

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 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 9:30 a.m. on Friday, October 21, 2016.

Chairman Scott said, good morning and welcome. Please be seated. I'll ask that you be seated for the time being, until such time our devotional leader has completed his message and indicate it -- it's time for prayer. At that time, if would you re-stand for prayer and remain standing through the Pledge of Allegiance. We will be led in the Pledge of Allegiance by the Commissioner from the 6<sup>th</sup> District, Commissioner Brady.

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**II. INVOCATION**

Chairman Scott said, and with that it's a pleasure to have with us this morning the Pastor Frank Ellis, Jr. He's the pastor of the Second Bryan Baptist Church, and he's been there now going on ten years. That's a long tenure for a Baptist Pastor, so you have to conclude that Pastor Ellis is doing everything right. And with that, Pastor --

Pastor Frank Ellis, Jr., said, good morning.

Chairman Scott said, we welcome your message.

Pastor Ellis said, good morning.

Members of the Board collectively said, good morning.

Pastor Ellis said, you sound like you're going to a funeral. I said, good morning.

Members of the Board and audience collectively said, good morning.

Pastor Ellis said, one thing I know about the Word, the Word of God is good news. And because it's good news, a person who carries the Word should be enthusiastic, and those of us who can receive the Word should also be enthusiastic, because the Word is a transformer. It changes us from one thing to another. And there are two things I'd like to deal with this morning, and one is -- is that in the 13<sup>th</sup> Chapter of the Book of Romans, the Bible allows us to see that we should obey the government, whether it be local, state or federal, because the government is put in place by God. There's no government anywhere that God has not put in place, and so he says to us that we should obey it because in obeying the government, we're also obeying Him. Because he allowed them to put laws in place to protect his people.

Pastor Ellis said, now the second thing that I'd like to discuss, and I'd like to use, and I'm glad I talked to a couple of the other officers, and I'm going to have to move around, and I talk pretty loud, 'cause I'm an old quarterback. I see the Sheriff here, so I want to use the Sheriff, and I also see the Chief, so I want to use the Chief. So I ask that both you men would come up here right now. Now these men represent authority. And what I'm going to come from today, if you know the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm, which most of us can quote without any problems whatsoever, the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm suggests in the sixth verse, that surely goodness and mercy shall follow us. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us. This is my goodness; this is my mercy. So everywhere we go, unbeknownst to all of us, we didn't understand that God is so good that He put in place goodness and mercy to take care of us and follow me everywhere I go. No matter where I go, I got to have my goodness and my mercy.

Pastor Ellis said, so He put in place -- don't go -- now watch this now, because I'm going to stop here. Because I'm going to do something I have no business doing, with somebody I have no business doing it with, in a place that I have no business doing. Stand up for me sweetheart. Now, I don't know this lady; this lady doesn't know me. But I'm going to do something I have no business doing [Pastor hugs audience member], but I have goodness and mercy who's going to keep me out of hot water. I have goodness and mercy who will protect me, and I have goodness and mercy to fend for me. So for all of us, who have at one time or another fought some things, said some things or done some things that you had no business doing, for example, I just met her, but I don't want nobody to know that I want to make out with her, so since people in Savannah know me as a pastor, I can't do it in Savannah, so I've got to go -- come on talk to me -- in the Hardeeville, or Richmond Hill, and you all know the story, the Motel 6 going to keep the lights on -- come on over, going to keep the lights on for us? Mm-hmm. But I still have goodness and mercy. Because from inception, God has put goodness and mercy in

place to protect me until I get to the point where I realize that he is my refuge and my strength. He is my source, and then once I learn that, then I can grab hold to the (B) clause which says I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Pastor Ellis said, so now, with goodness and mercy, the truth of the matter is, I will stumble -- you can sit down now. I will fall, but because I've got goodness and mercy, I can't lose. I'm moving -- this the District Attorney right here. This the District Attorney. Now you all know I'm asking for trouble when I'm messing with the District Attorney. Move your glasses for me, sweetheart. Yeah, 'cause I don't -- I don't want them to be there [Pastor sits on the District Attorney's lap]. But I have goodness and mercy. So whether she agree or disagree, when I'm doing good; when I'm doing bad; when I'm doing the right thing; when I'm doing the evil thing, come on goodness and mercy. And now that goodness and mercy have followed me, and the Bible says they will follow me all the days of my life. And this is where I'm going to leave you now. If goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life, that means from inception, I'm never without goodness and mercy. God loves me so much because he said all souls are mine. It is my desire that all of us would be saved, none of us would be lost. And so when I'm doing right, goodness and mercy. When I'm doing wrong, goodness and mercy.

Pastor Ellis said, could you ask for more? Come on now, talk to me. Could you ask for more?

Members of the audience said, no. No.

Pastor Ellis said, knowing that I'm always protected because God's love is a sure love. It's not a man's kind of love. It's God's love, and so today I would like to say to all of us, no matter what you're thinking, no matter what you're doing, no matter what you're saying, remember, goodness and mercy. And I'm glad I got Sheriff, big man. I'm glad I got the Chief, big man, 'cause they represent authority. And we have a big God. So God don't deal in no slight of business now., He don't deal in privates, he deals in generals. Come on and give God some praise. Thank you all so much. [Applause.]

Member of the audience said, good job, Pastor Ellis.

Pastor Ellis said, how you doing? Let us pray.

Pastor Ellis gave the invocation as follows:

Most Holy and everlasting Father God, we give you glory. We give you praise. We say hallelujah to your name. Father, we ask now that you open our ears, our hearts, and our mind and have us be receptive of all endeavors that we will deal with today. Have them to think, do and say the things that are pleasing in Your sight. Let them deliberate and serve for your purpose. And if they do that, then we know that the people will be served well. We thank you, God, for bringing us through the hurricane. We thank you for all of us who have come through knowing now that You are in control. And we have a saying, and this is how I'm going to end this prayer, at the Second Bryan Baptist Church, that God is, He has a plan, and He is in control. In Jesus' name we pray. Let the family say -- Amen.

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

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### **III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

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### **CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION**

Chairman Scott presented Pastor Ellis with the Certificate of Appreciation.

Pastor Ellis said, thank you, sir.

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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  
 Susie Rohlfs, Acting County Clerk

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## **CHATHAM COUNTY YOUTH COMMISSION**

Chairman Scott said, at this time I will ask our Vice Chair, Commissioner Thomas from the 8<sup>th</sup> District, if she would introduce our Youth Commission who is here today.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Members of the Commission, ladies and gentlemen, we are delighted to have with us today from the Chatham County Youth Commission, Kayah Brantley, who is a sophomore. She is attending Savannah Arts, and we're delighted to have her with us today. Okay? Please feel free to ask any questions just as any other person, okay?

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

### **1. PRESENTATION OF SERVICE AWARDS.**

Chairman Scott said, next under Proclamation and Special Presentation, I recognize the County Manager and our HR Director, Carolyn Smalls, for the purpose of presenting service awards.

County Manager Lee Smith said, yes, sir. I'd ask the Board to step down. We have eight or nine service awards this month. So I'd ask the Board to step down and I'd ask Carolyn Smalls, our HR Director, to come up and lead us in this event.

Human Resources Director Carolyn Smalls said, good morning, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners, County Manager. I'm very pleased as always to present our employee service awards to our team members who are dedicated to cat -- to Chatham County and who have reached a milestone of service. So this morning I'm going to present our awardees, and right now I'll ask if you all would please stand, and as I call your name, please come forward to receive your award. Our awards this month range from twenty years of service to five years. And so we'll start with 20 years of service, and we have Ms. Sabrina German, our Voter Registration interim director. With 15 years of service, Roger Brown, with the K-9 unit of the Sheriff's office. With ten years of service, Jill Studer, Tax Assessor. With five years of service, Mr. Alexis Adams, Public Works Department, Bridges [Applause.]. Also with five years of service, Jennifer McNamar, Child Support Enforcement. And with five years of Tamara Bennett-Thompson, Clerk of Superior Court. And with five years of service Tiffany Shuff, Clerk of Superior Court.

Ms. Smalls said, again, I'd like to congratulate you all on reaching a milestone of service and thank you for your dedicated service to Chatham County. [Applause.]

Chairman Scott said, and thanks to the Clerk of Superior court for being here to witness his employees receiving their service award. Thank you.

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### **2. HURRICANE MATTHEW BRIEFING.**

***NOTE: See Individual Action Items for Adoption of Item IX-2 preliminary estimated budget for Hurricane Matthew related expenses and Item IX-4 adoption of a resolution directing staff to seek approval from FEMA to provide storm debris removal and other storm related materials from private roads and gated communities in compliance with FEMA requirements.***

Chairman Scott said, next under Presentations -- Proclamation and Special Presentation, at this time we're going to have a presentation, update, on Hurricane Matthew, and I'm going to recognize the County Manager, who will introduce the presenters. We've got three presenters. And are we going to start with Dennis [Jones]?

County Manager Smith said, we will, yeah.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Dennis Jones, our CEMA Director. County Manager.

County Manager Smith said, Mr. Chairman, before Dennis [Jones] gets started I want to -- I know we've said it in the paper and there's been some ads to run, but I don't think we can pass up this opportunity -- first of all, we've got a lot of work to do, but I wanted to thank CEMA, volunteers, municipalities, thank all the elected officials. We had -- you know, until you've been in an emergency operations center and you sleep on the floor in sleeping bags, and you get to know each other really, really well for about five nights, you know, it -- it -- you really become a family. But it was amazing. We've said during the storm, Dennis [Jones] was the calmest. He -- now he had to go to his car about twenty times and just meditate, but he was the calmest and did a -- a -- I just -- I cannot express my gratitude to all the folks who worked hard. And I do want to say this, as Public Works comes up, if you see a Public Works person out there, they've been working for over six or eight weeks -- Robert? -- for Hermine.

Public Works Director Robert Drewry said, yes. Hard.

County Manager Smith said, Yeah, hard labor. They've had no time off. They've been working overtime, six days a week. So if you see them out there, please thank them. They are working really, really hard. I also -- I wanted to mention it was a -- we're getting lots of calls about mosquitoes. We are not surprised. After storms like this, and a rain event, we are having massive mosquito problems. So I just wanted to let the public know you will see this weekend aviation work of spraying all across the county, and truck work. We're asking people to dump and toss -- look at everything in your yard, because you have breeding even under your plants, things like that. Every little bit is gonna help. Under debris piles. And we're gonna talk about that in a minute. We're gonna be spraying by truck, to try and take care of that, but we just ask you to be very cautious, be patient, and we're gonna stay on top of the mosquito control program and -- and plans. So, anyway, I just wanted to mention those things. And I turn it to Dennis Jones with CEMA.

Chairman Scott said, Dennis, before you get started, our Youth Commission, did you have a question?

Chatham County Youth Commissioner Kayah Brantley said, yes. What can we do to control the mosquitoes --

County Manager Smith said, well --

Youth Commissioner Brantley said, -- as a community?

County Manager Smith said, as a community? Well, the first thing you can do is, as I mentioned, kind of dump and toss, kind of survey your business, your home. You know, sometimes you might have like an extra tire in your yard or something. Make sure you get the water out. Or the pots that are -- or -- or the plates that are under your potted plants, or a bucket, anything that holds water in even small amounts are huge breeding grounds. If you ever go in your yard and look you'll see little larvae and within just a matter of days you have full blown mosquitoes. Typically the smaller ones that are just aggravating, but you know, they obviously bite. And we've gotten a lot of calls. So that's gonna be, you know, the first thing. And if you're gonna be out at dusk, you need to -- if you can; everybody can't -- use something that has DEET in it, or whatever you prefer. DEET is the best. D-E-E-T. To put on when you go out in the evening.

County Manager Smith said, but we ask people to be cautious. We had some people call about disease control. We have no issues. In fact, the EEE, we've not had any hits on that in a month or two, so we feel very good about that, where we are. But those would be the biggest issues right now.

Chairman Scott said, mention -- mention the spraying, the intensive spraying, so if folks see trucks in --

County Manager Smith said, yeah, you're gonna see the trucks going out and those are like the fog units. So, we'll be doing that. They're effective just in the right-of-way. But that's where we have these huge piles around the county. So we're gonna be doing that. But, also, you're going to see our helicopters in force. So you'll see them out this weekend and next weekend, in force, so just be aware of that. And we do see -- send out alerts and emails as to when we're spraying. So we'll try and be, you know, as prudent as we can about that, but this is gonna be kind of fast and furious, because we've got to hit this hard and quick, because the mosquito problem can get out of control real fast. So I appreciate Jeff Heusel and his -- his team for working on that. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Dennis [Jones].

Chatham Emergency Management Agency Director Dennis Jones said, good morning.

Members of the Board collectively said, good morning.

Mr. Smith said, good morning.

Mr. Jones said, thank you, Mr. -- Mr. Chairman, Mr. Manager, Ladies and Gentlemen of the Commission, to allow us an opportunity to come forward and present to you information as a result of Hurricane Matthew. As many of you know, the last time Chatham County was hit with a hurricane was 1979, with Hurricane David. Thirty-seven years ago. Hurricane Matthew officially did make hurricane-related impacts in Chatham County. We do have it classified as a Category 1 hurricane in Chatham County, and I'll show you some -- some statistics on that as we go forward.

Mr. Jones said, Hurricane Matthew rain amounts, it did produce record amounts of rainfall in a very short period of time. The heaviest amounts of rain were actually -- actually at Hunter Army Airfield, seventeen-point-four-nine inches in a twenty-four hour period. And the rest of the graph, you can see the other accumulations. All of those, again, were within a twenty-four hour period. So it did cause a lot of flooding throughout our community, as all of you are aware and it -- it still has potential to cause some problems. We're dealing with several displaced citizens as we -- as we speak. There was a conference call this morning to talk about long-term housing -- issues that we can do with long-term housing. So we're continuing to feel the effects of the flooding -- the flooding effects from this particular event, even two weeks later.

Mr. Jones said, I mentioned that it was a Category 1 hurricane. The strongest winds were actually at the south end of Tybee Island and maximum sustained winds of seventy-five miles an hour. A minimum Category 1 hurricane, it starts at seventy-four. We did have maximum gusts of ninety-six miles an hour. Again, at the south end of Tybee. And if you'll notice the other identifiers throughout the map, you'll see that we had very strong tropical storm force winds throughout the rest of the community. So, officially, Category 1 hurricane out at Tybee Island, with wind gusts up to a Category 2, which is ninety-six miles an hour.

Mr. Jones said, I want to preface -- or I -- I want to continue saying that about the -- the sustained winds, the seventy-five miles an hour, that's over a two minute period. So at any given point along the time sequence of -- of this land falling hurricane, you got a two minute second of where winds were sustained at -- at least seventy-five miles an hour. Gusts is -- is just a peek -- as far as the gusts goes, it's just a peek of -- of how high the winds were at any particular time and at the south end of Tybee Island ninety-six miles an hour, which is a low end Category 2 hurricane.

Mr. Jones said, it also created record flooding, as we talked about. Historical crest, actually on the 8th of October, was twelve-point-five-six feet. That actually surpassed Hurricane David in 1979, The next item that's up there is twelve-point-two-one feet. And all of these measurements were taken at the Fort Pulaski tide gauge. The graph you see up here is the bottom -- the bottom of -- the bottom range is what you see as what is normally attributed --

Commissioner Center said, what is a crest?

Mr. Jones said, a crest -- the highest amount. The highest amount that it actually achieved at that particular point.

Commissioner Center said, is that all across? I mean, is that a particular measurement point that -- you measure it at what point? Where -- where? What location?

Mr. Jones said, Fort Pulaski gauge.

Commissioner Center said, okay. Thank you.

Mr. Jones said, so this gauge right here was at Fort Pulaski. And the bottom range that you see is what's normally the tide sequence, and during Hurricane Matthew the -- the top range that you see is how high the actual measurement was, a realtime observation at that particular site. So it got up to twelve-point-five-six feet, again which surpassed Hurricane David back in 1979. So that is a record. The "P" at the end of that measurement means it's pending. They have to send out the scientists to make sure that the gauge was functioning properly in order to actually classify that as the record high for that particular site.

Mr. Jones said, initial reports on damage assessment, over the past two weeks we've been collecting information from the community about level of homes that have been damages, number of homes that have been damaged. And we've got a -- a graph up here for you. This is the information collected to-date. One thousand, one hundred and eighteen homes across the community. And this is divided up into municipalities, as well as sort of by your particular Districts, so you can see how many private residences and businesses were damaged in your particular community. We're still collecting information, it's still coming in on a regular basis, so I suspect these numbers will continue to increase over the next couple of weeks, and we can provide you with an update at the next --

Commissioner Shabazz said, does that -- does that include apartment complexes as well?

Mr. Jones said, yes, sir. It -- it includes apartment complexes, but that's -- that's as a -- an entire building. It's not actually the individual displaced homes.

Commissioner Shabazz said, do you have that listed up here?

Mr. Jones said, the apartment complexes are included in this, yes, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Mr. Jones said, yes, sir. But, again, it's not each individual unit in that apartment complex. It's the apartment complex as a whole, yeah.

County Manager Smith said, it's really a parcel.

Mr. Jones said, yeah.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Mr. Jones said, public assistance, again, we're still collecting information even two weeks later. This is all the public infrastructure and public facilities that have sustained damage. So you can see up there by jurisdiction. Chatham County, twenty-nine. City -- City of Port Wentworth had three. Savannah had a hundred and twenty-two. And this is facilities, infrastructure. It could be roads damaged, it could be erosion, significant erosion projects. But all of the information you see here is damages to public property and public infrastructure. This also includes private non-profits, as well. That's why the hospitals are up here and Southside Fire Department.

Mr. Jones said, debris summary, this is as of this morning. We are estimating a total of one-point-two-seven-eight million pounds -- or million cubic yards of debris throughout our community. What you see up here are -- are -- is broken down by municipality. The daily cubic yards they're collecting on a regular basis, how much they've collected to-date, and what they are estimating the amount of cubic yards to be in each of those jurisdictions.

Mr. Jones said, we do have several communities that have not started debris operations yet. We are looking at assigning some contracts for them to assist with that and we -- but they have to have contracts in place before they can start moving debris, or else they won't qualify for FEMA reimbursement. So even two weeks later we're still trying to work out the contractual issues and I believe some of that is on your agenda for today. So, Chatham County, on a daily basis, they're moving about twenty-seven million cubic -- between seven hundred cubic yards of debris. To-date they've collected a hundred and sixty-one and a half cubic yards. A hundred and sixty-one thousand and a half cubic yards. And we're estimating about seven hundred and fifty-five cubic yards --

County Manager Smith said, thousand.

Mr. Jones said, seven hundred and fifty-five thousand cubic yards throughout the community. So Robert [Drewry] will get into that a little bit more as he comes up and gives his presentation.

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

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Just to better explain to some of the people at home, will you please explain what Chatham County means? With -- when referring to what you're referring to, it's just the unincorporated area?

Mr. Jones said, yeah, this particular chart, Chatham County references the unincorporated area.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you.

Mr. Jones said, the total at the bottom represents Chatham County as a whole. What does that actually mean? It's hard to visualize how much one-point-two million cubic yards of debris is. We took some measurements of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Arena and it can hold about a hundred and twenty thousand cubic yards. Based on the current estimate, we could actually fill, with this particular storm, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Arena eleven times. Just under eleven times.

Mr. Jones said, so, all of these are preliminary estimates at this time. As we continue to get into the other communities and figure out what -- what their real damage assessments are, chances are this -- this visual can actually go up. Give you an idea about how much volume it is throughout the community as far as debris goes.

Commissioner Center said, that's if it filled it up --

Mr. Jones said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, -- the entire interior?

County Manager Smith said, yes.

County Attorney R. Jonathan Hart said, yes.

Mr. Jones said, top to bottom, wall to wall. These are the coordination efforts that we have been doing since Hermine stopped blowing. We actually started a lot of these on Sunday after the storm. So we've got -- Disaster Match Policy, I want to explain that a little bit. With Chatham County we have met the conditions of -- if the state's disaster match policy, which simply means we've got certain things in place that the state says, yes, you've got your planning efforts in effect that allows you to qualify for a reduced cost match. Normally, our cost match would be fifteen percent. Because we meet the qualifications of the disaster match policy, it actually drops our responsibility down to twelve-and-a-half percent.

Mr. Jones said, the Chairman mentioned earlier, we are looking into doing debris operations in gated communities and private roadways. Those have to have FEMA prior approval before we can go in there and -- and actually do any work in private property. We've already submitted letters to the state asking for permission to do that. The states forward it to the Federal Coordinating Officer. Hopefully, we'll get a reply back from them within the next day or so.

Mr. Jones said, we've also had teams in Chatham County, Individual Assistance Teams, and also teams from Business -- Small Business Administration, as well as the Public Assistance Teams coming in, doing these assessments, evaluating the damages to our community, and making determinations. I am proud to report that we do have a full declaration as of yesterday, so we have individual assistance that -- that the citizens can apply for; we have full public assistance that the governments and non-profit agencies can apply for; and also the Small Business Administration has -- has also provided assistance --

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner --

Mr. Jones said, -- for this -- this particular --

Chairman Scott said, -- Commissioner Shabazz of the 5th District has a question.

Mr. Jones said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, so what's the criteria for qualifying for these funds?

Mr. Jones said, there are certain minimum thresholds that have to be met at a local level and then also a state level, and it's based on per capita. So at the local level it's three dollars and seventy-one cent per capita and at the state level it's a dollar forty-six per -- per capita, I believe. So, it basically equates to a little over a million dollars at the local level and a little over fourteen million dollars at the state level. So, those particular thresholds --

Commissioner Shabazz said, who -- who could be -- who -- who would be the recipients of these funds?

Mr. Jones said, of the -- of the financial aid, fiscal aid?

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes.

Mr. Jones said, well, the citizens are part of the individual assistance process, so we've got FEMA teams in town now and if you are interested in qualifying for financial aid, fiscal aid, from the Federal government, we have teams that are in place that -- that can register you. There's also information available where you can call and register yourself. So, those services are available now.

County Manager Smith said, we --

Commissioner Shabazz said, and where are those teams located?

Mr. Jones said, we had a team out at Home Depot yesterday. There's a team at Pin Point today. And they -- they target different neighborhoods and they'll start going door-to-door. We're also doing a --

Commissioner Shabazz said, a -- apartment complexes, too?

Mr. Jones said, yes, sir. Yes, sir. They did go to several apartment complexes on Tuesday. I've got some statistics at the end of here that shows you how many people they've engaged and --

Commissioner Shabazz said, did they go to the Westlake Community?

Mr. Jones said, they did go to Westlake, yes, sir. Yes, sir, that's one of the first places --

Commissioner Shabazz said, did someone out there -- did anyone out there apply?

Mr. Jones said, I -- I don't have it broken down to -- to that level in this presentation. We have it back at the office. We can get that for you.

County Manager Smith said, also, that information on individuals, we will not have that, we'll have numbers, because that's private information between the person applying and FEMA. The eligibility requirements are quite extensive. They're rather, in my opinion, difficult to maneuver. But if you have just kind of a -- a general

overview -- for instance, an apartment complex, if assistance is asked for, the individuals that may have lost food or lost personal property could ask, but the property itself would have to -- the assistance would have to be asked through SBA or Individual Assistance by the landowner, by the landlord. They would have to do that part. But if somebody's had loss, loss of food, those -- they -- they need to contact and go to one of these FEMA sites.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I'm aware of the responsibility that's placed on the shoulders of the landlord, but as citizens of Chatham County we have a responsibility as well, is that right?

County Manager Smith said, we do not to the individuals as far as reimbursing --

Commissioner Shabazz said, yeah, but --

County Manager Smith said, -- them for damage.

Commissioner Shabazz said, -- we have a responsibility to the citizens of Chatham County.

County Manager Smith said, well, of course we do.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Mr. Jones said, so the Individual Assistance teams that are out, they intend to go to the hardest hit areas. They'll be here over the next three or four weeks doing those door-to-door visits. If we can set up a point where people can come to them, it's actually -- actually preferred. They actually set a record on Wednesday of how many people they registered for that particular team. They set a record by having people actually come to Home Depot and actually register for Federal aid, onsite. So they're out at Pin Point today, off of Ferguson Avenue, and they're doing the same thing there. And we're also going to Tybee Island on Tuesday night and doing the same thing out at Tybee.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Mr. Jones said, in addition to that, one of the bullets you see up here on the bottom is we're also setting up a Disaster Recovery Center. It's essentially the same thing these teams are doing door-to-door, but a Disaster Recovery Center is where the citizens can come and they can get more information about all the programs that are available to them. They'll have people onsite that -- that they can have one-on-one conversations specifically about what they qualify for. And we're looking at setting that up at Savannah Tech. And, hopefully, that'll be up and operational by Saturday or either Sunday.

Mr. Jones said, we've also got the FEMA Disaster Survivor Assistance teams. Those are the teams that I mentioned that are going door-to-door. I've got some statistics on them after this particular slide. And the State Insurance Commissioner came in, set up what is called a Hurricane Village, where all -- all the major insurance companies, they set up their big vans, their big mobile units, and allow people, for insurance, to come in and -- and qualify for any insurance deductibles and make sure that they can handle any insurance policies.

Mr. Jones said, I mentioned the Disaster Recovery Center. We're also working with FEMA and the state to set up a joint field office. They've actually rented space out at the Savannah Mall, a vacant store, that we're gonna set up the JFO, or Joint Field Office. And it'll be a regional office where they handle all of the state and federal activities for this particular disaster from that location.

Mr. Jones said, Debris Collection Reports, we continue to collect those on a daily basis. We roll it up into the table that I showed you earlier. So, again -- again, we're gonna continue to do that as long as we're doing debris operations. The FEMA Procurement Disaster Assistance team was in town. We actually had some training from them. Anytime you go into a federal disaster you've got to follow very strict procurement standards. So they had a team of people in the region who were -- were conducting that training session. We have one of them right here in the Commission Meeting room. It was well attended throughout our community. So we've got some other supplemental information that -- that we've got to make sure that our contracts are -- are in-line with what the procurement standards are for the Federal government.

Mr. Jones said, we've also had an Applicant Brief and we formally submitted our request for Public Assistance. We did that yesterday. As part of the whole Public Assistance process, you have to go through what is called an Applicant's Brief, where they give you the overview of what the Public Assistance process is and then at that point you can officially request Public Assistance from the Federal government. So we submitted that paperwork yesterday.

Mr. Jones said, and, finally, the latest activity that we're working on right now is coordination of long-term housing needs. So we had a conference call -- or the staff had a conference call at nine o'clock with the state to start -- start talking about long-term housing needs. We've polled each of our municipalities to see if they have any needs. We haven't got any needs requests as of this time. We are looking at the Westlake Apartment community and trying to -- to see what long-term housing needs are associated with the residents who reside there. And then, also, we're reaching out to -- to Savannah Housing Authority to see if they have any unmet needs that need to be addressed.

Commissioner Shabazz said, can you be a little bit more specific in terms of the long-term housing needs? Can -- can you explain that a little, in detail?

Mr. Jones said, yes, sir. What FEMA will do is they'll come in, they'll evaluate what the needs are for the community. And they have a variety of different options that are available to the Federal government on providing long-term housing. So it could be -- it could be trailers; it could be setting them up in apartment complexes; it could be setting them up in hotels for a duration, a period of time. So it's really to -- to get them into a new normal or a new standard, as -- as long as there's -- Ms. Brady? I'm sorry?

Commissioner Brady said, no. Finish.

Mr. Jones said, so -- so what they'll do is they'll -- they'll evaluate each -- each family members and see what's the most appropriate housing need for them and then use the variety of different services that FEMA has available in order to put them in -- into an appropriate housing unit.

Commissioner Shabazz said, you know, this -- this sounds good in words, you know, but I just hope they stand true to this, because you have people out here that's hurting, you know. Not just in Westlake, but all over Chatham County. And that's what you're hearing from me right now.

Mr. Jones said, is to make sure it's done.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes.

Mr. Jones said, got it.

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

Commissioner Brady said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just want to write this down. I've got it somewhere. I've got it on email, actually, but I want to program it in my phone. The 1-800 number that's being distributed in reference to public assistance, what -- what is that number?

Mr. Jones said, for -- for individual assistance?

Commissioner Brady said, yes.

Mr. Jones said, okay, hold on just a second. I have it right here. (Pause.) It is 1-800-621-3362. 1-800-621-3362. There's also a website that anyone can go to and register themselves. That number -- that website is [www.disasterassistance.gov](http://www.disasterassistance.gov). [Disasterassistance.gov](http://Disasterassistance.gov).

Commissioner Brady said, do you have that number posted on your website?

Mr. Jones said, absolutely. It's on our website. We've done a media release on it -- I think two media releases on it -- and we've sent out several campaigns through social media and will continue to do that as long as these Disaster Survivor Assistance teams are here.

Commissioner Brady said, because -- and the reason I'm asking you to say it out loud on TV is because I've received many calls looking for, you know, individual assistance in reference to food and clothing. And, so, I've started giving the number out and I -- and I asked for it again so it would be public information. Because a lot of those folks who are calling don't have access to websites and -- and information like that. So as -- as much as we can talk about it and put that number out on the street, we need to do that.

Mr. Jones said, we send the information about every other day. We don't want to do it daily, because we don't --

Commissioner Brady said, uh-huh.

Mr. Jones said, -- want to overload people. But about every other day we send -- we send that number out and encourage people. We're also sending out myths and facts. There's a lot of myths out there, so we're trying to -- to make sure everybody understands what the process is and how to go about doing the -- the financial aid qualification.

Commissioner Brady said, well, and also, I have referred several residents that have contacted me to -- to nonprofit agencies here in town to ask for help as well. So we need to make sure -- do you have folks like United Way and Red Cross on your website?

Mr. Jones said, absolutely. We -- we actually have a call center that's been set up and we've been fielding calls. We get anywhere from eighty to a hundred and twenty calls downstairs. And we have a complete resource list, so we talk to the -- the person calling in, find out what their actual need is, and be able to route them to the appropriate agency that can provide support. We've also got that information on our website.

Commissioner Brady said, thank you so much.

Mr. Jones said, you're welcome.

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

Commissioner Farrell said, good morning. On the FEMA Individual Assistance there's a lot of people in the county that have property damage, and they may be insured or under-insured, especially with the very high hurricane deductibles that kicked in for this particular event. Is there any FEMA assistance on property damage?

Mr. Jones said, obviously, insurance takes precedents. And then you -- you mentioned the deductibles that go along with that. A lot of the insurance policies have what's called a hurricane deductible. In some cases it's a percentage of what your total policy value is.

Commissioner Farrell said, right.

Mr. Jones said, it all depends on the hardship of the -- of the individual. And, so, through Federal aid they can go, they can talk to the -- the Federal representatives, find out what programs they qualify, if they qualify. Because there is literally fifty to a hundred different programs under that system. So it all depends on the individual, the individual family, the individual person, to make sure that -- that they adequately represent their need so that FEMA can help them find the right program that fits.

Commissioner Farrell said, okay, so there is some assistance for property damage?

Mr. Jones said, there could be, yes, sir.

Commissioner Farrell said, there could be.

Mr. Jones said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Farrell said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Center of the 3rd.

Commissioner Center said, yeah, I -- I just want you to stress that patience is important. How long -- did they give you any estimation how long the process would take from the time you go meet with FEMA until you get an answer?

Mr. Jones said, no, sir, they haven't. We can certainly get that information figured out. I'm -- I'm sure there is -- are statistics that are available that -- the teams that are here are trained teams. They do this all the time. And I'm sure that we can get some information from them and get that to you.

Commissioner Center said, and I -- I just want the public to be patient, because a lot of people are applying.

Mr. Jones said, yeah -- oh, yeah. And the next slide actually shows you how many they've done in -- in just two days.

Chairman Scott said, we've got our Vice Chair, Commissioner Thomas, and then the Pro Tem, Commissioner Stone, has a question.

Commissioner Thomas said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I -- I just wanted to say that I witnessed a tremendous amount of team effort and support among our agencies, as well as the Chairman of the County Commission, the Mayor of Savannah, coming together -- the Manager and others. To me, this was very helpful. I've gotten many, many calls during that time expressing that and the citizens was very appreciative of being able to see the coordination that was displayed among each of you in getting out the information that the citizens needed at that time. I thought it was well done and we want to thank you so much for that.

Mr. Jones said, thank you, ma'am.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. When I was out in the Pin Point area on Saturday, there were some food trucks. Is that part of your coordination? Because I know that there was some areas -- some folks in a mobile home estate that abutted the Pin Point area that we were concerned. I went and knocked on a couple of doors to see, and they needed food. Is -- is that something that is coordinated through you-all?

Mr. Jones said, we have coordinated mobile food units.

Commissioner Stone said, okay.

Mr. Jones said, those particular food trucks, -- there's several -- several agencies that are doing that.

Commissioner Stone said, okay.

Mr. Jones said, so I'm not sure which agency that was. But we have worked with Second Harvest Food Bank, as well as Southern Baptist, Salvation Army to -- to get food to the communities, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Stone said, okay. And do the -- is there a way for people that might be in need of food or any type of basic supplies to get in touch with some of these organizations?

