

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA, HELD ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2000, 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 Billy Hair called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m., Friday, October 20, 2000.

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**II. INVOCATION**

Chairman Hair gave the invocation.

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**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

All pledged allegiance to the flag of the United States of America.

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**IV. ROLL CALL**

The Clerk called the roll.

PRESENT: Dr. Billy B. Hair, Chairman  
Frank G. Murray, Chairman Pro Tem, District Four  
David L. Saussy, District One  
Joe Murray Rivers, District Two  
Martin S. Jackel, District Three  
Harris Odell, Jr., District Five  
Ben Price, District Six  
Eddie W. DeLoach, District Seven

ABSENT: Dr. Priscilla D. Thomas, Vice Chairman, District Eight

IN ATTENDANCE: R. E. Abolt, County Manager  
R. Jonathan Hart, County Attorney  
Sybil E. Tillman, County Clerk

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**YOUTH COMMISSIONERS**

Chairman Hair said, I'd like to introduce our Youth Commissioners who are with us today. We have Carvell Allen, who is Parliamentarian. He's a Junior at Savannah Arts Academy. We have Dwayne Allen (no relation), and he's also a Junior at Savannah Arts Academy, and we have Renee Bellino, and she is a Junior at Savannah Country Day. Some of you have been here before, but as we go through our deliberations, if you'd like to make a comment or ask a question, raise your hand and I'll recognize you and we'll proceed.

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

### **1. INTRODUCTION OF THE GRAND MARSHAL FOR THE 2000 VETERANS DAY PARADE AND THE VETERAN OF THE YEAR.**

Chairman Hair said, the first thing on our agenda this morning is it's my pleasure to introduce to you the Grand Marshal of the 2000 Veterans Day Parade and also we have our Veteran of the Year with us. Mr. Lang, would you come forward and we welcome --, would you like to make a few remarks, sir? Come to the podium, sir. We want to make sure everybody can hear you.

Mr. Frank Lang said, good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Several Commissioners said, good morning. Mr. Lang said, the only remark I want to make is I think that all of us here are good Americans and our main duty is to impart to our children patriotism. That's what it's all about. I have great confidence in our youth and in our country, and I want to thank you gentlemen for supporting us. Thank you very much.

Chairman Hair said, thank you. This is the Veteran of the Year, and we'd like to hear from him.

Mr. Tilson said, I'm Richard S. Tilson, and I was selected by the Veterans Council of Chatham County for Veteran of the Year, and I know you all believe in the hereafter and we're here after some of your money.

Chairman Hair said, we appreciate very much you gentlemen being with us this morning and thank you for your service to our country.

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### **2. APPRECIATION FROM AND TO THE U.S. OLYMPIC WEIGHTLIFTING TEAM MEMBERS AND TEAM SAVANNAH.**

Chairman Hair said, we also have with us today our Olympians and we have a little presentation if they could come forward to the podium, I'd like to have them join me down there.

Commissioner Price said, congratulations, you guys. Commissioner Jackel said, great job. Great job. Commissioner Price said, we're proud of you.

Chairman Hair said, obviously Chatham County and Savannah is very proud of what you young ladies have done and certainly your Coach. Come right on up here Howard [Cohen]. Of course, Michael [Cohen] has done an outstanding job with Team Savannah, led by his father here, and we just want you to know that regardless of what medal you've achieved in Sydney, you're going to win a gold medal in Chatham County. So it's our pleasure --, you're all gold medalists to us and we'd like to present you with gold medals. [Applause.] Chairman Hair said, thanks for the great job and please say whatever you'd like to say.

Commissioner Rivers said, hey, Billy [Hair]. Chairman Hair said, yes sir. Commissioner Rivers said, Mr. Cohen didn't go. Chairman Hair said, well, he got one anyway.

Ms. Cheryl Hayworth said, my name is Cheryl Hayworth and, you know, we got back from Sydney not too long ago. It was a great experience and we couldn't have done it without the support of Chatham County, the City, the schools, everyone has worked together to make the entire experience a better one for us, and we really appreciate the support.

Ms. Cara Heads Lane said, basically what she [Hayworth] said, but I just want to thank you personally for all of your support. Everyone there was a great send-off. From everything --, everywhere we went people all were saying, you know, congratulations, we're proud of you, and just thank you for all of your support, and again the medals and just that continued theme of everyone being very supportive of what we're doing. Thank you very much.

Mr. Michael Cohen said, first of all, obviously thank you very much for what you allowed us to accomplish. You know, the whole program, as we talked about this thing, what, six years ago, is about providing opportunities, and when you provide opportunities for our youth in our community, some great things happen, and we were fortunate enough to have 50% of our Olympic Team from the United States come from the City of Savannah. That's unprecedented. We won medals for the first time in 20 years, which is again unprecedented. It's been a long time since we've had Olympians from this area and now we've got them. We've got young ones, which means we're going to be even stronger in 2004, 2008 and so forth. The continued support of this Commission, the continued support of the people in Chatham County is what's allowed us to provide those opportunities for these kids so they can excel and meet the dreams and achieve the dreams of the Olympics. Before we go both girls have got some mementos to give to you from Sydney. One is a team portrait of the team that was taken right outside of the village when we were getting ready for the opening ceremonies. I'm sure most of you saw the opening ceremonies on television. It was spectacular on television. We watched it on television because

we weren't allowed to be there until we actually walked into the stadium. This is a picture of that. The other is a coin from the Olympics, minted for the Olympics and I selected of all the sports obviously I selected weightlifting, so you have a weightlifting commemorative coin from the Olympics.

Commissioner Jackel said, Mike [Cohen], I'd just like to say and tell these young ladies I don't think you have any idea of how the proud the County is of you and how many people kept telling me they watched it on TV, they followed it in the newspaper, and they even wanted additional information that the whole County's proud of you. We know your family and friends are, but the whole County and the State and the nation, as far as that, for what you accomplished, and when you come up here and you need help, I guarantee you can count on my vote. I'm behind you a hundred percent. Mr. Michael Cohen said, thank you. I appreciate that. Thank you. Commissioner Jackel said, and we appreciate those post cards. That means a lot too. Commissioner Price said, we've got quite a collection going.

Commissioner Murray said, I don't know if y'all realize, to me it's pretty significant today that we've got veterans here that fought so you would have the right to go do these things, and you, the young people, that represented us in the Olympic Legacy over in Australia this time, and I know that in 2004 y'all will be going back and will probably have a much larger group. From the fact that y'all were not just representing Savannah and Chatham County, you're representing this whole country just as these gentlemen over here did and I thank you. To me it's very significant that the two groups are here together today to celebrate this. Thank you.

Chairman Hair asked, would you like to say anything?

Mr. Howard Cohen said, I'm just a small part of it. I'm --, my name is Howard Cohen and I'm the President of Team Savannah, and this program started, as you know, a long time ago when Michael [Cohen] was starting at a very small stage and built it up, and thanks for Chatham County supporting and working with this program and was able to elevate it to such a high point. I remember in 1980 when my son made the team but was not able to go, it was a heartbreaking situation, and now for him to go over this year in Sydney and walk in the Olympic Parade, it was very exciting. I'm also Chairman of the National Masters Program all over the United States, and these people in all the states and I have received letters with newspaper clippings from all the United States with the idea of Savannah and Chatham County in bold print there. So it's been very rewarding, and again I'd like to thank Chatham County for their support. Chairman Hair said, thank you, Howard [Cohen], we appreciate it. Thanks a lot. Mr. Cohen said, thank you.

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

None.

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## **VII. COMMISSIONERS' ITEMS**

### **1. BRIEFING BY FBI AGENT CHUCK GABRIEL ON GOVERNMENT CORRUPTION PROGRAM (COMMISSIONER JACKEL).**

Chairman Hair said, I'm going to ask Commissioner Jackel if he'll introduce the program.

Commissioner Jackel said, it's my pleasure to introduce Chuck Gabriel. I've known Chuck [Gabriel] for many years. He's with the FBI. Currently he's working on the Government Corruption Task Force and he's here to give us a briefing on what we might look forward --, what we might --, signs we might look for to prevent any sort of government corruption so we can have a sharper eye and a sharper lookout. I think we have under control. As a matter of fact, I know we have things under control, but we can always learn a little bit more and be a little bit smarter. So it's my pleasure to introduce Chuck Gabriel with the FBI. Thank you, Chuck [Gabriel].

Mr. Chuck Gabriel said, in fact, I'd like to thank Martin [Jackel] very much for his invitation and sponsorship of my appearance today. And I'd also, by the way, like to thank Russ Abolt and his very able staff for all of their assistance and their continued cooperation in the FBI. I appreciate their professionalism and our liaison relationship with them.

