

November 06, 2007

I Call The November 6th Meeting To Order.

The First Item That I Have, I'm Not Sure That I Have The Corrected Agenda.

But I Think The First Item On The Agenda Is The Invocation Which Is Going To Be Given To Us Bypass Or The John Ellisson.

Pastor? That's What I Need.

I Don't Have The Updated One.

That's The Right One.

That's What I Have.

He Is Not Here, We'll Call On Our Assistant Pastor --Chaplain, Okay.

David Owen.

Good Morning Commissioners, Almighty God You Have Brought Us Into The Light Of This New Day.

Keep Us Attuned To Your Words The Whole Day Through.

May All Of Our Thoughts, Conversations And Decisions Here Today Bring Us Closer To Serving Your Needs And The Common Good Of All Your Peel.

You've Called Us To Serve In Your Holy Name, Now And Forever, Amen.

Amen.

I Pledge Allegiance To The Flag Of The United States Of America.

And To The Republic For Which It Stands, One Nation Under God, Indivisible With Liberty And Justice For All.

Thank You Very Much, Chaplain.

Charlie Green, Is He Here? He Is Here! We Are Going To Proceed Now With The Reorganization Of The Board.

Good Morning Commissioners.

The First Item Of Business Is That Let Me Explain You Can Nominate Any Of Your Fellow Board Members.

There Does Not Have To Be A Second After The Nominations Are Closed Then There Will Be A Voice Vote.

In Case Of A Tie We'll Try Again.

At Once Chairman Has Been Selected Then The Chair Takes Over And You Select A Vice Chair Amongst Yourself As The Second Item.

Having Said That You Will Open It Up To Nominations.

Ask A Question, Surely.

Now, Maybe I Misunderstood, I Knew We Were Going To Have This Meeting And Go Through This Process But I Thought The Officer Wouldn't Take His Seat Until The Normal Time.

Which Is Usually The Third Tuesday Of The Month Of November.

I Don't Know.

That's Up To You.

The Way You Were Describing It Would Take Over Today And I Thought It Was Going To Be On The Normal Date.

We Would Do The Election Today But They Would Take Office.

We Can Make A Motion To That Effect.

That Was My Understanding And I Guess It Doesn't Matter But That's What I Thought No The History Of The Reorganization Has Been The Third Tuesday Of November.

But This Is The Second Tuesday So -- Is It The Second Tuesday? Actually It's The First Tuesday.

If You Want To Nominate Now Or Do You Want To Wait Two Weeks? No, We Wanted To Do It Today Because We Have Five People Here.

We're -- Then The New Chair According To What You Want To Do Will Take Over In Two Weeks.

It Was My Understanding This Board Is Always Making History, That We Would Actually Make It Effect December 4th With The Full Board Even Though The Chairman Would Be Nominated Today Or Appointed Today But The Chairman Would Go Into Effect December 4th.

I Thought -- Well Honestly I Free With Commissioner Mann.

I Thought We Were Doing It And Would Take Effect The Third And If You Were Not There The Vice Chair Would Manage That Meeting And Move Forward.

But.

Or You May Wish To Make It Effective December 4th When We Have A Full Board.

We Can Make That Motion.

The Thing We Just Did The Way We Always Did It But We Have The Election Today.

And That Would Be The Third Tuesday For The Effectiveness.

Okay, Well Let's Move On And We Can Discuss When We Want It To Be Effective.

Well.

Let Us Move Forward.

Are There Nominations From The Floor.

I'll Nominate Commissioner Ray Judah.

No Motion Of Mr. Judah.

I Will So Second.

There's No Second Required.

I Didn't Think So.

I Would Move Nomination.

Are There Any Other Nominations? Hearing None I Will Call A Voice Vote Starting With You Commissioner Bigelow.

Aye.

Aye.

Aye.

Aye.

Congratulations You Will Take Your Chairmanship On The Fourth Of December As I Understand It.

That's Still Up To The BoardBut --[Laughter]Just A Slight Slider.

Thank You For Your Faith AndTrust And Confidence To All TheBoard Member.

I Have A Presentation ThatWe Make To The Newly ElectedChair.

[Applause]You're Supposed To Wear It.

I'll Just Proudly Display ItIn Front Of Me Here If I Could.

Don't We Have To Anoint.

I Was Going To Ask The BoardIf It Would Be Acceptable ThatWhile I'm Not Technically TheChairman Yet, Being Given ThatOpportunity I Would Like ToNominate And Appoint FrankMann.

I Didn't Notice The ChairAppointed.

If That's Acceptable To TheBoard.

I Always Thought That TheStatutes, Not The CodesRequired Is To Elect The ViceChair But I Have No Objection,However You Want To Proceed.

We Can Nominate, SoNominating Frank As The Chair,Are There Any Other NominationsFrom The Floor For Vice Chair.

And I'm So Doing^.

Okay.

Any Nomination.

Well Then Since As Chair IfI'm Going To Be Conducting TheMeeting At This Time I ThoughtThis Wasn't Going Into EffectUntil December 4th.

I Don't Think We Made ThatDecision Yet.

So I'm Not Certain, Would YouLike My Chairmanship To TakeEffect December 4th, If It IsGoing To Be The Third Tuesday.

I Think It's The 20th.

Of November, I Will Not BePresiding Over That Meeting,And That's Okay, We'll Have AVice Chairman That Can Do So OrWe'll Wait Until Full Board ConConvenience December 4th.

If You Don't Mind.

We're In The Middle Of ANomination And Back On TheQuestion Of Which One Do YouWant

Us To Do.

Who Is In Charge Here.

You're Still The ChairmanMr. Chairman.

Depends On Whether You WantTo Chair Two Meeting.

Doesn't Make Any Difference.

The New Chair Has Been Elected.

Well Effective On The 20th.

I Would Make A Motion ThatChairmanship Be EffectiveDecember 4th.

All Right, Is There FurtherDiscussion?All Those In Favor Signify BySaying Aye.

Aye.

So Ordered.

Give Him The Hat Back.

[Laughter]If So Mr. Chairman, When I DoSit As Chairman Of The Board OnDecember 4th I Would Like ToAppoint, Nominate Which EverTerminology You Would Like ToYou Commissioner Mann As ViceChairman.

There's A Motion To CloseThe Nominations And That SoMoved I Take It.

And That Would Go IntoEffect December 4th Also.

All Those In Favor Signify BySaying Aye.

Aye.

The Ayes Have It.

The Motion Is Adopted.

I Will Continue To Preside ThenToday.

I Hope We Don't Have AnySerious Business Today.

I'll Take The Gavel Back AndWe'll Go On To The Seriousness.

Is There Any Need To ExtendYour Term One Week.

No, We've Already Taken CareOf That.

I've Already Done That.

Because He Doesn't Take Effect Until The 4th But You Expire Prior To That.

No, He Doesn't.

The Chairmanship Will Expire Upon The Beginning Of The New Chair's Term.

As New Vice Chair You Get To Go Out And Get The Donuts And I Would Like Those.

I Didn't Read The Fine Print In The Contract Yet.

My Phone Went Off Yesterday So I Feel Obligated.

Let's Proceed With The Balance Of The Agenda.

We Have Ceremonial Presentations To Make.

First A Resolution Recognizing Veterans Day Presented By Commissioner Hall.

Thank You, Is John Ebling Here? John.

Well.

He Is A Veteran.

He's Our Director Of Veterans Affairs.

Don Is A Veteran.

He Can Probably Accept It.

I'll Have Administration Accept The Resolution.

We've Been Very Blessed In Our Community To Recognize Not Only Our Veterans But Our Military Personnel.

Earlier In The Month We Had 21 Wounded Veterans Come To Lee County And Actually Have An Experience Here That I Think Didn't Leave A Dry Eye In The Room When We Were Giving Them A Farewell.

Captain Bunch Out Of Pine Island Has Started A Program Three Years Ago Called "Operation Open Arms" Where Community Businesses Allow Vacationing Local Veterans When They Come Home To Have A Quality Time With Their Wives And Their Children, Their Husbands When They're Here On Leave.

And Many Businesses Provide Them With Free Meals Three Times A Day.

Free Attraction Tickets, Captain Bunch Takes Them Out On Fishing Trips And Goes On And On.

And Certainly It's My Pleasure To The Veterans Fares To Read This Resolution.

States Where As Veterans Day Has Been Set Aside As A National Holiday To Honor The 42 Million American Veterans Who Served In The Military Services And Over One Million Who Have Paid The Ultimate Sacrifice During America's 12 Wars To Preserve Our Freedom.

And Where There Are 24 Million Living Ex-Service Members In The United States In More Than 64,000 Living In Lee County.

And Whereas The Blessings Of Peace, That We Enjoy In America Today Are Due No, No Small Part To The Courage And Sacrifice Of Our Men And Women In Uniform.

And Whereas Veterans Day Is A Special Time To Remember Those Who Have Served In Our Armed Forces, And It Is Fitting That Our Residents Join In Honoring Our Sons And Daughters Who Through Their Service And Sacrifice We Now Enjoy A Freedom And A Way Of Life Unique In This World.

Now Be It Resolved By The Board Of County Commissioners Of Lee County Florida We Proclaim November 11th, 2007 As Veterans Day In Lee County And We Urge All Residents To Reflect Upon This Day With The Proper Ceremonies To Honor Those Who Have Served The National Purpose To Preserve The Principles Of Justice And Freedom Of Democracy.

Signed By Commissioner Bob Janes.

Thank You.

[Applause] I Don't Think We're Going To Have A Photo.

No Photo-Op Some.

It's Not An Opportunity I Get A Chance To Speak, So I Will Briefly.

I Think It's Important The Board Recognize People Who Have Served And Commissioner Judah Knows Best Of All.

He's Going Through A Traumatic Time Now He Has A Young Son Who Is At The Air Force Academy.

He Can Appreciate What That Means To Him Personally But To See The Maturation Of A Young Person Like That As They Go Through The Experiences That You Go Through In The Military.

And The Military Is About Giving.

And There's No Question These People Make The Ultimate Sacrifice Whether They Come Home Or Not, They Still Making The Ultimate Sacrifice.

They Give Up Their Family, Friends And Home And Go To Far Places, And They're There To Really Depend And Look Out For The Country.

And It Gives Them The Whole Different Perspective And A Whole Different Set Of Values That Stays With Them The Rest Of Their Lives.

I Was Privileged To Have Served.

If The Board Would Take A Moment.

If Anyone Is A Veteran, Would You Please Stand? [Applause] It's A Special Country We Live In, And The More Reason It's As Good As It Is, Because We Have People Like This That Are Willing To Serve.

And I Think Your Redoing Commissioner Of That Is Appreciated By All Of Us.

Thank You.

Appreciate It.

We Have Another Resolution Which I'm Going To Be Have The Privilege Of Presenting To The National Homelessness Week.

Just By Way Of Background You Know The Community And City Of Fort Meyers And Hope My The Other Cities Bonita Springs Particularly At This Point Have Joined Together In A Plan To End Homelessness In 10 Years.

And We're In The Process Of Developing A 10-Year Plan.

So Far Fort Meyers And Bonita Springs Have Contributed Financially To This Effort.

We're Still Waiting To Hear From Cape Coral And Fort Meyers Beach.

We Had A Tentative Offer From Fort Meyers Beach But We Haven't Heard As To Whether Or Not They Want To Contribute, They Said They Wanted To But The Amount Is Up For Negotiation.

Grassroots, Local And I Have To Tell You It's A Growing Effort.

People Are Beginning To Recognize How Important The Issue Of Homelessness Is To Being An Important Part In Resolving Many Of The Issues That We're Faced With In The Human Service Area.

But Housing Is Perhaps Critical.

I'm Wondering Is Darlene Here? You Want To Come Up To The Podium? Is David Lincoln Here? And Just Coming In I See Is Patrick Nolan, Patrick Come On Down.

And Is Father Joe Clifford Here? Father, Okay.

Now We've Called Up The Principles Here.

What I Would Like To Do Is Ask Everyone Who Has Been Involved In This Effort, Come On Up Too Because There's Not That Many Of You.

Come On, Don't Be Shy.

I Have A Resolution To Read, It's Not Painful.

It Won't Hurt You.

Thank You So Much For Joining Us And Let Me Read The Resolution If I Can.

Mr. Chairman Karen Haas Is Being Shy.

She's A Leader Here.

Thank You I Didn't See Her Still Sitting But She Slumped Down In The Chair.

[Laughter] Thank You For Coming Down.

Whereas There Are Over 1,000 Homeless In Lee County On Any Given Day, The Homeless Census Completed In January 2007 Documented 431 Severely Mentally Ill, 715 Chronic Substance Abusers, 262 Veterans, 81 Persons With HIV Aids And 119 Children Under The Age Of 18.

And Whereas A Primary Cause Of Homelessness Is A Lack Of Housing That Is Affordable To Very Low Income People, Further Complicated By Domestic Violence, Substance Abuse And Mental Illness.

And Whereas The Vision Of Lee County Homeless Coalition Is To Eliminate Homelessness By Coordinating Local State And Federal Resources With A Community Provider Network And Private Citizens.

And Whereas November 11th Is Designated As National Home And Hunger Awareness Week, And Whereas Lee County Homeless Coalition Will Sponsor Seven Events During The Lee County Homelessness Awareness Week To Promote Awareness In The Community And Whereas On November 17th, 2007, The Homeless Person Service Day And Veteran Standout Will Offer Employment Opportunities Mental Psychological Addiction Intervention, Spiritual Counseling, Clothing, Food And Other Services At The Broadway Community Church.

Therefore It Be Of The Lee County Florida We Recognize That This Is A Week Of Special Importance And Is Worthy Of Recognition By The Citizens Of Lee County.

I Would Like To Present It To You Now.

[Applause] Lehigh Acres.

I've Got Special Ones For You Guys.

We're Going To Get Your Picture.

You Get To Shake Our Hands.

Thank You For All Your Help.

We're Going To Take A Picture.

Patrick, Highway Are You Doing There Big Guy, Nice To See You.

Thanks, Appreciate It.

I Also Had Before We Take The Picture A Bit Of Good News.

We Had A Fund-Raiser The Other Night For The Homeless Coalition And I Suppose Everyone Has Heard But Me How Much We've Raced, How Much You've Raced But I Have To Tell You It's \$19,428.26.

And We're It's 273 Tickets And That's Over Three Times What Was Raised Last Year.

So You All Are To Be Greatly Congratulated And Thank You For Your Efforts.

I Think We'll Take A Picture So Those Of You, Hold Them Up So You Can See You Actually Got Something.

Thank You Very Much.

Karen You Want To Be Spokeswoman? Anyone? Somebody Should Say Something Here.

We Want To Thank You For Your Support For Attending The Dinner And Silent Auction On Saturday Night.

And It Really Was A Success And It Shows Your Continued Support For Homelessness In The Area.

And We Really Appreciate It.

So Thank You On The Behalf Of The Lee County Homeless Coalition For All You Do.

Thank You Very Much.

[Applause] We Have Another Resolution Ceremonial Resolution Going To Be Presented By Commissioner Bigelow Having To Do With Alzheimer's Awareness Month.

Commissioner? Thank You Mr. Chairman.

Is Dottie Amond Here?Hi Good Morning, Dottie Is TheExecutive Director For TheAlzheimer's Resource Center.

As Some Of You Know I HaveMyself Experienced Alzheimer'sIn A Family Member.

My Paternal Grandmother WasLost To This Disease.

It's An Interesting Disease ToSay The Least.

That's The Best Way I CanDescribe The Disease.

But Thank God For The AlbinResource Center Because TheHardest Part Of The Disease AsI Had Experienced Was ItsEffect On The Family Members.

It Was Oddly Enough Because OfWhat's Happening To The Victim,The Family Members Who Have ToPick Up What's Being Lost.

And Take It Forward And SoWithout The Resources Of TheAlbin Dubin Center We WouldReally Be At A Loss Here In LeeCounty.

It's My Honor And Privilege ToRead This.

Whereas November Is RecognizedAs Alzheimer's AwarenessMonth And Whereas The Alzheimer'sResource Center Strives ToProvide Support To The Over20,000 Lee County Residents WhoAre Affected Or RelatedDisorder Their Care Givers AndWhereas We Wish During ThisAppointed Time For The ServicesThey Provide.

And Whereas We Appreciate TheWork They Do To Help Row CountyResidents Who Are Affected ByAlzheimer's Disease Or TheRelated Disorder.

Not Only During This Time OfRecognition But Throughout TheYear.

Now, Therefore Be It ResolvedBy The Board Of CountyCommissioners Of Lee CountyFlorida That We Do HerebyProclaim November 2007 AsAlzheimer's Awareness Month InLee County And Urge AllConstituents To RecognizeEffort Of The Albin A. DubinResource Centres Inc.

This Has Been Executed November6th, 2007, Signed By OurChairman, Robert Janes.

Thank You Very Much, Dottie.

[Applause]Thank You.

Get Your Picture Taken.

Okay.

If You Would Like To Say A FewWords.

On Behalf Of Our Board AndStaff I Appreciated TheCommunity's Support.

We've Been Serving Lee County For 12 Years And There Are So Many Thousands Of Families Affected By Alzheimer's Disease.