Mr. Jones said, oh, absolutely. If -- if we know of a particular area in need, we can certainly make provisions to get one of those food resources to that area. Certainly.

Commissioner Stone said, okay. Because I --

County Manager Smith said, we've got several faith-based --

Commissioner Stone said, uh-huh.

County Manager Smith said, I think three or four --

Mr. Jones said, right.

County Manager Smith said, -- and I wanted to think that was Saturday, because I got a phone call from one of the Aldermen and were working with one of the pastors and I know Representative Gilliard, and I know they were out doing some stuff --

Commissioner Stone said, yes. I was --

County Manager Smith said, -- Saturday, so I believe that was faith-based --

Commissioner Stone said, right, I was out there with them --

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Commissioner Stone said, -- and we were trying to make certain that that particular area that was hit pretty hard, that they had the basic supplies, water and food, what they needed, because they might not have had any means of transportation.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Commissioner Stone said, so I was just very concerned about that. Thank you.

Mr. Jones said, you're welcome.

Chairman Scott said, now I had questions from Commissioner Brady and Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Brady said, I was wondering, I understand that information that we've discussed is on -- on websites, but there are a lot of folks who are not capable of using websites, don't believe in websites. Have we considered like sending out some type of direct mail piece to the hardest hit areas? Because they -- they -- they get mail. Because I sent out a postcard saying we had survived the hurricane and -- and showed pictures on the postcard and also gave my contact information, my cell number and my email address. And I have been receiving a lot of phone calls out of that mail piece. And the first thing they say to me is, I received your mail piece. And I've been trying to take care of these citizens. So I'm wondering if -- if some type of mail piece going out -- and -- and you can target the hardest hit areas that you -- you're aware of at this point, and then continue to monitor that, and provide them the FEMA number and just basic information and, you know, numbers of -- of different non-profits that are providing assistance to -- to folks in this community.

Mr. Jones said, we -- we have actually started developing an info-graphic that -- that we can distribute via the mail. Our target was to start that on Wednesday, do a distribution on Wednesday. We could -- we could move that up, certainly.

Commissioner Brady said, I certainly would suggest it, because the phone calls that I'm receiving are people who know that I'm their Commissioner and then the folks who received the postcard. And -- and I sent out over six thousand postcards.

Mr. Jones said, okay, we'll finish up that -- that -- that info-graphic and we'll put it in the mail on Monday.

Commissioner Brady said, thank you so much.

Mr. Jones said, you're welcome.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you. Did I understand that this is a three-part presentation?

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, consisting of two other speakers after Mr. Jones?

County Manager Smith said, yes, we're gonna have the general logistics of the storm itself. We're gonna have the debris part, which is huge, and then we're gonna have the financial aspect.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. Are you finished with your actual presentation?

Mr. Jones said, one more slide.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. Well, once you're finished I have a couple of questions and comments, if that's --

Chairman Scott said, if you -- if you're gonna have comments, I wanted to wait to the end of the presentation, because I've got two other Commissioners also want to make comments.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, that -- that's fine, I -- I -- I want to wait 'til the end of the presentation, too. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, and at this time --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, his presentation.

Chairman Scott said, at this time we've got Commissioner Holmes, had a question or comment -- a question at this time.

Commissioner Holmes said, yes, sir, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Jones --

Mr. Jones said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Holmes said, -- with all the information that you have shared with us just now, through your state and federal coordination, anything you have that say local?

Mr. Jones said, anything we have -- everything PA is local, everything --

Commissioner Holmes said, okay.

Mr. Jones said, -- IA is local.

Commissioner Holmes said, all right, great. Now, have we begin, Mr. Lee [Smith], to put together a team so we could become a mobile info center at different sites and communities? And after that question, I want to know, all this presentation here, I would like to get a copy of it.

County Manager Smith said, sure.

Commissioner Holmes said, and if I can get a copy of this, I would like for this to be mobile in District 2, because there's a lot of information being asked me, I'm getting it now from your information. But for me to sit up --

Mr. Smith said, sure.

Commissioner Holmes said, -- and try to remember all of this --

Mr. Jones said, yes.

Commissioner Holmes said, -- you're the expert in it. So how could we become mobile and put this in each District so we can formally meeting with our citizen to give this same information?

Mr. Jones said, yeah. We -- we any -- anything that we do we can make available to the general public.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay.

Mr. Jones said, how we go about doing that, we'll have to look at the logistics of doing that, but I'm sure --

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Mr. Jones said, yeah.

Commissioner Holmes said, oh, could we coordinate that, Mr. Lee?

County Manager Smith said, yeah. And, also, I will tell you, not just with this event but future events, --

Commissioner Holmes said, yeah.

County Manager Smith said, -- we'll do critiques at the end of it, because obviously things that happened, you know, we were glad things went as well as they did.

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

County Manager Smith said, you know, we could have had a lot more injuries and fatalities.

Commissioner Holmes said, exactly. Exactly.

County Manager Smith said, but we'll do a critique to look at what can we do better as we move forward. So Dennis [Jones] will be coordinating that. But I think the info-graphics -- we're doing social media. We did some -- I did radio yesterday. You know, so we're -- we've done TV. So, -- so I think we're, you know, with the mailings and everything, I think we're getting it out there. You know. And then one of the other things we can do is faith-based, get those out to churches and that type thing, so.

Commissioner Holmes said, yeah. I -- I -- I love what I've heard, and -- and -- but I also want to piggy back on what Commissioner Shabazz say, we hear this thing now, but to translate that into action in the community. And I understand, the key word here is patient.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Holmes said, now I have rode around in my District and I look at what have been done, what haven't been done, and we still got some serious problem there. But we're gonna be patient. But at some point -- we're moving into the tail end of this year, which is Thanksgiving and Christmas. Mr. Jones, with this damage that was done to Chatham County, approximately how long would it take to get Savannah face clean again?

Mr. Jones said, well, there's a lot of debris. Chances are, the debris is gonna hang around for several months. And Robert [Drewry] can talk to that --

Commissioner Holmes said, okay.

Mr. Jones said, -- a little bit better.

County Manager Smith said, he's going to go over that.

Commissioner Holmes said, all right.

Mr. Jones said, but, again, you know, one-point-two million cubic yards of debris and we're moving a little over sixty, seventy -- about a hundred and twenty a day. It's going to take a long time.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay.

Mr. Jones said, so, the social services should be in place within the next couple of weeks. The long-term housing issue, FEMA's gonna bring in a team and -- and we just started working on that today, but FEMA will bring in a team and address the long-term housing issues. The Individual Assistance components have already begun. We've got a Disaster Recovery Center that's gonna be set up this weekend, so again -- so more people can -- can get in there and get the -- the Federal assistance that they need.

Commissioner Holmes said, thank you, sir.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Center.

Commissioner Center said, thank you. I -- I should have asked earlier. Want to just go back to one of your earlier slides. You had a list of damage to homes, you had the numbers in different --

Mr. Jones said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Center said, how did you compile that list? Were there individual reports? Or did you go out and survey ourselves?

Mr. Jones said, it's a variety of different methods. We got individual reports from each municipality, from police, fire, what's called Windshield Survey. And then we took the Individual Assistance Teams that were here, the FEMA teams, -- they were here for a period of about four days -- and we took the hardest areas that we saw from the Individual Assessments or the Windshield Surveys and we went to those hardest areas and we actually did visual inspections of those. So what you see up there is not complete.

County Manager Smith said, right.

Mr. Jones said, that's just the initial assessment. I'm -- I'm certain that --

County Manager Smith said, we're still getting calls.

Mr. Jones said, -- that number is gonna increase.

Chairman Scott said, and -- and they also did a -- they also did a air survey.

Mr. Jones said, yes, sir. Yeah, we did air surveys, as well, so.

Commissioner Center said, and -- and you -- Lee [Smith], you mentioned social media. What social media does the County use?

County Manager Smith said, CEMA's using Twitter, Facebook --

Mr. Jones said, Instagram.

County Manager Smith said, -- Instagram. I mean, we're using everything --

Commissioner Center said, what is the -- what is the Facebook page? I didn't -- I didn't find it, so I'm -- can you tell us what that is?

Mr. Jones said, Chatham EMA. Everything's Chatham EMA.

Commissioner Center said, Chatham EMA Facebook.

Mr. Jones said, yes. You can also do Chatham Emergency Management Agency. But on Twitter it's @ChathamEMA, on Instagram it's @ChathamEMA, Facebook, ChathamEMA or Chatham Emergency Management Agency.

County Manager Smith said, we actually have a section -- and we appreciate Kristin Fulford from the -- I appreciate the DA allowing Kristin to work with us. We actually had a whole section that only did social media, twenty-four hours a day. That's all they did. And we got thousands of requests and questions, which was terrific. Everybody doesn't have it, but it was a really good way to get out stuff quick. You know, so.

Commissioner Center said, and there's a link on the Chatham County main website directly to this?

County Manager Smith said, it's on CEMA. Yeah. If you go to the County one, you -- we didn't want to have all that on there.

Commissioner Center said, right.

County Manager Smith said, it gets, you know, kind of muddled. But you can click on Hurricane Matthew CEMA, you go right to that and then you can go to --

Mr. Jones said, on our main website is our Twitter feed, our Facebook feed, and our Instagram feed.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

Mr. Jones said, yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, and -- and if -- if you Google Matthew Savannah, it'll also take you to the CEMA website.

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Shabazz.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes. Is one hundred -- is the electrical power in Chatham County restored one hundred percent? Is there anyone in Chatham County without electrical power at this time?

Mr. Jones said, I'm sure there are. The percentage is, mostly likely, very low. I didn't look at the map before I came up here, but yesterday they had ninety-eight to ninety-nine percent of the county restored. And -- which is a tremendous feat, because right after Sandy it was ninety-eight percent that was without power.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Mr. Jones said, of the hundred and forty-three thousand customers in Chatham County, a hundred and forty-one thousand had no power at all. So within that week and a half, two week period, they've been able to -- to reverse those numbers completely.

Mr. Jones said, so -- and the people that remain without power, it could be storm-related, it could be a completely different issue. Unless we actually get a report from Georgia Power, it's hard to tell. But right now, you know, about ninety-eight percent is restored.

County Manager Smith said, some of the ones we're getting calls on now in our office are ones where they had damage to their homes, and they're waiting to get money from insurance underwriters or getting electricians, so that they can put that back in place so Georgia Power can reconnect. So, that's -- that's mainly what we're seeing right now.

Commissioner Shabazz said, what about water?

Mr. Jones said, water? All of the government water systems are operational. We did have a few public water systems that we had to issue boil water advisories for. We've gotten reports on two. We haven't gotten reports on some others. So as of right now, we're unsure of what those other two are. We've reached out -- or -- or what the status of those other two are, and we've reached out to them several times, but we have not officially got a -- a notice from the DNR or APD that says that those -- those wells are safe to drink. So we're still reaching out to them.

Commissioner Shabazz said, thank you.

Mr. Jones said, you're welcome.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Any other comments?

Mr. Jones said, this final slide, these are the Disaster Survivor Assistance Teams. These are the Individual Assistance Teams that are in town. And what they've done over a two day period, they've registered -- or they've talked to two hundred and fifty-six people. Again, most of those were at the Home Depot Expo yesterday. And you'll see the other -- other measurements by which they will eventually get -- get around to -- this is what their team does. So, so far they've talked to two hundred and fifty-eight (sic) and they've actually registered a hundred and seventy-one.

Chairman Scott said, Dennis [Jones], would you clear up one thing, because I think it may be misleading when we were talking about the debris and Commissioner Holmes said, mentioned something. We're not cleaning up the City of Savannah.

Mr. Jones said, no, sir.

Chairman Scott said, okay. I just want to make that clear, that -- that's a totally separate effort.

Mr. Jones said, that's correct.

Commissioner Holmes said, yeah. I wasn't -- I wasn't speaking about cleaning. I was speaking about getting the information out to the citizens.

Chairman Scott said, yeah, and -- and so the -- the other thing, though, any information we give them concerning debris cleanup does not apply to the City of Savannah. I just wanted to make sure that folk understood that.

Mr. Jones said, what we are doing at our level is -- is we are collecting the daily reports from each of the municipalities, so we can roll it up, because we have to submit that to the state.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

Mr. Jones said, that's where we get the one-point-two million cubic yards from. So each -- each municipality and the unincorporated report how much they've done on a daily basis, what their cumulative total is and what they estimate is the total amount of debris in their communities.

Chairman Scott said, now, does your number reflect Pooler, since we have an inter-governmental agreement with them?

Mr. Jones said, yes, sir, it does.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Chairman Scott said, it does reflect Pooler.

Mr. Jones said, yes, sir. All jurisdictions.

Chairman Scott said, because of the agreement.

Mr. Jones said, including Vernonburg.

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Mr. Jones said, well, even if they don't have an agreement, we still collect the information, because we have to roll it up to the state.

Chairman Scott said, yeah. We collect information, but we're not doing the cleanup.

Mr. Jones said, that's correct.

Chairman Scott said, any -- any other questions? If not, I'll recognize Commissioner Kicklighter for another question.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. First, I just want to thank you, Dennis [Jones], for everything you did and CEMA, the county staff, all emergency personnel, all first responders, Georgia Power and all other utility companies for working hard and doing good on this. Question -- first question I have, is on Wednesday, October the 5<sup>th</sup> at 12:45 p.m., I received a phone call that the -- that the County was actually changing the Commission meeting, and I asked about an update on the hurricane at that point, and I was told that there would be a public hearing -- there would be a press conference at 1:30, and I said, well, that's great, can you give me the update? Bottom line, without going through a whole lot, the staff member that contacted me could not give me an update. I had to hear it from -- through television, I guess, at the news conference and become of the situation going on in this county at the same time that the constituents in which I represent, looks to me -- for to. So, I decided I would come up here. So I ran up here to the press conference, and upon arrival, I noticed that what I thought at the time, and I took a picture of it, that -- that the county was putting screens up on the windows of this building. And I thought, good, that's proper planning. They're going to protect the building.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, watched the news conference. Sat here with it. Learned as the Chairman spoke what was actually going on at that point. Learned at that point that the county -- the Chairman said that the county was calling for a voluntary evacuation on Tybee Island, but not calling for any other type of evacuation throughout the rest of Chatham County. This was the case although South Carolina was calling for voluntary evacuations, and this was the case although the State of Florida, I believe, was calling for evacuations. My question is, at that point in time, I -- I'm going to -- I -- I'll put this in the form of this type of question, simply correct me if I'm wrong, did Chatham County, CEMA, recommend at that point a voluntary evacuation county-wide? Correct me if I'm wrong. It's my understanding that Chatham County staff, and/or Chatham Emergency Management recommended a voluntary evacuation like South Carolina and Florida had at that point. And please step in and correct me if I'm wrong.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. It's also my understanding that rather than --

Chairman Scott said, Dennis [Jones] would you speak -- would you speak to voluntary? We don't do voluntary. Would you speak to that part of it?

Mr. Jones said, we have two different evacuation orders. Several years ago, the term voluntary was actually asked by the media for us to discontinue that because it meant different things to different communities. So in Chatham County and -- and other coastal communities, we use the term evacuation and mandatory evacuation.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. Although the State of Georgia pretty much calls for voluntary, or -- or -- and although South Carolina and Florida still uses voluntary and -- and mandatory. So that's quite confusing on it's own. So that may need to be looked and corrected possibly in the future. But then it's also my understanding that rather than the screens going up on the building at that point in time, that someone, somehow, somewhere had directed somebody to remove all the screens because they were already put up. Question, how many employees did it take to put screens up on this building? How many lifts did it take -- did we utilize? How many of those lifts did we actually own? And how many did we rent? And if we had to rent any, how much did each lift cost? And what's the total cost to get one group up, to take them back down, and then to put them back up again and then to take them back down again after the hurricane? Do we have a cost estimate on that?

County Manager Smith said, I can get that for you.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay.

County Manager Smith said, I can get that for you.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, can you give me an estimate of the number of employees that worked on that and a quick estimate on the time frame to just put them up?

County Manager Smith said, to complete placing all of the screens, or, you know, the protection devices, probably took about eight hours, eight and a half hours.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, to put them up?

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm. And I think we had -- I believe six individuals doing that. You know we had two lifts, and I believe we rented them, but I'd have to, you know, check that. We do borrow equipment from municipalities sometimes, so. But -- but I'll get the information for you.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yeah. I -- I would like to see that.

County Manager Smith said, okay. Sure.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, and -- another question I have, is, why from that point on when no evacuation was ordered from this county, why were the County Commissioners not even notified about hurricane updates from that point on until after each press conference? Any idea?

County Manager Smith said, well, typically, we -- we time press conferences after we had our official meetings with the State, with the Charleston Weather Service. So they fell -- usually like eleven, we would do one sometimes at lunch. We did one in the afternoon, closer to five, because we were getting updates from weather service. Sometimes we did them really early in the morning, but they were timed based on information we were receiving from Charleston Weather Service, the Hurricane Center, the State, municipalities. We did a state conference call, and we did one that had all of the municipalities, all of our teams. So it was based -- the timing was based on that.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. Next question, if Chatham County decided to utilize the terminology of either -- did you say an evacuation or a mandatory evacuation?

Mr. Jones said, correct.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, what would you categorize what actually came out of Chatham County later, shortly before the Governor had to make the bold move to save lives and call a mandatory evacuation, when the county urged people -- urging people to evacuate from Chatham County would be the quote. What category does that fall under?

Mr. Jones said, the initial evacuation was an evacuation with a mandatory for Tybee. That was the initial evacuation.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, so the -- the urging of an evacuation?

Mr. Jones said, yes.

County Manager Smith said, yeah, because that was based on the track of the storm at the time, because they had it skirting more to the east early on. And obviously, you don't want to displace people if you don't have to, but then as time moved on, you know, we began to, you know, recommend that we needed to go to mandatory, which mandatory doesn't mean you've got to go.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, so -- so are you stating that at the time of that original press conference staff, nor CEMA, was recommending a -- a mandatory evacuation at that point?

County Manager Smith said, the first one?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yeah.

County Manager Smith said, on October --

Chairman Scott said, fifth.

County Manager Smith said, fifth? No.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, that -- that was the voluntary?

County Manager Smith said, yes. Yes.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, right.

County Manager Smith said, because of the track of the storm.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, right.

County Manager Smith said, the -- it was not called a voluntary evacuation?

County Manager Smith said, it was just called an evacuation, correct.

Mr. Jones said, evacuation.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. If -- with that understanding, that it took the Governor stepping in to call for a mandatory evacuation, understanding that at that point in time a Category 3 or 4 hurricane could have very well slammed into this county, and we see the destruction and devastation with a Category 1, at any point in time

did Chatham County staff or CEMA recommend a mandatory evacuation before the order came down from the Governor?

County Manager Smith said, we were discussing it, but it was based on timing. And you've got to remember from the -- and I'm not justifying what the Governor did -- the Governor did or didn't do, because we had three visits here with the Governor locally.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, well, and we had two people die in Bulloch County, so -- and obviously, that was a Category 1.

County Manager Smith said, yeah. Yeah.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, had a three or four hit, that mandatory would have been quite genius on the Governor's part.

County Manager Smith said, sure.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, and --

County Manager Smith said, but it's hard --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, -- and quite devastating had we undermined and took down shutters, took down things that minimum -- minimalized or whatever -- minimized the appearance of this devastating storm heading our way.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, so, did we ever -- staff recommend or CEMA recommend to any group of elected officials or any one elected official or anybody a mandatory evacuation before the Governor had to come down --

County Manager Smith said, we were discussing it based on the timing, based on the Hurricane Center and based on Charleston Weather because it was still -- and I -- and I remember, Dennis [Jones] and the conference calls with Charleston, literally, and it's funny when the meteorologists say, and I quote, this is a crap shoot --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I --

County Manager Smith said, -- we don't know.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I -- I'm going to make one statement --

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I will not allow Dennis Jones to be hung out to dry. Hung out to take any falls. Dennis Jones did his job.

County Manager Smith said, he did.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I know quite -- many people as we all do. Dennis Jones did one hell of a good job. He -- he recommended things that would have protected, but it took the Governor stepping in and that's a shame. It took after updates for -- public updates to notify us where we could notify our constituents, and social media is quite a thing. I posted one video of Georgia Power. It had 140,000 views. It's -- it's one good way to get info out. Is a press conference -- the point of it -- would we say -- is it safe to say the point of a press conference involving a hurricane is to spread the word to citizens for their protection when it's coming. Is that a safe assumption?

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. Well, we might need to look at that again and try to spread it in every avenue rather than holding on to information to certain points in time. We -- it would probably be good to get out ahead. Because, again, had a three or four hit, we would have had many more deaths with the very laid back attitude that we had on there. One more question. Why in the world -- who's decision, I guess, would be the question and why would we as an elected body -- or not as an elected body, I had nothing to do with the call. Who determined that although the City of Pooler hires every police officer to police and patrol their area, they run their government; they run their trash pick up; they run their recreation department; they run every aspect of their government, who decided that it would be best to mandate an extended curfew, although that city deemed itself to be safe, deemed their -- their police personnel deemed itself to be safe, that they could actually police it right, and that they should be back open for business as normal, where did the decision to -- how did that come about to -- to override the Mayor and the Council, the -- the elected officials for the 25,000 or so people that live there? How did that come about?

Chairman Scott said, if that's your final question, I'll ask Counselor to speak to that.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. I will state one more thing. I contacted the State Attorney General, with that specific question of the legalities of if a County Chairman had the abilities or legal abilities to override, and they threw it right back to -- to the County Attorney -- so --

County Attorney R. Jonathan Hart said, and -- and that's typical, because the State Attorney --

Chairman Scott said, individual members of the Commission cannot contact the Attorney General on behalf of the Commission for an opinion.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I -- I didn't do it on behalf of the Commission, I did it on behalf of myself, sir, as a citizen of this county who felt that my citizens were in danger, and I felt that other government public officials were being over ridden by a -- a very power hungry person --

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner -- you asked --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, -- that did not need to override that.

Chairman Scott said, you asked a --

County Attorney Hart said, yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, a question. The Counselor is going to answer it.

County Attorney Hart said, two -- two -- two things. For one, that's typical of the Attorney General's office to refer a question of a local nature back to the County Attorney's office or the City Attorney's office. The County -- the Attorney General provides advice to the Governor in legislative session and other -- other government agencies. From time to time they will also render an opinion -- the Attorney General's opinion on local matters that may have general application state-wide, and usually that's when we come to you or you ask as a body for me to write the Attorney General and get an Attorney General's opinion. In the course of doing that, and as a requirement of the Attorney General, the local County Attorney has to do -- set out a set of facts and then set forth the County Attorney's opinion and reading of the law. And then he'll comment on whether you are -- they -- they see it the way you do. If it's strictly or locally -- purely a local matter, they are always going to refer you back to either the City Attorney or the County Attorney. There's nothing unusual about that. So --

County Attorney Hart said, insofar as the way the Georgia Emergency Management Act is set up, and CEMA is set up under our local statute, which basically copies for the most part what is under the General Act, the -- the Chairman of the County Commission can declare a state of emergency by statute and by ordinance. And insofar as that goes, there are an abundance of provisions under the State Act, that during the time of the emergency is pending, we -- the County actually has powers to do things that they could not under any normal circumstances be able to do. For example, we can actually go in and take your property, okay? We can go in and -- and confiscate private property. We can go into the City of Pooler and confiscate city property if it is needed for community-wide action.

Chairman Scott said, and you could take command of the police and fire.

County Attorney Hart said, correct. And you can -- but once the emergency is over, then you're going to have to pay just compensation to whatever you took. So, if we took six of your dump trucks for your business, and used them for two weeks, while we were in the state of emergency, we're going to have to compensate you for the use of those dump trucks, and your lost profits during that period of time.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, well, thank you. You -- you -- you've answered my question. I was under the wrong impression, and when I was actually Mayor of Garden City, rather than the Chairman at the time utilizing the utmost power and ability that was given to him under the State Constitution, he actually got on the telephone and conferences and coordinated it with us, mayors throughout the city, and it was me who called for the evacuation of Garden City at the time under the recommendation of the Chatham Emergency Management team --

County Attorney Hart said, well --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, -- back then.

County Attorney Hart said, there is --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, so I would have assumed that he at the time would have -- had I deemed my city at the time to be safe, would have also gone along with that. But there's a big difference in power and authority and ability and doing the right and wrong thing, so --

County Attorney Hart said, well, there was --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you for -- we're -- I stand corrected. Thank you.

County Attorney Hart said, yeah. There was pretty good -- there was really good coordination between the cities and the county. I can tell you that right now.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, well, it was. I -- I agree. Everything except for the Mayor and Council wanted to actually get rid of their curfew.

County Attorney Hart said, I understand what you're saying, and I also understand that it was a county-wide curfew, and --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I'm not asking for your understanding, I asked for your legal opinion, and I appreciate it, and I don't mean that disrespectfully.

County Attorney Hart said, right. If you think I've answered your opinion, I'll shut up.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I just needed your legal -- legal opinion. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Center.

Commissioner Center said, thank you very much. You know, I'm sure all of this will be part of the critique.

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, that's going to be done, when we finish taking care of the most pressing business, is helping the citizens. And I too look forward -- I probably won't be on the committee then, but this is the kind of stuff that I love to look into, the critiquing, especially the legal aspects.

County Manager Smith said, sure.

Commissioner Center said, I remember when we -- when I first came on board, and we were required by state law to go to a training, one of the things that we read and were trained about is what to do in this emergency situation, and there's a protocol that actually says who's supposed to leave town, and the bottom line, the Chairman and the County Manager have to stay and the others leave, and there's protocol. So, there are decisions that are made in emergency situations, and I, too, had questions, but the way I'm hearing it now, there was a county curfew imposed. I didn't know if each city, jurisdiction, did their own individual curfew, and so, if one changes the curfew without the other changing the curfew it leads to confusion, and so it's important that -- that these -- all these communications on all levels be shared. But my question was, the mandatory evacuation, when you brought that up, Mr. Smith. So as I understand, like you said, mandatory doesn't mean that you have to leave. My mom at 90 years old was not going to leave, and she didn't. But as I understand, mandatory has legal ramifications that if you don't leave and you need an ambulance --

County Manager Smith said, you're not getting one.

Commissioner Center said, or you need a fire department, or you need police assistance, you're not going to get it.

County Manager Smith said, during certain parts of the storm.

Commissioner Center said, and there's a tremendous -- there's a tremendous risk --

County Manager Smith said, there is.

Commissioner Center said, -- to people other than the storm if they don't leave, and that's what I wanted you to talk about when you say mandatory. So, when you say mandatory, it has obligations and implications further than -- other than just saving lives, and I have to say this too, and -- and it may sound partisan. I -- I look at the Governor -- I'm -- I'm glad the Governor ordered mandatory, but I looked at it as a reaction to not being bested by the South Carolina Governor, not a competition with Chatham County. That's my personal view, but -- but could you explain mandatory?

County Manager Smith said, sure,

Chairman Scott said, well, let me -- let me respond to part of that. I had at least two conversations with the Governor prior to the Governor calling the evacuation. And the Governor, also, is the only person who can counter-flow [sic] traffic on I-16, and he and I talked about the time in which the counter-flow [sic] would take place. We also talked about the use of the word voluntary, and he corrected his press release to reflect that, and so he and I had a conversation about when to evacuate. If you look at the timeline, the Governor of South Carolina actually called on the 5<sup>th</sup> of October that she was going to call for a mandatory evacuation on the 6<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 o'clock, and -- and then later on the 6<sup>th</sup>, the Governor of Florida evacuated. The storm was much closer to the Governor of Florida. At no point in any projections that we ever had, the storm making land fall in Chatham County. When the Governor of South Carolina made that prediction, the landfall then was between Charleston and Myrtle Beach, when she made that call on the 5<sup>th</sup>. And -- and so in terms of when we would evacuate -- now, the City of Tybee did ask if they could go ahead and evacuate, and I told them to have at it. And they evacuated a little earlier because of -- they wanted to get folk off the beach as soon as possible. So

the Mayor down there did call for an evacuation ahead of us, and then we called for on in conjunction with the Governor at the time in which he was going to counter-flow the traffic. He also informed me that it was going to take him several hours to counter-flow [sic] the traffic because he was going to start at Dublin, using State Patrols, and work his way to Chatham County. And so it wasn't like he was going to start at Chatham County and go forth, 'cause you would have had all that in-bound traffic, so he had to start at Dublin, which was where the counter-flow [sic] was going to end and work his way back to Chatham County, and he informed me that that would take him several hours in which to do it. And so, that's how we made the call on it.

County Attorney Hart said, Mr. -- Mr. Chairman, also, the Governor has to deal with the requirements in order to change the contra-flow for -- for federally funded

Chairman Scott said, yes.

County Attorney Hart said, -- unowned highway for the Department of Transportation, so you have -- have to put that in in advance of wanting to turn the traffic around, and there is a procedure through which they go through, and there's a decision-making process that goes up the food chain and gets decided, and then you can start changing the traffic pattern, once you've secured all of the -- gotten all of the people off of the roadway and then blocking the roadway so you can do all four lanes the other direction.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, question. Question.

Commissioner Center said, it's not just a blanket call. It's a very intricate procedure that has to be -- all your T's have to be crossed --

County Attorney Hart said, oh yeah.

Commissioner Center said, -- and all your I's have to be dotted and the right people have to be in play. Is that correct?

County Attorney Hart said, yeah. Hurricane David we did it in eight hours and everybody was amazed.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, question.

Commissioner Center said, he was going to answer about mandatory and the implications.

Mr. Jones said, yeah, the -- the term mandatory is -- is a strong word, but we're not going to -- law enforcement is not going to go door to door and compel you to leave. It's -- it's a personal decision just like a regular evacuation order, but we always make sure our people understand that when the winds reach a certain mile per hour, 59-mile-an-hour winds, we pull public safety off the street for their own safety. So, if you did not evacuate, if you're home, and for that duration of time, eight hours, ten hours, whatever, if something happens to you while you're at your home, there's nobody that's going to be available to come and assist you, because, again, public safety is -- they're sheltered for their own safety. So, as soon as public safety can get back out into the community, then they have to deal with downed trees, downed power lines, other rescue efforts, and -- so it could be a prolonged period of time before anybody could get to you. You could fall down the stairs, you could hurt your leg, whatever it may be.

Commissioner Center said, and that's --

Mr. Jones said, public safety will not be able to come get you during the height of the storm.

Commissioner Center said, and that's a significant factor in making the decision when to use the word mandatory, is it not?

Mr. Jones said, absolutely.

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, question.

Chairman Scott said, do you have a question of the presenter?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yes. Thank you. I stated that I wouldn't -- I will stand behind staff on this, but I also don't want to be made to look like some type of idiot. So, if you would please answer my question, someone, I would appreciate this. At the time of the first press conference, did Chatham Emergency Management recommend a county-wide evacuation, but at the press conference it was not presented that way?

Chairman Scott said, no.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, someone please answer that question.

Chairman Scott said, no.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, you -- you -- oh -- I -- I would like for a staff to answer that. Would you please answer that question?

Chairman Scott said, the press conference was on the 5<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, keep -- keep in mind this Chairman is -- is not the dictator. It takes six of us who are the boss of your boss. He alone is not his boss. He alone is not your boss. We, the majority, we're his boss, which is your boss. Please answer my question.

Chairman Scott said, actually, the CEMA director reports to the Chairman.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I'm asking for him to answer a question.

County Attorney Hart said, I -- I --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I'm not asking for the structure of what was decided at that time. I'm asking this director, interim director, to answer the question honestly. I heard from reliable sources that I trust dearly, and I'm asking you to tell me that answer. At the time of that first hearing, did Chatham Emergency Management recommend an evacuation county-wide, but it was presented to the public in a very different manner in only calling for an evacuation on Tybee Island? Please answer my question.

County Attorney Hart said, let me make a statement there, 'cause I was at one of the meetings where this was discussed, and -- and the discussion at that time was initially what Dennis [Jones] talked about, about whether you're going to use the voluntary language, and he explained the situation same as he did here. The discussion then became whether we were just going to say evacuate. Mandatory, you've still got plenty of time to make a decision. The decision was not to do that. The language that was -- that came -- that came from that press release was to -- and I don't remember whether we left the word strongly in or not, but I know we -- we used the word urged.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay.

County Attorney Hart said, to try to give an intent that -- to -- to try to get people to heed what was being asked of them to do. And --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you. I love you as an attorney, but I want my interim director of Chatham Emergency Management to answer my question, not as an attorney but as the interim director for Chatham Emergency Management. Mr. Jones --

County Manager Smith said, Dennis [Jones] --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, -- at the time of that press conference, did y'all --

Commissioner Center said, wait -- wait -- wait.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, -- recommend a voluntary evacuation?

Commissioner Center said, I have a --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I mean a recommendation or not?

Commissioner Center said, I have a point of order.

Chairman Scott said, you -- you are out of order.

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, how am I out of order?

Commissioner Center said, well --

Chairman Scott said, you can't direct a staff member to do anything --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I can ask a question.

Chairman Scott said, -- as a member of the Commission.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I have not directed one thing.

Chairman Scott said, you've asked the question.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I have not --

Chairman Scott said, you've asked the question, and you've used --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, and you're -- you're happy that he hasn't answered it.