Mr. Chairman, gentlemen of the Board, ladies and gentlemen, let me begin by expressing appreciation of Special Agent in Charge Theodore Jackson of the FBI in Atlanta, which covers the entire State of Georgia, and I thank you for your support

of the FBI and for our mission. My presentation is part of a public awareness initiative that's designed to share with the public why the FBI is involved in corruption matters at the state and local level and to highlight the areas of greatest risk to honest government, as well as to discuss some thoughts on how best to cooperatively combat the cancer-causing behavior that threatens honesty in government. As you now know, I was assigned to Savannah for 10 years and I lived here in Chatham County during the 1980's. In fact, my 12-year-old daughter was born here and but for the fiat of the FBI so would my son. I was in-house counsel for our Savannah Division back then, and in most aspects of our significant cases I was involved during that time. I'm an attorney and I'm assigned full time to work public corruption in Georgia, and so hopefully I will speak with some credibility on the subject because after cases like RottenApple, a repo case that emanated from Appling County, south of here, and the Red Evans smuggling cases and corruption cases along the CSRA, to the conviction of former Wheeler County School Superintendent Billy Clark and Georgia Labor Commissioner Sam Caldwell, as well as right up to today, I've consistently heard the lament what right do the Feebees [phonetic] have to come in here and investigate our state and local government. If it's a problem, it's a state problem and the local authorities should handle it. Well, that's a reasonable question, and this morning I will address the what and how of the FBI's public corruption program, and by public corruption the FBI means public, not political corruption. We deal with acts that corrupt our public institutions, our public functions and our public officials. I'm sure that you all will agree that when a federal official or those acting for federal agencies are involved in corruption, it's a federal matter. Similarly, when federal money is involved, it stands to reason that the federal government will be interested in and take an active role in any inquiry. So let me first say that many of our cases operate coextensively with state jurisdiction, that we in the FBI work closely with state and local authorities in many of our cases. As a matter of practice, our initial response to allegations of corruption often defer to local investigation and prosecution. However, our national government was created and exists independently and in independent privity with the people. It's a national relationship, but on a separate and parallel line on a different plain. Our system of dual sovereignty affords each citizen a direct voice and standing before each sovereign, the United States and his or her individual state and it's political subdivisions. Moreover, under our contract with our national government all citizens, including individuals and businesses which do their primary business in other states, have the right to unimpeded movement and opportunity on the level economic playing field we call commerce. My explanation to you of our interest is to observe that each of your constituents are also federal constituents, and our constituents are not only due the best efforts of their state's sovereign to provide for their health and safety, they are also due federal protections and have a right a federal enforcement. While we often work very closely with state and local law enforcement authorities, we are obliged to exercise our federal prerogatives on a program. So let's start with a very important observation. Regardless of where the corrupting influence begins, all citizens hold a legitimate expectation of honest government. We have the right to expect honest operation of our core branches of government, executive, legislative and judicial. We have the right to expect and receive essential services in an honest, fair and even-handed manner, and we have the right to the honest conservation of our tax dollars. We in the FBI enforce federal laws that prohibit [inaudible] interference with these expectations, and in so doing we use three categories of loss: criminal action, corrupt act, and honest services lost.

Mr. Gabrielsaid, criminal action statutes outlaw things that are simply and purely criminal regardless of who commits them, robbery, embezzlement, perjury, but when such crimes are committed by a public official, the perception of the crime is worse, and when the official commits the crime using or abusing his or her position, it becomes corrupt. By way of example, many of you will remember Harry Williamson, a former Sheriff of Bryan County, just down the road. He was convicted for his involvement in operating his trucking business with his brother during the 80's using stolen motor vehicles in interstate commerce, violating not only the very laws that he, as Sheriff, was charged to protect and enforce, but he protected himself to boot. And I'm sure we'll all recall the recent drug-house case here in town. The remaining two categories are the most often used in corruption matters.

Corrupt act statutes are broadly defined to address systemic criminal behavior, often the more insidious acts of greed. The key distinguishing characteristics between them and honest services is the importance that inducement plays. It plays a larger role in criminal act statutes and it's embodied in the concept of *quid pro quo*: this for that. In the corruption context, *quid pro quo* is the inducement for one party to act in exchange for a benefit. A bribe. This necessarily means that two parties are involved. Either or both can break the law. After all, it doesn't matter whether the outsider says I'll pay you if you do this for me, or if the public official says I'll do this for you if you pay me. However, in either instance, the only one who can do the corrupt public act is the officeholder. Therefore, from a law enforcement viewpoint, it's important to realize that the line between victim and subject is a very narrow one. The distinction is often a matter of timing. Has the official been induced to act or not act? In other words, has a crime been committed? Or, on the other hand, is someone trying to inducing him to do an act or stop from doing an act that he otherwise should? In other words, do we have someone attempting and targeting a public official? Here's an example? George Greene is the owner of Sable Communications and he wanted to tip the scales in his favor regarding to Fulton County, Georgia, contracts worth well over a \$11,000,000 to his company. The contracts were for computer cable installation projects in the county and they needed County Commission approval. So George Greene went about trying to pay off people who could his company win and retain County Commission approval. The people he paid off or bribed were Michael Hightower an elected County Commissioner in Fulton County, and Josh Kenyon [phonetic], who was the Chief of Staff to the Chairman of the County Commission, an administrative professional. They were initially approached by Greene to break the law. They could have refused and reported his advances. Then they would have been witnesses against him rather than his criminal cohorts. What's interesting and curious is that Josh Kenyon had previously done just that when he worked for the previous Commission Chairman, Mitch Skandalakis. Kenyon had cooperated with the FBI and as a result lawyer Mark Franz [phonetic] was found on video tape offering \$350,000 as a kickback for a multimillion dollar county insurance contract, and Franz went to prison. This time Josh [Kenyon] couldn't resist the temptation. Now what was the *quid pro quo*? What did George [Greene] get

for his money? Kenyon, the administrator, talked up Greene's company and acted as its proponent. He provided influence before the Commission and loyalty to Greene. Hightower, the County Commissioner, voted for the contracts awarded to Sable Communications, so Hightower was rewarded for his votes and for the continued lobbying of his fellow commissioners. What did Greene get? Unfair competitive advantage to say nothing of \$11,000,000 in county contracts. Now the question is why the FBI? Well, the contracts were part of projects on the criminal justice computer system in Fulton County and the Y2K infrastructure upgrades. Federal money. Clearly, the bribes paid to Hightower and Kenyon were money that they were not otherwise due. Now how about campaign contributions? Well, lawful expressions of our political franchise, they are not payments that candidates are otherwise entitled to. They can be an inducement. Justice Weltner of the Georgia Supreme Court observed that a bribe is a bribe is a bribe, and while speaking to a group in Atlanta in the late 1980's he observed that even when a bribe has to be reported under the Ethics in Government Act as a campaign contribution, it does not change its characteristic —, its character as a bribe. The *quid in quid pro quo*. In short, campaign contributions can be payments not otherwise due and an inducement made in exchange for an official act or non-act.