I Appreciate Commissioner Bigelow Sharing His Personal Story And I Believe Is I Just Want To Say Thank You To The Commissioners And To Our Community For The Support That You Give To Our Center Because It Is Really A Grassroots Effort That Started 11 Years Ago And It's Our Privilege And Honor To Be Able To Serve The Families And It's The Families That Are So Affected By Alzheimer's Disease And Their Loved Ones, So Thank You Very Much.

Thank You Very Much.

You Bet.

[Applause].

And Our Next Resolution I'm Privileged To Indicate Is Going To Be Offered By Commissioner Hall And Hased To With Southwest Florida Symphony.

Thank You Is Conductor Michael Hall And Ernie Tapas Board Of Symphonies, Come To The Podium.

The Southwest Florida Symphony Gives So Much Back To The Community As We Balance Our Quality Of Life And Offering Many Attributes Of The Arts.

It's Been My Privilege To Host Artists In My Office And I Will Be Talking About That, But It's Also My Privilege To Be Able To Recognize The New Chapter Coming In The Southwest Florida Symphony With Our Wonderful New Conductor Michael Hall.

So If You Would Give Me A Minute I Will Read This Resolution To You.

Where As The Southwest Florida Symphony Made Its Debut As A Community Orchestra On April 15th, 1961 And Where As The Southwest Florida Symphony Is Dedicated To Providing The Best In Musical Programs For All Audiences.

And Where As The Southwest Florida Symphony Is Offering An Exciting 2007-2008 Season That Includes Classical, Pops And Stained Glass Series As Well As A New Symphony Around Town Series And Whereas A New Era Begins As Maestro Hall Takes The Stage Ushering In A 47th Season Of Music.

As He Joins Becoming Only The Fourth In The A Symphony's History.

And Whereas Lee County Board Of County Commissioners Encourages Everyone In Lee County To Support One Of Our Great Cultural Assets And Attend A Symphony Event At Least Once A Season.

Now There Are Be It Resolved By The Board Of Commissioners That We Officially Will Come Conductor Michael Hall To Lee County Florida And For Providing Lee County With One Of Its Most Invaluable Cultural Assets.

Duly Signed And Executed By Our Chairman Commissioner Bob Janes.

So Take This And Take A Photograph Was And Congratulations.

[Applause] Great For Our Community.

Thank You.

Thank You Very Much.

Welcome, Congratulations.

Thank You Very Much.

Did You Bring A Schedule? [Laughter] You Want To Say A Few Words.

Yes, Very Quickly On Behalf Of The Organization I Want To Thank All Of You For Recognizing This Great Orchestra And I Wanted To Make One Point That We Are Really Southwest Florida Symphony So We Serve The Whole Community And We're Proud To Do That And We Have Many Educational Programs As Well To Not Only Enrich The Population Of Lee County But Also To Teach The Values Of Music To A Lot Of The Students Through Our Many Education Programs.

So We're Pleased To Be Of Service To This Great Community So Thank You For The Welcome.

Thank You.

[Applause] Next Item We Have On The Agenda Is The Recap Sheet.

We Had Absolutely Nothing On The Recap Sheet So We're Going To Move Quickly Down To The Public Comment On The Consent And Administrative Agenda.

And This Is Where We Give An Opportunity To Comment On The Items On The Agenda.

^ If You Want To Speak On Something That's Not On The Agenda You Will Have Your Time At The Public Hearing Dates After 5:00.

And At This Point I Would Like-- I Have A Couple Of Blue Cards.

I Will Call On Them.

I Didn't Do A Blue Card, Mr. Chairman.

That's All Right.

We'll Get To You.

If I Can Comment.

Good Morning Mr. Chairman.

Mr. Chairman Elect, Mr. ViceChairman Elect And RemainingCommissioners, Good Morning.

My Name Is Keith Carey, I'm TheChief Judge Of The 20thJudicial Circuit.

I Took Over For Judge Hugh HeyesWho Has Been Here Many Times ToSpeak To You.

I'm Here On The Consent AgendaItem 4 6-B Concerning TheRequest The Request For DesignImprovements On The New WhatI'm Calling The New Tower.

I Want To Tell You Just ALittle Bit And Where We Are InThe Old Justice Center.

As You Know We Moved Into ThatBuilding In The Early 80s, SoWe've Been There 25 Some OddYears.

We Have 26 Judges That Work InThe Building Now.

And Three Magistrates.

We Have Judicial Chambers For18 Judges, Thus We Have EightJudges Work Out Of TemporaryMakeshift Offices At This Time.

We Have Six Judges On The FirstFloor And An Old Office ThatWas Used And We Have AnotherJudge Up On The Third Floor InKind Of A Little Cubby HoleOffice That We've Away And WeHave Three Magistrates That AreWorking Out Of The WachoviaBuilding, Well Their Office IsThere.

We've Converted An OldConference Room On The FirstFloor To A Hearing Room AndThen We Have Another MakeshiftHearing Room Over In The SunTrust Building For Them.

So, I Need To Tell You One MoreThing, As If You Don't AlreadyKnow This.

Our Felony Filings For The PastTwo Years Are Up 74%.

In '06 They're Up 35% And In'07 If We Keep Going At TheRate We Have Two More Months ToGo They're Up 30%.

Our County Court Filings Are Up40% In The Past Two Years.

So Things Are Not Slowing DownFor Us, We're Bursting At TheSeams In The Old Building And IWould Appreciate Your SupportIn The New Tower.

Thank You Very Much.

Thank You Very Much, Judge.

Margaret Feinburg.

Followed By Paul.

Good Morning Margaret.

I'm Margaret Feinburg.

I'm Here To Speak Against The Biodiesel Refinery At The Gulf Coast Landfill And There Are Four Areas Of Concern Related To The Production Of Using Biodiesel Fuels.

Biodiesel Has Been Found To Be Volatile.

A Study By About Engineer, Risk Of Evaluation Of Biodiesel Reviews U.S. Studies On The Physical Properties Compared To Petroleum Diesel.

He Notes Biodiesel Is Non-Toxic And Has Fewer Emissions Than Petroleum Diesel Fuel.

Its Flash Point Is 130 To 200 Celsius And Hence, It Is Defined By As Non-Flammable But That's Where The News Ends.

When Burned It Has Characteristics That Cause It To Burn Hotter And Faster.

He Notes While Biodiesel Itself Is Regarded As Non-Flammable It Is Subject To Spontaneous Combustion.

Biodiesel Is Made Up Of Fats Which Are More Sensitive Than Petroleum To Oxidation Date Degradation.

In Food This Process Results In Food Becoming Rancid.

In Biodiesel This Oxidation Causes The Release Of Heat Sufficient To Cause Spontaneous Combustion.

This Is What Happened In Japan When A Fire Occurred In A Trash Box Filled With Work Rags Which Had Been Used For Handling Biodiesel.

A Study Concluded That The Auto Oxidation Took Place And Generated Heat That Reached The Ignition Point And Caused Combustion.

Conclusion, Storage Can Generate Spontaneous Combustion.

And Then There Are Two Other Explosions And Fires That Occurred At Refineries In Georgia And Idaho Resulting In The Death Of Workers At Each Facility.

A Fire At A Biodiesel Plant In Oregon Prompted State And Fire Officials To Reclassify This Fuel As Hazardous Material.

And The Engine Manufacturers Association Warns Against Using Blends Of Over 5% Biodiesel

InEngines.

Citing Engines Have SevereEngine Failure And Fuel SystemProblems.

Problems Reported IncludeFilter Plugging, Piston RingSticking.

They Warn That BiodieselSuffers Because It Is AnExcellent Medium For MicrobialGrowth.

Adding This To The Problem OfEngine And Fuel SystemShutdown.

This Is Confirmed In The In TheHiroshima Study.

Only Days After The TruckingFirm Switched To BiodieselFuel, Its Trucks Started ToBreak County On The Road.

Fuel Systems Became Clogged.

Dozens Of Other Trucking FirmsSay Biodiesel Has Cost ThemThousands Of Dollars In EngineBreakdowns.

When They Stop Using The BlendFuel Their Problems Went Away.

The County Has Not Done AnyFeasibility Study For EconomicsOf This Plan.

The County Is Wanting To BlendBiodiesel With PetroleumDiesel At A Mixture Of 2080.

Without Having Done An EconomicFeasibility Study It Is Easy ToConsider These Facts.

The 80% Petroleum DieselCosts Are Fixed And No SavingsCan Be Gained Here.

Out Of The 20% BiodieselSavings, Production Must BeRealized.

The \$2 Million For ConstructionOf The Plant, Cost To Maintain,And Manage The Facility.

Purchase Of Waste Fuels FromArea Restaurants.

Costs Of Methoalcohol.

Cost Of Live Which Is AnExtremely Caustic Chemical.

Distribution Of The If FinishedProduct And CertainlyAdditional Costs For FleetEngine Maintenance.

I Need You To Summarize YourRemarks.

Okay, I Will.

Remember The EngineeringManufactures Recommend Mo MoreThan 5% Blend.

Thus Critically Reducing The Ability To Recoup These Costs.

Conclusion, The Taxpayer Will Subsidize This Forever.

And Environmentally You're Only Exchanging One Blue Tent To Another, Although Biodiesel Fuel Can Reduce Carbon Monoxide Emissions.

Which Increases The Production Of Ozone And Other Blue Tents So You Nearly Exchange One For The Other.

Thank You Very Much.

Paul Fish Is Paul Hire? ^ Come On Down Paul, I Thought That Was You.

And Looked Like You Were Walking Out.

I Said No That Can't Be.

Good Morning Commissioners.

My Name Is Paul Fish.

I Live In Pelican Preserve.

My Comments Today Will Be Very Short.

I'm Opposed To Building This Biodiesel Experiment For The Same Reasons I Was The Last Time You Considered A Piece Of This Puzzle.

I Believe It To Be Economically Unsound Because Of The Small Scale And Uncertainty Of Success.

^ I Believe It To Be Financially Unsound Because Of The Volatility Of Its Marketplace.

I Believe It To Be Because It Includes Dangerous Materials And I Believe It To Be Politically Unsound Because It Competes With Private Enterprise.

It Strikes Me As Change That The Design Of This Experiment Is Subject To Competitive Bidding.

But To Feasibility Study Is Not.

If I'm Wrong About That I Apologize.

I Tried In Vein For Quite Some Time To Find The Underlying Just In Case For The Project On The County's Web Site.

Proposed Contract Which Is The Subject Of Your Vote Today Is Easy To Find.

But I Could Not Find The Facts And Figures That Say This Project Makes Sense For County.

Again If I'm Wrong About That I Apologize If This Stuff Is Available To The Public.

If It Is Not, Then I Urge That It's Made So.

There Is A Lot Of Talent And Experience In This Community, Not Just Naysayers But Capable Scientists And Economists Who Can Make Responsible Judgments About The Quality Of The Assumptions, The Sufficiency Of The Data, And The Efficacy Of The Conclusions In The Supporting Study.

It Seems To Me That As Citizens, They Have The Right To Technical And Economic Justification Being Used To Advocate Proceeding With This Experiment.

And Finally I Question This Piece By Piece Approval Process.

While On The Surface It Seems Like The Responsible Way To Proceed.

I'm Putting Mine Of A Frog In A Famous Although Possible An Experiment Is Based On The Notion That A Frog's Threshold For Noticing Differences In The Temperature Is Not Highly Developed.

If You Put The Frog In A Pot Of Water And Raise The Temperature Slowly Enough, The Frog Will Boil Without Noticing It's Getting Hotter.

Commissioners, I'm Beginning To Feel A Little Bit Like That Frog.

Thank You.

Thank You Very Much, Paul.

That's All The Blue Cards I Have.

Anybody Else Wish To Say Something? Charlie? Good Morning Commissioners, This Afternoon Or This Morning County Administration Will Be Making Proposals, Some Recommendations To The Board Of Where The Community And Lee County As A Whole Could Make Some Cuts.

And I Agree With Them.

They Have Merit.

We're All Carrying A Tax Burden.

One Of The Recommendations Coming Today Is Going To Be In Reference To The Subsidy Of Retirement.

I Can Tell You On Behalf Of Sheriff Scott And That's Why I'm Here.

It Is Nonnegotiable And We Will Not Support That.

This Is Also Out Of The Sheriffs Control Which I Have A Copy For Each And Every One Of You.

This Is State Law That Law Enforcement Officers With The Lee County Sheriffs Office And Members Of The Lee County Sheriffs Office Have A Right To Retirement.

This Was Passed On The House Bill 1617.

This Is Far Beyond The Sheriffs Control And Just So You Understand How It Works We Have A Civil Service Unit.

Civil Service Board.

They Make The Decisions When It Controls A Bunch Of People As Far As Benefits.

That's In Place Of The Union.

And That Is The Only Protection These People Have.

A Law Enforcement Officer Has And I'm Going Just Quick Notes To Made To Myself.

State Law And Also By The Way Your Own County Ordinance Also Protects The Deputy Sheriffs Of Lee County.

It's County Ordinance 9.5.

Most Law Enforcement Offices Between 20 And 25 The Amount Of Trauma That They've Caused To Their Body Physically And Mentally Catches Up To Them.

Retirement Age Is Very Short.

One Thing I Want To Bring To Your Attention, I Think The County If I'm Not Mistaken, Pays Subsidy After Six Years Of Service, Within As Far As Being Employed By The County Of Lee.

Lee County Sheriffs Office And Its Policy Does Not Pay Subsidy Or Benefits Until 15 Years Of Complete Service.

That Means Longevity You Have To Stay With The Agency, For 15 Years In Order To Be Able To Take Advantage Of This Benefit.

You Have A Group Of People Law Enforcement Officers That Are Asked To Subject Themselves To Being Maimed, Murdered, Mentally Disturbed.

We Have One Of The Highest Rates Of Alcoholism And Unfortunately And I Hate To Say This Using An Example A Suicide That Just Occurred In Collier County.

High Divorce Rate, High Instance Of Cancer, All Job Related.

The State And Federal Government Recognizes This And Recognizes That You're Asking

A Group Of People Law Enforcement Officers To Do A Job That Nobody Else Wants To Do.
To Put Themselves In Harm's Way.

Remember, When Everybody Else's Running Out, That's Whose Running In.

Every Morning You Wake Up, Several Times I've Missed It And I'm Lucky.

I Am One Of The Lucky Ones.

Perfect Example Last Week D.U.I. Checkpoint Seemingly Simple.

Get The Man Out Of The Car He's Going For His Pocket.

I Had To Jump On Top Of Him, He Was Going For A Gun In His Pocket.

Seemingly Simple.

The Only Thing I Ask Of You Is After 20 Or 25 Year Of Requiring Employees To Punish Their
Bodies, Minds, Souls And Possibly Their Lives, They Have To Have Peace Of Mind
In Retirement.

That's All They Have Left.

It's One Of The Only Careers That After 25 Years You're Ready To Go Because You've
Had Enough.

And Chances Are You're Not Going To Live Much Longer Than That.

So I Ask Of All Of You, And Out Of Fairness, I've Made A Copy Of The Lee County Sheriff's
Office Civil Service Policy Which Each Commissioner Should Have And County Admin Should
Have Because There Are Certain Things That Are Way Beyond The Sheriff's Control And On
Behalf Of Sheriff Mike Cot I Know The Constitutional But This Constitutional Officer Will
Not Follow Suit.

He's Going To Stand Firm And All Of You Know Him As Scott Is Eager To Bend Any
Way Shape Or Form But Not On This.

I Would Like To Pass This Out To You If I Have Permission To Approach The Bench And
I Appreciate Your Time This Morning.

Thank You.

Here You Go, Sir.

Thank You Chief.

That's The Last Card That I Have Or Comment.

Anybody Else Wish To Comment?I've Got To See A Waving HandOtherwise I Don't Know If YouWant To Comment Or Not.

Okay, I Don't See Any WavingThanks So I'm Going To Close ThePublic Comment On The ConsentAnd Administrative Agenda.

First Items To Be Pulled By TheBoard Commissioner Bigelow.

Thank You Mr. Chairman.

I Just Want To Be Sure I'm --Okay I Get It.

All Right.

Sorry?4 6-A, 9-B, And 11-A.

Commissioner Judah.

None Mr. Chairman.

Commissioner Mann.

None And None For You AnNone For My.

Made A Motion On The Balance.

Moved By Commissioner Hall,The Item On The Consent Agenda.

Seconded By Commissioner Mann,All Those In Favor Signify BySaying Aye.

Aye.

The Ayes Have It.

So Ordered.

Thank You Judge.

Thanks Judge, Appreciate YouComing.

Thank You Charles.

Thank You Item 9-A CommissionerBigelow.

Thank You Mr. Chairman ThisIs An Item To Approve AddendumTo The Agreement For The EastRenovations Phase Two.

4-A.

Yeah.

Did You Say 4-A? I'm Sorry, I Did Say 9-A And I Meant 4-A.

I Didn't Catch It, Sorry.

I Thought I Was On The Wrong One.

So This Is The Addendum To The Manager Agreement Formed A Minute East Renovation Phase Two.