Chairman Scott said, far -- far in excess. You -- I will get him to answer your question, but you cannot direct a member of staff --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I did not, sir.

Chairman Scott said, -- to answer anything.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, you -- maybe you need to listen to what I said.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Commissioner Center.

Commissioner Center said, well, that was my point of order, and I too have my curiosity peaked, but I think it's unfair to the staff, who reports to the Manager to answer in the public, and -- and maybe once he answers you if you -- if you want to go public with that answer, that's fine. I just think that -- it's very uncomfortable to me to put the people in this position in a public hearing without notice.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, it's very uncomfortable to me to put the citizens --

Commissioner Center said, and maybe --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, -- of this county --

Commissioner Center said, and -- and I think -- I think --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, -- in jeopardy of their lives.

Commissioner Center said, -- you'll get your answer, I just am very uncomfortable with the way this is being presented, and I don't think it's in order for our type of meeting right now. And I -- you know I'm the last person to say something like that. That's just -- it makes me very uncomfortable as a Commissioner.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I'm -- I'm uncomfortable asking it.

Chairman Scott said, and -- and --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, 'cause I know the answer.

Chairman Scott said, Dennis [Jones], I think the question was on the 5<sup>th</sup> when we had the first press conference, and at this time, please answer -- as you -- as you wish, please.

Mr. Jones said, we -- we actually started talking about evacuation orders on Monday. We -- that's when we first started looking at what the decision arcs are, what the decision timing is, what -- what would the evacuation order be if we were -- if we were to issue one. We looked at that every six hours. With every advisory, we'd run decision arcs, and we'd look at the track of the storm. We'd look at the -- the spaghetti models is what they're called, which are the different models of -- of -- that the National Hurricane Center runs. We've talked about all options. We've talked about evacuation decisions. We've talked about mandatory evacuation decisions. So all options were on the table, and on -- starting Monday is when -- when we started looking at all the -- all the options that were -- that were available to us. On Tuesday, is when South Carolina issued their mandatory evacuation order. That then caused us to look even more heavily at what should our evacuation order be. So we continued --

Chairman Scott said, on Tuesday they issued a notice of an evacuation.

Mr. Jones said, notice of an evacuation, right.

Chairman Scott said, but not really an evacuation on Tuesday.

Mr. Jones said, no. They just announced it that they were going to be doing it the next day. So we look at -- at all of that. We look at whether we do a partial, whether we do a full. You know, at the time the decision was made just to do a -- basically a partial of just the low -- the islands, west -- or east of the Wilmington River and all other low lying areas.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, this was Tuesday?

Mr. Jones said, I believe Tuesday. Yeah.

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay.

Mr. Jones said, so, at -- at that particular time, the decision was made to do a voluntary or just an evacuation order with Tybee having the mandatory.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. Now, --

Mr. Jones said, and that actually took place on the (inaudible).

Commissioner Kicklighter said, -- that took place Wednesday, when -- when the first press conference was actually held at 1:30 p.m.

Mr. Jones said, the press conference was held on Wednesday, right.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. But the recommendation at that point was from staff to do a broader evacuation than was announced at the press conference.

Mr. Jones said, the initial -- the initial recommendation was to do everything east of the Truman Parkway.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay.

Mr. Jones said, and that was modified to everything east of the Wilmington River and all other low lying areas. And then it was later modified to everything east of the --I-95.

Chairman Scott said, yeah. There was never a broader --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, but there was a broader recommendation than what was presented.

Chairman Scott said, there was never a broader recommendation to evacuate the entire county at that point. Only low lying areas.

Mr. Jones said, at that point, correct.

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, but that was then just reduced to Tybee at that press conference, the broader evacuation recommendation.

Mr. Jones said, the mandatory.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, yeah.

Mr. Jones said, because Tybee had already decided to do a mandatory.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, right. And the recommendation from staff was to take mandatory further out in the county, but that did not materialize at the press conference, correct?

County Attorney Hart said, we didn't have that decision at that time, did we?

Mr. Jones said, we didn't have the decision. No.

Chairman Scott said, no.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, but it was recommended.

Chairman Scott said, no.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, oh, man.

Commissioner Center said, but -- but we override recommendations all the time.

Chairman Scott said, a recommendation would come to me --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, he just -- he just --

Chairman Scott said, -- and if it was recommended to me I would know it.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, -- said what his recommendation was.

Chairman Scott said, Mr. Manager, is there anything else? Dennis [Jones], is there anything else? If not --

Mr. Jones said, no, sir. That's the last of my slides.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Center said, thankfully.

Chairman Scott said, Mr. Manager, your next presenter.

County Manager Smith said, yes. I'd ask Robert Drewry to come up. He's going to give you what is now becoming I guess the most popular -- yeah, he's the most popular person in Chatham County. Can I say that, Robert?

Public Works Director Robert Drewry said, yeah. That works for me.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Commissioner Center said, we don't have to go as easy on him, do we?

County Manager Smith said, he'll be covering debris and the process, and some of the things you're going to see are amazing. I was shocked.

Mr. Drewry said, good morning. I do have a few slides that I want to -- want to go through. And I'm sure you'll have some questions -- thank you. I'm sure you'll have some questions along, but I -- I'd -- I'd like to go through as many of the slides as I could beforehand, and then open it up for questions if you need. I -- I want to start off and -- and echo what the County Manager mentioned earlier, is that my staff personally was working six hours -- six days a week, essentially, daylight to dark still picking up Storm Hermine material. And then this came right on through. We transitioned quickly into disaster response for Hurricane Matthew. So I do want to give a -- a shout out to the Public Works employees that -- I'm very grateful and very proud of what they've been able to get through, and -- and they were very tired. I can tell you -- I can attest for that.

Mr. Drewry said, all right. First slide I have is also what you've been given. You've been given a map. The map reflects what we refer to as debris removal zones. Sometime between Storm Hermine and Hurricane Matthew we created these zones that made logical sense based on boundaries, like water locked -- intracoastal waterway, creeks, major roads and such, and we broke the county -- sectioned it up into different zones, and those are the zones you see. Also overlaid on your maps is the Commission Districts so you can see where your District lies within the debris removal zones. We -- we created these zones just for this purpose, for debris removal, for a systematic approach. The county has a contractor, Ashbritt, doing debris removal. I do have a representative from Ashbritt in the audience, and they took those zones and created a systematic approach to removing the debris.

Mr. Drewry said, and then Thompson Services -- Contracting Services is our debris removal monitor. They monitor the activity of Ashbritt. And I have a representative in here as well for Thompson to discuss -- to answer any questions that maybe y'all have based on operational issues within their own daily operations. And Thompson monitors each unit that actually travels out with Ashbritt. This is a -- a snapshot of day one of debris removal. And by the way I do want to inter -- I forgot to mention this as well right up front, I'm only speaking for the unincorporated county. I'm not speaking for any of the municipalities.

Commissioner Center said, day one is what date?

Mr. Drewry said, day one is Thursday, the 13<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Center said, all right.

Mr. Drewry said, that is day one of debris removal. We were able to mobilize and get the -- our contractors in here extremely quickly. Day one was well ahead of any other days of -- of any other municipalities, and they started working like I said on -- on the 13<sup>th</sup>. I believe that was a Thursday. That is day one, and what I want to reiterate in that particular slide is it's a briefing. Thompson's giving a briefing to their monitors, and all these monitors are local hires that they use to monitor all the -- all the units out there picking up debris. That's a typical self-contained -- self-contained loader that Ashbritt is using. It's a tractor -- it's a truck and trailer unit. Very nice unit. I -- I -- I'd kind of like to have a couple of these, if you don't mind me putting that plug in.

County Manager Smith said, we sure could get it done faster on a regular basis.

Mr. Drewry said, but that is a typical unit, and Ashbritt has those at -- you've seen up and down the roads, ever since day one of debris removal. They're out there in full force. Each one of those units is certified. They certify the volume of each one of those units. The truck, initial -- initial body and the trailer with it, and those units are measured, like I said, volume -- inside volume, length, width, and height, and they are certified in, checked in, and they each one of those units has a placard that's similar to this one here. That particular unit has sixty-eight cubic yard capacity. This is a nice little photo of day one after they actually started hauling in some debris. That is Sallie Mood site. The Sallie Mood site is the primary site they're using now for debris management. It's a wonderful photograph of where Public Works used to be, and you can see, you know, they're setting up operation. They've already started bringing in some debris on -- on day one. But this is day six. That

represents probably forty, sixty thousand cubic yards. No, actually, it's probably more than that. It's probably up more toward a hundred thousand -- no, sixty or eighty thousand cubic yards. But that is the site as it looks on day six of debris removal. Significant changes and significant improvements, but it looks like a lumber yard. And the -- the pile on the right is the mulch that they've actually ground up -- grind that mulch up. They have to find an end -- end user or end disposal for it, and they are looking into different options and probably a combination of different options of what they're going to do with that mulch. But they do have the responsibility of getting rid of that mulch. On top of that mountain of mulch, is a little speck, that's -- that's a bulldozer, so that gives you a little bit of a perspective of just how big that mountain is on day six. A phenomenal amount of debris.

Mr. Drewry said, as Dennis [Jones] reported in his slide, as of yesterday evening, they hauled a hundred and twenty -- over a hundred and twenty thousand cubic yards. And that's just an on ground site picture of -- of the operation going on. Again, on Sallie Mood, and another photograph of the operation on Sallie Mood. They have opened up Stell Park, a little portion of Stell Park as a debris management site, and they've also -- will be opening up a private property site on the Islands area on -- off of Islands Expressway owned by a private owner, who has agreed to allow them to use it. So they're going to be -- and that will also help out their operation as well.

Mr. Drewry said, I know you can't read this map. I really didn't intend you to read it, 'cause it's so big and broad, but that is the debris removal zones, and I'm going to focus in on one particular area, but -- you know, they're tracking their units, where they're at every day. Go back to that placard, it's got a -- a QR code on it. Well, the monitor hits that QR code every time they're full, before they leave the site where they've loaded their truck, and that tracks the truck, that tracks the -- where -- where the truck is, and where it picked up their load, then it arrives at the debris management site, they QR code it again, they give a ticket of the -- of the volume -- the actual volume they estimate be inside that truck. But they -- they're tracking their trucks by GPS equipment on a -- a by minute by minute basis.

Mr. Drewry said, and that's just a blow up of I believe the Isle of Hope Area, and all those little red dots are where trucks have been hit on that QR code. There's a location for all those trucks when they've been through there. I -- I don't mind telling you, and you know there's a significant amount of debris out there. And you can see on this, by day six -- I believe that was through day six, that they did not -- had not reached a lot of areas yet. But they have started hitting some of the areas, and it's a systematic approach. When the truck loads up, obviously, they can't put, you know, heavy stuff on the top or they can't put more -- all the heavy stuff on the truck itself because it then becomes a weight limit issue. So they have to be careful how they pick it up at this junction day by day. I -- I think Ashbritt can probably give you a little more detail about that.

Mr. Drewry said, but that is just a blow up of -- of one -- I think that's Zone B, the Isle of Hope Area. So, are there any questions? I'll be glad to answer those. Like is said, if they are daily operational questions, I may refer you to the contractor.

Chairman Scott said, I got Commissioner Holmes said, Commissioner Stone, Commissioner Farrell in that order.

Commissioner Holmes said, Mr. Robert Drewry?

Mr. Drewry said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Holmes said, how many sites do we have on our government to dispose of debris like that?

Mr. Drewry said, disposals? We don't dispose debris. We rely on other alternatives.

Commissioner Holmes said, how many sites we could have used other than Sallie Mood?

Mr. Drewry said, you talking about management -- debris management sites?

Commissioner Holmes said, yes.

Mr. Drewry said, yes, sir. We had identified a number of sites in -- in our disaster plan, and they do include parks. They do include other properties that the county have, and some of those really are not practical. Some of them may not even be useable. So they had to kind of pick and choose what are the most practical sites, and then that forced them to go on to a private property issue because there was not any other available sites that we could have used on the islands.

Commissioner Holmes said, any other site that we have had any program going on to -- around it?

Mr. Drewry said, yes, sir. We have obviously, the Sallie Mood site. We have now started up that site on the Islands, as of this morning.

Commissioner Holmes said, but no program was going on at the other site other than Sallie Mood. Am I correct?

Mr. Drewry said, no. No. Correct, sir. No -- no program --

Commissioner Holmes said, Sallie Mood -- Sallie Mood was the only one that was used for programming.

Mr. Drewry said, what are you referring to as program? Are you talking about youth activities?

Commissioner Holmes said, tackle football program.

Mr. Drewry said, yes, sir. Yeah. That was the parking and staging -- overflow parking for youth football.

Commissioner Holmes said, correct. And how did we choose to use that site?

Mr. Drewry said, well, that was a pre-identified site. When we were -- when we left that site back in 2013, we added that property to our debris management sites, and it was in our disaster plan.

Commissioner Holmes said, did you communicate it with Mr. Steve Proper?

Mr. Drewry said, oh, absolutely, yes. Mr. --

Commissioner Holmes said, and he knew about this?

Mr. Drewry said, oh, yes, sir.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay.

Mr. Drewry said, and the County Manager as well. We got into a discussion about how to best use that site.

County Manager Smith said, 'cause we're also trying to look at proximity because we're trying to reduce cost. Was it Stell was the other one? Di you mention?

Mr. Drewry said, Stell Park was the other one. We are using the old --

County Manager Smith said, and we've got a private site they've got worked out, but I also want -- I do want to mention that on the Sallie Mood site, what we've worked out for the next few Sat -- for the rest of the season, since we're utilizing that staging area, we're actually working with a bus system working with the schools where we will actually be shuttling to several parking lots so there will not be congestion and -- 'cause there's lack of parking. So we're advertising that, and we're shuttling people to the other parking sites.

Commissioner Holmes said, said, yeah. I'm -- I'm --

County Manager Smith said, yeah. So we're making that available.

Commissioner Holmes said, I'm familiar with it, but if -- if you go out at Sallie Mood on Saturday, during the tackle football program, there's thousand of parents and youth out there. It already a public safety concern. The question I asked is why that site was chosen because it's -- it's already created a very unsafe public safety issue with the activity that goes on on Sallie Mood.

Mr. Drewry said, and that site was chosen back when we left Public Works in 2013. So it's always been considered a debris site.

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

Mr. Drewry said, and it is actually very ideal for his operation.

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

Mr. Drewry said, because it's partially concreted and when it rains they'll still be able to function for the most part. It's wide open, centrally located, particularly to the Isle of Hope areas and -- and such. The Truman Parkway is easy access. So that is an actually a very ideal site.

Commissioner Holmes said, I --

Mr. Drewry said, there are very limited options after that.

Commissioner Holmes said, I visit the site twice. I like the conveniency [sic] that it have, but I also would like to see that site being maintained like it is now without the uses during tackle football season. Now the reason why I'm going at that, Mr. Drewry, because that group, that tackle football program, that never was given priority concern as long as I've been monitoring it. So that's why I'm questioning you about that. And I like what I see out there, and I appreciate we had a site convenient for that --

Mr. Drewry said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Holmes said, -- but that's my concern. I -- I -- and -- and -- and I'm hearing something a little different, but I'll leave that alone. Okay.

Mr. Drewry said, do you -- somebody else had a question.

Commissioner Stone said, I do.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Stone and then it's Commissioner Farrell.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Drewry, what are the rules for the benefit of those attending this meeting and watching on burning because with the amount of debris people have called me and said what are the restrictions on burning? Are there any restrictions? And I would like that to be made public, number one. And number two, who, because I know it's not the county, but who is responsible for some of these downed lines that are all over the streets? I -- you ride down roads, and you're riding over cable after cable after cable, and I don't know who's they are, whether they're AT&T, whether their Comcast. Obviously, I don't think they're Georgia Power because most of their lines are now up, but these are just discarded, dead lines, draped all throughout the streets in some of the unincorporated area.

Mr. Drewry said, and you're -- you're absolutely correct. I -- I can't tell you if it's -- what utility it would be. I would ultimately hope that they would be responsible for picking up their own lines.

Commissioner Stone said, well --

Mr. Drewry said, but, yeah, obviously, if they're dead, they'll -- I'm sure it will fall on us eventually, but, again, I -- hopefully utilities will go back and clean up their mess.

Commissioner Stone said, one would hope.

Mr. Drewry said, yeah. We would hope.

Commissioner Holmes said, Mr. Chairman.

Commissioner Stone said, but -- but --

Mr. Drewry said, oh, and -- and let me explain the rules. I'm sorry, you had a two-part question.

Commissioner Stone said, the burning.

Mr. Drewry said, I'll also talk about the -- the --

Commissioner Stone said, burn.

Mr. Drewry said, burn.

Chairman Scott said, Mr. Manager, we need to insist the utility companies -- we need to insist that the utility companies go back and clean up their lines.

County Manager Smith said, we'll send them something formally.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

Commissioner Stone said, well, take a look at Whitefield Avenue.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm. Yeah, I went through there.

Commissioner Stone said, it -- it's a mess.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Mr. Drewry said, yeah.

Commissioner Stone said, and not only -- and I don't mean to belabor this, but not only are the lines in the street, but they've left their discarded poles just leaning on people's property. So, I don't -- again, that could have been Georgia Power. I don't know who it was, but, you know, for them to just go off and leave their dis -- discarded equipment is not right.

Mr. Drewry said, yeah. We'll make sure we -- they know that.

County Manager Smith said, we'll send them something formally.

Mr. Drewry said, sure.

Commissioner Stone said, okay.

Mr. Drewry said, also on the burn -- you asked about the burn permit.

Commissioner Stone said, yes.

Mr. Drewry said, to get a burn permit -- initially there was a burn ban, and they lifted that ban, and if a resident wishes to burn their debris -- I don't encourage it, but if they wish to, they have to get a permit and call Georgia Forestry Department. I do not have that number handy and they'll get -- essentially get a permit over the phone. It's a real simple process, but, again, I don't really encourage it, that would be more evasive than -- than helpful.

Commissioner Stone said, well, you know, some residents are telling me they just -- there's nowhere else to put the debris, and I know on the end of my street, there's absolutely -- we used to be a two-lane street, but we're down to one because debris has piled up on both sides. So, it might, in that situation make a lot of sense to get rid of some of the stuff rather than to try to make the roadways more dangerous than they already are.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Farrell.

Commissioner Farrell said, thank you. I've been receiving a lot of questions in -- in my District there's quite a few private communities, most with gates, some without gates but still private communities, private roads. Could you give us some information on when they may be able to expect to get into the rotation of the pick ups that are happening routinely on the other public streets?

County Manager Smith said, that is part of the FEMA process. I'd like for Dennis [Jones] to come up and answer.

Commissioner Farrell said, sure.

Mr. Dennis Jones said, FEMA regulations require that we get prior approval before we can do any debris management or debris hauling within a gated or in a private road. We've submitted those letters -- or submitted the County's letter on the 18<sup>th</sup>, and we're waiting on feedback. I did call this morning to see if they could give me an updated timeline. It's review -- being reviewed by the Federal Coordinating Officer, who's in charge of this disaster. Hopefully, we'll have an answer by Monday.

County Attorney Hart said, we also -- you guys today as part of your Action Calendar are adopting a resolution making that request formal and directing us to apply for that. We've done the steps we can do at this point. If -- if they give us permission to do that, then -- then you'll deal with that. They do not have to give you permission. And -- and I have a feeling sometimes it may be a mixed bag of what you can do and do not get.

Commissioner Farrell said, now, a follow-up question, again, there are many private roads in my District, and the more organized areas, I'm sure have contacted the County Manager's office and made requests for pick up. Do you have any advice or any instructions for those communities that may be less organized and have not directly contacted? Will -- will -- will this application to FEMA that you mentioned a moment ago be a broad umbrella or is this very specific to we -- could you enlighten --

Mr. Jones said, sure. Yeah. Each jurisdiction has to submit their own letter. Right now the Town of Thunderbolt has submitted their letter and the County has submitted their letter.

Commissioner Farrell said, okay, so -- all right. So within the county -- unincorporated county, is -- so that's going to cover all the private road communities at -- under one umbrella or is it individual? That's what I'm trying to --

County Attorney Hart said, no -- no -- what -- what -- I understand.

Commissioner Farrell said, -- that's what I'm trying to ascertain that information because I'm getting a lot of questions, and there's a lot of uncertainty.

County Attorney Hart said, you've got to deal with unincorporated Chatham County, and -- and we're okay there, okay? If we pick it up and if we monitor it, and if we're able to prove we picked it up and the amount we picked it up -- that's why he has such detailed stuff here.

Commissioner Farrell said, right.

County Attorney Hart said, you'll get reimbursed for it.

Commissioner Farrell said, that -- that's for the public roads --

County Attorney Hart said, yeah.

Commissioner Farrell said, -- you're referring to.

County Attorney Hart said, but, if somebody chooses to go ahead and move it, we will never get -- be able to get reimbursement. And that's the -- that's really kind of the -- the difficulty in dealing with gated communities. So in -- gated communities roads are generally considered private. Without having an agreement with them, giving the county a right of entry, with an indemnification agreement, a FEMA requirement, then the county, if it cannot pick up any debris in that -- in those gated communities, if we picked -- if we went ahead and picked it up, there would be no -- no -- no reimbursement because we didn't get prior approval from FEMA.

Commissioner Farrell said, okay.

County Attorney Hart said, and -- and so the process is to ask for the service, ask for the approval, send them a resolution. We've got about fifteen to eighteen indemnification agreements that we'll send with that, hopefully get the approval, and then -- then obviously, the mechanics of that, how that works, will be handled with Robert [Drewry] and our contractors. Now, if gated communities are impatient, and they want to go ahead and do it themselves, that's up to them, but there will not be any reimbursement for that because we will -- we will lose that. If you do not have the approval and a plan to do it acceptable to FEMA, and you move that pile, you do so at your own peril and your own nickel.

County Manager Smith said, that's correct.

Commissioner Farrell said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner -- Commissioner --

Commissioner Holmes said, Holmes.

Commissioner Stone said, -- Holmes and then Commissioner Center. I was just trying to see who was next on my list.

Commissioner Holmes said, Comcast, let me -- let me put this before the public and y'all. Not directly at you, Robert [Drewry].

Mr. Drewry said, oh, thank you.

Commissioner Holmes said, said, I -- I was just talking about Comcast. I heard her mention Comcast, and I'm going to talk about Comcast because -- what could we do to get a letter to Comcast because my -- my cable went out for almost a week. What I would like to know -- what I would like to know --

Chairman Scott said, if you have a Comcast question --

Commissioner Holmes said, yeah. That --

Chairman Scott said, would you hold it, please, because the Manager is going to talk about that in a little bit.

County Manager Smith said, yeah, because I actually have --

Commissioner Holmes said, said, you going to talk about that?

County Manager Smith said, -- representative from Comcast here.

Chairman Scott said, we have a representative here.

Commissioner Holmes said, said, I'll hold it. I'll hold it.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Center.

Commissioner Center said, thank you. I was listening very intently to the private -- gated community versus private road, and I asked earlier in the Green Room about a particular property, but let's -- let's take one that we can probably visualize. If -- if you drove out at Wilmington Island around the -- the golf course, there's a lot of houses between the golf course and the river. Would their long driveway be considered a private road?

County Attorney Hart said, yes, probably, but you would -- we would not go into that because those individual driveways do not constitute a community. They're individual driveways.

Commissioner Center said, okay. So a private road --

County Attorney Hart said, if they were to haul their garbage or their debris to the right of way out in front of their house, then at some point in time the county would pick that up.

Commissioner Center said, okay. That -- that -- that's -- that partly answers, but -- so tell me -- and so those people know too what a private road is. It's not a driveway. This has to be like three homes on the road or two homes on the road?

County Attorney Hart said, if I could get a definition out of that out of FEMA, that would be great, but -- but obviously -- they have got to tell us we can do that. I -- I -- quite honestly don't expect them -- they may or may not extend --

Commissioner Center said, right.

County Attorney Hart said, -- it to private roads. If they don't, it's going be -- we're probably going to be in the category of gated communities. Tybee, for example, has many, many, many private lanes, especially on the Butler -- beach side --

Commissioner Center said, so it'd be going from Butler to the beach.

County Attorney Hart said, yeah.

County Manager Smith said, yes.

County Attorney Hart said, and the City Attorney and I have had multiple discussions about that, and the City of Tybee has reached -- reached the determination that they don't believe they can go in there and move that property -- move that debris off that private property, but -- however, they do agree with what I just stated that if they were to move -- if the people were to move the debris --

Commissioner Center said, to Butler,

County Attorney Hart said, -- to -- to somewhere contiguous to our right of -- to Tybee right of way or the U.S. Highway 80 right of way, then it -- then Tybee's probably going to have to pick that up.

Commissioner Center said, okay. So basically, if they want to move it now and can afford it, move it yourselves, but if you want to take a chance that FEMA's going to help you, you have to leave your -- you just have to take a chance.

County Attorney Hart said, if -- if you're an individual -- yeah, if you want it out of there now, now's the -- you go -- have at it or else move it to the public right of way. If you're a gated community, and we -- we haven't yet got FEMA approval, and you want the contractors out there doing it now, 'cause you want your place a lot prettier a lot quicker, sure, that's great, but just remember, you'll be doing it on your nickel, your nickel alone.

Commissioner Center said, and there's no crystal clear definition between gated community and -- I mean between private road and driveway?

County Attorney Hart said, yeah, that's fair.

Commissioner Center said, so they just take a chance.

County Manager Smith said, we're waiting for answers.

Commissioner Center said, all right. Now, is there a dead -- we're -- we're going -- I think we're going to pass an ordinance today that's before us to allow us to take this step to deal with gated communities. If somebody's not on the list now, are they forever out, or is there a deadline for them to get on the list?

County Attorney Hart said, no, we've asked -- we've asked for four gated communities. We did not know about to request the service. They have requested the service. We have sent them yesterday the agreements that we feel we have to have in place before we do it. There are some -- there are some issues of timing that could affect the validity of that, which I don't need to go into here today. And that's sort of where we're at. We're trying to provide as much assistance as we can. That doesn't guarantee the assistance is going to be there.

Commissioner Center said, and I want to stress assistance. Ultimately, the reimbursement is going to be from FEMA if it comes, the county -- Commissioner Shabazz asked, you know, are we responsible? We're doing what we can to help people get into the system so FEMA will reimburse them if they decide, but the county is not going to reimburse. It's FEMA, if they can get it. Is that correct?

County Manager Smith said, correct.

County Attorney Hart said, that's correct.

Commissioner Center said, I just wanted to make sure.

County Attorney Hart said, and -- and -- and, you know, it's not as simple as go out and pick something up. You've got to pick it up and comply with the FEMA regulations --

County Manager Smith said, certify -- certify every load.

County Attorney Hart said, or else it doesn't count.

Commissioner Center said, I understand. Make a federal case out of it.

County Manager Smith said, literally.

Commissioner Center said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, and -- and the only thing I would add to that is we've already made the request during the emergency period. I sent them a letter with -- and with all the input the Manager asked from the members of the Commission, if you knew of any gated communities in your District, and we compiled that list and sent them -- we sent them that list. Now, that doesn't mean that that it's etched in stone. We can have an addition to that list, but they're still subject to their approval, and -- and that's where we stand on it. And we -- we wanted to do the resolution to -- so everybody would have a chance to be on record as supporting this.

Mr. Drewry said, I would like to make one comment also, as well, these -- these zones that we've set up do also include the private communities. So the contractor is ready, and we've been talking about that since day one as -- as to when that happens. They're ready to mobilize in -- into these communities when approval is given.

Chairman Scott said, and we expect our approval sooner rather than later, so when I'm telling you sooner, we should know by Tuesday. At least I think we will.

Commissioner Farrell said, great. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, and we -- Commissioner Brady has a question before you leave.

Commissioner Brady said, and -- and -- thank you so much, Mr. Drewry. Y'all have done a great job, and I know how difficult it is, and I -- and believe me I know how impatient some folks are, but most folks who are calling me are actually saying, I'm trying not to be impatient, and I said I appreciate that. But, that leads me into some of the comments I heard, and the County Manager and I have emailed back and forth about this in reference to our dumps and why they didn't open when they were supposed to open or the community was told they were going to open and this is what I've said to the County Manager in my email, these people were lined up on Chevis Road to go into that dump to -- to get rid of their storm debris, which would have helped the county, you know, deal with our storm debris collection. So I want somebody to give a quick explanation on why that happened.

Mr. Drewry said, yeah -- excuse me. Yeah. I can appreciate that as well. If you will recall, we were still in evacuation, and those sites were being managed by the contractor, and the contractor was still out of town, number one, and we --

County Manager Smith said, they had not come back.

Mr. Drewry said, they had not even been back yet.

County Manager Smith said, all their employees were evacuated.

Mr. Drewry said, so, we didn't want to open the gate up because we would have had a real chaotic situation, and for the most part, most of Public Works' employees were not back as well. So we tried to time that as quickly as we could, and in talking with the contractor, who manages those sites.

County Manager Smith said, but we also had on Chevis, citizens broke into the land fill.

Mr. Drewry said, they did break in. Right.

County Manager Smith said, they bolt -- used bolt cutters and started illegally dumping everywhere.

Commissioner Brady said, well, I -- in reference to Chevis Road, I know several people called me and said that -- that the gates were open, and so I thought the dump was open. So the -- but the dump -- but let me say this, the dump -- we were notified that the dump was going to open on a certain day.

County Manager Smith said, we thought we could, but because of the contractor -- the other thing is -- is we were trying to make sure with FEMA because we're trying to keep up with all the debris, because the debris that would go into that site --

Commissioner Brady said, mm-hmm.

County Manager Smith said, -- we then could be eligible, if we kept up with it, to get reimbursed to have it taken out by contractors. And if we were not -- you know, had not done that, we couldn't get reimbursement. And so I'm going to say there's a percentage that went into our landfills that we will not get reimbursed for --

Mr. Drewry said, right.

County Manager Smith said, on that first -- what would you say thirty-six, forty-eight hours?

Mr. Drewry said, maybe as many as thirty-six.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Mr. Drewry said, yeah.

County Manager Smith said, so, that's part of what we were doing. You know, we didn't -- the biggest thing was the money and getting the employees back, it was -- it was helter skelter for about forty-eight hours.

Commissioner Brady said, well, and -- and I understand that, but part of that problem was is that we -- we said that those dumps were going to be open, and they didn't open when they were supposed -- when we said they were going to open.

County Manager Smith said, yeah, but then we got them up noon -- noon that next day I believe.

Mr. Drewry said, I -- I believe --

County Manager Smith said, we finally got a skeleton crew in and it opened at noon.

Commissioner Brady said, 'cause you were sending me messages about that specific dump.

County Manager Smith said, yeah, and we thought we were, and it just -- we just -- we couldn't. We thought we were going to have them back.

Commissioner Brady said, well then we need to understand that part of the issue was our problem.

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Commissioner Brady said, okay. Thank you.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Chairman Scott said, thank you. But when individuals cut gates, that's destroying property and regardless, that's a prosecutable offense.

County Manager Smith said, it is. We actually -- when I found that out, I sent Metro out. Because they were -- then they were on property they were not allowed to be on. So.

Chairman Scott said, Amy [Davis], you want to talk about 4284?

Ms. Davis said, yes. Now it's not -- it's not Hurricane Matthew anymore.

County Manager Smith said, yeah. You shift gears.

Ms. Davis said, it is DR-4284. During the storm we actually had a bid contract out for the debris -- debris removal that had not yet been selected. So literally, at the EOC, Peggy [Joyner] was over there asking for best and final offers between the two top debris removal contractors, Ashbritt and Crowder, and she asked best and final offer and it came back with a contract with Ashbritt, which was recommended by staff, and under that the Chairman approved this contract under the emergency authorizations that he has. The original estimated cost of the debris and removal, assuming five hundred thousand cubic yards was six thousand -- six million dollars. It soon became evident that we had about fifty percent more than that, and so we estimated it at nine-point-one million dollars, and just this morning, the actual estimate came back from them at just under ten million.

Ms. Davis said, our second contract is with Thompson for the monitoring of the debris and removal. It was originally at one-point-one million dollars, and because of the -- the additional capacity, it's now estimated at one point eight. Under FEMA reimbursements, we have -- we've been approved for Category A, B, and as of this morning, a full recovery, in addition to the individual assistance. The dec -- declaration was made by the State on October 4<sup>th</sup>, so that began our -- our state of emergency time line. You have two different policies in place for FEMA reimbursement, the -- the state of emergency period, which only overtime for employees is eligible for reimbursement, and then the post emergency work that you're reclaiming funds for, and that you can claim any hours, including overtime actually worked on a -- on an approved FEMA project. So it's been interesting making up time -- time sheets for this. I -- I think they took about a half a dozen of us and about three days to determine how to account for the time. And that's basically just saying about the same thing.

