



**JASPER COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNCIL CHAMBERS
358 THIRD AVE.
RIDGELAND, SC 29936
MARCH 16, 2010
3:00 P.M.
CALLED MEETING
MINUTES**

OFFICIALS PRESENT:

GEORGE HOOD, CHAIRMAN
LEROY BLACKSHEAR, VICE CHAIRMAN
HENRY ETHERIDGE, COUNCILMAN
REV. SAMUEL GREGORY, COUNCILMAN
HUBERT TYLER, COUNCILMAN

STAFF PRESENT:

ANDREW FULGHUM, ADMINISTRATOR
RONNIE MALPHRUS, DEP. ADM. ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
WILBUR DALEY, DEP. ADM. EMERGENCY SERVICES
DALE TERRY, DEP. ADM. ENGINEERING SERVICES
JUDITH FRANK, CLERK TO COUNCIL
DAVID JIROUSEK, PLANNING DIRECTOR
HERMAN SMITH, BUILDING DEPT. DIRECTOR
ARTHUR BENJAMIN, DETENTION CENTER DIRECTOR
STEVEN MALPHRUS, ASSISTANT EMS DIRECTOR
CHRISTY HERMAN, DEVELOPMENT PROJECT 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 HOOD CALLED THE WORKSHOP TO ORDER AT 3:00 P.M.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

CHAIRMAN HOOD LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

INVOCATION:

VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR GAVE THE INVOCATION.

LOWCOUNTRY ALLIANCE – UPDATE ON RESULTS FOR JASPER COUNTY:

KIM STATLER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE LOWCOUNTRY ALLIANCE, EXPLAINED THAT THE BOARD IS MADE UP OF 3 MEMBERS FROM BEAUFORT COUNTY, 3 MEMBERS FROM JASPER COUNTY AND DEAN MOSS, BJWSA. MS. STATLER EXPLAINED THAT THE ALLIANCE HAS ADOPTED THE AIRPORT POSITION PAPER, THE F-35B POSITION, THEY ARE CONTINUING SUPPORT OF THE 2014 COMPLETION OF THE JASPER COUNTY OCEAN TERMINAL AND THEY HAVE MET WITH AREA ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS REGARDING THE POSSIBILITY OF A JOINT PLANNING EFFORT FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. MS. STATLER TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT THEY ARE WORKING ON LOGISTICS AND DISTRIBUTION CENTERS, MANUFACTURERS, SPINOFF FROM MCAS FOR MANUFACTURING PARTS. MS. STATLER SAID THAT THE PROXIMITY TO RAIL SERVICE MAKES JASPER COUNTY VERY APPEALING. MS. STATLER DISCUSSED THE MARKETING INITIATIVES AND REVIEWED A FEW OF THE ADVERTISEMENTS BEING RUN. MS. STATLER SAID THAT 95% OF THE TRAFFIC IS LOOKING FOR EXISTING BUILDING. MS. STATLER SAID THAT THEY HAVE CREATED A GIS MAP FOR THE WEBSITE AND CURRENTLY THERE IS ONLY ONE BUILDING THAT CAN BE POSTED AND THAT BUILDING IS IN RIDGELAND. MS. STATLER SAID THAT SHE IS CURRENTLY WORKING WITH 9 PROPECTS THAT WOULD BRING 1,045 JOBS TO THE AREA. MS. STATLER SAID THAT MOST OF THE PEOPLE WHO OWN EXISTING BUILDINGS DON'T WANT TO LEASE THEM, THEY WANT TO SELL THEM. CHAIRMAN HOOD ASKED IF PEOPLE WERE WAITING ON THE ECONOMY. MS. STATLER SAID THAT ABOUT 25% NEED CAPITAL. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT THE SPINOFF FROM BOEING. MS. STATLER SAID THAT BOEING WAS GOING TO REBID THE SUPPLY CHAIN AND IT COULD HELP BECAUSE PEOPLE WILL MOVE TO A NEW LOCATION AND THERE ARE 100'S OF COMPANIES THAT SUPPORT THE PLANTS AND THEY ARE LOOKING FOR HUB ZONES AND JASPER COUNTY HAS A FEW OF THOSE. COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED IF ANYONE WAS WORKING WITH THE SCHOOL SYSTEM TO TRAIN THEM FOR THE JOBS. MS. STATLER SAID THE TCL IS PROVIDING TRAINING FOR THE COMPANIES.