Mr. Gabriel said, the third category of anti-corruption laws are honest services statutes. These are truly an honesty in government tool. They speak in terms of fraud, lying, cheating, misrepresenting the truth. They employ easily underscored concepts of right and wrong, fair and unfair, concepts that juries have very little problem understanding or applying. Conflicts of interest are invariably found at the core. Now while conflicts of interest are not illegal by themselves, they raise issues which must be candidly dealt with by all public officials. Just as an aside, one of the more common conflicts of interest that occur for officials result from outside employment, family financial interests, family employment, and for the citizen legislators, such as yourselves, your primary professions. The application of honest services theories goes like this. First, honest services are required of all public officials: elected, appointed, civil service, and at whatever level. Secondly, they address the public official's relationship as a public official to both his office and to the public. Officials, all of them, hold a position of trust, have a duty to disclose material facts, and have an obligation of loyalty. They're obliged to do the people's business for the people's benefit. Put the facts of the Hightower case here and you'll see how well they fit, and let me share the circumstances of another case, *U.S. v. Lucas-Lopez* out of Tampa. Vicki Lopez was an elected County Commissioner in Lee County, Florida, and while on the Commission in 1990 she became romantically involved with Sylvester Lucas, a lobbyist doing a significant amount of business with Lee County on behalf of some very well-heeled clients. Neither Lopez nor Lucas told anyone of their relationship. No one knew. And Lucas's clients had some big issues pending before the board. One of them was seeking to retain a multimillion dollar construction contract. The other was bidding for a contract to underwrite Lee County bonds. According to the government's case, Lucas paid Vicki Lopez to buy her vote and influence her actions as a Commissioner, and the two of them devised the scheme to control the board's votes using her influence, but without disclosing her conflicts of interest, which were her financial and intimate relationship with Lucas. Both facts, the financial and personal, were material matters to the Commission and to the public. What was critical to their success and what was at the core of their collection was the use of her influence to deliver a majority of the board's votes on key matters because, let's face it, by herself she couldn't do that. She only had one vote. So the honest services statute was employed to address the scheme to control the vote by the couple hiding the truth and by Lopez acting in her official capacity out of her own self-interest. The Eleventh Circuit, when speaking of the political official's use of his office for personal gain, observed that if the official secretly makes his decision based on his own personal interests, as when an official accepts a bribe or personally benefits from an undisclosed conflict of interest, the official has defrauded the public of his honest services. The answer to the question of why should she disclose her personal affairs is stated in another case that came out of Atlanta, *U.S. v. Wamer* [phonetic]. There the court said that the affirmative duty to disclose material information arises out of the government official's fiduciary relationship to his or her employer. Ladies and gentlemen, at the risk of oversimplifying things, an election is just another way of deciding who to hire. And by the way, non-officials, citizens, vendors, businesses, lobbyists, they do not escape scrutiny under the honest services theory even though they're not public officials. Look at the Atlanta Airport scandal case in the early 1990's in *U.S. v. Paradise* [phonetic]. Here the airport concessionaire and his companies hatched a scheme to funnel money and unearned business interests to a City Councilman in order to keep valuable contracts for airport concession stands. The Eleventh Circuit in that case said that the offering of large sums of money in return for a City Councilman's vote is the type of conduct that's prohibited. These defendants, speaking of the business people, intended to defraud the citizens of Atlanta of the Councilman's honest services. So what can you do? Well, to a large extent you're already doing much, but let me share some thoughts. First, set standards. Enforce your rules and train everybody. Like any good organization, implement clear standards of conduct applicable to everybody with defined gradations of consequences and then enforce them administratively and fairly. Consider vendor behavior as well. For example, do you have vendor contract pledges? Train. Communicate established standards and the expectations of behavior and include everyone in ongoing awareness procedures. Assess your organization. Identify your organization's most attractive targets and their weaknesses, and implement responsive controls, checks and balances, redundant approvals, and then audit, audit, audit their compliance, which I know you already do here with Reese White and the others. And, lastly, and most importantly, forge an anti-corruption partnership with your staffs, constituents and law enforcement. Enlist partnerships with —, partnership commitments with your employee organizations, citizen groups and management teams, and encourage all elements of government to do the right thing for the right reason at the right time. That's what we teach our children, and it puts crooks on notice: corruption is not tolerated here. Think about all the problems, the law suits, the community conflict that can be avoided by that simple concept of honest government, not to mention the added benefit of avoiding criminal investigations and scandals because that's where I come in. That's my role. That's the role of the FBI. And by the way, I've got plenty to do already. Thank you. I'll take any questions and, by the way, if you have any questions of me or local issues, Bill Kirkconnell [phonetic] is our Supervisory Senior Resident Agent. That's his address and phone number. It's amongst your material, and we'll be more than happy to respond.

Chairman Hair asked, does anybody have any questions of Mr. Gabriel? We really appreciate you being with us this morning. It's been very, very informative.

Commissioner Price asked, how's your knee? Mr. Gabriel said, it's getting there. Standing is a little bit [inaudible], but we're working on it, and I appreciate your indulgence for letting me put this off an extra month.

Chairman Hair said, thank you.

Commissioner Jackel said, well, Chuck [Gabriel], I want to tell you that everyone that sits up there, their number one issue when they ran was doing something about crime, and this Commission and the preceding one has spent a great deal of our tax money in doing something about crime and we feel that it's paid off in the County. We've come up with the Counter Narcotics Team, we've supported our police, we've had a new modular pay plan, we've just had a recruiting bonus, and this is another step how we can fight crime in support of people like you who work with law enforcement, and we appreciate your being here. Mr. Gabriel said, Martin [Jackel], thank you very much. Commissioner Jackel said, we appreciate it.

Chairman Hair said, thank you very much. Thank you. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Saussy.

Commissioner Saussy said, I'd like to also say that we do appreciate you coming here and giving us all this because I think we all need to know what the federal government's ideas are on these things. One of the things that we are doing that Martin [Jackel] didn't mention, we have a Chatham County Crime Task Force now that's made up of about a hundred people. We have four committees working on this thing, and they are now coming together and are working real hard. They're coming together now. They're talking to each other, and that's one of the most important parts of this whole task force is to talk to each other, and Bill Kirkconnell is very much a part of this. We appreciate him being with us and giving his ideas on it. So thanks a lot for being here. Mr. Gabriel said, well, again I thank you for the opportunity to share this with you and the public. This is a program that's important to all of us. Thank you.

Commissioner Jackel said, just one last comment, if I may. Your presentation was so interesting to me because we all know about the crime on the street, but we've got to attack crime wherever it is. If it's in the office, white collar crime, whatever, and I know that's part of what you're doing, and that's why it was great to have you here. Mr. Gabriel said, Martin [Jackel], I agree with that.

Commissioner Saussy said, one other thing too that I would like to mention. Over the last two weeks if you've seen PBS documentary on drug wars, it was one of the best documentaries I have ever seen and I hope that we can get it, if we can purchase it to share around the City because the two nights that I saw it, it was four hours of TV, but it brings it from about --, the drug wars from about 1950 right on up to the [inaudible], and it is a super documentary, and I would recommend anybody if they can get, get it and look at it because it is really great.

Mr. Gabriel said, certainly, and whenever our institutions are undermined, we all have a harder job ahead, so I appreciate your time. I thank you very much for your attention. Good luck. Commissioner Jackel said, thank you.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Mr. Gabriel.

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

Received as information.

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#### **2. CRESTHILL BAPTIST CHURCH PROPERTY (COMMISSIONER SAUSSY).**

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Saussy.

Commissioner Saussy said, we need to take this off the agenda and put it back on next week [sic] because there's some things that have come up that they're working on right now, so if we can put it back on next.

Chairman Hair said, all right. Russ [Abolt], make sure it's on the next agenda. County Manager Abolt said, yes sir.

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

Commissioner Saussy requested that this action be pulled from the agenda and placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

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#### **3. LOOK AT DEVELOPMENT PLANS (COMMISSIONER MURRAY).**

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, I put this on because it seems like from time to time we run into some problems with things that we as the Commission approved for rezoning and certain restrictions that we put in place for rezoning issues, and it seems to be dropped at that point and then starts moving forward unless somebody calls their attention to it, and especially when it gets over to the MPC and they start their investigation and it goes back and forth. I really would like to see the County Attorney, I've got three areas that I would like for him to look at and see if we can change our ordinances and if we as a Commission can request these things or if we can put them in place. The first would be all specific development plans need to be reviewed and approved by the MPC board. I think right now it's being done by staff, but I think the board is responsible for that and making recommendations to this Commission when something changes. The second one would be any revisions that alter the general development plan approved by the County Commission along with rezoning of property shall be sent back to the County Commission for approval prior to a specific development plan being developed. Now that one in particular is important to me because that is one that we've just had some problems with, and I don't need to get into detail with that right now. And, three, that the Zoning Ordinance be revised to request that drainage be approved on the general development plan rather than the specific development plan, and I know that part of the opposition on that is going to be the cost of it with people not knowing --, they don't want to spend their money without knowing whether the property is going to be rezoned or not, but I don't think we can really rezone property to do certain developments without knowing what the drainage is going to do and what's going to be done with it. So those are three items that I would hope this Commission would support the County Attorney looking at and coming back in two weeks or four weeks and giving us a recommendation on what we can do and we can't do with these.

Chairman Hair said, I think it's a very good idea. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Saussy.

Commissioner Saussy said, I was in a meeting at the MPC last night and a lot of these things were brought up at that time, and I think we definitely need to look at this very, very seriously because there are some big problems there. I think we need to alleviate it. Chairman Hair said, let's do that.

Commissioner Murray said, what I'd like to say, this is not something that's supposed to be reflected against the MPC staff. Commissioner Saussy said, no, it's not. Commissioner Murray said, they're doing a good job over there and they have more than they can handle possibly in a lot of cases, but if we're responsible for the actual rezoning and approving or disapproving the rezoning and some of these other things that go in place, if a drainage problem occurs, we're the ones that get the credit for making the wrong decision, and I think we should have the final say-so in some of these things.

Commissioner Saussy said, and I think frankly from what I gleaned last night, I think the MPC would appreciate these directions. Chairman Hair said, they will.

County Attorney Hart said, I'll be glad to look at it. I'd like to get some input in regard to that third request from the Engineering Department just to see functionally what that will mean in the general and specific development plan.

