EXTRAORDINARY SESSION

The Spalding County Board of Commissioners held their Extraordinary Session in Room 108 in the Courthouse Annex, Monday, April 21, 2008 beginning at 6:00 o'clock p.m. with Commission Chairman Edward Goss, Jr. presiding and Commissioners Eddie Freeman, Johnie McDaniel and David Phillips present. Arriving late was Commissioner Gwen Flowers-Taylor. Also present were County Manager William P. Wilson, Jr., County Attorney James R. Fortune, Jr., Administrative Services Director Jinna L. Garrison, Human Resources Director William D. Gay, Assistant to the County Manager Paul Van Haute, and Executive Secretary Teresa Watson.

I. **OPENING (CALL TO ORDER)** – Chairman Edward Goss, Jr.

II. **INVOCATION** - Reverend Andy Campbell

III. **PLEDGE TO FLAG** – Led by Assistant to the County Manager Paul Van Haute

IV. **PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS/RECOGNITION**

1. Consider Proclamation declaring May 2008 as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month.

Motion and second by Commissioners McDaniel and Flowers-Taylor to proclaim May 2008 as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month carried by a vote of 5-0. The proclamation was received by Exyavius Williams and Christine Ralls.

Proclamation

Declaring May 2008 as Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month

WHEREAS, Teen pregnancy is a critical issue facing Griffin and Spalding County teens, families and communities; and

WHEREAS, According to the Georgia Department of Human Resources, seventy 15-17 year old females became pregnant resulting in 67 births in 2006; and

WHEREAS, The approximate cost of 67 children born to teens in Griffin and Spalding County is $1,424,000; and

WHEREAS, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month is a national, statewide and local effort to bring attention to the issue of teen pregnancy and to highlight the need for comprehensive, effective teen pregnancy prevention programs; and

WHEREAS, Communities can use this occasion to focus their attention on what adults can do to support children and help them make healthy decisions; and

WHEREAS, Working together, all members of the community can provide information in a culturally responsible way and increase opportunities in teens' lives so they can reach adulthood pregnancy-free; and

WHEREAS, Encouraging open communication between adults and teens will support efforts to raise healthy teens and affirm the choices our young people can make to avoid early pregnancy, finish high school and enjoy happy, fulfilling lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it resolved that we, the Board of Commissioners of Spalding County, do hereby declare that a copy of this proclamation be spread upon the minutes of the proceedings of this Board on this date, reflecting that I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Spalding County, Georgia to be affixed, declaring this month of May, in the year of our Lord two thousand and eight, Teen Pregnancy Prevention Month.

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2. Consider Proclamation honoring The Exchange Club's 2007 Man of the Year, Jim King.

Motion/second by Commissioners McDaniel and Freeman to honor The Exchange Club's 2007 Man of the Year, Jim King, with a proclamation carried by a vote of 5-0.

Proclamation

Honoring the 2007 Exchange Club Man of the Year

WHEREAS, The honor of Man of the Year for the Exchange Club for 2007 has been bestowed on James C. "Jim" King, an active and tireless supporter who gives unselfishly of his time and resources to help make Griffin a better community and better place in which to live, work and play; and

WHEREAS, Jim has demonstrated those characteristics, both past and present, which further the quality of life in our community, such as serving on the Goals for Griffin Committee since 1984 and as its president from 1999-2000, the Spalding County Adult Literacy Advisory Committee, the Griffin Cemetery Preservation Committee and the Downtown Council of which he was a charter member for ten years. He was one of the founding members of the Citizens for Children Committee, serving as its president in 1994-1995, and is an active member of the Griffin Rotary Club, holding almost all of its leadership positions and chairmanship of numerous service committees, as well as being its President in 1998-1999. Jim is also active in the American Legion and is very involved in projects to help the youth, Veterans and families of Veterans, assisting with the American Legion Boys State and Girls State programs, as well, and for which he sponsors scholarships to the programs for qualified high school students; and