GRANTS AND STIMULUS FUNDING REPORT:

MR. FULGHUM PROVIDED THE COUNCIL WITH A DETAILED LIST OF ALL THE GRANT AND STIMULUS FUNDING APPLIED FOR AND RECEIVED. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE COUNTY APPLIED FOR \$4,689,821.00 IN GRANTS AND STIMULUS FUNDING AND RECEIVED \$1,938,754.00 AND THE ONES THAT WERE RECEIVED WERE BASICALLY FORMULA FUNDING. MR. FULGHUM TOLD THE COUNCIL THAT OTHERS HAVE BEEN APPLIED FOR AND THEY ARE STILL PENDING. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE WAS NOTIFIED THAT A GRANT FOR ASSISTANCE TO FIREFIGHTERS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$357,000.00 FOR SELF CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS HAS BEEN APPROVED. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT MS. HERMAN AND MR. LUCAS WORKED ON THE GRANT

APPLICATION. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THIS WAS THE TOTAL THAT THE COUNTY APPLIED FOR AND MR. FULGHUM SAID THE TOTAL IS THE AMOUNT THAT CAME INTO THE COUNTY AND IT INCLUDED THE GRANTS AND STIMULUS FUNDS THAT WERE AWARDED TO AGENCIES WITHIN THE COUNTY. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED HOW MANY WERE STIMULUS GRANTS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED ABOUT CBDG FUNDS THAT WERE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED AND NEVER AWARDED. MR. FULGHUM RESPONDED THAT CHRISTY HERMAN WORKS ON GETTING THE FUNDS REDISTRIBUTED. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE GRANT FUNDS MUST BE USED FOR WHAT THEY WERE APPLIED FOR.

SATELLITE OFFICE – UPDATE AND TIMELINE:

MR. FULGHUM PRESENTED TWO SCENARIOS. ONE SCENARIO WAS TO DO THE BASIC IMPROVEMENTS, OUTFIT THE OFFICES AND USE THE COUNTY STAFF TO DO THE WORK. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT PORTION SHOULD COST ABOUT \$500.00. MR. FULGHUM SAID IT WOULD COST \$300.00 TO INSTALL PHONES, FAX LINES AND DSL LINES. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE SOFTWARE AND COMPUTERS SHOULD NOT EXCEED \$10,000.00. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE SECOND SCENERIO WAS THAT THEY WERE APPLYING FOR A GRANT OF \$130,000.00 AND IF THE GRANT IS AWARDED THEN A PERMANENT UPGRADE CAN BE DONE. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE \$10,000.00 COST OF THE FIRST SCENERIO COULD COME FROM THE PUBLIC WORKS' BUILDING MAINTENANCE ACCOUNT.

SINGLE MEMBER DISTRICT – UPDATE AND TIMELINE:

MR. JONES PRESENTED THE ORDINANCE AND TIMELINE TO THE COUNCIL. MR. JONES SAID THAT THE PROCESS BEGINS IN 2011 AND HOWELL AND LINKOUS WILL ASSIST HIM. MR. JONES EXPLAINED THAT THE REFERENDUM WILL GO TO THE VOTERS IN 2012 AND IF IT PASSES, THE DISTRICTS WILL BE DRAWN BY BOBBY BOWERS AND THE ADDITIONAL SEATS WILL BE ELECTED IN THE 2014 ELECTION. MR. JONES SAID ANYONE SERVING WILL COMPLETE THEIR TERM.

