm -- I'm glad that we do have Cecil B. Tollison up here. (Inaudible). It says SEDA will invest substantial funds from it's own sources. What are SEDA's own sources?

Mr. Tollison said, our revenue -- we have multiple sources of revenue. We get infrastructure fees from companies; we get leases from buildings -- you know, buildings or property that we own; we have bond fees from projects that -- where we -- we do bond financing for, and our -- our contributions to the film office is \$300,000.

Commissioner Center said, contribution from SEDA's own funds?

Mr. Tollison said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Center said, thank you. And then, I want to ask the question. \$10.00 an hour. What did we raise our county minimum to last year?

County Manager Smith said, 10.10.

Commissioner Center said, 10.10?

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, we do 10.10.

Mr. Tollison said, well, in order for us to apply incentives for anything at SEDA, we have to match the state's and right now the state is at \$11.75 an hour.

Commissioner Center said, so, you're going to match that? You'll -- you'll exceed the 10?

Mr. Tollison said, we will report -- the report -- this Memorandum of Understanding requires us to report at \$10 or more, but we will -- our incentives are for the \$11.75 or more an hour.

Commissioner Center said, fantastic. And then it talks about one of the deliverables, I guess, annual economic impact within Chatham County. Are we going to keep track of within each municipality within Chatham County or the unincorporated area within Chatham County?

Mr. Tollison said, when we bring in a production, they have reporting requirements in order to receive the incentive, and what we will get from them is a break down of what they actually spend in Chatham County, and that includes City of Savannah, Pooler, you name it, unincorporated. So it's -- that's a county-wide report.

Commissioner Center said, all right. And, talk about the advisory board. What will be the -- the advisory board? It will just be advisors? Just? Tell me how they will fit in.

Mr. Tollison said, this -- the film -- there will be a new film commission starting in January, and this fall we'll be working with this Commission and the City Council, as well as the SEDA board to figure out what that make up looks like so that we can hopefully, with your in -- with your Commission and the City Council appoint those members by the end of the year.

Commissioner Center said, all right. And -- and my last question, I guess to the County Manager, what if the County doesn't like SEDA's reports on deliverables? What do we do?

Commissioner Stone said, right.

Chairman Scott said, well, for one, you can not fund them in future years.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hm.

Commissioner Center said, all right. But I mean, we -- we budget 100,000. By this vote, we're going to pay the 100,000. I guess we're not transferring it, but we're signing an agreement to do it.

County Manager Smith said, we're paying quarterly.

Mr. Tollison said, quarterly.

Commissioner Center said, we're going to pay quarterly. Let's say you get -- you get two reports. Say the first report, you don't like the deliverables, are we still going to pay the \$50,000 in the second half of the year?

County Manager Smith said, we have -- we have the option not to --

Commissioner Center said, okay.

County Manager Smith said, -- as we do with any of the folks that we contract with. If deliverables come back or performance outcomes that don't meet certain standard, then we would notify them, usually in one quarter, and if they don't bring that back up by the next, we would discontinue funding.

Commissioner Center said, all right. But -- but they're going to report every other quarter to us, so it's basically a -- a --

County Manager Smith said, but every quarter we will get reports.

Mr. Tollison said, no, every six months --

Commissioner Stone said, yeah.

Commissioner Center said, okay.

Mr. Tollison said, -- because of the lag time that we have on productions.

County Manager Smith said, yeah, but, we're still going to be asking for as much detail on a quarterly basis as we can get.

Commissioner Center said, but you're required to do it --

County Manager Smith said, every six months.

Commissioner Center said, -- every six months.

County Manager Smith said, that's right. Yeah.

Commissioner Center said, but we're going to ask you to do more than that, so we -- okay.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Commissioner Center said, and if we don't like it, we have the option of saying no more for the rest of it?

County Manager Smith said, correct.

Commissioner Stone said, well that --

Commissioner Center said, so the funding will be \$25,000 each request?

Mr. Tollison said, each quarter.

County Manager Smith said, each quarter.

Commissioner Center said, I mean, you know, we get these line item transfers. That's what you'll ask for, 25,000 each quarter?

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, okay. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, any further questions?

Commissioner Stone said, I just will -- will we get copies --

Chairman Scott said, let me -- let me see if --

Commissioner Stone said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, -- any other members of the Commission -- seeing none, Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, will we then be privy to these -- these reports?

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Commissioner Stone said, okay. I just want to make sure.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm. As we do the quarterly reports that you -- you received the last one, we're doing these, you know, quarterly from departments, what we'll try to do is just include those on deliverables from all these outside contracts.

Commissioner Stone said, yes. That would be good.

County Manager Smith said, okay.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Chairman Scott said, we have one last question, but this is of staff. I've answered it on the sidebar here, but --.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

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

Commissioner Farrell said, I was just -- the funding, was it coming out of the M&O budget or the SSD budget?

Assistant County Manager Linda Cramer said, M&O.

Chairman Scott said, M&O.

County Manager Smith said, M&O.

Commissioner Farrell said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

Mr. Tollison said, thank you. Thanks again.

Chairman Scott said, if there's no further question or unreadiness, all in favor of the motion indicate by voting yes, opposed no. The Motion carries.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Thomas moved to approve the Memorandum of Understanding with the Savannah Economic Development Authority concerning the Savannah Area Film Office. Commissioner Shabazz seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Shabazz was not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: VIII-1**  
**AGENDA DATE: September 9, 2016**

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

**ISSUE:**

Board approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Savannah Economic Development Authority concerning the Savannah Area Film Office.

**BACKGROUND:**

On June 24, 2016, the Board voted to allocate \$100,000 to the Savannah Economic Development Authority (SEDA) for initial funding of the Savannah Area Film Office. A Memorandum of Understanding has been developed to outline use of appropriated funds.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. On June 24, 2016, the Board voted to allocate \$100,000 to SEDA for initial funding of the Savannah Area Film Office. The appropriation was approved upon adoption of the Fiscal Year 2017 budget.
2. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was developed to outline the use of the County's funds. The MOU was initially placed on the August 12, 2016 agenda but was tabled after SEDA voiced concerns about their ability to provide some of the specified information requested under the MOU.
3. County staff met with SEDA to review the MOU. Section 5 has been revised to refine reporting requirements. SEDA will provide bi-annual reports to the Board on area workforce and economic impact from the film industry, as measured through SEDA's incentive program, area partners, list of productions, local businesses serving the industry and other available sources. In addition, the 2017 SEDA incentive program will be revised to require more specific information about the use of the local workforce.
4. Reporting requirements of the MOU have been configured to provide job and economic impact information in step with the Chatham Community Blueprint Economy vision.
5. The MOU has a one year term.

**FUNDING:**

Fiscal Year 2017 funding is in Special Appropriations, 100 9975.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

Programs that foster job creation and economic development follow the Chatham Community Blueprint Economy vision.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Savannah Economic Development Authority concerning the Savannah Area Film Office, or
2. Provide other direction.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Alternative 1.

[NOTE: The Memorandum of Understanding is attached to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file.]

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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: IN THE MULTIPLE GRANT FUND: a) INCREASE REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES \$92,735 FOR A GRANT AWARD TO THE CHATHAM COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH COURT, b) INCREASE REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES \$68,179 FOR A GRANT AWARD TO THE CHATHAM COUNTY VETERANS COURT; AND 2) IN THE RESTRICTED COURT FEES FUND APPROPRIATE \$30,000 FUND BALANCE TO THE SHERIFF'S DRUG-SURCHARGE BUDGET.**

Chairman Scott said, the next Item is Item for Individual Action. Item 1, to request approval of the following budget amendments: in the Multiple Grant Funds: increase revenues and expenditures by \$92,735 for a grant award to Chatham County Mental Health Court, and b) increase revenues and expenditures by \$68,179 for a grant award to the Chatham County Veterans Court; and 2) in the Restricted Court Fee -- Fees Fund appropriate \$30,000 fund balance to the Sheriff's Drug-Surcharge budget.

Commissioner Brady said, Mr. Chairman.

Commissioner Stone said, so moved.

Commissioner Brady said, move for approval.

Commissioner Center said, second.

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

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Stone moved for approval of the following budget amendments: in the Multiple Grant Fund: increase revenues and expenditures \$92,735 for a grant award to the Chatham County Mental Health Court, b) increase revenues and expenditures \$68,179 for a grant award to the Chatham County Veterans Court; and 2) in the Restricted Court Fees Fund appropriate \$30,000 fund balance to the Sheriff's Drug-Surcharge budget. Commissioner Center seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Shabazz was not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: *IX-1***

**AGENDA DATE: September 9, 2016**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager

**FROM:** Amy Davis, Finance Director

**ISSUE:**

To request approval of the following budget amendments: in the Multiple Grant Fund: increase revenues and expenditures \$92,735 for a grant award to the Chatham County Mental Health Court, b) increase revenues and expenditures \$68,179 for a grant award to the Chatham County Veterans Court; and 2) in the Restricted Court Fees Fund appropriate \$30,000 fund balance to the Sheriff's Drug-Surcharge budget.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

- 1a. Chatham County received a \$92,735 grant award from the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for the Mental Health Court. 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).
- 1b. Chatham County received a \$68,179 grant award from the Criminal Justice Coordination Council for the Veterans Court. 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).
2. The Sheriff has requested a fund balance appropriation of \$30,000 in the Restricted Court Fees Fund to purchase operational and promotional items. Correspondence and a resolution to amend the Restricted Court Fees Fund are attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).

**FUNDING:**

The budget amendment establishes funds in the Multiple Grant and the Restricted Court Fees Funds.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. That the Board approve the following:

**MULTIPLE GRANT FUND**

- A. Increase revenues and expenditures \$92,735 for a grant award to the Mental Health Court.
- B. Increase revenues and expenditures \$68,179 for a grant award to the Veterans Court.

**RESTRICTED COURT FEES FUND**

Appropriate \$30,000 fund balance to the Sheriff's Drug Sur-Charge budget.

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:**

Staff recommends Alternative 1.

Prepared by: Estelle Brown

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**X. ACTION CALENDAR**

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

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Center, is it item --

Commissioner Center said, Item 4.

Chairman Scott said, I would ask - I would ask at this point a motion to approve all items on the Action Calendar with the exception of Item 4.

Commissioner Brady said, so moved.

Commissioner Stone said, so moved.

Commissioner Thomas said, second.

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

Chairman Scott said, at this time I'll entertain a motion on Item 4.

Commissioner Center said, yes, sir. Mr. Chairman, I move that we -- that we approve Item 4, but there's a change in the language from what was in the pre-printed calendar and what we received last night, and the representative from the developer, Mark Konter, is here if you have any questions, but the way --

Chairman Scott said, you do -- you do have an update in your books, but it was --

Commissioner Center said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, -- as published, it was --

Commissioner Center said, well, I move we approve it as the update. I don't want to read it incorrectly. If I need to read it out loud, I'll do that. But I --

Chairman Scott said, no. We --

Commissioner Center said, the -- the basic change is the previous asked for a waiver of -- of the lighting district, and that's not correct. The assessment is -- they want it to be collected by Chatham County to maintain streetlights as is usually done in these developments. I --

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Center said, I don't need to read that, do?

Chairman Scott said, no. So we'll -- we'll approve --

Commissioner Center said, so I move that we approve it as updated.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, second.

Chairman Scott said, properly moved and second. Any further discussion? Any unreadiness? Hearing none, all in favor of the motion indicate by voting yes, opposed no. Item 4 on the Action Calendar is approved.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

- a. Commissioner Brady moved to approve all items on the Action Calendar, Items 1 through 10 and under Item 10 Items A through K with the exception of Item 4. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried 10 unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Shabazz was not present for the vote.]
- b. Commissioner Center moved for approval of the item with the change in the language. The item moved reads as follows: to record the subdivision plat for Bluffside at Country Club Creek Phase 1, accept the Owners Warranty Agreement and financial guarantee, approve the constructed improvements, initiate the twelve month warranty period, create a new streetlight assessment rate district and accept 0.04 acres of dedicated right of way along Jasmine Avenue. Commissioner Kicklighter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Shabazz was not present for the vote.]

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

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- 1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF AUGUST 26, 2016, AS MAILED.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Brady moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of August 26, 2016, as mailed. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Shabazz was not present for the vote.]

