

November 3, 2009

Chairman Judah: Good Morning, Everyone.

Nice To Have All Of You Here.

We'll Start With Our Board Of County Commission Meeting For November 3.

We Have Pastor Wes Olds Who Will Be Giving Us The Invocation.

Good Morning, Pastor.

Good Morning, Mr. Chairman.

Let Us Pray.

We Thank You Every Day, The Day That You Have Made And We Will Rejoice In This Day Father, And We Can Pray And Ask For Your Direction, We Can Pray And Ask For Your Wisdom And Guidance Many Making Decisions But I Believe You've Given Us That Direction And That Wisdom.

Father In Your Word Tells Us If We Seek Your Kingdom And Righteousness All Other Things Will Be Added To Us, And Father It Tells Us If We Hunger And Thirst For Righteousness We Shall Be Filled.

Father All The Things That We Can Seek, All The Things That We Can Hunger And Thirst For, May We Learn To Seek You And You Alone.

Hunger An Thirst For Righteousness, For Right Relationship, For Pleasing You Every Single Day.

God There's So Many Things That We Try To Fill Our Lives With To Satisfy Ourselves With And They Don't Work, Father, So Teach Us To Only Desire To Please You And Father When We Do That Everything Else Will Fall In Line.

Lord God, Help Us To Seek You For Your Guidance And For Our Wisdom And For Our Direction An All That We Need Father And Not Look To Other Places And God I Believe As We Return To You, And You Alone, You Shall Give Us All Things That We Need.

Sew Father, Right Now We Humble Ourselves Before You, We Admit We Don't Know It All.

We Admit We Can't Do It Without You And We Lay Ourselves Upon Your Mercy.

May You Have Your Way In Our Lives Every Sing Day, In Your Precious Day, Amen.

I Pledge Allegiance To 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.

Chairman Judah: Thank You, Pastor.

Commissioner Bigelow Is Not Feeling Well, He Will Not Be Joining Us This Morning.

And I Believe Commissioner Janes Will Be Here Shortly.

But We'll Go Ahead And Get Started With The First Of Several Resolutions And This One Is To Recognize National Hunger And Homelessness Week.

I Will Like To Ask Kathy Saga With The Homeless Coalition Board And Janet Bartos.

Good Morning Commissioner Jane.

And If You Have Others That Are On Your Board, Please, This Is Really A Phenomenal Organization.

They Now For The First Time Will Be An Independent Not For Profit, And They Had A Wonderful Fundraiser.

Commissioner Hall And Myself Had An Opportunity To Join In.

Just Wanted To Thank You Very Much From The Bottom Of My Heart.

A Successful Evening, Well Attended And We Appreciate All The Sponsors Involved Last Night.

The Resolution Reads As Follows.

Whereas There Are An Estimated 3,000 Homeless In Lee County, The Homeless Count Completed In January Of 2009 Indicated That Of The Samples 19% Were Chronic Homeless, 20% Were Severely, Mentally Ill, 38% Were Chronic Substance Abusers.

9% Were Veterans.

14% Were Family Members And 9.1% Were Victims Of Domestic Violence.

There's The Primary Cause Of Homelessness, The Lack Of Housing, That Is Affordable To Low-Income People.

Along With The Economic Crisis, Substance Abuse And Mental Illness, Whereas The Mission Of The Lee County Homeless Coalition Is To Advocate Educate And Promote Awareness Of Issues An Obstacles.

Facing Homeless Individuals In Lee County Through Community Collaboration And Planning.

Whereas November 15th To The 21st, 2009 Is Designated National Hunger And Homelessness Awareness Week To Bring Awareness To The Need Of The Homeless, Where As The Lee County Homeless Coalition Will Sponsor 2009, The Homeless Personal Service Day And Veteran Stand Down Which Will Also Employment Opportunity, Medical, Psychological, Addiction Intervention, Veteran Services, Spiritual Counseling, Clothing, Food And Other Services At Broadway Community Church.

Now There For It Be Resolved By Lee County, Florida, Declare November 15th Through The As National Hunger And Homelessness Awareness Week In Lee County An Recognize This A Week Of Special Importance An Encourage All Citizens To Recognize That Many People Do Not Have Housing And Need Support From Citizens From Private Non-Profit Entities.

The Chair Of County Commission.

Would You Care To Come Up? Thank You, Janet.

Congratulations.

Chairman Judah: If You Can Stay Up Here For Second.

How Are We Doing Today? Count Of Three? Ok, One, Two, Three.

