COUNTY AGENDA REQUEST

Department:	Board of Commissioners	Presenter(s):	Chairman Steve Brown
Meeting Date:	Thursday, February 14, 2013	Type of Request:	Presentation/Recognition

Wording for the Agenda:

Presentation of the Government Finance Officers Association Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting for both Fayette County's and Fayette County's Water System Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011.

Background/History/Details:

This is the 19th consecutive year Fayette County has received this award from the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA). To achieve this recognition, an impartial panel of finance professionals examines the Comprehensive Annual Financial Reports (CAFR) and judges compliance with the high standards set by GFOA. The report must demonstrate full disclosure which clearly communicates the County's financial story.

GFOA is a prestigious nonprofit professional association serving over 17,600 government professionals throughout North America. It is considered the gatekeeper for monitoring and recommending improvements to government financial reporting and consistently influences changes in reporting standards that "raise the bar" for government entities.

What action are you seeking from the Board of Commissioners?

Acknowledgment Fayette County's receipt of this award. Chairman Steve Brown will make presentation to the County's Finance Staff.

If this item requires funding, please describe:

Not applicable.

Has this request been considered within the past two years?	No	If so, when?	Last year
Is Audio-Visual Equipment Required for this Request?	No	Backup Provided with Request?	No

STAFF USE ONLY

Approved by Finance	Yes	Reviewed by Legal	
Approved by Purchasing	Not Applicable	County Clerk's Approval	Yes
Administrator's Approval			

Staff Notes:

Government Finance Officers Association
203 N. LaSalle Street - Suite 2700
Chicago, IL 60601

Phone (312) 977-9700 Fax (312) 977-4806

June 26, 2012

Mary S. Holland
Chief Financial Officer
Fayette County
140 Stonewall Avenue West, Suite 101
Fayetteville GA 30214

Dear Ms. Holland:

We are pleased to notify you that your comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011, qualifies for a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management

Each entity submitting a report to the Certificate of Achievement review process is provided with a "Summary of Grading" form and a confidential list of comments and suggestions for possible improvements in its financial reporting techniques. Your list has been enclosed. You are strongly encouraged to implement the recommended improvements into the next report and submit it to the program. If it is unclear what must be done to implement a comment or if there appears to be a discrepancy between the comment and the information in the CAFR, please contact the Technical Services Center (312) 977-9700 and ask to speak with a Certificate of Achievement Program in-house reviewer.

Certificate of Achievement program policy requires that written responses to the comments and suggestions for improvement accompany the next fiscal year's submission. Your written responses should provide detail about how you choose to address each item that is contained within this report. These responses will be provided to those Special Review Committee members participating in the review.

When a Certificate of Achievement is awarded to a government, an Award of Financial Reporting Achievement (AFRA) is also presented to the individual(s) or department designated by the government as primarily responsible for its having earned the Certificate. Enclosed is an AFRA for:

Finance Department, Fayette County

Your Certificate of Achievement plaque will be shipped to you under separate cover in about eight weeks. We hope that you will arrange for a formal presentation of the Certificate and Award of Financial Reporting Achievement, and that appropriate publicity will be given to this notable achievement. A sample news release has been enclosed. We suggest that you provide copies of it to local newspapers, radio stations and television stations. In addition, details of recent recipients of the Certificate of Achievement and other information about Certificate Program results are available in the "Awards Program" area of our website, www.gfoa.org .

A current holder of a Certificate of Achievement may include a reproduction of the award in its immediately subsequent CAFR. A camera ready copy of your Certificate is enclosed for that purpose. If you reproduce your Certificate in your next report, please refer to the enclosed instructions. A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year. To continue to participate in the Certificate of Achievement Program it will be necessary for you to submit your next CAFR to our review process.

In order to expedite your submission we have enclosed a Certificate of Achievement Program application form to facilitate a timely submission of your next report. This form should be completed and sent (postmarked) with three copies of your report, three copies of your application, three copies of your written responses to the program's comments and suggestions for improvement from the prior year, and any other pertinent material with the appropriate fee by December 31, 2012.

Your continued interest in and support of the Certificate of Achievement Program is most appreciated. If we may be of any further assistance, please contact Delores Smith (dsmith@gfoa.org or (312) 578-5454).

Sincerely,
Government Finance Officers Association

Stephen J. Gauthier

Stephen J. Gauthier, Director
Technical Services Center

SJG/ds

Government Finance Officers Association
203 N. LaSalle Street - Suite 2700
Chicago, IL 60601

Phone (312) 977-9700 Fax (312) 977-4806

06/26/2012

NEWS RELEASE

For Information contact:
Stephen Gauthier (312) 977-9700

(Chicago)--The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has been awarded to **Fayette County** by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR). The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

An Award of Financial Reporting Achievement has been awarded to the individual(s), department or agency designated by the government as primarily responsible for preparing the award-winning CAFR. This has been presented to:

Finance Department, Fayette County

The CAFR has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the CAFR.