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- 2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD AUGUST 18, 2016 THROUGH AUGUST 31, 2016.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Brady moved to authorize the Finance Director to pay the claims against the County for the period of August 18, 2016 through August 31, 2016, in the amount of \$8,819,033. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Shabazz was not present for the vote.]

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- 3. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE AND EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR ACQUISITION OF RIGHT OF WAY, FEDERAL OR STATE-AID PROJECT, NON-REIMBURSABLE BETWEEN THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (GDOT) AND CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE TRUMAN LINEAR PARK TRAIL, PHASE 2-A CSHPP-0007-00(631). [DISTRICTS 1 AND 3.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Brady moved to approve and execute a contract for acquisition of right of way, Federal or State-

Aid project, non-reimbursable between the Georgia Department of Transportation and Chatham County for the Truman Linear Park Trail. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Shabazz was not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-3**

**AGENDA DATE: September 9, 2016**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners  
**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager  
**FROM:** Leon Davenport, P.E., County Engineer

**ISSUE:**

To approve and execute a contract for Acquisition of Right of Way, Federal or State-Aid Project, Non-Reimbursable between the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and Chatham County of the Truman Linear Park Trail, Phase 2-A, CSHPP-0007-00(631).

**BACKGROUND:**

1. The project will construct at 10-foot wide multi-use trail from Lake Mayer to DeRenne Avenue.
2. The Project Framework Agreement (PFA) for the project between the GDOT and the County was approved by the Board of Commissioners on October 10, 2006.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The right of way (ROW) cost estimate is \$25,000.
2. This Contract specifies Chatham County is responsible for funding the ROW acquisition costs.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. To approve and execute a Contract for Acquisition of Right of Way, Federal or State-Aid Project, Non-Reimbursable between the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) and Chatham County of the Truman Linear Park Trail, Phase 2-A, CSHPP-0007-00(631).
2. To not approve the Contract and place the project on hold.

**FUNDING:**

No funding is required to approve this agreement.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The Board must approve intergovernmental agreements.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board approve Alternative 1.

District 1, 3

Prepared by: Nathaniel Panther, P.E.

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4. **REQUEST FROM HUSSEY GAY BELL, ENGINEER FOR THE DEVELOPER, BLUFFSIDE DEVELOPMENT CO., LLC, FOR BOARD APPROVAL FOR THE COUNTY TO RECORD THE SUBDIVISION PLAT FOR BLUFFSIDE AT COUNTRY CLUB CREEK PHASE 1, ACCEPT THE OWNERS WARRANTY AGREEMENT AND FINANCIAL GUARANTEE, APPROVE THE CONSTRUCTED IMPROVEMENTS, INITIATE THE TWELVE MONTH WARRANTY PERIOD, WAIVE THE REQUIREMENT FOR A STREETLIGHT ASSESSMENT DISTRICT AND ACCEPT 0.04 ACRES OF DEDICATED RIGHT OF WAY ALONG JASMINE AVENUE.  
[DISTRICT 3.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved for approve for the county to record the subdivision plat for Bluffside at Country Club Creek Phase 1, accept the Owners Warranty Agreement and financial guarantee, approve the constructed improvements, initiate a twelve month warranty period, create a new streetlight assessment district and accept

0.04 acres of dedicated right of way along Jasmine Avenue. Commissioner seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Shabazz was not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-4**

**AGENDA DATE: September 9, 2016**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners  
**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager  
**FROM:** Leon Davenport, P.E., County Engineer

**ISSUE:**

To record the subdivision plat for Bluffside at Country Club Creek Phase 1, accept the Owners Warranty Agreement and financial guarantee, approve the constructed improvements, initiate the twelve month warranty period, **create a new streetlight assessment rate district** and accept 0.04 acres of dedicated right of way along Jasmine Avenue.

**BACKGROUND:**

Bluffside at Country Club Creek is a private residential subdivision located on Jasmine Avenue. Phase 1 of Bluffside at Country Club Creek consists of 41 lots on 14.95 a res. Paving, drainage and streetlights will be maintained by the Bluffside Homeowners Association. Water and sanitary sewer systems are owned and maintained by the City of Savannah. Sidewalks were constructed in the Jasmine Avenue right of way and will be publicly maintained upon the termination of the warranty period.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The engineer, Hussey Gay Bell, for the developer, Bluffside Development Co., LLC, requests that the Board approve the final plat for recording, accept the Owners Warranty Agreement and financial guarantee, approve the constructed improvements, initiate the twelve month warranty period, waive the requirement for a streetlight assessment district and accept 0.04 acres of dedicated right of way along Jasmine Avenue.
2. The developer withheld 10% of the total available lots (5 out of 46 total lots labeled as "Future Phase 1B" on the plat), of Bluffside at Country Club Creek as per the Chatham County Subdivision Regulations. The developer can subdivide up to 90% of the lots once the subdivision construction improvements have been installed and approved. The remaining 10% of the total lots cannot be further subdivided until the 12-month warranty period expires.
3. **Georgia Power installed 18 streetlights for Bluffside at Country Club Creek Phase 1. The initial assessment per lot will be \$105.00 (Street lighting Rate 11). The assessment is collected by Chatham County to maintain the streetlights. At the end of the warranty period, Chatham County will maintain the streetlights.**
4. The development plan and plat process revealed that the Jasmine Avenue road section currently crosses into the subject property. The subdivision plat will serve as the instrument for the developer to dedicate 0.04 acres into right of way so that the road section will lie entirely in the Jasmine Avenue right of way.
5. An Environmental Site Assessment was previously conducted on the subdivision in accordance with the Subdivision Ordinance. No environmentally unsafe conditions were found on this site.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board record the subdivision plat for Bluffside at Country Club Creek Phase 1, accept the Owners Warranty Agreement and financial guarantee, approve the constructed improvements, initiate the twelve month warranty period, create a new streetlight assessment district and accept 0.04 acres of dedicated right of way along Jasmine Avenue.
2. Do not approve the request.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

This action is consistent with the subdivision regulations regarding the creation of lots through plat recording.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Commissioners adopt Alternative No. 1.

District 3

PREPARED BY: Chris Rains

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**5. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING WITH THE CHATHAM COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR THE DISTRIBUTION OF SPLOST FUNDS FOR THE MIDTOWN CLINIC.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Brady moved for approval of a Memorandum of Understanding with the Chatham County Health Department for the distribution of SPLOST funds for the Midtown Clinic. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Shabazz was not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-5**  
**AGENDA DATE: September 9, 2016**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners  
**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager  
**FROM:** Leon Davenport, P.E., County Engineer

**ISSUE:**

Request Board approve an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Chatham County Board of Health for the distribution of SPLOST funds for the Midtown Clinic renovations.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Chatham County Board of Commissioners approved an Intergovernmental Agreement on December 16, 2011 for the construction of the new health facility on Sallie Mood Drive. The second phase for the Health Department was the renovation of the Midtown Clinic.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The new Chatham County Health Department is complete. Work is now underway to bring the Midtown Clinic up to current standards and improve administrative facilities.
2. The Board of Health advertised and received bids for the project. Funding will be distributed to the Board of Health based upon submitted bids and change orders to Chatham County. The funding for the approved expenditures will not exceed funds remaining from the 2008-2014 SPLOST and \$2,000,000 allocated by the Board from the 2014-2020 SPLOST.
3. The Board of Health assumes Chatham County's responsibility for SPLOST, including the expenditure of funds, accounting and auditing requirements. The Board of Health will handle project management, including project oversight, quality assurance, progress payments and construction monitoring.
4. The County Attorney reviewed the agreement as to legal form.

**FUNDING:**

Funding is available in the 2008-2014 SPLOST County Health Department, Project Number 60640 and 20214-2020 SPLOST Health Department - Midtown Clinic, Project Number 60770.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Request Board approve an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Chatham County Board of Health for the distribution of SPLOST funds for the new Midtown Clinic renovations.
2. Board not approve the agreement.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The Board must approve Intergovernmental Agreements.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board approve Alternative 1.

District 2

[NOTE: The Intergovernmental Agreement is attached to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file.]

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6. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF THE APPLICATION AND PENDING GRANT RENEWAL AWARD TO THE GEORGIA CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT (VOCA) GRANT FOR \$84,345 TO FUND A FULL-TIME VICTIM ADVOCATE I (EARLY NOTIFICATION ADVOCATE) AND A PART-TIME COMMUNITY OUTREACH SPECIALIST AND TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE ON ANY NECESSARY AWARD DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO THIS GRANT AWARD. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS ARE REQUIRED. THE 25% MATCH OF \$21,086 IS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE THROUGH THE VICTIM-WITNESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AS IN-KIND MATCH THROUGH VOLUNTEER HOURS. NOTE: IF THE GRANT IS NOT RENEWED, THE POSITIONS ARE ELIMINATED.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Brady moved for approval of the application and pending grant renewal award to the Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for the continuation of the Victims of Crime Act Grant for \$84,345 to fund a full-time Victim Advocate I and a part-time Community Outreach Specialist and to authorize the Chairman's signature on any necessary award documents. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Shabazz was not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-6**

**AGENDA DATE: September 9, 2016**

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

**ISSUE:**

To request approval of the **application and pending grant renewal award** to the Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for the continuation of the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant to continue to fund a full-time Victim Advocate I (Early Notification Advocate) and a part-time Community Outreach Specialist. Also to authorize the Chairman's signature on any necessary award documents pertaining to this grant award.

**BACKGROUND:**

For the past 6 years and in prior years, the Commission has approved the VOCA grant funding. This particular grant is the second year of a three year continuation VOCA grant.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The competitive continuation grant for **\$84,345** would include salary and benefits for a full time Victim Advocate I position that will work as an Early Notification Advocate and a part time Community Outreach Specialist (no benefits). It will also cover some trainings as budget permits.
2. The grant requires a 25% match of **\$21,086**, which is already in place through the Victim-Witness Assistance Program with volunteer hours as an in-kind match only. NO additional funds from the County are required. These grant positions are funded only as grant money is made available.
3. The VOCA grant will run October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017. It is a continuation grant application and pending award for a three year grant cycle for the purpose of early victim intervention.
4. The purpose of the Early Notification Advocate is to collaborate with law enforcement to identify victims at the time of arrest to increase the number of victims able to receive victim services and to include crisis counseling and support.
5. The part-time Community Outreach Specialist does respond to both Memorial Medical Center and now Candler Hospital emergency rooms and trauma centers when victims of intentional, violent injuries arrive at the Hospital. This will allow VWAP 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 25% match of \$21,086 is currently available through volunteer hours with the Victim-Witness Assistance program as the in-kind match.

2. The VOCA Grant has been available since 1986 and has a proven history of providing services to crime victims throughout the State and Nation.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. That the Board approve the application and upcoming grant award for the full-time Victim Advocate I (Early Notification Advocate) and a part-time Community Outreach Specialist through the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.
2. That the Board not approve the application and upcoming grant award for the full-time Victim Advocate I (Early Notification Advocate) and a part-time Community Outreach Specialist through the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The Board of Commissioners has been the recipient of the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds for the past six years and in prior years as well. The renewal application and grant award requires no additional funds from Chatham County and the grant position is only funded if grant funds are available.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board approves Alternative 1.

Prepared by: Cheryl W. Rogers

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7. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF THE APPLICATION AND PENDING GRANT RENEWAL AWARD TO THE GEORGIA CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE VICTIMS OF CRIME ACT (VOCA) GRANT FOR \$72,027 TO CONTINUE TO FUND A FULL-TIME BILINGUAL VICTIM ADVOCATE FOR OUR SPANISH-SPEAKING VICTIMS AND WITNESSES IN CHATHAM COUNTY AND TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE ON ANY NECESSARY AWARD DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO THIS GRANT AWARD. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS ARE REQUIRED. THE 25% MATCH OF \$18,007 IS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE THROUGH THE VICTIM-WITNESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM AS IN-KIND MATCH THROUGH VOLUNTEER HOURS. NOTE: IF THE GRANT IS NOT RENEWED, THE POSITIONS ARE ELIMINATED**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Brady moved for approval of the application and pending grant renewal award to the Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for the continuation of the Victims of Crime Act Grant for \$72,007 to fund a full-time Bilingual Victim Advocate and to authorize the Chairman's signature on any necessary award documents. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Shabazz was not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-7**

**AGENDA DATE: September 9, 2016**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager

**FROM:** Cheryl W. Rogers, Director, Victim-Witness Assistance Program

**ISSUE:**

To request approval of the **application and pending grant award** to the Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council for the continuation of the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Grant to continue to fund a full-time Bilingual Victim Advocate for our Spanish speaking victims and witnesses in Chatham County. Also to authorize the Chairman's signature on any necessary award documents pertaining to this Grant award.