UPDATE ON EMPLOYEE IMPROVEMENTS THAT HAVE BEEN ACHIEVED:

MR. FULGHUM PROVIDED THE COUNCIL WITH A LIST OF VARIOUS AGENCIES THAT THE EMPLOYEES CAN BE REFERRED TO. MR. FULGHUM SAID HR DOES NOT ADVERTISE WHAT IS AVAILABLE, THEY DEAL WITH EACH SITUATION BASED ON THE EMPLOYEE'S NEEDS. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID HE FELT THE EMPLOYEES SHOULD BE AWARE OF WHAT IS AVAILABLE. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE LIKES TO START OUT WITH THE SUPERVISOR. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE SUPERVISORS KNOW WHAT IS ON THE LIST. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID HE FELT THE EMPLOYEES SHOULD KNOW WHAT IS AVAILABLE AND THEIR SUPERVISOR CAN STEER THEM IN THE CORRECT DIRECTION.

UPDATE – STATUS OF AGAPE CONTRACT:

MR. FULGHUM PROVIDED THE COUNCIL WITH A COPY OF THE AGAPE CONTRACT DATED JULY, 2007. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT CONSTRUCTION

WAS TO START WITHIN 2 YEARS AND THEY CANNOT SELL IT FOR FIVE YEARS. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE RECEIVED AN UPDATE THAT THIS PROJECT IS AT THE TOP OF THE AGAPE LIST FOR THE NEXT FACILITY TO BE BUILT. MR. FULGHUM SAID AGAPE HAS THE ARCHITECT'S PLANS AND THEY HAVE DONE THE ENVIRONMENTAL WORK. MR. FULGHUM SAID THEY SHOULD BREAK GROUND IN 2010. MR. FULGHUM RECOMMENDED ASKING FOR A COPY OF THE PLANS. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE WORDING IN THE CONTRACT IS THAT THEY HAVE THE INTENTION TO BUILD. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THEY HAVE COMPLETED THE DEMOLITION INSIDE. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED IF THEY HAD THE RIGHT TO SELL THE BUILDING TO SOMEONE ELSE. MR. FULGHUM SAID THERE WAS NOT BUY BACK CLAUSE IN THE AGREEMENT DUE THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEMS. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED ABOUT TAXES. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY SHOULD BE PAYING TAXES, BUT HE WOULD HAVE TO CHECK. MR. FULGHUM TOLD THE COUNCIL HE WOULD GET A COPY OF THE PLANS AND DO A VISUAL TOUR AND REPORT BACK IF ANYTHING IS CONTRARY TO WHAT HE SAID. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THE PROPERTY WAS PAID FOR AND MR. FULGHUM SAID IT WAS PAID FOR AND THERE ARE NO CALL BACK OBLIGATIONS. MR. FULGHUM SAID THERE WAS A CLAUSE IN THE AGREEMENT THAT IF THEY DID NOT PERFORM ON TIME, THERE WOULD BE A PENALTY OF \$5,000.00. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE WOULD LOOK INTO THAT.

UPDATE – RURAL FIRE COVERAGE;