WHEREAS, Jim King is a passionate member of many patriotic programs and activities in our community, working diligently for the Vietnam Wall when it was here, as well as numerous July Fourth parades, Veterans Day programs and Memorial Day programs, as well as a member of the Voice of Veterans, a group of Veterans who speak to five county area schools; and

WHEREAS, As a past recipient of the General Griffin honorary designation in 2006, he is an active member of the committee working to have a statue of the founder of Griffin, General Lewis Lawrence Griffin erected downtown; and

WHEREAS, Jim was born and raised in Griffin, attending public schools and graduating from Griffin High School where he was selected to attend the very prestigious Boys State Program and was an outstanding football player and academic standout. He then attended West Georgia College and served in the U.S. Army, attending Officer Candidate School and Fort Benning, after which he was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army. He soon found himself leading troops in Vietnam, where he earned the right to be called a hero, receiving our nation's third highest award for heroism, the coveted Silver Star, two Bronze Star medals for valor, the Purple Heart and a host of other awards and decorations too numerous to list. On his return from Vietnam, Jim chose to remain in Griffin, beginning as a banker and then owner of Griffin Travel Agency, which he has owned for 27 years.

NOW, THEREFORE, Be it resolved that we, the Board of Commissioners of Spalding County, do hereby declare that a copy of this proclamation be spread upon the minutes of the proceedings of this Board on this date, reflecting that I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Spalding County, Georgia to be affixed, recognizing Jim King's contributions to Spalding County and commemorating his selection as "Man of the Year." We hereby urge our citizenry to convey their appreciation to Jim King and we further declare Tuesday, April 22, 2008 to be **Jim King Day**.

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3. Consider Proclamation declaring May 1, 2008 as "Dawn Dallaire Day."

Motion/second by Commissioners McDaniel and Freeman to proclaim May 1, 2008 as Dawn Dallaire Day carried by a vote of 5-0.

Proclamation

Declaring May 1, 2008 as "Dawn Dallaire Day"

WHEREAS, Dawn Dallaire, CEO of Clearly Fun Soap, Inc., has been selected as the 2008 Small Business Person of the Year in Georgia by the U.S. Small Business Administration; and

WHEREAS, Dawn began her company on her kitchen table, quickly outgrowing her kitchen and then her garage, now employing more than sixty in her workforce and still choosing to locate her business in Griffin and Spalding County where she has been a big supporter of small businesses and entrepreneurs and where, by participating in the survey and review process, Dawn was an integral part of the Spalding County Entrepreneur Friendly initiative. Today, Clearly Fun Soap™ is one of America's fastest growing specialty products companies, producing a broad range of bath products; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Dallaire has given of her time and resources to speak to business classes and civic groups, the Power Partners Entrepreneur Expo, June Jam, September Smash, Youth in Governance and South Metro Microenterprise Coalition, and she has

written a book about her success called ***"Being a Woman in Business in a Man's World"***;and

WHEREAS, Her products are in over 3000 shops and other outlets including Bath and Body Works, Linens N' Things, Marshall's and TJ Maxx, Dawn has also made several appearances on QVC network and was a guest on Danny Deutsch's "***Big Idea***."

WHEREAS, As President Bush noted, "America's small businesses are the engine that drives our economy," and small businesses represent more than 99 percent of all employers, provide 60 to 80 percent of the net new jobs and generate a majority of American innovations, including "Clearly Fun Soap, Inc." which all started with goldfish in a bag soap gifts for her friends and family in 2002 and, yes, is still available today in her product line.

NOW THEREFORE, Be it resolved that we, the Spalding County Board of Commissioners, do hereby declare that a copy of this proclamation be spread upon the minutes of the proceedings of this Board, reflecting that I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Spalding County, Georgia to be affixed, declaring the first day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand and eight as Dawn Dallaire Day.