Commissioner Murray said, well, let me explain. I understand where you're coming from with that, but let me explain where I'm coming from with it. I know it's going to take longer and I know it's going to cost a little bit more money, but I would rather take the additional length of time and the additional expense to do it and make sure it's right before we approve something than have it wrong and cause problems later.

Chairman Hair said, okay, thank you. We'll do that.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

The County Attorney's office was requested to look at three areas regarding the development plans and bring it back to the Commission.

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**VIII. TABLED/POSTPONED 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. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE THE FOLLOWING: A GENERAL FUND M&O CONTINGENCY TRANSFER OF \$6,130 TO THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT FOR CONTRACTUAL SERVICES FOR THE AQUATIC CENTER, AND TRANSFER OF \$26,430 WITHIN THE LIBRARY BUDGET FOR SALARIES AND WAGES.**

Chairman Hair said, I'll entertain a motion. Commissioner Saussy said, so moved. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. Any discussion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion passed unanimously. Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

Commissioner Murray said, the only thing, that is the \$26,000 you've already said it is within the Library budget. Chairman Hair said, it was in the budget. Commissioner Murray said, it's not in addition. Chairman Hair said, that's correct. Commissioner Murray asked, will that affect next year's budget? Chairman Hair said, no, it's within the budget. Commissioner Murray said, I know it's within the budget now, but what I'm saying is, it's going to be included in the next budget. County Manager Abolt said, yes sir. What happened was there was an error made at the time of hiring of certain employees within the Library staff operation. The Director admitted that. We're making it whole and well. It obviously will not come from salary savings. We're depending upon those to balance this year's budget, but Commissioner Murray is absolutely right from the standpoint of increased cost and continued cost in personal services. This will recur. Commissioner Murray said, okay.

Chairman Hair said, okay.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Saussy moved to approve the following: A General Fund M&O Contingency transfer of \$6,130 to the Recreation Department for contractual services for the Aquatic Center, and transfer of \$26,430 within the Library budget for salaries and wages. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas was not present.]

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**2. REQUEST APPROVAL OF AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT TO ACQUIRE ANG PROPERTY ON EISENHOWER.**

Commissioner Murray said, I move for approval. Commissioner Saussy said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. Any discussion? Commissioner Murray said, I'd just --, let's vote and then I'll --. Chairman Hair said, okay. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Price, DeLoach and Thomas were not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Murray said, what this is doing, and this is the first step to us closing that property out. Is that correct? County Attorney Hart said, that is absolutely correct. Commissioner Murray said, if y'all remember when we first started discussion of this National Guard property on Eisenhower Drive, we had a number of citizens and a number of letters to the editor and a lot of the news media was down on the Commission because we would be --, they were telling us that we would be stopping a Target Store from coming into Chatham County in that area. I just want everybody to understand this plainly. Target Stores and a private development probably would not have closed that property out to date because environmental problems on part of it and it was not large enough to purchase to put in the Target Store. They needed 40 some odd acres. So all that stuff that came to us, and I would just like to thank this Commission for standing straight and going forward with it because in the years to come that's going to be one of the best investments, I think, that Chatham County has made as far as central location of our tag office and a lot of our administrative areas, that it will be Inspections and some other things combined out there, and those people that still think the Target Store or whatever large chain could have come out there and done this, you're wrong. It would not have happened because they could not have gotten through the issues that we had to go through and take the length of time that we have taken to make it happen, and I'd just like to thank the Commission for the support to do it.

Commissioner Saussy said, well, Target's coming anyway. Commissioner Murray said, well, Target's coming anyway, yes.

Chairman Hair said, thank you very much.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Murray moved to approve an intergovernmental agreement between Chatham County, the State Properties Commission and the Georgia Department of Defense to acquire Air National Guard [ANG] property on Eisenhower for the Inspections Department, the Board of Equalization Office and for a new tag facility. Commissioner Saussy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Price, DeLoach and Thomas were not present.]

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### **3. REQUEST BOARD APPROVAL TO CREATE THE NEW POSITION OF UNDERGROUND FACILITY PROTECTION INSPECTOR.**

Commissioner Jackel said, I'd like to hear a little bit about this.

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman and gentlemen, this is not a new position from the standpoint of an add to the Department of Public Works. It's taking an existing vacant position, reclassifying it. The existing position would pay a salary, as you'll notice on page two, of just under \$30,000. This new position reclassified from that would actually have a savings of about \$4,000, but it puts emphasis in underground facilities protection. Over the last several weeks I've given you copies of a letter from Mr. Drewry as to the exposure of Chatham County and its taxpayers in the event there might be constructions going on and, heaven's knows, we understand the experience Southern Bell had recently, but in the event any of our lines were cut or we cut other lines we have to have this protection in place to alert everyone who should be alerted.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Odell.

Commissioner Odell asked, Russ [Abolt], this is not a new position, this is a changed position? County Manager Abolt said, there's a vacant position within the Department of Public Works referred to as an Assistant Maintenance Superintendent. Commissioner Odell said, so it's not a new position, we're changing a position. County Manager Abolt said, and it's being paid less than that position was. Commissioner Odell said, I understand. So it doesn't add to the body count. County Manager Abolt said, no sir, no sir. That's right.

Chairman Hair said, plus I think again it allows the department heads to manage their departments and put the people where they are most needed. County Manager Abolt said, I commend Mr. Drewry. He's operating obviously within the confines of his budget and, in addition, he's addressing a very complex –.

Commissioner Odell said, I move for approval. Commissioner Saussy said, second. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

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

Commissioner Odell moved to approve the request to create the new position of underground Facility Protection Inspector in the Public Works Department, and allow staff to proceed with filling the vacant position by reclassifying an existing position, and purchase a truck. Commissioners Saussy and Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas was not present.]

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### **4. REQUEST BOARD ADD A STAFF POSITION IN ICS THAT WILL WORK IN THE OFFICE OF CLERK OF STATE COURT.**

County Manager Abolt said, Mr. Chairman and members of the Board, I would defer to Mr. Blair, State Court Administrator, in a moment, but in partnership with Mr. Blair and also with Judge Fowler, staff has been able to work also under the leadership of Lewis Leonard with addressing a need that is prevalent within State Court and, in effect, with the guarantee which Mr. Blair has so candidly and forthrightly given that the money will be there, we in effect would ask that you would create this position with the understanding that it will be technically within the department of ICS and that it will have the operational control of the State Court Clerk. This is identical to what you did a couple of years ago on SAGIS when you had a person that continues to work for Mr. Brannen but is on the table of organization for Mr. Leonard and it's all done because I believe in Carl [Blair] when Carl [Blair] says the money's there.

Chairman Hair asked, Mr. Blair, would you like to add anything?

Mr. Carlton Blair said, well, I think probably, first things first, we've already paid for the position. We've earned the money and effective with this month's transfer of funds from my office to the General Fund, we've paid for this position for this year. We had a case load increase in my office coming –, of about 500 cases a month. We currently are receiving roughly 300,

that will make it 800 cases, and at roughly \$99 a case we will have far more than we need to pay for the cost. What we're trying to do is to find a way to harness the digital revolution that's about to face us or that's facing us now wherein the moving of paper —, moving of information a lawyer or from a file and to a court all can happen digitally, should happen digitally, and can be moved around the courthouse, could be saved digitally saving immense amount of human resources and money and space and other kinds of resources and infrastructure that we have to provide, and we want to be able to do what we could do to get the proper mix of technology and human resources. We're working with the Georgia Courts Automation Commission on Electronic Filing and Interoffice [inaudible] Study. We're about to implement an imaging project in my place of business and, God knows, I don't have the skills necessary to steer that, and I need them and I need to be able to control them, so I would ask that you please support that.

Commissioner DeLoach said, I move for approval. Commissioner Saussy said, second.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Odell and then Commissioner Murray.