MR. DALEY EXPLAINED THAT HE HAD 35 LINE FIREMEN AND EMT PERSONNEL. MR. DALEY SAID THERE WERE 3 SHIFT SUPERVISORS, AND AN ASSISTANT CHIEF, 24 COVER THE AMBULANCES AND REMAINING 11 COVER THE STATIONS. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED IF THE COUNTY AMBULANCES COVERED THE MUNICIPALITIES AND MR. DALEY SAID THEY DID. MR. DALEY SAID THERE ARE TIMES WHEN ALL THE AMBULANCES ARE RUNNING AND THEY HAVE TO CALL IN HAMPTON OR BEAUFORT COUNTY. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID THAT THEY DO HAVE DOWN TIME AND THERE IS NO EXCUSE FOR EQUIPMENT NOT WORKING. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID ONE AMBULANCE HAD TWO PIECES OF EQUIPMENT THAT DID NOT WORK. MR. DALEY SAID HE WAS ONLY AWARE OF THE MONITOR. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SUGGESTED THAT MR. DALEY DO SPOT CHECKS AND MR. DALEY SAID HE DID DO THAT OCCASIONALLY. COUNCILMAN TYLER ASKED IF THEY SHIFT THE EQUIPMENT OR IS IT ASSIGNED TO AN AMBULANCE. MR. DALEY SAID THEY HAVE 8 STATIONS AND LEVY LIMEHOUSE TAKES CARE OF THEMSELVES. MR. DALEY SAID THAT SOME EQUIPMENT DOES MOVE AROUND IN ORDER TO KEEP MILEAGE DOWN. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED ABOUT THE MILEAGE ON THE AMBULANCES AND MR. DALEY SAID THAT THE 2003 UNITS HAVE OVER 200,000 MILES, BUT THEY ARE GOOD TRUCKS AND HAVE BEEN WELL MAINTAINED. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED IF THE ROSELAND FIRE STATION WAS MANNED. MR. DALEY RESPONDED THAT IT IS NOT MANNED. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF MR. DALEY HAD ENOUGH PERSONNEL. MR. DALEY SAID THE MEDICS CAN BE PULLED TO GO TO A FIRE AND ALL THE MEDICS

SUPPORT FIRE. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THE PEOPLE IN THE COMMUNITIES SHOULD KNOW WHEN THE STATIONS ARE NOT MANNED. MR. DALEY SAID THERE IS NO WAY TO MAKE A SCHEDULE. MR. DALEY SAID THEY ARE COVERING AS MUCH AS THEY CAN, AS BEST AS THEY CAN. MR. DALEY SAID THAT IN ORDER TO STAFF THE 7 STATIONS 24/7 HE NEEDED FOUR MORE PEOPLE. MR. DALEY SAID SALARIES AND BENEFITS FOR FOUR FIREFIGHTERS IS \$168,000.00. MR. DALEY SAID HE ACTUALLY NEEDED 8 PEOPLE, THE THREE CUT FROM THIS YEARS BUDGET AND THE 1 FROM THE YEAR BEFORE THAT WAS CUT AND 4 NEW FIREMEN. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED HOW WERE THEY MANNED PREVIOUSLY AND HOW MANY PEOPLE WORKED UNDER HIM. MR. DALEY SAID 39. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED ABOUT THE SHIFT SUPERVISORS. MR. DALEY SAID THE THREE SHIFT SUPERVISOR AND THE ASSISTANT CHIEF ARE STATIONED AT THE OFFICE AND THEY GO OUT EVERYDAY. COUNCILMAN GREGORY ASKED IF THEY COULD BE ASSIGNED TO A STATION DUE TO THE CURRENT CONDITIONS. MR. DALEY SAID THEY COULD COVER AN AREA, BUT DAILY OPERATIONS WOULD SLOW DOWN. MR. DALEY SAID THE SUPERVISORS DO TRAINING AT ALL THE STATIONS. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID THAT IN THIS CRUNCH TIME HE THOUGHT THE 3 SUPERVISORS COULD BE STATIONED SOMEWHERE ELSE AND TRAINING COULD BE HELD AT THE STATION WHERE THE SUPERVISOR IS STATIONED. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF A SUPERVISOR EVER COVERS A SHIFT AT A STATION. MR. DALEY SAID THEY ROAM THE ENTIRE COUNTY. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED WHY HIS DEPUTY DIRECTOR DOESN'T COVER A SHIFT. MR. DALEY SAID HE COULD IF HE WANTED TO, BUT HE WORKED MAINLY WITH THE COMPUTERS. MR. DALEY SAID HE FELT THEY COULD MAKE IT THROUGH, BUT HE WAS WORRIED ABOUT THE ISO RATINGS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THAT IT BOTHERS HIM THAT LAST YEAR WHEN THE BUDGET WAS APPROVED THE COUNCIL BELIEVED THAT ALL THE STATIONS WOULD BE MANNED 24/7. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT IF THE COUNCIL WANTED 24/7 COVERAGE AT EACH STATION WITH REALISTIC RELIEF, THEY WOULD NEED TO HIRE 15 ADDITIONAL PEOPLE. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THE COUNTY'S REVENUE WILL NOT LET THAT HAPPEN. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THE COUNCIL WAS TOLD AT BUDGET TIME THAT ALL THE STATIONS WOULD BE MANNED 24/7 AND AT THE RETREAT THEY WERE TOLD SOMETHING DIFFERENT. MR. FULGHUM SAID HE CAN'T BELIEVE THAT THEY WERE LED TO BELIEVE THAT, WHEN HE KNEW IT COULD NOT BE DONE. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT IT COULD NOT BE DONE WHEN THREE PEOPLE WERE CUT FROM THE DEPARTMENT. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID IT DID NOT MAKE SENSE TO CUT THREE PEOPLE AND HE DID NOT REMEMBER BEING TOLD IT WOULD BE A HARDSHIP TO THE DEPARTMENT WHEN THE RECOMMENDATION TO CUT THOSE 3 PEOPLE CAME FROM THE ADMINISTRATOR. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID HE WOULD NOT HAVE VOTED TO CUT THOSE POSITIONS IF THEY WERE NEEDED. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT A LOT OF COUNTIES DO NOT HAVE ANY PAID FIREMEN; THEY ONLY HAVE VOLUTEERS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE IS TIRED OF BEING TOLD IT IS HIS FAULT THAT THE STATIONS WERE NOT MANNED AND THAT ALL THE