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4. Consider Proclamation recognizing the contributions of Georgia's correctional officers and declaring May 1, 2008 as Correctional Officers' Appreciation Day.

Motion/second by Commissioners Phillips and McDaniel to proclaim May 1, 2008 as Correctional Officers' Appreciation Day, carried by a vote of 5-0.

Proclamation

Declaring May 1, 2008 Correctional Officers' Appreciation Day

WHEREAS, Correctional officers provide a vital service to the citizens of this state by contributing to the safety and well being of our state institutions and by aiding in offender rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, Georgia, with over 55,000 incarcerated, leads the world in the percentage of its population in prison and is ranked ninth nationally in population but has the fifth largest prison population; and

WHEREAS, The Georgia Department of corrections currently employs over 8,000 correctional officers statewide in state, county, and private institutions, as well as boot camps, transitional centers, detention centers, pre-release centers and diversion centers; and

WHEREAS, Georgia's state and county prisons are served by dedicated correctional officers who are an essential yet often overlooked branch of criminal justice, many of whom also serve as members of the nation's military reserves and community relief efforts, such as the tornado disaster and wildfires in South Georgia; and

WHEREAS, Correctional officers maintain a high level of professionalism and ensure the safety of the public by effectively managing offenders, even when there is a risk to personal safety; whereas correctional officers face many physical, emotional and spiritual challenges; and

WHEREAS, The people of Spalding County, Georgia do gratefully reap the benefits of residing under these officers' watchful protection.

NOW THEREFORE, Be it resolved that we, the Board of Commissioners of Spalding County, join our state in hereby proclaiming May 1, 2008 as a day in which we recognize the contributions of Georgia's correctional officers, and we invite every citizen and institution to join us as we honor them. We, the Board of Commissioners do hereby declare that a copy of this proclamation be spread upon the minutes of the proceedings of this Board, reflecting I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of Spalding County, Georgia to be affixed declaring the first day of May in the year of our Lord two thousand and eight as Correctional Officers' Appreciation Day.

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5. Consider Joint Proclamation with the City of Griffin declaring April 21-25, 2008 as National Small Business Week.

Motion/second by Commissioners McDaniel and Flowers-Taylor to proclaim jointly with City of Griffin that April 21-25, 2008 shall be declared National Small Business Week, carried 5-0.

Proclamation

"Declaring April 21-25, 2008 Small Business Week"

WHEREAS, The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), created in 1953 as an independent agency of the federal government to assist small businesses to preserve free competitive enterprise and to maintain and strengthen the overall economy of our nation, will honor the nation's top entrepreneurs at the National Small Business Week events April 21-25, 2008 in Washington, DC and New York City, marking the 55th anniversary of the agency and the 45th annual proclamation of Small Business Week; and

WHEREAS, Since 1963, the President has designated *National Small Business Week* in recognition of accomplishments and contributions of small businesses to the American economy. Small businesses today make up 97.9% of all Georgia employers and create more than 50% of America's private non-farm gross domestic product (GDP), and the 859,500 small businesses in Georgia located in every community drive our economy, creating 60% to 80% of the net new jobs and opportunities in America in every walk of life; and

WHEREAS, **S**mall business owners represent the modern American Dream: the chance to birth an idea and nurture it into something tangible and long-lasting. Small businesses employ 46.7% of Georgia's non-farm private sector workers; small businesses comprise 97% of America's exporters and produce 28.6% of all export value; and home-based small businesses account for 52% of all small businesses; and

WHEREAS, Georgia saw an estimated 31,677 new small employers start up in the last year measured, and of the 140,400 minority-owned businesses and 196,200 women-owned businesses in Georgia, almost all of them are small business. In excess of 22 million small business owners in our nation possess the determination and initiative to turn dreams into reality; their entrepreneurial spirit drives the engine of our economy; and