And One More.

Ok.

Good Morning Commissioners.

I'm Kathy Sager, And On Behalf Of The County Coalition, I Would Like To Thank You For Your Compassion For Making It Easy For Us To Support Backing And Confidence You Put In Us To Do What We Need To Do To Help The Homeless And The Forgotten.

We Would Like To Thank You For Recognizing Us In This Resolution.

I Would Like To Thank You For At 10ing Our Fifth Annual Dinner And Silent Auction Last Night.

Thank You.

It Was Our Privilege.

I'm Janet Bartos.

I'm The Director Of The Coalition.

And I Want To Thank You For Your Support, Especially During Our Time Of Growth For

Recognizing The Need In This Community For A Homeless Coalition.

I Know How Hard Each Of You Work, And I Want To Thank You For Your Commitment For Maybe Lee County A Better Place To Live.

I Would Like To Thank Karen Haas Our New County Manager For All Of Her Support, Everything She's Done For The Coalition.

She Was My Direct Supervisor For A While There, And I Can Really At Test To What A Wonderful Leader She Is.

So You Did A Good Job By Picking Her.

Thank You.

Chairman Judah: Thank You, Janet.

[Applause] It's Our Privilege For Being There Last Night, And Begin It Was Just Wonderful To See A Very Successful Evening.

Thank You For The Good Hard Work You've Been Doing, Janet An To Your Board.

Appreciate It.

We Have Another Resolution And It's To Recognize National Alzheimer's Month.

And I Believe Commissioner Mann Will Be Reading That Resolution.

As You Know And As We All Know, The Average Age Of Our Citizens Here In Lee County Is Above The National Average, So That Means Unfortunately We Have The Dubious Distinction Of Having More Alzheimer's Victims In Lee County Than Most Counts In The Country.

This Is A Cruel Affliction That Attacks Both The Loved Once And Family Members As Well As The Direct Victim Itself.

And There Are Hundred Of People In This Community That Devote Their Lives To Helping Those Family Members And Softening The Pain An Helping Them Deal With This Affliction.

And It's In Honor Of Them And The People That Like Them That Have Committed Themselves, That I Am Proud To Read This Resolution This Morning.

Whereas November Is Recognized As Alzheimer's Awareness Month, And Whereas The Alvin A. Dubin Resource Center Strives To Provide Support To The Over 22,000 Lee County Residents Who Are Affected By Alzheimer's Disease, Or A Related Disorder, And The Caregivers, And Whereas We Wish To Recognize The Albin Resource Center During This Appointed Time For The Services They Provide, And Whereas We Appreciate The Work They Do To Help Lee County Residents Who Are Affected By Alzheimer's Disease, Or A Related Addition Orders, Not Only This Time Of Recognition But Throughout The Year.

Now Therefore It Be It Resolved By The Board Of County Commissioners That We Do Here Proclaim November 2, 2009 As Awareness Month And Urge All Constituents To Recognize The Efforts Of The Albin A. Dubin Resource Center.

This Is Kind But Our Children The Honorable Ray Judah On November 3rd, 2009.

Do We Have Someone From The Center? I'm Sorry, I Needed You To Be Up Here.

[Applause] Thank You Very Much.

And Dottie We Would Be Pleased To Have Your Picture Taken With Us And If You Would Say A Word Or Two.

Chairman Judah: Good Morning.

Good Morning It's My Pleasure To Be Here To Represent Our Center On Behalf Of Our Board And Staff, We're Proud To Be Able To Provide Information, Education And Support For People Who Have Been Diagnosed With An Illness Like Alzheimer's Disease And Other Related Impairments An Their Caregiver.

We Mean Not Only Their Family Caregivers But The Professionals Providing Care And Services Throughout Our County And Real That's All Of Us.

All Of Us Are Interacting Every Day With People With Al Times Disease.

Our Health Care Providers.

Our Attorneys, Our Judges, Everyone Is Interacting With People Who Are Experiencing Memory Impairment.

And We're So Pleased To Be Able To Have This Local Resources To Reach Out To Our Professionals And Our Family Caregivers Who Are Struggling Every Day To Make Sure That We Provide The Best Possible Care And Our Mission Every Day Is To Be A I Believe To Go Out And Achieve Our Goals So We Will Ease The Burdens Of Those Caregivers And Improve The Schedule Of Life For People With Alzheimer's Disease And It's Never More Important That Is It Is Now.

As Commissioner Mann Said We Have A Large Number Here In Lee County.

