



**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL
RETREAT
SPRING HILLS SUITES
MAGNOLIA ROOM
CHARLESTON, SC
FEB. 3-5, 2011**

FEB. 3, 2011 – 11:00 A.M.

OFFICIALS PRESENT-CHAIRMAN LEROY BLACKSHEAR, VICE CHAIRMAN SAMUEL GREGORY, COUNCILMAN HENRY ETHERIDGE, COUNCILMAN THEODUS L. DRAYTON, COUNCILMAN L. MARTIN SAULS IV.

STAFF PRESENT: ADMINISTRATOR-ANDREW FULGHUM, CLERK TO COUNCIL-JUDITH FRANK, DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES-RONNIE MALPHRUS, DIRECTOR OF ENGINEERING SERVICES-DALE TERRY, PLANNING DIRECTOR-DAVID JIROUSEK, CHRISTY HERMAN, PROJECTS COORDINATOR

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT THE ELECTRONIC AND PRINT MEDIA WERE NOTIFIED.

DURING PERIODS OF DISCUSSION AND/OR PRESENTATIONS MINUTES ARE TYPICALLY CONDENSED AND PARAPHRASED.

CALL TO ORDER- CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 11:00 A.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE- CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

INVOCATION – COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE GAVE THE INVOCATION.

BUDGET OVERVIEW

FY-2011; FY-2012; MAJOR ISSUES; ADOPTION SCHEDULE – MR. MALPHRUS PROVIDED THE COUNCIL WITH COPIES OF THE BUDGET REPORT. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT EVERYTHING LOOKED TO BE GOOD WITH A FEW EXCEPTIONS. MR. MALPHRUS POINTED OUT THE FIRE AND RESCUE WAS HAVING SOME ISSUES WITH OVERTIME. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT 2 OR 3 PARAMEDICS WERE OUT AND THERE MUST BE ONE PARAMEDIC ON EACH SHIFT. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY HAVE BEEN PULLING SOME FROM OTHER SHIFTS OR USING PART-TIME HELP TO HAVE COVERAGE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY ARE CURRENTLY ABOUT \$4,000.00 OVER BUDGET, BUT WHEN THE PARAMEDICS RETURN, THINGS SHOULD WORK OUT. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED IF THE PEOPLE BEING OUT WAS CAUSING THE PROBLEM. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE LAW REQUIRES ONE PARAMEDIC PER AMBULANCE. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED IF THEY ARE BEING PAID TIME AND HALF. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY WERE; HOWEVER, THEY DO NOT GET OVERTIME UNTIL THEY WORK 168 HOURS IN A TWO WEEK PERIOD. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE

ASKED ABOUT SUPPLIES THAT ARE AT 69%, AND HE ASKED ABOUT TILLMAN AND ROBERTVILLE BEING OVERBUDGET. MR. MALPHRUS SAID FUNDS WILL BE PULLED FROM OTHER DEPTS. TO COVER THE OVERAGE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE SHERIFF WAS OVERBUDGET, BUT HE WAS REIMBURSING THE COUNTY FROM HIS DRUG FUND. MR. MALPHRUS DISCUSSED THE ELECTION COMMISSION'S SALARIES HAVE CAUSED THE SALARY LINE TO BE AT 92%, BUT MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE FUNDS WILL BE REIMBURSED BY THE STATE AND IT GOES INTO THE REVENUE LINE, THUS CREATING A REVENUE SURPLUS. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID VOTERS REGISTRATION WAS ALSO OVERBUDGET IN TRAVEL AND TRAINING. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT THERE WAS A VOID FROM LAST YEAR AND WAS CREDITED TO THIS YEARS BUDGET BY MISTAKE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT SOLID WASTE WAS OVERBUDGET DUE TO PROBLEMS WITH THE GARBAGE TRUCKS. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT THEY ARE GOING TO NEED TO DISCUSS GARBAGE TRUCKS IN THE NEW BUDGET. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT VEHICLE MAINTENANCE BEING OVER BUDGET. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THE SHERIFF MAINTENANCE LINE WAS OVERBUDGET, BUT INSURANCE CHECKS SHOULD COVER THAT. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF A CAR IS TOTALED DOES THAT MONEY GO INTO A SPECIAL FUND FOR REPLACEMENT VEHICLES. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT MONEY GOES TO THE SHERIFF'S MAINTENANCE LINE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE WAS TOLD THAT IF A CAR IS TOTALED THE CHECK FOR THAT VEHICLE GOES INTO THE GENERAL FUND AND NOT THE SHERIFF'S ACCOUNT. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID IF IT GOES TO THE SHERIFF'S MAINTENANCE LINE, THE SHERIFF SHOULD HAVE PLENTY OF MONEY. MR. FULGHUM SAID IF THE CAR IS TOTALED, IT SHOULD GO INTO THE GENERAL FUND OR ELSE THEY WILL JUST SPEND IT. MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT GOES INTO THE SHERIFF'S MAINTENANCE LINE AND THEY WILL END UP WITH A SURPLUS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE FELT THE FUNDS SHOULD BE PUT INTO AN ACCOUNT TO PAY FOR A REPLACEMENT CAR. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE SHERIFF HAS ABOUT FIVE SPARE VEHICLES AND IF A CAR IS TOTALED, THEY USE ONE OF THE SPARE VEHICLES. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED WHO CONTROLS WHAT KIND OF VEHICLES ARE PURCHASED. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE ONLY THING THE COUNCIL CONTROLS IS HOW MUCH MONEY IS PUT INTO THE BUDGET FOR CARS. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID THEY NEED TO START PURCHASING V-6 IMPALAS SINCE THERE IS A NEED TO CUT FUEL COSTS. MR. TERRY SAID THAT THE BRAKES ON THE CHARGERS NEED REPLACED MORE OFTEN THAN THE CROWN VICTORIAS. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED IF AN ACCOUNT CAN BE ESTABLISHED FOR THE FUNDS FROM THE CARS THAT WERE TOTALED. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT HE CAN SET UP THAT TYPE OF FUND, NOT A SEPARATE ACCOUNT. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE PLAN WAS TO REPLACE THE VEHICLES EVERY 3 YEARS. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT THE LAST TIME THEY PURCHASED 20 VEHICLES AND THEY CURRENTLY HAVE 28 VEHICLES. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED IF THEY ALL TOOK THEIR CARS HOME AND MR. MALPHRUS RESPONDED THAT THEY DID. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE REPORT IS GENERATED WITH NEW WORLD SOFTWARE AND HE WOULD LIKE TO GET ON SCHEDULE TO PROVIDE QUARTERLY REPORTS TO THE COUNCIL. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT ANY LINE THAT HAS BEEN SPENT 58% OF THE AMOUNT BUDGETED IS OFF SCHEDULE AND COULD BECOME AN ISSUE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT THE \$5,980 PAID TO A PARALEGAL FROM THE DELIQUENT TAX COLLECTOR'S BUDGET. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE COUNTY GETS THAT MONEY BACK FROM THE PEOPLE WHO GET THE PROPERTY FROM THE TAX PROCEEDS AND IT IS LISTED AS PART OF THE TAX REVENUE.

COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED ABOUT KEEP JASPER BEAUTIFUL AND MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT DEPARTMENT WAS ELIMINATED, BUT THE COUNTY AGREED TO PAY THE PHONE BILL FOR SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION AND THE COUNTY ALSO APPROPRIATES FUNDS TO SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT UTILITES ON THE NEW GOVERNMENT BUILDING AND THE COURTHOUSE. MR. MALPHRUS RESPONDED THAT THE UTILITIES ON THE COURTHOUSE WERE LESS THAN BEFORE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT THE GOVERNMENT BUILDING. MR. MALPHRUS SAID A BUDGET TRANSFERS WOULD BE DONE TO COVER OVERAGES FOR OTHER DEPARTMENTS. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED IF THE COUNTY WAS DOING EVERYTHING THAT CAN BE DONE TO GET FUNDS FROM THE SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING. MR. TERRY RESPONDED THAT SANTEE COOPER PROVIDES TANKS AND FUNDS FOR THE USED OIL. MR. TERRY SAID THAT BATTERIES ARE PICKED UP AT THE CONVENIENCE SITE AND THE COUNTY IS PAID FOR THEM. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT THE REVENUE FROM EMS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THAT \$700,000 WAS BUDGETED AND ONLY \$372,000 HAS BEEN COLLECTED. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT \$372,000 WAS THROUGH DECEMBER, BUT COLLECTIONS ARE A LITTLE BEHIND. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE HOSITALITY TAX HAS INCREASED A LITTLE, BUT THE A-TAX COLLECTIONS HAVE DECLINED. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE COLLECTION OF GENERAL PROPERTY TAX FOR THE FIRST SIX MONTHS OF 2010 IS AT \$5,500,000 AND IN 2009 IT WAS \$4,800,000. MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT WAS SHORT \$1,500,000 LAST YEAR. MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE WILL NOT KNOW ABOUT THE REASSESSMENT UNTIL THE END OF THE MONTH; HOWEVER, HE FEELS THE PROPERTY VALUES WILL BE DOWN AND SO WILL THE TAX REVENUE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID IF THE PROPERTY VALUES GO DOWN 20%, IT WILL COST THE COUNTY \$2,000,000 IN TAX REVENUE. MR. MALPHRUS REMINDED THE COUNCIL THAT EVEN IF THE VALUE GOES UP AFTER THE REASSESSMENT, THE ASSESSMENT CANNOT BE CHANGED FOR FIVE YEARS. MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE WAS CONCERNED ABOUT THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT FUND AND THAT IT WILL BE CUT. MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE DID NOT KNOW HOW MUCH IT WOULD BE CUT. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT CURRENTLY THERE WAS \$800,000.00 BUDGETED, BUT THEY NEEDED TO START PHASING THE LGF OUT OF THE BUDGET. MR. MALPHRUS TOLD THE COUNCIL HE DID NOT KNOW THE NUMBER FOR THE CAP FOR THIS YEAR'S BUDGET. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED IF THE SCHOOLS WERE DIFFERENT FROM THE COUNTY. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY STILL HAVE THE CAP AND HAVE TO FOLLOW THE SAME FORMULA, BUT THEY GET FUNDING FROM OTHER SOURCES. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED IF THE SCHOOL DID THEIR BUDGET INDEPENDENTLY FROM THE COUNTY. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE SCHOOLS HAVE TO COME TO THE COUNCIL AND MAKE A REQUEST. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED IF THE COUNTY WAS INFORMED WHEN THE SENATE APPROVED ALLOWING THE SCHOOLS TO PUT FEES ON NEW DEVELOPMENT. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE WOULD PROVIDE THAT INFORMATION TO THE COUNCIL. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID HE AGREED WITH COUNCILMAN SAULS AND THE COUNTIES SHOULD HAVE BEEN NOTIFIED. MR. MALPHRUS SAID WHEN THE COUNTY DOES PERMANENT FINANCING ON THE BONDS; THE PAYMENT IS GOING TO BE ABOUT \$1,000,000 TO \$1,300,000 ANNUALLY. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT DEBT SERVICE IS NOT REGULATED BY A FORMULA. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THAT WILL MEAN ABOUT A 6-9 MILS INCREASE THIS YEAR. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED HOW THE COUNTY WAS FINANCIALLY. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE COUNTY IS IN BETTER SHAPE THAN SOME COUNTIES, BUT HAD TO BORROW UNTIL THE TAX FUNDS WERE COLLECTED. MR. FULGHUM SAID