WHEREAS, In April 2007 Spalding County and the City of Griffin were designated as an Entrepreneur Friendly Community, and a partnership formed through the Small Business Committee of the Griffin-Spalding Chamber of Commerce with City of Griffin, Spalding County, Griffin Technical College, University of Georgia Griffin Campus, McIntosh Trail Area Planning & Development and business leaders in the community culminated in LEAF, Leading Entrepreneurs, Advancing the Future. LEAF is an organization which strives to provide service and support to budding entrepreneurs and established local businesses. In January the second Power Partners Entrepreneur Expo was held at Griffin Technical College to encourage innovative solutions to existing and start-up businesses. A series of Lunch & Learn sessions are held from 11:30 am to 1:00 pm at the Griffin Regional Welcome Center, the next of which will be "Shake the Money Tree," a guide to non-traditional financing presented by Allen W. Marshall of Marshall Plans, Inc. a registered investment advisor, on Tuesday, April 29, 2008.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Boards of Commissioners for Spalding County and the City of Griffin which hereby join with the Griffin-Spalding Chamber of Commerce to pay tribute to Small Business as it seeks to further entrepreneurial development and to urge all our citizenry to recognize the importance and contributions of small businesses here in Spalding County and across the Nation during **"National Small Business Week"** on these following dates in the year of our Lord two thousand and eight, April 21 and April 22.

V. PRESENTATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. Consider approval of Financial Statements for the Nine Months Ended March 31, 2008.

Motion/second by Commissioners McDaniel and Freeman to approve carried by a vote of 5-0.

VI. CITIZENS COMMENTS

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Speakers must state their names and addresses and direct all comments to the Board only. Speakers will be allotted 5 minutes to speak on topics pertinent to the Board's jurisdiction. No speaker will be allowed to readdress the Board without express consent from a Board member. Outbursts from the audience will not be tolerated. Common courtesy and civility are expected at all times during meeting.

Betty Gephardt, 79 Richardson Road, Griffin, Georgia
Ms. Gephardt addressed the Board to complain of the parking situation on Richardson Road. Residents have been verbally abusive to her since the County changed the Ordinance to allow parking on all except her side of Richardson Road. She is afraid of the possibility of traffic accidents.

Clay Padgett, Crown Center International
He reminded of the National Day of Prayer at Noon, Thursday, May 1, 2008 on the Courthouse steps.

VIII. MINUTES

1. Consider approving April 7, 2008 Board of Commissioners Regular Monthly Meeting minutes.

   Motion/second by Commissioners Phillips and Freeman to approve carried 5-0.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Consider, on second reading Ordinance #2008-06 Traffic Regulation – to amend Part VII, Chapter 1, by adding Section 7-1012 – to provide for speed limits in subdivisions.

SPALDING COUNTY, GEORGIA
TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDINANCE
ORDINANCE NO. 2008-06

TO AMEND THE MOTOR VEHCILES AND TRAFFIC CODE OF SPALDING COUNTY, GEORGIA, SO AS TO PROVIDE FOR SPEED LIMITS IN SUBDIVISIONS, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

BE IT RESOLVED AND ORDAINED**,** by the Board of Commissioners of Spalding County, Georgia, as the governing authority of said County, as follows:

Section 1. That the Code of Spalding County, Georgia, be amended in Part VII, Chapter 1, by adding a new section relating to speed limits in subdivisions, to be designated as Section 7-1012 – Speed Limits in Subdivisions as follows:

"**Section 7-1012. Speed Limits in Subdivisions.**
The speed limit in all subdivisions shall be 25 mph and shall become effective on the date that the subdivision's final plat is approved by the Board of Commissioners and the roads in said subdivision are dedicated to and accepted by Spalding County.