The Estimated Number Of Cases Is Over 22,000 Now.

When I Came To The Center 13 Years Ago To Be The Executive Director The Number Of Cases Was 11,000.

So You Know Our Work Is Tremendous Every Yeah An I Can't Thank You For Your Support Every Year And Recognizing Our Center And The Work That They Do.

So Thank You.

Chairman Judah: Thank You So Much.

[Applause] I Would Like To Invite Former Commissioner John Albien And I Know You Have Doc Reese With You And Andrew Cochran And A Sand Sculpture Himself Here To Represent The Beach, And The Fact That We Have The Sand Sculpting Festival This Week.

John, It's Great To See You.

And Thank You So Much For Accompanying.

I'm Always Going To Call You Commissioner Albien.

The Resolution Reads As Follows.

Whereas The Fort Meyers Beach Chamber Of Commerce 23rd Annual Sand Sculpting Championship An Festival Will Be Taking Place From November 3rd To The 8th With Competition Days Being Over The Week Of November 6th Through The 8th.

This Year's Event Will Take Place At The Holiday Inn And The Sun Stream Properties, Whereas Family-Oriented Event Is Strongly Supported Through The Lee County Government, And The Town Of Fort Meyers Beach.

This Year's Event Featuring 16 Outstanding Grand Master Champion Sculptors.

And The Only Three Time Solid Gold Medal Champion Dan Balcher And Many National Regional Championships As Well As The Numerous Appearances On The Travel Show "Sand Blasters." To Take Place In Freedom Way, Washington.

This Means The Winner Of This Event Will Have Earned An Automatic Bid For The World Championships.

Whereas This Board Regulars And Appreciates This Event For It's Environmentally-Friendly Approach That Showcases The Beauty And Benefits Of Our Gulf Waters That Emphasizes So Much What Makes Lee County A True Paradise.

The Board Of County Commissioners Of Lee County Florida Extends Their Support And Wishes For Another Outstanding Event.

Further This Board Of County Commissioners Wants To Extend Their Appreciation To The 16 Sculptors.

Doc Reese, Responsible For The World Championships As Well As His Organizations Inclusion Of This Event, In The Structure, Of The World Championship Stage And To Katie And Susanna For Their Efforts With Andrew Cochran And The Fort Meyers Beach Chamber Of Commerce To Enhance The Structure And Importance Of This Artistically Amazing Event.

The Third Day Of Move 2009 And Again As Chair Of The Board Of County Commissioners Proud To Sign This Resolution.

If I Could Have You Approach, We Would Love To Give These Resolutions To You.

[Applause] Chairman Judah: We Would Love The Hear From You.

My Maim Is Andrew Cochran.

I'm The Chairman Of The Event, And I Just Wanted To Say Thank You To All Of You For Having Us Here, And With The Resolution, It Is A Great Event, I'm Sure Most Everybody Has Been Out To The Event, And There's A Big Draw For The Community, And You Know As You Said, It Is Very Environmentally Safe, And Very Artistic In Nature.

And From Seeing It, You Know It's Not Just Really You Know, Just Like Somebody To Come Out On A Sunday, It's Really Seeing It From The Starting Stages On Friday.

You Know All The Way Through, So You Can See How These Pieces Actually Come To Life, Is Really Exciting.

So I Just Really Wanted To Thank You Very Much.

Chairman Judah: Thank You, Andrew.

Hi, Carl Jara.

I Wanted To Say Thank You Very Much For Supporting And Encouraging This Event.

I Think That This Is Really Important.

Not Only To The Community, But To The Sand Sculpting Community, Myself And My Fellow Sculptors Or The And I Congratulate Myself On Being The Qualifying Event For The World Championships.

This Is Something That We're Very Proud Of.

We've Been Working Very Hard To Make Sure That Doc Has Been Work Very Hard To Make Sure That This Comes Together Beautifully.

And I Thank You For Supporting That.

Chairman Judah: You Got It.

Wish You Well.

Doc? Good Morning, Sir.

My Name Is Doc Rice And I'm The Executive Director For The World Championships Of Sand Sculpting Which We Had Held Beginning September Of 2010.

The World Championship Was Formally In Canada.

It Was There For About 22 Years.

And When We Were Asked To Relocate It, We Relocated It In Federal Way Which Is Between Seattle And Tacoma And One Of The Things We Wanted To Do Was To Organize A Series Of Concepts.

When We Took A Look At North America, There Are About 48 Events Involving Sand Sculpting In North America.