Ms. Davis said, FEMA is -- will reimburse seventy-five percent of the cost, and actually, this is kind of outdated now, because of the different costs, but -- it's kind of -- the cost of the storm is a -- is a moving target, I guess basically. At this point, FEMA would reimburse seventy-five percent. We would have twelve and a half percent, and the state would kick in twelve and a half percent. There is an option, however, if you have an expedited debris removal process, if you can remove the debris quicker, they will up that percentage to eighty-five percent. And as far as the cost to the county, we're looking at probably two million dollars. And that is the reason why we do have our reserve policy in place, for situations just like this. I do not think we would have to borrow money to cover this. We -- we're financially set -- well --

Ms. Davis said, okay. In the accounting of this, as I said, we had to create new pay codes and time keeping sheets to keep track of all of this information. We've trained all of the departments on these compensation policies during dis -- disasters and gave them all the forms they need for that. Equipment tracking is also kept up on FEMA forms, and funding for -- we created a new fund. Sorry, I lost track there. We created a new fund

to account for all of this. It's -- will be funded by the FEMA, GEMA reimbursements, as well as we'll have a general fund transfer to cover this. And we have developed projects to track all of these expenses as well. And insurance. We have insurance on all of our facilities except for the piers and -- the pier and the docks, and FEMA will reimburse the county full amount of the damage loss less the insurance recovery. In other words, they'll pay the deductibles.

Ms. Davis said, and finally, thankfully, CEMA had the good sense to hire a -- a consulting firm to help us through this process, Hagerty Consulting. They are here to help us basically get full reimbursement for as much as we possibly can. And our consultant with this process, he's pretty much going to be here through the duration of this process. His name is Chris Spillman (phonetic), and he's over here in the audience, and he can probably answer just about any FEMA question you have if y'all have any questions of him.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Anybody have any questions of Amy [Davis]? The Commissioner -- Brady from the 6<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Brady said, I'm sorry, Mr. Chairman. I -- it really wasn't specific to Amy, so if somebody wants to go before me to ask something of Amy.

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

Commissioner Shabazz said, how much are you paying the consultant?

Ms. Davis said, the consultant, actually, would be the -- reimbursed at the same rates as -- it's considered a direct administration cost, and so we would be reimbursed by FEMA for his -- his services at the seventy-five percent.

Commissioner Shabazz said, right. So how much is that?

County Manager Smith said, he's asking about cost. Actual cost.

Ms. Davis said, it really just depends on how long they're here. I don't know specifically what the hourly rates are. We do have a issue that their contract actually expired this last week, and so we've had to extend it, and we plan to renegotiate that contract with them.

Commissioner Shabazz said, right, but there's a -- there's a projected cost.

Ms. Davis said, their -- their fees --

Commissioner Shabazz said, do we have money like -- do we have money like that that we don't really know what they're going to charge or?

Ms. Davis said, their fees are included in that estimate, and again, it really depends on the scope of the work. Now that it's been declared a full disaster, they'll probably bring in a couple more people to assist with all of the paperwork involved with that, but again it's included in the initial estimate there, and again the county's share, we're looking at possibly two million.

Commissioner Shabazz said, the initial estimate, and what percentage of that estimate is their cost?

Ms. Davis said, oh gosh.

Chairman Scott said, I think Dennis [Jones] want to speak to that, if you --

Ms. Davis said, do you? Okay. Good.

County Manager Smith said, he's working with them every day. So.

Mr. Jones said, with the contract we have a -- we have a variety of different options that are available to us, and depending on -- it's kind of like a menu. We want this type of specialist, we want this other type -- type of specialist, and they all have different rates. We intend to get our first invoice from them the twenty -- which is today, isn't it? So we should be getting our first from them, but right now, what we've got is -- is we've got three staff members that are on site, we've got a project manager, we've got an administrative assistant, and we've got a GIS tech -- technician. And from there, we've been able to look at the damage assessment and pull these numbers together.

Commissioner Shabazz said, well, since you can't tell me what he's -- what he's -- what he's charging, how did you go about getting him to work with the county?

Mr. Jones said, this contract has been in place for about five years. What we did was five years ago we created --

Commissioner Shabazz said, it was competitively bid.

Mr. Jones said, yeah -- EM augmentation. So we -- we knew a while ago that we would have to have some additional emergency management services.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. So they --

Chairman Scott said, it was a -- it was a no fee contract --

Mr. Jones said, right.

Chairman Scott said, you bid it based on the fact that you have an event --

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, and -- and then when --

Commissioner Shabazz said, right.

County Manager Smith said, also, Mr. Chairman --

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. So they had a price on that, right?

County Manager Smith said, well, we do have on the agenda today a price not to exceed \$500,000. Not to exceed.

Commissioner Shabazz said, hold on. It was competitively bid.

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Commissioner Shabazz said, and so they placed a bid --

County Manager Smith said, and that's based on hourly rates.

Commissioner Shabazz said, they placed a bid in, right?

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. So how much was that?

County Manager Smith said, we'd have to go back and look. All they do is give you hourly rates. You don't have -- because it's based on how much -- you give them a scope of how much you want. It may be GIS, engineering, you know, the finance piece.

Chairman Scott said, it's not an annual amount.

Commissioner Shabazz said, right.

County Manager Smith said, it's not -- no.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I don't understand, how could they determine who was the best person -- most responsible?

County Manager Smith said, based on the hourly rates.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay, so what was -- what was that?

Chairman Scott said, it's the same -- it's the same -- it's the same thing with debris removal too.

County Manager Smith said, yeah. It's based on hourly rates.

Chairman Scott said, it's what we refer to as a no --

Commissioner Shabazz said, I'm talking about the consultant.

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

County Manager Smith said, hourly rates.

Chairman Scott said, but it's the same thing. It's -- it -- they charge you so much per yard, and they bid so much per yard to clean up debris. It's what we refer to as a no fee contract. You don't pay them an annual retainer

or anything else.

Commissioner Shabazz said, so what was the -- what was the rate?

County Manager Smith said, we'd have to -- I mean I'd have to pull. We can get that to you. I'll get that to you.

Commissioner Shabazz said, you got to have some type of cost in order to --

County Manager Smith said, they do.

Commissioner Shabazz said, -- do the contract.

County Manager Smith said, we do have a contract with a cost.

Mr. Jones said, it's a time -- it's a time and material contract.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Mr. Jones said, and depending on which specialist we have in the county, there's rates associated -- associated with each of those specialists.

County Manager Smith said, yes. And we can send that to you. And we calculated based on what we thought the time would be over the next few months that it would -- that we were estimating it would cost, not to exceed half a million dollars, based on the rates.

County Attorney Hart said, they don't know how much they're going to do. We don't know how much they're going to do.

County Manager Smith said, no. 'Cause see, we could do more based on public assistance, damage on properties, because we're still in assessment stage. This is very early on in a FEMA process. Very early. Yes, sir. So I'll -- we'll get those rates to you.

Chairman Scott said, it's -- it's actually in -- the information is provided to you.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm. That's what I was saying, if you -- yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, in your supplement that was delivered to you last night,

Commissioner Shabazz said, I don't -- I don't need it. I got -- I got -- I'll -- I'll find it.

Commissioner Farrell said, it's all written down.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I was asking the question right then.

Chairman Scott said, all right.

Commissioner Shabazz said, all right.

Chairman Scott said, anything else of -- anything else of Amy [Davis]? Additional questions?

Commissioner Center said, are you up next?

County Manager Smith said, yeah, we did. I think there was questions about Comcast, and I was going -- we -- we've got, Mr. Chairman, if it's -- public --

Chairman Scott said, yeah, we'll lift the screens up, and then would you address the issue of Comcast, 'cause I know some members of the Commission --

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Chairman Scott said, -- wants to make some comments in reference to it.

County Manager Smith said, lights up. Okay. We've got Mr. Andy Macke. He is -- if you remember Shannon Doolan (phonetic) was here for a number of years. In fact, Shannon -- we were on the phone with her, and -- but Andy is here this morning to talk to you about any concerns and also to kind of give you an update on where we are, but he is governmental affairs representative with -- with Comcast, and I do appreciate his coming this morning to give you an updated.

Mr. Andy Macke said, thank you for the opportunity to be here. Thank you, Mr. County Manager, and just by way of update, we are ninety-nine-point-five percent of the way in terms of restoring service to our customers in the area impacted by the hurricane. We have a -- a little bit of work left to do in some pockets that were most

severely impacted and expect that by the end of the weekend, we'll be at the ninety-nine-point-nine percent stage. You know, beyond that, there are going to be some individual issues that we're still working through of people with drops to their homes or some electronics that might have been blown out that we'll deal with, but those will really be on the onesie, twosie type issues versus wide scale outages. So we're -- we're as of this morning, we are at about seven hundred and fifty people that are -- our customers that are still out of service and expect that like I said, by the end of the weekend, we'll have the large majority of those back up and running. There still is going to be a couple of weeks still of work to be done. Most of that is going to be doing permanent repairs where we have done temporary fixes, doing some things that are more cosmetic in nature in terms of relashing cable where it -- it might not be customer impacting, but still hanging low on a pole or what have you. And earlier to Commissioner Stone's point, they'll certainly be picking up the cable that's still on the ground. But obviously, the priority now is to get services up and running.

County Manager Smith said, also, Mr. Chairman, based on the question about poles, I text Georgia Power, and they said any of those remaining items would be removed. It's just a matter of a process, but they -- those things will be removed.

Commissioner Stone said, well, I didn't know, they might be other utility poles.

County Manager Smith said, there could be, but anything that belong to Georgia -- I just wanted to confirm that. They said that they would remove them.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Stone said, because it's a mess.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Chairman Scott said, okay. I saw Center, Holmes -- Commissioner Center, Commissioner Holmes, Commissioner Stone, and Commissioner Brady.

Commissioner Center said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Good afternoon, Mr. Macke.

Mr. Macke said, good afternoon.

Commissioner Center said, where is your office located? Are you in Chatham County? Are you --

Mr. Macke said, I am not in Chatham County. We are in the process of replacing Shannon [Doolan (phonetic)] to sit and be a local representative for -- for folks in Savannah.

Commissioner Center said, what -- where is your office?

Mr. Macke said, I'm in Atlanta.

Commissioner Center said, okay. The people who are not getting service, will they get a credit on their bill?

Mr. Macke said, we -- we're going to address credits with everybody across the board. Obviously, different people are brought on at different times, and so we're going to -- we're going to address the loss of service issue.

Commissioner Center said, you hadn't made that decision yet, but you're going to talk to the individual customers about it?

Mr. Macke said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, okay. You don't know whether or not they're going to get credit.

Mr. Macke said, we don't know how much each individual, personal -- customer will get in terms of credit. So.

Commissioner Center said, okay. And -- and let me ask you about licensing. And -- and I understand Comcast is in a -- basically in a hybrid situation because you're a private company --

Mr. Macke said, right.

Commissioner Center said, -- but you almost have become a monopoly in certain areas, so you get regulated. Also, while cable T -- TV was at once a luxury, it's almost gotten to be like the telephone where everybody's using it, and it's almost a necessity. So you're in a hybrid, evolutionary industry also. Tell me about licensing. It used to be that the counties or the municipalities licensed, so if we wanted to bring in a competitor we could do that. Do we still have that or is that state wide?

Mr. Macke said, well, in terms of the franchising, you're correct, it used to be exclusively local franchising, and -- and in fact, since I believe 1984, local jurisdictions have had the ability to bring in competitors. They have been non-exclusive. In 2008, the state law changed, and so that -- there's -- there's -- the companies have a choice. They can either go to the state and ask for the authority to operate in a community or they can go to the local jurisdiction.

Commissioner Center said, and Comcast did that in Chatham. In -- in essence, Chatham County can no longer control the licensing of what cable companies come in and operate. Is that correct?

Mr. Macke said, it -- with -- well, you -- you do, 'cause you have -- local cable companies could come to the county and ask for a local franchise.

Commissioner Center said, do you know any different than that? Lee [Smith], you're looking at me. You know what I'm getting at. I mean I was in this business at one time and I understand that, so I wanted to know --

County Manager Smith said, well, tech -- this is a little off the subject, but I think it is important. Remember, you approved, at the last meeting, a broadband study. I had meetings this week to look at, and it's not so much about -- well it is, and with all due respect to Comcast, they're a large firm -- you know, group here. We obviously want to look at the most effective cost with the best service in our community, which means competition. And I said no -- no offense. But we're looking at being able to expand other services because of broadband. So that study is going to come back to you in a bout five months, and we're going to be presenting some options on what we need to do to look at competitiveness, to get -- because, broadband, internet connection, the services that Andy [Macke] are talking about, now, we used to -- the Chair knows, when you bring in a -- a group to look at bringing jobs to a company, it used to be water, sewer, rail, and land. Now it's I need the land; I need this connectivity; I need rail; I need water; I need sewer. It's a given, and in some cases we don't have it, you know. And that's not Comcast's -- necessarily their fault, it's just a matter of infrastructure and -- and -- and investment. So that study's going to come back, and I think it's going to be important to the Board to really look at that come February. That -- that's a big deal.

Commissioner Center said, I appreciate it. I -- I noticed Jon [Hart] stepped away, but -- so I didn't really know whether Chatham County still had the right and -- vis-a-vis the State, and Mr. Macke, you're going to be in a tough position 'cause nobody is happy, and you've read the consumer reaction to Comcast's, you know, hotline -- telephone lines, and, you know, you're -- you're in a tough position. You think government gets criticism, you know you're going to get it. But I learned when I was in the telecom business that you -- you want to make service better, that you bring in competition.

Commissioner Stone said, that's right.

Mr. Macke said, sir, we do --

Commissioner Center said, and -- and -- and that's what we're looking at as Commissioners.

Mr. Macke said, well, I understand that, and just to level set, we do have competitors here in the county. We compete with AT&T and -- and Hargray in parts of the county --

Commissioner Center said, on some levels, but AT&T won't bring in Uni -- Univision. I've asked them about it.

County Manager Smith said, yeah. U-verse.

Mr. Macke said, and -- and I can't speak to what other companies do, don't do, but I can tell you that we do have competitors, and by -- by the same token, we're continually investing in the offerings that we have. In fact, within the past six months we have expanded our offerings so we have up to ten gigs of service for --

Commissioner Center said, right.

Mr. Macke said, -- high volume business users and in the process of rolling out residential gig service.

Commissioner Center said, right. And I'm almost afraid to question you too hard, 'cause I want to watch my sports. I don't want y'all to cut me off. Okay. Thank you. Appreciate it.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Holmes.

Commissioner Holmes said, said, Mr. Mack [sic], how you doing, sir?

Mr. Macke said, I'm doing fine, sir.

Commissioner Holmes said, I -- I would like to have someone from the local office here, really, but -- but since you're the one going to take this whoopin'.

County Manager Smith said, he was ready.

Commissioner Holmes said, I smile with you. Look here, you don't have a popular company here in Chatham County. Did you know that?

Mr. Macke said, well, I can tell you that certainly we -- we serve a number of customers --

Commissioner Holmes said, yeah.

Mr. Macke said, and part of the commitment of the company is to --

Commissioner Holmes said, and I --

Mr. Macke said, -- is really to provide excellent customer experience, and that doesn't always happen.

Commissioner Holmes said, yeah. And I'm not here to whip you upside the head. That's -- that's not what I want. But I am concerned about the citizen that you all serve throughout Savannah and Chatham County. To me, about six years ago you all was here going around the different community talking about the protection, service, and what you was giving.

Mr. Macke said, right.

Commissioner Holmes said, do you remember when that took place?

Mr. Macke said, I remember vividly. In fact, I was just talking to the former Mayor about that yesterday.

Commissioner Holmes said, exactly. And -- and -- and it wasn't pretty meetings. Those meetings was pretty hectic --

Mr. Macke said, sure.

Commissioner Holmes said, -- and fiery. I would figured from those medium, Comcast service would have gotten better.

Mr. Macke said, right.

Commissioner Holmes said, but, me, personally, as a Comcast customer, when it's working, yes. Then I seen the increase in costs. So it prompt me to this question, with the service being cut off for a whole week, and still no service in some houses, what percentage and how do y'all determine what you going to give back to the customer that didn't have the service?

Mr. Macke said, well, typically what happens there is if there is a service outage, then customers get credited based on the time that they're out. So if you pay -- just by --

Commissioner Holmes said, what percentage that be on a daily basis? Do you know?

Mr. Macke said, it would be one-thirtieth of the bill.

Commissioner Holmes said, one-thirtieth of the bill. Okay. So everybody doesn't have the same package, so the monthly, or however they pay is different.

Mr. Macke said, that's right.

Commissioner Holmes said, but each one will receive the one point thirty percentage --

Mr. Macke said, that -- that is the methodology, is that if you're out of service for, you know, two, three or four days, whatever it is, then you -- then we would offer a proration of the bill based on an amount of time you were out.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay. So -- so that mean, that will be on next month bill?

Mr. Macke said, well, in terms of the application, it's -- there's a little bit of a challenge from a logistics standpoint as to how -- how do you do it.

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

Mr. Macke said, based on variability of who was on when and -- and what not. So there's some logistics to work through in order to make that work.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay. As -- as long as you give us some consideration.

Mr. Macke said, absolutely.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay.

Mr. Macke said, absolutely.

Commissioner Holmes said, thank you.

Mr. Macke said, and in fact, that was part of the early process was, you know, when you had the prospect of the extended time of not being able to access certain areas --

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

Mr. Macke said, -- we were immediately looking at discontinuing billing if, you know, for example, there was a -- I mean, in the Charleston area, you had Fripp Island, there was a bridge out, and there was looking at some point like there could be thirty, sixty days before you can access the island, and so in that case, we were looking at discontinuing billing and providing credits across the board. And so, you know, certainly, we have to look at it at a more granular level in the case of Chatham County.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay. Thanks.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Stone.

Commissioner Stone said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Macke, I know that I've spoken with you on numerous occasions now, but you all are a very, very large company.

Mr. Macke said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Stone said, and there was no planning for this. Everybody knew for three or four or five days that there was a possibility that this storm was going to hit. There was no or little communication or connectivity with Georgia Power. As of yesterday, many residents in my District still did not have Comcast. And we're in a society today where Comcast isn't just entertainment, it's -- it's the way some people work. People work out of their homes, internet, telephone. This is now -- you all are entering into more a utility than entertainment. And it's very upsetting to get yelled at from people that need information, want information, and I don't have the equipment to do what -- to do my job and to do it well. So -- I -- I really -- I -- I'm just blown away by the fact that if Georgia Power can bring in extra crews and be ready to hit the ground running, why, with a company as big as Comcast, why couldn't you all do the same thing?

Mr. Macke said, well, Commissioner Stone, you and I have talked about this and -- and I've explained to you that we did prepare. So the fact that we weren't prepared is just absolutely not true. As I -- as I discussed with you on a couple of occasions, we -- a week and a half prior to the storm began to mobilize resources. Some in Chatham County but more in the Augusta area. Number one, we didn't know exactly where the storm was going to hit. So we mobilized resources in Augusta so that we could go to wherever the storm hit the hardest. And as a company, we were impacted all along the Florida coast, all the way up through the Charleston area. And so shortly after the -- the -- after the storm passed, we were -- we were in here at -- as of -- some folks in here Saturday, many more in on Sunday. The first priority was to track down all our employees and make sure they were okay. We got two hundred and fifteen employees that are here in Chatham County and the surrounding area, so we wanted to make sure they were -- they were okay. Number two, we needed to make sure our core network was up and running. The data center that provide the service to this area.

Mr. Macke said, third, the cell towers that our services support recognizing that many folks rely -- rely and -- and public safety as well rely on the cell towers in order to perform all the storm remediation issues, and so the seventy-eight cell towers were a high priority to get the service back up and running to them, and then we also had people riding around assessing damage, and the -- the amount of damage that was incurred here was significantly more than by comparison in Charleston, and so it delayed the timing. So we -- we weren't fully complete with assessment phase until a week ago, Friday of last week. Additionally, from a safety standpoint, we -- our crews cannot come in until after the power is up because there are partially energized cables everywhere, and so just as a matter of safety and a matter of protocol, we can't come in until the power is up.

Commissioner Stone said, I --

Mr. Macke said, so, I mean we were prepared, and we have been working through this, and the large majority of the customers are back and running. We have -- we have as a standard matter of course, we have eighty technicians that are here in this area working every day. As of now, we've -- we have two hundred and fifty technicians. We have anywhere between eighty and a hundred construction crews re-hanging cable. We have forty-five miles of cable that needed to be either replaced or repaired. And just as a matter of context, we're -- you know a day, an average day, we might do a half mile of cable. So there is a significant impact of the storm, and there are some parts of the remediation storm that's going to take longer than others, and certainly, we recognize that if you are one of those customers that doesn't have service, then, you know, here you are two weeks -- and there's a certain amount of aggravation and pain associated with that, and particularly for the small businesses, and we're very sensitive to that fact. And I -- I'll promise you, it is a twenty-four by seven commitment to not just the employees that live and work here in this community, but ones that we've marshaled from all over the southeast to help with the remediation. So it's just not fair to say that we weren't prepared, and we're not taking this seriously.

Commissioner Stone said, well, Mr. Macke, I'm just going to tell you, I got service last night. My area got service last night. I -- I really think thirteen days is a very long time after a storm. I really do. I -- I'm just going to give you my two cents on that. The other thing I really did not appreciate were your workmen coming down the roads

and giving people false information. I was told standing out on my road with my neighbor last Sunday with two gentlemen in a Comcast truck, not physical workers, but in a truck, we'll have you up and running tonight. I was told by you that it would be restored on Wednesday. I didn't get it till last night, and then when I drove out of my driveway this morning, all of your cables are all over the street. And I realize that there are some that are not yours, but yours are out there. They didn't even clean up. So, you know, how do I explain to residents that live in my area that I believe that you all are doing the best you can do? I don't think this was handled well. I will say that forever because I watched Georgia Power come in. I watched what they did, and I watched your guys yesterday. Now, I -- I -- I think thirteen days for people not to have land lines and for people not to have internet is a very long time, and I -- it -- it -- it just seems to me that there could have been better coordination, and I -- I don't like it when people give false information, because then I relay the same information to my constituents, and that's not right.

Mr. Macke said, and I apologize. A guy certainly driving down the truck and telling you that the service will be restored tonight is not -- it was bad information, and I apologize for that. I can tell you that, again, we prepared for this storm. We brought in incremental resources, materials, labor ready to go, and those folks are continuing to kill themselves in order to get everybody back up and running. So I understand where you're coming from, and I understand your position, and, you know, we're doing everything we can to get it back up and running to serve all the citizens here in Chatham County.

Commissioner Stone said, well, I -- I certainly relied on you all to be able to do my job and to answer concerns of my constituents, and for almost two weeks I was unable to do so.

Mr. Macke said, and I apologize for that.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Brady.

Commissioner Brady said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Hello, Mr. Macke.

Mr. Macke said, hello.

Commissioner Brady said, and let me go ahead and acknowledge you and I have been talking for two days now. Once I got your phone number, I was like ah, I need to call him, and we did talk, and I want to say this very quickly, and then I have my comments and questions. We talked about posting things to Facebook. Some of the -- everything that you have texted me, I posted to Facebook at 6:00 o'clock this morning, and people are really appreciating the fact that -- that, you know, I did that. And -- and I'm not going to repeat everything that they have said, but you've been sitting here the whole meeting today, and you heard me say that I had sent out a postcard, and I've told you this.

Mr. Macke said, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Brady said, ninety-seven percent of the calls that I received were in reference to Comcast. Okay?

Mr. Macke said, yes, ma'am.

Commissioner Brady said, and I understand, you know, outages and that kind of stuff, but you and I have talked specifically in reference to customer service, lack thereof customer service, and the teleprompt system that you have. People get frustrated when they're hitting -- hitting, you know, numbers, if they even have service of -- phone service of any kind, and then they're getting these voice responses and not being able to talk to someone, and I can tell you personally, not specific to Comcast -- well, it is specific to y'all, but anybody who has a teleprompt service, including my own doctors and stuff, and I'm doing this trying to talk to somebody, those kind of issues need to be resolved. Not to mention the fact that, and I told you this, that several customers in my District of Comcast, they were being -- being told when they would go through that system, that oh, your system -- your complete system is up and running, and it wasn't, and those kind of issues need to be resolved because the truth is for the most part, I think most folks have been patient, but they're losing their tempers. Well, some of their tempers are already gone, and -- and -- and to piggy back on what Helen [Stone] said, and I have not been out as long as she was, mine was out just when the power was out, but, you know, people do business, and I -- you talked to a business owner or somebody about a golf course in my District yesterday.

Mr. Macke said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Brady said, those folks can't do business because everything they have is with Comcast.

Mr. Macke said, right.

Commissioner Brady said, and, you know, folks that do business out of their homes, and I am one of those folks, it's difficult when systems like that go down, and then when they have to deal with the teleprompt service, and they can't find anybody. Well -- and I've told you this, and then I'll let you respond. The people out in my District, they finally found somebody to talk to because they figured out how to do it. Instead of going through the teleprompt service, and this is all -- going to be on public TV, they hit billing. Well, a person, a live person, would answer that billing call because y'all were looking for money, and I've said this to you. So, I -- I mean,

with everything I've just said, and I'm not trying to attack you, 'cause I've been pleased with what you have told me in keeping me updated, but can you address some of the things that I've just mentioned?

Mr. Macke said, yeah. Certainly. I sure can. So, I think, you know, we all learn from, you know, something like this that happens, and you recognize that there's some opportunities, and I think the biggest opportunity we have is being able to get real time information as to, you know, what is the specific time frame of restoration, and to some extent you don't know exactly, and some of that is because of -- so, you know, as an example, Georgia Power, and this is certainly not any kind of indication against them, but they -- in order to restore service, they rerouted power to -- to -- to get customers up faster, and they also took some rear easements where the distribution went -- ran through rear easements and moved them through front easements, and so, you know, where you think, when you bring up this part of the network it should come up, you find that your electronics that were powered by commercial power aren't -- weren't activated because the power was rerouted. And again, that's not Georgia Power's fault, that just is a -- a -- it was a complication in terms of getting everybody back up and running, and so, I think we could do a -- a -- definitely a better job there. We have begun a dedicated queue so that folks calling from this area go to a set group of agents who are specifically familiar with what is going on in Savannah and in contact with the local group so they're aware of the lay of the land, and so we've done that specific to internet customers and -- and looking to expand that to video and other customers as well. And so I think there is definitely internal and external communication that we could do a -- a better job of. That's -- that's one thing that we certainly walk away with this.

Commissioner Brady said, well -- and I'll respond 'cause we've been talking about the hurricane for quite some time today, to a remark that you made that -- that the queue that people are calling in, and you're trying to give them, you know, information about times of restoration, if you -- if your system doesn't know a fairly accurate time, then you shouldn't give a time.

Mr. Macke said, I agree.

Commissioner Brady said, because what you're doing is infuriating people, and then they keep calling you, calling you, and calling you, and then they have to keep going through that teleprompt service.

Mr. Macke said, I agree.

Commissioner Brady said, so, I mean, those are conversations that you in an administrative -- administrative position with Comcast need to be having with your folks.

Mr. Macke said, we're going to do a full post-mortem on the -- the form, and certainly talk about what -- you know, things like this that we can do better the next go round and -- and build on -- on the positive. So there's no question about that.

Commissioner Brady said, my suggestion to you is what I suggested early about a mail out from the county in reference to -- to our own issues, is that you all do an immediate mail out to the entire citizenry of Chatham County and explain what has happened.

Mr. Macke said, okay.

Commissioner Brady said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Kicklighter, Commissioner Center in that order.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. Macke, I appreciate you being here. It's my understanding, which I don't know if I'm correct or not that the cities, all of the cities in Chatham County actually franchises with Comcast except for maybe a portion of Pooler and possibly Tybee Island, Is that correct?

Mr. Macke said, so we have franchise -- well, we have a franchise, and we pay franchise fees to all the -- all the communities in Chatham County, as well as the unincorporated county. Sometimes that license is through the state process and some of it's local. I think Tybee might be a local. I think most of the others are state.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. I -- I didn't think we could receive -- I didn't think we were able to actually receive franchise fees.

Commissioner Brady said, I didn't think we --

County Manager Smith said, if it's -- when it was taken over by the state, we receive some money through the state.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, well -- okay.

Mr. Macke said, cable -- well, cable is different from phone and power.

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Mr. Macke said, so the -- the -- we -- you do have a franchise -- we do have -- pay franchise fees to --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay.

Mr. Macke said, -- unincorporated Chatham.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, well, then my next question is does it work-- is -- is that mean that everybody that you're paying franchise fees that basically in return they're keeping competition out of the area. Is that --

Mr. Macke said, no, it's not an exclusive arrangement. It's by definition -- or by law, federal law, non-exclusive.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay.

Mr. Macke said, so if anybody else wanted to come in to Chatham County tomorrow --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, they can.

Mr. Macke said, they would, you know, have to demonstrate legal, technical and financial qualifications to operate a system, but they -- they can do that.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. Well -- thank you. As far as reducing the bill, it's my understanding that the bill will not be automatically reduced that -- that your customers would actually have to call in and negotiate a bill reduction. It's not just going to be an across the board reduction. And I say this because looking at social media, I saw where one of your customers received, and he was quite proud, a five dollar reduction, after he called in, and then he realized, when the others chimed in that they were getting thirty-five and forty off, that he didn't negotiate such a good deal. So, is it safe to say that your customers may -- may possibly receive up to but not to exceed the percentage that you stated earlier per day if their negotiating skills are really good, but if not, then they are going to actually -- may, very well possibly receive less of a reduction? Is that a safe statement?

Mr. Macke said, I think the -- let me answer, the typical policy is we'll prorate the bill based on the number of days you're out.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, that would have --

Mr. Macke said, the total bill.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, that would have to be negotiated, though, correct?

Mr. Macke said, I -- I mean I --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, the -- the consumer would have to call in, right?

Mr. Macke said, typical process, yes. You call; you're out; you get a credit.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, and -- and -- and -- and the operator that answers the phone is authorized to give a discount up to a certain percentage point, but they're also authorized to not give -- to go well below that, correct?

Mr. Macke said, well, I think the -- you know, there are -- there are -- almost invariably some set of circumstances that go into every call, and so it's -- it -- it is less effect -- there are certain policies that go around it relative to the storm, and our first priority is let's get on the other end of getting people restored.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, you -- you are a company that when you're out, that's like -- I'll echo what they said, that's been a lot of the phone calls I've received. You're very important to many, many people here, and I know you're in a business to make money and make a living, but it would be a really kind gesture if somehow you could look at this area and just put a flat reduction for them, whether it be five days for everybody, ten days or whatever and just automatically take it off the bills where they don't have to call, and it would show seriously good will for the people that's invested in your company rather than other internets and dishes and whatever out there. And -- is that something that y'all could consider? And -- and --

Mr. Macke said, it's absolutely conversations we're -- we're having. We haven't landed on exactly what's the best mechanics to make that happen and what's the right number of days and those kind of things, but those are conversations that we are having.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, it would be very gracious if y'all overestimated the amount of days rather than under estimating, and maybe come up with a ten-day, you know, a one-time thing that would make a lot of people feel a lot better about this wonderful Comcast that we have, rather than the sour taste that many have having to call and negotiate and -- just 'cause Joe Blow's not a negotiator, he gets five dollars off, and sorry if you're watching this, whoever said that five dollars on my Facebook, but -- but that would be something that, you know, I would personally appreciate if you could do that, and as soon as you come up with something, if you could let the County Manager know, and he could let us know, and we could let the citizens know, it would be nice to be able to jump out and say something just really great. But it's hard for us to be able to say

something great when we're catching flack from people that, you know, that are currently still, some of them without their service.

Mr. Macke said, understood.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, so, if you could work on that, we would -- I know I would greatly appreciate it. I can't speak for everyone else, but --

Mr. Macke said, I'll definitely follow-up on that. Absolutely.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, sir.

Mr. Macke said, you're welcome.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Center.

Commissioner Center said, yes, Mr. Macke, I didn't want to leave you in a totally sour note. There -- there seems to be a great disconnect between your individual workers who deal with us and those administration dealing with us, 'cause I got to tell you, every single guy who's come out to my house has been a fantastic employee, very knowledgeable, has always helped me and always been terrific -- I've always given them the highest ratings. So I want your employees who are watching this who live in Chatham County to know that I'm -- I'm -- I'm very happy with them individually. The disconnect seems to be with the administration.

Mr. Macke said, fair enough, and I appreciate that, and that's a great focus for us is making it easier to do business with us and making sure our employees are oriented to providing a excellent customer experience.

Chairman Scott said, any other member of the Commission have a question of Comcast? The only thing I would ask if there's anybody in the audience who wish to speak with you, if he would please address the issues in the lobby.

Mr. Macke said, sure, I'd be happy to do that.

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

Mr. Macke said, all right. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, and with that, is there any -- Mr. Manager, you have anything else you want to talk about on Matthew?

County Manager Smith said, no, sir.

Chairman Scott said, any member of the Commission have anything else to say about Matthew before we move on the agenda?

Commissioner Shabazz said, yeah, I -- I have -- I have --

Commissioner Farrell said, three hours.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I have -- I have --

Commissioner Thomas said, oh, I don't want to hear anything.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I have a question of the -- of the Manager and yourself.

