

September 20, 2016

We Have Quite A Number Of Participants That Would Like To Speak To Us At The End Of The Meeting On Matters Close To Your Heart. I See Some Folks Out Here, Welcome Back. We Have Other Folks Who Want To Speak On Other Issues. We'll Need These Before You're Able To Speak. We'll Get Through The Agenda As Fast As We Can. I Hope We're Done Close To 10:30 Which Is Going To Be Difficult. The Chairman Has A Doctors Appointment At 11:00. Dr. Jeff, My Preacher Is Going To Start Us Off. Remain Standing For The Pledge.

We Pray You Give Our Body Politic, Clarity Of Mind And Endurance Of Heart. That We See Your Purpose Even In That Which We Don't Understand. We Pray For Compassion. Grand Us Oh God, Patience, And Reason Over Recklessness. Most Importantly We Pray That Every Public Official And Every Candidate For Office Will Appeal Not To The Lowest Common Denominator But To The Highest Ideals That Lead To The Calls Of Selfless Servant-Hood And Every Constituent Will Inspire To Which The Nation Was Originally Founded. Be With This Commission Today That The Decisions It Makes Will Seek To Fulfill The Highest Arations It Presents. We Ask In Your Holy Name, Amen.

We Have A Carryover With A Revision In It. And That Does Look Like Requires A Motion. Roger, Does That Make Sense? Carryover Number Two Looking At The Agenda First. And Then Go Back To The Ceremonies After The Recap.

Sure. At Least Do This One. Stick Around.

You Think We Needed A Motion On That? We're Going To Decide While Going To Commissioner Cecil Pendergrass.

Thank You. We Take The Day To Recognize National Recovery Month. Please Come Forward. Go To The Podium Here. We Have Jerry Fisher From The School Board. Thank You For Coming Down. And It's My Honor To Read The Resolution For The Board Of County Commissions, Whereas Coming Over Mental Or Substance Abuse Disorders To Achieve Physical And Healthy Lifestyles And More People Achieve The Long Sustained Recovery, The Department Of Health, Substance Abuse, The League County Coalition In Florida Advise All Residents To Participate In National Recovery Month. It Will Be Celebrated September 20th In Corporation With Recovery. Great Event If You Have Never Been. Therefore Be Resolved To The Board Of County Commissioners Does Proclaim The Month Of September As The Month Of Recovery Month. The Appropriate Programs, Activities To Support Recovery Month. Join The Voices Of Recovery, The Families, Our Stories Of Recovery. Signed This Day. Thank You For Coming Down. (Applause)

We Have A Group Picture With The County Staff. The Program Of Recovery Month.

Thank You.

Grab The Mic.

Thank You For Everything You Do.

I Appreciate The Support We Get From The Citizens In Lee County And All The Public Servants Here. We Continue To Go Out And Strive And Touch As Many Children's Lives As We Can, Preach To Them About Some Issues They May Come Across In Their Daily Lives And Push And Help Those In Recovery. That's Just As Important As Is Prevention. Those Are The Two Big Topics. We Have The Run Coming Up October 1st. We Hope To Come Out Here, Downtown Saturday Night. A Great Time And Great Venue. I Appreciate It.

Thank You For What You Do.

Thank You. (Applause)

Thank You. It's Critically Important Resolution We Just Dealt With Here. Too Bad We Have To But We Need To And We Can Never Forget There Are Folks That Need Attention And Help. I'm Going To Go Back To The Recap. I Need A Motion. That's What I'm Asking For.

Have Pete Introduce Carryover Number Two.

If You Could Make A Motion For The Revision, Just To Change It To A 60 Day Notice For Transport Service Agreement.

I Second.

Cecil Pendergrass, Without Objections, We'll Take That Up Getting To Carryover Two Later. Staff Has Asked To Poll On The 26th. I Have Several Members That Want To Speak On Item 26. Commissioner That's Your Item, Is It Not?

Yes.

Why Don't We Go Through It?

Let's Go Through The Recap First And Then Come Back.

It Will All Come Out The Same Way.