STATIONS SHOULD BE RUN BY VOLUNTEERS. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE NEVER SAID THAT. MR. DALEY SAID THAT IT WAS HARD TO FIND VOLUNTEERS THROUGH OUT THE COUNTY. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT THE PEOPLE IN COLUMBIA DON'T RESPOND TO JOBS, THEY ONLY SPEND MONEY ON WHAT THEY WANT. MR. DALEY SAID THAT HE WOULD DO THE BEST THAT HE CAN WITH WHAT HE HAS TO WORK WITH. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED MR. DALEY TO CONTACT THE VOLUNTEER IN GRAYS WHO DRIVES THE FIRETRUCK WHEN THE STATION IS NOT MANNED. MR. DALEY SAID HE COULD DO THAT.

STATUS OF PLANS CAMPUS II:

MR. FULGHUM LISTED THE BUILDINGS INVOLVED IN CAMPUS II. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT DHEC AND THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT CAN BE JOINED IN THE DHEC FACILITY. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE COUNCIL NEEDED TO REVIEW WHAT THEY HAD AND WHAT WILL BE NEEDED. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT IN ORDER TO DO IT CORRECTLY, A PROFESSIONAL ANALYSIS WOULD BE NEEDED AND IT WOULD COST ABOUT \$15,000.00. CHAIRMAN HOOD ASKED MR. FULGHUM TO CHECK AND MAKE SURE THE AGENCIES LOCATED IN THOSE BUILDING HAVE NOT ALREADY HAD A PROFESSIONAL ANALYSIS DONE. MR. FULGHUM SAID THAT IF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT MOVES THEIR OFFICES TO ANOTHER LOCATION, THEY MAY DONATE THAT BUILDING TO THE TOWN OR TO THE COUNTY.

UPDATE ON ACTIVITIES HELD AT FARMERS' MARKET UNDER CHAMBER MANAGEMENT:

MR. FULGHUM PROVIDED THE COUNCIL WITH A LIST OF THE ACTIVITES HELD AT THE FARMERS' MARKET WHICH INCLUDED PRIVATE PARTY ACTIVITIES AND CHAMBER SCHEDULED EVENTS. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THE PEOPLE WOULD LIKE A BETTER KITCHEN. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE THOUGHT THE CHAMBER WOULD BRING PEOPLE TO THE EVENTS THAT WOULD SPEND THE NIGHT.