Chairman Scott said, go ahead. Commissioner Shabazz.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I'm waiting -- I'm waiting -- I'm waiting on --

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Shabazz.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I'd just like to ask you -- well, I'm going to say this, when I was out in Westlake when that -- after the storm --

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Shabazz said, the Mayor and the City Manager came out there, and I informed them that that wasn't a part of the City that was indeed unincorporated Chatham County, and -- so some of the residents want to know were you all coming out there, were you and the Chairman coming out there?

County Manager Smith said, we were actually -- we were actually on the phone during the storm. We were actually calling the company --

Commissioner Shabazz said, no, I'm asking -- I'm asking -- I'm asking you -- I'm asking -- I'm asking you --

County Manager Smith said, -- within 24 hours. I've been out there twice.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, and I --

Commissioner Shabazz said, did you speak with -- did you --

County Manager Smith said, I've been -- I've been in contact with the company seven times, conference calls with the Aspen Company.

Commissioner Shabazz said, no, I'm not talking about when we went out there now.

Chairman Scott said, no, he's not talking about either.

County Manager Smith said, I'm talking about --

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

County Manager Smith said, -- this time.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. Well, several residents wanted to know why wasn't you all out there.

County Manager Smith said, when we went out there, there was very few people out there.

Commissioner Shabazz said, and did you have any intentions of coming out there?

County Manager Smith said, I went.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. And one of the reasons --

County Manager Smith said, and --

Commissioner Shabazz said, -- why I asked to is because you're asking the residents to be patient, but that would add to their level of tolerance if they could see those leaders of the County too, as well as the City.

County Manager Smith said, we did. We talked to them.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Commissioner Shabazz said, all right. I --

County Manager Smith said, even saw some in the shelter.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I just wanted to ask you the question. That's all.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm. Sure.

Chairman Scott said, okay. And the -- we also -- I personally asked the County Manager after going out there if he would get in touch with DFACS to make sure they had a case worker in place.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Chairman Scott said, and then -- so, yes, I've been to Westbrook [sic]. I just don't carry the camera or the press with me when I go. I also spoke and -- with the residents as well --

Commissioner Shabazz said, you said -- you said you don't carry the press with you.

Chairman Scott said, -- as well as the Red Cross.

Commissioner Shabazz said, the press is just out there, you know.

Chairman Scott said, I also spoke with residents, as well as the Red Cross and I also, before we move on from the hurricane, I just want to thank the folk at Compassion Church out on Henderson. They took in a lot of residents from Westlake and other places, and them, along with the Red Cross, and we really appreciate that. The other thing is that we had some folk who contacted us about wanting to donate food, and I put them in contact with the Red Cross who would distribute the food, rather than with individuals, and with the lady who's in charge of the Red Cross at Westlake, and I have her -- her cell number. I don't want to give it out publicly,

but she too have been in contact concerning donated items that's not direct contributions to the Red Cross. And, again, a -- a big shout out to the Compassion Church family for their willingness to open their doors to house a shelter for us and -- during the storm and the transition period.

Chairman Scott said, I -- I -- I asked if anybody wanted to say anything else about Matthew.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I just wanted to echo about some food for Westlake, that's all.

Chairman Scott said, go ahead.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I just wanted to --

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just wanted to thank --

Commissioner Brady said, your mike's not on.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I just wanted to thank -- off of that, thank the Savannah Area Board of Realtors, they contacted me wanting to distribute two hundred meals to Westlake residents, and I thankfully was able to put them in touch with some people that was able to help get them out there. So, thank you Savannah Area Board of Realtors for everything. Everyone appreciated it. Thanks.

Chairman Scott said, we're going to take a five-minute break so the Clerk can stretch her fingers, and we'll resume the agenda in five minutes. Twelve thirty by the clock on the wall. Twelve twenty-five by my watch.

[NOTE: The meeting recessed at 12:20 p.m.; the meeting reconvened at 12:30 p.m.].

Chairman Scott said, Counselor, we're back in session.

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

Chairman Scott said, next item on the agenda, Chairman and Commissioner items. The Chairman have no items.

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

### **1. DISCUSSION REGARDING YOUTH FOOTBALL PROGRAM (Commissioner Holmes said, ). SPEAKERS WILL BE MAURICE JOHNSON, MICHAEL HAMILTON AND JUSTIN WALKER.**

Chairman Scott said, under Commission items, Item one. We have a discussion regarding youth football program. This is a request by Commissioner Holmes.

Commissioner Holmes said, said, thank you, sir, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, and -- and Commissioner Farrell.

Commissioner Holmes said, yes.

County Manager Smith said, yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, and I think they both had a presentation they wanted to make, and if -- if we can limit that to ten minutes, I would appreciate it.

Commissioner Holmes said, we should be able to do it. What you think, Pat [Farrell]?

Commissioner Farrell said, yeah. I think we should be able to deal with it.

Commissioner Holmes said, some time ago there was a group -- group of citizen, a group of volunteer coaches, what they wanted to do is assist government in making their programs much better. At this time this group was participating with the City of Savannah tackle football program, and they began to lobby the County and the City to see which one is providing and offering the best service, the best program, and they sit with both government, and their decision was it was Chatham County Recreation Department that they want to participate with. They came to us last year, and when they came to us, there must have been almost 28 to 32 teams switch from the

County -- from the City to the County, and it put a burden on our recreation department, but our department stood up to the task, put together a tremendous program last year. At Sallie Mood, with the crowd out there on Saturday, it is a public safety concern with that many parent supporting their kids. That many teams in one area. Remember you got the Aquatic Center there. You have Jennifer Ross Soccer Complex there, plus you have the tackle football, so you can see the congested of traffic that it generates.

Commissioner Holmes said, so we had a series of meetings from the department that they did an evaluation of some changes that wanted to take place this year from 2015 to 2016. The change that the recreation department wanted is that team cannot participate in both leagues, the City league and the County league. The last meeting we had pertaining this issue, ninety-eight percent of us left out of the meeting thinking that we would be doing the right thing deciding that a child cannot participate or a team in two leagues because of the safety and development of little, young body and their young mind. When you allow a young mind to participate in recreation ball, tackle football extremely, you do not know the damage that you're doing to that child mind. You don't know the damage you're doing to that child body. So with that policy that our department put in, I wholly support that, but we had some differences of whether we want to stay with that.

Commissioner Holmes said, now that meeting that we dispersed from and left, we all thought it was clear, but then later on, I think the very next day, we found out that we were giving the okay for this team to participate in both leagues, the City and the County, and that's when we came back together and had some differences of that opinion. But what I want to say is that being a team player, I like to participate on teams because I'm a team concept. When our Manager came on board he adopted that word team, Team Chatham, and it have flied and it have taken off, Mr. Smith, with big fashion about team. But when I got sworn in as a County Commissioner, I got sworn in as a part of a novice team here. The Dean Kicklighter and Ms. Thomas, the Odell, they were here. They guide me along, but since that day till now, I'm no longer on the bench. I'm not a substitute no more. I want to be a part of this team that moving forward for the best of our program and for the best of our youth.

Commissioner Holmes said, so with that in mind, what I want to say, I respect our department heads when they sit down and evaluate what their doing, bring back their report to us. At least the ethical part of that we should support what they want, and I got a problem with us going over our department head to what they want and deliberately changing it and it's not in the best interest of the program that's going forward. That's why I wanted this to come before us today. That's what I wanted to speak about, and that tackle football program that I'm speaking about, that's the team, over the years, have been put on the down side of concern, the City of Savannah and Chatham County, and the reason why, I can't really put my hands on it. When baseball was really big in Savannah, Guy Minick's baseball complex growed, Paulsen growed, softball growed, soccer growed. All these teams and organizations they got what they wanted, Mr. Smith. Soccer, football took off. Softball took off. We built the softball complex by the name of Paulsen Softball. Minick's baseball. So all these teams had these facility that they call their own.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Holmes said, thirty-five years of coaching in the City of Savannah and Chatham County, I personally been fighting both government to put some quality planning in to helping this tackle football program say something that they have their own. It's not their own exclusively for them, multi-use fields, just like they do to soccer, just like they do to baseball, and I'm not talking about developing fields. 'Cause when we wanted softball, we developed a softball complex. When we wanted soccer, we developed a soccer complex. When we wanted baseball, we developed a baseball complex, but when we wanted tackle football, we developed fields. We did not develop a complex that we can call a soccer -- a base -- a tackle football facility. And that's why that age group, that's why that program have always felt like they are the one being shoved aside.

Commissioner Holmes said, now, I don't want to get in to a part of this, but I feel comfortable saying this to everybody. When we was in the City, that program went from seventy to thirty percent diversiveness to ninety-nine percent African American. When we came to the County, it was mixed, and in three or four years, it became ninety-nine percent African American. So the question I'm asking, why is it that this tackle football program have not been given the quality time to feel that they're part of the system, they're a part of this County or they were a part of the City. That's my question. I will go forward with that on my mind, and, sir, when we made that decision, because one other team wanted us to allow that particular team to play in both leagues, and we fight against it, I still hold firm that I do not like it. It's not good for the young mind and nobody should play two tackle football game in one day. With that in mind, I'll put it back in your hand, Mr. Farrell.

Commissioner Farrell said, all right. Well, there's -- there's several things going on, but one of the main things I want to say is that I'm an advocate for all recreation at all levels, for all genders and all races. I think it's the -- the greatest place to -- to raise children as -- in a recreational environment as a component of their growth. So, across the board, I advocate for all sporting events, all recreational events, and I would like to play my role to make as much of that happen throughout Chatham County regardless of jurisdictional lines and this, that and the other thing that we -- that I personally like to promote recreational activities for youth. We grow up too fast and then we have to go to work and take care of our families and -- and recreation opportunities become very sparse as you become older, so at -- at your young age, I'd like to see as much opportunity and it also helps the -- the child, in my opinion to learn how to get along with others and how to work within a -- a framework of rules and to -- and to work as a team, which is all vital components for a successful community.

Commissioner Farrell said, the -- a couple -- I'll just make maybe two or three points. The -- the public safety issue on -- on the -- the -- the fields that we're currently playing football on are real. Saturday morning by

jamming all the football games on in the morning time rather than breaking them up some during the week, you know, exasperates an already very active corridor. So, by continuing to keep them all on Saturday morning, rather than diversify, seems to defeat the point of public service. So, I would ask staff to consider on that issue alone to -- to either find more facilities, which I'm all in favor of developing more facilities, and/or change the -- the programming somewhat for the times of the games.

Commissioner Farrell said, the second thing, I have the utmost concern for children's health and well-being, but I believe that -- that the parent is the last and most important -- the first, last and most important determination of a child's participation in any activity. If they don't know what's best for them, I -- I don't want to pretend to know. When it comes to all these different sports, football, you know, I've heard anywhere from, you know, playing a couple games a week, down to, I've got parents that wouldn't let their child put a helmet on, much less touch -- you know, barely even touch a football. So, the gamut is -- and the -- and the spectrum is very large. And again, rather than -- you know, I just think that the best determinant is the parent, themselves for their particular child and what they participate in.

Commissioner Farrell said, and the last thing I want to say is that I would not like to see our recreation department put arbitrary limits on who can play in our programs and who can't. I believe that every child, if they want to come to this county and participate in our league, that they should be given that opportunity and not be given a litmus test that says, if you do this, then you can't come over here. If you do that, you can't play. I would just like to have as few barriers as possible to having children participate in our programs. I'll let staff determine how they go about doing that, but that's just a general philosophy that -- that I have on -- on those particular items.

Commissioner Farrell said, so, that's all I have to say a -- about it. I know there was some -- some coaches and parents that -- that wanted to be recognized today. So, if we want to go to that part, I'll turn my time back over to the Chairman.

County Manager Smith said, Mr. Chairman? Before --

Chairman Scott said, you all turned in -- you turned in three names and one of them was Maurice Johnson, Michael Hamilton and Justin Walker. Any of them here?

County Manager Smith said, some of the individuals had to leave to go to work. So -- yeah.

Commissioner Shabazz said, right down there. They representing -- they representing them.

County Manager Smith said, some of the other folks gave me a note and said they had to go to work.

Commissioner Shabazz said, but these -- this -- this family right here is the only one left.

Chairman Scott said, is Justin Walker or Michael Hamilton or Maurice Johnson here?

Mr. Maurice Johnson said, Maurice Johnson.

Chairman Scott said, Mr. Johnson.

Mr. Johnson said, good afternoon.

Members of the Commission collectively said, good afternoon.

Mr. Johnson said, I would like to thank you for giving us the opportunity to come and speak to you on behalf of some of the issues that's been going on in the -- the county rec department. I would like to respectfully disagree with Mr. Holmes and a few points he made. Number one, we can deal with the rules of the county rec department, but those rules didn't play in effect until after we submitted our paperwork. This is an ongoing issue from two years ago when a few coaches didn't get a fair call and decided to form a -- an alliance as they stated several times and boycott playing in the city. They didn't just decide to go play in the County, they boycotted the City and they went to the County and said that we would like to pull all the teams out of the City and bring them over in the County, but we want special privileges in doing so, and one of the privileges was any team that didn't support the alliance and not pull their team out of the City recreation football and play in the County, that they would boycott them. And I had a problem with that. I stand and I represent the Westside Whippers, and we have over two hundred some kids on our -- in our organization, and it's an injustice to our kids for them to be told that they can only play in one league because you have a few coaches that -- that had a disagreement.

Mr. Johnson said, this rule about playing in one league, that's never been a County rule. It was only submitted, I have a email from Christian [sic] Chastain from the county rec department that he sent to me after we submitted our paperwork, and he stated that this rule came in effect in July of this year, after we submitted our paperwork the first part of July, and we had a problem with that. So that's why we solicited the help of some of our County Commissioners in finding out the facts and going through the situation and -- as to why this rule came in effect. Also, I would like to say that on last year, prior to our championship game for the District, I've always communicated with Mr. Christian [sic] Chastain, who is over the -- I guess is the director of the rec in Chatham County. He approached me at the championship game and introduced himself to me. I -- I've emailed back and forth or spoke with him on the phone but I never met him. Well, he introduced himself at the

championship game where we was -- we was representing the City, and he was there representing the County team, and he specifically told me that he would make sure that our organization wouldn't be allowed to play in both City and County this year, and we had a problem with that also.

Mr. Johnson said, so I spoke with the County Commission on that, and he said that until they refuse us the right to play, then, you know, we just go along and provide our paperwork, submit our payments. I also like to say Mr. Cameron [Chastain] as if the County kind of joined the alliance with us also because I had a meeting with the County Manager and the Assistant County Manager and Mr. Holmes and Mr. Farrell, and after that meeting and me explaining to them what was going on, they decided to allow our kids to play in the Chatham County rec football program and to adjust our schedule because we were playing in the City. Now, of course, we don't want our kids playing two games in one day. We asked that because we're playing in the City, that they would continue to let us play our games in the County during the week. We've been in the County rec department for fourteen, fifteen years, and we've always played our games during the week. We've never played a County game on the weekend unless it was a playoff or championship game.

Mr. Johnson said, and so, with that, we were just asking that -- we're not -- we don't care about what the other programs do or the other teams do, but this is what we wanted for our kids. We want them to be able to play in both, because you only get six or seven -- seven or eight games, so playing in both allows us to have a full season so they can play a lot more games. Okay? The issue about concussions and all that stuff never arose after this witch hunt that they're on because we didn't join their alliance. So it's not -- it was never a County rule. This is something that came about after we submitted our paperwork. So then, after I met with the County Manager and them, they allowed us to play, and they put out a press release saying that they're going to stand -- they're going to uphold their decision to continue us in the league, and they had our kids go out there. We get our kids out there for a 6:00 o'clock game, and then they tell us -- they have their -- their -- their employees at the county rec department call these other teams and tell them that we're not going to forfeit your game if you don't -- don't go and play them. And I think that was wrong of the County Managers and the County rec department to do so. When these teams decided that they were going to boycott us and then they get help from the County rec department in boycotting us.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I want to be recognized. I want to be recognized to say something about that.

Mr. Johnson said, so we're -- we're here today. I understand our -- our season is almost over -- the season is almost over, and so we understand that. There's nothing they can do right now, but we just want to make sure that our elected officials know what our tax payers -- our tax dollars are doing in -- in providing salaries for people over there at the rec department that do our kids this way, you know.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Are you finished with your presentation?

Mr. Johnson said, yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, thank you for -- for coming and the change of schedule, and you being here to adjust your schedule to be here, Mr. Johnson. I appreciate that. We have a Commission from Commissioner Shabazz from the 5<sup>th</sup> District.

Mr. Johnson said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes. Do you have documentation of what you stated just now?

Mr. Johnson said, documentation as far as what?

Commissioner Shabazz said, that they -- that the County instructed those teams? Do you have documentation of that? Someone told you that?

Mr. Johnson said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Mr. Johnson said, I called Cameron Chastain.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Mr. Johnson said, because a couple of the teams stated to me that they was going to be short the players because they didn't want to get a forfeit, and then they got a call from him saying that they wasn't going to forfeit them, and also, if you look on the County website where they have our schedules --

Commissioner Shabazz said, right.

Mr. Johnson said, as well as our win/loss record, they never -- we showed up three games and they never -- they never forfeit the teams that didn't show up. So we was questioning that, and he said that all the questions was directed to the County Manager's office. I called and spoke with Michael Kaigler, the Assistant County Manager, and I explained to him that Cameron Chastain told the coaches that they didn't have to show up and

they wouldn't be forfeited, and he said, that well they shouldn't have told us that, but I said, well it came from the direction of your office, and he never disputed that.

Commissioner Shabazz said, all right. So currently, you -- you -- your team -- your organization is allowed to play in both County and City leagues?

Mr. Johnson said, well that was their agreement. They also put a press release out that I have saying that they were going to uphold it, and because they got flack from the alliance, they rescinded it, and after our third game that no team showed up to play us, then they pulled us back off the schedule.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Holmes said, Mr. Chairman?

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. Can the County speak? Can -- can the director of parks and rec speak?

Commissioner Holmes said, yeah.

Chairman Scott said, I'll -- I'll recognize the Manager when we get through, but I want to -- there are questions of Mr. Maurice -- Mr. Johnson. Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. So how you doing?

Mr. Johnson said, I'm all right, man.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, it's been a long time since we went to school together.

Mr. Johnson said, oh, yeah.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I just want to say my fantasy football team's named the Westside Whippers, and I hope y'all did a lot better than I've done so far. So.

Mr. Johnson said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, but, your current schedule, to kind of try to understand the concussion argument. Right now playing for just the City of Savannah, can you give me -- currently you play games on what day?

Mr. Johnson said, on Saturday.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. And practice -- give me your practice schedule. What -- how many days a week do you practice?

Mr. Johnson said, during the regular season we practice three days a week.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, so go ahead and give me those days.

Mr. Johnson said, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay.

Mr. Johnson said, we only have contact two of those days because on Fridays we just do a walk through preparing for -- for Saturday.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay.

Mr. Johnson said, and on Thursdays we give the kids an off day so they can get home and get prepared for their tests and stuff, so we don't practice on Thursdays.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, so two of those days you have full contact.

Mr. Johnson said, yes.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, which would be the same as a game mode, as far as the intensity and hitting?

Mr. Johnson said, not always. Some of it is instructional training but we keep them in equipment so they can, you know, their bodies and stuff can get used to --

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I'm actually trying to justify your argument here, actually. So --

Mr. Johnson said, yeah.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, -- bear with me on this.

Mr. Johnson said, okay.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, if you -- if it was that case --

Mr. Johnson said, yeah. Two days.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, would you be willing, if they ever decided to move in the direction to have, whatever, Thursday night games, would you be willing to get rid of one of your full scrimmage days in exchange?

Mr. Johnson said, of course.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, that a way the hitting would not be occurring any more than it does on a normal basis.

Mr. Johnson said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, okay. Thank you.

Chairman Scott said, any further questions of Mr. Johnson? If not, again, thank you for being here.

Mr. Johnson said, all right. Thank you.

Commissioner Shabazz said, thank you, sir.

Chairman Scott said, at this time I'll recognize the County Manager for any comments he have in reference to this before --

County Manager Smith said, sure.

Chairman Scott said, and any questions anybody may have of the County Manager.

County Manager Smith said, yeah. We did have meetings reference this issue and the concern. We did meet with Commissioner Holmes, Commissioner Farrell, Michael Kaigler, myself, and Stephen Proper. We understood -- once we -- you know the schedule of the games had already been set when this came up. We looked at the possibility of being able to allow both leagues, but the policies were set in the summer. The schedules were set in the summer. Once we said, okay, collectively, we'll try and do this, as long as no child plays a tackle football game within twenty-four hours of the other games because of some of the best practices and standards -- national standards for injury that, you know, then carry on through adulthood, and that's very real. Well, we said, okay, we would open this up. We opened it up, and I was inundated. Now, I -- I don't know about an alliance, I just know that I was inundated by parents who said my schedule has already been set for this fall for our kids to play on Saturday, and now you're telling us, we've got to play on weekdays, plus Saturday? They said, we can't do it. It's already been set, and now you're changing it, and I will tell you, we made a mistake changing the policy. We should have left the policy as is as set by the coaches and recreation in the summer.

County Manager Smith said, what I have committed to do is this winter is to allow all the coaches and interested parties or parents to sit down with recreation this winter and decide on what rules they want to live by period. They've got to decide, but it was too late in the season. It inconvenienced a lot of people. Is it fair to everybody? Absolutely not, but we had to make some decision, and I realized in making the decision, it was a win/lose. It was a win/lose, but we had to recognize that and do what was good for the whole and knowing some few were going to suffer absolutely, and that they wanted to play. And -- and we were in our meeting, I think Commissioner Holmes said, and Commissioner Farrell and -- and Michael Kaigler and Stephen [Proper] will say we were very compassionate to the issue of playing on both -- on both leagues, but we had to look at the fact that we were already in -- in the, you know --

Commissioner Holmes said, Mr. -- Mr. Smith, -- Mr. Smith, don't -- don't put that word in my mouth that I say passionate about playing in both leagues. I never agreed to that.

County Manager Smith said, well I was saying as far as looking at the policies.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay.

County Manager Smith said, yes. Looking at the policies.

Commissioner Holmes said, I just -- I just wanted to make that clear. Okay.

County Manager Smith said, so, I apologize, but looking at the policies because we wanted to make sure we had safety things covered. The safety of the -- of the child, but also, one thing we discussed was the logistics of making sure -- you hope and pray everybody on an honor system is honest, but we've got to make sure that every child is not playing that way. We couldn't assure that and couldn't commit to it. So we had to make a

decision, and I made the call and said we can't do this. You know, we're going -- we had already started the season. We've got to back up and go with the rule that was set in the summer. Does it inconvenience some? Absolutely. Is it fair to everybody? No, but for the majority, where the rules had already been set by the coaches and everyone sitting down back in the summer, those were the rules and everybody that were there agreed to them. That was the majority of the people in the league.

Commissioner Thomas said, Mr. Chairman?

Chairman Scott said, I got our Vice Chair, Commissioner Thomas, with a question to the Manager.

Commissioner Thomas said, no, I -- I don't really have a question for the Manager, but I -- I -- I'm sitting here, and I'm listening at everything that has been said, and it really disturbs me over the fact that here we are trying to encourage young people to be positive and to develop into, you know, wonderful people. I don't understand why we've gotten to this place, and what I -- I -- I would like to see is that we -- whomever is responsible to sit down and get some dialogue going, along with the parents, as well, so that we can move forward and get these young people back on track at playing their football and what have you. When they're engaged in things like this, we -- they don't have time to go and break in somebody's house or do some other things and -- that we are now experiencing. So we need to provide more positive things for them and football, you know, is one of those things, and I know that we need to look at the health issues as well. So whatever it takes from my perspective to get this done and get it done correctly so that all young people can participate, whether you are African American or otherwise. And, this is what I'd like to see going forward, and we need to do that as soon as possible because I don't want to sit next month -- October, November -- December is my last month sitting up here, and I'm hoping that before I leave this County Commission, that we will have this resolved.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Holmes said, and Commissioner Shabazz.

Commissioner Holmes said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. Let me -- let me -- let me clear up a couple of things here that -- first of all I -- I don't think nobody love recreation ball no more than me and especially when it come to youth.

Commissioner Thomas said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Holmes said, and I don't think no one here in this room have the knowledge I have about developing a youth. When it comes to tackle football, there are some major concern to the participation and how many time you allow that young body to participate in tackle football exclusively.

Commissioner Thomas said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Holmes said, and in any sport across the nation now, they're telling you cut back on the developing a child so many hours, so many days and so many contests. That's across the nation now. It -- it -- that ain't nothing new. If you've been going to any clinics, reading any books, getting any training, they'll tell you do not over use a young body and a young mind. Now, with that going forward, Mr. Chairman, we have our recreation director, and I would love for him to come to the mike and clear up some things that I just heard just now because our Manager just mentioned that what he did was incorrect and how he broke the policy. Now the policy was put into effect from the evaluation, Mr. Smith, that the recreation department and his staff got together after last year football season.

County Manager Smith said, with the coaches.

Commissioner Holmes said, with the coaches, with the staff, and they changed the policy from allowing a team to participate in two leagues.

County Manager Smith said, correct.

Commissioner Holmes said, that was put into their policy this year from the evaluation. And at the meetings, the organizational meetings with all the teams and coaches there, you remember me specifically ask was this policy explained to everybody? The answer was yes. So with that going forward, I'm assuming the Whippers was present and the Whippers heard what was implemented to them of the policy change. So, now, when did it change from the organizational meeting to the season opening? I don't have a knowledge on that, but we have to protect the integrity of the work that our director done and the evaluation him and the coaches done after the season last year.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Holmes said, so, I would like to have Mr. Steve Proper to come to the mike so he can --

Chairman Scott said, not at this time -- not at this time, Commissioner.

Commissioner Holmes said, okay. Well, go -- move right along, but that's -- that's how that happened, Mr. Smith.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Holmes said, and -- and -- and for us to change a policy that our department head had in effect just to allow someone to play in two leagues, I don't think it was correct.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Shabazz has a question of the --

County Manager Smith said, yes, sir.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. How many teams playing in both leagues now?

County Manager Smith said, I'd have to ask Mr. Proper.

Parks and Recreation Director Stephen Proper said, how many teams play in -- in both leagues?

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes.

Mr. Proper said, the --

County Manager Smith said, sorry.

Chairman Scott said, Mr. Manager, you want to bring Mr. Proper up?

County Manager Smith said, yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, that's -- he reports to you.

County Manager Smith said, yes, sir.

Chairman Scott said, yeah. Okay.

Mr. Proper said, at -- at this point, no -- nobody.

Commissioner Shabazz said, one team.

Mr. Proper said, well, they -- they were put on the schedule, but as the County Manager stated, he made a -- a decision, and they're not on the schedule any more. So -- so nobody. It was one team, correct.

Chairman Scott said, okay. And -- and -- since the Manager called Mr. Proper to come up, Commissioner Holmes, did you have a question of Mr. Proper?

Commissioner Holmes said, yes. Doing last year at the end of the season, you and how many of your staff members, along with the coaches sat down and evaluated [sic] the season that you just had it?

Mr. Proper said, it was me; Vicki Blumberg, who's my recreation superintendent; Cameron Chastain, who's the sports director; several coaches. I -- I don't remember how many. It was several.

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

Mr. Proper said, and you were there.

Commissioner Holmes said, mm-hmm.

Mr. Proper said, and we discussed -- like I do every time, and -- and anyone who comes to my post meetings. I do pre and post meetings to assure that we put out the best product that we can, and this was a post meeting where we sat down and, you know, said what rules we thought was good and what rules we didn't, and -- and that's basically what it is. We sat -- changed a couple other minor rules, but we did change this one and -- and mainly it -- it is because of the health reason. I mean college, high school, they play -- and even pros, they'd play less games if -- if both teams play both -- both sides. We -- we have a lot of things on concussions. Go to GRPA and -- and NRPA conferences. They -- they have classes upon classes, and that's -- that's the -- that's the main reason. There's some other minor reasons, but that is the main reason, and it -- it -- it was -- it was -- came to that as -- as innocent. I mean it -- it was not trying to -- we don't have an alliance with anybody. It was no quid pro quo. It was nothing like that. And we did send an email out to everybody, I believe it was July the 19<sup>th</sup>, and that before we received anyone's paperwork. We sent it out to everyone that participated -- participated in our program the year before, which was the Westside Whippers. And the coaches meeting that we had that all coaches were invited, Mr. Johnson was not there. We looked at the -- we -- we take a roll or -- or a sign in sheet. There was some Whippers from their organization there. In fact, we have a six and under team that even plays in our league, and it's not really teams, it's -- it's stated as individuals. If an individual plays -- like -- like if the Whippers had two ten and under teams and they wanted to play one in our league and one in the City leagues, that's -- that's fully permissible under those rules.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Holmes said, at the -- at the evaluation meeting, what was some of the changes from the past to this year? Policy change?

Mr. Proper said, it was this rule that we're -- we're discussing.

Commissioner Holmes said, this rule is what rule?

Mr. Proper said, well, it -- it -- it -- like I said, it's -- it's a rule that -- that states that -- and I -- I -- I don't have the exact wording, but it states that an individual child can only participate in either our program or -- or any other program. It doesn't specify city. It -- I mean, they could play for the Pooler organization or the Dawgs organization or -- or some other organization. They can't participate in -- in both leagues.

Commissioner Holmes said, if my memory serve me correctly, it don't state child, it state team?

Mr. Proper said, I -- I thought it was individual.

Commissioner Holmes said, team -- individual, but it -- it states that the team or organization cannot participate in two leagues.

Mr. Proper said, right. In -- in -- in other words, a whole team can't come from -- it has to be, you know -- a Whippers organization can play. Like I said, they can have two ten and under teams --

Commissioner Holmes said, right.

Mr. Proper said, -- and one can participate in the City and one can play -- participate in the county.

Commissioner Holmes said, exactly. Okay. Thank you, sir.

Mr. Proper said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, okay. We got two more questions. We got Commissioner Farrell, then Commissioner Shabazz in that order.

Commissioner Farrell said, thank you. So I'm hearing that this is the first time that Chatham County Recreation Department banned certain children from playing in their football program.

Commissioner Holmes said, not -- not -- not children.

Commissioner Farrell said, not children?

Commissioner Holmes said, children can play but they can't play in two leagues.

Chairman Scott said, let's let Mr. Proper -- the question is asked of Mr. Proper.

Commissioner Farrell said, all right. I'll start over. I understand that the Chatham County Recreation Department instituted a policy, or rule, that a child can play in their league but not simultaneously in anyone else's contact football league. Is that correct?

Mr. Proper said, correct.

Commissioner Farrell said, okay. Is this wide-spread throughout the County and the State of Georgia?

Mr. Proper said, I'm not aware of it, but it is -- it is uncommon for the State of Georgia and -- and other -- and other districts or -- or leagues that they play in two leagues. I mean it just usually does not happen, and -- and that's my professional opinion. I -- I was a director up at Lumpkin -- Lumpkin County, which was Metro Atlanta, so I'm real familiar with that area, also I go to all the GRPA conferences where -- talking to other individual directors that this is -- I won't say a unique -- our only problem, but it's unique.

Commissioner Farrell said, okay. So, there's several other leagues in Chatham County. You mentioned the Dawgs, you mentioned Pooler Packers, I think, and I think we're talking about the City of Savannah has a program. Do they also have this same policy? And if so, how long have they had it where they re -- re -- refuse to have a child play in their league because maybe they're playing for the Packers or the County or something.

Mr. Proper said, I'm unaware of any -- any other policy.

Commissioner Farrell said, so it's just Chatham County?

Mr. Proper said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Farrell said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, we got a -- we need to get the questions to -- we've got another question by Commissioner Shabazz.

Commissioner Farrell said, okay. Well -- so this is a new policy that -- that we've just instituted this year, and there was -- at one of our meetings some -- some consideration for the playing two games back to back on a Saturday morning would be difficult on the child so I want to commend staff for making the compromise to -- to schedule the teams that were going to have children in multiple leagues to play on different dates, and I -- I thought that was a good compromise. It didn't make everybody happy, but, it was in the best interest of the children, you know, erring on the side of safety. So, -- and -- and as Dean [Kicklighter] was pointing out earlier, if you're playing --

Chairman Scott said, you mean Commissioner Kicklighter?

Commissioner Farrell said, Commissioner Dean Kicklighter has mentioned earlier, that when you're playing a game during the week, you could easily substitute that for a contact football practice -- in my opinion. I'm not the expert. I do have children of that youth age that are both participating in youth football in this County, but that's just my own personal opinion.

Mr. Proper said, let -- let me just clarify one thing that was said. Someone told Mr. Johnson that Cameron Chastain was telling people that -- don't play in both leagues. I personally have seen -- I'm sorry. I personally have heard him converse with coaches, and he's never been -- he never said anything like that. He's been so professional with all this. He's -- he's sent out emails saying this is the new schedule, people call, and he -- he was only -- he -- he -- he was a professional through the whole thing.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Shabazz has a last question.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I don't think that they should be denied to play in both leagues, and -- and having said that, I want to go down on the record for being in support of them playing in both leagues. Now, we're -- we're -- we're a governing body here. Whatever this Board decide is what -- what -- what happens.