**BACKGROUND:**

For the past 6 years, the Commission has approved this VOCA grant funding.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The competitive grant for **\$72,027** would include only salary and benefits for the Bilingual Victim Advocate.
2. The grant requires a 25% match of **\$18,007**, which is already in place through strictly volunteer hours as the in-kind match. **No additional funds from the County are needed.**

**This Bilingual Victim Advocate position is only funded through the County as long as grant funds are available.**

3. The continuation VOCA grant and pending grant award (to be awarded on September 26, 2016) will run October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017. The grant award amount is the same as the last year's amount. It is a three year renewable grant.
4. Spanish speaking victims continue to be under served in Chatham County and this Grant has allowed us to make great strides in serving our Hispanic population with court appearances and assisting during crime investigations to ensure they are understanding the court process.
5. Chatham County continues to see a steady increase in our Hispanic population and a reluctance to come forward due to language barriers and lack of support. This is reflected in the growing numbers of Hispanics who have contact with the Criminal Justice System.

**FUNDING:**

1. No additional County funds are required. The 25% match of \$18,007 is currently available as in-kind match by volunteer hours.
2. The VOCA Grant has been available since 1986. It has a proven history of providing services to crime victims throughout the State and nation. Chatham County has received this grant since 2010 and had received VOCA grants in years past.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. That the Board approve the application and grant award for the renewal VOCA Grant through the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.
2. That the Board not approve the application and grant award for the renewal VOCA Grant through the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The Board of Commissioners has been the recipient of the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) funds for the past six years and in prior years as well. The renewal application and grant award requires no additional funds from Chatham County and the grant position is only funded if grant funds are available.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board approves Alternative 1.

Prepared by: Cheryl W. Rogers

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**8. REQUEST ENDORSEMENT OF A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CHATHAM COUNTY JUVENILE COURT AND THE SAVANNAH CHATHAM COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM TO ADDRESS THE EDUCATIONAL NEEDS OF CHATHAM COUNTY'S COURT INVOLVED YOUTH THROUGH THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EDUCATIONAL ADVOCATE.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Brady moved for endorsement of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Chatham County Juvenile Court and the Savannah Chatham County Public School System to address the education needs of Chatham County's court involved youth through the establishment of an educational advocate. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Shabazz was not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-8**

**AGENDA DATE: September 9, 2016**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager

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

**ISSUE:**

Request endorsement of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Chatham County Juvenile Court and the Savannah Chatham County Public School System.

**BACKGROUND:**

The Court and SCCPSS both recognize that there is a strong overlap between youth who are involved in the Juvenile Justice System and students who have unmet educational needs and are exhibiting poor academic performance and disruptive behaviors at school which contributes to a lack of school engagement. Court involved youth who are not fully engaged in school are at a higher risk to continue to commit delinquent offenses in the community. The Court and the SCCPSS recognize that a collaborative inter-Agency approach is necessary to remedy the educational deficits of court-involved youth. This MOU establishes a collaborative agreement to address the educational needs of Chatham County's court involved youth through the establishment of an Educational Advocate.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Chatham County and the Savannah Chatham County Public School System have approached funding in their FY 17 year budgets to jointly fund an Educational Advocate.
2. The Educational Advocate shall be an employee of the Juvenile Court, and subject to supervision in accordance with Juvenile Court and Chatham County policies.
3. Both Chatham County and the Savannah Chatham Public School System agree that the funding of this position shall be a shared expense.
4. Court involved youth who are not actively engaged in school are more likely to continue to commit delinquent acts in the community.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the Memorandum of Understanding.
2. Disapprove the Memorandum of Understanding.

**FUNDING:**

Funding for this position will be shared with the Savannah Chatham County Public School System under the provisions of a cost sharing agreement to which SCCPSS shall reimburse up to 50% of the Court's Employee's final negotiated salary. SCCPSS reimbursement will not include employee benefits or other cost of the Educational Advocate. Chatham County shall be responsible for the employee benefits of this position.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The position has already been approved as part of the Chatham County and the Chatham BOE FY 17 budget. As part of the Juvenile Justice Reform Effort, approval of this agreement would provide better interventions to Juvenile Court youth thereby decreasing recidivism.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board adopt Alternative #1.

[NOTE: The Memorandum of Understanding is attached to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file.]

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**9. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE A LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH THE TRI-COUNTY R/C FLYERS TO CONTINUE USE OF THE MODEL PLANE AIRFIELD AT THE STAFF SGT. ANTHONY DAVIS MODEL AIRFIELD.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Brady moved for approval of a License Agreement with the Tri-County R/C Flyers to continue use of the model plan airfield at Staff Sgt. Anthony Davis Model Airfield. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Shabazz was not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-9**

**AGENDA DATE: September 9, 2016**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**FROM:** Lee Smith, County Manager

**ISSUE:**

To approve the renewal of a license agreement with the Tri-County R/C Flyers to continue to use of the model plane airfield.

**BACKGROUND:**

The original license agreement with the Tri-County FR/C Flyers was approved by the County in 2009.

This facility is utilized for nationally recognized model airplane organizations as well as for a secondary aviation landing site for Chatham County Aviation.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The license agreement is attached which sets out the terms and conditions for the Tri-County R/C Flyers to continue to use the model airstrip.
2. It should be noted that the Flyers built, maintain and improve the model airstrip for radio-controlled aircraft.
3. The airstrip is open to the public that are nationally certified as recognized by the Tri-County R/C Flyers.

**FUNDING:**

Not applicable.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. That the Board approve the license agreement for the Tri-County R/C Flyers to continue use of the model airplane airfield and continue to cooperate with Chatham County Mosquito Control as a secondary operation site.
2. That the Board take no action.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The license agreement updates the 2009 previous agreement between Chatham County and the Tri-County R/C Flyers.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.

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- 10. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO AWARD BIDS AS FOLLOWS: (Please note that new purchase thresholds of \$25,000 or more have been enacted; however, contracts and change orders of a lesser amount still will appear).**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Brady moved for approval to award bids as follows: (Please note that new purchase thresholds of \$25,000 or more have been enacted; however, contracts and change orders of a lesser amount still will appear.) Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Shabazz was not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-10 A-K**

**AGENDA DATE: September 9, 2016**

**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 a \$30,688 annual software maintenance renewal for the Telephone Intercept System with Analytical Software from Pen-Link, Ltd., for Chatham County C.N.T.

**BACKGROUND:** On February 28, 2014, the Board approved the purchase of a Telephone Intercept System with Analytical Software for Chatham County C.N.T.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. This Telephone Intercept System is designed to accommodate the various different operations and custom scenarios along with the ability to interface with public telephone company files and law enforcement databases which will expedite results in extraction of information for undercover operations.

2. Pen-Link is the sole source manufacturer and direct distributor of a Telephone Intercept System with Analytical Software for law enforcement.
3. Renewal of this software maintenance will insure uninterrupted services from Pen Link Ltd., for the Telephone Intercept System.
4. Staff believes the total cost of \$30,688 to be fair and reasonable.

**FUNDING:** General Fund/M&O - C.N.T.  
(1003222 - 52.22001)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$30,688 annual software maintenance renewal for the Telephone Intercept System with Analytical Software from Pen-Link, Ltd., for Chatham County C.N.T.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** Chatham County's Purchasing Ordinance and Procedures Manual requires Board approval for any purchases of more than \$25,000.

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

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

**ITEM B**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$28,543 purchase of five (5) Canon scanners with a two (2) year onsite Ecare service agreement from 1<sup>st</sup> Run Computer Services for the Clerk of Superior Court.

**BACKGROUND:** The purchase of the Canon DR-G1130 scanner for Clerk of Superior Court is for working with the document imaging system. The current scanners are at end of life and it is best practice to have adequate equipment for the staff to function efficiently.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. These Canon DR-G1130 scanners are needed in order to scan numerous documents, more quickly and efficiently. This model scanner scans at 130 pages per minute, up to 30,000 scans per day and are faster than the current scanners in use.
2. Quotes were solicited and received from the following vendors:

1 <sup>st</sup> Run Computer Services, Inc Garden City, NY	\$28,543
Y and S Technologies Brooklyn, NY	\$30,630
HMB, Inc. Westerville, OH	\$31,060
Netlocity VA, Inc La Plata, MD	\$34,570
CWD Government, LLC Vernon Hills, IL	\$36,585

3. Staff believes that the total cost of \$28,543 for the purchase of scanners to be fair and reasonable.

**FUNDING:** General Fund/M&O - Clerk of Superior Court  
(1002180 - 542500)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$28,543 purchase of five (5) Canon scanners with a two (2) year onsite Ecare service agreement from 1<sup>st</sup> Run Computer Services for the Clerk of Superior Court.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

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

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

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

### ITEM C

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of an \$89,759 purchase of Conducted Electrical Weapons for use by Chatham County C.N.T. from TASER International.

**BACKGROUND:** In order to better serve the citizens of Chatham County, Chatham County/Savannah Counter Narcotics Team (C.N.T.) is purchasing Conducted Electrical Weapons. The new weapons are a less-lethal Conducted Electrical Weapon (C.E.W.) designed to temporarily incapacitate a suspect through the use of an electrical current.

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

1. TASER is a less-lethal CEW designed to temporarily incapacitate a suspect through the use of an electrical current.
2. C.N.T. currently has TASER X2 CEWs. The TASER cartridges are not interchangeable with any other brand.
3. C.N.T. checked with other manufactures and found that TASER International is the sole source manufacturer and direct distributor of TASER CEW and accessories for law enforcement. TASER is the only brand with the capabilities of audio and video recording from the unit. TASER is the only brand that can deploy two (2) cartridges in the same manner.
4. TASER has also outlined a five (5) year plan for upgrade of equipment and software for the TASER.
5. Staff believes the total cost of \$89,759 to be fair and reasonable.

**FUNDING:** Confiscated Funds - C.N.T.  
(2013222 - 542500)

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of an \$89,759 purchase of Conducted Electrical Weapons for use by Chatham County C.N.T. from TASER International.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to provide essential equipment required for law enforcement activities.

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

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

### ITEM D

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of \$47,898 for the purchase of covert surveillance equipment for use by Chatham County C.N.T. from Advanced Covert Technology, Inc.

**BACKGROUND:** In order to better serve the citizens of Chatham County, Chatham County/Savannah Counter Narcotics Team (C.N.T.) Is purchasing covert surveillance equipment.

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

1. The purchase of the new equipment will help to ensure the safety of Chatham county residents.
2. Advanced Covert Technology is the sole source distributor for covert surveillance equipment in the southeast.
3. Staff believes the total cost of \$47,898 to be fair and reasonable.

**FUNDING:** Confiscated Funds - C.N.T.  
(2103222 - 542500)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of \$47,898 for the purchase of covert surveillance equipment for use by Chatham County C.N.T. from Advanced Covert Technology, Inc.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board Policy to provide essential equipment required for law enforcement activities.

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

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

**ITEM E**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$138,946 one (1) year sole source agreement for maintenance service on radio equipment and related items from Savannah Communications and Electronics (\$63,813) and Motorola Solutions (\$75,133) for the Chatham County Sheriff's Office and Detention Center. This agenda item is to correct Item A from August 12, 2016 which did not list correct vendors.

**BACKGROUND:** The Chatham County Sheriff's Office and Detention Center requires a consolidated service package with Savannah Communications and Electronics and Motorola Solutions to provide maintenance for the mobile radios, portable radios, consoles and repeaters.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The consolidated service plan for the Sheriff's Office and the Detention Center maintains two (2) radio consoles; one (1) repeater; and over 400 radios (both portable and mobile). In order to keep the equipment in good functioning order, it is essential that the equipment be properly maintained.
2. Staff believes the total cost of \$138,946 to be fair and reasonable.

**FUNDING:**

•General Fund/M&O - Detention Center (1003326 - 522200)	\$104,210
•General Fund/M&O - Sheriff's Office (1003300 - 522200)	\$ 34,736

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$138,946 one (1) year sole source agreement for maintenance service on radio equipment and related items from Savannah Communications and Electronics (\$63,813) and Motorola Solutions (\$75,133) for the Chatham County Sheriff's Office and Detention Center.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to provide the necessary service agreements to maintain the radio communication systems for law enforcement.