The existing subdivisions for which this ordinance shall be retroactively applied follow:

Autumn Ridge
Chester Woods
Crestwick
Ellis Landing
Emerald Forest
Fair Oaks
Flint Mill Estates
Glenview Estates
Heron Bay
Holiday Pass
Kingston Estates
Larson Place
Longview Estates
Meadowview
Mill Park
O'Dell Road
Park Place
Parliament Place
Pecan Ridge
Raventree
River Falls
Rolling Hills
Serene Lake
Stanfield West
Stonebriar
Sun City Peachtree
Teamon Village
The Meadows
The Orchard
Vineyard Ridge
Walker's Mill Estates"

Section 3. That the within ordinance shall be and become effective immediately upon its adoption on two presentations, as provided by Section 2-1005 of the Code of Spalding County, Georgia, and upon erection of speed limit signs as designated herein.

Section 4. All ordinances and parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are repealed.

Motion/second by Commissioners McDaniel and Freeman to approve carried by a 5-0 vote.

X. OLD BUSINESS

1. Reconsider approval of a new Alcohol License for 2008 – Retail Sale – Beer and Wine – for the following: Karim H. Ali, d/b/a Geraro Grocery store, which is a new business located at 1245 North Hill Street (new business license issued for this store on March 4, 2008) – due to no disposition of agenda item at the April 7, 2008 Regular Monthly Meeting.

   Motion/second by Commissioners Phillips and Freeman to reconsider approval of a new Alcohol License for 2008 – Retail Sale – Beer and Wine – for the following: Karim H. Ali, d/b/a Geraro Grocery store failed 2-3 with Chairman Goss and Commissioners McDaniel and Flowers-Taylor voting against.

   Motion/second by Commissioners Flowers-Taylor and Goss to deny approval of a new Alcohol License for 2008 – Retail Sale – Beer and Wine – for the following: Karim H. Ali, d/b/a Geraro Grocery store carried by a vote of 3-2 with Commissioners Freeman and Phillips opposing.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consider proposals for long-term disability, life and vision employee insurance benefits.

   Human Resources Director Bill Gay said this was the balance of the outstanding proposals that needed to be considered in order to complete the employees' benefits package. The current provider of long-term disability is Unum Provident, and he highlighted their proposal which was slightly less than 46% rate increase. He also received bids from MetLife and Fort Dearborn Life. There is a .3% increase over the present outlay for Fort Dearborn for Long-Term Disability and Group Life. Mr. Gay answered questions. Vision insurance currently is with BC/BS and not a separate product but rather embedded in their medical plan. Since the County is changing to Humana for medical coverage, they will need to purchase the vision component separately. This constitutes significant improvement over what is currently being provided. Again, Mr. Gay responded to questions. Davis is less expensive and has a better network, including a relationship with eye centers in Wal-Mart. He recommended procuring the vision component with Davis and noted the County would pay the employee share.

   The Flex-Account is currently American Fidelity, with employees who participate faxing receipts and getting reimbursement through the mail. There is an administrative fee assessed but only 15 participants currently. He obtained proposals from JSL Administrators and Swerdlin & Company to manage this account. He recommended JSL Administrators and cited several reasons, including their use of a debit card technology using pre-tax dollars with an initial $250 load. This should be a good enticement and facilitate their goal of making use of flex accounts more widespread among employees. There is a $6 per participant per month administrative fee, and this is not a commissioned insurance product but rather a service. Deductions from paycheck are on a pre-tax basis to pay for unreimbursed medical expenditures. Safeguards built into system to eliminate overpayment and to regulate items available for purchase. It is incumbent upon an employee to anticipate the level of expenses for which they will need the flex account since this type product works along the principle of use it or lose it. The debit card technology should allow for expansion of the commissioners' retreat goal of increasing flex spending and be far more convenient. Employee contribution limits are $2,400 per employee and $5,000 for dependent care.

   Motion and second by Commissioners Phillips and Freeman to approve the recommendations of Staff for Fort Dearborn as the provider of long-term disability and life and Davis as the provider for vision coverage as presented carried by a vote of 5-0.