Chairman Scott said, we are -- we are a legislative body. We don't set policy. We set --

Commissioner Shabazz said, well what do we do then if we don't set policy?

Chairman Scott said, staff formulate policy.

Commissioner Shabazz said, staff do what we tell them to do, right?

Chairman Scott said, based on our legislation, or our ordinance?

Commissioner Shabazz said, well, I'm not in agreement with it, Chairman. I think that we need to take a -- a -- a decision on this Board as to what needs to happen with that.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

Commissioner Shabazz said, as -- as Commissioners.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

Commissioner Shabazz said, not just leave it up to them to say well these children can't play in this league if they play in the City league.

Chairman Scott said, okay. This is -- we don't have anything before us to vote on in terms of rules.

Commissioner Shabazz said, well, can we put something before us?

Commissioner Farrell said, a resolution, like we're going to do for the FEMA support.

Chairman Scott said, not the --

Commissioner Shabazz said, one -- one of the reasons why I ask, this -- this team, this organization been around since I was a child.

Chairman Scott said, yeah, I'm not --

Commissioner Shabazz said, hold on. I'm -- I'm -- I'm talking.

Mr. Proper said, me too. They've been around for a long time.

Commissioner Farrell said, I remember playing against them.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yeah. And I'm in my 50s.

Mr. Proper said, me too. Tough competitors.

Commissioner Shabazz said, so, they've been around --

Chairman Scott said, but --

Commissioner Shabazz said, they've been around --

Chairman Scott said, you -- you asked for the floor for -- to ask Mr. Proper a question, and I would like --

Commissioner Shabazz said, right. This all a part of my question.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Well --

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, okay. As long as it's part of your question to him.

Commissioner Shabazz said, right. This is my question to him.

Chairman Scott said, okay. And not to me.

Commissioner Shabazz said, what you mean not to you?

Chairman Scott said, well, we got Mr. Proper here --

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. That -- this is what I want to do -- this is what I want us to do. I want us to make a decision as to what happens with this.

Chairman Scott said, we're not going to make a decision today on this.

Commissioner Shabazz said, when can we make a decision?

Chairman Scott said, we're not --

Commissioner Shabazz said, it can't -- it can't go on like this --

Chairman Scott said, we don't have anything before us.

Commissioner Shabazz said, -- until we make a decision. If we're going to be a governing body, let's govern. Now how you going to discriminate against certain children --

Chairman Scott said, I'm -- I'm not -- I'm not --

Commissioner Shabazz said, -- in this -- in this league --

Chairman Scott said, I'm not Chair -- I'm not Chair --

Commissioner Shabazz said, -- because they play in the -- in the City league.

Chairman Scott said, I'm not Chair of the governing body of Little League football.

Commissioner Center said, point of information, Mr. Chairman.

Commissioner Shabazz said, you the -- you the -- you the --

Chairman Scott said, point of information.

Commissioner Center said, I -- I would ask that -- that -- that you suggest to Commissioner Shabazz meet with the County Attorney on how to get his issue on a future agenda.

Commissioner Shabazz said, what's that?

Commissioner Center said, that you meet with the County Attorney --

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Commissioner Center said, -- and find out how to get your issue on a future agenda, and let's move on today and bring it up to a vote in the future if you get it on an agenda.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. Okay. But I'm still not finished what I'm saying.

Commissioner Center said, I understand. I just want to get off that point.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay. What I'm saying is that we need to -- we need to make a decision as to what goes on in terms of these teams playing in both leagues.

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

Commissioner Shabazz said, and they shouldn't be denied to play in these leagues until we make a decision.

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

Commissioner Shabazz said, 'cause everybody don't agree with that. Everybody don't agree with whatever that policy is.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Thank you for your opinion.

Commissioner Shabazz said, so what's the -- what's the -- what's the -- what's the -- what's the resolution here?

Chairman Scott said, we have --

Commissioner Shabazz said, how do we resolve this right here?

Chairman Scott said, we have no resolution.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, you can -- you can ask for a resolution or something to be placed on a future meeting, but we have no resolution or nothing today, and --

Commissioner Shabazz said, so what happens then? I mean --

Chairman Scott said, this -- this is --

Commissioner Shabazz said, tell me what -- tell me what happens? I mean I -- I don't -- I don't have nothing to lose here, you know. I'm not running for re-election. I'm -- I'm not coming back up here. I want to know something before I leave here.

Chairman Scott said, good. You have any further questions?

Commissioner Shabazz said, that's my question.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Shabazz said, my question is what happens now?

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner Kicklighter, did you have a question of Mr. Proper?

Commissioner Kicklighter said, I -- I was going to answer --

Commissioner Shabazz said, my question is what happens now?

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Shabazz said, the question still stands.

Chairman Scott said, okay. No further questions of Mr. Proper? Okay. Thank you, sir.

Mr. Proper said, thank you.

Member of the Audience said, can I be recognized?

Chairman Scott said, no, sir.

Member of the Audience said, are you serious?

Chairman Scott said, no.

Member of the Audience said, don't you (inaudible).

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner if --

Commissioner Shabazz said, mm-hmm.

Chairman Scott said, the rules of this Commission is that if you want something on the agenda, you know the deadline in which to put it on, and it's --

Commissioner Shabazz said, you keep -- you keep --

Chairman Scott said, it's -- it's --

Commissioner Shabazz said, you keep saying that. You keep saying that.

Chairman Scott said, well -- well you should know it by now then.

Commissioner Shabazz said, this is a --- this is a -- this is a case right here --

Chairman Scott said, and --

Commissioner Shabazz said, -- and we need to do something about this right now.

Chairman Scott said, no. We're not doing anything about this right now.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes.

Chairman Scott said, absolutely nothing.

Commissioner Shabazz said, well, whether we do something about it today, but we need to do something about it.

Chairman Scott said, we're not --

Commissioner Shabazz said, because it's not going away.

Chairman Scott said, I understand. And I -- I hope you will pursue it at the next meeting, but there's no vehicle today to do anything about it. Okay. Next item on the agenda.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, may -- may I answer his question, please?

Chairman Scott said, we need to move on with the agenda, Commissioner Kicklighter.

Commissioner Center said, why don't you meet with him afterwards and help him.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

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## **2. DISCUSSION REGARDING ELECTIONS BOARD (COMMISSIONER SHABAZZ).**

Chairman Scott said, the next item on the agenda is Commissioner Shabazz discussion of -- regarding the Election Board. It was requested by Commissioner Shabazz.

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes.

Chairman Scott said, and placed on the agenda.

Commissioner Kicklighter said, are you here representing the other group?

Member of the Audience said, no. No I'm a parent, and I just wanted to take two minutes at the most.

Chairman Scott said, no. Not -- on his, sir.

Member of the Audience said, I didn't get an opportunity.

Commissioner Shabazz said, thank you. Thank you, Chairman. I was at the Board of Elections maybe about two weeks ago, and when I was in the Board of Elections, I think it was Ms. Bowers [sic] -- is it Ms. Bowers [sic]? I heard Ms. Bower [sic] speaking to the Director, is that -- the Director right here, Mr. Bridges --

County Attorney Hart said, superintendent.

Commissioner Shabazz said, superintendent. Okay. With the Board of Elections, and I overheard them talking about checks and individuals not being paid, and so I -- I got concerned about it, and I wanted to know what was going on with that in terms of individuals not being paid, checks not being accounted for. And also, in the last election, there was -- there was -- there was a process by which they counted certain votes but the public wasn't made aware of it, and I wanted someone to come up and speak to that, those two things. Those three things,

the bearer checks, the non-payment of poll workers, and the votes being counted without the public being made aware of it.

Finance Director Amy Davis said, it has been a -- a practice that we present bearer checks for poll workers. They are in pre-set amounts and they are --

Chairman Scott said, same -- same as we do for jurors.

Ms. Davis said, correct, You're -- we have been looking at ways to get around this, and I think with our new accounting system we've come up with a solution. He keeps a ledger of each on the checks on who gets the checks, and I believe they have to sign for them. So he is keeping track of who's getting what, and I'll let him address that.

Commissioner Center said, question, a bearer check is a check made to cash?

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Chairman Scott said, essentially.

County Attorney Hart said, yes.

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

Chairman Scott said, it's -- it's like a bearer bond. Whoever own it, cash it.

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, whoever have it in their possession cashes it.

Mr. Thomas Mahoney, Chairman of the Election Board said, Commissioner Shabazz --

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes.

Mr. Mahoney said, -- and -- and --

Commissioner Center said, introduce yourself.

Mr. Mahoney said, my name is Tom Mahoney, and I'm the Chairman of the Board of Elections, and I appreciate the opportunity to come forward and answer that -- that -- that question. Everybody has been paid, and that's very important obviously. I want to stress that this is an issue --

Commissioner Shabazz said, everybody -- every -- everybody's been paid now?

Mr. Mahoney said, yes, sir. And this is an issue that's very important --

Commissioner Shabazz said, two weeks ago -- two weeks ago they wasn't -- they wasn't.

Mr. Mahoney said, I -- I don't know -- I'll be happy to address anything that you send me directly, and specifically.

Commissioner Shabazz said, I'm saying it directly to you know. I'm asking you --

Mr. Mahoney said, I'd have to have the opportunity to check that out with the dates and all as far as when payments were made, but --

Commissioner Shabazz said, 'cause I wouldn't have been aware of someone not being paid if I didn't over hear a conversation.

Mr. Mahoney said, I understand --

Commissioner Shabazz said, all right.

Mr. Mahoney said, and I appreciate the concern because we've been concerned too as a Board and as a -- as an entire staff because -- and -- and we appreciate your -- your public support on this. We've been through -- we will have been through nine elections and run offs in less than one year time, nine. And we are awfully proud of our office, and I'd like to say that here. We're -- we're really proud of our office and our staff for what we've been able to do this year. It's -- I -- I can't believe it, and more importantly, we're really proud of our poll workers and the people you're talking about that -- that have been paid -- that have been paid, and it's been important to us that they have been paid. In fact, we've asked, and we're -- we're finding ways to increase pay scales, and y'all have cooperated with us, and we really appreciate that cooperation in our budget to give us that flexibility moving forward because these people are coming out for nine elections in one year and -- and prior to every general election --

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

Mr. Mahoney said, -- they have to go through training --

Commissioner Shabazz said, excuse me --

Mr. Mahoney said, and they have to go through --

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner.

Commissioner Shabazz said, excuse me for a minute.

Chairman Scott said, let him finish.

Commissioner Shabazz said, that's not what I'm asking him, though. He's window dressing here now.

Chairman Scott said, he has --

Commissioner Shabazz said, that's what -- that's what he's doing.

Chairman Scott said, you asked him a question, please let him --

Commissioner Shabazz said, right I asked him --

Chairman Scott said, -- please let him --

Commissioner Shabazz said, I asked him was the people paid.

Chairman Scott said, please let him answer.

Commissioner Shabazz said, that's all I need to know.

Mr. Mahoney said, I -- and I appreciate that, and they have been --

Commissioner Shabazz said, hold on.

Mr. Mahoney said, -- they have been paid, and --

Commissioner Shabazz said, that's not what I need to know right now.

Mr. Mahoney said, okay.

Commissioner Shabazz said, all that other stuff, I don't -- I don't really care to know about it.

Mr. Mahoney said, well thank you.

Commissioner Shabazz said, as long as people are paid -- unpaid, that's what I'm concerned about.

Mr. Mahoney said, okay. Now the bearer checks --

Commissioner Shabazz said, right.

Mr. Mahoney said, we are working with the County --

Commissioner Shabazz said, right.

Mr. Mahoney said, -- finance, because the bearer checks is a little problematic and can cause a delay so, actually we're coming up with -- I should say finance is coming up with some alternatives to help us in that regard too, and we appreciate that too.

Commissioner Shabazz said, okay.

Chairman Scott said, do you have anything further.

Mr. Mahoney said, and thank you --

Commissioner Shabazz said, yes, and the uncounted votes that -- that the public wasn't made aware of, the night of the election, the special election.

Mr. Mahoney said, I'm sorry, Mr. Shabazz. I don't know what you're talking about there. All the votes have been counted. The -- the elections that we have conducted have all been certified.

Commissioner Shabazz said, that's -- that's not what I'm saying. What I'm saying is that there was some votes that were recounted that the public wasn't made aware of. And you do know about it.

Mr. Mahoney said, no, sir. No, sir. I don't know what you're talking about.

Commissioner Shabazz said, your board member --

Mr. Mahoney said, as I say, the elections have been certified.

Commissioner Shabazz said, more than one of your board members state that.

Mr. Mahoney said, well, I'll be happy to talk with you about it more specifically if you have anything specifically about it, but --

Commissioner Shabazz said, that's the specific thing that I'm talking about right now.

Mr. Mahoney said, I -- I really think it's important, particularly as we're coming to a contentious election on November the 8<sup>th</sup>. We're already in the process of early voting on that. I should say the Board of Registrars is conducting that early voting, but all the votes are being counted in all of the elections we've done, and that's really important for us to all know that that's been being done. So. The elections have all been done appropriately and been certified. They've all been conducted under state law, in compliance with state and federal laws. But, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, okay. Now --

Ms. Debbie Rauers said, hello. My name is Debbie Rauers. I'm on the Board of Elections. I was referenced in this comment by Commissioner Shabazz, and Commissioner Scott, I would appreciate the opportunity to speak. My -- my name is naysayer. My name is troublemaker. My name is let's get to the bottom of this. Commissioner Shabazz referred to two items. I'd like to speak to those. One was the issue with counting votes. To the best of my recollection -- recollection this is what I understood happened. I'm not sure if it was the last election or the next to the last election since we've had nine, but the Board of Registrars had a glitch in how they set up the early voting, the early absentee voting is what they call it. Because of that, we had to call in Kennesaw State University to institute some special methods for counting votes. Those were instituted, the votes were counted. It did take, I want to say an extra twenty-four hours to get all that done. We have three days within which --

Chairman Scott said, to certify.

Ms. Rauers said, -- to certify an election. So it was certified. It was not reported to you, the elected officials and to the public that this had gone on. I'm an elected official. I understand your concern, and certainly I would have wanted the respect of being notified that this was going on, especially if my name had been on the ballot. You need to be aware of this. I know mistakes happen. It did happen. We had nine elections this year and some other things have also happened. In reference to Commissioner Shabazz's comments about people not being paid, two weeks ago, I was in the office with information from Robert Peacock, Pastor Robert Peacock of Southwest Baptist Church saying that his poll worker, Monet Harmon, had not been paid for training.

Chairman Scott said, let's not -- let's not get in with individual names, please.

Ms. Rauers said, well -- okay. I apologize. I didn't know that. But anyway, she hadn't been paid. She had done the training in I want to say March or April. The check was for \$30, and we had not paid her, and I was upset. I asked the superintendent, Russell Bridges, where the check was and why she hadn't been paid. He couldn't locate it. It was a bearer's check. I asked him if it was in his safe. He said, no. It was subsequently located and sent to her. No -- excuse me, she came and picked it up. We've had significant issues with bearer's checks this year. I won't go in to all the details, but the fallout from the mishandling or the slow handling of checks has caused us to use -- to lose Southwest Baptist Church. We are approximately \$10,000 in arrears to the different polling locations that we utilize, and we have also had -- currently someone put together the reports for bearer's checks who is also paid by bearer's checks rather than as a seasonal employee. I'm very upset about this, and my personal request would be that you as the Chatham County Commission facilitate someone being at the Board of Elections to monitor checks the night of the election, to monitor giving out of checks, and to monitor the return of checks --

County Attorney Hart said, that would be highly --

Ms. Rauers said, -- because they're good for 180 days, and they sit, and I have a picture of them sitting in the warehouse unattended, and bearer's checks are cash.

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Ms. Rauers said, thank you very much.

Chairman Scott said, thank you.

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

County Attorney Hart said, it would be highly inappropriate.

Chairman Scott said, for us to be handing out checks.

County Attorney Hart said, to be -- to be handing out checks --

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

County Attorney Hart said, -- during a political campaign on behalf of -- of the -- of a independent board duly elected under state law that appoints a neutral Chairman and a neutral superintendent of elections.

Chairman Scott said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, and some members of the Commission running in that election.

County Attorney Hart said, oh that would be charming.

Chairman Scott said, yeah.

Commissioner Center said, Mr. Chairman, may I?

Chairman Scott said, okay. Mr. Manager -- Mr. Manager, I'll get with you to get with Mr. Bridges and do whatever's necessary to make sure that we have a adequate payment for everybody who have outstandings because it's not an issue of funds being available.

County Manager Smith said, no.

Chairman Scott said, it's a issue of making certain that the checks there.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

Chairman Scott said, and the bearer's checks are the same checks as used for jurors.

County Manager Smith said, correct.

Chairman Scott said, and whoever possess that check can cash it.

County Manager Smith said, correct.

Chairman Scott said, and there's a time limit on it.

Commissioner Shabazz said, what -- what -- what did the County Manger -- the County Attorney just say?

County Attorney Hart said, what I said was --

Commissioner Shabazz said, uh-huh.

County Attorney Hart said, that the superintendent of elections is neutral.

Chairman Scott said, that we couldn't send anybody over there.

County Attorney Hart said, the elections board is elected. They pick their Chairman of that Board by law.

Commissioner Shabazz said, right.

County Attorney Hart said, we have nothing to do with them other than the responsibility to fund them. They are independent of you for the purpose to ensure integrity in the voting system --

Commissioner Shabazz said, right.

County Attorney Hart said, -- in this community. And they do a fine job of that I might add. The bearer checks have been used in the past.

Commissioner Shabazz said, so what happened in this case?

County Attorney Hart said, nothing happened in this case other than the fact that they needed to find a bearer check, and a bearer check is made that way --

Commissioner Shabazz said, right.

County Attorney Hart said, -- so that somebody without a bank account --

Commissioner Shabazz said, right.

County Attorney Hart said, -- somebody that does not have the means or the credit to have a bank account can go cash that at a bank. It will be accepted, and they don't have to have identification, they just need to have the check, and that's why we do that. We do it for jurors for the same reason.

Chairman Scott said, yeah. Okay.

Commissioner Center said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I -- I just want to point out as I listen to this that -- and it -- it -- it's nice that it was aired and the public gets to hear it, but the Election Board is completely independent of the County Commission. We have no supervisory authority over them. We have no legal authority over them. As a matter -- it -- it -- it's a independent commission, and the real complaint may be with how it's set up. The democratic party elects two people; the republican party elects in their primaries elect two people, and those four pick a chair. When they can't there's a procedure, and this year it fell on us, and we voted for Mr. Mahoney. But that's it -- that's -- and we may handle finances for them because we do that for a lot of offices, like we do for the Sheriff and we do for the District Attorney and we do for the -- for the Clerk of the Court. But we're not really the proper Commission -- although you got it quick and I'm glad they're going to work it out, it's not the proper forum for it because we have no authority except to listen to you. It's independent, just for the reason that Mr. Hart explained. You've got people on this Commission running for office, and for us to be out there handing out checks on election night would be horrible.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

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## **VIII. TABLED/RECONSIDERED ITEMS**

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

None.

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## **IX. ITEMS FOR INDIVIDUAL ACTION**

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

1. **TO REQUEST APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING BUDGET AMENDMENTS AND TRANSFERS: IN THE CONFISCATED REVENUE FUND: a) APPROPRIATE \$28,155 FUND BALANCE TO THE COUNTER NARCOTICS TEAM, b) APPROPRIATE \$25,000 FUND BALANCE TO THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, c) INCREASE REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES \$25,000 TRANSFER IN FROM 5% VICTIM-WITNESS RESTRICTED COURT FEES; 2) IN THE MULTIPLE GRANT FUND: a) INCREASE REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES \$91,000 FOR A GRANT AWARD FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY, b) INCREASE REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES \$79,538 FOR A GRANT AWARD TO CEMA, c) INCREASE REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES \$350,000 FOR A GRANT AWARD FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE SMART PROSECUTION INITIATIVE; 3) IN THE SALES TAX V FUND TRANSFER FUNDS AMONG PROJECTS AS OUTLINED IN THE ATTACHED MEMORANDUM; 4) IN THE SALES TAX VI FUND TRANSFER FUNDS AMONG PROJECTS AS OUTLINED IN THE ATTACHED MEMORANDUM; AND 5) IN THE RESTRICTED COURT FEES FUND APPROPRIATE \$25,000 FUND BALANCE TO 5% VICTIM-WITNESS FOR TRANSFER OUT TO THE CONFISCATED REVENUE FUND FOR THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY.**

Chairman Scott said, moving on on the Agenda. Items for Individual Action. To request approval of the following budget amendments and transfers: in the confiscated revenue fund: appropriate twenty-eight thousand (sic) fund balance to the Counter Narcotics Team; and, b) appropriate -- in your item you have twenty-five thousand -- that should be fifty thousand; please make that correction -- fifty thousand fund balance to the District Attorney's Office; c) increase revenues and expenditures by fifty thousand transferred in from the 5% Victim-Witness Restricted Court fees; and in the Multi-Grant Fund, increase revenues and expenditures by ninety-one thousand dollars for grant award from the Department of Homeland Security; and increase revenues

and expenditures by seventy-nine thousand, five hundred and thirty-eight dollars for a grant awarded to CEMA; and increase revenues and expenditures three hundred and fifty thousand dollars for a grant awarded from the US Department of Justice Smart Prosecution Initiative; and in Sales Tax V Fund transfer funds among projects as outlined in the attached memorandum; 4) in Sales Tax VI Fund transfer among projects as outlined in the attached memorandum; and, 5) in the Restricted Court Fee fund, appropriate twenty-five thousand dollar fund balance --

Commissioner Center said, it that supposed to be --

Chairman Scott said, that -- that should also be fifty thousand dollars fund balance --

County Manager Smith said, no, no, no, no.

Chairman Scott said, that's not --

County Manager Smith said, -- that is -- that is twenty-five thousand.

Chairman Scott said, that is correct? Twenty-five?

County Manager Smith said, that's correct.

Chairman Scott said, twenty-five thousand fund balance to 5% Victim-Witness for transfer out to the Confiscated Revenue Fund for the District Attorney.

Commissioner Center said, I move for approval.

Commissioner Stone said, so moved.

Commissioner Thomas said, second.

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

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

Commissioner Center moved for approval of the following budget amendments and transfers: in the Confiscated Revenue Fund: a) appropriate \$28,155 Fund Balance to the Counter Narcotics Team, b) appropriate \$50,000 Fund Balance to the District Attorney's Office, c) increase Revenues and Expenditures \$25,000 Transfer in from 5% Victim-Witness Restricted Court Fees; 2) in the Multiple Grant Fund: a) increase Revenues and Expenditures \$91,000 for a Grant Award from the Department of Homeland Security, b) increase Revenues and Expenditures \$79,538 for a Grant Award to CEMA, c) increase Revenues and Expenditures \$350,000 for a Grant Award from the U.S. Department of Justice Smart Prosecution Initiative; 3) in the Sales Tax V Fund transfer funds among projects as outlined in the attached memorandum; 4) in the Sales Tax VI Fund transfer funds among projects as outlined in the attached memorandum; and 5) in the Restricted Court Fees Fund appropriate \$25,000 Fund Balance to 5% Victim-Witness for Transfer out to the Confiscated Revenue Fund for the District Attorney. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: IX-1**

**AGENDA DATE: October 21, 2016**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager

**FROM:** Amy Davis, Finance Director

#### **ISSUE:**

To request approval of the following budget amendments and transfers: in the Confiscated Revenue Fund: a) appropriate \$28,155 Fund Balance to the Counter Narcotics Team, b) appropriate \$50,000 Fund Balance to the District Attorney's Office, c) increase Revenues and Expenditures \$25,000 Transfer in from 5% Victim-Witness Restricted Court Fees; 2) in the Multiple Grant Fund: a) increase Revenues and Expenditures \$91,000 for a Grant Award from the Department of Homeland Security, b) increase Revenues and Expenditures \$79,538 for a Grant Award to CEMA, c) increase Revenues and Expenditures \$350,000 for a Grant Award from the U.S. Department of Justice Smart Prosecution Initiative; 3) in the Sales Tax V Fund transfer funds among projects as outlined in the attached memorandum; 4) in the Sales Tax VI Fund transfer funds among projects as outlined in the attached memorandum; and 5) in the Restricted Court Fees Fund appropriate \$25,000 Fund Balance to 5% Victim-Witness for Transfer out to the Confiscated Revenue Fund for the District Attorney.

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

1a. The Counter Narcotics Team Director has requested a Confiscated Fund appropriation of

\$28,155 to pay surveillance fees incurred during a major investigation. Correspondence and a resolution are attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).

- 1b. The District Attorney has requested the use of \$55,000 confiscated funds to create offices for two positions. The current budget has \$30,000 available, a fund balance appropriation of \$25,000 will provide the remaining funds. Correspondence and a resolution are attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
- 1c. The Director of Victim-Witness has requested the use of \$25,000 5% Victim-Witness fees toward office renovations. The funds are being transferred to the District Attorney's Confiscated Funds account. Correspondence and a resolution are attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
- 2a. Chatham County received a \$91,000 FY2016 Homeland Security grant from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). 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).
- 2b. Chatham County Emergency Management (CEMA) received a \$79,538 grant award from Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security. 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).
- 2c. The District Attorney's Office received a \$350,000 grant award from the U.S. Department of Justice Smart Prosecution Initiative. 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).
3. The County Engineer has requested project modifications in the Sales Tax V Fund. Correspondence is attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
4. The County Engineer has requested project modifications in the Sales Tax VI Fund. Correspondence is attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
5. A fund balance appropriate is needed to provide the \$25,000 needed for office renovations for Victim-Witness. Correspondence and a resolution are attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).

**FUNDING:**

The budget amendments establish funds in the Confiscated Revenue Fund, the Multiple Grant Fund, and the Restricted Court Fees Fund. Funds are available in the Sales Tax V and Sales Tax VI Funds.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. That the Board approve the following:

**CONFISCATED REVENUE FUND**

- A. Appropriate \$28,155 to the Counter Narcotics Team.
- B. Appropriate \$25,000 in the District Attorney's Office.
- C. Increase revenues \$25,000 Transfer in From Restricted Court Fees.
- D. Increase the District Attorney's account \$25,000.

**MULTIPLE GRANT FUND**

- A. Increase revenues and expenditures \$91,000 for Homeland Security sub grant award.
- B. Increase revenues and expenditures \$79,538 for a grant award to CEMA.
- C. Increase revenues and expenditures \$350,000 for a grant award to the District Attorney's Office.

**ONE PERCENT LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX V FUND**

Transfer funds among projects as outlined in the memorandum attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).

**ONE PERCENT LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX VI FUND**

Transfer funds among projects as outlined in the memorandum attached (to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).

**RESTRICTED COURT FEES**

Appropriate \$25,000 fund balance to transfer out to the District Attorney's confiscated funds for office renovations.

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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**2. REQUEST APPROVAL OF A PRELIMINARY ESTIMATED BUDGET TO PAY THE EXPENSES RELATED TO HURRICANE MATTHEW, WHICH IS NOW KNOWN AS DR-4284.**

Chairman Scott said, two, request approval of a preliminary estimated budget to pay the expenses related to Hurricane Matthew, which is now known as DR-4284.

Commissioner Stone said, so moved.

Commissioner Brady said, second.

Commissioner Center said, second.

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

Commissioner Center said, Mr. Chairman, question. We -- we're going to discuss the amount publicly, so that the public will know the amount we're talking about, later, is that correct?

Chairman Scott said, or we can discuss it now.

Commissioner Center said, I just want the public to know what our estimated --

Chairman Scott said, Mr. Manager, --

Commissioner Center said, -- budget is.

Chairman Scott said, -- or Ms. Finance --

Finance Director Amy Davis said, I'm sorry.

Commissioner Center said, it was fifteen million, wasn't it?

County Manager Smith said, this is on the approval of the preliminary estimate, Amy [Davis], on the budget --

Chairman Scott said, Item 2.

County Manager Smith said, -- and expenses, Item 2.

Ms. Davis said, yes.

Chairman Scott said, request approval of preliminary estimated budget to pay expenses related to Hurricane Matthew, DR-4284.

Ms. Davis said, correct.

Chairman Scott said, would you please, for the public, --

Ms. Davis said, fifteen million, --

Chairman Scott said, -- give them an outline of how much money --

Ms. Davis said, -- six --

Chairman Scott said, -- we are talking about.

Ms. Davis said, fifteen million, six hundred-fifty-five thousand, and six hundred dollars, I believe is what it was.

Commissioner Center said, right. And that's -- and we approve the budget and we hope and expect FEMA to pick up seventy-five percent of that, or more.

Ms. Davis said, or more.

County Manager Smith said, well, plus the state, so we're hoping that --

Commissioner Center said, and state. Okay.

Ms. Davis said, yeah. So, our share --

Chairman Scott said, we hope that --

Ms. Davis said, -- should be twelve-point-five percent.

County Manager Smith said, yes.

Ms. Davis said, or less.

Chairman Scott said, right.

Commissioner Center said, but we have to budget the whole amount, that's what I want to make clear.

Ms. Davis said, yes.

County Manager Smith said, yeah.

County Attorney Hart said, yeah, we advance.

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

Chairman Scott said, any further unreadiness? Hearing none, all in favor of the motion indicate by voting yes --

Commissioner Stone said, we can't vote.

Commissioner Center said, uh-oh.

Acting Clerk said, I'm sorry. (Having difficulties with voting board.)

Commissioner Brady said, there it goes.

Acting Clerk said, I'm sorry.

Commissioner Center said, would you get the Elections Board back?

Acting Clerk said, I'm sorry.

Chairman Scott said, motion carries. Madam Clerk, you're gonna have to come in here and practice by --

Acting Clerk said, I know.

Chairman Scott said, -- yourself now.

County Manager Smith said, she's not coming back, I bet.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Stone moved to approve a preliminary estimated budget to pay the expenses related to Hurricane Matthew, which is now known as DR-4284. Commissioner Brady seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: IX-2**

**AGENDA DATE: October 21, 2016**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager

**FROM:** Amy Davis, Finance Director

**ISSUE:**

To request approval of a preliminary estimated budget to pay expenses related to Hurricane Matthew (DR-4284).

**BACKGROUND:**

On October 7, 2016 Hurricane Matthew skirted the coast of Georgia, which had a significant impact on Chatham County. This event required a total evacuation of the County, full activation of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) and measure to ensure the safety and well-being of the citizens. These activities were required and necessary, but are currently unbudgeted.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

- 1) The Governor of Georgia, Nathan Deal, declared a State of Emergency (SOE) October 4, 2016. This started the "clock" on eligible expenses in the event the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) determines the event warrants federal funding. This SOE ended October 15, 2016 at midnight.
- 2) During the SOE approximately 200 deputies were required to maintain jail operations and patrol areas of the County. In addition, approximately another 200 Chatham County Employees worked in the EOC, the evacuation center and the emergency shelters.
- 3) A new fund -- Fund 255 -- Hurricane Matthew -- has been created to account for the expenditures relating to Hurricane Matthew.
- 4) At this point, we do not have a firm estimate on the costs to the county for this event and this budget will likely need to be amended as true costs are known. However, we have incurred costs already for this event and need a budget to charge to. Our best guess estimated are as follows:

● Debris cleanup	\$ 9,100,000
● Monitoring of debris cleanup	1,180,000
● Employee Wages	2,215,600
● Insurance Deductibles	200,000
● Repairs to Buildings and Facilities	1,500,000
● Mutual Aid	100,000
● Other contracted Services	750,000
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>\$15,665,600</u></b>

**FUNDING:**

FEMA will pay 75% of eligible expenses. The remaining 25% of the cost will be allocated between the State of Georgia and the County at 12.5% each. Using the estimates above, the County's share would be \$1,958,200. These funds are available in the general fund reserve.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

State law requires all expenditures of the local government to be appropriated by the governing board.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends a budget of \$15,665,600 be established in the Hurricane Matthew Special Revenue Fund.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Accept the recommendation of staff.
2. Other directive as given by the Board of Commissioners

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**3. REQUEST BOARD CONSIDERATION OF A REQUEST FROM STANDARD CONCRETE PRODUCTS FOR A VARIANCE FROM THE COUNTY WELL ORDINANCE TO ALLOW THE ISSUANCE OF A PERMIT FOR A REPLACEMENT DEEP WELL WHICH WILL BE UTILIZED ONLY FOR MANUFACTURING OF HIGH PERFORMANCE CONCRETE.**

Chairman Scott said, Item 3. Board consideration of a request from Standard Concrete Products for a variance from the County Well Ordinance to allow the insurance [sic] of a permit for a replacement deep well which will -- utilize only for the manufacturing of high performance concrete.

Commissioner Center said, so moved.

Commissioner Stone said, second.

Chairman Scott said, properly moved and second. Any unreadiness? Hearing none, all in favor of the motion indicate by voting yes.

Commissioner Holmes said, you didn't clear it.

(NOTE: Pause; Acting Clerk having difficulties with voting board.)

County Manager Smith said, you've got to clear it out.

Acting Clerk said, I'm sorry.

County Manager Smith said, you've got to clear it out. Now put it on ready. There you go.

Acting Clerk said, thank you.