IF YOU LOOK AT THE BIGGER OVERALL PICTURE THAT THE BONDING COMPANY USES, THE COUNTY IS RATED A+. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THAT TAXES WERE GOING TO BE DISCUSSED AT THE JOINT MEETING.

MR. FULGHUM EXPLAINED THAT DURING THE BUDGET PROCESS SEN. PINCKNEY REQUESTED \$52,000 TO OPERATE HIS OFFICE IN RIDGELAND. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE COUNTY BUDGETED \$10,000. MR. FULGHUM PROVIDED THE COUNCIL WITH A LETTER FROM THE STATE THAT NOTIFIED THE COUNTY THAT SENATOR PINCKNEY REQUESTED THE BALANCE OF HIS FUNDING REQUEST FROM THE LGF PLUS 25% PENALTY, AS ALLOWED BY LAW, SINCE THE COUNTY DID NOT FUND HIS ENTIRE REQUEST. A TOTAL OF \$53,800.91 WAS WITHHELD FROM JASPER COUNTY'S STATE AID, PLUS JASPER COUNTY PROVIDED THE \$10,000 IT APPROPRIATED FOR A TOTAL OF \$63,800.91. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED WHY THIS CANNOT BE SPLIT AMONG THE COUNTIES HE REPRESENTS. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THAT ORIGINALLY IT WAS TO BE SHARED. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT THE VALUE OF THAT OFFICE HAS BEEN QUESTIONED. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID ORIGINALLY THE COUNCIL SUGGESTED THAT THE SENATOR USE AN EXISTING COUNTY EMPLOYEE, BUT THAT WAS NOT WHAT SENATOR PINCKNEY WANTED TO DO. COUNCILMAN SAULS QUESTIONED WHY THE COUNTY HAD TO PAY EVERYTHING FOR THE OFFICE WHEN HE REPRESENTS OTHER COUNTIES TOO. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT JASPER COUNTY PAYS FOR EVERYTHING EXCEPT THE PHONE AND INTERNET AND THE COUNTY PROVIDES THE OFFICE SPACE. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO SCHEDULE A MEETING WITH THE COUNCIL AND THE SENATOR ABOUT SPLITTING THE COSTS WITH THE OTHER COUNTIES. MR. FULGHUM SAID THEY WOULD HAVE TO TALK TO THE SENATOR. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED IF MS. PITTMAN WAS ON THE COUNTY PAYROLL. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THAT THE COUNTY DID NOT WANT THAT. MR. FULGHUM RECOMMENDED INVITING THE SENATOR TO DISCUSS THE MATTER. THE COUNCIL ASKED MR. FULGHUM TO SET UP A MEETING WITH THE SENATOR. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE FELT THE MEETING SHOULD BE HELD IN EXECUTIVE SESSION. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THE COUNCIL SHOULD MEET WITH THE SENATOR AND THE REPRESENTATIVE. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE COUNCIL SHOULD TALK TO THE SENATOR FIRST. IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL TO MEET WITH THE SENATOR.

PRESENTATION OF FY ENDED 2010 COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

(CAFR): MR. MALPHRUS EXPLAINED THAT THE AUDITOR WOULD MAKE A FULL REPORT AT A COUNCIL MEETING. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE DISCUSSED THE FACT THAT PROPERTY TAXES WENT DOWN 2% AND NOT ALL THE TAXES WERE COLLECTED AND A LOT OF PROPERTIES WERE SOLD AT THE TAX SALE. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT THERE WERE NOT A WHOLE LOT OF CUTS FOR SERVICES PROVIDED AND THE COUNCIL NEEDS TO LOOK AT OTHER WAYS OF PROVIDING THE SERVICES. MR. FULGHUM DISCUSSED THE GFOA AND THAT IT WOULD COST \$600,000 TO \$700,000 PER YEAR TO FUND IT. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY BUDGETED FOR GFOA ONE YEAR, BUT THEY ENDED UP USING THE MONEY IN OTHER AREAS. MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE KNEW OF NO COUNTIES FUNDING GASB ACCOUNT. MR. FULGHUM SAID THEY TRIED TO COME UP WITH A CREATIVE WAY TO HANDLE THIS LIKE USING ASSETS AS COLLATERAL. MR. FULGHUM SAID IT IS NOT MANDATORY TO CREATE A FUND, IT IS AN ACCOUNTING STANDARD. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT THE BOND RATING DID NOT HOLD THE GASB LIABILITY AGAINST THE COUNTY. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE COUNTY IS PAYING WHAT IT OWES YEAR BY YEAR. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT ALL NEW HIRES MUST WORK

FOR THE COUNTY FOR 28 YEARS OR 25 YEARS FOR FIRE AND LAW ENFORCEMENT. MR. MALPHRUS SAID ANYONE WORKING WITH THE COUNTY PRIOR TO THE NEW PERSONNEL POLICY HAS BEEN GRANDFATHERED REGARDING THE COUNTY PAYING THEIR INSURANCE AFTER RETIREMENT. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID THE WHOLE ENTITLEMENT SYSTEM IS GOING TO HAVE TO CHANGE AND HE FELT THE COUNTY SHOULD CONTINUE TO FUND IT ANNUALLY.

VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED HOW THEY PLANNED TO DECREASE THE TAXES. MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT IS EASY TO SAY CUT THE PROPERTY TAXES, BUT \$4,000,000 HAS BEEN CUT AND IT HAS NOT REDUCED THE TAXES. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE REASSESSMENT IS DUE NEXT YEAR AND HE EXPECTS THE VALUES TO BE LOWER WHICH MEANS THERE WILL BE LESS REVENUE FOR THE COUNTY. MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE FELT IT WAS GOING TO BE IMPOSSIBLE TO CUT TAXES. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED ABOUT THE DELINQUENT TAX SALE OF MOBILE HOMES. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE COUNTY ENDED UP WITH ABOUT 100 MOBILE HOMES. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE PEOPLE WERE SHOCKED THAT PEOPLE WERE NOT PAYING TAXES ON THE MOBILE HOMES. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID JASPER COUNTY WAS THE ONLY COUNTY THAT DID NOT MAKE THEM PAY. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED IF THERE WERE ANY NUMBERS ON THE PROPERTIES TAXES THAT WERE APPEALED. MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE DIDN'T HAVE THAT INFORMATION WITH HIM, BUT HE WOULD GET THE INFORMATION TO THE COUNCIL. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE FUND BALANCE WAS UP TO \$2,458,000. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE EMPLOYEES HAVE BEEN WILLING TO WORK AND THEY WATCHED THEIR BUDGET. MR. MALPHRUS DISCUSSED THE LOANS FOR BUTTERFLY KINGDOM ROAD AND THE LCOG LOAN (THE LCOG LOAN WILL BE PAID BY LCOG). COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID THE PROPERTY BEYOND THE BUTTERFLY KINGDOM IS A PRIME LOCATION FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. MR. MALPHRUS DISCUSSED THE STATISTICAL SECTION OF THE BUDGET THAT COVERED 10 YEARS OF DATA. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED IF THE COUNTY WAS MAKING ANY MONEY DOING THE INSPECTIONS FOR RIDGELAND, MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE COUNTY GETS A PORTION OF THE FEES AND CURRENTLY THERE IS NOT MUCH GOING ON. MR. MALPHRUS SAID HARDEEVILLE USES A PRIVATE COMPANY AND THE COMPANY KEEPS ALL THE FEES.