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

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

**ITEM F**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of an \$8,000 Change Order No.1 to the annual contract for specialized lawn care with Sodman Landscape Design, to add services for Chatham County Animal Services.

**BACKGROUND:** The Chatham County Animal Services, 7211 Sallie Mood Drive, Savannah, GA. 31406 is now in operation and will require quality lawn care services.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Chatham County Animal Services has requested monthly lawn care services.
2. The additional cost will be \$550 monthly cost from November to March, and a \$750 monthly cost from April to October.
3. Staff believes that the quoted price proposed by Sodman Landscape Design to be fair and reasonable.

**FUNDING:** General Fund/M&O - Facilities Maintenance & Operations  
(1001565 - 522140)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of an \$8,000 Change Order No.1 to the annual contract for specialized lawn care with Sodman Landscape Design, to add services for Chatham County Animal Services.
2. Provide staff other directions.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with the Board's policy to pay a fair and reasonable price for services provided.

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

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
MELVA SHARPE

**ITEM G**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a not-to-exceed \$50,000 professional services contract with The PFM Group for the Trial Court Building Project Options Study.

**BACKGROUND:** The County has funded preliminary design work for the Trial Court Building. In 2015 the County issued an RFQ for the design/build/finance/maintenance under a public private partnership (P3) for the Trial Court Building. Subsequently County staff questioned the need for a P3 approach.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The PFM Group is the County's Financial Advisor. PFM provides general financial advisory services to the County related to financial advice and debt issuance.
2. In 2015 the County issued an RFQ for the design, construction, financing and maintenance of the proposed Trial Court Building. Subsequently County staff questioned the need for the P3 approach vs. a traditional County-managed project approach and determined that a complete analysis of options is warranted.
3. County staff asked The PFM Group to provide some context. PFM has responded with a proposal to evaluate options for the project over the next 60 days. The evaluation will assess the P3 process, recent market transactions, financing options, long-term maintenance and future capital expense. This project is an add-on to PFM's financial advisor contract and is therefore being separately quoted.
4. The Study will provide the County with a framework and baseline to determine appropriate next steps and approaches for project development and also provide guidance for associated procurement requirements.

**FUNDING:** SPLOST (2014 - 2020) - Courthouse Project  
(3244980 - 3246042 - 541300)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a not-to-exceed \$50,000 professional services contract with The PFM Group for the Trial Court Building Project Options Study.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** The Study will provide the Board with a thorough analysis of options for the development of the Trial Court Building both from an operational and financial perspective, in keeping with the Board's long-term capital planning focus.

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

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

**ITEM H**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$43,379 purchase of 158 Voice over Internet Protocol (VOIP) phones with software and associated licenses for the County westside departments, using the General Services Administration (GSA) schedule, from Mitel Business Systems, Inc., for I.C.S.

**BACKGROUND:** The County's phone equipment is used to join the phone systems at various locations thus providing 4 digit dialing to all County extensions. Phone equipment on the westside at Police Memorial Drive includes: Juvenile Court; 84 telephones, Tag Office; 28 telephones, and CEMA; 46 telephones.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The County's telephone system has been upgraded to a voice over IP system. For all new projects IP telephones and licences are required for communication.
2. This procurement allows the County to use Voice over IP Telephones and provides Voice over IP services which reduce cost in the future with less cable runs and equipment cost.
3. This equipment is necessary to upgrade the current westside telephones into the County telephone network.
4. Staff believes the cost of \$43,379 to be fair and reasonable.

**FUNDING:** General Fund/M&O - Communications  
(1001536 - 542500)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Request Board approval of a \$43,379 purchase of 158 Voice over Internet Protocol (VOIP) phones with software and associated licenses for the County westside departments, using the General Services Administration (GSA) schedule, from Mitel Business Systems, Inc., for I.C.S.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to provide the necessary equipment for job functions.

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

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

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
MARC BUCALO

**ITEM I**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval to terminate the \$45,833 contract to Roadside Specialties LLC. and award a \$62,416 contract, to the second low bidder, Peek Pavement Marking LLC. for the re-stripping of various roads within unincorporated Chatham County for Public Works.

**BACKGROUND:** On April 1, 2016, the Board approved a \$45,833 contract to Roadside Specialties, LLC., for the re-stripping of various roads within unincorporated Chatham County.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. After the notice to proceed was issued, Roadside Specialties, LLC., failed to start the project. The contractor contacted the County and informed the project manager of a delay since he was awaiting training on a newly purchased sprayer truck. Staff learned that materials required for the project had not been ordered and the required insurance had lapsed.
2. Recent attempts to reach Roadside Specialties, LLC., have proven unsuccessful.
3. Peek Pavement Marking, LLC., was the second low bidder for this project and has agreed to honor their bid of \$62,416.

**FUNDING:** SSD - Public Works  
(2704100 - 52.3900)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval to terminate the \$45,833 contract to Roadside Specialties, LLC., and award a \$62,416 contract, to the second low bidder, Peek Pavement Marking, LLC., for the re-stripping of various roads within unincorporated Chatham County for Public Works.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to terminate contracts for non-performance and award to the second low bidder.

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

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

**ITEM J**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$1,729,510 construction contract with Preferred Materials, Inc., for the Pavement Rehabilitation 2016 – Henderson & Georgetown Project which includes five (5) miles of pavement rehabilitation and resurfacing on ten (10) county roads.

**BACKGROUND:** The project involves milling, removal and replacement of base material, patching, crack relief, paving, striping, signing and replacement of curb and gutter at various locations. The roads were selected based on ratings produced by Engineering Staff using the County Pavement Condition Evaluation System (COPACES). Partial funding for this project comes from the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) Local Maintenance and Improvement Grant (LMIG).

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The bid was properly advertised and two (2) bids were received and opened August 31, 2016. The results are as follows:

Preferred Materials, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$1,729,510
Carroll & Carroll, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$1,976,000

2. Staff believes the bid from Preferred Materials is fair and reasonable.
3. The Roads included for this project are Al Henderson Boulevard, Gateway/Frontage Road, Zipperer Drive, Hopeton Court, White Ibis Lane, Valhalla Drive, Finn Circle, Junco Way, St. Ives Drive and Sugar Mill Drive.
4. The contractor will have 150 calendar days to complete the rehabilitation and resurfacing of the roads after the notice to proceed is issued.

**FUNDING:** SPLOST (2014-2020) - Unincorporated County Roads  
(3254220 - 32556767 - 541400)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$1,729,510 construction contract with Preferred Materials, Inc., for the Pavement Rehabilitation 2016 – Henderson & Georgetown Project which includes five (5) miles of pavement rehabilitation and resurfacing on ten (10) county roads.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

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

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

**ITEM K**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval to award a \$363,453 contract to purchase and implement the EnerGov software suite for planning, permitting and licensing with Tyler Technologies, Inc.

**BACKGROUND:** Several departments are now in need of a new software solution for planning, permitting, and licensing as the Tax Assessor and Tax Commissioner migrate away from the existing software solution. The new software provides advanced workflow techniques, a complete solution for all using departments, and critical integrations with our existing financial and tax systems.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. A Request for Proposals was issued, publically advertised and two (2) firms attended the pre-proposal conference.
2. Three (3) firms responded to the RFP and are as follows:

Accela, Inc.  
San Ramon, CA

Tyler Technologies, Inc.  
Duluth, GA

Viewpoint Government Solutions  
Lake Mary, FL

3. The proposals were scored by the evaluation committee and all the firms presented live demonstrations. (See attached matrix for detailed scoring on page 13) After totaling the scores from the proposals and demonstrations, Tyler Technologies, Inc., was the highest scoring firm.
4. The EnerGov software will provide enhanced functionality over the existing system. The integration with other Tyler systems, including MUNIS and iasWorld, are included at no cost.
5. This software system will take approximately one (1) year for implementation.
6. Staff believes the cost to be fair and reasonable.

**FUNDING:** CIP - Information Technology  
(3501535 - 3501921 - 542500)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval to award a \$363,453 contract to purchase and implement the EnerGov software suite for planning, permitting and licensing with Tyler Technologies, Inc.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to approve the purchase of essential software.

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

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

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

**ITEM L**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a not to exceed \$36,000 three (3) year lease agreement with BRE Southeast Retail Holdings, LLC, for the Wilmington Island Tag office. The lease provides for a 3% annual increase in the base cost.

**BACKGROUND:** The Tag Office has leased space on Wilmington Island since 2003.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The tag office on Wilmington Island provides a convenient satellite office to provide services to citizens.
2. Staff negotiated the lease to include replacement of the AC unit in return for signing a three (3) year lease.
3. The lease consists of a base cost for year one (1) of \$23.96 psf NNN. The County is then charged its pro rata share of utilities and property taxes.

**FUNDING:** General Fund/M&O - Tax Commissioner  
(1001545 - 522310)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a not to exceed \$36,000 three (3) year lease agreement with BRE Southeast Retail Holdings, LLC, for the Wilmington Island Tag office. The lease provides for a 3% annual increase in the base cost.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to extend a lease when it is in the best interest of the County.

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

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

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

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## **XI. FIRST READINGS**

1. **TO REPEAL THE CURRENT CHATHAM COUNTY FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION ORDINANCE (FDPO) AND ADOPT A NEW VERSION TO BE APPROVED BY THE FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA).  
*NOTE: At the First Reading on July 29, 2016, staff was instructed to submit expeditiously the model ordinance with changes including some of those heard in the Savannah Tech meeting with County Commissioners, FEMA, the State, the Home Builders Association and staff.  
Per Board direction the Second Reading will not occur until responses are received from the State and FEMA.***

Chairman Scott said, as stated earlier, the Flood Ordinance, we have not received written approval or objection or comments back from FEMA and so will be no further action on that until such comments are received.

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## **XII. SECOND 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.

2. **THE MPC STAFF AS PETITIONER, REQUEST TO REZONE THE SUBJECT 14.225-ACRE SITE (SEVERAL PROPERTIES) LOCATED ON WEDGEFIELD CROSSING, STEEPLE CHASE ROAD, AND LAUREL OAK COURT FROM AN R-A (RESIDENTIAL AGRICULTURE) CLASSIFICATION TO A PUD-C (PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY CLASSIFICATION. THE PETITIONER FURTHER RECOMMENDS THAT THE 5.754-ACRE TRACT OF LAND PRESENTLY ZONED R-A BE VERIFIED AS THE CORRECT ZONING CLASSIFICATION AND THAT A METES AND BOUNDS DESCRIPTION BE INCLUDED AS PART OF THE STAFF STUDY. MPC RECOMMENDS APPROVAL.  
FILE NO. Z-160808-00061-1  
[DISTRICT 7.]**

Chairman Scott said, and now we have a Second Reader. MPC staff as petitioner's request the rezoning to the subject 14.225-acre site, several properties located on Wedgefield Crossing, Steeple Chase Road, and Laurel Oak Court from a R-A, Recreation [sic] Agriculture, classification to a PUD-C, which is Planned Unit Development Community classification. The petitioner further recommends that 5.754-acre tract of land presently zoned R-A be verified as the correct zoning classification and that a metes of bond [sic] description be included as part of the staff study. MPC recommends approval, and at this time I will recognize staff from MPC, Marcus [Lotson], if you would for further explanation and to answer any questions members of the Commission may have.

Mr. Marcus Lotson said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. As you mentioned, this is a petition that's brought forth by staff of a potential -- a -- a mistake we believe of -- on the zoning map that was brought to our attention that we want to address and bring forward to you. As you can see on this map, this is a zoning map of a portion of Southbridge neighborhood, and back when this property -- the property that became Southbridge was rezoned back in 1987 from the R-A classification to the PUD-C classification, there were specific exceptions that were left out purposely to not be rezoned to PUD-C, including the subject property. It was -- this -- this property now is a portion of the tennis court and the -- the -- the remaining portion of the property is -- has been brought into what is now Southbridge, which includes some roads and the golf course and single family homes, etcetera. The -- it's approximately 20 acres and approximately five acres of that is what is now the tennis court complex. What we're recommending is that the portions of -- of the tennis court complex be rezoned or be left as R-A, which they are and the remainder be rezoned to the PUD-C classification as it is now a part of the Southbridge neighborhood.

Mr. Lotson said, there were a number of conversations with staff and the County Manager, as well as the Southbridge neighborhood. This is -- was -- we've discovered that this was an error during the original rezoning because this portion of the property should not have been rezoned at that time. So this is simply an effort to correct the zoning map.