County Attorney Hart said, you got it?

Acting Clerk said, yep.

Chairman Scott said, motion carries.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved to request Board consideration of a request from Standard Concrete Products for a variance from the County Well Ordinance to allow the issuance of a permit for a replacement deep well which will... utilize only for the manufacturing of high performance concrete. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: IX-3**

**AGENDA DATE: October 21, 2016**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager

**FROM:** Gregori S. Anderson, Director, Building Safety & Regulatory Services

**ISSUE:**

Request for a Variance from the County Well Ordinance to allow the issuance of a replacement deep well.

**BACKGROUND:**

Section 15-612(4) of the County well ordinance allows for the issuance of permits for the replacement of existing water wells with the approval of a Variance from the Board of Commissioners.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

- 1) Section 15-616 of the County Well Ordinance requires connection to a government owned public or community water system when such connection is available in the public right-of-way abutting the property.
- 2) The subject property owner, Standard Concrete Products, manufactures high performance concrete structural elements and requires water with no chlorine and low alkalis for its process (see letter attached to the original staff report in the Clerk of Commission's meeting file).
- 3) The existing office building is tied into the City of Savannah water system located within the right-of-way for potable water.
- 4) The existing well has collapsed and is unusable for the manufacturing water source.

**FUNDING:**

Not applicable.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Grant the Variance and allow the issuance of the well replacement permit
2. Deny the Variance

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The ordinance, through the approval of a Variance from the Board of Commissioners allows for the issuance of a replacement well. Approval and issuance of the replacement well will enable the property owner to resume the concrete manufacturing process.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Board consideration.

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directed to fully and completely cooperate with and provide information necessary to support and obtain permission from FEMA to provide services to private communities within Chatham County.

Entered at \_\_\_\_\_ on October \_\_\_\_\_, 2016.

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
Albert J. Scott,  
Chairman of the Chatham County Board of  
Commissioners

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Janice Bocook  
Clerk of Commission  
(SEAL)

Reviewed and approved by the County Attorney:

\_\_\_\_\_  
R. Jonathan Hart

=====

**5. SCMPD MONTHLY REPORT GIVEN VERBALLY BY CHIEF JOSEPH "JACK" LUMPKIN.**

Chairman Scott said, the Savannah-Chatham Metro monthly report, the Chief had another meeting he had to go to and he left us a written report and I hope that --

County Manager Smith said, he said he'd be glad to come to the next meeting to go over it.

Chairman Scott said, -- that he will be back on the 4th for an in-person presentation, but for now I -- I encourage you to look at the written report that he left with you.

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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 staffs recommendation. Any Board Member may choose to pull an item from the calendar and it would be considered separately.

Chairman Scott said, now on the Action Calendar, no one indicated that they wanted to pull anything out to be voted on separately, so I will now entertain a motion --

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

Commissioner Stone said, second.

Chairman Scott said, properly moved and second that we approve the Action Calendar. Any unreadiness? Any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor of approving the Action Calendar vote yes, opposed no. The Action Calendar is approved.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved to approve all items on the Action Calendar, Items 1 through 15 and under Item 15 Items A through K. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

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

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**1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 23, 2016, AS MAILED.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 23, 2016, as mailed. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

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**2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 15, 2016 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 27, 2016 AND FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 28, 2016 THROUGH OCTOBER 13, 2016.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved to authorize the Finance Director to pay the claims against the County for the period of September 15, 2016 through September 27, 2016 and for the period September 28, 2016 through October 11, 2016. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

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**3. TO REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF THE UPDATED COUNTY FINANCIAL POLICIES.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved to approve the updated county financial policies. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-3**

**AGENDA DATE: October 21, 2016**

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

**ISSUE:**

To request Board approval of updated County Financial Policies.

**BACKGROUND:**

In 2004 the Board adopted a set of financial policies which provide financial management guidelines. In December 2013 the Board updated some of the financial policies.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

Updated financial policies are being recommended that reflect current best practices and terminology. Changes have been made to the policies to clarify their intent and align the County with recommended best practices for local government financial management. Other independent policies - travel, investments and grants - have been incorporated in the master finance policies document. New policies on cash receipts and disbursements, pension funding and the annual audit have also been incorporated in this policy document.

**FUNDING:**

No funding required.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

Adopted financial policies should be used to frame major policy initiatives. Policies should be reviewed and, if necessary, updated to ensure continued relevance.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. That the Board approve the updated County Financial Policies as recommended by staff.
2. Provide other direction.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board approve Alternative 1.

[NOTE: The Updated County Financial Policies document is attached to the staff report in the Clerk of Commission's original meeting file.]

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#### 4. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL OF THE UPDATED COUNTY FRAUD POLICY.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved for approval of the updated county fraud policy. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-4**

**AGENDA DATE: October 21, 2016**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager

**FROM:** Jeannie Alday, Internal Audit Director

**ISSUE:**

To request Board approval of the updated County Fraud Policy.

**BACKGROUND:**

In 1993, the Board adopted a policy on Auditing and Investigation of Suspected Fraudulent Activity or Other Wrong Doing under the authority of its enabling act. The policy has not been updated since that time.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Updates to the Fraud Policy are being recommended to reflect current best practices and terminology.
2. Language specifying the vendor/method to be used for a reporting hotline have been rewritten to allow for vendor changes when deemed necessary by the County Manager.
3. Changes have also been made to the policy to clarify the roles and responsibilities for investigations, reporting, confidentiality, terminations, and administration to align the county with recommended best practices.
4. Annual funding for the reporting hotline and employee training will be budgeted through Internal Audit.

**FUNDING:**

No funding required.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The adopted fraud policy is part of the Mission, Value, and Ethical County Leadership initiatives. Policy should be reviewed and, if necessary, updated to ensure continued relevance.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. That the Board approve the updated County Fraud Policies as recommended by staff.
2. Provide other direction.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board approve Alternative #1.

=====

#### 5. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO INCREASE THE CONTRIBUTION RATES FOR HEALTH COVERAGE FOR NON-MEDICARE ELIGIBLE (PRE-65) RETIREES.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved for approval to increase the contribution rates for health coverage for non-Medicare eligible (pre-65) retirees. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-5****AGENDA DATE: October 21, 2016**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager

**FROM:** Carolyn Smalls, Human Resources Director

**ISSUE:**

Board approval to increase the contribution rates for health coverage for non-Medicare eligible (pre-65) retirees.

**BACKGROUND:**

Chatham County provides health insurance benefits to retirees and their dependents. Medicare eligible retirees were moved to a Medicare Advantage plan offered through Aetna on January 1, 2016. The retiree population that is not Medicare eligible remained on the Blue Cross plan with a choice of a Preferred Provider Organization (PPO) plan or a Point of Service Plan (POS). Contributions for this retiree population have not increased since 2008. Retiree's contributions are considerably lower than the average, both nationwide and in our region.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. While the pre-65 retiree population represents only 6.8% of the participants in the Chatham County health plans, this population currently represents 13.1% of pharmacy cost. More than 50% of high cost medical claims in 2015 came from the retiree population.
2. Aon, Chatham County's Benefit Consultant, has stated that costs for this population will continue to rise at a high rate, and that a rate increase is warranted and needed.
3. When the health plan changes were implemented in 2015 to offer employees and retirees the lower cost POS plan option as an alternative to the PPO plan, retirees were able to lower their contribution rates by opting for the POS plan.
4. Staff is proposing an across-the-board 20% increase in premium contributions for this population. The impact will range between \$6.00 and \$59.00 per month, dependent upon the plan and coverage level chosen. This will be the first contribution rate increase for this population since 2008. These increases will have a minimal impact, as contribution rates are currently very low. Even with the rates increase, Chatham County's contribution rates will remain low compared to other employers in the nation and region.
5. If approved, the new contribution rates will become effective on January 1, 2017. The open enrollment period for retirees to select benefits options will be conducted in November. Staff will begin to communicate changes and conduct meetings with retirees in October.
6. Staff believes that the contribution rate increase is fair and reasonable and is in the best interests of Chatham County.

**FUNDING:**

No additional funding is required.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval to increase the contribution rates for health coverage for non-Medicare eligible (pre-65) retirees.
2. Provide staff with other direction.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board adopt Alternative 1.

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6. **TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN AND CLERK OF COMMISSION TO EXECUTE A REQUEST FOR A TRAFFIC SIGNAL WITH THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (GDOT) AT THE INTERSECTION OF OGEECHEE ROAD (SR 25/US17) WITH WESTGATE BOULEVARD.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved to authorize the Chairman and Clerk of Commission to execute a request for a traffic signal with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) at the Intersection of Ogeechee Road (SR

25/US17) with Westgate Boulevard. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-6**  
**AGENDA DATE: October 21, 2016**

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

**ISSUE:**

To authorize the Chairman and Clerk of Commission to execute a Request for Traffic Signal with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) at the Intersection of Ogeechee Road (SR 25/US17) with Westgate Boulevard.

**BACKGROUND:**

The intersection is currently un-signalized and is located within the limits of Unincorporated Chatham County. Chatham County pays for the energy costs of the existing, adjacent traffic signal on Ogeechee Road at the southbound ramp of Interstate 516.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. A signal warrant analysis was conducted by Hussey, Gay, Bell for an adjacent development. The GDOT determined that the traffic signal will be warranted when additional development adjacent to the intersection occurs.
2. The traffic signal will be installed by the developer at no cost to Chatham County. Prior to construction, the developer will be required to obtain a Land Disturbing Activities Permit from the Chatham County Department of Engineering. A condition of the permit will be that the developer pay for the costs of the traffic signal.
3. The costs of electric energy and telephone services used to operate the signal will be at the expense of the County when construction of the traffic signal is complete.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. To authorize the Chairman and Clerk of Commission to execute a Request for Traffic Signal with the Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) at the Intersection of Ogeechee Road (SR 25/US17) with Westgate Boulevard.
2. To not authorize executing the request.

**FUNDING:**

No funding is required to execute the Request for Traffic Signal document.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The Board must approve intergovernmental agreements.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board approve Alternative 1.

District 5, 8

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7. **REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO ACCEPT A GRANT FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE SMART PROSECUTION INITIATIVE TO CREATE AN ADA III (\$56,594-\$91,738) POSITION FUNDED BY THE GRANT AND TO FUND THE RESEARCH COMPONENT THROUGH GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY FOR A TOTAL OF \$350,000 DURING THE LIFE OF THE TWO-YEAR GRANT, AND TO AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN ANY NECESSARY DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO THIS GRANT. THE POSITION IS CONTINGENT UPON AVAILABILITY OF GRANT FUNDING. THE GRANT REQUIRES NO MATCH. NO COUNTY FUNDS ARE REQUIRED.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved for approval to accept a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice Smart

Prosecution Initiative to create an ADA III position funded by the grant and to fund the research component through Georgia Southern University for a total of \$350,000 during the life of the two-year grant, and to authorize the Chairman to sign any necessary documents pertaining to this grant . Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-7**  
**AGENDA DATE: October 21, 2016**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners  
**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager  
**FROM:** Meg Heap, District Attorney

**ISSUE:**

1. To request Board approval to accept a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice Smart Prosecution Initiative, to create an ADA III (\$56,594-\$91,738) position funded by the grant, and to fund the research component through Georgia Southern University for a total of 4350,000 during the life of the two-year grant. This position is contingent upon availability of grant funding.
2. To also authorize the Chairman's signature on any necessary documents pertaining to this grant.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The District Attorney's Office was awarded \$350,000 for the Smart Prosecution Initiative. The grant will fund a prosecutor to handle gun cases in high violence areas of the county. The grant will also fund research conducted by Georgia Southern University to keep the county complaint with the requirements of the grant.
2. The grant requires no match. **No funds from the County are required to meet the grant requirement.**
3. The grant will run October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2018.
4. When grant funding expires, the ADA III position will be eliminated.

**FUNDING:**

No County Funds are required for the grant requirement.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval to accept a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice Smart Prosecution Initiative, to create an ADA III (\$56,594-\$91,738) position funded by the grant, and to fund the research component through Georgia Southern University for a total of 4350,000 during the life of the two-year grant. This position is contingent upon availability of grant funding.
2. That the Board not approve the acceptance of the \$350,000 from the U.S. Department of Justice Smart Prosecution Initiative.
3. Provide other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

No funds from Chatham County are required for the grant requirement.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Board approve Alternative 1.

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**8. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO ACCEPT A NON-MATCHING GRANT THROUGH THE GEORGIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (GEMA) FOR \$6,000 FOR THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE K-9 DIVISION. NO ADDITIONAL COUNTY FUNDS ARE REQUIRED.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved for approval to accept a non-matching grant through the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) for \$6,000 for the Sheriff's Office K-9 Division. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-8**  
**AGENDA DATE: October 21, 2016**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners  
**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager  
**FROM:** John T. Wilcher, Sheriff

**ISSUE:**

Request Commission acceptance of a non-matching grant through the Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) for \$6,000.00.

**BACKGROUND:**

Chatham County has been awarded a non-matching grant by GEMA from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). This grant was awarded to provide funds to supplement the veterinary care of the explosive trained canines, canine food and various canine supplies.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

N/A

**FUNDING:**

No matching funds are required from Chatham County Sheriff's Office for the receipt of this grant.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

It is consistent with Board Policy to approve grants that will enhance the capabilities of a law enforcement agency.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board acceptance and approval of grant.
2. Board deny acceptance of grant.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Board approval of Alternative 1.

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- 9. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO ACCEPT A NON-MATCHING GRANT THROUGH THE 2016 SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION AND NOTIFICATION ACT (SORNA) GRANT PROGRAM FOR FROM THE GEORGIA CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR \$20,000 TO PROVIDE FUNDS TO PURCHASE A MOBILE PALM SCANNER WITH ACCESSORIES. NO COUNTY FUNDS ARE REQUIRED.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved for approval to accept a non-matching grant through the 2016 Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act grant program for \$20,000. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-9**  
**AGENDA DATE: October 21, 2016**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners  
**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager  
**FROM:** John T. Wilcher, Sheriff

**ISSUE:**

Request Commission acceptance of a non-matching grant through the 2016 Sex Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA) Grant program for \$20,000.00.

**BACKGROUND:**

Chatham County has been awarded a non-matching grant by the SORNA Grant program from the Georgia Criminal Justice Coordinating Council. This grant was awarded to provide funds to purchase a mobile palm scanner with accessories.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

N/A

**FUNDING:**

No matching funds are required from Chatham County Sheriff's Office for the receipt of this grant.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

It is consistent with Board Policy to approve grants that will enhance the capabilities of a law enforcement agency.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board acceptance and approval of grant.
2. Board deny acceptance of grant.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Board approval of Alternative 1.

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**10. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL FOR THE CHATHAM COUNTY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (CEMA) AGENCY TO RECEIVE \$80,038 IN FEDERAL FUNDING THROUGH THE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT (EMPG). MATCHING COUNTY FUNDS ARE REQUIRED. FUND ARE AVAILABLE IN THE CEMA OPERATING BUDGET.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved for approval for the Chatham County Emergency Management agency to receive \$80,038 in Federal funding through the Emergency Management Performance Grant. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-10**  
**AGENDA DATE: October 21, 2016**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager

**FROM:** Dennis Jones, Emergency Management Director

**SUBJECT:** Approval to Receive Federal Funding through the Emergency Management Performance Grant.

**ISSUE:**

To obtain approval for the Chatham County Emergency Management Agency to receive \$80,038 in Federal funding through the Emergency Management Performance Grant. (EMPG).

**BACKGROUND:**

Under Federal and State law, Emergency Management organizations are awarded supplemental funding to support a broad range of emergency management activities. Under the EMPG program, this supplemental funding comes from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and passed to CEMA through the Georgia Emergency Management and Homeland Security Agency (GEMHSA)

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The EMGP award is divided into two allocations.
2. The EMPG base award allows \$79,538 to support equipment and activities identified on the Federal Authorized Equipment List (AEL).
3. The EMPG training award allows \$500 to support satisfying state training requirements.

**FUNDING:**

The EMPG allocation is provided on signature. The County's commitment is to ensure matching funds are dedicated to emergency management activities. The County's commitment is satisfied through the adoption of CEMA's annual operating budget.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

It is consistent with the Board's policies to review and allow application for grants which support county operations and programs.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Allow CEMA to receive EMPG funding.
2. Do not allow CEMA to receive EMPG funding..

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve Alternative 1.

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- 11. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO DISPENSE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES (BEER AND WINE) FOR A SPECIAL EVENT AT THE MACKEY HOUSE, 190 RED GATE FARM TRAIL. PETITIONER: DAWN QUATTLEBAUM, FOR THE HABERSHAM SCHOOL, A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION. THE EVENT WILL BE HELD OCTOBER 20, 2016. [DISTRICT 5.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved for approval for Petitioner Dawn Quattlebaum, for the Habersham School's request to dispense alcoholic beverages (beer and wine) for a special event at the Mackey House, 190 Red Gate Farm Trail. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-11**

**AGENDA DATE: October 21, 2016**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager

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

**ISSUE:**

Permit to dispense alcoholic beverages for a special event in Chatham County on October 20, 2016.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. **The Habersham School**, a non-profit organization, through applicant **Dawn Quattlebaum** has filed a Special Event Application for a fundraiser at The Mackey House, 190 Red Gate Farm Trail, Savannah, GA 31405. The applicant has the intent to dispense alcoholic beverages at the event.
2. Section 16-134 (4) of the Chatham County Business/Occupational Tax Ordinance requires approval of the County Commissioners to issue a temporary permit to dispense alcoholic beverages in conjunction with a special event.
3. The ordinance grants the Board of Commissioners discretion to allow the consumption of alcoholic beverages in conjunction with a special event.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

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

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

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

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve Alternative No# 1.

District 5

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- 12. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO DISPENSE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES (BEER AND WINE) FOR A SPECIAL EVENT (FUNDRAISER) AT 50 WEST BLUFF ROAD. PETITIONER: JESSE GORDEN DEMONBREUN-CHAPMAN, FOR OGEECHEE RIVER KEEPER, A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION. THE EVENT WILL BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 3, 2016. [DISTRICT 1.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved for approval for Petitioner Jesse Gorden Demonbreun-Chapman for Ogeechee River Keeper's request to dispense alcoholic beverages (beer and wine) for a special event at the 50 West Bluff Road. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-12**  
**AGENDA DATE: October 21, 2016**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners  
**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager  
**FROM:** Gregori S. Anderson, Director of Building Safety and Regulatory Services  
 Joseph Lumpkin, Sr., Chief of Police

**ISSUE:**  
 Permit to dispense alcoholic beverages for a special event in Chatham County.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. **Ogeechee Riverkeeper**, a non-profit organization, through applicant **Jesse Gorden Demonbreun-Chapman**, has filed a Special Event Application for an annual oyster roast fundraiser event on November 3, 2016 at 50 West Bluff Road, Savannah, GA 31406. The applicant has the intent to dispense alcoholic beverages (beer and wine) at the event.
2. Section 16-134 (4) of the Chatham County Business/Occupational Tax Ordinance requires approval of the County Commissioners to issue a temporary permit to dispense alcoholic beverages in conjunction with a special event.
3. The ordinance grants the Board of Commissioners discretion to allow the consumption of alcoholic beverages in conjunction with a special event.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Grant permit to allow the dispensing and consumption of alcoholic beverages (beer, wine and liquor) in conjunction with the requested special event.
2. Deny permit.
3. Provide direction to staff.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

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

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Approve Alternative No# 1.

District 1

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- 13. REQUEST FOR TRANSFER OF BEER AND WINE RETAIL LICENSE FOR 2016. PETITIONER: JONATHAN K. GROSS, D/B/A WALGREENS #06098, LOCATED AT 125 JOHNNY MERCER BOULEVARD. [DISTRICT 4.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved for approval for Petitioner Jonathan K. Gross, d/b/a Walgreens #06098, located at 125 Johnny Mercer Boulevard for a transfer of beer and wine retail license. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-13**  
**AGENDA DATE: October 21, 2016**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners  
**THRU:** Lee Smith, County Manager  
**FROM:** Gregori S. Anderson, Director of Building Safety and Regulatory Services  
 Joseph Lumpkin, Sr., Chief of Police

**ISSUE:**

Request for transfer of beer and wine retail license for 2016. Petitioner: **Jonathan K. Gross, d/b/a Walgreens #06098** located at **125 Johnny Mercer Blvd, Savannah, GA 31410**.

**BACKGROUND:**

Mr. Gross requests approval for transfer of beer and wine retail license in connection with the existing retail store. The business at this location meets the requirements of the Chatham County Alcoholic Beverage Ordinance. The license is being transferred from Brian Lundgren to Jonathan K. Gross.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

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

**RECOMMENDATION:**

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

District 4

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Gregori S. Anderson

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Chief Joseph Lumpkin, Sr.

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**14. REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO SIGN A STATEMENT OF AWARD ACCEPTING A \$3,500,000 ONEGEORGIA EQUITY GRANT FROM THE GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS TO CONSTRUCT THE HUTCHINSON RIVERWALK. [DISTRICT 3.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved to authorize the Chairman to sign a statement of award accepting a \$3,500,000 OneGeorgia Equity Grant from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs to construct the Hutchinson Riverwalk. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-14**  
**AGENDA DATE: October 21, 2016**

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

**ISSUE:**

To authorize the Chairman to sign a Statement of Award accepting a \$3,500,000 OneGeorgia Equity grant from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs to construct the Hutchinson Riverwalk.

**BACKGROUND:**

The OneGeorgia Equity grant is awarded to Chatham County to construct the Hutchinson Riverwalk at Hutchinson Island, Slip 1.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

- 1) The \$3,500,000 funds are available on a reimbursable basis. The funds are available to construct the Riverwalk at Slip 1 of Hutchinson Island.
- 2) Matching funds are not required.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. To authorize the Chairman to sign a Statement of Award accepting a \$3,500,000 OneGeorgia Equity grant from the Georgia Department of Community Affairs to construct the Hutchinson Riverwalk.
2. Do not approve the request.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:**

The Board must authorize intergovernmental agreements.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Commissioners adopt Alternative No. 1.

District 3

Prepared by: Suzanne Cooler, P.E.

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**15. 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 Center 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 Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

**AGENDA ITEM: X-15 A-N**

**AGENDA DATE: October 21, 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 \$37,027 purchase of two (2) single boat motors from Mercury Marine for Chatham County Marine Patrol.

**BACKGROUND:** In order to better serve the citizens of Chatham County, Marine Patrol is purchasing two (2) single boat engines for Marine Patrol's fleet. Funds are available in the approved/adopted 2017 Budget for Marine Patrol.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Mercury Marine offers the standard product for efficiency and price and will interface with existing equipment and vendors for Marine Patrol staff.
2. Staff received pricing from two (2) firms. The bid results are as follows:

Mercury Marine Fond du Lac, WI	\$37,027
Bass Pro Shop Savannah, GA	\$46,688

3. Staff believes the low bid from Mercury Marine to be fair and reasonable.
4. Mercury Marine is the sole source manufacturer and direct distributor of Mercury motors.
5. The purchase of these motors will insure uninterrupted services and maintenance from Mercury Marine for the operations of Marine Patrol.
6. Staff believes the total cost of \$37,027 to be fair and reasonable.

**FUNDING:** General Fund/M&O – Marine Patrol  
 (1003251 – 542500) - \$24,000  
 (1003251 – 522200) - \$13,027

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$37,027 purchase of two (2) single boat motors from Mercury Marine for Chatham County Marine Patrol.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to support environmentally sound, cost effective Marine Patrol Operations.

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

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

**ITEM B**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval to award a \$100,000 annual contract with renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms to USI Insurance Services to provide benefits consulting services to Chatham County.

**BACKGROUND:** Chatham County provides a wide range of health and welfare benefits to its employees. The development and administration of benefits requires strategic planning and implementation, as well as substantial knowledge of various laws to ensure that benefits are administered in a compliant and cost effective manner. Because of the complexity of benefits administration, the services of a reputable benefits consultant are essential to ensure that the benefits plans, plan design, cost structure, and other elements are handled appropriately.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. On May 6, 2016, Chatham County issued and advertised a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a benefits consultant to perform a full range of consulting services related to the design, implementation, maintenance, communication and improvement of the Chatham County benefits programs that are currently offered, or may be offered in the future to Chatham County employees and retirees.
2. Ten (10) firms submitted proposals to the RFP: Aon Consulting, Inc., Willis Towers Watson, Foster & Foster, Inc., JLK Global Enterprises, Inc., The Segal Company, Benalytics Consulting Group, LLC, MSI Benefits Group, Inc., ShawHankins, Inc., Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc. and USI Insurance Services. Aon Consulting, Inc. is the incumbent firm.
3. Staff evaluated the ten (10) proposals based on their qualifications and experience, project understanding and methodology, M/WBE participation, fee proposal, and references. Based on the evaluation scores, the top three (3) highest scoring firms were invited to an in-person interview. The three (3) firms interviewed were Aon Consulting, Inc., The Segal Company, and USI Insurance Services. (See attached matrix for scoring details on pages 5-6).
4. USI received the highest overall score. A significant factor in the scoring was the fact that USI, although a national firm, has a significant local presence, and the local team will serve as our primary consultants. Staff believes that USI provides the best solution for benefits consulting for Chatham County.
5. Staff recommends that a contract be awarded to USI Insurance Services, based on the highest number of points received in accordance with the criteria in the RFP.

**FUNDING:** Health and Wellness Fund  
 (6501595 - 521200)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval to award a \$100,000 annual contract with renewal options for four (4) additional

- one (1) year terms to USI Insurance Services to provide benefits consulting services to Chatham County.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to award essential services contracts to the firm that provides the best combination of service and fee.

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

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

#### ITEM C

**ISSUE:** Board confirmation of emergency award to Southern Tree Experts in the not to exceed amount of \$120,000 to assist Public Works with debris removal from Storm Hermine.

**BACKGROUND:** On September 2, 2016, Storm Hermine impacted Chatham County leaving vegetative debris throughout unincorporated areas of Chatham County. Residents have piled the debris along County roads to be removed by Public Works.

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

1. Public Works has ceased providing routine maintenance and used all available equipment and staff to pick up debris since Labor Day. Debris removal has been continuous since Labor Day and a significant amount of debris has been removed. However, there is still a lot of debris left to be picked up and disposed.
2. Damage from the storm did not meet federal threshold amounts and therefore, federal and state funds were not available to mitigate clean up efforts. However, the County was able to utilize Mutual Aid agreements and assistance came from several other local governments in Georgia.
3. On September 23, 2016, the Board transferred \$600,000 to Solid Waste to pay for the additional costs incurred from the storm including additional contracted resources and Mutual Aid expenses to remove debris.
4. Purchasing and Contracting with assistance from the County's MWBE Coordinator solicited quotes from local businesses to provide both knuckle boom/grapple trucks and dump trucks with operators to assist Public Works.
5. Also on September 23, 2016, in the absence of the County Manager, the Assistant County Manager Linda Cramer authorized emergency approval to procure the services of Southern Tree Experts (see attached approval on page 8). Southern Tree Experts provided a quote for four (4) grapple trucks each with an operator at \$200 per hour to work alongside Public Works staff for ten (10) hours per day. Work is estimated not to exceed 15 working days.

**FUNDING:** Solid Waste Fund  
(5404502 – 523900)

**POLICY STATEMENT:** Board confirmation is required for emergency approvals by the County Manager.

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

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

#### ITEM D

**ISSUE:** Board confirmation of emergency award to B&N Trucking in the not to exceed amount of \$94,500 to assist Public Works with debris removal from Storm Hermine.

**BACKGROUND:** On September 2, 2016, Storm Hermine impacted Chatham County leaving vegetative debris throughout unincorporated areas of Chatham County. Residents have piled the debris along County roads to be removed by Public Works.

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

1. Public Works has ceased providing routine maintenance and used all available equipment and staff to pick up debris since Labor Day. Debris removal has been continuous since Labor Day and a significant amount of debris has been removed. However, there is still a lot of debris left to be picked up and disposed.

2. Damage from the storm did not meet federal threshold amounts and therefore, federal and state funds were not available to mitigate clean up efforts. However, the County was able to utilize Mutual Aid agreements and assistance came from several other local governments in Georgia.
3. On September 23, 2016, the Board transferred \$600,000 to Solid Waste to pay for the additional costs incurred from the storm including additional contracted resources and Mutual Aid expenses to remove debris.
4. Purchasing and Contracting with assistance from the County's MWBE Coordinator solicited quotes from local businesses to provide both knuckle boom/grapple trucks and dump trucks with operators to assist Public Works.
5. Also on September 23, 2016 in the absence of the County Manager, the Assistant County Manager Linda Cramer authorized emergency approval to procure the services of B&N Trucking (see attached page 10). B&N Trucking provided a quote for nine (9) tandem axle dump trucks each with an operator at \$70 per hour to work alongside Public Works staff for ten (10) hours per day. Work is estimated not to exceed 15 working days.

**FUNDING:** Solid Waste Fund  
(5404502 – 523900)

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** Board confirmation is required for emergency approvals by the County Manager.

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

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

#### ITEM E

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$210,915 professional engineering services contract with Moffatt & Nichol for design of preliminary, right of way and final construction plans for the culvert expansion at State Route 21 and Pipemakers Canal - Phase II.

**BACKGROUND:** This project will construct additional culverts adjacent to the existing culverts for the Pipemakers Canal at State Route 21 to remove the restriction and increase capacity of the canal. The SR 21 project is one of the capacity improvement projects funded by the 2014 referendum to re-purpose the Pipemakers Canal Pump Station funds.

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

1. The Board approved a contract with Moffatt & Nichol on December 18, 2015 to perform an alternatives analysis to determine whether to add additional culverts or replace the existing structure with a bridge. The total contract amount approved for this work by the Board was \$234,855. It was anticipated that the project would have federal funding for construction and would require following the Georgia Department of Transportation Plan Development Process (PDP). It was determined during concept design that federal funding for construction would not be available and that the PDP process would not be required. This allowed for completion of the concept phase of design using only approximately \$134,855 of the total approved \$234,855, leaving about \$100,000 unused. The unused balance will be unencumbered from the Pipemakers Canal project account.
2. The results of the alternatives analysis from the initial contract with Moffatt & Nichol determined that since the existing culvert was found structurally adequate and the Georgia Department of Transportation had neither a preference for design or any interest in participating financially in the project, that the most economical means to increase capacity was to add two additional 10' x 12' box culverts to the existing structure.
3. The negotiated scope of work will provide for an environmental permit, preliminary, right of way and final construction plans including review and permitting through the Georgia Department of Transportation.

**FUNDING:** SPLOST (2003-2008) - Pipemakers Canal  
(3234220 - 541400 - 3238021)

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$210,915 professional engineering services contract with Moffatt & Nichol for design of preliminary, right of way and final construction plans for the culvert expansion at State Route 21 and Pipemakers Canal - Phase II.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to award of engineering services contracts that are in the best interest of the County.

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

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

#### ITEM F

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$1,566,126 construction contract with Carroll & Carroll, Inc., for the Pavement Rehabilitation 2016 Second Let Project which includes 6 miles of pavement rehabilitation and resurfacing on sixteen county roads.

**BACKGROUND:** The project involves milling, removal and replacement of base material, patching, crack relief, paving, striping, 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. This bid was properly advertised and two (2) bids were received and opened on September 27, 2016. The results are as follows:

**	Carroll & Carroll, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$1,566,126
	Preferred Materials, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$1,875,898

\*\* WBE Firm

2. Staff believes the bid from Carroll & Carroll is fair and reasonable.
3. The roads included for this project are Dinghy Place, Brittlewood Drive, Suncrest Blvd. South, Kentshire Court, Halifax Road, Ashley Road, Montford Court, Wyckfield Court, Sea Palm Road, Cromwell Road, Pineneedle Drive, Woodridge Drive, Chatsworth Road, Druid Road, Palmetto Cove Road and Woodbine Rd.
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 (2008-2014) - Unincorporated County Roads  
(3244220 - 541400 - 3245676)

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$1,566,126 construction contract with Carroll & Carroll, Inc., for the Pavement Rehabilitation 2016 Second Let Project which includes 6 miles of pavement rehabilitation and resurfacing on sixteen 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 the approval of Alternative 1.

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

#### ITEM G

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval to award a \$125 per truck load annual contract with renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms to South Coast Logging, Inc., for curbside yard waste processing and disposal for Public Works.

**BACKGROUND:** Chatham County Solid Waste collects yard waste throughout Chatham County and historically has taken the yard waste to the drop off center to be ground into mulch and stockpiled.

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

1. Due to current mandates on the amount of stockpiled yard waste that can accumulate, specifications were developed to contract for this service.

2. An Invitation To Bid was properly advertised with the bid opening on September 20, 2016. The bid responses are as follows:

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Per Truck Load Pricing</u>
South Coast Logging, Inc. Savannah, GA	\$125 Per Trash Compactor Load \$125 Per Tandem Dump Truck
Waste Management of GA Garden City, GA	\$182 Per Trash Compactor Load \$126 Per Tandem Dump Truck
Green Acres C&D Recyclers, LLC Savannah, GA	\$300 Per Trash Compactor Load NO Bid for Tandems

3. The County anticipates hauling only a minimum amount of yard waste to South Coast Logging due to the opening of Bush Road. However, service to some routes especially the Skidaway Island route would be impacted as the Bush Road location is approximately 25 miles one way. Hauling to South Coast Logging will increase operational efficiency.