STAFF REVIEW OF CURRENT PROJECTS/DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY

RIDGELAND AIRPORT – PROPOSED REGIONAL AIRPORT - MR. FULGHUM SAID THE RIDGELAND AIRPORT IS NOT A COUNTY FUNCTION AND IT WAS CREATED AND APPOINTED BY THE LEGISLATURE MANY YEARS AGO. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT MR. CLAUDE DEAN OPERATES THE AIRPORT. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT THE PROPERTY IS LISTED IN THE COUNTY'S NAME, BUT THE COUNTY DOES NOT HAVE GOVERNING AUTHORITY OVER THE AIRPORT. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE TAXES FROM THE HANGERS AND FUEL SALES GO TO THE AIRPORT. MR. FULGHUM SAID THEY HAVE STARTED TO PERSUE FAA GRANTS WHICH REQUIRE MATCHING FUNDS. MR. FULGHUM TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT THE STAFF WORKED WITH WILBUR SMITH ASSOCIATES AND SO FAR \$800,000 IN GRANT FUNDS HAVE BEEN AWARDED TO JASPER COUNTY OVER THE YEARS. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED ABOUT MOVING THE RUNWAYS AWAY FROM THE SCHOOLS. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT LIGHTING WAS INSTALLED AND A NEW OVERLAY WAS PUT ON THE RUNWAY. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE FAA IS PUSHING TO BUILD A REGIONAL AIRPORT AND THE FAA FUNDED \$300,000 FOR A STUDY TO FIND A LOCATION FOR THE NEW AIRPORT. MR. FULGHUM SAID IF A NEW AIRPORT IS BUILT, THE

RIDGELAND AIRPORT WOULD HAVE TO BE SOLD AND THE FUNDS WOULD HAVE TO GO TOWARDS THE NEW AIRPORT. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE SITE WAS ON THE MILBANKS' PROPERTY AND THE MILBANKS DO NOT WANT IT THERE. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE FAA WOULD PAY THE DEBT SERVICE IF A SITE IS FOUND. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE BAILEY MILL SITE HAD A DEED RESTRICTION, BUT THE MILBANKS SAID THEY WOULD REVERSE THE RESTRICTION. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE AIRPORT WOULD HAVE TO BE OPERATED BY THE COUNTY AND STAFF WOULD BE NEEDED. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE FELT IT COULD BE OUTSOURCED. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT BEAUFORT COUNTY IS GOING THROUGH THE SAME THING. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE HAS BEEN TALKING WITH BEAUFORT COUNTY REGARDING A REGIONAL AIRPORT AND GREG MALPHRUS IS LOOKING FOR A NEW SITE. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT THE COUNTY COULD ENTERTAIN BUILDING A JOINT AIRPORT WITH BEAUFORT COUNTY, BUT JASPER COUNTY WOULD BE IN CHARGE OF THE AIRPORT AND THE PROPERTY WOULD BE LOCATED IN JASPER COUNTY. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED IF ANY RESEARCH HAS BEEN DONE REGARDING A VALUE BASE AIR COMPANY. MR. FULGHUM RESPONDED THAT THE ALLIANCE IS LOOKING INTO IT, BUT WE ARE NOT IN A STRONG ENOUGH POSITION YET; A SITE IS NEEDED FIRST. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED IF INDUSTRIES ARE LOOKING FOR AREAS WITH AN AIRPORT. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE BUSINESSES ARE LOOKING FOR PLACES THAT CAN HANDLE BUSINESS JETS. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED HOW MANY YEARS IS THIS GOING TO TAKE. MR. FULGHUM SAID IT WOULD TAKE ABOUT 12 YEARS.

GOVERNMENT CAMPUS/COURTHOUSE RENOVATION – CHRISTY HERMAN TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT THE LANDSCAPING AND HARDSCAPE ARE ALMOST COMPLETE AND THE CURBS IN THE PARKING LOTS ARE COMPLETE. MS. HERMAN SAID THE PARKING LOTS SHOULD BE COMPLETE BY THE END OF FEBRUARY. MS. HERMAN SAID THE FINAL INSPECTION WAS DONE AND 115 ITEMS NEEDED TO BE ADDRESSED. MS. HERMAN SAID THE CONTRACTOR IS BEING CHARGED \$250 PER DAY UNTIL THE ITEMS ARE COMPLETE. MS. HERMAN RECOMMENDED GIVING THE CONTRACTOR UNTIL FEB. 9, 2011 TO COMPLETE THE LIST AND THEN IF THEY ARE NOT DONE TO CUT THEM OFF AND HIRE SOMEONE ELSE TO FINISH THINGS. MS. HERMAN SAID IT HAS BEEN FOUR MONTHS FOR FINAL COMPLETION AND THE PROJECT WAS \$300,000 - \$400,000 UNDER BUDGET. MS. HERMAN SAID THE LIQUIDATED DAMAGES WILL AMOUNT TO \$32,500 IF THEY ARE CUT OFF AS RECOMMENDED. MS. HERMAN SAID THAT WATSON, TATE SAVORY WAS ALSO OVER THEIR CONTRACT AND THEY WILL SEND A BILL, BUT THE BILL WILL NOT BE FOR MORE THAN THE LIQUIDATED DAMAGES. MS. HERMAN SAID THE BUILDER WILL PAY THE LIQUIDATED DAMAGES TO THE COUNTY AND THE COUNTY WILL PAY THE ARCHITECTS. MS. HERMAN SAID THAT 60%-64% OF THE CONTINGENCY FUND HAS BEEN SPENT, BUT THERE WERE STILL SOME ITEMS BEING NEGOTIATED. MS. HERMAN SAID A LOT OF LITTLE THINGS NEEDED TO BE DONE AND THEY ARE NOT GETTING DONE. MS. HERMAN SAID THE CONTRACTOR COMES INTERMITTENTLY AND SHE AND THE ARCHITECT DO NOT FEEL THEY ARE TRYING HARD ENOUGH TO GET THE BUILDING DONE. MS. HERMAN SAID THAT SHE WILL MEET WITH THE CONTRACTOR ON FRIDAY FOR INSPECTION AND THEN THE ARCHITECT WILL GIVE FINAL APPROVAL. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED ABOUT THE WORKMANSHIP OF THE WORK DONE ON THE WOOD FLOORS. MS. HERMAN SAID SHE DID NOT THINK THAT WAS ON THE PUNCH LIST. MS. HERMAN SAID THAT THEY AGREED REGARDING THE FILL WORK BETWEEN THE WOOD. THAT HOW THEY TURNED OUT WAS HOW THEY TURNED OUT AND THAT WAS

PART OF THE SPECS. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED WHY THAT WAS NOT ADDED AND VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED WHY SPEND THAT MONEY BECAUSE THE FLOOR LOOKS HORRIBLE. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE WOULD ASK THE ARCHITECT IF THERE WERE ANY ALTERNATIVES. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT THEY WANTED TO KEEP THE ORIGINAL FLOOR AND THE CONTRACTOR HAD NO CONTROL OVER THE RESULTS. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THAT HE FELT IF IT WERE DARKER IT WOULD NOT LOOK AS BAD. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID IT DID NOT MATTER HOW OLD THE WOOD WAS, IT IS THE WORKMANSHIP THAT IS BAD. MS. HERMAN SAID THE CONTRACTOR DID THE WORK TO THE LEVEL THAT WAS EXPECTED. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE SANDING WAS NOT PROPERLY DONE AND THE FILLING WAS NOT CORRECT. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE WOULD TELL THE ARCHITECT THAT THE RESTORATION WAS NOT ACCEPTABLE AND HE WOULD SEE WHAT COULD BE DONE. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THERE ARE AREAS THAT WERE NOT CLEANED PROPERLY BEFORE THE VARNISH WAS APPLIED. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED IF MS. HERMAN WAS ASKING FOR COUNCIL'S PERMISSION TO CUT THE CONTRACTOR OFF. MS. HERMAN SAID THAT WAS HER RECOMMENDATION. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED HOW IT WOULD AFFECT THE BUDGET. MS. HERMAN SAID THAT THEY WOULD GET SPECS FROM THE ARCHITECT AND PUT IT OUT TO BID AND ALL COSTS WOULD BE PASSED ON TO THE CONTRACTOR. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN SAULS SECONDED THE MOTION TO APPROVE GIVING THE CONTRACTOR A DEADLINE FOR COMPLETION. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

EXTENSION OF UTILITIES AT CYPRESS RIDGE – MS. HERMAN INFORMED THE COUNCIL THAT THE SURVEY WAS COMPLETE AND THOMAS AND HUTTON WAS COMPLETING THE PLANS FOR THE LEFT HAND TURN LANE BY HAVEN HOMES. MS. HERMAN SAID THAT WHEN THE PLANS ARE COMPLETE IT WILL GO OUT TO BID, AND PERMITTING WILL TAKE ABOUT 3 MONTHS AND CONSTRUCTION SHOULD START IN 3-5 MONTHS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED WHY IT IS TAKING THOMAS AND HUTTON SO LONG. MR. FULGHUM STATED THAT IT WAS LAG TIME AND IT STARTED LATER WHILE THE COUNTY WAS WAITING ON APPROVAL FROM THE PALMETTO ELECTRIC BOARD. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE ALSO PLANNED TO DISCUSS TWO PROSPECTS FOR THE PARK IN EXECUTIVE SESSION. MS. HERMAN SAID THE COUNTY WAS THE REASON FOR THE DELAY AND THOMAS AND HUTTON WERE TOLD THEY NEEDED TO STOP WORKING ON THE PROJECT UNTIL THE COUNTY KNEW THE OUTCOME FROM A PROSPECT. MS. HERMAN SAID THAT THE COUNTY IS NEGOTIATING WITH CYPRESS WOODS FOR A GAS EASEMENT TO BRING GAS TO THE CRBIP. MS. HERMAN SAID THE INITIAL COST WOULD BE ABOUT \$35,000-\$50,000.

PURRYSBURG SEWER PROJECT – MS. HERMAN SAID THEY MET WITH ALL THE NEIGHBORS. MS. HERMAN SAID BP BARBER IS DOING THE WORK AND THE COMMUNITY CENTER DONATED A 40X40 FT. PIECE OF LAND AND BJWSA WAIVED THE FEES FOR THE COMMUNITY CENTER. MS. HERMAN SAID THEY HOPE TO HAVE THE PROJECT COMPLETE BY CHRISTMAS. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED ABOUT WATER AND SEWER COMING TO SOME OF THE OTHER RURAL AREAS. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE BJWSA DID SOME STUDIES AND HE WILL INVITE THEM TO MAKE A PRESENTATION TO THE COUNCIL. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT DAVID JIROUSEK WILL BE WORKING ON THE INFRASTRUCTURE IN THAT AREA.