Chairman Scott said, really correct an error.

Mr. Lotson said, yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, yeah. This -- this lies in the 7<sup>th</sup> District. Commissioner Kicklighter, do you have any comments?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yes, sir. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Okay. The -- they're -- you're requesting that it be rezoned to PUD-C, which allows like, small-type commercial --

Mr. Lotson said, the -- the PUD-C classification is the classification for all of Southbridge. So, because it's governed by a Master Plan, the uses and etcetera are approved as the Master Plan. So --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. So, all of Southbridge is already under the PUD-C?

Mr. Lotson said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. Then I have no problem, then.

County Attorney R. Jonathan Hart said, it's just -- it's making the use consistent for what is there.

Chairman Scott said, any further comments from -- or questions from? Okay. I've got Commissioner Center from the 3<sup>rd</sup> and Commissioner Stone from the 1<sup>st</sup>, in that order, please.

Commissioner Center said, and - guess -- I guess this is to the County Attorney. When I came on there was a dispute between the homeowners and the golf course and the county about paying for plumbing and piping. Is any of that involved in this? Will we be affected on that?

County Attorney Hart said, no, No, it isn't. This is a situation that was brought to the attention of the County Attorney's office initially and then turned over to the MPC by attorney Phillip McCorkle, who just said, look I think you got a map -- you -- you -- you're map's messed up, and -- and what happened as near as we can tell is that this property was in another classification and what you're doing now -- they -- so there was never an act to put it in the alleged classification we have it in. What you'll do now is you'll get those houses, they're single family residential in their proper use function. So it -- it straightens your map out, basically is what you're doing.

Commissioner Center said, so the use is already there. The description is incorrect.

County Attorney Hart said, correct. We just -- I don't -- we don't know how, but we went back and looked through all the records, and there was never a zoning act taken place. Probably, you know, the best I could come up with was those tennis courts were probably at one time I -- I know they built some of them out there in the early days of the development that were not necessarily done by the developers, but were done by a group of people, and I think probably just in the process of doing that, there got to be some confusion and -- and it wasn't caught.

Commissioner Center said, by the way, have they ever resolved that piping dispute?

County Attorney Hart said, the county is out of that.

Commissioner Center said, okay.

County Attorney Hart said, and the -- so I hadn't kept up as close as I should have maybe, perhaps, but they're pretty close to somebody's going to get it resolved.

County Manager Smith said, we've submitted the estimate -- we've sub --

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'm just curious. On our report, we have nine members voting for it and one person who was absent. I know we have more than ten people on the MPC. What -- why -- why was this report not reflective of -- or do we have that many vacancies?

Mr. Lotson said, no, there aren't that -- there aren't any vacancies on the Board, and I'm not -- I can't say for -- with certainty why the -- well, what I can say is I'm sure that's just an error. If there were nine voting for and one absent or failing to vote, the -- the remainder must have been absent or failing to vote.

Commissioner Stone said, well, I mean, it's good to know if -- if they voted against it or whether they were absent.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, one more question, Chairman. Mr. Chairman?

Chairman Scott said, well, I don't know if that's germane of what we have before us today, but --

Commissioner Stone said, no, I'm just -- I'm just -- when I read a report, I like to know how the MPC voted, and I don't know whether these folks voted against it or they just weren't there or --

Chairman Scott said, it's obvious they didn't vote against it because the votes against it was in fact recorded.

Mr. Lotson said, right. There was one abstention at the meeting but you can see on the Board --

Commissioner Stone said, all right. So the others were just absent.

Mr. Lotson said, correct.

Commissioner Stone said, okay. Well, it should have been listed. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, Chairman? Chairman? May I?

Chairman Scott said, I recognize -- is there any further questions from anybody on the Commission? Then I recognize the Commissioner from the 7<sup>th</sup> District.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Was there anyone in the audience at the MPC meetings that opposed this?

Mr. Lotson said, no there weren't. In fact we -- our staff had a meeting with the Southbridge Homeowners Association, and they understood the -- the error on the map and had no issue with it.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, any further discussion? Marcus [Lotson], I think you -- you did a good job.

Mr. Lotson said, thank you, sir.

Chairman Scott said, thank you so much. If there's no further questions or discussion, all in favor of the motion indicate by voting yes, opposed no. It's approved.

[NOTE: After the information items were discussed, this item was returned to so a motion could be made and a proper vote taken.]

County Manager Smith said, I do. In talking with the Clerk and the Attorney, when you voted on the MPC item, you voted on it, but we did not hear an actual motion.

Commissioner Center said, on what?

County Manager Smith said, on the MPC item.

County Attorney Hart said, the rezone -- the map amendment.

County Manager Smith said, the re -- the map amendment that -- we did not actually get --

Commissioner Brady said, I thought we voted on that.

County Manager Smith said, you did vote --

Clerk said, you voted.

Commissioner Center said, -- but we did not hear an actual motion.

Commissioner Brady said, it -- it wasn't Dean [Kicklighter]?

Clerk said, no, ma'am.

Commissioner Center said, it's a Second Reading.

Commissioner Stone said, I thought Dean [Kicklighter] made the motion.

Clerk said, no, he asked a question, but he didn't make a motion.

County Manager Smith said, yeah. He asked a question but no motion.

Commissioner Brady said, I move -- you -- you want a motion?

Clerk said, I'd like a motion.

Commissioner Brady said, I move for approval?

Commissioner Stone said, second.

County Manager Smith said, on the MPC Item.

Commissioner Brady said, on the MPC Item involving Southbridge.

County Attorney Hart said, yeah. We had -- we had a vote but no motion.

County Manager Smith said, we actually had a vote-- we had a vote but no motion.

Commissioner Thomas said, oh. Okay.

Chairman Scott said, on -- on --

Commissioner Center said, Second Reader.

County Manager Smith said, on the --

County Attorney Hart said, map amendment.

County Manager Smith said, -- map amendment.

County Manager Smith said, so we just need to clarify that.

County Attorney Hart said, we -- you entertained it as a vote but nobody ever made a motion.

Commissioner Brady said, made a motion.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Commissioner Thomas said, okay. You got to make a --

Commissioner Holmes said, you got to make a motion.

Chairman Scott said, yeah. There was a motion made.

Commissioner Thomas said, you got a motion --

Chairman Scott said, and it was second by Commissioner Shabazz. Not -- you may not -- you may not have recorded it --

Clerk said, that -- not -- that wasn't for the Second Reading. That was for the Action Calendar.

Chairman Scott said, for the what?

Clerk said, for the Action Calendar -- or some other Action.

County Manager Smith said, the Action Calendar.

Clerk said, there was no motion made for the Second Reading.

Chairman Scott said, yes it --

Commissioner Center said, well, is there a method we could vote to correct the record if we disagree with the Clerk?

County Manager Smith said, sure.

County Attorney Hart said, yeah. Just make a motion.

Chairman Scott said, well, which item are you in reference to?

Clerk said, the Second Reading.

County Manager Smith said, the Second Reading.

Commissioner Brady said, the map amendment on Southbridge.

County Manager Smith said, the map amendment.

Commissioner Thomas said, well, can't we correct it now?

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Commissioner Brady said, I thought we -- we were just doing that.

Chairman Scott said, I -- I can -- I can assure you y'all are not listening or not hearing what I'm hearing.

Commissioner Farrell said, well, it's all recorded so there's the --

County Attorney Hart said, we can go look.

County Manager Smith said, we can go look.

Chairman Scott said, but, we have no problems with entertaining a motion for approval.

Commissioner Brady said, move for approval, Mr. Chairman.

Commissioner Thomas said, second.

Chairman Scott said, properly moved and second that we approve our Second Reading, the MPC staff recommendation of the changes in the map. Hearing the motion, any unreadiness? Hearing none, all in favor indicate by voting yes, opposed no. The motion carries.

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

Commissioner Brady moved to approve the rezoning of the subject 14.225-acre site (several properties) located on Wedgefield Crossing, Steeple Chase Road, and Laurel Oak Court from an R-A (Residential Agriculture) classification to a PUD-C (Planned Unit Development Community) classification. And to also leave the 5.754-acre tract zoned R-A. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Shabazz was not present for the vote; Commissioner Kicklighter was not present for the vote, but returned and asked to cast his vote in the affirmative.]

**AGENDA ITEM: ~~XI-2~~**

**AGENDA DATE: ~~August 26, 2016~~**

**AGENDA ITEM: *XII-1***

**AGENDA DATE: September 9, 2016**



## **CHATHAM COUNTY - SAVANNAH METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION**

*"Planning the Future – Respecting the Past"*

### **----- MEMORANDUM -----**

**TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**THRU: LEE SMITH, COUNTY MANAGER**

**FROM: THOMAS L. THOMSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

#### **LEGAL NOTICE/AGENDA HEADING:**

The MPC staff as petitioner, request to rezone the subject 14.225-acre site (several properties) located on Wedgefield Crossing, Steeple Chase Road, and Laurel Oak Court from an R-A (Residential Agriculture) classification to a PUD-C (Planned Unit Development Community) classification. The petitioner further recommends that the 5.754-acre tract of land presently zoned R-A be verified as the correct zoning classification and that a metes and bounds description be included as part of the staff study. MPC recommends **approval**.

**File No. Z-160808-000061-1.**

#### **ISSUE:**

At issue is the current zoning classification of a 20.0-acre tract of land located within the Southbridge development, a Planned Residential Development located on the west side of Dean Forest Road, the south side of Interstate 16, and the east side of Interstate 95.

**BACKGROUND:**

1. The Southbridge Development was part of a larger tract of land known as Savannah Quarters that was rezoned in 1987 to PUD-C (Planned Unit Development - Community). Savannah Quarters was located on each quadrant of the intersection of I 95 and Interstate 16. Today, the southeast quadrant (Southbridge) and the northeast quadrant (Mega Site) are located within the unincorporated Chatham County. The other two quadrants are located within the City of Pooler.
2. **Public Notice:** As required by the Chatham County Zoning Ordinance, all property owners are located within 300 feet of the subject site were sent notices of the proposed rezoning and zoning information signs were posted on the subject site. Also, an email was sent to the president of the Southbridge Homeowners Association with ensuing telephone conversations. The Southbridge Board met on Thursday, June 30, 2016 and discussed the proposed zoning petition.

The Board agreed the requested zoning is appropriate and sent an email of support to the MPC staff. Staff received several calls from Southbridge residents and all were in support of the requested zoning.
3. **Property History:** The subject 20-acre site was sold by Atlantic Creosoting Company on January 20, 1972 to Tennisco. In 1973, Tennisco developed a tennis complex on a portion of the 20-acre tract of land. On December 17, 1983, the remaining undeveloped 14.246-acre portion of the 20-acre tract owned by Tennisco was sold to Timberland Associates. The remaining 5.754 acres occupied by the tennis complex was retained by Tennisco. In 1994, the tennis complex was sold by Tennisco to the current owner, Tennis Management Services.

The 14.255 undeveloped portion of the subject 20-acre tract was sold to the Southbridge developers and is now portions of single family lots, a recreational park, street rights-of-way, and part of the Southbridge Golf Course.
4. **Zoning:** In February 1987, Timberland Associates, in conjunction with their agent Savannah Quarters, submitted an application for a zoning map amendment requesting 5600 acres be rezoned from an R-A zoning classification to a PUD-C zoning classification. Included in the petition were specified exceptions from the rezoning request, including the subject 20-acre tract owned by Tennisco. The zoning map amendment was approved by the County Commission on March 13, 1987. However, the 20-acre subject site, although never rezoned from its R-A zoning classification, was shown on the official Chatham County Zoning Map as PUD-C.
5. **Existing R-A Zoning District:**
  - a. **Intent of the R-A District:** According to the Zoning Ordinance, the purpose of the R-A district is to “protect those rural areas within the urban expansion areas of the County for future urban development, and to protect certain rural highway roadside areas against strip development which can lead to traffic congestion, traffic hazards, and roadside blight.”
  - b. **Allowed Uses:** The uses allowed within the R-A district appear in the attachment.
  - c. **Development Standards:** The development standards for the R-A district appear in the attached Table (Table 1).
6. **Proposed PUD-C Zoning District:**
  - a. **Intent of the PUD-C District:** According to the Zoning Ordinance, “the purpose of the district is to provide convenient shopping facilities consisting of convenience goods and personal services in neighborhood market areas from three thousand to five thousand people.”
  - b. **Allowed Uses:** The uses allowed within the PUD-C are shown on the approved Southbridge Master Plan and include single family detached residential, single family semi-attached residential, residential condominiums, parks, community and fitness center, and a golf course.
  - c. **Development Standards:** The development standards for the PUD-C district appear in the attached table. (Table 1).
7. The Chatham County-Savannah Tricentennial Comprehensive Plan Future Land Use Map designates the subject property as Suburban Single Family, Parks and Recreation, and

Conservation. Approval of the requested zoning map amendment would be consistent with the Future Land Use Map.