Of Those About 12 Are Actually Contests That Have Master Sculptors Involved.

And Of Those There Are Seven That We Deemed To Be Involved And Fort Myers Was One That Rose To The Top Immediately.

You Are Well Known Throughout North America As Being One Of The Finest Sand Sculpture Competitions In North America And We Wanted You Onboard.

While You're Saying Thank You To Us For Including You, We're Saying Thank You For Running An Exemplarily Program That We Are Proud To Have Onboard.

Chairman Judah: Thank You.

John, You Are Going To Receive More Than Three Minutes.

I Don't Need Three Minute, And Thank You Mr. Chairman, That Will Probably Put A Lot Of People At Ease That I Don't Need Three Minutes.

I Want To Thank The Board For Giving Us This Resolution.

Certainly Means An Awful Lot.

But, I Also Have To Take A Moment And Specifically Thank Our Tourist Development Council Visitor And Convention Bureau.

They Have Stepped Up To The Plate On This Particular Event And With The Changes That Are Being Made, Nancy Mcfee Has Been The Lead Person For The Visitor Convention Bureau On This Sea Of Davenport, Nancy Has Been Absolutely Tremendous, And Also Working On The Packages And So On, With Joe Benito Has Been An Important Element Of This.

I Wanted To Publicly Thank Them For Their Hard Work And Making Sure That We're Bringing This Event Around During These Tough Economic Times.

We're Actually Upgrading The Event, Because We Want To Be The Sand Sculpting Event.

And We Want To Thank Andrew Cochran Who Has Been Chairman Of This Event.

He's Been Helped Getting To It This Point And He's Been A Strong Supporter, Which Is Important To Me Since He's My Chairman, He Has To Be Supportive.

To Be Able To Allow This Event To Reach These Tremendous Heights That We Want To Get It To.

So, Thank You So The Board Of County Commissioners, An Everyone That's Been Involved With Allowing Us To Get To This Point.

One Last Point For Anybody That May Be Watching, Please Use Bonita Beach Road And Park Just North Of The State Park.

The Bashing Is Free.

The Shuttle Is Free To Get To The Event.

And That Is The Best Public Service Announcement I Can Give You Rather Than Sitting In Traffic On Estero Boulevard.

We Hope To See Everyone Else This Weekend.

Chairman Judah: Thank You.

[Applause] Thank You All Very Much.

What A Great Event, Too.

Ok, We'll Move On To Recap.

Looks Like There's Nothing Else To Be Added To Be Modified On The Consent Administrative Agenda.

We Will Now Go To The Public Comment On The Consent Administrative Agenda.

We Have Greg.

Good Morning.

Good Morning, For The Record My Name Is Greg, A Resident Of North Fort Myers And The President Of The North Fort Meyers Civic Association And I'm Here To Thank The Board And The Staff For Moving Our Center, The Recreation Center As Far As It Is Now, And To Hopefully Get This Behind Us Really Quick.

We've Been Pushing For Four And A Half Years As An Organization, And I Want To Thank You For, And Especially The Staff Too.

To Get This Thing Moving For Something The North Fort Meyers Area Really Needs Bad, We Have Lee County Short Of Shelters.

We'll Hopefully Get This Building Up To Condition.

Our Children An Our Adults, Seniors Really Need A Place.

We Have Nothing Right Now For A Community Type Center.

And Just Thank You, And It's The Reason I'm Here, And I Wish Some People Were Working, They Were Going To Come Down Here Too And Have A Few More Numbers Behind Me, But Their Thoughts Are With Me And Thank You, Thank You, Thank You.

And That's It.

Thanks.

Chairman Judah: Thank You Very Much.

We Know The Numbers Are There.

Thank You, Sir.

Anyone Else That Would Like To Speak On The Consent Or Administrative Agenda? We'll Go Back To The Board And Items To Be Pulled.

Commissioner Hall.

Comm. Hall: None.

Comm. Janes: None, .

Comm. Mann: None Myself.

Chairman Judah: Let Me Just Ask We Move 7-A.

Motion By Commissioner Hall, Second By Commissioner Janes.

Discussion? Objection? Hearing No Objection, Motion Passes.

On 7-A, I Just Wanted To First Of All, Get A Motion To Move The Item.

Comm. Hall: So Moved.

Chairman Judah: Secondly To Thank The Friends Of The Bear Springs Library For Their Contribution.

Do We Have A Second? Second By Commissioner Janes.