UPDATE ON GRANT FUNDING APPLICATION FOR LIBRARY:

MR. FULGHUM SAID THE PROBLEM WITH THE LIBRARY IS THE LACK OF COORDINATED VISION. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE TWO PRESENT LOCATIONS NEED SMALL IMMEDIATE REPAIRS, BUT THEY HAVE NOT TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION WHAT TO DO NEXT. MR. FULGHUM SAID THERE ARE USDA FUNDS FOR LIBRARY PROJECTS AND IT IS ALL NOT GRANT MONEY, MOST OF THE FUNDS ARE A LOAN. MR. FULGHUM SAID THE CBDG GRANT APPLICATION WAS UNSUCCESSFUL AND THEY ALSO APPLIED FOR AN ICMA GRANT THAT THEY DID NOT RECEIVE.

UPDATE ON RESEARCH ON 40 HOUR WORKWEEK:

MR. FULGHUM PROVIDED THE COUNCIL WITH INFORMATION FROM ATTORNEY CHRIS JOHNSON. MR. FULGHUM ASKED THE COUNCIL TO REVIEW THE INFORMATION.

UPDATE ON PLAN FOR SALE OF COUNTY PROPERTY:'

MR. FULGHUM PROVIDED THE COUNCIL WITH A SPREAD SHEET OF ALL COUNTY PROPERTY. MR. FULGHUM SAID AN ORDINANCE WAS NEEDED AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF THE PROPERTY AND HE NEEDED TO GET THE CURRENT VALUE OF THE CLEMSON BUILDING.

UPDATE ON PRIVATE ROADS AND UPDATE ON DRIGGERS LANE:

THIS ITEM AND THE ORDINANCE REGARDING PRIVATE ROADS WERE DISCUSSED AND THE COUNCIL DECIDED THAT THIS ITEM BE REFERRED TO COMMITTEE. THIS ITEM WAS REFERRED TO THE ENGINEERING SERVICES COMMITTEE.

SUGGESTIONS OF CHANGES TO PROCUREMENT POLICY:

COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE VOICED HIS CONCERN ABOUT THE AMOUNT OF MONEY THAT THE ADMINISTRATOR CAN APPROVE WITHOUT COUNCIL'S INPUT. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE DID NOT THINK THE ADMINISTRATOR SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO APPROVE \$50,000.00-\$60,000.00 WITHOUT COUNCIL'S APPROVAL. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THE ADMINISTRATOR HAS TO BRING ANYTHING OVER \$25,000.00 BACK TO COUNCIL UNLESS IT IS BUDGETED. MR. MALPHRUS SAID ALL PROFESSIONAL CONTRACTS MUST BE BID OUT. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE FELT THE 10% CONTINGENCY FUNDS ON LARGE CONTRACTS WAS GIVING THE ADMINISTRATOR TOO MUCH AUTHORITY. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT THE CONTINGENCY FUND IS BUDGETED MONEY. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID HE DID NOT THINK THE ADMINISTRATOR SHOULD HAVE THAT RIGHT. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR SUGGESTED THAT THE COMMITTEE REVIEW THE POLICY AND BRING BACK RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COUNCIL. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THEY NEEDED SOME FLEXIBILITY SO THAT TIME IS NOT LOST. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID THEY CAN POLL THE COUNCIL. MR. MALPHRUS SAID THAT A POLLED VOTE IS NOT BINDING. CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THE COUNCIL CAN HAVE A SPECIAL CALLED MEETING. THIS ITEM WAS REFERRED TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES COMMITTEE.

UPDATE ON TIMBER SALES IN HARDEEVILLE:

MR. MALPHRUS SAID HE HAS NOT BEEN ABLE TO REACH MR. RICHARDSON AND HE IS TO MARK THE TREES. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE REMINDED MR. MALPHRUS THAT THOSE FUNDS WERE NEEDED FOR THIS YEARS BUDGET. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE ASKED IF THE TIMBER WOULD BE BID OUT IN TRACTS. MR. MALPHRUS SAID IT WOULD ALL BE HANDLED IN ONE BID, BUT TRACKS WILL BE MARKED TO BE CUT AND OTHERS WILL BE MARKED NOT TO CUT.