Commissioner Odell said, I wanted to say to Carlton [Blair], Carlton [Blair], is this position with the functions that you've described, would those functions be necessary in the other Clerk's offices like, i.e., Superior Court, Magistrate Court? Is this something that we can look forward to having other positions for those —? Mr. Blair said, the answer would be no sir. What we're having is a —, someone come to my office to work in my office and help us get from where we are to where we need to be. Once we're there, there won't be any additional need. If this guy's to help us clear the path, I mean, once that's done, the path will be there and the ICS Department should be able to support us. So, no sir. Commissioner Odell said, I'm not certain if that's the answer. This position will do the magic for State Court. We still have Superior Court, Magistrate Court —. Mr. Blair said, no sir, that's —, you're right about that, we do. It is figuring out how to do the magic that we need this person for, and we can only do that —, once this guy sets things up and makes the system work and sing the way it should and the way it can, then we just replicate that without very much effort in all the other places. That's really why this is very important. Commissioner Odell said, I agree, I think it's extremely important. I do know that we have separate kingdoms. We have the kingdom of State Court, we have the kingdom of Superior Court, we have the kingdom of Magistrate Court, and we have Probate Court, and I —, for the last several years you've been a leader as far as computer technology. You ought to be applauded for that. I just want to make certain that, and I'm not certain if Russ [Abolt] or anyone can make that kind of guarantee, that we will not see those other departments coming forth and saying, no, he's Carlton [Blair], or she's Carlton [Blair], we need our own particular person because of this unique situation, or whatever. Mr. Blair asked, can I back up just a moment and explain, help explain to you why your fear is probably not worth having? There is —, there has been traditionally in my place of business the willingness to do far more technologically than the County had resources to support. That lack of support on the County to my efforts has held us back. Held us back not generally but in terms of figuring out how best to approach these electronic technological advances that are available in the market and in the legal community. Once we —, with this additional help, which ICS doesn't currently have, provided to my office, which I can direct and get them to do the things that are necessary to lead the way, once that's done there is absolutely no need to replicate that information, replicate that resource any other place. We will have done the deed and they make all the magic —, the kingdom of Superior Court can just do exactly the same thing, the kingdom of Mag [sic] Court exactly the same thing, Probate Court same thing. Commissioner Odell asked, do you see this as being a permanent on-going position or a position that you'll need for nine month, ten months, a year —? Mr. Blair said, I see this as a position that I'll require for roughly a two-year period. I'm not here to say that I won't need it after that, but I don't expect to, and I would expect that that person, that position would probably should then divert itself or convert itself to a position that serves the judiciary so that the judicial requirements and needs are all met by a single person that we can all go to and know that that person's goals and priorities are our goals and priorities and that we don't need to compete with the legion of Mosquito Control or Purchasing or whomever. Commissioner Odell said, Carlton [Blair], I'll tell you —, and, Frank [Murray], I'll yield in a half moment, I support what you're doing, and what you've done so far is modernize State Court, and you're to be commended for that. I guess my only concern is that County government on that side of the street tends to be isolationists and individualized departments. I'm not certain if that's cost effective. Is there a meeting of the clerks of the various courts and, if so, the kinds of things that you're interested in doing and those things that's shared with the other clerks? Mr. Blair said, yes sir, there —, routinely we get together, we talk to each other, we have business all the time. I can tell you that the electronic filing that we started in my place has been picked up by Ms. Prouse and they're about to set up an electronic process for the Superior Court. The same process has been made available to the —, my friends at Magistrate Court. I don't know that they're interested yet in doing that although it is available. There's a law now, a new law in the Legislature that was just done by the last Legislature that approved electronic filing for Magistrate Courts, so that process of sharing the knowledge and information and [inaudible] exists. Commissioner Odell said, thank you, Carlton, I'll yield to Frank [Murray].

County Manager Abolt said, if I may, gentlemen, I also want you to appreciate what the recommendation is. It is not to add a position to State Court. It goes to ICS, and you —, and I have and Mr. Leonard obviously, the ability, though I'm not worried about it from the standpoint of too much going to one of the competing courts, if that's the proper way to typify it, we will provide support to all courts within the best of our ability, and Mr. Blair understands the very things that you're talking about, plus I also feel that the leadership of Mr. Leonard, that the benefits received in addition to Carl's [Blair] enthusiasm, it's going to be infectious and you're going to see benefits to the entire organization. In this case one department, State Court, has come forward and said they have the money. We are not committing to them beyond the length of the money this support, and the bottom line is the person's in ICS and not in State court.

Commissioner Odell said, I've always told Carlton [Blair] that in olden days the first Christians got the hungriest lions.

Commissioner Murray said, Carl [Blair], I'd just like to say I think you've come a long way since you stood up there trying to get some chairs for the jury boxes at one point, but some people may not remember that. Another thing is too that what you're doing in that court and the leadership that you've given in that court, also with the support of Judge Fowler and encouragement from him to do these things, I think speaks well for you and the State Court. As a matter of fact, I had a call from someone with the newspaper this week talking about some other things and the division between the courts and the County and what we fund and what we have to fund came out, and I suggested that she give you a call and talk with you so you could explain to her what you're doing in that court and what you're doing to save the taxpayers money and getting the information out, and the other things that you're doing. I don't know whether they've contacted you or not, but I would just like to commend you for the job that you are in leading the way in the technology and the things that you're doing within the State Court and the performance we see over there. Mr. Blair said, I certainly appreciate that. Thank you, sir.

Chairman Pro Tem Murray recognized Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Jackel said, I basically wanted to second that. We have to move ahead and we have the computer power, but we have to have someone who can apply it and get the right programs and coordinate the different aspects of it, and I anticipate that this would produce savings for us down the road that we'll be able to handle a higher volume of cases with less people, and that's where we need to move towards. Thank you. Mr. Blair said, yes sir.

Chairman Pro Tem Murray said, all right. Any other questions? Let's vote. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioner Thomas were not present.] Chairman Pro Tem Murray said, the motion passes unanimously. Mr. Blair said, thank you very much.

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

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the request to add a Systems Analyst Position in ICS that will work in the office of the Clerk of State Court. Commissioner Saussy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Chairman Hair and Commissioner Thomas were not present.]

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#### **5. BOARD CONSIDERATION OF OPTION TO REGULATE VIDEO POKER.**

County Manager Abolt said, Commissioner Murray, if I could defer to --, with a conversation to both the County Attorney and Mr. Anderson.

County Attorney Hart said, this is --, this is something for Board consideration. Staff doesn't have really a strong position one way or the other in regard to it. It's something we wanted to point out. As you know, video poker arcades were shut down in the State of South Carolina. There was some concern that the machines would influx the border areas, especially around Savannah, and there might be a problem in regarding [sic] to the placement of these machines. The State law deals with games of chance; however, due to manpower, the issue is really not enforced by the State, it's enforced by our local Police Department. My understanding is from the Police Department that it has not been a problem to date, but you need to be aware that we do not have an ordinance on the books to regulate those. You may choose as a policy decision to see that it's not a problem and you don't want to regulate it, or you may make a decision that it's something that perhaps we need to have something on the books insofar as regulating the location or the number of machines and where they're located within Chatham County so that, you know, if somebody decided they wanted to open up with 40 or 50 of these things that we would have the ability to maybe have some control over that.

Mr. Gregori Anderson said, good morning, gentlemen. This was a topic that generated interest in the Inspections Department. As the County Attorney indicated, as the poker parlors began to close down in South Carolina, we began to see more of them in the unincorporated area in convenience stores and those kinds of things. And certainly, as you are aware, we had some here already so this is not a brand new issue, but our department is concerned that due to the high proliferation of them that we might want to look at this. Our current Occupational Tax Ordinance, as well as our Zoning Ordinance, is really silent on these types of machines. Now we do regulate video arcades, which are regular type of gaming --, video type machines, as well as vending machines. We are required to have a mechanism where we regulate those through zoning and through occupational tax certificates, but as far as poker machines or games of chance, both ordinances are silent on that. What I propose, and I'll let the Chief talk about what problems they have seen or have not seen, but what I'm proposing to you today, if it is the will of this Board, is to put a mechanism in place that may help us if it is a perceived problem if there is a desire to regulate these things in terms of distance maybe from churches and schools, also possibly the number of machines a particular establishment can have on the premises. Certainly at this particular time there's nothing that would keep someone coming in who wants to set up 50 or 60 of these in one particular location other than meeting the State statute in terms of games of chance. I'll let the Chief talk about what problems they perceive or problems they haven't perceived in the field.

Chief Thomas Sprague said, although we haven't had any investigations initiated from the video poker machines to be analyzed. We have received raw intelligence that from time to time it does exist in certain locations. The violation of law is when money's exchanged for winnings in the machine as opposed to the \$5 limit in merchandise in the store. One thing that bothers me about it is, as Greg [Anderson] says, we're gaining more and more of these machines since South Carolina changed their law. I don't —, personally don't think that it's appropriate to have a great number of these machines or any of these machines within so many feet of a school or a church because I think it offends churchgoers, one, and I think although it may not have a bad influence on younger people, it very well could as far as it relates to wager and gambling.