We'll Do The Recap. I'm Sorry To Be -- I'm A Little Under The Weather This Morning And I Apologize For That. Let's Just Pull Items, Do You Want To Pull 26?

No.

Do You Have Any Others?

No.

I Have None.

I Have None.

Members Of The Public, While I've Got One, Two, Three, Four That All Want To Talk Of Item 26. Can I Hear From Them Now?

We Share Public Comment On The Balance Of The Agenda.

Public Want To Speak On Any Other Item Than What We Have Been Talking. The Chicken Thing Is Coming At The End Of The Meeting As You Know. Back To Us. I Have A Motion To Move.

I Move.

Second.

Manning, Objection? Show Without Objection.

Mr. Chair? Item Number 26 Is -- You May Have To Consider Renaming In The Honor Of Phil Buchanan, Rather Than Name The Entire Preserve To Name The Hiking Trail.

Let Me -- Ask Participants From The Public. You Guys Are Organized Out There. Roger Come Here. Doesn't Want To Talk Until You Get It Started.

Good Morning Commissioners, Thank You For Letting Me Speak. I'm Roger Wood, President Of The Greater Pine Island Civic Association. I Originally Drafted The Letter Which You Probably Saw Asking You To Rename The Galt Island Preserve In The Honor Of Phil Buchanan. I'm Not Going To Read The Whole Letter But I'm Going To Paraphrase It. Phil Buchanan Has Served The Community For Over 25 Years. He's Been An Activist For Our Community Of Lee County, He's Interacted With You Very Well. He's Been In The Leadership Position Of The Land Trust. He's Been A Spokesman For Our Organization, The Greater Pine Island Civics Association In Interacting With You. He's Been A Member Of Responsible Growth Management Coalition, Served As A Rescue Volunteer For Crow, Could Go Out And Wrap Up Injured Eagles And Bring Them In. He Was Active In The Pine Island County Club And He Wrote And Promoted The Pine Island Golf Cart Ordinance. The Beauty And Character Of Pine Island Has Been Saved And Land Values Have Been Increased Thanks To Dr. Phillip Buchanan. Phil Was Also Involved With Originally Setting Up The Galt Island Preserve And Working His Property Where His Residence Is. It Was A Project Dear To His Heart And He Worked With The County And Our Civic Organizations To Make That Come About. So There Are Many People Who Supported Our Position On This From Several Organizations, They All Supported This, The Organizations Did. I Was Surprised That The Staff Recommended That -- Against This. And I Wasn't Aware Until I Read The Agenda Item That It Was Unfunded And Budgeted For A \$5,000 Amount. By Anonymous Vote Of The Board Of The Greater Pine Island Civic Association, We Have Voted To Provide Up To \$5,000 To Fund This Non Budgeted Item. And This Is Very Important To Us. So We Want To -- We Want To Work With Lee

County On This And Support You And We Thank You For Working With Us In The Past On All These Items. So If You Have Questions.

This Is Phil Buchanan's Book. He Wanted To Preserve The Uniqueness Of Pine Island. In My Opinion Renaming Only A Trail Is A Slap In The Face Of Pine Island, That Is Just My Opinion. I Hope You Take It Into Consideration When You Make Your Final Vote, Renaming The Preserves, Not The Island, The Preserve. Island, Preserve, Two Different Things. Thank You, That's All I Have To Say.

Thank You.

Robert Or Does Bonnie Want To Go First?

Both Of Us Want To Support Renaming The Preserve As Phil Buchanan, He's Done A Lot For The Community And We Appreciate All His Efforts. Thank You.

Bonnie? Same Address?

Yes, Sir.

Yep. Same Last Name.

I Live On Galt Island Avenue. We Were Neighbors Of Phil. I Appreciated Everything He Did For Us, The Island And The Future That Is To Come For This Island. Especially Appreciate That He Saved This Area And Did Everything He Could To Keep This Area Preserved For Us And Everybody Else That Would Visit Out There. We've Had A Lot Of Visitors To This Preserve And We Can't Always Walk The Trails When Person Recommended We Do The Trail, It's Very Wet. In A Way, You Couldn't Maybe Honor Him By Walking A Lot Of The Trails. I Would Like The Whole Preserve Named In His Honor. I Think It Would Be A Great Service For Us On The Island, The Tourism Around Here.