**FUNDING:** SSD - Dry Trash Pickup  
(5404502 - 523900)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval to award a \$125 per truck load annual contract with renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms to South Coast Logging, Inc., for curbside yard waste processing and disposal for Public Works.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

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

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

**ITEM H**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval to award a \$30,336 annual contract with renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms, to Otis Elevator Company to provide maintenance and service to elevators at various Chatham County facilities.

**BACKGROUND:** All Chatham County elevators require maintenance as specified by the Georgia Department of Labor Safety Engineering Division. Only qualified elevator technicians are permitted to provide this type of service.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Elevators in the Judicial Courthouse are 32 years old and in need of regular repair. The other buildings' elevators range between 27 years and 3 years old.
2. To provide reliable and safe elevator service, regular maintenance and repairs are required.
3. Staff received the following bids: (See attached matrix for pricing breakdown on page 15)

Oracle Elevator Company  
Savannah, GA

Otis Elevator Company  
Savannah, GA

Vertical Lift Systems  
Statesboro, GA

Thyssen Krupp  
Savannah, GA

4. The lowest bid of \$29,148 was provided by Oracle Elevator Company. However, because of the age of the elevators and the frequent repairs that are needed, the staff feels that based on Otis's lower percentage markup and service call rates, Otis will be more cost effective.

**FUNDING:** General Fund/M&O – Facilities Maintenance & Operations  
(1001565 - 522200)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval to award a \$30,336 annual contract with renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms, to Otis Elevator Company to provide maintenance and service to elevators at various Chatham County facilities.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to award contracts for essential services to the bidder determined to be the best value to Chatham County.

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

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

**ITEM I**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of emergency confirmation to award an annual contract with renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms to Ashbritt, Inc. (Primary Contractor), and to CrowderGulf LLC. (Secondary Contractor) to provide disaster recovery services (debris removal).

**BACKGROUND:** Staff solicited qualified companies to provide disaster recovery services specifically debris removal in the event of a disaster man-made or natural including hurricanes.

The contract is a pre-event contract that will be activated only following a disaster. It is anticipated the cost incurred, in the event the contract is activated, will be reimbursed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and Georgia Emergency Management Agency (GEMA) funds.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Staff developed a scope of services and specifications that included consideration for removing and processing volumes and types of debris expected to be generated by a major disaster such as hurricane or any other natural and/or any other man-made disaster and the ultimate disposal of that debris.
2. The contractor must have an established management team, established network of resources to provide the necessary equipment and personnel, comprehensive debris removal and volume reduction operations plans, and demonstrable experience in major disaster recovery projects.
3. A Request for Proposal (RFP) to provide Disaster Recovery Services (Debris Removal) was issued. Eight (8) firms responded to the RFP. The evaluation committee evaluated each firm based on qualifications, experience, project understanding, methodology, MWBE participation, references and fee proposal. The committee interviewed the two (2) highest scoring firms and best and final offers were solicited. (See attached matrix for scoring details on pages 18-19).
4. Fee proposals were received as part of the proposal. Fees were itemized based on the services provided during a typical disaster recovery. Fees will only be initiated when the County issues a Notice to Proceed and the contractor has been activated.
5. The award of a contract was scheduled to appear before the Board at the October 7<sup>th</sup> meeting which was cancelled due to the threat of Hurricane Matthew. As a result of the vast amount of debris left behind in the storm's aftermath, staff sought emergency approval from the Chairman. The Chairman concurred and signed the emergency approval on October 11, 2016 (see attached page 20).

**FUNDING:** As needed, if mobilized due to disaster.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval to award an annual contract with renewal options for four (4) additional one (1) year terms to Ashbritt, Inc. (Primary Contractor), and to CrowderGulf LLC. (Secondary Contractor) to provide disaster recovery services (debris removal).
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to award contracts to firms which have been deemed qualified to provide the necessary services and comply with all FEMA and GEMA guideline requirements.

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

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
READ DEHAVEN

**ITEM J**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$13,229 Change Order No. 2 to the construction contract with MECO of Savannah for a dewatering system, associated equipment and labor needed to safely install below ground fuel tanks.

**BACKGROUND:** The new fuel site is located adjacent to the Public Works facility on Varnedoe Drive. The Board awarded a contract to MECO on May 8, 2015 to install the fuel delivery system. A separate contract was awarded to E & D Contracting Services to perform the necessary site improvements. Clearing, grading and utility installation which are completed to the point where installation of the fuel delivery system can begin.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The Bid package for construction of the fuel delivery system was offered with no knowledge that ground water would be encountered at approximately 12 feet. The 2000 gallon fuel tank to be installed is ten (10) feet tall. To be properly installed, the tank must be placed in a 17 feet deep pit. This would allow three (3) feet for a bedding of stone and sand, four (4) feet back fill for above tank protection. The 17 feet deep pit could possibly fill with approximately five (5) feet of water that would allow the 2000 gallon tank to float above ground if empty or near empty. The pit must be dewatered for tank installation and the tanks must be properly anchored to prevent floatation.
2. The Change Order includes:

Wellpointing/dewatering tank hole system,	\$4,500.
Four concrete deadmen to hold both the 2000 gallon and 550 gallon tank in place,	\$4,900.
Seven special deadmen hold down straps,	\$3,339.
Fourteen turnbuckles for deadmen straps,	\$ 490.
3. Contract History:

Original Contract (05/08/2015)	\$333,122
Change Order No. 1 (12/18/2015)	14,743
Change Order No. 2 (pending)	<u>13,229</u>
Revised Contract Amount	\$361,094

**FUNDING:** CIP - Fleet Building and Relocation  
(3501567 - 541300 - 35031357)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$13,229 Change Order No. 2 to the construction contract with MECO of Savannah for a dewatering system, associated equipment and labor needed to safely install below ground fuel tanks.
2. Provide staff other direction.

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

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

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

**ITEM K**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval to extend the contract with Hagerty Consulting for 180 days and approve a revised compensation schedule for Hagerty to provide emergency management program augmentation services for Chatham Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) during recovery from Hurricane Matthew in a not to exceed amount of \$500,000. The contract also allows CEMA to provide program augmentation services to other Chatham County municipalities through Hagerty.

**BACKGROUND:** The contract for Emergency Management Program Augmentation was awarded on October 21, 2011, for one (1) year with four (4) annual renewals. The contract is set to expire on October 21, 2016. Staff is preparing to rebid the contract and in accordance with Part 6, Section III of the procurement ordinance requested an extension with Hagerty for 180 days. Hagerty agreed to the extension and requested a revised compensation schedule based on current rates.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. Hurricane Matthew hit Chatham County on October 8, 2016. It immediately became apparent that CEMA would need emergency management program augmentation services. A notice to proceed was issued to Hagerty to provide assistance during the recovery on October 8, 2016.
2. Pursuant to Section I-8 of the Contract, The County has the right to request changes to the Contract, including any increase or decrease of the term, rate or amount of the Contractor's compensation which are mutually agreed upon by and between the County and the Contractor.
3. Pursuant to Section I-29 of the Contract, the Contractor shall be entitled to complete any work assignments issued near the end of the term of the Contract but which require additional time for completion beyond the Contracts termination date.
4. Staff is preparing the specifications to rebid the contract and plans to award a new contract prior to the expiration of this extension on April 18, 2017.
5. Staff reviewed the revised compensation schedule (see attached on pages 24-25) and compared it to a recently approved contract for Horry County, South Carolina and with Hagerty's GSA schedule and finds the rates to be reasonable and competitive.

**FUNDING:** Hurricane Matthew - Professional Services  
(2553920 - 521200)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval to extend the contract with Hagerty Consulting for 180 days and approve a revised compensation schedule for Hagerty to provide emergency management program augmentation services for Chatham Emergency Management Agency (CEMA) during recovery from Hurricane Matthew in a not to exceed amount of \$500,000. The contract also allows CEMA to provide program augmentation services to other Chatham County municipalities through Hagerty.
2. Provide staff with other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to extend contracts which are in the best interest of the County.

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

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

**ITEM L**

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of a \$62,595 purchase of equipment at Henderson Golf Course from Gallea Golf Properties.

**BACKGROUND:** Henderson Golf Course is a County owned public golf course. The current equipment at the facility is in good working order but is owned by Gallea Golf Properties. GGP decided to not renew their management contract and would like to sell the existing equipment at the course to Chatham County.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. County Staff as well as a sales representative from Jerry Pate Turf Services has reviewed the equipment and believe that the purchase price is fair.
2. County Staff need the proper equipment and tools to operate the course in order to continue to improve the playability and aesthetics of the course.
3. Purchasing this equipment saves the County money by not having to purchase new equipment.
4. The majority of the equipment was purchased in 2013 and is in good working order.

**FUNDING:** CIP - Parks and Recreation  
(3506100 - 542500 - 3503096Z)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of a \$62,595 purchase of equipment at Henderson Golf Course from Gallea Golf Properties.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to approve the procurement of equipment necessary for the operation of a public facility.

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

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

#### ITEM M

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval of the activation of a contract with Thompson Consulting Services in an amount not to exceed \$1,717,808 to provide debris monitoring services for Chatham County Public Works.

**BACKGROUND:** The contract for Debris Monitoring Services was awarded July 20, 2012 as an annual contract with four (4) possible renewals. The contract was renewed for the final year on July 20, 2016.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The contract was activated on October 11, 2016, and Thompson was provided a notice to proceed.
2. Thompson has provided the County with a budget estimate which is the basis for the not to exceed amount. Should the estimate need to be adjusted, staff will come back to the Board for a change order.
3. Staff is also preparing a contract amendment to insure that the contract language reflects the current FEMA required contract clauses.

**FUNDING:** Hurricane Matthew – Professional Services  
(2553920-521200)

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Board approval of the activation of a contract with Thompson Consulting Services in an amount not to exceed \$1,717,808 to provide debris monitoring services for Chatham County Public Works.
2. Provide staff with other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is consistent with Board policy to approve contracts which are in the best interest of the County.

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

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

#### ITEM N

**ISSUE:** Request Board approval to direct the County Attorney and Chairman of the Board of Commissioners to amend County contracts to add FEMA recommended language to the County contracts.

**BACKGROUND:** The County staff is in the process of working with FEMA officials pertaining to the implementation of recovery efforts and contracting in compliance with FEMA regulations in order to assist in the opportunity for FEMA reimbursement for portions of recovery costs.

**FACTS AND FINDINGS:**

1. The County contracts with vendors to assist in recovery from storm related events
2. All contracts must be FEMA compliant contract language to assist the County in having expenditures eligible for FEMA reimbursement.

**FUNDING:** No funds are required

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Amend County contracts to add FEMA recommended language to the County contracts.
2. Provide staff other direction.

**POLICY ANALYSIS:** It is in the best interest of the County to have FEMA compliant contract language in order to receive FEMA reimbursement for storm related expenses.

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

BUDGET APPROVAL \_\_\_\_\_  
READ DEHAVEN

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

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**XI. FIRST READINGS**

1. **INDIGO HALL II, LLC, REQUESTS REZONING FROM A PUD-B-N (PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT-NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS) TO A PUD-IS (PLANNED UNIT DEVELOPMENT - INSTITUTIONAL) ZONING DISTRICT. THE MPC RECOMMENDS APPROVAL. FILE NO. Z-160420-00041-1.  
[DISTRICT 4.]**

Chairman Scott said, we have some First Readers. One is Indigo Hall II, LLC, requests rezoning from a PUD-B-N, Planned Unit Development-Neighborhood Business, to a PUD-IS, which is Planned Unit Development-Institutional, zone district -- zoning district. The MPC recommends approval. And this is in District 4. And we will take it up for a Second Reading at our next meeting, and approval.

=====

2. **INDIGO HALL II, LLC, REQUESTS APPROVAL OF A SPECIAL USE TO DEVELOP A CONTINUING CARE RETIREMENT FACILITY, TO INCLUDE MEMORY CARE AND INDEPENDENT LIVING. THE MPC RECOMMENDS APPROVAL. FILE NO. Z-160420-00077-1.  
[DISTRICT 4.]**

Chairman Scott said, Item 2 is the Indigo Hall II, LLC, requests approval of a special use to develop a continuing care retirement facility, to include memory care and independent living. The MPC recommended approval. And we'll have a second reading. We have -- Marcus [Lotson], who's here from MPC, if anybody have a question now. If not, we'll have a complete hearing of it and reading on November 4th.

=====

**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.

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, next we have the Second Reading. To repeal the current Chatham County Flood and Damage Prevention Ordinance and adopt a new version to be approved by the Federal Emergency Management Agency or FEMA. And with that, we've had the First Reading on July 29th. We've since sent it up for approval. And at this time I'm going to invite County Engineering up to give us a full and in-depth explanation.

County Engineer Leon Davenport said, you don't want me to read the whole thing, do you, Mr. Chairman?

County Attorney Hart said, no.

Chairman Scott said, yes, please.

Mr. Davenport said, I could probably just recite it from memory. As you're aware, we did send up -- we've had a couple of iterations that we've worked through the State Flood Plan Coordinator, their office, as well as with FEMA, trying to look at what our options were when it came to changing the ordinance. After a lot of -- a lot of emails, a lot of phone calls, we finally have got something that they agree with that incorporates some of the

desires or suggestions that were made by the Home Builders Association. And I can go through some of the highlights.

Mr. Davenport said, I think probably the biggest thing that was always brought about was the fill issues that we had in the A-E zones, and prior to this revision the only option that was basically there for the homebuilders was to mitigate fill on the site. In other words, balance their volume. Made no other real provision for them to do anything else.

Mr. Davenport said, this ordinance provides, basically, three options. One is that we're still looking at the volumetric issue on a lot. They can keep that the same. The second is -- is they have a modeling aspect that they can model the -- where the storm surge, river in-flooding, and show that they're not increasing the base flood elevation in that community or in that area more than a foot. And then we also put in a minimal fill allowance that they could get positive drainage out from under some of these elevated structures, which is always one -- also one of their complaints, you know, having ponding water, whether it was causing mosquito breeding or molding issues. So we allowed for a provision to do some minimal fill in that under the house, just to get it out and away from under the structure.

Mr. Davenport said, outside of that, you know, there were a few changes that we did put in. Some were merely grammatical. Some were taking in like mean sea level. They suggested using NAV88, which is the basis for survey, which is a much more accurate datum to work from. But, for the most part, this is something that we've tried to work back and forth -- I know that they've seen the -- the ordinance that's before you today and I -- you know, I -- I -- I've said it so many times, I knew we wouldn't have a document that was perfect between both parties, everybody would agree with, but we do have a document that is enforceable, one that keeps our NFIP program -- our flood insurance program in -- intact, and it -- it's something that we can work with as far as engineering is concerned.

Commissioner Center said, do you want questions or a motion first?

Chairman Scott said, we need a motion, then we'll open it for questions. Are -- are we gonna ask questions first? It doesn't matter to me.

Commissioner Center said, I'd like to ask questions, if I may.

Chairman Scott said, Commissioner from the 3rd has a question.

Commissioner Center said, thank -- thank you, Leon [Davenport], I appreciate it. I want you to help me. I'm going to ask -- I'm going to state some history, and tell me if I'm incorrect. But I read through all the revisions -- it's a lot of technical stuff that I don't understand, so I'm trying to boil it down -- as I understand to help homeowners, generically, have a better insurance rate or be available for better insurance rate, we changed our existing ordinance to one that -- to a -- a format that FEMA recommended. Is -- is that -- I'm going through history.

Mr. Davenport said, yeah, our original ordinance was based upon a model ordinance that -- that FEMA creates, hands down to the states. The states may manipulate it, do other things to it, but then that's the basis --

Commissioner Center said, okay.

Mr. Davenport said, -- that all communities -- If you want to be in the program at all, you have to pass the model ordinance preferably.

Commissioner Center said, right. And we passed a model ordinance, our intention was to help our constituents get better insurance rates in flood areas.

Mr. Davenport said, that is what gets the program started. The model the ordinance itself doesn't save any -- any money --

Commissioner Center said, okay.

Mr. Davenport said, -- on -- on policies, but it is the basis to be in a program at all.

Commissioner Center said, but it makes them eligible.

Mr. Davenport said, correct.

Commissioner Center said, all right. And then, we're trying to help the constituents, we found out that, inadvertently, some say, we hurt them, because now they have lots that they can't build on in the most economical way for them to build on and some have lost sales because of the ordinance, they say because of the ordinance we passed. And, so, to try and help them even further, we said we'll change it again, and we have

submitted the new proposal to FEMA, to the Home Builders Association in Chatham County, -- I guess GEMA, also? -- and worked with all these organizations to come up with what's before us today?

Mr. Davenport said, that's correct.

Commissioner Center said, all right.

Mr. Davenport said, but, it's (indiscernible) model ordinance when we started, it's been -- we've had a couple of revisions in this time -- this is, uh,... the third? The third revision that we've -- we've had on this ordinance since its inception.

Commissioner Center said, all right. All right. And as I understand, you also sent this proposal to some of the attorneys representing people who are suing the County, to get their comment on it, also?

Mr. Davenport said, the ante litem that were filed, I didn't send that. The -- the attorney's office would have to speak to that one, I'm sorry.

Commissioner Center said, I think I saw a letter on that, Mr. Nash had seen it.

County Attorney Hart said, you -- you did.

Commissioner Center said, okay. And, so, I understand, what we're doing now is trying to make it -- we're -- we're trying to accommodate people who were hurt, -- may not be perfect, it may not satisfy them a hundred percent -- but we can always come back in the future and change it again, if we -- if we want to, is that correct?

Mr. Davenport said, the ordinance can be modified by the Board any time you want, but, again, as you know, we just have to go up the food chain and make sure that they're agreeable --

Commissioner Center said, all right.

Mr. Davenport said, -- with any changes that we make.

Commissioner Center said, and it's staff' opinion that this is a good step in the right direction? And I guess the attorneys' opinion, also? That's what I wanted to hear.

County Attorney Hart said, yes.

Commissioner Center said, okay. Have -- have -- have you heard from any members of the public who may have said, we don't want this one to be the way it is?

Mr. Davenport said, uh, -- actually, this morning, -- oh, I'm sorry, Jon [Hart].

County Attorney Hart said, I -- I -- I've heard from one that did not, but -- but there's no way we could stay in the program and do what the person wants.

Commissioner Center said, but have -- have you heard people say, don't pass this as it stands? We haven't had any objection to the language of the one we've got before us today, have we?

County Attorney Hart said, one individual.

Commissioner Center said, okay.

Mr. Davenport said, not -- and not from the HBA.

County Attorney Hart said, yeah.

Commissioner Center said, did that individual ask to speak today, or we don't know?

Chairman Scott said, no.

County Attorney Hart said, he's not here.

Commissioner Center said, okay. Thank you. Those are all my questions, Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Scott said, any further questions? I'll entertain a motion at this time.

Commissioner Center said, I move that we pass this ordinance.

Chairman Scott said, a second?

Commissioner Holmes said, second.

Chairman Scott said, it's properly moved. Any discussion? Let me -- let me just say this, that this is -- this is the very first step and, really, this Commission's job is to protect the public and sometimes the public from builders, even. And I also subscribe to the notion that every stitch of land is not suitable for building on. And you only need to be reminded of the subdivision that flooded in Pooler, some of the unexpected places that took on water that's not in a flood zone. And our original ordinance, I thought, was tough as nails. And what we were trying to do is provide some relief to homebuilders, and still protect consumers. And that's really what you have before you.

Chairman Scott said, now the other step of this is the policymaking -- or the rule-making, not policymaking -- but the rule-making. And -- and this is where, really, folk will start looking at every aspect of the rule-making to see if they can still function under it. But this policy, in my opinion, is -- what we're -- the ordinance we're about to adopt is -- is broad enough to -- to allow constructions on most lots in this county.

Chairman Scott said, and with that, that's the only discussion that I have. So, we have a motion. Any further unreadiness or discussion? Commissioner Farrell from the 4<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Farrell said, it's -- if this ordinance passes today, I'd like to suggest that we have a public hearing once the rules have been formulated by the County department, so that there can be a -- an interaction between the stakeholders and staff, to explain how the rules are gonna work, and for -- for the stakeholders to be able to point out where it does and maybe where it doesn't work, so that there can be a better communications between the County department and the folks that are most affected by this particular -- this ordinance.

Chairman Scott said, Mr. Manager, would you -- would you make certain in the rule-making process that there is at least one public hearing?

County Manager Smith said, yes.

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

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved 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). Commissioner Holmes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

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**2. ADOPT THE 2016 CHATHAM COUNTY REVENUE ORDINANCE TO REFLECT CHANGES IN RATES AND FEES RESULTING FROM THE BUDGET PROCESS, TO REMOVE SEWER FEES, UPDATE PUBLIC UTILITY PROPERTY TAX, REVISE STATE COURT FEES AND PROPERTY TAX PENALTIES AND INTEREST FOR STATE MANDATED CHANGES.**

Chairman Scott said, the next item under Second Readers is adopt the 2016 Chatham County Revenue Ordinance to reflect the changes in rates and fees resulting from the budget process, to remove sewer fees, update public utility property (sic), revise state court fees and property tax penalties and interest for state-mandated changes.

Commissioner Center said, so moved.

Chairman Scott said, is there a second?

Commissioner Stone said, second.

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

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved to adopt the 2016 Chatham County Revenue Ordinance to reflect the changes in rates and fees resulting from the budget process, to remove sewer fees, update public utility property tax, revise state court fees and property tax penalties and interest for state-mandated changes. Commissioner Stone seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Shabazz and Kicklighter were not present for the vote.]

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**XIII. INFORMATION ITEMS**

Chairman Scott said, we're now under Information, Mr. Manager.

County Manager Smith said, no, sir.

Chairman Scott said, let me -- let me just say one last thing before we depart. There was a lot of discussion earlier about Matthew and what took place. I mainly kept quiet during most of that give-and-take. But it was always my intent to evacuate the county in a given time that every- and anybody who wanted to leave would have time in which to leave. I was not concerned with what the State of South Carolina did. They notified us on the 5th that they were going to evacuate on the 6th. And then later on the 6th, the State of Florida made notice.

Chairman Scott said, I also want to make a note that I was in communication several times during the course of the day with the Governor's Office to talk about when we thought would be appropriate to evacuate, and we also discussed the use of voluntary versus mandatory evacuation, and we also discussed when traffic would be counter-flowed [sic] on I-16, and the Governor also explained to me it would take several hours. As I stated earlier, the counter-flow [sic] starts at Dublin and works it way back to Chatham County. And we called the evacuation based on when we thought the counter-flow [sic] would, in fact, be in place and you would have all lanes flowing west out of Chatham County. And we did it with the intent of trying to keep folk safe. And I'm not inclined to evacuate anybody unless I absolutely have to. No one wants to leave their homes. If you do it too early, people will not evacuate in the future.

Chairman Scott said, at no point did we ever have an indication that the storm would make land in Chatham County. When the Governor of South Carolina made a early announcement, it showed then the storm making land at between Myrtle Beach and Charleston, and so she was looking at a different situation. We monitored the storm and watched it move east and watched it move back west. At no point did it show making direct landfall. I think we are very fortunate to be able to evacuate the county, be able to get everybody back, with only one fatality. And that fatality was very regretful and it -- it almost make you sad when you think about it, when someone evacuate their family and go to bed and then have a tree fall on their house.

Chairman Scott said, I -- I want to thank all of the people who supported us during this effort. The Salvation Army provided food to all the CEMA staff and all the volunteers. We had people embedded there from the State Patrol to GEMA, Department of Homeland Security, who kept us in contact with their director, Mr. Butterworth, in Atlanta, who stayed in constant contact with us, and we appreciate their support. We appreciate the Governor's early call for a declaration so we could immediately apply for FEMA assistance.

Chairman Scott said, I appreciate all the long hours that the County employees put in, many who slept on cots at the Chatham County -- what used to be the old Chatham County Police headquarters, which is where CEMA' emergency facilities are at. And I want to thank the County Manager, who stayed there, brought his family there, and they took turns sleeping on cots. And I don't think that you could have asked for anymore support from County staff or those who volunteered. And -- and many could have left town. As Commissioner Center pointed out, the only people who are really required to stay, besides CEMA, is the County Manager and myself.

Chairman Scott said, and I -- I feel embarrassed and somewhat saddened by some of the things was said by some members of the Commission, but that's because they have not -- fully understand or explore or realize what the rules are in the County. In the event that we declare an emergency, the Chairman is the person who makes the decision to evacuate. It's not the CEMA Director. The CEMA Director makes recommendations. And we try to base that on trying to get everybody out forty-eight hours before a potential landfall, is sort of the gauge in which we use. We had no potential landfall, so we had to think in terms of what are the mitigating circumstances. The Manager and I and everybody else always agreed that it would be water, we were concerned about that. And the water really was the results of some of the trees coming down, because we created a situation where the ground was saturated and the wind allowed some oak trees to be uprooted.

Chairman Scott said, and -- and that's pretty much what happened during the entire episode. I didn't evacuate. I stayed. And I think that what folks should know on conference calls, we had people from every municipalities participating in the conference calls and it's -- it's at those conference calls, if you have an objection or disagreement with anything, it would be the time to raise it.

Chairman Scott said, I will also state that we did have a conversation with the Mayor of Tybee, who wanted to evacuate early and we blessed that and said, have at it. And -- and then when we ended up losing power to a hundred and forty-one thousand customers in Chatham County, so you can -- that's customers, and there's two-and-a-half person per household, so you can do the math. It was a large percentage of Chatham County. And we took the position that we needed to give special authority to law enforcement and to everybody else, so we imposed a curfew. And we imposed a curfew that began at ten at night and lasted until seven in the morning. Now, the curfew did not prevent people from going to work or moving to and from their house. It

prevented them from being on the streets or being in neighborhoods in which they did not live. And it would also allow law enforcement to stop and check IDs of anybody in any neighborhood to make certain that they were in the correct neighborhood. We did that because of the number of people we had evacuated, in an estimation of over two hundred thousand people left town, and we wanted to make certain that those two hundred thousand people who left town, homes and communities were not being burglarized or anything else. And that was the intent and that was the extent of it. At this time I'll recognize the Commissioner from the 6th District --

Commissioner Center said, I -- I wanted to get a report on that SCMPD consultant thing, if we may. I wanted to get the report on how we're doing with the consultant on the SCMPD --

Chairman Scott said, okay.

Commissioner Center said, -- merger, because we're supposed to get a monthly report. I know you had -- you had us appoint people to go to a series of hearings. I just wanted to get an update on how we're doing with those negotiations.

County Manager Smith said, yeah, we have a work -- we have a working group that has some SMPD -- SCMPD,-- myself, Linda Cramer, Mark Bucalo in Finance. We have had several meetings. We had -- the last one was here in the Green Room, for about three and a half hours, Friday -- a couple of Fridays ago, before the storm. And we're now looking at some of the issues as they relate to benchmarking, those kinds of things. But I know we're gonna be holding a separate call with the consultant, because we're still interested in looking at some of the cost allocations, because that's part of what this board is gonna look at, the citizens are going to know about. We have our next meeting, I believe, the twenty --

Assistant County Manager Linda Cramer said, Tuesday.

County Manager Smith said, -- Monday?

Assistant County Manager Cramer said, Tuesday.

County Manager Smith said, yeah, Tuesday. So we'll be meeting further then. I mean, it's -- it's progressing along, probably a little faster than I thought it would.

Commissioner Center said, we'll make the March deadline for it?

County Manager Smith said, oh, yeah, I -- I think.

Commissioner Center said, thank you.

County Manager Smith said, mm-hmm.

Commissioner Center said, thank you, Mr. Chairman.

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**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: October 21, 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>
Chemical agent to improve turf at the Henderson Golf Course	Parks and Recreation	Siteone Landscape Supply, LLC	\$4,950	General Fund/M&O - Parks and Recreation
Pre-bills and postage for April 2016	Tax Commissioner	Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	\$12,884	General Fund/M&O - Tax Commissioner
Purchase of existing inventory at Henderson Golf Course	Parks and Recreation	GGP Henderson, LLC	\$5,877	General Fund/M&O - Parks and Recreation
72 inch clean out bucket with connecting pins for excavator	Mosquito Control	D & E Manufacturing, Inc.	\$3,622	General Fund/M&O - Mosquito Control
Cleaning solution	Animal Services	Phoenix Research Industries, Inc.	\$2,671	General Fund/M&O - Animal Services
Pre-bills and postage for August 2016	Tax Commissioner	Wells Fargo Bank, N.A.	\$8,460	General Fund/M&O - Tax Commissioner
Replace pump station control panel at Henderson Golf Course	Parks and Recreation	Tremblay Pump and Motor, Inc.	\$10,320	CIP - Parks and Recreation
270 tons of recycled crushed concrete for temporary dumping of storm debris	Public Works	ABC Crushing	\$6,750	SSD - Solid Waste
Annual service and support agreement for arraignment equipment in video court rooms	Detention Center	Business Information Systems, Inc.	\$7,868	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Electrocardiograph machine with 12-lead channels and screen display	Detention Center	The Instrument House, Inc.	\$3,934	General Fund/M&O - Detention Center
Golf cart lease initial payment and documentation fee	Parks and Recreation	PNC Equipment Finance, LLC	\$4,008	General Fund/M&O - Parks and Recreation
12 desktop computers for the replacement program	I.C.S.	Dell Marketing, L.P.	\$6,241	I.C.S. Computer Replacement
24 tons of industrial grade sand	Mosquito Control	Standard Sand & Silica Co., Inc.	\$4,200	General Fund/M&O - Mosquito Control
Landscaping and irrigation installation at Turner's Creek	Engineering	Turf Services Unlimited	\$11,325	CIP - Parks and Recreation
Seven (7) laptops	Superior Court Clerk	Dell Marketing, L.P.	\$7,690	Superior Court Restricted
Toner cartridges	District Attorney	Staples Business Advantage	\$2,881	General Fund/M&O - District Attorney
Replace 52 feet storm pipe and asphalt overlay at Gamble Road	Public Works	Savannah River Utilities Co.	\$24,875	CIP - Public Works
Annual Fiduciary Liability Policy	Occupational Safety	USI Insurance Services, Inc.	\$15,446	Risk Management - General Administration
Replacement of roof on golf cart barn at Henderson Golf Course	Parks and Recreation	Craig Phillips Roofing & Sides, LLC	\$9,600	CIP - Parks and Recreation
Repairs at Kayton Canal Bridge	Public Works	Savannah River Utilities Co.	\$18,000	CIP - Public Works
12 desktop computers for the replacement program	I.C.S.	Dell Marketing, L.P.	\$6,241	I.C.S. Computer Replacement

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
Replace battery and repair rear springs on a Public Works trash truck - unit #482	Fleet Operations	W. W. Williams	\$4,670	General Fund/M&O - Fleet Operations
Cisco wireless and smartnet equipment with warranty	I.C.S.	Centrics IT, LLC	\$5,779	General Fund/M&O - I.C.S.
September 2016 tax sale advertisements	Tax Commissioner	Shivers Trading / Operating Company	\$3,720	General Fund/M&O - Tax Commissioner
Phase 2 of the Jimmy DeLoach Demolition project	Engineering	Complete Demolition Services, LLC	\$21,300	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Road Construction
Remove and install new engine in excavator - unit #2157	Mosquito Control	Flint Equipment Company	\$14,503	General Fund/M&O - Mosquito Control
Gun laboratory analysis of evidence in case	District Attorney	Serological Research Institute	\$2,500	General Fund/M&O - District Attorney
Rental of generator for the Pete Liakakis Building in case of loss of power during Hurricane Hermaine	Facilities Maintenance	Cummins Power South, LLC	\$5,900	CIP - Facilities Maintenance

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## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Chairman Scott said, and we -- we have need for an Executive Session for litigation and legal. I recognize --

Commissioner Brady said, uh, --

County Attorney Hart said, yeah, litigation and -- and pers- -- litigation and personnel, to the extent --

Chairman Scott said, we don't have personnel. We're not going to do any appointments.

County Attorney Hart said, that's fine, then litigation.

Chairman Scott said, litigation and legal.

Commissioner Brady said, and I --

Chairman Scott said, I recognize the Commissioner from the 6th District, Commissioner Brady.

Commissioner Brady said, thank you, Mr. Chairman. I make a motion that we go into Executive Session for legal purposes only.

Commissioner Thomas said, second.

Chairman Scott said, properly moved and second. Any discussion? Hearing none, all in favor of the motion, indicate by voting yes, opposed no. We're headed to Executive Session. Thank you.

## **ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Brady moved to recess to executive session for litigation matters. Commissioner Thomas seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Shabazz was not present for the vote.]

The Board recessed at approximately 2:05 p.m.

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**ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**1. SETTLEMENT INVOLVING DETECTIVE RICK HALL CASE.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Center moved to authorize settlement not to exceed \$90,000. Commissioner Stone 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 2:37 p.m.

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

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

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