8. **Public Services and Facilities:** The subject site property is served by the Savannah-Chatham Metropolitan Police Department, the Southside Fire Department, and the City of Savannah water and sanitary sewer system.
9. **Chatham Area Transit:** The subject site is not served by the Chatham Area Transit System.
10. **Transportation Network:** The subject site has access on Wedgefield Crossing, Steeple Chase Road, and Laurel Oak Court, all of which are paved public roads with a 60-foot right-of-way. No traffic counts are available for these roads. Also, no changes to the existing fully developed properties will be made as a result of the proposed zoning request.

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS:**

1. Will the proposed zoning districts permit uses that would create traffic volumes, noise level, odor, airborne particulate matter, visual blight, reduce light or increased density of development that would adversely impact the livability or quality of life in the surrounding neighborhood?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  X
2. Will the proposed zoning districts permit uses that would adversely impact adjacent and nearby properties by rendering such properties less desirable and therefore, less marketable for the type of development permitted under the current zoning?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  X
3. Will the proposed zoning districts permit uses that would generate a type of mix of vehicular traffic on a street or highway that is incompatible with the type of land use development along such street or highway?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  X
4. Will the proposed zoning district permit uses that would generate greater traffic volumes at vehicular access points and cross streets than is generated by uses permitted under the current zoning district to the detriment of maintaining acceptable or current volume capacity (V/C) ratio for the streets that provide vehicular access to the proposed zoning district and adjacent and nearby properties?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  X
5. Will the proposed zoning district permit uses or scale of development that would require a greater level of public services such as drainage facilities, utilities, or safety services above that required for uses permitted under the current zoning district such that the provision of these services will create financial burden to the public?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  X
6. Will the proposed zoning district permit uses or scale of development that would adversely impact the improvement or development of adjacent and nearby properties in accordance with existing zoning regulations and development controls deemed necessary to maintain the stability and livability of the surrounding neighborhood?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  X
7. Will the proposed zoning district permit development that is inconsistent with the comprehensive land use plan?  
Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  X

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve the petitioner's request to rezone the subject site from an R-A classification to a PUD-C classification.
2. Deny the petitioner's request.
3. Approve an alternative recommendation.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The subject site is identified as Suburban Single Family, Parks and Recreation, and Conservation Approval of the requested zoning map amendment would not result in any change to the existing uses and would therefore be consistent with the Future Land Use Map. Rezoning the subject site would create a unified zoning district for the properties within the Southbridge Development, as shown on the approved Master Plan.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**The MPC recommends Approval** of the proposed zoning request to rezone the subject 14.255-acre site (several properties) located on Wedgefield Crossing, Steeple Chase Road, and Laurel Oak Court from an R-A (Residential Agriculture) classification to a PUD-C (Planned Unit Development Community) classification, based on the previously stated findings identified in the staff report.

Staff further recommends that the 5.754-acre tract of land presently zoned R-A be verified as the correct zoning classification and that a metes and bounds description be included as part of the recommended staff study.

PREPARED BY: Gary Plumbley, Director  
Development Services

JULY 19, 2015

Gregori Anderson, Director  
BUILDING SAFETY AND REGULATORY SERVICES

	<b>PUD-C - Single Family Detached; Single Family Attached/Semi-Attached; Residential Townhomes; and, Residential Condominiums District</b>	<b>R-A District</b>
<b>Minimum Lot Area</b>	6,000 square feet - single family detached 1,800 square feet single family attached, semi-attached, and residential condominium per unit	6,000 square feet - single family detached 3,600 square feet two-family residential per unit
<b>Minimum Lot Width</b>	60 feet single family detached and condominium 20 feet single family attached or semi-attached	20 feet single family attached and two-family unit
<b>Front Yard Setback</b>	25 feet -- minor residential streets	25 feet -- minor residential streets
<b>Minimum Side Yard Setback</b>	5 feet -- single family detached 10 feet -- single family attached or semi-attached and condominium	5 feet
<b>Minimum Rear Yard Setback</b>	25 feet	25 feet
<b>Maximum Height</b>	36 feet	36 feet
<b>Maximum Building Coverage</b>	60 percent	60 percent
<b>Maximum Density</b>	As shown on the approved Master Plan	12 units per net acre



**CHATHAM COUNTY - SAVANNAH  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION**

*"Planning the Future – Respecting the Past"*

----- MEMORANDUM -----

DATE: JULY 19, 2016  
TO: BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

**FROM: METROPOLITAN PLANNING COMMISSION**

**SUBJECT: MPC ZONING RECOMMENDATION**

**PETITION REFERENCED:**

Staff Study-Map Amendment  
Wedgefield Crossing at Steeplechase Road  
File No. Z-160800-00061-1

**MPC ACTION:**

**Approval** of the request to rezone (several properties) located on Wedgefield Crossing, Steeple Chase Road, and Laurel Oak Court from an R-A classification to a PUD-C classification

**MPC STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

**Approval** of the request to rezone (several properties) located on Wedgefield Crossing, Steeple Chase Road, and Laurel Oak Court from an R-A classification to a PUD-C classification

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** 9 + Chairman

Tanya Milton, Chairman  
Joseph Welch, Treasurer  
Travis Coles  
Stephanie Cutter  
Linder Suthers

James Overton, Vice Chairman  
Shedrick Coleman  
Ellis Cook  
Joseph Ervin  
Tom Woiwode

**VOTING FOR MOTION**

**VOTING AGAINST MOTION**

**\*ABSENT OR \*\*FAILING TO VOTE**

Tanya Milton  
James Overton  
Shedrick Coleman  
Joseph Welch  
Travis Coles  
Stephanie Cutter  
Ellis Cook  
Joseph Ervin  
Tom Woiwode

\*Linder Suthers

FOR APPROVAL: 9

FOR DENIAL: 0

ABSTAINING: 1

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas L. Thomson  
Executive Director

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**XIII. INFORMATION ITEMS**

Chairman Scott said, the next item on the agenda is 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: September 9, 2016

**List of Purchasing Items between \$2,500 and \$24,999  
That Do Not Require Board Approval**

<b>ITEM</b>	<b>DEPT.</b>	<b>SOURCE</b>	<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>FUNDING</b>
Annual software agreement for evidence tracking software for Sheriff's Office	I.C.S.	Quetel Corporation	\$5,302	General Fund/M&O - Sheriff's Dept.
Annual software agreement for i80 tape library backup system	I.C.S.	CDW-G	\$3,341	General Fund/M&O - I.C.S.
Veterinarian services	Animal Services	Tabitha Chafkin	\$5,375	General Fund/M&O - Animal Services
Cisco ports and parts needed for networking	I.C.S.	Centrics IT, LLC	\$18,500	General Fund/M&O - I.C.S.
Fluke network equipment for fiber optic cabling testing	I.C.S.	GHA Technologies, Inc.	\$17,540	General Fund/M&O - I.C.S.
Disposal of curbside yard waste	Public Works	South Coast Logging	\$17,100	Solid Waste - SSD
24 helmets with shields	Detention Center	Gall's, Inc.	\$4,139	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
20 replacement Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) phones	I.C.S.	Mitel Business Systems, Inc.	\$3,976	General Fund/M&O - Communications
Structural assessment of sea wall at the Savannah International Trade Center	Engineering	Collins Construction Services, Inc.	\$6,800	SPLOST (1998-2003) - Other Assets
Sign shop supplies	Public Works	McCain Sales of Florida, Inc.	\$6,567	SSD - Public Works
Two (2) public address amplifier-controllers and sirens	Mosquito Control	Dallas Avionics, Inc.	\$5,225	General Fund/M&O - Mosquito Control
Repair of roof and installation of exhaust fan for evidence receiving room	Detention Center	Erickson Associates, Inc.	\$5,800	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Office supplies	Tax Commissioner	VIP Printing & Office Supply	\$3,108	General Fund/M&O - Tax Commissioner
Pre-bills and postage for July 2016	Tax Commissioner	Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	\$7,892	General Fund/M&O - Tax Commissioner
Three (3) Smartmobile kits, scanners and accessories for FileTrail system	Superior Court	FileTrail, Inc.	\$9,045	General Fund/M&O - Clerk of Superior Court
Annual re-accreditation for July 2016 until July 2017	Detention Center	Medical Association of Georgia, Inc.	\$4,295	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Repair damage and check for connecting problems of low boy deck on unit # 228T - Public Works	Fleet Operations	Freightliner of Savannah	\$5,176	General Fund
20 non-ballistic shields	Detention Center	Defenshield, Inc.	\$5,732	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Digital billboard sign usage	Board of Elections	Lamar Texas Limited Partnership	\$4,758	General Fund/M&O - Board of Elections

ITEM	DEPT.	SOURCE	AMOUNT	FUNDING
Repair leak in PoolPak unit	Aquatic Center	Comfort Systems USA - Southeast	\$5,640	General Fund/M&O - Aquatic Center
17 circulation fans for Fleet Operations	Occupational Safety	Lewis-Goetz and Company, Inc.	\$22,645	SPLOST (2014-2020) - Other Assets
Security access and monitoring for August 2016 until November 2016	C.N.T.	Tyco Integrated Security	\$4,869	General Fund/M&O - C.N.T.
Vertical stabilizer for helicopter	Mosquito Control	Heli-Mart, Inc.	\$24,900	General Fund/M&O - Mosquito Control
Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) phone accessories and routers	I.C.S.	AT&T	\$3,360	General Fund/M&O - Communications
Setup and printing of ballots for General Primary Election	Board of Elections	Election Systems and Software, Inc.	\$2,751	General Fund/M&O - Board of Elections

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### 3. STORM REPORT UPDATE.

Chairman Scott said, and at this time I'm going to recognize the County Manager for an update on debris removal from the most recent tropical storm.

County Manager Smith said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. First I just want to thank all the municipalities and, of course, CEMA and all of our team for working together during the storm and obviously in moving forward because we have weeks of work. We're asking folks to be -- or I think Robert will mention this, Robert Drewry from Public Works, but we're asking people to be patient. It's going to take some weeks. We've had to do away I think with bulk and our routes have changed quite a bit, so we're just asking for patience while we clean up. And it's just going to take a while, but I'd like to call up Dennis Jones with CEMA and Robert Drewry to give a report on where we are, but also possible recommendations that may come about first of the week based on our assessments of damage and what we think we can do in house and -- and what we think we need help with. So, I'll turn it over to Dennis [Jones] first.

Mr. Dennis Jones, Interim Director of Chatham Emergency Management Agency said, all right. Good morning everyone.

Members of the Board collectively said, good morning.

Mr. Jones said, Mr. Manager asked me to -- to give a brief on where we are with the storm. I'd like to go back and give you the timeline. Take about five minutes, give you the timeline, what we did during the storm and -- and where we are now. So, it all started really on Monday, the 28<sup>th</sup>. There was a tropical wave in the gulf. It was actually forecast to -- to make a turn to the northeast and come over the top part of Florida. So we started watching the storm. We started sending out tropical reports one time a day just to make sure everybody was aware. On Tuesday at 5:00 p.m., they actually shifted the track over the top of Chatham County. So before then we were -- we were in the error cone. We were fine with what we were doing. On Tuesday night, Tuesday afternoon, they actually shifted the track over the top of us which caused us to react quite a bit more. So we started sending out even more press releases, more tropical storm reports, and we also started conference calls on Thursday. So we had conference calls with all county staff. We had conference calls with municipal -- municipal leaders and other emergency management partners throughout the community just to make sure that they had situational awareness of the storm and also to -- to gauge the community preparedness level.