Objection? Hearing No Objection, Motion Passes.

We Now Go To The Administrative Agenda And Item Number 5-A.

Comm. Hall: So Moved.

Comm. Janes: Second.

Chairman Judah: Under Discussion? Let Me Thank County Lands.

You Worked Long And Hard On The Negotiations For The Purchase Of This Property.

It Really Is Going To Be Critical From The Water Resource Standpoint.

I'm Glad We Have An Opportunity A Second Bite Of The Apple To Acquire This Very Significant Parcel, So To You And Your Staff, Karen, Thank You So Much.

And Certainly To The Seller Of The Property.

Making This Available For The Conservation 20/20 Land Decision Program.

Any Further Discussion? Any Objection? Hearing No Objection, Motion Passions.

Item 14-A Motion By Commissioner Janes, Second By Commissioner Hall.

Discussion? Objection? Hearing No Hearing No Objection, Motion Passes.

Looking To See, We Have One Or Do We Have Any More Public Items? Doesn't Look Like It.

So We Go To Commissioner Items? And We'll Go To Commissioner Hall.

Comm. Hall: I Would Just Like To Thank Greg And Jack For Coming Down This Morning.

You Know It's Very Hard To Get People In A Community To Stick Together, And Continue To Perpetuate Good Things.

And Jack And Greg Have Taken Strong Leadership With The Civic, The Community Panel, And Many Other North Fort Meyers Has A History Of Starring And Stopping And These Guys Have Maintained A Good Consistency In Reaching Out And Continues To Gather In What's Happening.

So I Personally Want To Thank You For Your Efforts.

Your Volunteers.

I Know You Get Paid The Big Bucks To Be Here This Morning.

But You Guys Are Very Much Committed To Our Community, And To North Fort Meyer And The Residents There Appreciate Your Time.

Secondly I Want To Thank Karen And Your Staff An Everybody From The Homeless Coalition.

It Was A Wonderful Evening Last Night.

Holly Was There, Others Were There And It Was Really Enjoyable.

Thank You Commissioner.

Chairman Judah: Thank You, Commissioner Janes? Commissioner Items.

Comm. Janes: No.

Comm. Mann: One I Wanted To Bring To Your Attention, In Case You Missed It.

This Month's Issue Of Florida Trend, I Have Copies Of The First Page That I Will Share With Each Of You.

It Makes Reference, For Instance It Says "To Miami Dade Cities Taking Advantage Of The Real Estate Slump By Buying Up Commercial Properties, Planning To Use The Site For Park, Senior Housing And Other Community Purposes." I Mentioned This Of Course Because We Talked About A Similar Approach To Dealing With Some Of Our Issues In Lehigh Acres.

They Close By Saying "The Market Is Right For Community To Have The Ability To Expand Their Park System An Provide Additional Amenities To The Community, Our Struggle And Challenge And The Issue To Assemble Enough Commercial And Industrial Property In The Same Location.

That You Could Turn It Over To Developers And Recapture All Your Money, And They Could Then Turn That Into Usable Commercial Real Estate That We Don't Have Available Today And We Need Desperately.

It's Going On Other Places An I Just Wanted To Share That With You.

And This Is Just Something That -- Miss Hall Maybe You Can Just Follow-Up On This And Get Back To Me, But I'm Not Sure That We're Even Buying Through Them.

Because There Was An Article In The Paper Today About The Office Depot Purchasing Issues.

The Port Authority Has Deals On That Contract, I Don't Know To The Extent We Do.

But, Looks Like A Lot Of Government Agencies Are Reviewing This Closely.

Is There Something Going On Here That You Could Share With Us Or Get Back To Me Or How Do You Want To Approach This.

We Have A Contract With Office Depot.

We Have A Full Audit By The Clerk Done For That Particular Contract Months And Months Ago.

And We Are Working With Office Depot On A Refund Of Some Of The Discrepancies So

We're Working On That A Long Time Ago And The Clerks A Been Our Partner On That So We're Ahead Of The Curve On That One.

That's Good To Hear.

There Was A School Board Apparently Was A Little Embarrassed By Some Of The Things They Dealt With.

Now, Miss Hall, This Is A Touchy Subject With Me, The Little Oak Tree Up Front.

The 200-Year-Old Oak Tree, That 80 Years Ago My Mother Used To Sit Under When She Was A Secretary For The School Board That Met In This Very Building, When They Were Part Of The Facilities Here.