For A Guaranteed Maximum Price In A Matter Of One Million, And Again I Stand To This, I Won't Be Moving The Item.

Move The Item Mr. Chairman.

To Provide A Seconded By Commissioner Hall, Discussion.

I'm Going To Put A Couple Comments On The Record If You Don't Mind.

This Is Interesting This Letter From The Toll Construction Says The Subcontracted Cost Are \$1,463,000 Call It And Yet Allow Wednesdays If You Total The Amount To \$256,830.

On That \$257,000, Is Another \$19,000 In A 7.25% C.M.

Fee For \$275,450 Which Are Allow Wednesdays With A 7.25% On Or Profit Margin If You Will.

So, It's A Misleading Letter.

There's More Troubling Aspects To This Or Other Troubling Aspects, Not More Troubling.

But The Bonds And Insurance Cost Amount To 3.65% Of The Subcontracted And Contingency Costs And That As I've Been Told By Industry Experts Is Extremely High.

So I'm Not Supporting The Item.

Okay, Is That It? Any Further Discussion? All Those In Favor Signify By Saying Aye.

Aye.

I'm Opposed.

The Motion Is Adopted By A Vote Of 4:1 With Commissioner Bigelow In The Negative.

Item 9-B.

I Have It Right This Time.

Thank You, This Is The Award Of Professional Services Agreement For The Design

Of Services For The Waste Vegetable Oil To Biodiesel Processing Facility To Hdr Engineering In The Amount Of \$250,000 Dollars.

I Too Am Concerned With This Project.

I Have Been From The Beginning.

I Remain In Opposition To It.

And My Reasons For It Are Primarily This.

And That Is That While It's Perhaps An Endeavour That We Want To Be A Parent Part In I Don't Think It's Appropriate For The Government To Be In The Production Of Petroleum Production Or Fuel Production.

I Think This Is Best Left To Private Industry To Do.

They Maximize Efficiencies In The Free Market System That Governments Have Long Disapproved Ability To Do.

I Think What Concerns Me Was Expressed By Mr. Fish As Well That This Piece By Piece Approach, And I Think The Analogy With The Frog In The Water Is Very Apt That This Is Just Trying To Take On A Life Of Its Own.

And I Have Been Very, Very Concerned With The Haste With Which It's Been Brought Forth And I Don't See We're Doing An Adequate Job Of Due Diligence On This Project So I Remain Opposed To And I'm Not Moving The Item.

Move The Item.

Commissioner Hall, Seconded By Commissioner Judah.

Discussion.

Mr. Chairman, Since People Have Spoken On The Issue, This Is A Return To It From Our Previous Commitment To Move Forward On It, Like Commissioner Bigelow I Did Not Support It At The Time, But I Understand Commissioner Judah's Strong Support Of This And His Passion To Do Something Significant In The Area Of Biodiesel Research.

My Concerns Originally Have Not Changed.

I Haven't Understood Why Major Trucking Companies Going Up And Down The Highways, These Are Thousands Of Vehicles On The Road Troubles Me That They Themselves, If It Has Such Promise Or Not Directly Involved, I'm Convinced That The Industry Fuel Industry Is Probably Behind The Scenes In A Major Way Exploring This And That's Where This Exploration Should Come From.

I Just Never Felt Good About Lee County Being The One That Was Going To Commit The Resources In A Relatively Very Small Way, That We Were Going To Be Able To Prove Or

Disprove Whether This Is A Viable Economically Speaking Approach To Alternative Fuels.
And Fuel Developments.

So, I Didn't Feel Comfortable About It.

I Don't Now And I Originally Told Commissioner Judah That I Will Be Following This
Very Closely And I'm Subject To Being Swayed Here.

And I Hope It Does Go In The Right Direction.

But For Now I Still Remain A Skeptic And Will Not Be Able To Support The Motion
This Morning.

Thank You.

Commissioner Judah.

The Ribbon Cutting For The Expansion Was Interesting To Comments From
Representative Gary Abeshon Just In Amazement Over What Lee County Has Accomplished
In Moving Forward With A Facility That Provided To Be The Anchor Of A 40-Year Long-Term
Management Program.

That Powered Enough Energy For Some 40,000 Homes A Year That Complemented A
Very Aggressive Recycling Program And Provided A Proactive Responsible Approach
To Processing, Disposing And Managing Solid Waste In This County.

There Were A Lot Of Nonbelievers That We Had To Work Through A Number Of Years Ago To
Get To The Point Where We Are Today With That Waste Facility, So This Is Not Surprising
That We Will Hear From Certain Individuals And Perhaps From Members Of The Board As
We're Hearing This Morning That Don't Seem To Have The Confidence Or Understanding As
To The Importance Of Moving Forward With The Biodiesel Facility.

We're Not Setting New Ground Here.

The Biodiesel Facility Have Been Set All Over The World.

In Fact This Is Probably The Most Rapidly Developing Area In Terms Of Alternative Fuel
Many This Country Now.

There Are A Lot Of Investment Capital Now Going Into The Program So It Is Going To
Be Taken Up By The Private Sector.

But In The Public Sector Where We Have An Opportunity With This Program, Really
Has Significant Ramifications Particularly In Light Of The Budgetary Constraints That We're
Not Dealing With And We're Going To Be Dealing With How To Do Some Cost Cutting Because
As The Realities Of The Economic Change We're In And The Mandates From The Legislature.

When You Take Into Account That We Can Avoid Further Repair And Maintenance Of Our

Entire WasteWater Sewer System By Preventing Grease By Getting In And Using Grease As A Resource Rather Than A Waste Product, You Can Readily Understand How That Can Save A Lot Of Money In Not Having To Pursue Maintenance And Upkeep Of Our Sewer System Because The Problem With Grease From Restaurants.

When You Take Into Account That At This Point In Time We Are What Subsidizing Our Lee Mass Transit System To The Tune Of Some 12 To 14 Million A Year A Good Segment Of That Comes Out Of The Fuel Cost.

We Have An Opportunity To Actually Use Biodiesel As An Alternative To Fossil Fuels To Help To Provide For The Public Transportation System In This County And Of Course The Benefits For The School System To Be Able To Provide An Alternative Fuel Source For Their 700 Bus.

And In A Much More Environmentally Sensitive Way, We've Already Talked About The Use Of Methane From The Landfill That Right Now To The Surrounding Area Like Pelican Preserve And Also Contributing To Greenhouse Gas Effect Because The Methane That's Discharged Into The Air.

We Have An Opportunity To Trap That Methane Gas, Use It As An Energy Source To Convert The Grease To Biodiesel.

So There's A Lot Of Good Reasons Why We Should Go Forward But There Is Also There's No Odor, It's Not Hazardous.

There's No Smell.

It's Less Than A Quarter Of A Size Of This Room To Provide A Facility To Generate Biodiesel Volume That We Can Benefit From In This County To Cut Costs Economically And Be A Steward Of Providing And Being At The Front End Of Environmental Concerns In Terms Of Addressing Alternative Fuels To Fossil Fuel, So, I Don't Know If Lindsey Wants To Add Any More But I Appreciate Hopefully A Majority Of This Board To Be Responsible To Understand The Concerns Of The Resident Bus Address The Concerns In A Responsible Way But To Move Forward And Show This Country That We Are At The Leading Edge Of Being Able To Provide An Economic Environmentally Friendly Way, Means Being Able To Address The Incredible Services And Demand Of Our Growing Community.

Good, Any Further Discussion.

Yes Commissioner Bigelow.

Thank You, You're Very Eloquent In Your Description Of The Rosey Side Of This Picture, The Problem That I See Is There's A Night And Day Business Between The Production And The Consumption Of It And As I Said I Would Encourage Us To Be A Participant In This But Not The Producer And User.

I -- I -- I'm Very Troubled By The Fact That We Are -- Are Married To The Proposition That This Is A Good Thing And Therefore We Should Do It All.

And I -- I Don't Believe That Production Is Something This Government Should Be In

The Business Of.

But, We Do Have A Well Honest Board To Move Forward.

But I Think It's Also Implicit In Your Comments That To Be Opposed To This Is Irresponsible And I Would Take Exception To That Because I Think It's Our Job As Elected Officials The To Vent The Issues And See Both Sides And Publicly Debate Them.

You Know We Have People Dying In Iraq And Other Parts Of This Country So We Can Sit Here And Have Difference Of Opinions And I Would Take The Extreme Exception To The Implication That To Not Support This As Irresponsible Because That's What You're Trying To Say Without Directly Saying It.

Any Further Discussion.

All Those In Favor Signify By Saying Aye.

Aye.

No? And The Ayes Have It With Commissioner Mann And Bigelow In The Negative.

Item A.

Thank You Mr. Chairman, John This Is A \$300,000 Ambulance That You Would Like To Buy For I Think It's A Special Uses, As I Understand It Somewhat.

It's For Netstar Right And That's If You Might Explain That, But Let Me First Say This, That Apparently The Base Quote On This Is 138,000, That's Just To Get The Unit Itself But Then You're Adding \$156,600 And Extras To It.

So, The Base Unit Cost Less Than All The Extras Adding To It And That Comes To A Total Of \$300,000 For An Ambulance.

Not Opposed To An Ambulance Necessarily.

I See That The Mileage On It As You Say Is High, 150 Some Thousand I Believe, But I Need Help Here To Prove 157,000 Dollars In Extras On Top Of \$139,000 Base Price.

Ford John Wilson Director Of Public Safety.

The Extras Represent The Costs Mess To Outfit That Ambulance To Serve As A Critical Care Unit.

And This Would Basically Transport Those Type Of Patients That Are Defined As Such.

You Know To And From Hospitals Either Within The Community Or Outside The Community As The Need Dictates.

This Is What It Would Cost To Replace The Unit That We Have With The Necessary

Equipment To Serve That Particular Purpose For That Particular Ambulance.

We've Purchased One In 2000, Or Service Of Care, The Replacement With What Is Necessary Now To Do That In Accordance With Rules And Regulations Is With That Cost.

No Okay.

And This Is The Netstar Program That Is A Supplemental Program.

For Net Star Within The Lee County E.M.S. Program Handles The Air Ambulance.

So A Heightened Level Of Service.

It's A Core Level Service That We Have Been Providing.

It Is Just Being Established As A Separate Element Of E.M.S..

Well, In The Justification You Say The Existing Unit Is A Model Year 2000 With 157,000 Miles, So What Are You Doing With That One?? That One Usually Is Turned In And As I Understand Auctioned Off As Per The Current Policies And Procedures That Fleet Management Undertakes.

And What Do You Think We Will Gain From That Auction.

I Couldn't Tell You How Much That Would Be, Sir.

Okay, I Think There Are Blue Book Value On These Now Anyway.

If There Are, Sir, I'm Not Aware Of Them.

I Don't Know Either I Was Just Questioning It.

Okay Well, It's An Interesting Decision.

I Guess That Means The \$156,000 In Extras Are Not Negotiable.

I Guess You Could Look At It That Way, But Another Way To Look At That Is That Is What Is Required To Outfit That Unit To Serve That Particular Purpose As We Continue To Grow Older As The Baby Boomers Continue To Move Here As Those Types Of Cases Continue To Arise As A Way Where Managed Health Care Is Being Established In Our Community Where Hospitals Specialize Rather Than Create One-Stop Shops Like They Have Been.

This Type Of Program Is Going To Continue.

We're All Looking At Cost Containment Recommendations, And Ideas And So When I See These I Think It's My Duty To Try To Raise Question With Them.

Thank You, John I Will Move The Idea.

Second.

A Motion To Approve 11-A OnThe Consent Agenda, Seconded ByCommissioner Judah.

All Those In Favor Signify BySaying Aye.

Aye.

The Ayes Have It, The MotionIs Adopted.

That Concludes The ConsentAgenda.

And We're Going To Move Now ToThe Administrative Agenda And I Believe That It Is 9-A.

Second.

Motion By CommissionerJudah, Seconded By CommissionerHall.

Discussion?All Those In Favor Signify BySaying Aye.

Aye.

The Ayes Have It.

The Motion Is Adopted.

The Presentation.

I Thought It Was Excellent.

Short And Clear And Concise AndTo The Point.

15-A.

Move The Item.

Motion By CommissionerJudah, Seconded By CommissionerHall.

Discussion?All Those In Favor Signify BySaying Aye.

Aye.

The Ayes Have It.

The Motion Is Adopted.

That Concludes TheAdministrative Agenda.

Now We'll Have An InformationalPresentation.

That's You.

Oh, No.

Are We Doing This And The Budget Issue? Can We Take A Two-Minute Break? I Thought It Was Going To Be After The Agenda.

Can I Ask For A Two-Minute Break? Sure.

Thank You.

It Goes Without Saying I'm A Lame Duck But By George I Still Have The Gavel.

So We're Going To Call The Meeting Back To Order.

As Lame A Duck As I Am.

Yeah But You're Our Lame Duck And We Love You.

For Two More Weeks.

Thank You Mr. Chairman.

Members Of The Board.

I'm Dinah Lewis From Administrative Services.

We Supplied The Board With A Memorandum Dated November 2nd From Don Still Well Regarding Our Recommendations On Cost Containment Measures.

We Are As You Are Very Mindful Of The Physical Constraints That We're Under Right Now And Are Likely To Increase In Intensity In The Upcoming Years.

We Would Like To Be Proactive In Responding To These Fiscal Constraints.

And Bring Forward To You Five Separate Recommendations For Your Consideration Today That Upon Your Direction We Will Begin To Implement Very, Very Promptly, Throughout The Year We're Going To Be Looking At A Number Of Other Cost Containment Measures And We'll Bring Them Forward.

On A Regular Basis To The Board.

Again We're Trying To Be Proactive.

We Would Like To Identify Those Things That We Can In Advance Of The Budget Cycling.

And Certainly Be As Efficient And As Effective As We Can Be.

I Would Like To Make A Few Comments On Each Of These Five Today And We're Here To Answer Any Questions And Listen To Your Deliberations.

The First Item That We're Recommending Is A Change To The Subsidy To For Retirees At Retirement In Health Care Cost.

You Are Aware That Currently Most Of The Board And Constitutional Offices Provide A Subsidy To Retirees Based On A Certain Vesting Schedule, Like A Service They Have Been With The County.

And For Most Of Those Entities Which Means You Are Eligible For It At Retirement Means Which You Have Provided Six Years Of Service To The County.

That Subsidy Is 50% Of The Cost Of Health Insurance For The Retiree And Their Dependents If They Continue Them On The Plan.

Due To Recent Carbon Dioxide Rules We Need To Disclose That On The Financial Statements.

This Liability Is Known As Other Post Employment Benefits Or Opeb.

The Board Provided Funding For That Liability In The Most Recent Fiscal Year Of \$18 Million And Has Included In The Current Year's Budget A Funding Amount Of \$24 Million.

The Sheriff Office Also Provides Such A Subsidy.

It's A Different Subsidy.

It Vest At 15 Years Of Service And Full Benefit After 20 Years Of Service To The Sheriff's Department.

It Includes After 20 Years Of Service A Benefit Of The 100% Of The Retiree's Health Care And Premium And 15% Of The Dependent's Health Care Premium.

Those Costs Are Increasing.

For The Current Year Combined Sheriff And Other Entities Is Some \$23 Million, And They Will Increase Over The Years.

We Have Reports That Project Out Those Costs But Needless To Say, The Costs Will Continue To Increase As The Costs Of Health Care Increase, And The Number Of Employees Who Will Be Eligible For This Benefit Increases.

Are Those Statutes Mandated? We Would Have To Amend The Statutes.

It Depends On Which Employees You're Talking About.

For The Nonsheriffs It Is In The Discretion Of The Governing Boards.

So It's Completely Your Choice Whether To Continue Or Modify It Or Delete That

Particular Subsidy.

Are You Talking About New Employees After A Certain Date? Or Everybody? Not Existing Employees Right? Correct.

Our Recommendation Is That This Benefit For Bocc Employees Not Be Offered To Employees Who Have Hired After The End Of This Calendar Year So When They Are Hired They Would Understand That This Is Not A Benefit That's Made Available To Them.

Our Recommendation Is Not Only The Board Adopt This But Encourage Other Constitutional Centers To Follow Suit.

Let Me.

May I Interrupt Because Along The Line With Your Questions With Regard To The Sheriff, State Statute Requires That We Pay 100% Of The Retired Officer And 50% Dependent Coverage With The Opeb? Commissioner Judah He's Provided You With A Copy Of Chapter 2007, 320 Of The Statute Which Is The Latest Revision To That.

This Is Legislation That Applies Only To Lee County Sheriff.

It Was My Understanding Is The Genesis Of This Is A Previous Sheriff Brought This Florida, Adopted By The Florida Legislature.

It's Been Amended Several Times Including By The Current Sheriff And You Will See The Package That Sit Pros Ride Is As June 2007.

So, In Answer To Your Question It's My Understanding That It Would Require Legislative Action But The Action Is Certainly Promulgated On The Sheriff's Recommendation That Changes Be Made.

So, I Do Understand It Would Require Legislative Action But I Believe The Sheriff Would Have Significant Influence.

Just For Clarification.

This Piece Of Legislation Is Applicable Only To Lee County Sheriff, Not The Other Counties In The State Of Florida? Yes, Sir.