Anybody Else Want To Talk About The Possible Name Change Here? Let's Recognize The District Commissioner And Give Us Guidance Here.

Mr. Chairman, I Brought This To The Board's Attention And I Disagree With The Recognition, I Will Move The Renaming Of The Galt Preserve To The Dr. Phil Buchanan Preserve.

Do I Have A Second For That?

I'll Second It. So The Chairman Can Second A Motion, I Can't Make Them. Do We Want To Talk About It A Little Bit Here Or Just Ready To Vote? I Don't Hear Anybody Wanting To Speak To The Issue. Okay. You Have A Motion And A Second. Is There Further Discussion Or Objection To The Motion? Motion Fails, 3-2. Do I Have A Follow Up Motion Or -- By Everybody? Somebody Want To Move For A Recommendation?

I'll Make A Motion We Rename The Trail, The Reason Why Is, We Had This Discussion About Naming Other Buildings And Parks, We Never Created A Policy About We Have So Many Great People In The Community Coming And Being Involved, Devoting Their Life To Lee County. I Think We Should Have It More Structured. Once We Name A Preserve Or Park After Somebody, It's Pretty Much Dedicated For Them I Think For Life. We Talked Last Year About Doing That And We Never Talked About That Again. I Hope We Can Talk About That Again Where We Can Talk About What The Policy Will Be. Next Month We Could Have Somebody Else From Lakes Park Or Another, Talking Before About Other People, Where Do We Draw The Line And How Much Do We Commit To One Person Or Group. We Can Do A Trail And Have The Opportunity To Feature It. More People Will Continue The Legacy On Pine Island, Working With The Parks And Rec And Preserve. So If We Do It Today, You're Kind Of Stopping Other People To Have An Opportunity To Be Recognized In The Future. I Just Think That If We Do That, We Put Ourselves In A Position We Can't Recognize Others In The Future. That Was My Concern With It.

Roger, Let Me Ask You To Clarify Staff's Recommendation On This And Then I'll Make Sure The Motion Is Clear.

Thinking Along The Same Lines, Mr. Pendergrass And I Have The Same Thinking, We Can All Name Dozens Of Places Because Of Volunteers. Until Such Time As The Board Has A Clear Policy, We Think It Best To Name The Trail Versus The Entire Preserve.

So The Trail Would Receive Dr. Buchanan's Name And That Is Your Motion?

Yes, Sir. And I Would Say The Private Group --

We'll Discuss The Motion After The Second.

I'll Second. I Would Like To Say --

I Have A Second. Back To Cecil.

I Think The County Should Fund The Trail And Then The Residents Can Keep It To Enhance The Area.

I Agree. And I'm In My Second To That. I Would Like If We Continuing The Discussion, First, Thank You Commissioner Manning For Bringing This Up, It's A Subject That Needed To Be Talked About, But I Agree Probably At A Greater Scale And Will Bring It Back To August 11th That We Received All Of Us, An E-Mail From Stephanie Keat, Saying The Next Should Be Names Of Two Other Men That Have Greatly Contributed, Mr. Clarke, I Don't Think Anybody Can Disagree Just Like Buchanan. And So I Agree That We Need To Bring This At A Higher Level And Talk About Naming Conventions That We Do Not Only In This But We Have Streets, We Recreation Centers. We Need To Have A Discussion Of Where This Will Go In The Future. I Appreciate You Bringing This Up. Thank You For Coming But I'm Going To Have To Go With The Current Motion.

Further Discussion.

I Would Just Like To Say It Was My Pleasure To Work With Dr. Buchanan The Whole Decade I Have Been Here. He's A True Community Leader, Especially For The Island. And There's Just A Lot Of Good Things That Happened Out There That Would Not Have Happened Without His Leadership. And I Think This Is A Nice Token, We're Debating For How Big Of A Token But His Name Will Be Forever On The Trail. Are There Objections To The Motion? Adopted Unanimously. Thank You. My Apologies Here. Shaun Mckay, Where Are You? Yeah, I Missed Your Card -- I Missed Your Card And We're Past It.