GRAYS SCHOOL – MS. HERMAN REPORTED THAT THE GRAYS SCHOOL IS IN VERY BAD CONDITION AND IT NEEDS TO BE SECURED. MS. HERMAN SAID THAT MAJOR RENOVATION IS NEEDED. MS. HERMAN SAID THEY ARE PREPARING A GRANT AND THEY ARE HAVING PALMETTO DEVELOPERS GIVE A PRICE TO SECURE A PORTION OF THE BUILDING AND TO TEAR DOWN CERTAIN SECTIONS. MS. HERMAN STATED THAT THERE WILL BE A MEETING ON FEB. 20, 2011 AT 2:00 P.M. AT THE GRAYS FIRE STATION. MS. HERMAN TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT WATSON ASSOCIATES ARCHITECT FIRM DID AN OUTLINE AND A FASCADÉ OF THE BUILDING AT NO CHARGE AND THEY WILL BE USED FOR THE GRANT. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED WHY THE GRAYS COMMUNITY DOESN'T FORM A LLC AND THE COUNTY GIVE THE BUILDING TO THEM AND THE COUNTY CAN WASH THEIR HANDS OF LIABILITY. MR. FULGHUM SAID IF THE GRANT APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL, THE COUNTY CAN DO THAT. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THAT SEVERAL USES FOR THE BUILDING HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID THE GRAYS COMMUNITY CAN STILL FORM THE LLC AND BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE GRANTS AND THAT WOULD ELIMINATE ALL COUNTY EXPENSES AND INVOLVEMENT. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID SOMETHING NEEDS TO BE DONE BEFORE THE BUILDING FALLS IN. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID THE COUNTY NEEDS GET RID OF PROPERTIES THAT CREATE LIABILITIES FOR THE COUNTY.

HARDEEVILLE INDUSTRIAL PARK –MR. FULGHUM SAID THERE WAS \$138,000 LEFT IN THE CBDG FUND AND HE WILL BE BRINGING A PROPOSAL FOR THE COUNCIL TO APPROVE. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT HARDEEVILLE NEEDS TO BE INVOLVED. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITY NEED TO GET TOGETHER AND BRING THE COUNCIL A RECOMMENDATION.

KNOWLES ISLAND FISHING PIER – DALE TERRY SAID HE SPOKE WITH THE RESIDENTS OF KNOWLES ISLAND AND KIM THOMAS SENT HIM SOME DRAWINGS. MR. TERRY SAID HE BROUGHT SOME OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE TO THE SITE TO SHOW THEM WHAT HE PROPOSED TO DO. MR. TERRY SAID THAT HE WOULD BE GOING TO THE NEXT TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING AND HE WAS GOING TO REQUEST \$341,220 FOR THE PARKING AREA AND TURNAROUND. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED ABOUT THE PIER. MR. TERRY SAID THE REQUEST IS ONLY FOR THE PARKING AREA AND TURNAROUND. MR. TERRY SAID HE WAS LOOKING INTO OTHER AREAS FOR THE FUNDING OF THE PIER. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT A RAMP. MR. TERRY SAID A RAMP WILL BE BUILT FOR THE HANDICAP. MR. TERRY SAID HE SPOKE WITH THE SHERIFF AND THE SHERIFF SAID THEY HAVE NOT HAD ANY CALLS REGARDING THE TRESTLE.. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED IF THIS AREA WAS WITH PALMETTO ELECTRIC OR SCE&G. COUNCILMAN SAULS SUGGESTED TALKING WITH PALMETTO ABOUT PUTTING A LIGHT IN THERE. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE COUNTY WAS ALSO GOING TO ASK THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE FOR \$14,000 FOR ROAD SIGNS. MR. TERRY SAID MOST OF THE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR OF HIS PLAN. MR. TERRY SAID ONCE HE GETS THE FUNDING HE IS GOING TO MEET WITH THE KNOWLES ISLAND RESIDENTS. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED ABOUT AN ESTIMATE FOR THE PIER. MR. TERRY SAID HE SHOULD COST ABOUT \$199,000 FOR A PIER 8 FEET WIDE AND 230 FT. LONG. MR. TERRY SAID HE HAS ALREADY APPLIED FOR GRANT FUNDING. MR. TERRY SAID HE IS TRYING TO GET THIS DONE WITHOUT IT COSTING THE COUNTY ANY MONEY.

STATUS OF PRIVATE DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY – DAVID JIROUSEK PROVIDED THE COUNCIL WITH A SUMMARY AND TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT THE ACTIVITY IS THE LOWEST IT HAS BEEN FOR SEVERAL YEARS. MR. JIROUSEK EXPLAINED THE COUNTY RECEIVES ABOUT \$1,000 PER MONTH FOR THE SERVICES THAT THEY PROVIDE FOR RIDGELAND. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT DEVELOPMENT IS NOT MOVING AND MOST OF THE ACTIVITY IS IN SUN CITY, HOWEVER HE HAS BEEN RECEIVING A LOT OF INTEREST CALLS CURRENTLY. MR. JIROUSEK SAID HE HAS RECEIVED FOUR CALLS FOR GAS STATIONS IN THE LAST THREE MONTHS. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED ABOUT THE SHRIMP FARM. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT WAS TO BE A MAJOR OPERATION, BUT IT IS ON HOLD. THE COUNCIL REQUESTED THAT MR. JIROUSEK FOLLOW UP ON THE AREA ON RICESHIRE ROAD BEING EXCAVATED. MR. JIROUSEK SAID HE WOULD CHECK INTO IT AND REPORT BACK TO COUNCIL. MR. JIROUSEK SAID HE WAS CHECKED INTO A MOAT THAT WAS DUG AROUND A HOUSE IN PINELAND AND THE OWNER HAS TO RECLAIM IT. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT CURRENTLY THERE WAS A HANDFUL OF CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS. MR. JIROUSEK INFORMED THE COUNCIL THAT THE LAND FOR THE SNAKE ROAD LANDFILL WAS SOLD TO WASTE MANAGEMENT. MR. JIROUSEK INFORMED THE COUNCIL THAT THE BONDING COMPANIES FOR MACKAY POINT SETTINGS HAVE BEEN REQUESTED TO PAY TO COMPLETE THE INFRASTRUCTURE. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT DAVID COBB HAS BEEN HIRED TO REPRESENT THE COUNTY AND THE NEXT STEP IS MEDIATION AND THIS COULD GO TO A JURY TRIAL. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE COMPANY HAS KEPT THE BOND ACTIVE. THE COUNCIL DISCUSSED VARIOUS PROJECTS THAT HAVE BEEN COMPLETED AND ARE CURRENTLY UNDER REVIEW. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THIS IS THE SLOWEST IT HAS BEEN IN A VERY LONG TIME. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT IN THE GOOD YEARS THEY SPENT A LOT MORE MONEY, BUT THINGS HAVE TO BE DONE DIFFERENTLY NOW. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT THE COUNTY'S DEVELOPMENT FEES ARE HIGHER THAN HARDEEVILLE AND PERHAPS THEY COULD BE LOOKED INTO AS AN INCENTIVE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT WHEN THINGS PICK UP, THEY DON'T NEED TO START TO GIVE THINGS AWAY JUST TO GET A FEW SMALL BUSINESSES. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID THAT IF THEY HAVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROSPECTS, THE FEES CAN BE WAIVED. MR. FULGHUM SAID THEY WOULD NEED TO USE CONSULTANTS AND MR. JIROUSEK NEEDS TO MAKE SURE HIS DEPARTMENT IS SELF-SUFFICIENT. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE HIGHER FEES ALSO ENCOURAGES THE PEOPLE TO ANNEX INTO THE MUNICIPALITIES. MR. FULGHUM SAID WE NEED TO GO AFTER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND TRAVEL TO OTHER STATES TO DO THESE THINGS. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE WEBSITE MORE FRIENDLY TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HE FELT JASPER COUNTY NEEDED MORE OF A PRESENCE ON THE ECONOMIC ALLIANCES WEBSITE.

POINT SOUTH COUNTY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (CID) – MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE ORDINANCE IS UP FOR THE THIRD AND FINAL READING AT THE NEXT COUNCIL MEETING. MR. JIROUSEK TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT THE POINT SOUTH GROUP IS A WELL FORMED GROUP AND THEY WILL BE REQUESTING TO COME BEFORE COUNCIL TO DISCUSS THEIR PLANS AND TO REQUEST THE ASSISTANCE OF STAFF TO INVESTIGATE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE ORIGINAL PLAN WAS A SPECIAL TAX TO COVER THE EXPENSES. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED WHO CHAIRED THIS GROUP. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT THE POINT SOUTH STAKEHOLDERS COMMITTEE CONSISTS OF CLAUDE DINKINS, LARRY ROLLINS

AND TOM ZINN. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT THEY WILL BE LOOKING FOR ASSISTANCE IN INCREMENTS.