A Number Of People Have Called Me With Tears Streaming Down Their Face, Saying, You Can't Chop It Down! And I've Got The Little Old Ladies In Tennis Shoes That Need To Know, I'm Told That The Last Rites Have Been Said.

Can You Bring Me Up To Speed On Where We Are There? Chairman Judah: That Should Be Discussed.

Thank You, Commissioner.

Karen? We Have Had The Three Reviewed Accompanied Come In, An Expert In The Area, And The Risk Of That Tree Is Causes Great Liability For The County.

And The Recommendation Is To Roof The Tree.

Comm. Mann: Stop Right There.

Is That A Recommendation Based On The Risk Or Botanical Assessment? Both.

The Core Samples Have Been Taken On The Tree.

The Tree Is Infested With Termites.

I Think Of The Cables That Were Placed In The Tree A Long Time Ago.

Has Issues With The Tree.

Comm. Mann: Here's What I'm Struggling With And It Was, I Just Reviewed This With Miss Schwartz.

I Knew It Was Just Last Year We Spent \$26,000, We Studied This Same Tree, And It Was Pronounced Ok And We Trimmed It Back And Dealt With As Best We Could.

And We Thought For The Foreseeable Future We Were Ok.

I'm Just Wondering What Science Has Occurred.

One Limb Did Fall Off Clearly.

For The Average Citizen To Look At It Right Now Though, It Looks It's Magnificent.

The Leaves Are Very Healthy.

What Happened In Science From One Year Ago After We Spent The \$25,000 To Have It Studied, That Has Changed So Drastically In One Year That Suddenly It's A Threat.

Commissioner We Had Not Had The Resistograph Done On The Tree.

Essentially This Is Most Updated Science That They've Done On The Tree Recently, So We Had Not Had Those Readings Of The Core.

And When That One Branch Came Off, That Was A Structural Break In The Tree.

It Wasn't Just A Supporting Branch.

It Was Unfortunately As One Of The Major Structural Support Of The Tree.

And So That Led Us To Look Into It Further.

And The Way It Was Explained To Us When That Branch Broke, It Broke Cleanly Which Means The Support Structure Is Not There.

Had It Broken With A Jagged Edge It Would Have Meant The Ligaments Were Hanging On And Could Be The Potential Of Hanging On That Structure.

But Since It Was That Clean Break, We Essentially, The Scientists Have Said It's -- The Analysis Done Said There's Decay.

There's Cavity Decay, Weight And Wounds In The Tree, And That, Unfortunately, Led Them To The Conclusion That It Would Be Best To Remove It.

Comm. Mann: Are These The Same People That Gave Us The Opinions Last Year.

No, A Different Arborist Came In, And We Wanted As Many As Possible.

Comm. Mann: Well That's What I Was Wondering.

We're Talking As Though It's A Terminal Cancer Victim, But Did We Get A Second Opinion.

Another Arborist.

There Are -- The County Has Several Arborists On Staff.

We've Had On Staff And Private Arborists Come To The Same Conclusion.

That The Scientist Did.

Comm. Mann: Perhaps You Can Share That With Me After The Meeting.

Where Are You As Far As The Chainsaws? We Are In The Process, Sir, Depending On The Conversation Today Of Doing Informal Quotes To Have Arborist In A Tree Removal Service Come Out And Give Us Different Bids Upon How If Indeed We Do Move Forward, How We Can Save Parts Of The Tree For Artistic Services Rather Than Just Chopping It All Up In Little Tiny Pieces, And Taking It To A Waste Energy Facility.

So, We're Getting Two Bids, One Just To Roof The Tree.

And Haul It Away And One To Carefully Preserve Pieces For The Community To Use.

Nigel: Body Is Not Even Cold But I've Had A Phone Call From One Fellow Who Does Wood Carving.

And He's Put In A Bid.

We've Had Several Of Those Calls.

Comm. Mann: Have We Done Given Any Thought To Something Like Inviting Local Art At This Times To Get Out Here On The Corner Of Broadway And Main And To Do Paintings Of That So We Might Preserve.

Commissioner, What We're Trying To Do, First Of All, Yes.

There's A Lot Of History With That Tree.

And A Lot Of Motions With That Tree.

But And I Was At A Meeting Last Week And Someone Said To Me, And She Remembers The Tree When She Was A Young Lady, And Needs To Go With Dignity.

And Having It Immortalized In Woodworking And From Commissioner Judah's Office Made A Wonderful Suggestion That Look At Having Some Of The Wood Made Into A Table For The Fort Meyers Downtown Fort Meyers New Library.