Commissioner If I Might, It's Not Part Of The Florida Statute, It's What's Known As The Laws Of Florida.

It's A Special Act.

There Are Hundreds Of Special Acts That Are Out There That Are Adopted By The Legislature That Only Applies To A Single County Or Maybe Two Counties.

And This Is One Of Those.

This Came Up Back In 2000 When At One Point In Time The Board Was Considering Looking At Changing The Sheriff From The Independent Constitutional Officer To A Charter Officer And We Went Through Exercise At That Point In Time.

But It's A Special Act Of Florida, Only Applies To Lee County.

But The Special Act Mandates 100% For The Officer Who Is Retired And 50% For Dependent.

Yes, It Does In Its Current Form.

I Would Note Collier County And Charlotte County Do Not Have Parallel Acts.

So, They We Recently Surveyed Other Jurisdictions.

They Do Not Have An Additional Subsidy For Their Retirees Over And Above What The Florida Retirement System Provides For All Employees.

Can I, Before We Proceed? I Guess The Estimate Of \$1.5 Million Annually Is What You're Projecting Will Save Next Budget Year If We Were To Adopt This Recommendation, Correct? Yes, Commissioner Bigelow.

We Asked Our Actuaries To Give Us A Number, These Calculations Are Rather Complex, So That's Their Estimate For Cost Savings For Those Employees Who For Non-Sheriff Employees Basically.

And In '06-'07, \$18 Million In This Current Budget, That's \$24 Million And You're Saying We Could Be Looking At \$30 Million In '08-'09, \$1.5? Is That Mathematical Equation There? In '08-'09 The Gross Cost Would Be In The \$25 To \$26 Million Range Less If This Change Were Adopted, 1.5 Million.

So It Will Be At Par More Or Less With Our Current Years Budget.

Correct, The Constable Coned To Grow Year Over Year Because The Cost Of Health Care Are Growing Much Faster Than Inflation.

So This Would Slow Down The Increase.

Just To Be Clear, It Was Last Budget Year Is \$18 Million.

This Current Year It's \$24 Million.

\$6 Million Difference Right According To Your Memo.

Right? And You're Saying However Though For Text Year You're Projecting That It Will Be About Par, We'll Be At \$24 Million At This Retirement Cost.

With This Change So That It Would Not Provide A Benefit To New Employees, Yes, That's Ballpark As To What The '08-'09 Cost Would Be.

That's Why This Memo Is Entitled Cost Containment, That's Not Cost Cut Recommendation.

That's Not A Cost Cut, That's Just To Maintain The Status Quo.

Without This Change The Cost Would Increase And So This Would Reduce Future Increases In Cost.

Okay.

It's Not A Cost Cut.

Yeah, It Is.

Well, Okay So, It's A Way To Not Increase, It's Not A Way To Cut.

Would You Give Me That? No.

It's A Cost Cut.

So Next Year We're Looking At \$24 Million.

We're Looking At \$24 Million This Year, There's No Cut.

It's A Cut, You Have Future Employees, You Pay The Same.

It's Going To Be More.

If You Don't Do Anything, You Will Have An Increase.

If You Do Something The Increase Won't Be As Much.

At Some Point -- And Subsequent Years The Increase Will Have A Bigger Impact If You Do It Now, The Impact Will Get More Each Year.

Okay.

Commissioner If I May, You're Right And I'm Right.

It's Okay, I Mean.

Let's Move On, We'll Argue The Semantics Later On.

The Fact Is Something Happens.

So Let's Move On.

Getting Clarification On What It Is Your Recommendation Proposes To Do.

Okay, What About Applying This Recommendation The To Current Employees? What Would Cost Savings Receive There.

We've Not Asked For That Specific Cost But It Would Have A More Dramatic Cost Impact If You Affected Current Employees.

Well, Could We At Least Look At It.

Absolutely, This Is The Board's Decision You Can Look At Any Of These That You Would Like To.

And You've Not Looked At It Though.

I Do Not Have That Cost Analysis.

Thank You.

Mr. Chairman? Yes, Commissioner Hall.

When We Were Talking About This At Budget And Just To Give Us A Little Historical Perspective, There Was Discussion On Whether We Should Look At Current Employees Or Not And Was Consensus Of The Board At That Time That We Only Look At New Employees, And Again, I Want To Be Very Clear To Staff If We're Going To Do Something Different, I Would Like To Make Sure That The Board Concurs With That So That Staff Is Not Going Out To The Request Of One Commissioner Because These Are Employee Benefits And Takes Enormous Amounts Of Time An Calculation On Their Part, So, I Just Want To Leave That In The Back Of Our Minds Before We End Today We're Going To Instruct Administration To Look At Current Employees Then Let's Do That As A Consensus Of The Board Or Not.

Because I Don't Want Them Going Through Those Motions If There's Not Support By This Board To Do So.

Would You Agree That, Seems Like If We Don't Look At The Numbers, We Can't Consider Them And Therefore We Won't Get To A Place Where We Might Them.

So, I Would Suggest That We Could Look At Them.

I Don't See The Harm At Looking At The Possible Savings Because, As Was Agreed By The County Manager, This Is To Maintain Our Current Budget Levels.

Of \$24 Million.

It's Not Going To Be Cost Savings.

I Don't See How We're Going To Get To Any Tax Cuts In Future Years If We Don't Look For Ways To Cut.

But I Mean It's Appropriately Labeled Or Titled Memorandum Cost Containment No All Right, Thank You.

The Sheriff's Comments About The Importance Of The This Benefit To Them Appreciated Those Comments, There Was An Interesting Matter Include In The Study Required Under The New Accounting Rules To Very Well The Benefit, 4 Benefit.

The Sheriff Actuary Includes An Analysis Of The Probability Of Their Current Employees Of Reaching Eligibility For The Subsidy.

How Many Of Them Are Likely To Be With The Sheriff Office Long You Have This To Get This Subsidy An They Conclude That The Likelihood Of High Risk Employees, And These Are Law Enforcement Employees, Of Reaching Eligibility Through Subsidy Is In Excess Of 50%.

The Likelihood Of The Other Board In Particular Employees Reaching The Subsidy.

Six Years, Is Less Than 33% So The Turnover Rates Are Different In Different Offices Which Then Drives The Costs.

So The Sheriff's Employees Are About 1300 Employees Under Their Plans About 3,000 Under The Combined Board And Other Constitutional Offices, But The Annual Costs Are Pretty Similar Because Of The Likelihood Of Reaching Eligibility For The Subsidy And The Cost Of The Benefit.

So I Just Wanted To Share Those Comments With You.

Mr. Chairman Would You Like Me To Continue Comments On The Other Items? We Are Recommending That We Combine The Historic C.P.I. And Performance Pay Amounts Into A Singular Amount.

There Are A Couple Of Reasons For This.

Primarily Because Then The Board Has Control Over What Those Costs Are.

When You Take Something To An Outside Index Like C.P.I..

That Number Just Has A Life Of Its Own And You Can't Have As Much Control Over That Amount.

By Blending Those Rates, Then The Board Will Set The Total Rate, And We Can Have A Better Opportunity To Manage Those Costs And To Bring Those Costs.

On An Annual Basis.

Whether Or Not The Trait Board Would Set Will Be Higher Or Lower, Than The Wait Has Been Used For This Year Or Earlier Years Is Up To The Board's Discretion And Whether Or Not That Would Automatically Save Dollars Is Really Up To The Board.

But We Think That That's A Proactive Way To Do It.

It's Commonly Done In The Private Sector.

Frequently Done In The PublicSector That There's OneCombined Rate For Those TwoItems.

Mr. Chairman, You Know DinahI Guess That One Confuses MeBecause Every Year We --Do We Want To Combine It?Do We Want To Use A C.P.I.?So I'm More Comfortable HavingThat Discussion Every Year ThanSaying It's Going To BeCombined.

Because We Do Control -- WeDon't Have To Do Any Of ThoseThings.

And You Provide Us With TheC.P.I. Is And When The We SideIf There's Going To Be A PaperPerformance Percentage.

If We Want To Not UseC.P.I. All And Say This Is WhatIt's Going To Be, So Be It ThenWe Look At To Look At Each OfHis Managers And Come ForwardWith The Increases Are.

I Think This Board Has Had ThatFlexibility.

I Mean I Like Not Setting It InActually Stone Because I ThinkWe Have To Look At It EveryYear So I Guess I'm Confused OnThis One As Saying What Are YouSaying That You Want Us, WhatAre You Going To Do DifferentThat You Did Differently LastYear?What This Would Produce IsAn Ability To Give You FullControl As Long As You HavePart Of It Pegged To An OutsideIndex.

Then You Don't Have Control OfThat.

Again We're Trying To BeProactive And To Put SomeDirection In Place Well InAdvance Of The Budget Cycle.

So That Not Only Con But TheOther Constitutionals Have AnIdea Of Where The Board IsHeaded Because Many Of TheConstitutionals Follow Suit AsTo What The Board Does InSetting Their Own Pay Measures.

We've Adopted A Policy TwoYears Ago That We're Going ToUse The Cost Living Adjustment,Population Growth As APercentage To Look At TheGrowth Of Our Budget.

So We Have That Flexible NumberThat Has A Life Of Its Own ThatGoes There, This Year We Didn'tSay Absolute C.P.I. Guarantees,You Presented What C.P.I. WasTo Us.

You Presented Your Cost ForPerformance And Said You GuysCan Have The Combination OfEither Or.

I Guess I Truly Enjoy ThatFlexibility Of Having ThatDialogue Every Year To See WhatWe Do Want To Do.

So I Guess I'm Confused As ToSay Are You Going To Come BackAnd Say, You Know, We AlwaysLook At Is There A Cost ForShould We Be Looking AtSomething For Every Employee?Based On What?So Are You Saying That You'reGoing To Determine Now ARecommendation Of PaperPerformance Only And NoAdjustment To Any Of TheSalaries Across The Board?Because That Just Confuses MeHow You're Going To Set ThatBased On

What? Our Recommendation Would Be That The Entire Salary Change Be Pegged To Performance.

So That Each And Every Employee Pay Would Only Adjust Based On Their Annual Evaluation.

I Don't Want To Interrupt But.

Its Just Concern Mess A Lot Dinah Because I'm Going To Assume That Every 2800 Plus Employees Then Have A Strong Evaluation Process And That No One Is Going To Slip Between The Cracks.

From A To Z And I Guess For Me I've Always Looked At As We Live In An Inflationary Economy, And I'll Go Back To Some Comments That Were Made Last Year, When We Had The 4%, Doesn't Mean Someone Gets A 4% Pay For Performance.

Its Means The Department Has To Work With That.

So Some May Get 10% And How Do You Evaluate Someone's Performance When I Mean We Have A Varied Diverse In The Job Sector.

I Worry About Our Lowest Denominator Who You Know, Do You Say You Showed Up For Work Every Day On Time And This And That, And So You Have A Performance Measure That Means You Get Axed? I'm Happy To Keep An Open Mind About This Because I Like The Flexibility We Have Every Year To Look At That And Have The Discussion.

At Some Point It Can Always Go Back Because It's The Pleasure Of The Board.

Go Ahead.

I Was Going To Say I Agree With What Commissioner Hall Is Saying.

We Have That Flexibility As We Exercised Where We Originally Were Looking At A 4% Performance Merit A Potential Increase, Be Reduced To 1% But We're Stuck With The C.P.I.

Cost Of Living Index Of 2.5.

It Did Kick Up To 2.7? My Concern Is That That's Scientifically Based.

The Merit Is Subjective And You Know I Would Like To Make Certain That Our Employees Are Going To Receive The Cost Of Living As Reflected By The C.P.I.

I Would Not Like To Blend The Two.

With Regards To Performance, We Have That Opportunity Every Year Like We Did This Year Feeling That With The Economic Situation We Didn't Want To Provide A Range Up To 4% Merit.

We Dropped It Down To Two.

That's The Kind Of Merit I Would Like To Exercise Each And Every Year.

Let Me Ask Something Here Dinah.

Still Okay Mr. Chair.

Sure.

We Take Staff Costs Year Before And Then We Add To That Annual Adjustments Because We're Doing Salary Surveys.

So We Bump It Up For That Reason And Then We Add Potentially C.P.I. On That And Then We Add Merit On Top Of That.

Isn't There Another, Is There A Bonus? Actually Let Me Back You Up A Little Bit.

We Do An Annual Salary Survey Of Approximately A Quarter Of Our Positions.

And The Purpose Of That Is To Make Sure We're Still Competitive, Our Pay Raises Are Still Competitive.

So, The Result Of That Annual Salary Survey Do Not Directly Affect Any Individual's Pay.

They Don't Get A Change In Their Pay As A Result Of The Salary Survey.

Salary Survey Just Looks At Ranges At Positions.

Doesn't Look At Individual Salaries.

So It Doesn't Automatically Adjust.

Correct.

It Does Not Adjust In The Individual Employee's Pay.

Traditionally What We Have Done Is C.P.I. Is Awarded To All Employees.

And Then The Paper Performance Piece Is Based On Their Evaluation.

Okay, Let Me Start With Adjustments That It's At The Discretion Of Directors And Managers To Adjust Salary Pay, If They're Not Maxed Now That Pay Range, Correct.

Yes, Performance Spay Based On The Supervisor's Evaluation.

So There's That Potential Increase And C.P.I. Merit And Don't We Offer A Bonus.

There Is A Bonus Program That Is Funded Individually In Departments Item Not A Percentage.

It's Awarded Based On Individual Merit.

For Dollars That Are Budgeted In The Department.

Correct.

Is That Cost Containment Being Considered.

The Amount Of The Award That Would They Would Get.

Bonuses, Yes.

We're Taking A Look At A Number Of Things.

So, That's One Possible Area We Could Be Looking.

Mission To C.P.I. And Merit, Right.

Yes.

Okay.

I Would Urge Us To Consider That.

We've Got To Know What These Are If We're Going To Consider, If We're Going To Reduce Costs.

Bonuses Are Related To What Type Of Money Is Available, What The Projected Income Is.

I Mean You Don't Want To Give Somebody A Bonus Of 23 Corrects Because That's All The Surplus.

It Depends On Factors And Figures Other Than Whimsy And I Think That The Key Thing Is That Each Budget Department Each Chief Is Responsible For Developing A Performance Criteria With The Agency, And The Main Thing We Must Make Sure Is That Those Workers Are Competitive.

Many Are In Competitive Situations With Other Workers In The Area, Similar Jobs As Well Other Governmental Units Because We Don't Want To Lose Our Performance Or Our Competitive Ranking Within The Community.

Otherwise We Lose Workers And That We Don't Want To Do Either But I Think This Issue Comes Down To Classic Issue Between The Battle Between Pay For Performance And The Merit.

I Mean Pay For Performance Or The Other Is The Old Wage Scenic Cut Thing And That Subject Never Ends.

Because I Can Tell You As Soon As The Discussion Continues We Haven't Gun To Raise The Issue.

Favoritism, Blah, Blah, Blah Which Always Rears Its Ugly Head Because There's A Lot Of People That Don't Believe --I'm Going Too Far.

Let Me Just Say It's An Endless Debate.

I Was A Strong Supporter Of Merit.

But The Grades And Classes And Things Like That.

That I Always Thought There Was A Need For That But I'm Trying To Get Away From That Because Mainly More And More Towards Pay For Performance And I Think That That's A Direction That We Ought To Go And I Think Most Businesses Are Head And All You Have To Do Is Read The "Wall Street Journal" To See, The Large Corporations And Companies And We're Doing The Same.

And I Also Have To Say That Most Of The Large Companies, Are Beginning To Cut Down The Benefits Available To People Hired After A Certain Date.

Because The Costs Are Becoming Staggering.

The Costs In Benefits.

Wage Health Benefits And Things Like That Are Awesome.

And We No Longer Can Afford It.

The Way Health Care Costs Are Coming Now, It's So Bad That I'm In An Existing Program, We Have Work That's Are Not Paying For Their Committee Pendants On Health Care.

Because They Can't Afford It.

But, It's Huge The Cost, And It's Going Do Get Worse.

So I Mean It's A Dilemma That Local Government Has.

And The Background Of All Of This Is Not Because We're Decided To Be Cheap, It's Because Of A Budget Constraints That Are Being Laid On Us.

I've Got To Tell You We're Headed To An Awesome Next Year In Terms Of Awesome Time In Terms Of Budget Reductions And The Year After Will Be Worse.

We Have To Look Around To See How We Can Minimize The Impact On Our Existing Workers.

And What Impact It Will Have On Them And Their Futures.

New Hires That's A Different Category.

These Are People Coming On, They Know We're Not Going To Be Able To After Board The Luxury That We Give The Present Employees.

That's Come And Gone That Day And That's True With Virtually Every Industry.

Airlines, You Name The Industry.

And They Have Cut Out Pensions For Pilots For Goodness Sakes.

And You Season Are Seen People No Longer Being Pilots.

No Their Still Flying But New Employees, Newer Pilots Are Coming On.

They Recognize It And That's One Of The Conditions.

To Understand.

Mr. Chairman? Yes.