   Motion and second by Commissioners Phillips and Freeman to approve JSL Administrators to manage the flex spending account system that reimburses out-of-pocket employee medical expenses, using traditional reimbursement techniques or a new debit card technology for convenience, funded with pre-tax payroll deduction dollars, at a cost of $6 per participant per month in administrative fees. Motion carried by a 5-0 vote.

2. Consider approval of letter of engagement for Mauldin & Jenkins Certified Public Accountants, LLC relative to the audit of 2008.

   Motion and second by Commissioners Freeman and McDaniel to approve carried 5-0.

3. Consider approval of a new Alcohol License for 2008 – Retail Sale – Beer and Wine – for the following: M & M Station, LLC d/b/a High Falls Shell which is a new business located at 3200 High Falls Road. Owner is Nayan Patel. A new business license for this store was issued 4-10-08.

   Motion and second by Commissioners Freeman and Phillips to approve carried by a vote of 4-1 with Commissioner McDaniel opposing.

4. Consider funding request of Simply Southern Tourism Association for hotel/motel tax monies to enhance economic and community growth through promotion of regional tourism development in mid- to central-Georgia.

   Matthew Stafford, 1560 Flynt Street, Simply Southern Tourism Association
   Mr. Stafford highlighted the 501 (c)(6) corporation, noting its base was in Spalding County although it serves 13 counties: Butts, Fayette, Jasper, Spalding and Pike initially and later Clayton, Troup, Meriwether Henry, Lamar, Monroe, Coweta and Upson. He highlighted their successes and features in local and regional newspapers and magazines, their tours and testimonials, and he concluded by noting Spalding County revenues that can be attributed to tourism in the area. The request tonight is the springboard for a 50/50 match situation with the state for next year since they are past the funding cycle for this year. Spalding is a Tier 2 county and as such will be given preferential treatment when considering a selection base. The request is to create and mass distribute promotional materials including a DVD and the key marketing pieces will be locally produced with Spalding County prominently featured. The amount being requested is $10,000, and funding will be requested from other entities, as well. They have no paid staff but rather utilize volunteers. Mr. Wilson recommended placing this request in the FY 2009 budget in July 2008 and he will get with Mr. Stafford to verify these are appropriate expenditures for the hotel/motel tax fund from the Department of Community Affairs which regulates use of hotel/motel tax monies. They deem whether or not expenses are legitimate. He will work to blend this into the recommended budget. Mr. Stafford noted they work closely with county and city chambers of commerce which are trade-out members. Tourism is a very competitive world. The consensus of the Board was to have Mr. Wilson proceed as outlined.

5. Consider approval of change order for Licensing Consultant for 800 MHz Communications System project.

   Motion and second by Commissioners Phillips and Freeman to approve the change order for $27,350 (which when the original $10,000 approved is considered in the equation, results in a net additional of $17,350) carried by a vote of 5-0.

6. Consider approval of change order with Georgia Tech Research Institute (GTRI) for 800 MHz Communications System project.

   Motion and second by Commissioners Phillips and Freeman to approve the change order with GTRI for $27,819 additional dollars to complete the calendar year for a revised total of $83,080 carried by a vote of 5-0.

7. Consider request of the Griffin-Spalding Athletic Hall of Fame for the use of Memorial Drive Plaza for a Southern Cruisers' Car Club show with all proceeds benefitting the Hall of Fame.

   The Board approved this event last year and for this year, on June 14, 2008, the group will get the necessary permits from the City.

   Motion and second by Commissioners McDaniel and Phillips to approve carried 5-0.

8. Consider Contract with Georgia Department of Transportation for CR24 (Sunset Drive) and CR22 (Sunset Drive Extension) for plant mix resurfacing.

   Sunset Drive and Sunset Drive Extension were added to last years' LARP. Mr. Yates and Commissioner Freeman petitioned GDOT for these roads which badly needed resurfacing.

   Motion and second by Commissioners Flowers-Taylor and Phillips to approve carried by a vote of 5-0.