UPDATE ON LOAN FROM SCB&T:

MR. MALPHRUS REPORTED THAT THE LOAN WAS PAID OFF AND THE COUNTY PAID \$34,000.00 IN INTEREST.

UPDATE ON EMBLEMS ON ALL COUNTY VEHICLES:

CHAIRMAN HOOD SAID THAT THERE WERE TO BE EMBLEMS ON ALL COUNTY VEHICLES. COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE SAID THAT MR. DALEY, MR. BENJAMIN AND OTHERS DO NOT HAVE EMBLEMS ON THEIR VEHICLES. VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR ASKED ABOUT THE COST TO PUT THE EMBLEMS ON THE VEHICLES. MR. TERRY SAID HE HAD THE EMBLEMS IN STOCK AND HE COULD HAVE THEM PUT ON THE CARS. COUNCILMAN GREGORY SAID HE DID NOT THINK ALL THE CARS NEEDED TO HAVE EMBLEMS. MR. TERRY SAID HE LIKED HAVING THE EMBLEM ON HIS TRUCK AND MR. FULGHUM SAID HE THOUGHT IT WAS A GOOD POLICY FOR THE COUNCIL TO WORK ON. CHAIRMAN HOOD ASKED THAT IT BE PLACED ON THE NEXT AGENDA. COUNCILMAN TYLER SAID HE FELT THEY SHOULD ALL HAVE EMBLEMS.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

DISCUSSION REGARDING EMPLOYMENT, APPOINTMENT, COMPENSATION, PROMOTION, DEMOTION, DISCIPLINE, OR RELEASE OF AN EMPLOYEE, A STUDENT, OR A PERSON REGULATED BY A PUBLIC BODY OR THE APPOINTMENT OF A PERSON TO A PUBLIC BODY; HOWEVER, IF AN ADVERSARY HEARING INVOLVING AN EMPLOYEE OR CLIENT IS HELD, THE EMPLOYEE OR CLIENT HAS THE RIGHT TO DEMAND THAT THE HEARING BE CONDUCTED PUBLICLY NOTHING CONTAINED IN THIS ITEM SHALL PREVENT THE PUBLIC BODY, IN ITS DISCRETION, FROM DELETING THE NAMES OF OTHER EMPLOYEES OR CLIENTS WHOSE RECORDS ARE SUBMITTED FOR USE AT THE HEARING:

COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN TYLER SECONDED THE MOTION TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR A DISCUSSION REGARDING EMPLOYMENT, APPOINTMENT, COMPENSATION, PROMOTION, DEMOTION, DISCIPLINE, OR RELEASE OF AN EMPLOYEE, A STUDENT, OR A PERSON REGULATED BY A PUBLIC BODY OR THE APPOINTMENT OF A PERSON TO A PUBLIC BODY; HOWEVER, IF AN ADVERSARY HEARING INVOLVING AN EMPLOYEE OR CLIENT IS HELD, THE EMPLOYEE OR CLIENT HAS THE RIGHT TO DEMAND THAT THE HEARING BE CONDUCTED PUBLICLY NOTHING CONTAINED IN THIS ITEM SHALL PREVENT THE PUBLIC BODY, IN ITS DISCRETION, FROM DELETING THE NAMES OF OTHER EMPLOYEES OR CLIENTS WHOSE RECORDS ARE SUBMITTED FOR USE AT THE HEARING. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

RETURN TO OPEN SESSION:

VICE CHAIRMAN BLACKSHEAR MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN GREGORY SECONDED THE MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

NO ACTION WAS TAKEN.

ADJOURN:

COUNCILMAN GREGORY MOTIONED AND COUNCILMAN ETHERIDGE
SECONDED THE MOTION TO ADJOURN. THE MOTION CARRIED WITH ALL
MEMBERS PRESENT VOTING IN FAVOR.

THE MEETING ENDED AT 6:30 P.M.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY:

APPROVED BY:

JUDITH M. FRANK, ccc
CLERK TO COUNCIL

DR. GEORGE HOOD
CHAIRMAN