So, I Mean There's Lots Of Opportunities To Immortalize The Tree.

We Are Working With Arts About Wood Working.

What We're Trying To Do Is Have It Coordinated Through One Organization.

One Body So That We Don't Get Involved With A Lot Of The Administrative Issues Of Who Gets What Piece Of The Tree.

We Have To Have It Reviewed As To How To Can Out The Try So That It Can Be Used In The Size Of The Chunks And All That, Because I Don't Know How Big The Table Should Be.

So, We Are Working On All That.

Comm. Mann: Mr. Chairman.

I Appreciate The Commission's Willingness And Staff To Discuss This Publicly.

I Would Not Claim To Be Any Type Of A Botanical Expert On Tree Diseases.

I Don't Know.

But, I've Lived Here Not Near As Long As That Oak Tree, But Been Here All My Life.

I Have Probably 10 To A Dozen Huge Oak Trees In My Own Yard.

I've Gone Through The Recent Hurricanes With Them, And I'm Familiar With Florida Oak Trees, Spent My Whole Life In And About The Florida Woods.

My Oak Trees Blew All To Pieces, Lost All Kinds Of Branches.

They're Fragile In A Hurricane, But The Main Structures Are All Still There Very Strong.

My Trees Are Probably Anywhere From 75 To 125 Years Old On Average.

And It's Just Been My Experience That These Things Rebound, And It's Hard To Kill An Oak Tree.

This Particular Oak Tree, I Just Add It's My Observation, I Think It's Actually Two Oak Trees If You Look At It.

You Will See A Television Right Down The Middle Where It Looks Like Two Small Oak Trees Grew Up Together And Now They're Big Enough That Four People Wouldn't Grab Their Arm And Reach Around Thing.

But There's So Much History There.

I Just Want To Make Absolutely Certain That Everything Has Been Done And All The Dotted Is And Crossed Ts To Make Certain That We're Not Doing This Prematurely And That There Might Be Another 50 To 75 Years Left In That Tree.

And That We Were Well On Way To Getting There.

I Don't Know What More To Ask For, But, I Will Miss Schwartz Want To Review Those Arborist Reports That You've Got And The Other Comments.

And I Appreciate Rick Diaz Weighing In On This.

Rick Joyce.

They All Look Alike To Me.

You're Right, But The Location, It's All About Location And Where It Is And The Restriction Of The Root Growth And It's Been An Issue For The Tree.

Not For 200 Years But I Guess There's An Issue Now.

Thank You Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Judah: I Appreciate The Discussion, And Staff For Really And I Also Want To Certainly Acknowledge Molly's Own Recommendation.

That's A Wonderful Suggestion With The Table That Could Be Develop And Placed At The New Downtown Fort Meyers Library But The Opportunity Commissioner Mann Talked About.

I Wouldn't Be Adverse To Commissioning An Artist To Do A Drawing Of The Tree That We Can Put In The Courthouse And The Use Of Parts Of That Tree For Some Type Of Wood Sculpture.

I Think That's The Kind Of Art We Would Benefit From.

So I Like The Direction You're Freeing In And I Hope The Board Would Support Fund Of These Artists To Commission The Work.

That I Think That Would Be Worthwhile To Preserve History.

Comm. Mann: We Might Get A Donation.

Chairman Judah: We May Well.

Comm. Mann: I Don't Know How Long This Is Going To Take.

I Mean, Have We Got A Week Or Two? I Mean, It's Barricaded Off, Nobody Is Going To Get Hurt.

Can We Give This A Little Thought? Commissioner, To Preserve The Safety Of Pedestrians, We're Actually Putting Up A Taller Temporary Fence Right Now To Make Sure That People Don't Wander Underneath It.

So, It's Secured.

We're In The Process Of Getting Bids For Take On The Tree.

Comm. Hall: So We Have A Couple Weeks.

Comm. Mann: We Would Hope Some Local Artist Would Be Interested Or Perhaps We Could Contact Some And See If Anyone Would Be Interested.

That We Can Keep It Forever.

There's A Woodwork Group, And Also The Alliance For The Arts Has Been Contact.

But To Maybe Debate, Possibly What They're Asking Is Do We Have A Couple Of Weeks To Contact An Artist To Come In And Do Some Sort Of Rendering While It's Still There.

So, A Couple Of Weeks Would Be Fine.

Because We Have Secured It With The Cover.