STORMWATER ORDINANCE – MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT THEY HAVE RECEIVED \$50,000 TO WORK ON THE ORDINANCE AND DESIGN MANUAL. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE COUNCIL APPROVED THE CONTRACT WITH THOMAS AND HUTTON AND THEY ARE LOOKING TO SET UP AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE MADE UP OF A DEVERSE GROUP OF PEOPLE; A TECHNICAL GROUP HAS BEEN REQUESTED FOR INPUT. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT THE COASTAL CONSERVATION LEAGUE AND MR. JIROUSEK SAID HE WILL KEEP THEM INVOLVED. MR. FULGHUM INTERJECTED THAT THIS IS A COMMUNITY GROUP TO HELP THE STAFF. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SUGGESTED THAT WALTER MORGAN SERVE FOR JASPER COUNTY.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN – MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN WAS ADOPTED IN 2007 AND IT HAS TO BE REVIEWED EVERY FIVE YEARS. MR. JIROUSEK SAID IT IS A LONG RANGE PLANNING DOCUMENT. MR. JIROUSEK RECOMMENDED STARTING TO WORK ON IT THIS YEAR AND EACH COUNCIL MEMBER WILL HAVE IMPUT ON ISSUES IN THEIR COMMUNITIES. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THE ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES CAN BE DONE ON THE MAPPING SYSTEM AND THEY WILL BE GIVEN A SCORE THAT WILL SHOW WHAT AREAS THAT ARE BEST FOR CERTAIN USES. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THERE WILL BE A TASK ORDER TO WORK WITH THE LAYERING AND MAPPING PROJECTS. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THIS WILL SHOW WHERE TO FOCUS FUTURE GROWTH, INDENTFY AREAS NEAR INFRASTRUCTURE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AREAS THAT ARE SUITABLE ENVIRONMENTALLY, AREAS CLOSE TO THE PORT AND INFRASTRUCTURE. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THEY WILL USE THE RESULTS TO DRAW UP A FUTURE LAND USE MAP. MR. JIROUSEK SAID HE WILL BE PRESENTING A TASK ORDER FOR COUNCIL'S APPROVAL AT THE FIRST MEETING IN MARCH. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT THE CURRENT MAP DOES NOT PROVIDE MUCH GUIDANCE. MR. JIROUSEK SAID THAT MAPS WILL BE USED AND IT WILL NOT BE A COUNTYWIDE REZONING.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - DISCUSSION OF NEGOTIATIONS INCIDENT TO PROPOSED CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PROPOSED SALE OR PURCHASE OF PROPERTY, THE RECEIPT OF LEGAL ADVICE WHERE LEGAL ADVICE RELATES TO A PENDING, THREATENED, OR POTENTIAL CLAIM OR OTHER MATTERS COVERED BY THE ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE, SETTLEMENT OF LEGAL CLAIMS, OR THE POSITION OF THE PUBLIC AGENCY IN OTHER ADVERSARY SITUATIONS INVOLVING THE ASSERTION AGAINST THE AGENCY OF A CLAIM – JASPER OCEAN TERMINAL, DISCUSSION OF MATTERS RELATING TO THE PROPOSED LOCATION, EXPANSION, OR THE PROVISIONS OF SERVICES ENCOURAGING LOCATION OR EXPANSION OF INDUSTRIES OR OTHER BUSINESS IN THE AREA SERVED BY THE PUBLIC BODY – JASPER OCEAN TERMINAL –
COUNCILMAN SAULS MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SECONDED THE MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTED SESSION FOR THE DISCUSSION OF NEGOTIATIONS INCIDENT TO PROPOSED CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS AND PROPOSED SALE OR PURCHASE OF PROPERTY, THE RECEIPT OF LEGAL ADVICE WHERE LEGAL ADVICE RELATES TO A PENDING, THREATENED, OR POTENTIAL CLAIM OR OTHER MATTERS COVERED BY THE ATTORNEY-CLIENT PRIVILEGE, SETTLEMENT OF LEGAL CLAIMS, OR THE POSITION OF THE PUBLIC AGENCY IN OTHER ADVERSARY SITUATIONS INVOLVING THE ASSERTION AGAINST THE AGENCY OF A CLAIM – JASPER OCEAN TERMINAL, DISCUSSION OF MATTERS

RELATING TO THE PROPOSED LOCATION, EXPANSION, OR THE PROVISIONS OF SERVICES ENCOURAGING LOCATION OR EXPANSION OF INDUSTRIES OR OTHER BUSINESS IN THE AREA SERVED BY THE PUBLIC BODY – JASPER OCEAN TERMINAL. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

UPON RETURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION THE COUNCIL ADJOURNED AND WENT TO DINNER WITH THE STAFF.

FEBRUARY 4, 2011

9:00 A.M.

OFFICIALS PRESENT-CHAIRMAN LEROY BLACKSHEAR, VICE CHAIRMAN SAMUEL GREGORY, COUNCILMAN HENRY ETHERIDGE, COUNCILMAN THEODUS L. DRAYTON, COUNCILMAN L. MARTIN SAULS IV.

STAFF PRESENT: CLERK TO COUNCIL-JUDITH FRANK, ATTORNEY- MARVIN JONES

IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT THE ELECTRONIC AND PRINT MEDIA WERE NOTIFIED.

DURING PERIODS OF DISCUSSION AND/OR PRESENTATIONS MINUTES ARE TYPICALLY CONDENSED AND PARAPHRASED.

CALL TO ORDER- CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 9:00 A.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

INVOCATION- VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY GAVE THE INVOCATION.

DISCUSSION REGARDING COUNCIL MEETINGS, TYPES OF MEETINGS, CHAIRMAN'S ROLE, CONDUCT AT MEETINGS, PROCESS FOR OBTAINING INFORMATION FROM STAFF - COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED HOW THE COUNCIL GOES ABOUT IMPLEMENTING THE BUDGET. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR EXPLAINED THAT THE ADMINISTRATOR BRINGS THE BUDGET TO COUNCIL AND COUNCIL MAKES THE DECISIONS AS TO WHAT IS TO BE FUNDED. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE COUNCIL MAKES DECISIONS AND THEY TELL THE ADMINISTRATOR TO MAKE THE CHANGES. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE ADMINISTRATOR IS TO PRESENT THE BUDGET TO COUNCIL AND ALSO FIND WAYS TO COVER IT. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE COUNCIL CAN GO OVER LINE BY LINE AND DECIDE WHAT THEY WANT REMOVED. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID IT IS THE ADMINISTRATOR'S JOB TO BRING A BALANCED BUDGET TO COUNCIL AND COUNCIL'S JOB IS TO APPROVE IT OR DISAPPROVE IT.

ATTORNEY JONES SAID THAT TWO YEARS AGO THE COUNCIL PASSED AN ORDINANCE THAT DEFINED THE JOB OF THE ADMINISTRATOR AND THE COUNCIL MEMBERS. ATTORNEY JONES SAID ALL MEETINGS ARE SUBJECT TO THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT AND THE COUNCIL MUST MEET AT LEAST ONCE A MONTH. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THAT AN EMERGENCY MEETING CAN BE CALLED AND THE COUNCIL CAN ADOPT AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE WITH

ONE READING AT AN EMERGENCY MEETING AND THE ORDINANCE WOULD BE IN EFFECT FOR 60 DAYS. ATTORNEY JONES TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT NO ACTION CAN BE TAKEN IN A WORK SESSION. ATTORNEY JONES REVIEWED THE COUNCIL COMMITTEES APPOINTED BY THE CHAIRMAN. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THESE COMMITTEES GENERALLY MEET TO REVIEW ITEMS GOING BEFORE COUNCIL SO THAT THEY CAN MAKE A RECOMMENDATION. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THE COMMITTEES ALSO MEET TO RECEIVE UPDATES FROM THE DEPARTMENTS. ATTORNEY JONES EMPHAZIED THAT THESE COMMITTEES HAVE NO AUTHORITY TO TAKE ANY ACTION; ACTION CAN ONLY BE TAKEN BY THE COUNCIL. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THAT CURRENTLY THE COUNCIL OPERATES UNDER A SYSTEM OF RULES THAT WERE PROVIDED BY SCAC AND AS REQUIRED BY STATE LAW. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN OF COUNCIL ARE ELECTED ONCE A YEAR AND THE COUNCIL CAN GIVE THE CHAIRMAN ADDITIONAL ADMINISTRATIVE POWERS IF NEEDED. ATTORNEY JONES TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT STATE LAW DOES NOT LIST ANY SPECIFIC DUTIES FOR ANY MEMBER OF COUNCIL. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THAT ONE OF THE BIGGEST RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CHAIRMAN IS SETTING THE AGENDA. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THAT ANYTHING CAN BE ADDED TO THE AGENDA IF THREE MEMBERS OF COUNCIL VOTE TO ADD IT. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THEY SHOULD TELL THE CHAIRMAN PRIOR TO THE MEETING IF THEY WANT TO ADD SOMETHING AND IF HE DENIES IT, ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER HAS PROVISIONS FOR APPROVING THE AGENDA AND THE COUNCIL CAN AMEND THE AGENDA AND THE MAJORITY DECIDES. ATTORNEY JONES SAID IT WOULD TAKE A SUPER MAJORITY TO ADD SOMETHING TO THE AGENDA LATER IN THE MEETING. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE CHAIRMAN CANNOT DENY THE COUNCIL THE RIGHT TO VOTE ON PUTTING SOMETHING ON THE AGENDA. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THERE HAVE BEEN ISSUES THAT WERE STIFLED IN THE PAST, BUT APPROVING THE AGENDA SHOULD ELIMINATE THAT. ATTORNEY JONES SUGGESTED MAKING A MOTION ON AGENDA ITEMS PRIOR TO DISCUSSION AND IF IT GETS A SECOND, THE COUNCIL WILL DISCUSS THE ITEM AND THEN VOTE. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE MOTION DOES NOT HAVE TO BE APPROVED JUST BECAUSE IT WAS MADE, BUT IF THE COUNCIL DOES NOT WANT TO DISCUSS AN ITEM ON THE AGENDA, THEY DO NOT NEED TO MAKE A MOTION AND HE WOULD MOVE ON TO THE NEXT ITEM ON THE AGENDA. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE COUNCIL COULD MOTION TO TABLE IT FOR MORE INFORMATION AND IT WOULD NOT BE DISCUSSED UNTIL IT IS BACK ON THE AGENDA. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THERE ARE A LOT OF TIMES WHEN THINGS ARE ON THE AGENDA AND THE COUNCIL HAS NOT PREVIOUSLY BEEN PROVIDED INFORMATION. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THE STAFF WILL PRESENT THINGS AND THE COUNCIL DOES NOT HAVE ADEQUATE INFORMATION. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THE COUNCIL SHOULD NOT ACCEPT THE INFORMATION UNTIL THEY HAVE TIME TO REVIEW THE STAFF RECOMMENDATION. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID WHEN THE ADMINISTRATION WANTS SOMETHING PASSED AND THEY NEED IT IMMEDIATELY, BUT HAVE NOT PROVIDED THE COUNCIL DOCUMENTATION, THE COUNCIL SHOULD NOT PASS ANYTHING THAT IS JUST BEING PRESENTED. ATTORNEY JONES SAID A STRONGER COMMITTEE SYSTEM SHOULD MAKE IT EASIER TO REVIEW. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THAT BY APPROVING THE AGENDA BY MOTION THINGS THAT MAY NEED TO BE ADDED CAN BE ADDED BY VOTE, NOT JUST WITH THE CHAIRMAN'S APPROVAL ONCE THE AGENDA IS POSTED. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THE CHAIRMAN OF