On Item Number Two, In Reference To The Combining The C.P.I. And Performance Salary Adjustment, I Understand That Dinah And Don Is Look At Trying To Find A Blended Methodology And I Don't Have A Problem With You Coming Forward With That.

And Again My Only Comment Was It's The Pressure Of This Board Whether We Want To Change That.

I Don't Want You To Think I'm Not Supporting Your Recommendation Coming Back With A Blended.

I Just Wanted To Raise A Concern With What I Share.

We Want To Be Share We're Being Fair.

So I Don't In Any Way At Least From My Part Want To Say That I'm Not Supportive Of You Coming Forward But I Would Like To See The Other Also Is What I'm Saying.

Just To Keep Us Moving Forward Now, Your Idea Has Merit.

I Just Wanted To Share With You Concerns With The Blended And Only Going Forward.

Our Issues That We Need To Look At And We'll Probably Talk About, But I Too Favor That We Ought To Proceed An Continue To Look On The Issue.

Mr. Chair I Would Like To Beckon To Some A Quote In Today's Paper By Pete Winton, No Cost Savings Is Too Small Not To Be Considered.

If We Don't Put These Costs On The Chopping Block We Can't Then Consider Them.

We Don't Know What These Costs Are, We're Not Looking At Bonus And What It Costs Us.

There's No Figures In This Cost Containment Recommendation.

Here's What I've Concluded About The Size Of This Government When It Comes To The Numbers Of Staff Members That We Have.

We've Added About A Thousand Roughly.

Staff Members Over The Past I Would Say Five Years.

I Think What We Have Opportunity Is We've Brought Too Many Mouths To The You Know The Feast.

And That Is The Problem.

Now We Have To Try To Figure Out How To You Know Provide The Feast And I Think We Need To Be Looking At Whether Or Not We Are Too Big.

Or Too Bloated.

I Can't See Given The Population Increase Even An We All Say How Its Unprecedented.

Well Yeah, It's Unprecedented In A Short Spurt But It Doesn't Rationally Justify This Increase In Staff.

And I Think Without Looking At That, And Looking At It Very Seriously Dinah, How Do Which Know? How Old We Ever Know -- Excuse Me Mr. Chairman I Promise I Will Wrap Up In A Second.

How Will We Ever Know If We've Not Overstaffed Ourselves And I Think That Is Therein Lies The Crux Of The Problem In My Estimation.

In Terms Of This Huge Increase In Staff Don You Maybe Able To Answer That But I Don't Think We Have A Huge Increase Of Staff Adding Thousands To People To The Staff Is Just Hogwash.

The Numbers In 1994 Housing People Lived In The County 5.4 County Employees.

Today For Every Thousand People In The County 4.7 Employees And That Is -- That Is Going To Drop Considerably More The Coming Year.

To Say That County Staff Is Bloated, That's Not What The Numbers Say.

You Look At The Numbers And The Numbers Don't Lie.

They Are What They Are.

I Would Think Increasing, Not Decreasing.

But I Don't Know What It Is.

I Would Wager You Right Now That Next Year You Will See Employees Possible 4.5, 4.6 Per Thousand People Opposed To 5.4.

12, 13 Years Ago, So.

Yeah, Well I Would Expect You To Justify It Mr. County Manager.

It's Under Your Per View.

That's No Justification, That's A Fact.

There's No Justification There.

If You Don't Want To Look At Numbers That's Okay But I'm Not Being -- I'm Just Saying.

I Do Want To Look At The Numbers.

No I've Looked At The Numbers.

There In Lies The.

Mr. Chairman? Yes, Commissioner Hall.

I Would Like Us To Get Through This Document Today And I Think That You Know During Budget The Board Requested That Don Do An Analysis Of Every Department And Come Back During The Year And Make Reports As To Whether We Are Understaffed Overstaffed Revamping With Technology And Things Like That.

This Is One Of Several Informational Items We're Bringing Forward Not Going To Solve Every Single Concern That We Have Today And I Would Like To Get Through These Five And Give Staff Direction As To What We Want To Do With These Five And Afterwards If There's Still Additional To Reiterate Or Reaffirm That Staff Is Going Some Of The Other Things That Individually We Would Like To See And That There's Board Consensus We Want To Continue Them Moving I Would Be Happy To Entertain That But I Would Like To Give Through This Sheet And Give Them Direction On What's On Our Agenda Today And Step Back And Have The More Philosophical Conversation If We Could.

Otherwise We're Never Going To Get Through These Five Items.

Mr. Chairman, To Her Point, If I May, I Season Are Spoken To The Issue We Were On As To Whether To Blend Together The Cost Of Living, And The Performance Pay.

We Got A Little Away From That And I Think A Thorough Review Of The Tote Number Of Employees Is Something We Entertain And Should Every Year When We Adopt A Budget.

That Will Be Part Of The Whole Process But On This Specific Point, I Do Am Reluctant To Abandon The Way We've Been Doing It.

I Just As Soon, We Are Going To Be Dealing With The Cost Of Living Whether We Pretend Not To.

We're Going To Know It's A 2.3 Or 2.8.

We Read The Paper And You're Always Going To Be Beginning With That Because If We Don't Do The Cost Of Living We In Effect Penalizing The Staff That We Have.

Everybody On There As The Cost Of Living Goes Up And We Tell Them To Absorb That Themselves If We Don't Give Them 3%.

We Give Them A Pay Cut And The Spending Value Of Their Dollar.

So We're Always Going To Be Looking At A Cost Of Living Whether You Want To Call It That Or Not.

We're Going To Be Doing It.

So I'm Saying This Has To Leave It Throughout On The Table.

And Miss Lewis Was Honest With Us When She Said This Is Not Technically A Cost Saving Measure They're Suggesting By Blending Them.

The Cost Depends On Whether We Do With Them Whether They're Blended Or Separate So I Think You're Hearing Seems To Be A Comfortable Majority Here That Says, Let's Just Keep It The Way It's Been Going, It's Not A Cost Saving Per Se.

It's Just A Different Way Of Looking At It And I Think We're More Comfortable Looking At It The Same Way We've Been Looking.

I Want To Hear The Whole Thing First.

Or Is The Staff Comfortable With Just Hearing What We're Saying Here And Then You All Govern Yourselves Accordingly.

Their Heads Seal To Be Going Up And Down I Think We Hear You Loud And Clear On Blending.

And I'm Not Saying It Wrong.

We Need To Come Back.

Just A Different Way Of Looking At It.

Thank You.

The Third Item.

We Have Been Contracting With Various Cities Within Lee County To Provide Services That The Cities Could Provide For Themselves But This Entered Into Contracts With The County There Are Two Things That Happen When You Do That.

One Is The Cost Accountants Get Busy To Capture All The Costs So We Charge A Fee.

And What We're Here To Tell You While We've Done A Concerted Effort To Do This.

Secondly, As We Take A Look At Core Service And Service Levels, Should Continue These Kinds Of Services To Separately Incorporated Jurisdictions.

Our Recommendation Is That We Phase Out Existing Agreements For Specific Services Primarily In Community Development, Somewhere In Park And There Are Some Dot Kinds Of Services.

And That The County Adopt A Policy For New Cities That We Assist Them In The Transition, But That We Set A Maximum Time Period On That Transition Of One-Year After Incorporation.

Yes, Commissioner Hall.

I Guess This Has Been A Dilemma For Me Specifically I've Talked About It Regularly Is Should The County Be Offering As A Business Like Government Services.

We Have A Variation Occasions Stepped In As A Building Official Because Of An Emergency Request.

And I Think That's Role Of The County.

I Think The Role Of The County Is To Assist The Cities When They Need Assistance.

Seasons I Sat On The Board I've Seen The Good, The Bad And The Ugly On How Different Cities Utilize Our Staff.

An The Stress On Our Staff Because It's Not Like We're Adding Per Se Additional Staff To Cover These Services At Times.

So I Would Like To Know If The County If This Commission Feels Like We Should Be In That Business For Cities You Know Serving As A Security Council Person And Commissioner Janes You've Done The Same.

In Established Cities I Think At Some Point When The Residents Say, We Want To No Longer We Have To Have Government Closer To Us And We Want To Be A City, Great.

I Don't Think The County Has Objected To That Incorporation And We've Always, On Who Is Going To Take Over Parks And Roads And We Violate.

But We're Always Here To Work Together To Support If Something You Look At The County Of Fort Meyers Beach.

We've Stepped In On Maintenance Now.

We've Stepped In On Various Level But When Who Do We Say We Can't Be Your Building Department And Is It Appropriate? And I Think There's Always Going To Be Special Exceptions To The Rule, But As A Rule I Don't Think We Should Be Providing Like Government Services, And Then We Deal With Those Exceptions As They Come Up.

And On An Individual Basis Such As Stepping In When The City Of Fort Meyers Says We Just As Many My Can't Find A Building Official.

Can We Contract You For One Year Or In That Process.

You Know Those Are Exceptions To Those Rules.

Mr. Chairman? Yes.

I Would Just I Think Echo Or Expand A Little Bit On That.

We Have The Possibility Of Lee High For Instance Coming On Any New Cities, When They Vote Themselves In They Don't Have A Building Department, Let's Just Take That For An Example An And That's Why We've Gotten Into These Programs For The Other Ones But There Needs To Be And I Support Your Recommendation A Weening Process And I Think Even For A Brand New City, These Are Fee-Driven Programs Usually.

I Mean You Pay For Your Permit And That's How You Pay For The Staff To Inspect Them To Issue Them Do All That Sort Of Thing.

Within A Two-Year Period ^, That New City Or The Existing City In Some Cases Here Ought To Have Been Able To Figure Out What Their Fees Are Going To Be And Where They're Going To Put Their People, Where They're Going To House Them And Their Technical Backup And All That Sort Of Thing And To My Way Of Thinking Two Years Is Reasonable, I Don't Think Just Because Bonita Has Been A City, I Would Like To Have A Starting Day And Say Boys By The Year 2010, Know The Deal Because That's As Long As Our Contract Goes.

So, I Support I'm Saying I Support What You're Talking About And There Needs To Be A Weening Period But Let's Not Cut Off Somebody That Legitimately Could Use The Service And It's The Only Fair Thing And Wire The Only Ones That Can Provide It.

It's A Brand New City And We May Be Dealing With Fort Meyers, So We Can't Walk Away From The Issue And At Times We Will Be Called Upon To Help But It Should Be A Limited As Commissioner Hall Is Pointing Out, Period.

Thank You.

Yes Commissioner Judah.

I Think What I'm Hearing Is Because I Notice, They're A Paying Customer.

But Perhaps They're Paying For The Service But What I'm Hearing From Administration, Yeah But There Are Other Costs Involved.

Space To The Employee.

Downtown Here, Medical Health, Retirement Benefits That Have Been To Be Borne By The County In Order To Allow For That Employee To Work For The Municipalities And So, I Sense That Yeah It's Time Based On The Pressure We're Receiving From The State And The Pressure We're Receiving From The Municipalities That Have Just Incorporated That We're Going To Have To Tighten Up Just What The County Can Afford And Provide In A Transition For A Degree Or Distinct Community That Wishes To Incorporate I Understand Where Commissioner Hall Is Coming From Where In A Sense We Almost Have To Look At It As If A Community Wants To Incorporate, Then You Have To Shoulder The Entire Responsibility.

It's A Big Decision.

To What Commissioner Mann Is Saying About A Transition When You Get Into A Ran Decision 4 Some Those They Keep Getting Extended.

So Somewhere We're Going To Have To Find Not Necessarily Common Ground But A Determination As Do We Just Cut It Clean From The On Set Or Do We Really Understand That There Needs To Be A Transition, But There Is A Drop Dead Date.

Although That's Always Determined By The Board In Place Of The Time.

But There's A Lot Of Political Pressure To Continue To Extend The Transition Period.

And Mr. Chairman If I May Just To Dove Tail.

And This In No Way Reflects Current Cities Wire Working With, But As You Look At Corporations It Costs A Lot Of Money.

You Have To Is It A Millage And You Have To Determine What Your Budget Is Based On That Millage And I Appreciate The City Manager Of Bonita Springs Sharing With Us What They're Paying In The Amount Of Money And They See It As An Income To The County.

I'm Not Going To Dispute That One Way Or The Other.

What I'm Saying Is My Concerns That As A City, As People In That Community Have Said We Want To Be A City There's A Millage Associated With The Cost Of Being A City And I Don't Think That The County Should Have To Bear Those Differences.

And I Think There's A Number There.

And If We're Trying To Keep Our Employees Down And As We Add More Cities How Do We Do That Cost Effectively.

And It Is About SpaceCommissioner Judah.

We Hear A Lot Of Times FromCities, Why Don't You Have ACounty Office In Our Community?Went You To Be Closer To Us.

Well, We See Different CitiesHave Taken A Along Time ToBuild Their City Halls Or Don'tHave City Halls.

They've Leased Them.

But If You Want To City HallYou Have To Raise The MillageFor Your Community To Pay ForIt Or You Have To Do SomethingElse.

And I Think Style I Feel ThatThe Burden Those Issues Fall OnOur Shoulders More Than They DoOn The Stanley Cup Members OfSome Of Our Newer Cities.

And Some People Talking AboutCityhood And How Many 10 YearsThey're Going To Be A City.

And I Guess That's Where MyConcern Lies Is That OurEmployees When There AreSubdoubt To These Groups, AndTheir Change And Their Laws.

They Have To Facilitate All TheThings That That CounselChooses To Have And Still WorkDowntown Here In CountyGovernment.

As A County Government EmployeeThey Are Simply A Contractor.

And Still Have To Provide ByOur Rules And Regulations As ACounty Employee And I Think ForSome Of Our Employees This HasBeen A Challenge.

For Others It's Been A Breeze.

It Just Depends On What TheIssue Has Been And We're AllAware Of That So I Free WithYou Commissioner Judah.

I Think We Need To Set Up TheNext For Transition.

And Then Of Course There'sAlways Going SpecialCircumstances That I Think ThisBoard In A Timely FashionAllowing Administration To SeeWhere We're Coming, We See ATransition Not Needing ItsDeadline We Need To Know SoonerVersus Later The To Sit DownWith That City And Talk AboutCut-Off Or Extend Not Day Of TheCut-Off But Many Months So WeHave To Stay Very Much On TopOf These Transitions And ThatAgain Is Our Staff'sResponsibility, But I'm HavingDifficulty As We're Looking AtAdditional Corporations, SayingWe Can Handle Government As ACore Service For Lee CountyGovernment To Provide.

At This Point In Time Are WeLooking At What Staff IsRecommendation, The One 4Year Transition.

Excuse Me Mr. Chairman, OneYear Is Way Too Unrealistic.

I Support The Phase-OutPhilosophy.

And We Should Establish APolicy, If We Were To AcceptThat Because We Were LookingAt Probably Two Other Areas OfThe County.

That Want To Incorporate.

You're Look For BudgetCutting The Today Though Right?You Want To Extend TheTransition Period?I Said I Support ThePhaseout And Principle.

I Think One Year IsUnrealistic.

I Mean They're Paying Us Ray.

But It Costs More NotNecessarily To Provide TheService But To Carry TheEmployees And The States ForThose Employees.

If You Extend The TransitionPeriod Beyond A Year It's MoreCostly To County Government.

Commissioner Judah, They'rePaying.

But They Don't Cover TheCost Of What These Service.

Then We Need To AddressThat, We Need To Develop APolicy To Address That.

We Have, It's Still NotCovering The Cost Of All OfSpace And Everything.

Well, I Can't Free To AOne-Year.

I Think It's Too Onerous For AStartup.

So You Support Contain ToSubsidize.

I Support A Phaseout And TheDevelopment Of A Policy.

These Are Recommendations,They're Looking For OurDeliberation On It.

And We Will Hear Back From ThemI Suppose.

But, One Year Is Just TooUnrealistic.

Okay.

All Righty, Then.

Item Number Four.

We've Got Big Rats.

Item Number Four, Maintenance Of Lee Facilities.

The Situation The County Owns A Number Of Facilities And Some Of These Are Leased To Operation.

Some Of The Groups Are Other Governmental Agencies, Some Are Nonprofits And For The Most Part It's Into Written Agreements With These Organizations That Provide That The Cost Of Operating, Is To Be Handled By Those Organizations.

But Nevertheless Through Various Circumstances, Sometimes Those Repairs Are -- Repairs Are Not Done.

Because The County Owns The Facility We Have The Responsibility To Make Sure That The Facility Doesn't Go To Waste And That It Doesn't Fall Into Disrepair And Have Higher Costs.

So, We Step In On A Pretty Regular Basis To Provide Is Those Repairs.

Our Recommendation Is That We Go Back To These Written Agreements And Require That The Tenants Meet Their Obligations Under These Agreements And Provide The Repairs As They've Agreed To Do.

We Certainly Understand That From Time To Time There Will Be Exceptions And The Organizations Have Access To This Board To Come In And Ask For A Specific Waiver Or Change To The Agreement In A Particular Circumstance, But The County Is Bearing A Number Of Costs Over And Above What The Written Agreement Provides Us.

Don't We Have Maintenance Incorporated To Do Just That.

Yeah.

We're Following It.

Well, We Enforce It.