Chairman Hair asked, is that similar to the lotto? Chief Sprague asked, pardon, sir? Commissioner Odell asked, would it have the same effect as the State lottery? Chief Sprague said, well —. Commissioner Odell said, as far as the influence on young people. Chief Sprague said, I think an arcade situation would be [inaudible], Commissioner. Commissioner Odell said, no, my only point, Chief, was —, I understand what you're saying and you're doing a great job, but the hypocrisy of the —, we have a State government that runs a lottery. That runs a lottery, and now we have the video poker, and to me it looks like the same beast, and if it is not the same beast, it's a game of chance, then should we parallel any, and I want to say, and the FBI has been here, I represent no one in video poker —. Commissioner Murray said, you do in a roundabout way because some are your constituents. Commissioner Odell said, that's true, Frank [Murray]. [Unintelligible comments were made when several Commissioners were all talking and laughing at the same time.] Commissioner Odell said, there's a State law, and our statute would separate, customize what's done on a State level. Chief Sprague said, I don't believe the State law, and I'll defer to the County Attorney, but I don't believe the State level regulates the number of machines at a location, number one, or any kind of distance between a school and a church. When this first came up, that was my recommendation to the County Attorney to see is it legal for the Commission to have an ordinance relative to the distance between a location having these machines and a church or a school. When you get down to the enforcement, if someone breaks this law, the State law, in other words, they're paying off 25 or 50 bucks and it's, you know, done out of the back pocket and they only deal with certain people they know, you've got a proliferation of the actual gamblers then. Now to enforce that, that law, if that is occurring at a certain location, if we get intelligence on that, that's going to require surveillance, it's going to require technical equipment, et cetera, and we —, we can't do it because it takes our resources away from crimes against people and crimes against property. As the County Attorney said when we told him, we don't have a problem with it now. I think a County ordinance that specifies where they can be and where they cannot be, schools and churches, number of machines in place, will assist us if we do get intelligence in that we can operate from. In other words, where we can put some undercovers in or whatever we need to do in order to stop a person who's violating that particular law. But when you're talking about convenience stores and such, you can go in and they've got a whole bank of machines and the video poker, they're all gambling machines, they're not the arcade style machines, actually the person owning the machines in the store is what they're gaining from, the wager, and I do put that in a different perspective than the lottery, sir. Commissioner Odell said, thank you, Chief.

Chairman Hair said, Commissioner Murray and then Commissioner Price.

Commissioner Murray said, yes, I'd just like to get some more information on them. I don't know whether the County Attorney or one of y'all should be the one to answer it, but I know the machines are in the places throughout Chatham County. I don't know the process you use on them, I don't know whether you —, how much they pay off or if you get anything from them if you win. I also do not know if there's an age limit set on those machines that you have to be a certain age to pay them. Could somebody answer those questions for me? County Attorney Hart said, well, you see a lot of them is restaurant, lounges, bars, places like that, and most of the machines that are legitimately being operated in there, you play them and then you either get coupons for food or something less than \$5 in value to redeem. So —, and if it's that type situation, then under the State law that's not considered a game of chance and is perfectly legal under the statute, and we're not attempting to regulate that type of situation here. What we're talking about is do you want to regulate location and do you want to regulate the numbers of those machines in a particular location. If they start paying off and start giving money in excess of, or things in excess of \$5 in value, then you have a State statute violation, okay, but that doesn't necessarily mean that just because you have a State statute violation that the State has the manpower down here to enforce that and, you know —. Commissioner Murray asked, what about the age part? Is there an age limit on who can play and who can't play? County Attorney Hart said, there's no regulation —, right now I don't believe there is an age limit on that. Commissioner Murray asked, so a 10, 12, 15-year-old could go in and play these games if they wanted to? Well, I can tell you I stand with it and have been since I've seen them start popping up in the different service stations and fast food places and everything else, I'm opposed to them and I would like to see us take them out totally, but I don't know whether we can legally do that since the State has laws, but I would support removing them and certainly putting any restrictions on it we can. I don't believe it's right for a young person under a certain age to be able to go in and take money and put in the machines and operate them. Now I don't know why there's not some restrictions on that.

Chief Sprague said, one thing that an ordinance would do, I believe, is right now I don't know if Inspections knows how many machines are in the County and where they're at, but an ordinance could take care of that too.

Commissioner Murray asked, well, could it —, by doing the ordinance would you be where we would license the+ machines, or you can't do that? County Attorney Hart said, well, you could license the machines. Now, you could charge a fee for licensing a machine just like you do your vending machines and that type of thing. The issue becomes in that are you really looking at that as a revenue force —, source, or are you looking at that as a regulatory source, and if it's a regulatory source,

how much do you charge for that to recoup the cost of administration? Commissioner Murray said, my feeling is that I would like to see us make it just as restrictive as we can make it according to the law.

Chairman Hair said, okay, I'm going to recognize Commissioner Price, myself, Commissioners Jackel, Saussy, and Mr. Earls. I've got Mr. Earls, but after the Commissioners. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Price.

Commissioner Price asked, what's the history across the border of South Carolina? I mean, did this bring about all kinds of corruption and crime and, I mean, why did South Carolina decide to do away with it? County Attorney Hart said, that was a gambling issue. They were not, they were clearly involving games of chance, and there was a literal payoff, okay, win so many dollars. Commissioner Price said, okay. Commissioner DeLoach said, I do know of one [inaudible]. County Attorney Hart said, you're not winning 100 hamburgers here, you're winning \$100 dollars, and what I'm saying is you go to one of our local places and you play this game and you're successful at it, you're liable to get a -, win a cheeseburger and french fries. Commissioner Price said, right. County Attorney Hart said, or something like that. Commissioner Price said, I have -, any time you talk about more government in any respect, and even in this respect, I have reservations about it because I don't believe in more government. I guess I'm like George Bush. Commissioner Odell said, but you're not running for reelection. Commissioner Price said, but I'm not doing anything. I'm just a lame duck with an opinion, but I do think that it needs more research, it needs more time to be looked at and I don't want to see us rush off and throw an ordinance together that's not even enforceable and we don't have revenues to have somebody out on the street actually trying to enforce it. I mean, let's make sure that we do this and take our time in doing it and we do it right is all I'm saying, if we're going to do it at all.

Chairman Hair said, I do think that we need to regular, but I agree with Commissioner Price, I think we've got to be careful and we want to make sure whatever regulation we put down is enforceable and is fair to all parties. I really think that the ordinance can be very, very simple and accomplish all the things that everybody's concerned about. It's really all about money. If you control the number of machines, you're going to control everything else. I mean, you know, if -, and certainly that needs to be, and I agree with the Chief that we probably also need to restrict it around schools and churches, and maybe not have it next door and that sort of thing, but I think if you really control the number, you're going to control the flow of dollars and that's going to greatly impact all these other ancillary instances that we're talking about. I'll recognize Commissioner Jackel and Commissioner Saussy, Mr. Earls and then Mr. Allen.

Commissioner Jackel said, there's a good reason why I sit next to Frank [Murray]. We agree so much on these things. I want as tight a regulation as we've got, and I'll tell you what I'm in favor of. One machine per establishment because I don't think we can go to zero. I want to regulate it so there's a fee for regulation, I want them not to be allowed in any place that has alcoholic beverages and no one be able to use the machine unless they're 21 and older. And I think if we put those regulations in place, and a certain distance from the schools. One per business, no alcohol sold on the premises, regulation fee, must be 21, and a distance from the schools and church, and we'll have this problem under control. We don't need this. It reminds me of a musical that rhymes with P and that spells pool and we've got trouble. We don't need this. It's nothing but trouble, and I think with the proper regulations we can control it. For it to be in a place that sells alcohol is abhorrent to me. We don't need that, and I'm for as strong a regulation as we can put down.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Saussy.

Commissioner Saussy said, I'd like to see us have a regulation also. I just don't want to see what's happening in South Carolina to happen over here and it could very easy unless we put this in immediately. The sooner the better. Let's move forward with it. If we need a motion, I'd like to make a motion. Do we need a motion? County Manager Abolt said, yes. Commissioner Saussy said, then I make a motion that we establish an ordinance on the video poker game regulations. Chairman Hair asked, what's your -. I'm not sure I understand the motion. What was the last part of your motion? I didn't hear you. Commissioner Saussy said, to establish an ordinance regulating video poker games. Chairman Hair said, okay, just -, but not specifying what the ordinance would look like. Commissioner Saussy said, no special -.

Chairman Hair said, bring it back to us. We have a motion, is there a second? Commissioner DeLoach said, second. Chairman Hair asked, any discussion on the motion? All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Thomas was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

Commissioner Murray said, let me ask one question on that. Jon [Hart], if we put an ordinance in place, can we do it without any grandfathering clause in there? County Attorney Hart said, I'll have to look at that. Commissioner Odell said, no ex post facto. Chairman Hair said, I believe you can. Commissioner Murray said, I'm asking the County Attorney not the Commissioner Attorney. Chairman Hair said, I believe [unintelligible comments were made when several Commissioners all began talking and laughing at the same time.] Chairman Hair said, we pay the County Attorney a lot more than we pay the Commissioner Attorney so we should get better advice. I said we should, I didn't say we did.