Mr. Jones said, so, with that, you know, forward moving into Thursday. Thursday we have even -- even more conference calls with the state, with the national weather service, talking a lot with Mr. Drewry, making sure his teams were ready to go, and also checking with the municipalities making sure their public works entities were ready to go as well. So, the storm impacts slowly started coming into Chatham, roughly about 2:00 -- 2:00 o'clock in the morning, somewhere around there, and with that, we -- we did receive sustained winds, excuse me, with that we started receiving sustained winds probably around 5:00 o'clock in the morning. We actually went through a period of a tornado warning that actually occurred over the Georgetown area. It actually affected -- the -- the threat area affected Georgetown, 95 and 204, and thankfully there wasn't a tornado associated with that.

Mr. Jones said, at about 5:00 o'clock in the morning, we started hearing radio traffic about damage in the Landings that actually was a result of a tropical system -- or a weather system that came off the -- the marine -- excuse me -- it was a marine warning that came on to shore and -- thank you, Mr. Center. All right. My notes

are all messed up. I apologize. All right. Our storm impacts started moving into Chatham County -- sorry, Lee [Smith].

County Manager Smith said, that's what happens when you get up front.

Mr. Jones said, yeah. I know. Okay. Well, we had a tornado warning that was issued by the National Hurricane Center -- National Weather Service at about 3:30 in the morning. It affected the Georgetown area, 95 and 204; it affected the Southbridge area. The sirens that were in that thread area were actually activated, and we started sending out notifications. Thankfully that did not produce a tornado. The tornado that did occur on the Landings happened around 5:15, somewhere around there. It was actually a -- a -- a rain band that came off of the Atlantic and came on shore. Actually went over the top of the Landings and caused an EF1 tornado.

Mr. Jones said, the predominant threat from this particular system was -- in the early morning hours was heavy rain. Thunderbolt and -- received some rain. Savannah, Port Wentworth and Garden City actually received the most of it. Port Wentworth received 5.3 inches; Garden City, a little over five inches and downtown Savannah over four and a half inches, all within a 24-hour period.

Chairman Scott said, and could you also -- could you also make it clear that -- that the folk came from Charleston to make that determination that it was a tornado and at what level.

Mr. Jones said, yeah. We did that on Saturday. So Saturday the National Weather Service came in, and they toured the Landings area with -- with CEMA staff and also south -- Southside Fire Department. They looked at the damages from the tornado, or what they thought was a tornado at that time. They looked at what -- what level of tornado it would be. They estimated it to be either a strong EF1 or a weak EF2 tornado, and it turned out that when they got back and started measuring their data, they decided that it was an EF1 tornado. They estimated the tornado to be about 350 miles wide, the wind swath, and it lasted over about one -- a little over a mile and half, and -- with winds of 105 to 111 miles an hour. So it did damage 22 homes in the Landings. The storm in general we estimate about 35 homes throughout the county got damaged somehow, whether it was a tree or whether it was wind damage with a predominance of those being in -- in the Landings.

Mr. Jones said, so we did have the --the highest winds recorded, as the Chairman mentioned during the -- the pre-meeting, 58 mile an hour wind gusts at the airport. The highest sustained winds was actually out at Hunter Army Airfield, and those were measured at 48 miles an hour. So it equates to about a moderate tropical storm -- storm force winds. So the storm also produced over 42,000 people without power. Of course, we had vegetative debris, downed trees, littered roadways. We had approximately 4300 calls into the -- into the three dispatch centers. Three schools received minor damage. Thankfully no government facilities that we're aware of received any damages, no infrastructure and no facilities. In the aftermath there was wide-spread damage throughout the county, with most of that occurring in Wilmington Island, Skidaway Island, Isle of Hope area. On Saturday the crews started assessing the damage, and as I mentioned the National Weather Service was on site.

Mr. Jones said, on Sunday several department heads met with the Chairman and the County Manager to start talking about damages and design a plan of action, and then the clean up started Monday. Robert [Drewry] called in his crews to start working on Labor Day, and we got a lot of good praises from the general community on -- on actually seeing his teams out there working. So currently we have activated state-wide mutual aid agreements. We have received assistance from -- the Town of Thunderbolt sent us one flat bed truck; Charlton County has sent us a knuckle boom with an operator; Thomas County has sent us two dump trucks with operators; Columbia County has sent us two dump trucks with operators; Augusta-Richmond County is sending -- sending us one dump truck, and on Monday they'll send us a grapple truck with operators. Macon-Bibb County on Monday will send us a knuckle boom and two dump trucks with operators. So, as a team we conduct daily conference calls; we talk about operations; we talk about finance, logistics, public safety, rumor control; and we also plan for the next day's activities.

Mr. Jones said, so, we're currently evaluating the uses of contractors to assist and also looking at alternative management of debris. We'll talk about that in just a minute. Public Works is using a significant majority of their staff for debris clean up. Based on the current estimates, we estimate about 20,000 cubic yards remain to be picked up in unincorporated county, and based on that assumption, it will take another 28 days to actually cover that. So, with that, I'm going to turn it over to Robert [Drewry], and he's going to talk about what that 28 days means.

Chairman Scott said, Dennis [Jones] before you go, let's see if there's any questions for you.

Mr. Jones said, yes, sir.

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

Commissioner Brady said, and -- and I hope this is -- I'm asking the right person the -- the right question. I received a text message from a resident out in Georgetown.

Mr. Jones said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Brady said, and -- saying that they never heard any sirens of any sort, and her question to me was in her text message was can we install a -- a siren in the Georgetown area, 'cause they're saying they're not hearing it.

Mr. Jones said, there is one.

Chairman Scott said, there is one.

Mr. Jones said, there is one. There's one at Georgetown Elementary. Yes.

Commissioner Brady said, in there -- okay. Well, they -- well, then they didn't hear it. Okay.

County Manager Smith said, it went off.

Commissioner Brady said, okay. All right.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Mr. Jones said, and -- and it went off at 3:20 in the morning, so.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Commissioner Brady said, okay. That's probably why they didn't hear it, okay? I'll let her know that it did go off, but there is one at Georgetown Elementary.

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

Mr. Jones said, yeah. Right across the street.

Commissioner Brady said, thank you.

Mr. Jones said, you're welcome.

Commissioner Farrell said, just for public education, it's my understanding --

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner, is this of -- of Dennis [Jones]?

Commissioner Farrell said, yes.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Go ahead.

Commissioner Farrell said, it's my understanding that the -- the sirens are typically for people that are outdoors away from communication devices. Do you recommend a weather radio to alert people indoors, especially when they're sleeping that would just come on automatically with -- with strategic warnings?

Mr. Jones said, absolutely. We -- we encourage people to -- to understand what the -- the sirens are for. The sirens are, as you mentioned for outdoor activities. At 3:00 o'clock in the morning, I'm not sure that the siren's going to do you much good because you're inside asleep. So you need to have a device that is available to you that will alert you when you're indoors. Also, there is several applications now that you can add to your Smart phone in -- in order to -- to make sure you get those alerts as well.

Commissioner Farrell said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Holmes of the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Commissioner Holmes said, Mr. Jones.

Mr. Jones said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Holmes said, the support that we received coming from other counties, do you request that or that volunteer to come in?

Mr. Jones said, no, sir, we requested that.

Commissioner Holmes said, you requested that.

Mr. Jones said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Holmes said, and approximately you know how many you need to come in and what you need to come in?

Mr. Jones said, yes, sir. Mr. Drewry estimated that he needed a certain number of knuckle booms and a certain number of dump trucks.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay. And just hypothetically, a dumb question, the work that was done, for the public's sake, estimate what that cost us.

Mr. Jones said, well, we actually have run some numbers. Amy [Davis.]

Chairman Scott said, we -- it's -- it's -- I don't know if we have a final total of what it's going to cost.

Mr. Jones said, we don't.

County Manager Smith said, we don't, 'cause we're still doing that.

Commissioner Holmes said, you don't?

Chairman Scott said, but let me -- let me also comment that we have a state-wide agreement through the Georgia Emergency Management Association.

Mr. Jones said, right.

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

Chairman Scott said, which is GEMA.

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

Chairman Scott said, and we have intergovernmental agreement with these other counties, and so what we have done is activated that intergovernmental agreement that we have with these other counties in order to bring in additional equipment from the surrounding counties and municipalities.

Mr. Jones said, that's correct. It's a four-year agreement. Every four years all the counties in Georgia re-initiate that agreement with the state that allows specifically for situations like this and allows us to reach out to other communities in order to get assets in.

Commissioner Holmes said, well, for the public, and I'd like to -- I'd like to get a breakdown of what that costs us for that short time.

Mr. Jones said, I'm going to have to defer to --

Chairman Scott said, no, we -- we're going to have some numbers --

Commissioner Holmes said, not now. I don't need it now.

Mr. Jones said, okay.

Commissioner Holmes said, just -- just. Yeah.

County Manager Smith said, yeah. 'Cause until we finish up on, and Robert [Drewry] will talk to you about cubic yards and the time --

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

County Manager Smith said, -- you know, we're having to consider, not just time but a lot of over time. We're working six days a week, ten-your days. So as we finish that up, we'll have better figures. But I think it's important to let the public know this was not federally declared, so everything we're spending --

Chairman Scott said, speak to that -- speak to that if you would, Dennis [Jones].

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Mr. Jones said, sure.

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

Mr. Jones said, with a -- a disaster -- any disaster you have to meet certain thresholds in order to get a presidential disaster declaration. In the State of Georgia it goes by per capita. You have to have -- you have to meet a certain threshold per capita. So for Chatham County, it's \$3.57 per capita, which totals about

\$991,000. We'd have to meet that threshold first, and then the State itself has to meet a threshold as well. For the State of Georgia it's a -- it's \$1.41 per capita, which equates to over \$14 million. So for the State and the County we'd have to meet those thresholds in order to request a presidential disaster declaration.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay. So if -- so by that's not being federal announcement, that mean everything fell back on us.

Mr. Jones said, that's correct.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay.

Mr. Jones said, the State of Emergency that the governor issued only allowed for assets to come in.

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

Mr. Jones said, it didn't open up any funding stream, but it allowed for, like, state assets to come in and assist if we request them.

Chairman Scott said, and then the funding streams come when the president declares.

Mr. Jones said, right.

Chairman Scott said, and -- and you've got to meet those thresholds. Now, we will meet the threshold in the county, but you don't meet it in the state, so you cannot get the FEMA funds.

Mr. Jones said, that's correct, sir.

Chairman Scott said, any further questions of Dennis [Jones] before Robert Drewry comes up? Thank you. Thank you, Dennis [Jones].

Mr. Robert Drewry, Director of Public Works said, good morning.

Commissioner Farrell said, good morning.

Commissioner Center said, good morning.

Mr. Drewry said, when Dennis [Jones] asked me to come up and say a few things, he said well, be sure to tell them how much debris, and I said, well, there's a lot. He said, well, that won't work. You just can't say there's a lot of debris. So, I actually have tried to put some numbers to it. What I will tell you is we did start picking up on Monday. So we've picked up Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, four days. We have hauled off 170 truck loads of debris to date. I'm running some calculations based on the volume of those vehicles. I'm estimating about 2700 cubic yards of material have already been hauled off the streets. Also during that time, beginning Friday, we had approximately -- I think up to 40 trees that fell across roadways that had to be cut up and moved to the side. I'm going to get the same thing Dennis [Jones] had. Thank you. It's that microphone. So I estimate about 2700 cubic yards of material have been hauled off so far.

Mr. Drewry said, we've had -- we hit all of our dry trash routes. We hit Monday route; we've hit Tuesday -- Monday route is the westside; Tuesday route is the -- the Skidaway Island side; Wednesday route is Isle of Hope, Whitefield Avenue, Burnside Island area; and Thursday route is Wilmington Island, Whitmarsh, Talahi, those islands as well. We've hit each route but with minimal impact. I can tell you right now in the Landings or Skidaway Island alone, we've only actually been on nine percent of the streets, which tells me we've got at least nine to ten more days in just the Skidaway route, which is Tuesday's route. So you do that kind of estimation, and you are looking at about 20, 25 to 28 days.

Chairman Scott said, and you -- you are back at Skidaway today.

Mr. Drewry said, we are back at Skidaway Island today. That is correct.

Chairman Scott said, and hopefully Wilmington Island tomorrow.

Mr. Drewry said, we will be at Wilmington Island tomorrow. Thank you, sir. So that's how I based about -- that's how I based -- based upon my figures of what's left to do. It's not scientific, but, it's -- you know, it's the best estimate we have out there. You've ridden the roads, I hope. You know there's a lot of debris roadside. A lot of debris roadsides. I can say that now because I think it's about 20,000 cubic yards of material left to pick up. With our current resources and with the mutual aid that's come in, we are looking at 24 to 28 days remaining, and again, that is not scientific, that is just the best guess right now, and that is work days. Aside from that, we're not mowing roadsides. We're not cleaning ditches. Very minimal canal maintenance work, and we're not picking up bulky items either. 'Cause all of our -- most of our resources -- or whatever resources we have available are picking up debris.