There's The Issue Of The New Roof Over That Building Out There On State Road 31 That The Tenant Probably Should Have Maintained And Never Did And We Wound Up Spending Three-Quarters Of A Million Dollars Reroofing The Thing.

He's Talking About The Civic Center.

That Was Our Doing.

We Didn't Maintain It.

Well, That's That Was The Case They Made.

But We At Least Did We Not.

A Roof Is A Little Bit Different Than Ongoing Maintenance Of A Building.

If You Ignore The Maintenance Commissioner, You Will Lead To Major Repairs Like That.

Well, If Our Landlord You Don't Charge Your Tenant The Cost Of The Roof Replacement.

Lease A Little Shop Sometimes, See What Happens.

Air Conditioner Goes Out, You Buy It.

That Is Landlord's Obligation.

We're Taking.

Well Like I Said Well Okay.

Can We Have An Example China Of A Non-Profit That's Not Fulfilling Its Maintenance Agreement.

Commissioner I Can Talk To This.

We Have Several Many Smaller Buildings That Typically Are Sitting On Our Property.

I'll Give You An Example.

The Old Fire House In Mount LaShea Park On Lee County Property.

The Fire Station Moved To Another Location.

I Believe The Art League Took It Over.

At Some Point In Time, They're Going To Need A Roof Or They Have Needed A Roof, In Years Past We Would Put The Roof On It.

They Don't Have The Where Withal.

And Over Time These Things Become Accumulatively A Lot Of Money And So I Think Our Point In Telling You This Today Is We're Going To Enforce This In That You Would Probably Get A Call From Those People Who Are Those Constituencies The Old Pine Island Library That We Moved Into A New Library.

Rather Than Tearing These Buildings Down, Groups Come Forward With Perfectly Good Legitimate Purposes.

The Pine Island Historical Museum But Hen The A.C. Goes Or The Roof Goes And Naturally, You Know They Come To Us.

The Civic Center Is An Extreme Example But We Have These Cases All Over The County.

Perfectly Well Intended People But Don't Have The Horse Power, The Two Senior Centers One In Lee High.

We Have Agreements With Them.

And Typically They're Not For Profit.

They're Not Charging A Lot Of Money.

They Don't Have The Horse Power To Generate The Types Of Maintenance Costs It Takes To Run These Buildings.

So, These Are And These Are What We Call Like Fringe Core Service, They're On The Line Of Is It A Core Service Or Not, It Depends On Who You Ask, So Our Maintenance Department Has Taken Quite A Hit Over This Last Budget So They're Looking At Well, Guy I'm Having A Hard Time Maintaining The Courthouse And The Jail, What Am I Doing Out At The Senior Center Or At The Pine Island Historical Society And That's The Dilemma We've Created Internally.

In Other Words It's Hard To Look My Electricians Roofers In The Eye And Say Take Care Of That Art Building But He's Got An Issue With The Jail Or He's Got An Issue With The Wherever.

The It Is Our Core Service And That's The Dilemma That's Been Created.

It Sounds Like You're Describing Surplus Property That We Ought To Consider Selling Off.

If These Nonprofits Want To Acquire It And Carry The Responsibility, Then We Could Sell It To Them And Or Sell.

Surplus It Out Is Always An Option.

Probably These Buildings, I Would Suggest Most Of Them Have Outlived Their Useful Life And We're Into The Heavy Maintenance Requirement Stage Of Their Life Span Which Is At The End Where It Cost More Than It Should To Maintain Them Because Of Their Age.

So That's Also A Factor Here And That Is Definitely The Case With The Lee Civic Center.

The Villas Association.

Civic Association Has A Community Facility.

They Are Responsible For 100% Of Its Costs And So If They Can't Step Up To The Plate, They Have To Forgo That Luxury.

I Think We Probably Need To Be Looking At This Seriously.

As A Way To Unload The Obligation.

On To Those That Want To Assume The Obligation I Think.

Mr. Chairman, On This Particular One I Think We Have And I Think You're Asking, Does This Board Have The Courage To Have You Enforce These Leases As They're Written Without Then Undermining You All As You're Trying To Endorse Them And Folks Walk The Halls And Then We Undermine The Authority Of The Leases Because We're Constantly Overwriting Better Judgment.

I Think What Would Be Helpful To Us And I Don't Know If My Colleagues Will Con Secure To Get A List Of All The Surplus Buildings That We Have, Who Is In Them And What The Condition Of Those Buildings Are And I Think This Board Should Decide, Are These Tear Downs, And Does The Land Immediate To Go On Surplus? I Think It Would Be A Much More Responsible Way To Look At It As A Big Picture Item And Then Start Sitting Down And Taking Them Down One At A Time And Saying, Is The Appropriate For Tax Pairs Dollars To Be Subsidizing This Construction On Behalf Of This Non-Profit Organization And I Think The Board Needs To Make The Stuff Decisions And Staff Knows It's Not, We Will Give Them A Time To Move Out, Because We Will Area The Building Down An Sell The Property Or Use The Property For A Facility That's Needed Or The County Purposes And If There's Space In That New Building For Them To Come Back To You Fee, But If Not You Need A Bigger Picture To Come Down.

It's The Same Difficulty We've Had Folks.

I Mean We've Got All These Nonprofits Begging For Give Me 200 Square Feet And Is Trying To Struggling To Make Our Obligations And It's Getting Harder And Harder For Us.

I Think I Would Prefer To Step Back And Truly Have You Given Us An Analysis So We Can Really Make Hard Decisions That You Can Count On In Enforcing Those Decisions, But Then We Can Take The Time To Talk To These Groups And Decide What's Going To Be Best.

I Don't Want To Full Rug Out From Anybody But I Think We Need To Be Very Conscientious, It's A Big County, We've Got A Lot Of Stuff Lying Around.

I Think We Need To Start Cleaning It Up A Little Bit No Good Suggestion.

Yeah.

Mr. Chairman, A Couple Thoughts.

I Own Property And I Have Tenants In It So I'm Familiar With The Subject.

You've Got To Have A Lease Fee That Contemplating Depreciation And Wear And Tear.

And If We're Below That In A Lot Of These, First Off I Would Say Just Do Your Thing.

You're The Administration.

Because That's What You're Telling Us Is Happening.

And I'm Saying You Shouldn't Be Doing That.

This Commission When We're Wearing Our Hat As A Port Authority.

Bulldoze It.

And Ruby Daniels Wasn't At This Podium And Please Don't Take, Or I Can Go Down A List Of Very Relevant Third, Fourth Generation Lee Countyans, I Appreciate Your Candor And Courage But I Have Sat Here We Gave For Our New Building.

Just Out No But I'm Just Saying That You're Right, They're Trying To Enforce These Leases But The Folks Are Coming Back To Us.

My Suggestion Would Be When You Get To A Lease That's Expired, Look At It Honestly And Recommend The Necessary Increase.

Do We Have To Rubber Stamp Those On A Consent Item? I Mean They Come Back Here.

Take Them As They Come.

Let's Make Sure Building Has Not Been Designated Historic, Then We Run Into A Problem.

Mr. Chairman, I Think We Hear What You're Saying And I Think The Recommendation The Direction To Come Back To You With List Of Off These Buildings And Get You To State Your Policy, And Then By The Policy And Implement The Policy As You Stated After You've Received The Context We're Talking About.

I Think We Will Be Very Surprised About The Number Of Buildings That We Have With Very, Very Nominal Return For The Money We Spend On Them.

But We Will Be Happy To Do That.

Thank You, Dinah.

The Sixth Item Has To Do With Fund-Raising Events The County Is Invited To Sponsor And Buy Tickets To Any Number Of Fund-Raising Events From The Community Organizations.

Over Time, You Know The County Has Supported Some Not Others This Is Not A Large Dollar Item But We're Seeking Some Direction For Discussion Purposes Our Recommendation Is That The County Not Spend Public Dollars On These Fund-Raising Events And Look Forward To Your Discussion.

Can't These Be Budgeted In The Office Account.

You Certainly Can Use It As An Expense Account And Turn In Your Receipt.

Don't Come Back Without The Donuts! Mr. Chairman, I Think With All Of The Nonprofits Out There Raising Money In Very Difficult Times I Find It Difficult For Us To Pick And Choose Which Ones We're Going To Buy A County Table At.

We've Tried To Find The More Human Services Groups, But I Can Tell You There's Just A Ton Of Them And I've Actually Had Calls Saying You Why Isn't The County Producing A Table Here.

Many Of These Functions Were Invited At No Cost To Us.

And If It's A Ticket Where The Event Exceeds Our Gift Limitations We Put It On Our Report.

Many Times We're Invited As Guests To Join People And If A Ticketed Item Is More Than What We Are Allowed, We Reported It.

But I'm Finding It Difficult, I'm Not Comfortable With The Picks And The Choosing Of The Non-Profit And If There's Something You Feel Strongly That You Need To Be There Representative And It's Appropriate For Us Then To Turn In The Budget Item 10 So Be It.

That's A Discretion Of Any One Of Us, Individually.

What Meals We Turn In And What Other Events We Feel Are Present Depending On The Liaisons We're Assigned And Depending On Our Involvement Which Ones Will Spend The Money To Attend To Be There But More Often Than Not I Would Say Over 70% Of Them Invite Us As A Guest.

So I Don't See That Being A Conflict But I See Conflict With The Buying Of The Table And What's More Embarrassing When We Don't Have Enough People To Fill The Table.

And The Counties A Purchased A Table.

And I Find That Probably More Disheartening Than It Does Happen Every Now And Then.

Your Recommendation Would Be.

Stop It.

Me Too.

Let Me Mention One Other Issue, That's Related To That And That's To What Extent You Want To Get Into The Issue Too, Because That's Getting To Be Very Expensive And The Requests Are Non-Ending.

Such As A Limitation On The Number Of Years, That They're Eligible To Qualify.

For Partnering For Progress Issues And Things Loose Like That.

What Are They Doing To Raise Money On Their Own.

I Think We Need To Tighten That Up.

Mr. Chairman? Yes.

I thought that the Human Services Counsel through Karen's office was looking at that and was going to come back with a recommendation for us.

Yes.

I can support the county policy being that we don't purchase tables and that we deal with this on an individual basis.

I'm fine with that.

I just wanted to point out it's not just the county commission.

I mean it's been administration.

No, absolutely.

That have shown support for not for profit agencies by being at these function bus I would agree with you times are going to dictate that we need to bring to it a halt.

But also I want to make sure that caveat doesn't just go down to county commissioners expenses we can afford our department's expenses and where it's appropriate where they need to attend a function.

I don't want them to not do that.

If the county manager needs to be at xyz and there's a \$50 ticket for that and you have it's appropriate for your staff, I don't want it to be off the radar.

Most of these nonprofits host us but if they're not, the community does rely on our support for many of these things and do want us to be present at these functions.

So I don't want to say I'm.

Before you leave the first idea, can we go back.

Does that conclude the items.

Yes, it seems now we can go back and talk about it in general or if you want go back to a specific item.

Dinah and to don, the concern I have with the proposal under the first item, is you create an inequity.

You will have new employees standing working side by side with existing employees, doing the similar work and not receiving the same benefits.

You're create inequity you create dissension and I quite frankly it's discrimination.

And I Understand It's Real Easy To Say We're Going To Ask That The Future Employees Incur The Hit But I Would Rather It's Not Going To Be Very Popular For Me To Say This, But To Look Within Our Own.

And We Don't Want To Create The Inequity And What You Want To Do Is Perhaps Look At A Way In Which We As Existing Employees Have To Recognize That Perhaps The Co Pay Has To Be Increased Slightly.

^ Which Would Translate Into A Substantial Savings With Our Health Insurance Program.

But We As A Team Need To All Be Treated Fairly.

Tough County Receiving Its Core Level Of Service Because You Want To Provide Equity Throughout The County.

You're Going To Create An In Question Which The First Item That You're Proposing Today.

It May Seem Easy As First Blush But There's Long-Term Consequences And I Think We Have To Recognize That If We Want To Have A Team Effort Then We Have To Be Able To Come Up With An Understanding That We Need To Make Sacrifices And That Could Very Well Mine Increase In Co Pay.

Mr. Chairman? I Can't Agree With You Commissioner Judah And I'll Give You An Example Of Trying To Use Your Analogy.

We Have Employees That Have Worked Here For 20 Years That Are Certain Salary Range.

We Have People Who Knew New That Are Coming In Just Under What They Waited To Earn For 20 Years.

You Want To Talk About The Perception Of Inequities.

We Have Some People Who Start Higher Than Some Of The People Who Have Been Here 15 Years, Why? Because That's The Salary Lake We Have Now And That's Market That's Driving That.

I Look At Benefits As Saying Why Should I Penalize The Employees Who Have Been Here And Saying You Have To Pay More So That We Can Keep Everyone Equal.

New Employees.

I'm Talking About Salary.

I'm Not Talking About Salary Either.

I'm Talking About Our Benefits We Offer Employees.

I Felt Very Strongly That We Couldn't Stop Paying At Least The Employees Health Insurance.

I Look At It As A Huge Benefit But When I Look At Retirement They're Still Getting Their State Retirement Benefits.

Nothing Is Changing There.

I Don't Want To -- We Need To Get A Handle On The Postretirement Health Benefits.

Because At Some Point We're Going To Get To A Point Where Are We Going To Offer Health Insurance For Any Employee? It's Going To Come At Some Time.

I'm Looking At Finds Ways To Stay Expectation Is Changing And The Private Industry Is Changing.

You Don't Have Employees Even In The Private Sector All Equal.

We're Not Equal In Our Retirement Benefits Here Today As Commissioners As Employees.

It's All Different.

There's Different Levels So Again New Employees Coming In It's A Different Level And I Don't Feel Comfortable Saying To Our Employees Who Have Been Here A Really Long Time That Have Had An Expectation, We've Held On To That Expectation Pretty Forcefully And Since I Have Been On The Board And You Guys Commissioner Janes And Bigelow Have Only Been Here For One Budget But I've Been Here And We've Held On To Employee Benefits Very Staunchly, I Look At This As Recognizing The Changing Of The Economy And The Changing Of The Times.

And I Don't Want To Go Back And Penalize Our Existing Employees And Say You Know You Have To Pay More Co Pay Or You Have To Do This So I Can Bring New Employees In Who Don't Have Any Expectation.

We're Setting That Expectation For Them.

And I Don't Look At This As A Major Disadvantage Of Benefit To Our Employment Because Most People Coming On Want To Know What Is My Salary.

I Want To Know That I'm Going To Be Working In A Fair Working Environment.

I Want To Know That I Can Grow In My Environment.

And Then Tell Me What The Rest Of My Benefits Are.

And They Do Look At The Health Insurance As Employees.

When They Know They Don't Have A Subsidy To Their State Retirement, They Can Make Arrangements For What They're Going To Do To Subsidize That Because They Know Up Front.

Pretty Well Demonstrated Over The Years That I Have A Strong, Strong Advocacy Support Position For Our Employees.

Steadfastly I've Always Supported Our Employees.

All I'm Suggesting Is That I Do Foresee The Potential For Creating The Inequity.

We've Talked Before About If Ways To Good Valued Employees.

A Lot Of It Has To Do With The Health Insurance Benefit Package And The Sheriff Tells Us That All The Time And I Believe It.

But I'm Just Suggesting That When You Have Individuals Coming Into Workforce That Are Treated Differently, And I Understand We've Got To Get Our Hands Around It And There's No Question About It And It's Very Easy To Say We're Going To Place It On The Backs Of New Employees.

I Steadfastly Will Always Support Our Existing Workforce.

But We Have To Recognize We're All Part Of The Solution.

I Just Have To Make The Comment And That Is I Have A Little Problem Agreeing With What You're Proposing To Commissioner Judah Except To Say All You Have To Do Is Propose Cutbacks To People Who Have 13, 14, 15 Years In That Were Count On That As Parts Of Their Retirement Package And To Come Up With Them And Say After All This Time, Folks We've Decided That You're Going To Take Your Share Of The Whack Too.

I'm Telling You This Room Is Not Big Enough To Handle The People That Will Come In Screaming And Hollering.

That's Why Are Ripping To It New Hires And That's Why They Expect New Employees, It's Easier To Do That And Fairer To Do That Than It Is To Lack Of Existing Employee.

I'm Not Suggesting Whacking Existing Employees.

You Are, You're Saying Spread The Burden, That's Whacking An Employee.

There's A Whole Lot Of Cost Containment Options Out There That We Haven't Discuss.

I Free With You But That's One We Will Be Discussing If You Propose It No Mr. Chair, I Need Help In Understanding This Idea, I Think You Have Two Suggestions Here Commissioner Judah If I'm Not Miss Taken.

That Is To Potentially Increase What Our Current Employees Pay For Their Current Health Insurance Coverage.

But Also To Consider Including Our Current Employees In This, Um, Retirement Premium Subsidy.

You're Talking About Looking At Both Of These? Yes From An Equity Standpoint.

Okay, So I'm With You There, On Both Of Those Accounts.

I'm Particularly Interested In Knowing What Is It That We Currently Pay For Health Insurance Compared To Other Counties Our Competitors Are Paying And I Would Have To Guess Based On Some Of The Figures I've Seen And Some Precipice That's Been Given On The Subject That We Are, It's Not At Its Lowest Probably The Lowest In What We Require Our Staff To Pay.