COUNCIL GETS HIS AUTHORITY FROM THE COUNCIL. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID HE FELT THERE ARE SOME INSTANCES WHEN THE CHAIRMAN SHOULD BE ABLE TO ADD THINGS TO THE AGENDA AFTER IT IS POSTED. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID IF THE AGENDA IS POSTED, THEN THE COUNCIL SHOULD VOTE IF IT IS TO BE ADDED AND THE CHAIRMAN CAN SHARE THE REASON WHY IT NEEDS TO BE ADDED. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID THE AGENDA CAN BE AMENDED BY VOTE. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED ABOUT THE SECTION FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE CITIZENS CAN SPEAK AT THIS TIME, BUT THE COUNCIL DOES NOT HAVE A REBUTTAL. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THEY ARE TO BE RESPONDED TO BY THE STAFF AND COUNCIL SHOULD RECEIVE INFORMATION REGARDING THE RESPONSE. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THIS HAS NOT BEEN HAPPENING WITH THE REGARDS TO THE COUNCIL BEING UPDATED AND HE FELT THEY SHOULD GET A COPY OF THE RESPONSE. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID HE FELT THERE SHOULD BE A TIMELY RESPONSE AND ASKED WHAT WAS THE APPROXIMATE TIME IT TAKES FOR THE CITIZENS TO GET A RESPONSE FROM THE ADMINISTRATION. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THAT WITH RESPECTS TO THE PUBLIC COMMENT SECTION OF THE MEETING, HE DID NOT FEEL A RESPONSE WAS ALWAYS NEEDED. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE STAFF DOES NEED TO RESPOND WHEN DIRECTED TO DO SO BY THE COUNCIL AND THE COUNCIL SHOULD RECEIVE A COPY OF IT. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE COUNCIL NEEDS TO HAVE A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF THE ACTION THAT HAS BEEN TAKEN. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED WHY CHANGE THE AGENDA IF PEOPLE CAN SPEAK UNDER OPEN FLOOR TO THE PUBLIC. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID DURING THE OPEN FLOOR, THE COUNCIL DOES NOT RESPOND, WHEN SOMETHING IS ON THE AGENDA, THE COUNCIL CAN TAKE ACTION. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THAT IN THE PAST PEOPLE REQUESTED TO BE PLACED ON THE AGENDA AND WERE DENIED. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THAT THEY WERE DEALING WITH AN ENTIRELY DIFFERENT PERSON THAN THE PREVIOUS CHAIRMAN, AND THAT HE PLANNED TO DO WHAT WAS RIGHT, FAIR AND JUST AND HE WILL ABIDE BY THE OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS DECISIONS. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THAT THE COUNCIL GETS THINGS IN BITS AND PIECES FROM THE ADMINISTRATION AND HE DID NOT WANT TO HEAR WHAT WAS HAPPENING IN THE STREETS. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID IF THE COUNCIL WAS GOING TO VOTE ON SOMETHING, THEN THEY NEEDED TO HAVE ALL THE INFORMATION. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE COUNCIL SHOULD KNOW THINGS BEFORE THEY READ ABOUT IT IN THE NEWSPAPER. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE COUNCIL SHOULD KNOW ABOUT EVERYTHING THAT HAS TO DO WITH THE COUNTY. COUNCILMAN SAULS DISCUSSED THE MARITIME COMMISSION AND THE SPECIFIC DUTIES INVOLVED. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID IT WAS HARD TO KEEP UP WITH ALL THE ARTICLES ABOUT THE PORT. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID THINGS HAPPENED SO FAST, A PERSON JUST ABOUT HAS TO WORK FULLTIME TO KEEP UP WITH IT. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE ADMINISTRATOR SHOULD BE PROVIDING THE COUNCIL WITH UPDATES. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID HE CAN COVER THEM DURING THE ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT AT THE MEETINGS. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE COUNCIL NEEDED TO ESTABLISH LOYALTY TO EACH OTHER. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THEY NEED TO KEEP THE PEOPLE INFORMED AND THERE ARE TOO MANY EXECUTIVE SESSIONS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THE COUNCIL NEEDS TO KNOW THE DAY A DEAL FALLS THROUGH. VICE

CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE COUNCIL IS RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING THE RULES AND THEY ALL SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THINGS BEFORE THE CITIZENS COME AND TELL THEM ABOUT IT. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THE COURTS ARE VERY SENSITIVE TO THE NEEDS OF THE DECISION MAKERS AND HE KNOWS OF NOTHING THAT THE COUNCIL CANNOT HAVE THAT IS AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THAT PROMPTNESS SHOULD BE PROVIDED AND INFORMATION SHOULD BE PROVIDED WITHIN A REASONABLE AMOUNT OF TIME. ATTORNEY JONES SHARED WITH THE COUNCIL A SITUATION REGARDING REQUESTS FROM AN ANDERSON COUNTY COUNCIL MEMBER. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THAT NO ONE PERSON HAS THE POWER TO MAKE SOMETHING HAPPEN, BUT THEY DO HAVE THE RIGHT TO GET THE INFORMATION IN A TIMELY MANNER. ATTORNEY JONES TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT IF 3 MEMBERS AGREE ON SOMETHING, THEY CAN MAKE THE ADMINISTRATOR PROVIDE IT. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY DISCUSSED SEVERAL MEETINGS THE ADMINISTRATOR ATTENDED THAT THE COUNCIL KNEW NOTHING ABOUT AND IF THE ADMINISTRATOR IS GOING TO ATTEND THE MEETINGS REPRESENTING JASPER COUNTY, HE SHOULD NOTIFY THE COUNCIL PRIOR TO HIS DOING IT. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE COUNCIL HAS A RIGHT TO KNOW WHAT THE ADMINISTRATOR IS DOING AND WHERE HE IS SINCE WHAT HE IS DOING CAN AFFECT THE COUNTY. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THAT THE ADMINISTRATOR WROTE A LETTER SUPPORTING DREDGING AND THE COUNCIL NEVER VOTED TO SUPPORT THIS. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE COUNCIL NEEDS TO SHARE WITH THE CITIZENS WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THEIR COUNTY. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID IF OTHER COUNTIES KNOW WHAT THEY ARE WORKING ON THE OTHER COUNTIES CAN STEAL THE LEAD. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID THE COUNCIL NEEDED TO KNOW. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID HE HAD A PROBLEM THAT WHEN THE COUNCIL ASKS FOR SOMETHING AND ADMINISTRATOR DOES NOT GIVE FULL REPORTS. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID HE WANTED THE ADMINISTRATOR TO REPORT HOW MUCH MONEY THERE IS AND WHERE IT IS; VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID HE DID NOT WANT AN AROUND ABOUT NUMBER, HE WANTED THE EXACT NUMBER. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE FELT THAT DESIGNATED FUNDS SHOULD ONLY BE SPENT ON WHAT THEY WERE DESIGNATED FOR. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THAT IS AN ACCOUNTING QUESTION. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED IF IT WAS LAWFUL TO SPEND DESIGNATED FUNDS ON SOMETHING THEY WERE NOT DESIGNATED FOR. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THEY SHOULD NOT BE SPENT ON OTHER ITEMS OTHER THAN THE DESIGNATED PURPOSE. ATTORNEY JONES SAID MOST OF THE REVENUE COMES IN THE FIRST OF THE YEAR AND SOME CASH WILL BE USED IN THE ACCOUNT TO OFFSET SHORTAGE, BUT AT THE END IT ALL BALANCES OUT. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THAT PUTTING THE FUNDS INTO THE GENERAL FUND TO OFFSET EXPENSES AND SAVE THE COUNTY MONEY IS CURRENTLY THE PRACTICE THEY ARE USING, BUT HE WAS CONCERNED IF IT WAS LEGAL. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THAT IF THE MONEY IS EARMARKED IT SHOULD ONLY BE SPENT FOR THAT PURPOSE. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THERE IS A DISTINCTION BETWEEN FUNDS AND ACCOUNTS; MR. JONES SAID THERE CAN BE 20 FUNDS, BUT 1 ACCOUNT. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED WHAT WAS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE AUDITORS. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THAT MR. MELLON IS LIKE A BOOKKEEPER FOR THE DAY TO DAY AND THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR AUDITS HIS WORK. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON DISCUSSED CHANGING AUDITORS. COUNCILMAN

DRAYTON SAID HE FELT THE COUNTY NEEDED TO CHANGE OUTSIDE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS AND HE FELT THAT A FORENSIC AUDIT WAS NEEDED TO THAT THEY COULD START OUT FRESH. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE AGREED. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID YOU SHOULD NOT TAKE CHANCES WHERE MONEY IS INVOLVED. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID THINGS ARE TOUGHER NOW FINANCIALLY FOR THE PEOPLE. SEVERAL OF THE COUNCIL MEMBERS SHARED INCIDENTS WHERE MONEY HAS BEEN STOLEN. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID THE COUNTY NEEDED TO DO A FORENSIC AUDIT AND THEY SHOULD CHANGE AUDITORS EVERY THREE YEARS. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID THE SHERIFF HAS BEEN PATROLING AREAS BECAUSE PEOPLE HAVE BEEN STEALING THINGS FROM THE CITIZENS YARDS.