Chairman Hair recognized Mr. Earls.

Mr. Ken Earls said, my name is Ken Earls. Question: Who regulates the placement of the lottery machines? Is it strictly State or does the County have some regulation of that? Chairman Hair said, the State. County Attorney Hart said, totally State, totally State. Mr. Earls said, okay. So, I mean, what are those regulations in relationship to vicinity of a church or

school? Say, like, you know, in a convenience store. Commissioner Odell said, churches can have them. Chairman Hair said, I don't think there are. I think that's a good question. I don't think there are any because you see them all over. Mr. Earls said, that's why I was wondering because if there was, tie them into that. County Attorney Hart said, well -. Mr. Earls said, because there definitely should be distance from school, churches and also minimum age. County Attorney Hart said, the lottery was created specifically for the lottery and there's a -, it's got it's own statute, it's got it's own constitution. Chairman Hair said, exactly. I was just fixing to say it is a constitutional amendment actually that allows that.

Chairman Hair recognized Youth Commissioner Carvell Allen.

Commissioner Murray asked, could you look at that and find out, I mean, while you're doing this other?

Youth Commissioner Carvell Allen said, I agree with Commissioner Jackel. I was wondering if [inaudible] a TV or violating an ordinance -, of an ordinance that y'all would set. Chairman Hair said, well, we would be able to set that in the ordinance, set the violation would be and we'd also be able to set the penalty. We'd set the violations at the same time. That would be part of the ordinance writing process. Thank you. Thank you, gentlemen.

Youth Commissioner Dwayne Allen said, Commissioner Jackel, you are saying that you want it to be a distance from school and churches. Commissioner Jackel said, that's correct. Youth Commissioner Dwayne Allen said, also one machine per establishment and no alcoholic beverages sold on the property. Commissioner Jackel said, that's correct. Youth Commissioner Dwayne Allen asked, for the alcoholic beverages, is there a reason for that? Is that because, like, if you consume alcoholic beverages and play a poker machine then you might get a temper from losing, or what? Commissioner Jackel said, well, I just don't think they would survive if there is no alcohol on the premises.

Commissioner DeLoach said, [inaudible] control alcohol so that people hang around that would drink and play.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Mr. Allen.

Mr. Earls said, one more question. Chairman Hair said, all right, Mr. Earls. Let's wrap it up. Commissioner Jackel, no alcoholic beverages sold on the premises, I would agree with that, but do you mean by the drink or package sales? Commissioner Jackel said, either way. Mr. Earls said, you would want no package then? Commissioner Jackel said, even if you wanted package -. Mr. Earls said, make it as strict as you can. Commissioner Jackel said, yes sir.

Chairman Hair said, thank you, Mr. Earls.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Saussy moved that the County establish an ordinance regulating video poker games. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioners Rivers and Thomas were not present.]

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**X. ACTION CALENDAR**

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

Chairman Hair asked, does anybody want to pull anything off the Action Calendar? Commissioner Jackel said, number eight. Chairman Hair said, okay. I'll entertain a motion to approve the balance of the Action Calendar. Commissioner DeLoach said, so moved. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

Commissioner Murray said, we only had one item pulled.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner DeLoach moved that the Action Calendar Items 1 through 9-F be approved in their entirety with the exception of Item 8. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas was not present.]

[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 OF THE REGULAR MEETING ON OCTOBER 6, 2000, AS MAILED.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on October 6, 2000, as mailed. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas was not present.]

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**2. CLAIMS VS. CHATHAM COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 28, 2000, THROUGH OCTOBER 11, 2000.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner DeLoach moved that the Finance Director is authorized to pay claims for the period September 28, 2000, through October 11, 2000, in the amount of \$12,681,726. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas was not present.]

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**3. REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN, COUNTY CLERK, COUNTY ATTORNEY AND COUNTY ENGINEER TO SIGN ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO OBTAIN A GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (GDOT) COUNTY CONTRACT FOR THE PAVING AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS OF STAGECOACH ROAD.  
[DISTRICT 7.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner DeLoach moved to authorize the Chairman, County Clerk, County Attorney and County Engineer to sign all documents necessary to obtain a Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) County Contract for the paving and drainage improvements of Stagecoach Road. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas was not present.]

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**4. REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN, COUNTY CLERK, COUNTY ATTORNEY AND COUNTY ENGINEER TO SIGN ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO OBTAIN A GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (GDOT) COUNTY CONTRACT FOR THE PAVING AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS OF GLADE STREET.  
[DISTRICT 1.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner DeLoach moved to authorize the Chairman, County Clerk, County Attorney and County Engineer to sign all documents necessary to obtain a Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) County Contract for the paving and drainage improvements of Glade Street. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas was not present.]

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**5. REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN, COUNTY CLERK, COUNTY ATTORNEY AND COUNTY ENGINEER TO SIGN ALL DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO OBTAIN A**

**GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION (GDOT) COUNTY CONTRACT FOR THE PAVING AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS OF RIDGE ROAD.  
[DISTRICT 5.]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner DeLoach moved to authorize the Chairman, County Clerk, County Attorney and County Engineer to sign all documents necessary to obtain a Georgia Department of Transportation (GDOT) County Contract for the paving and drainage improvements of Ridge Road. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas was not present.]

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- 6. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE A RESOLUTION AND A QUITCLAIM DEED TO TRANSFER TO THE CHATHAM COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY (MEMORIAL CENTER) THOSE CERTAIN PARCELS OF LAND IN THE CITY OF SAVANNAH FOR THE DELESSEPS AVENUE ACCESS ROAD  
[DISTRICT 3]**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve a resolution and a quitclaim deed to transfer to the Chatham County Hospital Authority (Memorial Center) those certain parcels of land in the City of Savannah for the Delesseps Avenue Access Road. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas was not present.]

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- 7. REQUEST BOARD APPROVE A FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA) COOPERATING TECHNICAL COMMUNITY (CTC) MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA).**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Cooperating Technical Community (CTC) Memorandum of Agreement (MOA). Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas was not present.]

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- 8. REQUEST BOARD AUTHORIZE THE CHAIRMAN TO ACCEPT A LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT BLOCK GRANT FROM THE BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$67,084, TO APPROVE THE SELECTION OF LORI BRADY, A MEMBER OF THE SAVANNAH/CHATHAM BOARD OF PUBLIC EDUCATION; DANIEL E. DELOACH, SUPERIOR COURT ADMINISTRATOR; LARRY CHISHOLM, ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY; RICK PRYOR, MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR THE CITIZEN'S CRIME COMMISSION; AND CHIEF THOMAS C SPRAGUE, OR THE DESIGNEE, AS AN ADVISORY BOARD WITH THE MANDATE TO MAKE A NON-BINDING RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS REGARDING THE USE OF FUNDS RECEIVED FROM THE GRANT PROGRAM, AND TO SCHEDULE A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE PROPOSED USED OF THE BLOCK GRANT FUNDS WHERE THE ADVISORY BOARD'S RECOMMENDATION WILL BE RECEIVED ON NOVEMBER 3, 2000.**

Commissioner Price said, so moved. Commissioner Saussy said, second. Chairman Hair said, motion and second. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Jackel.

Commissioner Jackel said, I just wanted to publicize this thing. I think it's a good thing. We need to applaud these people that are working with it, and I hope that our --, the public hearings that they have will have attendance and provide us with some good information.

Chairman Hair said, all right, we already have a motion and a second. All those in favor vote yes, opposed --.

Commissioner Murray said, let me ask one question. Chairman Hair said, okay. Commissioner Murray asked, where did the names come from? How were they designated to serve on it? Chief Sprague said, by the grant we have to have a person from the educational community --. Commissioner Murray asked, did you ask them to give us a person, is that the way it was done? Chief Sprague said, we contacted the various people upon the list. Chairman Hair asked, you made the choice of who to pick? Chief Sprague said, well, we --. Chairman Hair said, the question was who picked these people. Chief Sprague said, yes, we contacted them. Chairman Hair asked, you picked them? Okay. Chief Sprague said, yes.

Chairman Hair said, all those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

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

Commissioner DeLoach moved that the Board authorize the Chairman to accept a local Law Enforcement Block Grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance in the amount of \$67,084, to approve the selection of Lori Brady, a member of the Savannah/Chatham Board of Public Education; Daniel E. DeLoach, Superior Court Administrator; Larry Chisholm, Assistant District Attorney; Rick Pryor, Member of the Board of Directors for the Citizen's Crime Commission; and Chief Thomas C Sprague, or the designee, as an Advisory Board with the mandate to make a non-binding recommendation to the Board of Commissioners regarding the use of funds received from the Grant Program, and to schedule a public hearing regarding the proposed use of the Block Grant funds where the advisory Board's recommendation will be received on November 3, 2000. Commissioner Saussy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas was not present.]