So I Think We Need To Do An Analysis Of What It Is That We Are Charging Versus What Other Counties Are Charging.

The Last.

Current Employees, Now The Last Thing I Want To Do Is To Send A Message That We're Looking At Penalizing Our Current County Employees.

I've Never Been In A Position Where I've Ever Undermined Taking Care Of Our County Employees.

First And Foremost Our Very, Very Valuable Assets To Get The Job Done.

What I'm Stating Is This May Not Be The Appropriate Approach To Take Because It Creates An Inequity And We May Have To Look At Other Options.

Mr. Chairman, I Don't Want To Get Involved In This And I Have To Agree With I Think Commissioner Hall Said It First That No One Has Been A Greater Champion Of The County Employees Than Mr. Judah.

He's Certainly Always Championed The Good Of Lee County Employees.

So I Don't Want To Get A Juxtaposition Suggesting You're Doing Anything Else Except What's Right For Lee County.

But I Think I Look At It A Little Bit Different As Far As Inequity.

I Think It Would Be Greater For The County Employee That Had Been Here 10 Years, 15 Years, 20 Years From We Were To Change The Rules Because Someone New Is Going To Come To County.

We've Made A Commitment With These People.

Already Said This Is What Happens If You Work With Lee County.

They've Worked Here, Five, 10, 15, 20 Years.

For Is To Change That Rule Now, And Say Oh-Oh, Things Are Tough Now.

We're Going To Scale Back.

We Want You To Contribute More So These New People Can Be Treated The Same Way We Treated You Back Then Situation Was Different.

Well Times Have Changed Now.

And If I'm A New Employee And I Don't Want To Come To Work With Lee County, And I Know This Is The Situation, You Know I've Got A Choice.

No One Is Making Me Work For Lee County.

I Have A Choice, Am I Going To Work For Lee County For These Benefits? And I Think That's A Better Way To Keep Our Current Employees Doing The Great Job They're Doing And I Know You Agree At That, I Know You Recognize It, County Employees Do A Great Job And They Really Do.

I Think That's A Better Way To Keep Them Than To Say Oh We're Going To Hire More People And We're Going To Spread The Cost.

We're Going To Charge You A Bit More So They Can Enjoy The Same Benefits That You Have After All These Years.

Mr. Chairman, Can I Do A Reality Check Here? You Said You Read The "Wall Street Journal", A Lot Of Good Information On That And You Can Read Other Papers And Watch Tv And Learn A Lot Of Things Such As G.M. Had A Strike The Other One Had One Right After This And The Reason They're Having Difficulty Is Because They're Having To Give Their Existing Employees Less Than What They're Accustomed To Getting And They're Paying Their New Employees Less Than What They've Been Paying Their Old Once Or They're Going Out Of Business.

The Reality Are Is Their Revenues Are Down.

The Reality For Lee County Is That Our Revenues Are Expected To Be Down Substantially.

We Have Big Unemployment Around Here.

We've Got A Housing Market That Has Collapsed.

The Revenues That We Have Been Enjoying In The Past Are Gone For The Foreseeable Future And In Addition The Legislature Continues To Meet And Find Other Ways To, So Staff Has Come To Us With Some Suggestions.

That Which Better Entertain Because When We Get Back To Next Year's Budget And We're Talking About Whether It's Going To Be 6% Or 8% Or Whether We're Going To Put A C.P.I. On Top Of A Merit Pay Program, Those Are Going To Be The Really Tough Decisions Coming.

This Is Kindergarten Stuff Here Today.

But We Ought To At Least Say Okay, We Can Bite The Bullet On The Kindergarten Because

Those Are Not Going To Be There.

The People Who Are Gripping About Their Taxes, Not Coming Down Is Because He Says A Year Ago Those Values Didn't Come Down But This Year Those Values Are Coming Down And Those Are The Ones That Are Going To Be Spending Money On This Year.

This Is A New World We're In.

This Is Reality Check That Frank Is Screaming About Here.

This Is Nothing.

This Is Child's Play.

We've Got Really Big Stuff That We Can't Cut It Here, I Don't Know What In The World We're Going To Do When We Get Into The Budget.

I Would Say Go You've Got Good Recommendations.

If The Sheriff Has Statutory Authority, But These Other Things, Let's Get On It.

Go For It.

I Can Give You One Last One I Have A Lady Come In My Office Barely Two Weeks Ago.

Her Name Let's Call Her Darlene.

She Moved Here From New England.

She And Her Husband About 10 Years Ago.

He Had A Job, She Was Doing Part-Time As A Nurse.

They Got Little Kids.

They Started To Invest In Little Duplexes In Lehigh Acres.

They Ended Up With Four Of Them And They Didn't Do It Like Some Of These Rinky Drinks That Came In With Nothing Down And Get A \$300,000 And All Those People In Foreclosure Thousand.

These People Saved All Their Lives Put A \$30,000 Down Payment And Other The Last Eight Or 10 Years They Were Able To Rent Those And They Could See Their Retirement Coming And All Of A Sudden, Her Duplexes That They Built For \$142,000, Her Taxes On Those Were More Than The House They Lived In, Because Saber Homes Protected Them There But They Were Paying Four Times, I Mean Twice In The Taxes On The Duplexes That They Had.

She Said I Have To Leave Lee County.

She Says I'm Going Back Home Because I Can Get A Job Full-Time Job At The Hospital Where I Used To Work, They Are Leaving And She Says I'm Having To Leave The \$40,000 Down Payment We Made 18 Months Ago In A Duplex Because I Can't Sell It.

I'm Going To Have To Walk Away With It And These Are Real Lives, Real People In Lee County Today And I'm Sorry If I'm Preaching But I've Been Listening To You Guys Long Enough.

Some Of This Stuff Has Made Me Angry.

These Are Real Bodies.

Some Moving To Tennessee Because They Can Buy Twice The Land Up There And Pay One-Fourth The Taxes.

This Is A Mother We Were At A High School Reunion.

This Was Their Home All Their Life And We Have To Leave.

This Isn't Nothing We Can't Do This, Then We Ought To Get Horse Whipped.

We Need To Prepare For Something A Whole Lot Worse And Apologize For The Preacher Tone.

You Will Continue Working On It, We'll Come Back With Another Round Of It Soon.

When? Or.

Mr. Chairman? Yes.

I Don't Mind Your Preaching, It Doesn't Bother Me.

I Think It's A Good Dialogue That We're Having.

But, How Many Years Are We Going To Talk About It? I Think We Can Get Some Consent.

They Want To Make These Effective January 1st.

What Else Can She Tell Us, If You Want Her To Blue Sheet This So We Can Make A Addition It's On The Agenda.

I Don't Know What The Policy Should Be So Let's Get It Blue Sheeted So We Can Take Some Votes.

If We Can Vote On Them Today I'm Ready To Vote On Them Today And Move On.

I Don't Think We're Going To And Commissioner Judah Utmost Respect I Hear You Loud And Clear, This Is Just One Area I'm Just Not Going To Agree With You On And I'm Ready To Grade And Start On The Post Retirement.

We Had This Discussion During Budget.

We're Having It Now.

We've Spent An Hour And A Half Talking About Five Items.

Commissioner Bigelow, Out Of Due Respect To You I Think There's More Things We Can Talk About, And But I'm Tired Of The Analysis, We Saw The Analysis Over And Over Again.

If You Need More Analysis, Take It But I Just Don't Need Anymore Analysis.

I Get On That Computer Myself And Look The Stuff Up.

I'm May Be Computer Literate, I Don't Know.

By Number One I Make A Motion That We Adopt Effective January Can I Do That In This Meeting, David? Sure.

I Will Like To Make A Motion That We Adopt The Retiree Health Premium Post Subsidy Not To Be Available To New Employees Effective January 1 Of 2008.

Second.

Under Discussion You Say Not To Be Available.

Not Offered As A Benefit The Now Employees Effective January 1st 2008.

No The Entire Benefit? Well.

Exactly How It's Written Here Under Number One.

I Don't Want It To Be Confusing Because I Don't Want To Put Confusion Language In There But, How They Have An Again Encourages The Constitutional To Follow Suit.

We're Not Laying This On The Constitutionals At This Time.

We're Asking Hem To Review And Take The Lied Of The County Commission.

So This Would Only Effect Bocc Employee.

Another Discussion Just To Confirm.

And I Appreciate The Opportunity To Adequately Discuss The Pros And Cons.

The Suggestion From Administration For Future Employee They Will Receive No Post Employment Health Care Benefits, Subsidy What Over.

No Specifically It's The Subsidy That Will Not Be Available The New Employees.

They Would Still Be Able To Participate In The Plan And Pay 100% Of The Premium But They Would Not Receive The Subsidy On The Premium No That The Current Employees Are Receive.

No Current Employees And Current Retirees Would Continue Under The Existing Plan.

Does Not Affect Their State Retirement.

I Understand That.

Just An Augmented Benefit If You Will.

On Top Of The Fully Funded Frs Systems.

That's Correct.

So, So.

I Mean, No The Only One Apply It To Those Post January 1st Hiring.

We've Got To Look At Big Picture.

I Mean Where Are We Going To Cut.

I'm Sorry I Started To Sound Like Bigelow Here For A Minute.

You Have To Watch Yourself.

The Motion On The Floor, If We Want To Go Beyond That We Can Have That Discussion But I Think This Is A First Step In The Right Direction.

I Don't Want To Tie Down By Motion To Going Beyond That Right Now Because I Don't Think It's Appropriate.

We'll Never Get There.

You Don't Even Have The Numbers On The Table There, So We Can't Consider.

So You Say, Commissioner.

If I Could, I Will Support The Motion Because Of The Incredible Misunderstanding That Would Emanate From Doing Otherwise.

But Again I Caution That We Are Inequity.

It's Something We Have To Recognize Realize And As You Have Indicated For New Employees Coming In, It Would Be Known Right Up Front What The Expectations Are.

You Can't Argue With That.

But Once In The Workforce There's Going To Be Some Issues.

Support The Motion.

Any Further Discussion? I'm Not Supporting The Motion.

The Is Clerk Here.

No Maybe He Could Tell Us What We Would Save No We're Not There, We're Talking About New Hires And There's Without A Doubt There's Going To Be Some Savings, There Has To Be.

We Don't Have It Down To Dollars And Cents But The Savings Are Significant.

All Those In Favor Signify By Saying Aye.

Aye.

And The Motion Is Adopted 4-1 With Commissioner Bigelow In The Negative.

Unbelievable.

Okay.

Mr. Chairman.

On A Item Number Two I Don't Think We Need To Take A Motion.

Staff Concur, And Item Number Three I Would Like -- Wait A Minute Come Back To Us.

On A Budget, During Budget That They Will Give Us The Either Ors Like We've Done In The Past.

We're Not Blending It At This Time.

No.

As Long As That's An Understanding By The Board.

Let Me Make Sure It's Clear Because Sometimes It's Confusing.

I Would Like To Make A Motion That We Handle C.P.I. And Cost Performance Pay Merit Raises As We've Done In The Past.

Second.

Okay.

No Why Are We Motioning To DoSomething.

Because I Want To Make SureIt's Clear Commissioner BigelowFor The Record.

Okay.

Okay, Fine.

You Heard The Motion,Seconded, Any FurtherDiscussion??All Those In Favor Signify BySaying Aye.

Aye.

I'm Not Okay With It.

Same Thing We've Been Doing.

On Item Number Three I WouldLike To Make A Motion ThatStaff Come Back To Us With APhasing Program That Has MoreDetails But To Go Ahead AndAuthorize Them To Move ForwardWith A Policy On Phasing OutCities On Like Counts ProvidingLike Government Services.

And What That Policy Would Be IWould Like To Authorize Them ToGo Forward With The Policy.

Could I Ask TheCommissioner.

Certainly.

Could We Throw In A Two-YearFigure For Them.

I'm Not Going To In AnyYear, I'm Going To Let ThemCome Back To Us.

One Year Just Seemed ToConcern Several Of TheCommissioners Including Myself.

I Think When We Adopt ThePolicy We Can Discuss The Year,But That Way They Can Give UsBack Hard Numbers.

I Think Under Discussion I MeanI Don't Want To Get The DetailsRight Now.

I Would Like Them To GetSomething Back That We CanActually Adopt Or Reject OrAmend.

So That's My Motion.

Under Administrative Agenda.

I Need A Second.

I'll Second It.

I Guess It Will Be A Blue Sheet On Administrative Agenda.

Is That What The Motion Would Include.

Write A Policy So We Could Adopt A Policy.

Discussion? All Those In Favor Signify By Saying Aye.

Aye.

The Ayes Have It, The Motion Is Adopted.

You Want Me To Keep Going.

Might As Well.

Number Four On The Lease Facilities.

I Like To Make A Motion That Staff Bring Back To Us A Categorized List Of All Of Our Properties Who Are Tenants Are And The Status Of Those Construct Of Those Buildings So We Can Start To Make Determinations On Them.

In The Meantime Maintain Your Leases As Best You Can.

Would You Consider Including Space.

Absolutely, All Of It.

We Need To See It All.

We Need To See A Big Picture.

He Wants To Include All The Donated Space Within Our Buildings Also Not Just The Separate Structures.

The Whole Big Picture.

That's My Motion.

Is There A Second.

Anybody.

Second.

All Those In Favor Signify By Saying Aye.

Aye.

The Ayes Have It.

No The Lee Changes Policy That We No Longer Purchased Cables To Nonprofits Special Events.

Second.

Okay, You've Heard The Motion And The Second, Is There Discussion.

Just To Be Sure I Understand What Is Included In All That, She Gave An Example Naacp But What About Like The Horizon Counsel Not Many Of These Were Invited At No Cost To Sit At Double.

Don't We Fund A Table At The Horizon Council.

No, The Foundation Donates That Table Us To Us.

Really.

Okay, So But It Includes Similar Events Which Would.

It Couldn't Proclude Using Your Own Expense Items You Go To Functions You Feel Is Appropriate But I Believe It's Not To Buy These Table.

Okay, Discussion, All Those In Favor Signify By Saying Aye.

Aye.

The Ayes Have It, The Motion Is Adopted.

Thank You Mr. Chairman.

I Just Want To Congratulate Everybody, These Are Tough Tough Decisions.

We're All There Yet.

Much More Discussion Will Occur.

Let Me Tell You Something We're Also Faced With A Budget Crunch That I Tell You Is Going To Begin To Address, This Is Like Frank Said The Easy Ones.

Mr. Chairman Under Other Items We Didn't Seem The To Get To It Because They Did List Them Items There They're Going To Look At It, I Would Like To Highlight Strategies, County Manager Obviously Sees Something In What I Was Suggesting, Okay, Thank You.

Is That It? Let's Move On There Is No Public Hearing.

We Have No Walk Johns An Carryovers.

Let's Do The Commissioner Item.

Commissioner Bigelow.

Thank You Mr. Chairman.

Last Week The Edson Bank Downtown Was Being Robbed About The Time That We Were Discussing My Suggestion That We Invite Or Request That The Sheriff Come Present Information So That We Can Get A Better Comprehensive Understanding Of The Crime Throughout Lee County.

Is That Not In The City Of Fort Meyers In Wouldn't You Want To Bring In The Fort Meyers Police In Too? What? With That Bank Being Robbed, The Other Day Wasn't That The.

That Was A Week Ago Today.

And Fort Meyers's What I Asked.

New Can You State Your Question Again? I Don't Think You Do.

Is It Not The Bank That Was Robbed Down Here.

The Edson Bank On The Other Side Of The Federal Building Yes.

That's Right, And Is That Not Within The City Of Fort Meyers.

Yes, It Is.

Thank You.

And Who Is Responsible For Crime Within The City Of Fort Meyer.

And The Sheriff Responded And His Bomb Squad Responded And I Appreciate That.

I Understand But Who Is Principally Responsible For Crime Enforcement In The City Of Fort Meyers.

The Fort Meyers Police Department.

How Can You Say Anything But.

Mr. Chairman Out Of Respect This Is My Commissioner Item Can I At Least Get It Out? Well, I Think You Were Going To Involve The Sheriff, In The Discussion Of This Issue, And It Has To Do Mainly More With The Fort Meyers Police Department Is Shouldn't They Be Involved In The Discussion As Well.

They Were The First Responders.

I'm Not Taking Issue With Anything Regarding.

Finish Your Remark.

Thank You! Okay.

So I Was Simply Pointing Out The Coincidence Of The Occasion Of A Week Ago That We Were Experiencing A Bank Robbery With 200 Feet Of Where We Sat Last Tuesday.

I Was Trying To Suggest That We Invite Not Direct Us Or Demand That The Sheriff Present Comstat Information For Us.

I Was Simply Trying To Suggest That We As A Board Sit In Front Of The Facts That A He Might Or Might Not Present If We Were To Invite Him And That As You Remember Was Struck Down And Instead We Decided We Would Just Give Direction To County Manager That Any Time He So Chose He Was Welcome To Present Information.

Let's See What The Board Wants To Do With That.