ATTORNEY JONES REMINDED THE COUNCIL THAT THEY NEEDED TO HAVE REASONABLE AMOUNT OF TIME TO DO REAPPORTIONMENT PRIOR TO THE NEXT ELECTION. ATTORNEY JONES PROVIDED THE COUNCIL WITH A COPY OF THE ORDINANCE DEALING WITH THE REFERENDUM FOR SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICTS. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THAT BOBBY BOWERS DRAWS UP THE DISTRICTS. ATTORNEY JONES REVIEWED THE 2 QUESTIONS FOR THE BALLOT FOR THE REFERENDUM. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE DISTRICTS HAVE TO BE BALANCED RACIALLY. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THAT WILL BE HARD TO DO IN JASPER COUNTY. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED IF THERE WERE TO BE 5 OR 7 COUNCIL MEMBERS. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID HE WOULD LIKE TO RESEARCH THIS AND HE FELT THERE SHOULD BE THE SAME NUMBER OF COUNCIL MEMBERS AS THERE ARE SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS.

ATTORNEY JONES SAID THAT THE COUNCIL NEEDED TO REQUEST ANY INFORMATION FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR AND THE ADMINISTRATOR WILL PROVIDE THEM WITH THE INFORMATION FROM THE STAFF, UNLESS IT IS FOR INVESTIGATIVE REASONS. MR. JONES SAID THAT THE COUNCIL SHOULD ONLY HAVE CONTACT WITH THE STAFF THROUGH THE ADMINISTRATOR. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED WHY THE COUNCIL WAS DESIGNATED AS EMPLOYEES. MR. JONES SAID THAT WAS ONLY FOR CLASSIFICATION PURPOSES, BUT THE COUNCIL IS ACTUALLY LIKE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

DISCUSSION ABOUT COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS, CYPRESS RIDGE INDUSTRIAL PARK DESIGN REVIEW COMMITTEE, LCOG, LCOG AFFORDABLE HOUSING CONSORTIUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE, LOWCOUNTY ECONOMIC ALLIANCE EOC BOARD – CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR HANDED OUT THE COUNCIL'S COMMITTEE APPOINTS. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE EACH COUNCIL MEMBER SHOULD GIVE EACH OTHER RESPECT AND HE WANTED THE MEETING TO BE HELD IN A PROFESSIONAL MANNER. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED THAT WHEN A COUNCIL MEMBER WANTS TO MAKE A CORRECTION, HE SHOULD CALL FOR THE POINT OF ORDER. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY ASKED WHY HE WAS ONLY APPOINTED TO ONE COMMITTEE. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR EXPLAINED THAT SINCE VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY WORKED FULLTIME AND HIS TIME IS LIMITED, HE ONLY PLACED HIM ON ONE COMMITTEE, BUT HE WOULD CHANGE THAT IF VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY WOULD LIKE TO SERVE ON MORE THAN ONE COMMITTEE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THE COUNCIL SHOULD HAVE THE INFORMATION FROM THE STAFF PRIOR TO THE COMMITTEE MEETING, NOT JUST RECEIVE IT AT THE MEETING. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY DISCUSSED THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE AND THAT HE WAS NOT IN AGREEMENT WITH HOW THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE IS

SELECTED BY THE ADMINISTRATOR. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID IT IS HARD FOR AN EMPLOYEE TO GO UP AGAINST HIS BOSS AND EVEN WHEN THE COMMITTEE MAKES A RECOMMENDATION IN FAVOR OF THE EMPLOYEE, THE ADMINISTRATOR CAN REVERSE THE DECISION OF THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON AGREED WITH VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY THAT THE GRIEVANCE PROCEDURE NEEDED TO BE CHANGED. VICE CHAIRMAN DRAYTON SAID THERE IS NO WAY FOR THE EMPLOYEE TO GET A FAIR SHAKE THE WAY IT IS SET UP CURRENTLY. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THAT THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE WAS ESTABLISHED IN THE PERSONNEL POLICY AND PASSED WHEN THE COUNCIL PASSED THE ORDINANCE APPROVING THE PERSONNEL POLICY. ATTORNEY JONES SAID IF THINGS NEEDED CHANGED, THE COUNCIL CAN AMEND THE ORDINANCE AND MAKE CHANGES. ATTORNEY JONES SAID THAT STATE LAW GIVES THE ADMINISTRATOR A LOT OF AUTHORITY OVER THE STAFF. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID HE DID NOT THINKG THE GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE SHOULD BE MADE UP OF EMPLOYEES AND HE ALSO FELT THAT IF AN EMPLOYEE IS FIRED, THE EMPLOYEE SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO COME TO COUNTY COUNCIL FOR A HEARING. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THAT IN THE PAST, THE EMPLOYEES HAD THAT RIGHT AND NOW THAT IS NOT STATED IN THE PESONNEL POLICY. MR. JONES SAID HE WOULD LOOK AT THE STATE LAW VERY CAREFULLY. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE COUNCIL SHOULD BE ABLE TO REVERSE THE ADMINISTRATOR'S DECISION. MR. JONES SAID THAT THE LAW AMENDED HOME RULE. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID THE ENTIRE GRIEVANCE PROCESS DOESN'T LOOK RIGHT TO HIM. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON ASKED WHY THE PERSONNEL DIRECTOR WOULD HAVE TO APPROVE THE DISMISSAL OF AN EMPLOYEE. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID THERE MAY BE A WAY THE PERSONNEL DIRECTOR COULD CIRCUMVENT THE DISMISSAL, BUT SHE SHOULD NOT HAVE THE FINAL SAY. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID THE WAY IT IS WRITTEN IT GIVES THE ADMINISTRATOR AND THE PERSONNEL THE RIGHT TO RUN RAMPANT OVER ALL THE EMPLOYEES. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE WORDING NEEDED TO BE CHANGED. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE ENTIRE PERSONNEL POLICY NEEDS TO BE REVISITED. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED ABOUT A CONFLICT OF INTEREST FOR COUNCILMAN SAULS TO CONTINUE TO SERVE ON THE MARITIME COMMISSION. ATTORNEY JONES SAID IT COULD BE CONSIDERED DUAL OFFICE HOLDING. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED ATTORNEY JONES TO RESEACH IT AND REPORT BACK TO COUNCIL. ATTORNEY JONES SAID HE WILL CHECK TO SEE IF THERE ARE ANY OPINIONS. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY DISCUSSED THE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS AND HOW MANY DAYS THE EMPLOYEES WERE OFF. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID IT WAS THE WAY THE HOLIDAYS FELL THIS PAST YEAR. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID THAT WHEN A PERSON APPLIES FOR A JOB WITH THE COUNTY AND DOES NOT GET THAT JOB, THE PERSON SHOULD GET A RESPONSE, EVEN IF THE PERSON DOES NOT GET THE JOB. ATTORNEY JONES LEAVES AT THIS TIME. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR DISCUSSED THE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS THAT NEEDED COUNCIL REPRESENTATION. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON WAS NOMINATED AND ELECTED TO SERVE ON THE CYPRESS RIDGE BUSINESS INDUSTRIAL PARK REVIEW BOARD. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON WAS NOMINATED AND ELECTED TO SERVE ON THE LCOG BOARD. COUNCILMAN SAULS WAS NOMINATED AND ELECTED TO SERVE ON THE LOWCOUNTY ECONOMIC

ALLIANCE BOARD. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE IS TO CONTINUE TO SERVE ON THE EOC BOARD.

VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY DISCUSSED HANGING PICTURES OF THE COUNCIL IN THE LOBBY OF THE GOVERNMENT BUILDING. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SECONDED THE MOTION TO HANG THE PICTURES OF THE COUNCIL IN THE LOBBY OF THE GOVERNMENT BUILDING AND THE PICTURES ARE TO HAVE NAME PLATES IDENTIFY THE COUNCIL MEMBERS. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY, AND COUNCILMEN DRAYTON, ETHERIDGE AND SAULS VOTING FOR. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR VOTED AGAINST AND HE SAID HE DID NOT WANT HIS PICTURE HUNG IN THE LOBBY OF THE GOVERNMENT BUILDING.

BREAK FOR LUNCH

RESUME MEETING

CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR CALLED THE RETREAT BACK TO ORDER AT 1:45 P.M.

COUNCIL MEMBERS DISCUSSION/PLANNING

COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE DISCUSSED THE PROCUREMENT POLICY AND HE SAID HE FELT THAT 10% OF THE AMOUNT OF A CONTRACT IS TOO MUCH MONEY TO ALLOW THE ADMINISTRATOR TO APPROVE WITHOUT BRINGING IT BACK TO COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE FELT THE AMOUNT THE ADMINISTRATOR SHOULD BE ABLE TO APPROVE WITHOUT BRINGING IT TO COUNCIL SHOULD BE ON A GRADUATED SCALE. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THAT HE FELT ANYTHING OVER \$5,000 SHOULD HAVE COUNCIL'S APPROVAL EVEN IF THE FUNDS HAVE BEEN BUDGETED. IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL THAT THE ADMINISTRATOR MUST BRING ANYTHING OVER \$5,000 PER PROJECT BACK TO COUNCIL FOR APPROVAL. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE THOUGHT THERE NEEDED TO BE MORE THAN ONE BID, BUT CURRENTLY THE ADMINISTRATOR USES STATE CONTRACT AND SPECIAL SERVICES CONTRACTS AND THEY COUNCIL ONLY FINDS OUT AFTER THE FACT. IT WAS THE CONSENSUS OF THE COUNCIL TO CHANGE THAT ANYTHING OVER \$25,000 MUST GO OUT TO BID AND APPROVED BY COUNCIL.

COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE DISCUSSED THE DETENTION CENTER AND THAT IT WAS COSTING THE COUNTY A LOT OF MONEY. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE WOULD LIKE A LETTER FROM DUFFIE STONE EXPLAINING WHY INMATES ARE IN THE COUNTY DETENTION FOR OVER 2 YEARS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE WOULD LIKE FOR THE ADMINISTRATOR TO CONTACT ATTORNEY STONE AND FIND OUT WHEN THEY ARE GOING TO COURT. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID MR. BENJAMIN IS DOING A GOOD JOB AND HE HAS BEEN PROVIDING THE COUNCIL WITH GOOD REPORTS. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY DISCUSSED THE PRISONERS AND THE CONDITION OF THE DETENTION CENTER. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THAT THE COUNTY SHOULD CHARGE A \$75 BOOKING FEE THAT HAD TO BE PAID PRIOR TO THE PRISONER BEING RELEASED. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID THE ADMINISTRATOR SAID HE WAS GOING TO LOOK INTO THAT, CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SUGGESTED THAT THE EMERGENCY SERVICES COMMITTEE LOOK INTO IT AND BRING BACK A RECOMMENDATION. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID HE WAS ON THE DETENTION AD HOC COMMITTEE AND MAYBE THEY SHOULD LOOK INTO IT. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THE COUNTY DECIDED TO CHARGE A

BOOKING FEE, WOULD IT HAVE TO BE DONE BY ORDINANCE. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE ATTORNEY COULD PREPARE THE ORDINANCE.

VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY DISCUSSED THE DUTIES OF THE VARIOUS COMMITTEES AND HE NOTED THAT HE WAS NOT HAPPY WITH ONE MAN DOING THREE DIFFERENT JOBS AND FEEL THAT SOME OF THE POSITIONS NEEDED TO BE SEPARATE IN THE FUTURE. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY COMMENTED THAT THE DITCHES ARE NOT BEING PULLED AND HE FELT THAT A MAN SHOULD DO WHAT HIS JOB DESCRIPTION STATES. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY NOTED THAT THE DITCHES IN MITCHELLVILLE REALLY NEEDED DONE. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE MISQUITO CONTROL NEEDED TO BE DONE ON SCHEDULE, NOT JUST WHEN SOMEONE CALLS IN. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED IF THE MONEY HAS BEEN BUDGETED. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THAT IT WAS AND THE MOSQUITOES ARE A HEALTH HAZARD AND THE SPRAYING NEEDS TO BE DONE.

COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ALSO DISCUSSED FUNDING TO MAINTAIN THE PONDS AT SGT. JASPER PARK. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THE PONDS HAVE TO BE SPRAYED OR THEY GET AWAY FROM YOU AND THEY ARE ALSO BREEDING AREAS FOR MOSQUITOES.

VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE ADMINISTRATOR NEEDS TO GO TO THE CONVENIENCE SITES. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID MOST OF THE EMPLOYEES ARE INSIDE THE BUILDINGS AND DO NOT COME OUT TO KEEP THE SITES CLEAN.

CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID IT TAKES 30 DAYS TO FINISH A ROTATION ON THE ROADS. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SUGGESTED THAT IF ALL THE GRADERS WERE PUT IN ONE LOCATION THEY COULD GET THE ROADS DONE IN 10 DAYS. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID ONE EMPLOYEE TOOK 8 HOURS TO DO CEMETARY ROAD. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE PERSON IN CHARGE SHOULD KNOW HOW LONG IT TAKES TO DO A ROAD AND PEOPLE NEED TO WORK SMARTER AND THE SUPERVISOR NEEDS TO SPOT CHECK WHERE THE PEOPLE ARE WORKING.

COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE DISCUSSED THE VACANT COUNTY OWNED BUILDINGS AND HOW THEY COULD BE UTILIZED. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THIS SUBJECT HAS BEEN DISCUSSED OVER AND OVER AND NOTHING GETS DONE. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THAT VOTERS REGISTRATION REQUESTED TO BE MOVED TO THE MARY GORDON ELLIS BUILDING AND THE SOLICITOR COULD USE THE OTHER PORTION. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID THAT SPACE NEEDS TO BE CONSOLIDATED TO CUT EXPENSES AND SELL THE EXCESS PROPERTY.

THE COUNCIL DISCUSSED SECURITY FOR THE GOVERNMENT BUILDING AND THEY THE SCANNER THAT WAS PURCHASED FOR THE BUILDING AND IS BEING STORED NEEDS TO BE INSTALLED AND WORKING. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID HE THOUGHT THE AREA BETWEEN THE COURTHOUSES AND THE GOVERNMENT BUILDING WAS FOR THE PEOPLE TO BE ABLE TO PARK AND GO INTO EITHER BUILDING AND IT WAS TO BE ONE WAY. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID HE THOUGHT THAT WAS A BETTER IDEA WOULD BE INSTEAD OF MAKING THE CITIZENS WALK AROUND THE BUILDINGS TO GET INSIDE. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID HE THOUGHT THE COUNCIL SHOULD ASK THE SHERIFF TO HAVE DEPUTY AT ALL COUNCIL MEETINGS.

VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID WHEN YOU LOOK AT ALL THE HIGH PAYING POSITIONS WITHIN THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT THEY ARE NOT HELD BY JASPER COUNTY RESIDENTS. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED IF ANYONE FROM

JASPER COUNTY APPLIED FOR THOSE JOBS. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE THAT NO ONE FROM JASPER COUNTY IS QUALIFIED FOR THOSE JOBS. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THAT THE COUNCIL CANNOT CHANGE WHAT HAS HAPPENED, BUT THEY CAN ADDRESS THESE ISSUES IN THE FUTURE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THE COUNCIL CAN EXPRESS THAT COUNTY RESIDENTS ARE HIRED. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THERE ARE PEOPLE IN JASPER COUNTY THAT ARE QUALIFIED. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID THE COUNCIL HAS NO CONTROL OVER WHAT HAS HAPPENED, BUT THEY CAN TRY TO IMPROVE THE PROCESS.

COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SECONDED THE MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS PERSONNEL MATTERS. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.
THE COUNCIL ADJOURNED UNTIL AFTER DINNER.

CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR CALLED THE MEETING BACK TO ORDER AT 8:15 P.M. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR REVIEWED THE PREVIOUS GOALS AND THE ONES THAT HAVE BEEN MET. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID IT WAS NOT ADVERTISED THAT ANYONE WANTING TO PAY THEIR TAXES IN INSTALLMENTS MUST REGISTER BY FEB. 15. COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID THAT THEY SHOULD ASK THE TREASURER TO DO THAT AND ALSO TO PUT SOMEONE IN HARDEEVILLE. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THE COUNCIL CAN CLOSE THE TREASURER'S OFFICE FOR ONE DAY A WEEK IN RIDGELAND AND PROVIDE AN OFFICE IN HARDEEVILLE ON THAT DAY. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SAID THEY NEEDED TO GET A LEGAL OPINION TO SEE IF THE COUNCIL CAN PROVIDE OFFICE SPACE 1 DAY A WEEK IN HARDEEVILLE AND 4 DAYS A WEEK IN RIDGELAND. COUNCILMAN SAULS ASKED HOW THE HARDEEVILLE OFFICE WAS DOING. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID MS. HOLMES IS THERE ON TUESDAY, BUT THE PEOPLE STILL HAVE TO COME TO RIDGELAND TO PAY. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID MS. GARVIN WILL NOT GO TO HARDEEVILLE UNLESS SHE GETS AN ADDITIONAL PERSON. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID MS. GARVIN SAID SHE DID NOT HAVE ENOUGH EMPLOYEES TO SEND ONE TO HARDEEVILLE ONE DAY A WEEK. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ADDED THAT MS. GARVIN SAID SHE COULD COVER THE HARDEEVILLE OFFICE FOR THE BALANCE OF THE YEAR WITH AN ADDITIONAL \$6,000 IN HER BUDGET. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID PERHAPS IT IS TIME TO TALK WITH MS. GARVIN. THE COUNCIL REVIEWED THE SURPLUS PROPERTY AND THE POSSIBILITIES OF SELLING OR LEASING THE PROPERTY.

THE COUNCIL DISCUSSED THE FUNDING TO JASPER COUNTY NEIGHBORS UNITED AND THE ADMINISTRATOR IS TO HAVE SISTER LUPE PROVIDE THE COUNCIL WITH AN EXPLANATION AS TO HOW THE FUNDS WERE USED.

THE COUNCIL DISCUSSED MEETING WITH THE SCHOOL BOARD.

THE COUNCIL AGREED THAT THEY NEEDED TO RECEIVE QUARTERLY REPORTS ON THE INSTALLMENT TAX PAYMENTS BEING MADE.

COUNCILMAN SAULS SAID THAT THE STAFF NEEDED TO EXPLORE GRANTS FOR THE LIBRARIES.

COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE DISCUSSED A 40 HOUR WORK WEEK NOT INCLUDING THE LUNCH HOUR. VICE CHAIRMAN GREGORY SAID THEY CANNOT MAKE PEOPLE COME IN EARLY WITHOUT PAYING THEM. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID HE DID NOT THINK ANYMORE WORK WOULD RESULT FROM

LONGER HOURS. CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SAID HE FELT THE MOST YOU COULD GET OUT OF AN AVERAGE WORKER IS SIX GOOD HOURS. COUNCILMAN DRAYTON SUGGESTED PROVIDING THE ADMINISTRATOR A LIST OF THINGS THE COUNCIL WANTS DONE AND FOLLOW UP PERIODICALLY. THE COUNCIL DISCUSSED WORKING ON PRIVATE ROADS AND THE PROBLEMS IT CAN CAUSE FOR THE COUNTY. THE COUNCIL PREPARED A TO DO LIST CONSISTING OF:
REVIEW SURPLUS PROPERTY AND POSSIBLE LIQUIDATION OR RENTAL
HAVE A FORENSIC AUDIT DONE
EXPLORE PAVING COUNTY ROADS
UPDATE THE WEBSITE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT DEDICATED TO OPPORTUNITIES FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
TO INCLUDE ALL GOALS THAT WERE NOT ACHIEVED LAST YEAR
TO EXPLORE A BOOKING FEE FOR THE DETENTION CENTER FOR ALL PRISONERS
EXPLORE ALLEGATIONS REGARDING THE DETENTION CENTER

THE COUNCIL AGREED TO KEEP THE SAME MISSION STATEMENT.

THE WORKSHOP ADJOURNED AT 10:55 P.M.

FEB. 5, 2011 – THE COUNCIL DID NOT MEET.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

JUDITH M. FRANK, ccc
CLERK TO COUNCIL

LEROY BLACKSHEAR
CHAIRMAN