XII. REPORT OF COUNTY MANAGER

- SPLOST Meeting with Cities will take place in the Meeting Room April 24, 2008 at 6 pm.
- The Meeting with Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission will take place May 6 at 6 p.m. at Wyomia Tyus Olympic Park, Pavilion #2.
- The Comprehensive Transportation Plan Open House will be held in the Meeting Room April 29, 2008 from 6 to 8 p.m.
- The Animal Care and Control Advisory Board will hold a public hearing in conjunction with their regular meeting on May 12, 2008 from 5-7 p.m. They are soliciting opinions as to the number of animals that can be reasonably accommodated on County residential properties.
- Last week United Way honored Spalding County as a United Way Pacesetter and presented the Platinum Award for raising more employee contributions than last year, which was just over $15,000.
- The County has been approached by the City of Griffin regarding leases on City Park and other recreational areas. Mr. Wilson is working with Louis Greene on a recommendation to the Board.

- Mr. Wilson advised the County has been approached by a group interested in purchasing the Memorial Drive Shopping Center. He noted the County has improved the property and paid $2,000,000 for it initially under a lease-purchase agreement with ACCG. After some discussion, Mr. Wilson said he could get an appraisal and County Attorney Fortune can do the necessary research to dispose of property. Clay Padgett, Pastor of Crown Center International, is currently a church that leases property in the center, and he wants to develop it and provide space for an entrepreneurial school, among other things, and put a new façade to the buildings and parking lot. Ken Fletcher appraised the property for him at $1.35 million in 2005. He stated he wants to purchase the parcel but not on courthouse steps at surplus. He can move to acquire financing but no prearrangements can be made if he must adhere to a sale on the courthouse steps. Mr. Wilson recommended research after looking at price, debt, requirements, etc. They are, tonight, testing the waters to see if commissioners would be interested in declaring the property surplus. They have also been working on relocating to that facility some government agencies that also must be considered. Mr. Padgett said these requests would be favorably entertained as they would actually help them to achieve financing. Board consensus was to proceed with research for a possible sale.

- Insurance benefits were approved tonight but not much talk about dental was provided, and Mr. Gay provided a brief presentation. The County pays 100% of employee and family dental now but they are recommending a breakout for voluntary election, with the requirement that employees pay any family portion. This won't adversely affect employees monetarily as they can elect components, and the pricing has been structured so that rates are very similar to current premiums. There will be greater flexibility, better controls of costs and allowance for more choices.

Motion and second by Commissioners McDaniel and Phillips to amend the agenda to allow for a vote on this topic of division of premiums carried by a vote of 5-0 so that Mr. Gay could proceed to provide numbers to MSI tomorrow in order to prepare for open enrollment in May.

Motion and second by Commissioners McDaniel and Phillips to approve the recommendation of Staff for the division of premiums as noted carried by a vote of 4-1 with Commissioner Flowers-Taylor opposing.

XIII. REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS

Freeman
No Comments

Flowers-Taylor
Some discussion was held regarding available space in Memorial Drive Plaza and surplus equipment at Parks and Recreation.

Phillips
No Comments

McDaniel
No Comments

Goss
No Comments

XIV. CLOSED MEETING

1. County Attorney requests a Closed Meeting to discuss pending or potential litigation, settlement, claims, administrative proceedings, or other judicial actions brought or to be brought by or against the county or any officer or employee or in which the county or any officer or employee may be directly involved, as provided in O.C.G.A. § 50-14-2(1).

   Motion and second to enter Closed Meeting by Commissioners McDaniel and Freeman carried 5-0 at 8:21 p.m.

   Motion and second to adjourn Closed Meeting and return to Open Meeting by Commissioners Flowers-Taylor and McDaniel at 9:04 p.m. carried by a vote of 5-0.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion/second by Commissioners Flowers-Taylor/ McDaniel to adjourn at 9:05 p.m. carried 5-0

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Chairman County Clerk