Mr. Chairman I Have Just Begun If You Don't Mind.

Well It Sounded Like You Had Ended.

Your Voice Dropped And I Thought I Heard A Period At That Sentence.

You Want To Take On Another Item.

No This Is The Same Item.

Very Good, Please Continue Then.

Thank You.

On The Front Page Of The Bonita Daily News Lee Crime Rate Rises 16%.

On The Front Page Both The News Press Crime Rises In Lee County.

I Will Like To Present These Statistics For You And I Do Have A Copy For The County Management If They So Choose.

If You Would Turn After You Receive It And Turn To The Tabed Section I Want To Point Out Some Very Stark Statistics That Makes The Point That I Think If You Were To Replay The Tape Of This Board Meeting Back 10, 11 Months Ago, I Try To Bring Issue To The Violent Crime Taking Place Throughout Lee County.

As I See It The Sheriff Is Charged With Responsibility Of Responding To Crime.

He Reacts To The Act Of Crime.

I Think Its Our Duties As Elected Officials To Address The Front End Of It If You Will.

The Root Causes To Crime.

What Is Happening In Our Community That Makes Front Page News Compared To Our Neighbouring Counts Or East Coast Counts Which Are Experiences Not Even Half As Much Of A Crime Wave As We Are.

I Think We Know You Know The Economy Is Diving Unfortunately.

As The Construction Industry Is Tripled And That Is Leading To It But I Don't Think That's The Sum Total Of It, Commissioner Janes Under The Commissioner Item Last Week You Suggested That We Need To Understand This From A Human Services Perspective And I Applaud That And I Accept That.

But I Think There Are Other Choices Or Options Available To Us Most Of Which I Don't Know Anything About To Be Honest With You.

I Don't Propose To Know The Answers To This Crime.

I Can It Will You One Thing I Am Very, Very Certain Of.

If We Don't Pick Up This Issue And Consider It As Problem For Us To Address, We Will Not As A Board Solve It, We Won't Become Involved In It Solution If We Don't Address It As A Problem.

I Again Would Plead With You To Let As A Board Ask The Sheriff To Please Bring The Comstat Figures So We Can Understand Comprehensively In This Could Be What's Happening.

I Can Share Similar Experiences That Really Broke My Heart Commissioner Mann Just As You Shared A Cue Minutes Ago.

Some Residents In The Villas, Several Homes In The Villas Were Broken Into In The Middle Of The Night.

Mr. Naka A Retired New York Police Department Officer And His Wife Were Asleep With The Two Boys In A Joining Bedroom.

Her Purse Were Taken, His Wallet Was Taken, And Their Car Was Stolen.

They Were Living In Great Fear.

Fear Is Running Throughout The County.

If We Sit Idly And Choose Not To Take This Up As A Board Because A Lot Of The Crime That's Occurring Is In Lee County, I Think We Have Been Very Remiss In Our Elected Official

Responsibilities And I Would Besiege You Again Please Join With Me To Invite, Because I Agree We Do Not Have Statutory Authority Over The Sheriff.

He Is To The Voters, But We Can Partner With Him And Do Our Part To Fight Crime On The Front End Of It.

I Appreciate Your Indulgence No Are You Finish Now? I Can Continue Now Without Being Accused Of Interrupting Or Anything You're Done.

Appreciate It.

Appreciate It.

Ontario, And I Want To Know What So We Just Move On, What Do You Want To Do.

Move On.

Okay.

Mr. Chairman I Won't Have Any Problem With Commissioner Bigelow Contacting The Sheriff Via The Chief Here And If The Sheriff Thinks It Would Be Valuable, There's Nothing That Would Keep You From Being Able To Do That Any Which.

I Would Say For Goodness Sakes, Do It.

Well, Commissioner Mann, Without The Consensus Of The This Board To Invite The Sheriff To Present Figures Was So We Can Understand.

Don't Get Into It.

You Don't Need The Consensus.

Just Asking You'll Have It And If I'm Not Mace Taken We've Invited You Several Times Personally To Come To A Comstat Session About Problems Occurring Within Your Area.

I've Reviewed This.

And What I'm Saying Is For You To Come To The Presentation And Yes You Do Have To Do Your Front End Part.

And If I Recall Right, You Were One Of The Commissioners And Please Don't Take This The Wrong Way, You Were One Of The Commissioners Who Voted Against The Sheriff Budget.

So This Is Something For You To Consider Right Now If You Want To Work It Out On The Front End, It's Not Just Use Words To Amuse A Bunch Of People, Let's Get Right From In There And See What The Problems Are.

I Invite You To Come With The Sheriff's Office In Your District To Ride With The Deputy Sheriff

Of Your Choice, And As A Commissioner, Answer Questions.

We Would Be More An Happy To Put On A Presentation To This Entire Board Any Time They Ask.

The Sheriff Although She Constitutional And Pretty Much Runs His Own Shop He Is Not A Police Commissioner.

A Police Chief.

Does And Will Answer Any Concerns Of This Board At Any Point In Time But I Think What We're Doing Is We're Beating A Dead Horse And The Story About In The Have Las, Please Share With Them Several Burglaries We're Behind And We Made Arrests On And Which Broke A Full Burglary Rink.

You Closed A Crime House.

I'm A Champion Of Your Effort.

You're A Champion To An Extent.

There Was A Comment Made A While Back That We've Been Feeling The Jail With Misdemeanors And I Have That Tape.

I Never Dressed It.

I Was Going To Do It.

I Asked For Information About That.

Wait Let's Go Back Here.

I Think Maybe I'm Confused.

Somehow We've Got Ourselves In Each Other's Cross Hairs.

I Have Nothing But Applause For Your Work.

And I Appreciate It This Board Has Been Very Generous But I Don't Want To Take Up Any More Of The Board's Time.

What I Would Like You To Do Is Please Set A Meeting Personally With You And Me And I Would Like To Straighten This Out And If You Want To Do A Presentation That Will Fit Into Their Schedule, And Even A Personal Comstat Presentation For You I Would Rather Do That, And We'll Go On With It From There And Each One Of The Commissioners And County Staff Is Invited To Call Me Or The Sheriff Personally.

Chief, That Was A Wonderful Suggestion On Your Part And I'm Hopeful That The Commissioner Will Take You Up On That.

One Moment.

I Don't Want To Debate ToContinue Debating This.

I Want To Try To Quiet.

There's No Quiet.

There's A TerribleMisunderstanding Chief Between.

Well, Okay, This Is Not ThePlace To Iron.

And The Commissioner IsRight.

Please Make An Appointment, AndI Think We Could Do That.

I Want To Thank Everybody,Thank You Ladies And Gentlemen,For Everything You're Doing OnBehalf Of The County, TakeCare.

I'll Talk To You.

Let's See.

Commissioner Item.

You Have A Commissioner ItemOr Two.

Just A Couple Quick Ones.

Just A Couple Quick Ones.

Preservation Society ForWhatever Reason There's BeenSeveral But I Don't GuyArgument, They're Not Able ToSchedule An Oppportunity To MeetHere In The County CommissionChambers And I Think We're NotAllowing The PreservationSociety For Their Meetings SoAll I Would Ask IsAdministration Could PleaseInvestigate And Determine WhyPerhaps They're Not BeingAllowed, This Is The People'sHouse.

I Think We All Make EveryEffort.

I Know Historically, Excuse ThePun.

We Have August BeenAccommodating And I WouldImagine We Should Find A Way ToFit The Historic PreservationBoard Into The Schedule OfTimes For Them To Meet Here InThe County Commission Chambers.

The Other Quickly And I Don'tExpect The Board To Take ActionToday But I Would AskAdministration To Look At WaysIn Which We Might Be Able ToProvide For Funding And That'sProbably Not A Popular ItemRight Now, It's Not A Lot OfMoney, As I Understand It

But We Have A Huge Issue That We're Going To Be Briefed On With Regards To The Phosphate Mining Activities And The Contract That They're Proposing That We Settle Along With Charlotte And Sarasota County.

There's Information That's Ready To Go On The Web Site That Will Allow The General Public To Be Able To Tap Into All That's Being Discussed Between The Phosphate Industry And The Various Counts But That Information Needs To Be Made Available, But It's Going To Require A Little Extra Effort From A Public Relations Firm That We Have Worked With The Contact Person And Who I Would Ask Administration With The Is At Least Have The Administration Look Into The Practicality And The Merits Of Potentially Working With This Pr Company.

To Be Able To Ensure That This Information Is Available For The Entire Region.

To Have Access To With Regards To The Phosphate Issue Again, I Don't Ask For Any Support Or Approval At This Time, Give Them A Chance To Provide A Physician Paper With Their Suggestions One Way Or Another.

Mr. Chairman.

Yes, Commissioner.

Is This Commissioner Judah Someone Got On Retainer Or Something No No.

She Has Been Working On Behalf Of Charlotte County.

But She Is Also Made Her Time And Resources Available To Lee County.

We Have Coordinated Through Her.

Through The Opportunities That Working With Charlotte County Has Afforded Us The Chance To Fly Over With Mining Activities.

Their Pr Efforts Is Something That Can Be On The County Managers \$00,000.

Much Less.

But I Mean.

Sure The Administration Could Do That.

I Want To Make Sure This Board Is Apprised Though If The Action Is Taken To Bring This Firm Onboard Who Is Fully Aware And Knowledgeable, So That The General Public Understands What's Happening Here With This Global Proposed Settlement The Phosphate Industry No To Possibly Include A Presentation For Public.

And Absolutely, That Would Be Very Helpful.

Similar To The One We're Having At 2:00 Today That's A Public And Participate And Join And Sit And Watch On Television I'm Sure.

But We Don't Have The Audience.

And I Support Staff Coming Back With A Cost Evaluation On That And We Can Make A Decision If We Want To Put More Money Into It And Pay That.

Commissioner One Of The Things You Were Going To Suggest In The Memo About Getting All In Any Information Out There To The Public Is That We Can Very Easily Provide Links To Whatever Web Site Available So It Provides A Link To Her Web Site We Can Boom It's Done.

Wouldn't Be Able To Accomplish That Then.

We'll Have An Opportunity To Bring This Back To The Full Board.

Thank You.

Very Good Commissioner Mann.

Mr. Chairman I Would Not Burden This Body With Any More Speeches Of Mine.

Are You Feeling Okay.

I Beat Up On You Guys Enough.

I'm Feeling So Guilty.

I Would Like To Welcome My New Art San Into My Office.

This Month On Display Is Art Work From Diane Williams And Diane Is A Resident Of Ocala.

She Teaches At The Pine Island Art Association.

Her Work Is Showing Various Pictures Of Selfless Florida Scenes And Works In Oils And Acrylic And Will Be On Display Until December 10th.

The Public Is Always Welcome To The People's Office Of The Commissioners To Enjoy Her Work.

All Of Our Work In Our Offices Is All For Sale And We Have Cards For The Artists That You Can Contact Her Directly And I Want To Thank Diane Very Much For Brightening My Office With Her Wonderful Art.

I Had The Opportunity To Attend The Thomas Howard Lecture Series Last Week, And I Think The Topic Was Timely.

It Was On Ethics And The Speaker Was Very Dynamic.

He Was Short Which Is Always Nice When You're Going To A Lecture.

But -- Thank You For Making Me Lose My Train Of Thought, Mr. Mann.

The Reason I'm Sharing That With You Is It Goes Back To Courage And The Courage To Do The Right Thing As Elected Officials And I Wanted To Share That With You.

It Was Probably One Of The More Meaningful Statements While They Talk About Your Character And Morals And Those Type Of Things But Actually Persevering And Doing The Right Thing Rather Than Politically Correct Thing And I Want To Thank Gulf Coast University And The Howard Family For Endowing That Series.

It Was Really Very Nice.

On Friday, Bill Flying To Orlando To Sit On The Tbrc Which Is The Tax Budget Reform Commission Formed By The Counties And Will Be Talking About A Policy Getting Ready On How We're Going To Be Looking As An Association Of Counts And Working With The Legislative Tbrc.

I'll Bring That Information Back To The Board.

They're Going To Be Asking For Position Statements From Individual Counts.

And Then The Following Week I Will Be Joining Commissioner Janes A At The County Legislative Session.

Again I Chair The Transportation Budget, I Think We Will Have An Interesting Session This Year When It Comes To Budget And Taxation And I Hope We Will Have An Opportunity To Line Up Our Lobbyists To Truly Be More Involved In The This Issue Than They Have Been In The Last And I Mean More Hands On In Speaks On Behalf Of Lee County And I Hope This Board Can Take Some Positions That Will Give Direction To Our Lobbyists And Staff.

Seems Like Many Of Us Are Working Individually And I Would Like To See It Come Together And Be A Little Bit More Cohesive This Year.

Thank You.

Thank You Very Much.

I Have A Couple Of Items That I Immediate To Bring Up To You.

One Of Which I Would Like To Make A Motion To Defer Some Ordinances That Are Some Hearings That Are Coming Up On The 13th.

And The Season Are We Will Not Have A Full Board Here.

We Will Not Have A Full Board Until December 4th.

So Move.

And These Are Commissioner Items I Should Identify Which Ones.

The Fertilizer Ordinance.

The Plan Moratorium.

The Rgr Zoning Moratorium.

For Those To The Fourth.

Is That It? And We'll Have To Set Up That As A Public Hearing Date.

A Motion, Seconded, Discussion.

505.

5:00.

All Those In Favor Signify By Saying Aye.

Aye.

The Ayes Have It.

Wait You Called For Discussion But Then.

Because You Have To Be Quicker, But Go Ahead.

Thank You Mr. Chairman.

We're Going To Have Four Members.

We Will Have More Than A Quorum At Each Of The Next Three Public.

That's True.

You're Right Commissioner.

There's One Meeting Or Two That You May Only Have Three.

And I Mean That Prevents Deadlocks.

Okay.

Okay.

I Mean That's Why We're Doing It Because We Would Be Down To Four Of Each Of These Next Three Meetings? One Of Those I Think It's Down To Three.

I Don't Have The Dates In Front Of.

The Memo Suggested You're Not Going To Be Next Year Week.

There's Another One That He Will Be Away And I Will Be Away.

I Don't Know The Dates, But I've Been Invited As A Participant In A Panel.

These Are Weighty Issue, We Need A Full Board.

I Want To Indicate I Am Not Here Because I've Been Pushing National Association To Hold A Health Forum Discussion In Florida.

I Finally Got Them To Free To It On The Condition I Would Participate In It.

I'm Going To Support The Motion.

I Look Forward To A Similar Request By Myself And Also Being Usurped If I Should Find A Needy Item Coming In Before Me And I Can't Be Here.

Okay.

Thank You.

Any Further Discussion? All Those In Favor Signify By Saying Aye.

Aye.

The Ayes Have It.

So Ordered.

The Other Couple Things Oh, Yes.

Commissioner Hall, You Will Be Delighted By This.

If I Can Find It Here.

Supposed To Appoint You To The Value Adjustment Board.

No Way! [Laughter] Oh I Can Do That.

Absolutely.

I Will Be More Than Happy For Jane.

Is He Replacing Me.

I Was On It And Since I'm Up For Election This Year I Can't Be.

Right, That's Why He'sAppointing Me.

I Grace Friday Accept.

Second.

Yeah Discuss I'm Also TheOther One And There's ANovember 30th Conference In Orlando No Well.

Are You Going CommissionerHall?I Don't Know About That ButI Know There's A MeetingJanuary 10th.

January 29th.

And February 1st.

So I'll Pass That.

Training Seminar OrSomething.

By All Means Do.

I Don't Know.

Third Item I Have, Is TheGot A Request From Karen Hill ATechnical Writer Editor ForBandien For The ManagementPlan, For The Grants.

Preserved And It's Going ToTake Place At BuckinghamCommunity Center On ThursdayNovember 29th.

From 6:00 To 9:00 P.M. And AsThe Address And They Wanted MeTo Mention So We Can Make TheAnnouncement Try To EncouragePeople To Attend.

Okay.

Great.

That's Being That, We'reGoing To Proceed To CommitteeAppointments.

That's All I Have.

Okay We'll Come Back To BePhosphate Issue Later On Right.

2:00.

Okay, Committee AppointmentsCommissioner Bigelow.

I Have None.

Commissioner Judah.

Rans Weal To Local Planning Agency.

Cheryl To The AI Me To Special Improvement District.

Second.

All Those In Favor Signify By Saying Aye.

The Ayes Have It.

So Ordered.

I Was Going To Appoint The Hardworking Of Ray Anns We To The Historic Preservation Board With Hopes They're Allowed To Meet In Here.

Second.

Discussion However.

Aye.

The Ayes Have It.

So Ordered.

Commissioner Hall.

Reappointment To Leyland Day Already To Local Planning Agency.

Second.

Second.

Discussion, All Those In Favor Signify By Saying Aye.

The Ayes Have It.

So Ordered.

I Have One Stan Nelson, Pedestrian Advisory.

So Moved.

Second.

Discussion, All Those In Favor Signify By Saying Aye.

The Ayes Have It, So Ordered.

Down To County Manager Items.

None Mr. Chairman.

County Attorney.

See You 2:00 At Chambers.

Looks Good.

We Stand Adjourned.