Comm. Hall: I Appreciate You Going Through The Alliance, Because We Have So Many Wonderful Artists.

As Everyone Knows, For The Last Five Years I've Been Displaying Their Work In My Office.

And I Think It's Difficult To Say Which One Do You Want.

So I Think Utilizing The Alliance An Going Through That Process Would Be Fair.

I Certainly Am Not Opposed To A Commission.

We Have Lots Of Artists Who Have Already Painted The Tree.

If You Go Down To The Art League You Will See Paintings And Things.

We Have The Sidewalk Artists Who Come Out About Four Or Five Time A Year.

This Courthouse Has Been Painted And Held On Numerous Canvass Because Of Its Historic Significance But If We're Going To Commission A Piece, I Would Think That Going Through An Alliance Would Be Fair, And That Way An Artist Could Be Chosen To Do The Right Thing Because I Would Hate For I Just Couldn't Pick Myself And I Think That The Alliance Does A Great Job In Working With Us On That.

So I Certainly Support That, And I'll Look Forward To Seeing What You Guys Come Back With.

Chairman Judah: Thank You Commissioner Mann.

Comm. Mann: Thank You Guys.

Chairman Judah: Thank You Commissioner Hall.

Well Stated.

Anything Else Commissioner Mann? Let Me Thank Greg.

Also Those That Worked Hand In Hand With Commissioner Hall's Office.

Commissioner Hall Really I Think Inspired The Entire North Fort Meyers Community With

The Fact The Possibility Of Actually The Board Finding The Funding And Really Kind Of Completing The Last Piece Of The Puzzle, With Regards To Recreation Centers In The County And Certainly Commissioner Hall Championed That Effort, And Appreciate Your Good Effort Commissioner Hall.

But Greg, Clearly The Community Itself Needed That Grassroots Groundswell Of Support And You Helped To Deliver That, So We Thank You.

With Regards To North Fort Meyers Rec Center.

Thank You Commissioner Hall.

Commissioner Hall, Committee Appointment.

I Have One Reappointment Of Tracy Haden To The Executive Regulatory Overnight.

Chairman Judah: Second.

Chairman Judah: Discussion? Objection? Hearing No Objection, Motion Passes.

Chairman Judah: Two, Reappointments First Is Nick Feliciano To The Hispanic Fares Board.

And The Second Is Maurice Rivera Also A Reappointment To Council.

Chairman Judah: Second By Commissioner Hall, Discussion? Objection? Hearing No Objection, Motion Passions.

Commercial Mann.

Comm. Mann: None.

Chairman Judah: I Have One, Appointment Of Robert Shemanek, Reappointment To The Smart Advisory Committee.

Motion By Commissioner Janes, Second By Commissioner Hall.

Any Further Discussion? Any Objection? Hearing No Objection, Motion Passes.

Very Good.

Let's Go To County Manager Items.

County Manager.

Good Morning, Commissioners.

Yes, We Want To Bring Up The Topic Of Holiday, The Christmas Holidays In December.

And Whether You Wanted To Meet So We Could Get The Schedule Organized.

The Dates Would Be December 22nd, And December 29th.

I Know In The Past You've Taken A Recess During That Time.

Do You Wish To Do The Same Thing This Year.

Chairman Judah: 22nd Fall On What Day? Tuesday The 22nd And The 29th Of December.

Comm. Hall: 22nd Is Monday.

Chairman Judah: Absolutely.

Comm. Hall: So Moved.

Chairman Judah: Motion By Commissioner Hall.

I'm A Little Slow This Morning.

Who Will Like To Second It.

Second By Commissioner Janes.

Discussion? Objection? Hearing No Objection, Motion Passes.

Thank You.

Comm. Mann: Mr. Chairman.

One Little Tag On The Oak Tree.

Just Be Interested In Knowing This.

I Was With Katherine Jurosi On Her 90th Birthday.

She Was Born In Lee County.

She Shared With Us That When She Was A Little Girl, Main Street Was Known As Oak Street, Because Of All The Oaks Up And Down.

And It Was Many Year Later That It Became Main Street.

I Was Born Into A Main Street.

I Thought That Was Interesting.

Thank You.

Chairman Judah: Thank You.

David Owen, County Attorney's Office, Any Items To Be Brought Before The Board.

No Thanks.

Chairman Judah: Ok.

We Will Then Officially Recess Until 1:30 For Our Workshop With Administration.

This Is Official Adjournment And Which Will Reconvene At 1:30.

Very Well, We're Adjourned.