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

<u>ITEM</u>	<u>DEPT.</u>	<u>SOURCE</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>	<u>FUNDING</u>
A. Nine month price agreement for the purchase of "AquaReslin" adulticide.	Mosquito Control	Adapco, Inc. (sole source)	\$200 per gallon	General Fund/M & O - Mosquito Control
B. Change Order No. 12 to the contract for HVAC replacement and renovation at the Judicial Courthouse for additional duct work.	Building Maintenance and Operations	Erickson Associates	\$10,370.80	Bond Proceeds - Judicial Courthouse HVAC Replacement
C. Final renewal to the annual contract to provide trash and trash container services.	Various	Republic Waste Services	\$39,729	•General Fund/M & O - Various •SSD - Various
D. Change Order No. 1 to the contract for the Ferguson Avenue Drainage improvement to remove tree, relocate waterline, realignment of pipe and provision of erosion control mats.	SPLOST	D & R Construction Company	\$16,829.10	SPLOST (1993-1998) - Ferguson Avenue Drainage Improvement Project
E. Contract for demolition and removal of structure on 18 parcels which were acquired for right-of-way and purchase and removal of one structure.	SPLOST	•Pyramid Remedial Systems, Inc. •American Housemovers	•\$50,395  •\$355 revenue to county	SPLOST (1985-1993) - US 17, Ogeechee Road/Abercorn Extension/Dean Forest Road Widening project
F. Request Board approval to award a contract in the amount of \$1,039,700 to Collins Construction Services, inc of Savannah for construction of the new Chatham County Tag Office. Notice to proceed will be issued <b>after</b> property transfer from the State is formalized.	Tax Commissioner	Collins Construction Services, Inc.	\$1,039,700	Bond Proceeds-Tag Office and SPLOST (1993-1998)

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve Items 1 through 9-F. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas was not present.]

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**XI. FIRST READINGS**

Proposed changes to ordinances must be read or presented in written form at two meetings held not less than one week apart. A vote on the following listed matters will occur at the next regularly scheduled meeting. 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.

None.

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**XII. SECOND READINGS**

- 1. **PETITIONER, TRIBBLE, REAGAN, HOSTETTER GENERAL PARTNERSHIP, OWNER, IS REQUESTING THAT 3.7 ACRES LOCATED ON GATEWAY BOULEVARD ADJACENT TO THE LAQUINTA HOTEL BE REZONED FROM A R-A (RESIDENTIAL-AGRICULTURE) TO A P-B-C (PLANNED COMMUNITY-BUSINESS) CLASSIFICATION TO ALLOW A MOTEL. THE MPC RECOMMENDED THAT THE REQUEST BE APPROVED BASED ON ITS CONSISTENCY WITH THE LAND USE ELEMENT FOR THIS AREA AND THE ADJOINING BUSINESS USES.  
MPC FILE NO. Z-000901-42027-1  
[DISTRICT 7.]**

Chairman Hair recognized Mr. Saxman.

Mr. Bill Saxman said, in summary the Planning Commission is recommending rezoning. The property is in compliance with the master plan, the land use plan for this area. It's adjacent to and across the roadway from a -, properties that are utilizing commercial. It would not be extended any further down the residential -, further residential area than the current zoning is in that area, and the Planning Commission does recommend approval of the property being rezoning to a P-B-C classification.

Chairman Hair said, I'll entertain a motion. Commissioner DeLoach said, I've got a question. Chairman Hair said, okay, well, let's get a motion. Commissioner Price said, so move. Commissioner DeLoach said, I'll make a motion to approve it. Commissioner Price said, second. Chairman Hair said, okay, motion and second. Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner DeLoach.

Commissioner DeLoach said, my question: Where is this really located? Does it take -. You know, we had this divided out and we basically had a line drawn in the sand that we weren't going to cross and all that other stuff. Mr. Saxman said, well, that property that we were going to go to the east would be this line up here. This is lining up with it just to the back of that. LaQuinta Hotel is located on this front parcel. Commissioner DeLoach asked, where is that -, where is that LaQuinta Hotel located? Mr. Saxman said, it's just -, it's the southeast intersection of Canebrake Road and the roadway that leads down to the Savannah Mall -, the outlet mall. Commissioner Price said, Savannah Festival. Commissioner DeLoach asked, from Gateway Boulevard? Mr. Saxman said, right. In fact, a portion of that property, you see this dash line here, that's already zoned, that's a portion of this large tract. They own this large tract of land. What we recommended is just lining it up with the current zoning that runs down from Canebrake Road parallel to the frontage road that serves that commercial area in that intersection. We did recommend now any site plan that comes forward that they submit a traffic study to the Traffic Engineering as a part of their initial general site plan because we do have some traffic issues in that area. Commissioner DeLoach asked, how are these people going to get out of this location? Mr. Saxman said, they have frontage on the Canebrake -, on the Gateway Savannah Boulevard. Commissioner DeLoach asked, how do they have that? Mr. Saxman said, they -, this property abuts the roadway. The roadway -, this shaded area here is a part of their property and that's part of the tract they're trying to sell. A portion of that tract is already zoned P-B-C. Commissioner DeLoach asked, what's that little small -, are they going to bring that road down, that Gateway Boulevard on down here? Mr. Saxman said, well, it abuts their property now. They had to tie their driveway into it right at -. It terminates about where the -, right behind the Savannah -, the outlet mall area. Commissioner DeLoach said, okay. Talk to me about this piece of property that's striped up there right above it. Mr. Saxman said, that's their property. This one here? Commissioner DeLoach said, yes. Mr. Saxman said, that's their -, that's a part of their property. It has frontage on that street. Commissioner DeLoach asked, why is it zoned -? Mr. Saxman said, it's already zoned B-C. That's just where the zoning lines fell when they drew this line. This alignment was created back in the 60's. Basically it was parallel to and off of I-95. They own a whole tract of land -, a large tract of land. Now this is just a portion of their land they're subdividing off.

Chairman Hair recognized Commissioner Price.

Commissioner Price asked, this —, is this the same group that donated land to the community for a community center out there? Mr. Saxman said, no. No this is another group. This is a group that owned land along Canebrake Road —. Commissioner Price said, right, right. Mr. Saxman said, and this is the Tribble, they own the property back here. Commissioner Price said, I know. It's actually, it says in the Seventh District, but it's actually in the Sixth. Commissioner DeLoach said, yes. Commissioner Price said, but I have no problem with it.

Chairman Hair said, okay we already have a motion and a second on the floor. All those in favor vote yes, opposed vote no. The motion carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas was not present.] Chairman Hair said, the motion passes.

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner DeLoach moved to approve the petition of Tribble, Reagan, Hostetter General Partnership, Owner, requesting that 3.7 acres located on Gateway Boulevard adjacent to the LaQuinta Hotel be rezoned from a R-A (Residential-Agriculture) to a P-B-C (Planned Community-Business) classification to allow a motel based on its consistency with the Land Use Element for this area and the adjoining business uses. Commissioner Price seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

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**XIII. INFORMATION CALENDAR**

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

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Report received as information.

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- 2. **LIST OF PURCHASING ITEMS BETWEEN \$2,500 AND \$9,999 (SEE ATTACHED).**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Report received as information.

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- 3. **STATUS REPORT ON FILLING KEY VACANCIES WITHIN THE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT.**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Report received as information.

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**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Upon motion being made by Commissioner Odell, seconded by Commissioner DeLoach and unanimously approved, the Board recessed at 10:22 a.m., to go into Executive Session for the purpose of discussing litigation, land acquisition, and personnel.

Following adjournment of the Executive Session, the meeting of the Board of Commissioners was reconvened at 10:38 a.m.

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**ITEMS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

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

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Rivers moved to authorize the Chairman to execute an affidavit that the Executive Session was held in compliance with the Open Meetings Law. Commissioner DeLoach seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas was not present.]

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**APPOINTMENTS**

- 1. **CHATHAM COUNTY HOSPITAL AUTHORITY**

**ACTION OF THE BOARD:**

Commissioner Murray moved to reappoint James Buchman and Donald E. Harwood to the Chatham County Hospital Authority to a term which will expire October 24, 2006. Commissioner Saussy seconded the motion and it carried unanimously. [NOTE: Commissioner Thomas was not present.]

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**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to be brought before the Board. Chairman Hair declared the meeting adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

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APPROVED: THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, 2000

\_\_\_\_\_  
 DR. BILLY B. HAIR, CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF  
 COMMISSIONERS OF CHATHAM COUNTY, GEORGIA

\_\_\_\_\_  
 SYBIL E. TILLMAN, COUNTY CLERK