Mr. Drewry said, I've got six crews out there and a seventh crew beginning Sun -- Monday when we get the other county in here. I think it's Augusta County, Augusta-Richmond, and then I've got all my eight -- eight of my trash compactors out there working. So we put all the effort we can into it. We're -- we have 14, 15 dump trucks available -- 17 dump trucks available to us. It's just -- all the resources I can that -- that are practical in this situation are being put to effort. We have put out a request for quotes for additional knuckle boom truck and operators and additional dump trucks. Those quotes came in significantly higher than we expected, and there was only really two or three legitimate quotes in that. Two of them local, one of them from Topeka, Kansas. So, we did reach out, all the way to Topeka, apparently, and we are putting those numbers together, and don't lose sight of the fact also we have a debris manager -- management contractor -- standby contract potentially for those disasters that are declared, federally declared, but we have those resources available well -- as well. So, we are looking at those different options, and I'm -- I'm -- any questions you have, I'll be glad to answer them.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Brady has a question for you.

Commissioner Brady said, do some of the -- excuse me, I'm -- I'm going to get it now. Do some of the municipalities, do they have dump trucks and equipment that they can bring --

Chairman Scott said, we've -- we've reached out to them.

Commissioner Brady said, well, I -- I knew we had, but -- and I heard the ones that -- that have responded. Okay. I apologize for that. And let me just say this, this -- this was a -- a mild storm if you will, and I think -- I would like to have some type of workshop shortly after we get over this in the next week or so or month or so, where we can sit down, and we come up with a comprehensive plan about how we're going to handle this and -- and part of the problem I believe is -- is that we have not been hit by any real major storm in a very, very long time. And -- and -- and I just -- I think it's a conversation we need to have.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Brady, we -- we -- we have a comprehensive plan, and it's required --

Commissioner Brady said, I understand that.

Chairman Scott said, -- by both the state and federal. The -- the reason that we're where we're at with this is that it -- it doesn't meet the threshold to trigger all the resources that you would put at a major storm, and -- and therein lies the problem. It's -- it's a tweener, you -- you might say. It's -- it's too small to meet the guidelines, so there are resources out there that if you had a major hurricane that we would be employing today that we are not employing on this storm because it does not trigger the mechanism that would require the employment. Such as, for instance, if you were to have a -- if this was a hurricane and it met the threshold, we would actually enact that contract that we have with the FEMA contractor to clean up debris, and we would have -- this county would be swamped with trucks and -- and clean up activities. And, if you comply with the rules and keep the numbers and books, it would be reimbursed by FEMA. But, that's not the case. The clean up here does not meet the FEMA standards and every dime being spent will be by the tax payers of the unincorporated area.

Commissioner Brady said, well, and I appreciate that, Mr. Chairman. I -- I --

Chairman Scott said, but we can -- we can --

Commissioner Brady said, we need to make sure this is all over our website, because that was the one thing I saw was people were --

Chairman Scott said, well, what we will do though --

Commissioner Brady said, -- unaware.

Chairman Scott said, before the next hurricane season, we'll have a workshop for members of the Commission just so you can thoroughly understand the elaborate planning that -- that's been taking place, not just with the unincorporated area, but Dennis [Jones] has also been meeting with the other municipalities within Chatham County, and even reaching out to places like Bryan and Effingham in putting together this plan. So there's a -- there's a -- a massive plan in place, but this storm doesn't fit into the categories that trigger all the funds and support that you would otherwise have.

Mr. Jones said, may I?

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Mr. Jones said, I think it's -- it's also important that for this particular event, we will what's -- will have what's called an after action meeting.

Commissioner Brady said, mm-hmm.

Mr. Jones said, and we'll bring all of our partners together that had a -- a -- an impact from this storm. We'll talk about lessons learned. We'll talk about what worked, what didn't, and then we'll take those -- those -- those

programs, and we'll -- we'll sustain what we can. The things that they want to see improved, we'll take a look at those. We'll honestly evaluate the effectiveness of -- of those improvements and see if we can implement those into the plan that the Chairman was talking about.

Commissioner Brady said, thank you, and that's really what I'm focused on is --

Chairman Scott said, and what --

Mr. Jones said, yeah.

Commissioner Thomas said, fantastic.

Chairman Scott said, and what we're -- we're also doing, we're treating the accounting portion of it as if it was a FEMA event just for the exercise purpose and -- and so we can make sure that in the event it was a major storm, that we've complied with everything that's required by FEMA. So we're -- we're going through that although FEMA isn't paying for it, won't reimburse us, we're still going through that exercise.

Commissioner Brady said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Drewry, I -- I don't know how to say I'm -- I'm -- I wouldn't want your job, but I really wouldn't want your job at this point, and I -- and I realize that a lot of pressure has been put on you, a lot of phone calls. I have debris all along the side of my road, and -- and I've seen it throughout the county. My concern though now is suspending some of our other normal services that -- and I realize that your budget is very fragile, and it -- and it is hit by public safety for the unincorporated area, but in my honest opinion, we're not even up to speed on our daily services. We have -- Halcyon Bluff said that they -- people couldn't -- the power people and the Comcast people could not get to their service poles because of ditches that we haven't been maintaining. I know the grass, you're -- you're tired of hearing me about mowing, but this is a concern to me on top of what we're already behind on, we now have this, and I -- and I think it's remarkable that you all have been organized enough, and, Mr. Chairman, to work with the other counties to bring in resources to try to get us cleaned up in 30 days, but my concern is how -- what that's going to do to our daily routine maintenance. It's going to throw that back, and we're still in the growing season with this heat, and -- and that is --

Chairman Scott said, actually -- actually, we're no longer in the growing season.

Commissioner Stone said, well, you tell the grass that.

Chairman Scott said, well, I --

Commissioner Stone said, 'cause it's growing.

Chairman Scott said, the grass knows, believe me. You don't have to talk to it.

Commissioner Stone said, well, I'm -- I'm telling you, you go look at -- around some where I am, that grass is still growing. So it didn't get the memo. But at any rate, my concern is -- is how far back is this going to throw us with our -- our normal, routine maintenance that unfortunately we're already behind on?

Mr. Drewry said, well, on -- on several different levels, Commissioner Stone, and -- and first of all, I appreciate your -- your concern, 'cause I -- I agree with you. Specifically talking about our dry trash routes in our solid waste department.

Commissioner Stone said, mm-hmm.

Mr. Drewry said, we've noticed here in the last -- maybe even a year now, we're -- we're -- we're hard -- having a hard time keeping up with our daily routes now because it -- the volume of debris that's being put out on a routine basis is -- is getting -- is growing, and you add these large lots with a lot of tree canopy, it's just going to get worse, and the more development that -- that occurs as well. So I -- I appreciate that, and thank you very much. But, the other -- I say different levels, like, roadside mowing, yes, you're right, the grass is still growing, the weeds are going to be active here when the temperature drops another ten degrees, and the weeds will start taking off from there. So, everything is behind. And street sweeping, we're -- we're not doing any sweeping at this point either, and you know what those curbs look like after a while with the leaf fall season. So, it just -- it complies. It's hard to compartmentalize each -- each function.

Commissioner Stone said, I'm just concerned that we're not able to keep up with our duties and what we need to do to plan to try to -- to help you in any way that we can so that we keep our community beautiful. Thank you.

Commissioner Center said, may I, Mr. Chairman?

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

Commissioner Center said, the last comment in today's Vox Populi in the Savannah Morning News, thank you for the Chatham Public Works Department for all the work that you are doing to get all this trash cleaned up after the storm.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

County Manager Smith said, they're working hard.

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, thank you. Do you have anything else, Mr. Manager?

County Manager Smith said, no, just on that, as Mr. Drewry said, when we get in to next week, and we have a better assessment, you know, we may be talking to the Chairman about a contract. It just depends on how far we get because Commissioner Stone's right, as we get behind, we'll stay a month and a half behind. So we've -- we've really got to examine that as to our regular work, so we'll be addressing that.

Chairman Scott said, yeah. And -- and the other thing too, I -- I want to make it -- I want to make it clear that this cost is not going to be minimal because those --

Commissioner Thomas said, that's right.

Chairman Scott said, -- the trucks and the equipment that we're bringing from other counties, we are having to pick up the personnel costs that operate those trucks. We are not renting the equipment, but we're having to maintain it and fuel it. When it's all said and done, our finance staff has been working on it, and right now, we're estimating, and it will probably go up not down, somewhere in the neighborhood of a half million dollars --

County Manager Smith said, correct.

Chairman Scott said, -- of unbudgeted expenses so far. Is that a -- a reasonable number, Amy [Davis]? I see you staring at me.

Finance Director Amy Davis said, if you don't include the -- well --

County Manager Smith said, we've been having this discussion over the last 24 hours.

Chairman Scott said, I understand.

Ms. Davis said, my latest figure was right around \$560,000, and that does not include disposal of all of this debris. So --

Chairman Scott said, yeah. Yeah. I said upward of a half a million.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Ms. Davis said, yeah. It's probably going to hit a million before it's all done.

Chairman Scott said, and -- and so -- yeah. Yeah. So I -- I just want to put folk on notice that we'll have to move some money around at some point.

Commissioner Farrell said, might be a good time to pull some of that money back from the M&O we gifted.

Chairman Scott said, it would -- it would have been a good time to increase dry trash fees. If -- if you wanted to go there. But -- speaking -- but anything else, Mr. Manager.

[NOTE: At this time further discussion and a vote was had on the Second Reading.]

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

A status report was attached as information.

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#### **RECOGNITION OF GUEST**

Chairman Scott said, all right. Mr. Manager, anything else under informational items?

County Manager Smith said, no, sir.

Chairman Scott said, I -- during our meeting I noticed that one of our neighborhood association presidents came in, Mr. Richard Law, and the only reason I'm acknowledging him, he just completed a book, and he was kind enough to provide a copy for me to review, and I wanted to just acknowledge his presence and thank him so much for it. Mr. Law, thank you. And if you're not familiar with his neighborhood, it's actually the Ogeecheeton neighborhood.

[NOTE: After the Motion was made for Executive Session, Mr. Law came and spoke to the Board.]

Chairman Scott said, Mr. Law, did you -- I see you had some books in your hand there, did you?

Mr. Richard Law said, good afternoon, Chairman. I just want to thank you for acknowledging I wrote the book, and the book is *Some Things Never Change*. And I wanted to give one to -- if you don't mind, I want to give one to Gail [Gordon] because she do so much work for the Ogeecheeton community when she did plaques and stuff like that.

Chairman Scott said, go -- no. No problem whatsoever.

Mr. Law said, well, and I wanted to give one to Dr. Priscilla Thomas.

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Mr. Law said, this is my memoirs, and for Commissioner Holmes to tell you, when -- when I got through reading -- working with the book, Judge Tammy Stokes, she was the first one bought the book, and James Holmes bought it. James [Holmes] could you say something about this book, please? If you don't mind.

Commissioner Holmes said, am I going to get my percentage?

Mr. Law said, yeah. You already got it.

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## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Scott said, and at this time I'll recognize the Commissioner Brady, for the purpose of a motion.

Commissioner Brady said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I move that we go into executive session to discuss litigation and personnel.

Commissioner Stone said, second.

Chairman Scott said, any discussion? Any unreadiness? Hearing none, all in favor indicate by voting yes, opposed no. We're heading -- before we go into executive session.

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

Commissioner Brady moved to recess to executive session for the purpose of litigation, real estate, and personnel. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

The Board recessed at approximately 12:01 p.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 Kicklighter moved to authorize the Chairman to execute an Affidavit that the Executive Session was held in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Shabazz was not present.]

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**2. APPOINTMENTS**

**LIVE OAK REGIONAL LIBRARY BOARD**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Brady moved to appoint Sanda Thomson to the Live Oak Regional Library Board to fill the expired term of Alan Lowe. Her term will expire June 30, 2019. Commissioner Kicklighter seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Shabazz was not present.]

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**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to be brought before the Commissioners, the Chairman declared the meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m.

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**APPROVED: THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF SEPTEMBER, 2016.**

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

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