The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving approximately 17,500 government finance professionals with offices in Chicago, IL, and Washington, D.C.

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada

presents this

AWARD OF FINANCIAL REPORTING ACHIEVEMENT

to

Finance Department

Fayette County, Georgia

The award of Financial Reporting Achievement is presented by the Government Finance Officers Association to the individual(s) designated as instrumental in their government unit achieving a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. A Certificate of Achievement is presented to those government units whose annual financial reports are judged to adhere to program standards and represents the highest award in government financial reporting.

Executive Director

Date June 26, 2012

Government Finance Officers Association
203 N. LaSalle Street - Suite 2700
Chicago, IL 60601

Phone (312) 977-9700 Fax (312) 977-4806

May 10, 2012

Mary S. Holland
Chief Financial Officer
Fayette County Water System
140 Stonewall Avenue West, Suite 101
Fayetteville GA 30214

Dear Ms. Holland:

We are pleased to notify you that your comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR) for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2011, qualifies for a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management

Each entity submitting a report to the Certificate of Achievement review process is provided with a "Summary of Grading" form and a confidential list of comments and suggestions for possible improvements in its financial reporting techniques. Your list has been enclosed. You are strongly encouraged to implement the recommended improvements into the next report and submit it to the program. If it is unclear what must be done to implement a comment or if there appears to be a discrepancy between the comment and the information in the CAFR, please contact the Technical Services Center (312) 977-9700 and ask to speak with a Certificate of Achievement Program in-house reviewer.

Certificate of Achievement program policy requires that written responses to the comments and suggestions for improvement accompany the next fiscal year's submission. Your written responses should provide detail about how you choose to address each item that is contained within this report. These responses will be provided to those Special Review Committee members participating in the review.

When a Certificate of Achievement is awarded to a government, an Award of Financial Reporting Achievement (AFRA) is also presented to the individual(s) or department designated by the government as primarily responsible for its having earned the Certificate. Enclosed is an AFRA for:

Finance Department, Fayette County Water System

Your Certificate of Achievement plaque will be shipped to you under separate cover in about eight weeks. We hope that you will arrange for a formal presentation of the Certificate and Award of Financial Reporting Achievement, and that appropriate publicity will be given to this notable achievement. A sample news release has been enclosed. We suggest that you provide copies of it to local newspapers, radio stations and television stations. In addition, details of recent recipients of the Certificate of Achievement and other information about Certificate Program results are available in the "Awards Program" area of our website, www.gfoa.org .

A current holder of a Certificate of Achievement may include a reproduction of the award in its immediately subsequent CAFR. A camera ready copy of your Certificate is enclosed for that purpose. If you reproduce your Certificate in your next report, please refer to the enclosed instructions. A Certificate of Achievement is valid for a period of one year. To continue to participate in the Certificate of Achievement Program it will be necessary for you to submit your next CAFR to our review process.

In order to expedite your submission we have enclosed a Certificate of Achievement Program application form to facilitate a timely submission of your next report. This form should be completed and sent (postmarked) with three copies of your report, three copies of your application, three copies of your written responses to the program's comments and suggestions for improvement from the prior year, and any other pertinent material with the appropriate fee by December 31, 2012.

Your continued interest in and support of the Certificate of Achievement Program is most appreciated. If we may be of any further assistance, please contact Delores Smith (dsmith@gfoa.org or (312) 578-5454).

Sincerely,
Government Finance Officers Association

Stephen J. Gauthier

Stephen J. Gauthier, Director
Technical Services Center

SJG/ds

Government Finance Officers Association
203 N. LaSalle Street - Suite 2700
Chicago, IL 60601

Phone (312) 977-9700 Fax (312) 977-4806

05/10/2012
NEWS RELEASE

For Information contact:
Stephen Gauthier (312) 977-9700

(Chicago)--The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting has been awarded to **Fayette County Water System** by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for its comprehensive annual financial report (CAFR). The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

An Award of Financial Reporting Achievement has been awarded to the individual(s), department or agency designated by the government as primarily responsible for preparing the award-winning CAFR. This has been presented to:

Finance Department, Fayette County Water System

The CAFR has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the CAFR.

The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving approximately 17,500 government finance professionals with offices in Chicago, IL, and Washington, D.C.

The Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada

presents this

AWARD OF FINANCIAL REPORTING ACHIEVEMENT

to

Finance Department

Fayette County Water System, Georgia

The award of Financial Reporting Achievement is presented by the Government Finance Officers Association to the individual(s) designated as instrumental in their government unit achieving a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. A Certificate of Achievement is presented to those government units whose annual financial reports are judged to adhere to program standards and represents the highest award in government financial reporting.

Executive Director

Date May 10, 2012