I Wasn't Sure On The Process, When The Agenda Approval If That Was Going To Be Included.

I Have Done A Good Job Of Confusing People This Morning. We Took Care Of What You Wanted, I'm Not Going To Go Through The Motion Again.

I Just Wanted To Voice Our Support And All Our Supporting Families And What The County Is Doing Here With The Study Is Needed For The Overlay And We Want To Specifically State We're Looking Forward To Working With And Consulting The Consultant On This Issue.

Thank You Very Much. That Was The Number One Item, The Corkscrew Overlay Study That We Already Passed. Chris Lopez, I Did The Same Thing To You. Agenda Item Number 7. You Were Supportive Of It And We Passed It. Is That Okay With You Or Do You Want To Undo It?

No, Sir. We Are Not --

Let Me Ask For A Motion To Reconsider Item Number 7.

Second.

Without Objection It's Back Before Us Item Number 7. Chris Come Talk To Us And My Apologies One More Time.

Thank You Chairman And Commissioners. I Apologize For Not Speaking Up Sooner. I'm Here For The Palm Coast Realtors Association, It Has A Separate 513 Under The Umbrella For Providing Funding For Housing, Providing Free Home Buyer Education To Members Of The Public, We See 30 Members Of The Public Coming In To Get HUD Certification To Qualify For FHA, HUD, VA Programs And To Qualify For The Lee County Down Payment Program. I'm Here To Speak On The Motion Before You Because Recently -- Recent Events Florida Realtors Have Shown That The Membership, Leadership Of Florida Realtors Are Assessing The Trust Fund, That's Where All The Counties Get Money For Programs. There Is A Serious Possibility That This Program Could Be Altered As Soon As The 2017 Legislation Session In Tallahassee. That Being Said, The Housing Foundation Has Found Renewed Focus On A Local Level And Renewed Leadership And Commitment With Two Year Terms Of Our Leaders With New Directors And A New Community Partner, The Home Resource Center Of Lee County. We Have A Renewed Sense Of Purpose As Far As Getting Involved At The Local Level, Especially With The County Of Affordable Housing Committee. I Understand About The Issues Of Not Filling Vacancies On The Committee And The

Frustration It Could Cause Staff And Commissioners When Things Can't Come Through The Committee. What We're Simply Asking For Today, Your Respectful Consideration To Table This Motion Until Further Time And Allow For The Housing Foundation To Partner With The County And Provide Qualified Applicants To Fill The Available Seats Currently Up, And Start Conducting Business And Renew The Affordable Housing Talks In The County, It Is Extremely Important And We See It All Over Southwest Florida, Affordable Housing Is Gone.

My Apologies Again. Anyone Else From The Public Want To Speak On The Issue? Don't Go Away.
One.

Please Come Forward. Chris, Take A Seat Just Behind You And Hear What This Lady Has To Offer. I'm Terribly Sorry Again.

Not A Problem. Thank You So Much. I Am The Director For The Affordable Housing Foundation. One Of The Things That We Found Is That In Lee County We Have Lost Focus In Terms Of Finding Suitable Affordable Housing As Well As Housing For Disabled, The Elderly, And Even Temporary Shelter Housing For The Homeless Being Displaced Day After Day And Have Instability In Their Lives. What We Hope To Accomplish By Partnering With Lee County Is A Renewed Focus To Put These People Back Into Mainstream Society. So They Become Productive Members Of Society And Stop Costing The County And Us As Taxpayers Additional Money For Repeated Law Enforcement, Repeated Healthcare, That They're Constantly In Our Service Situations With Costing The County Money. Studies Have Been Shown Recently Locally, From Here To Tampa, It Costs On The Average To Put A Homeless Into Affordable Housing Paying Over \$36,000 A Year To Maintain These People Through The Public Assistance Programs, By Just Repeated Calls And Increased Healthcare Costs That The Systems Are Burdened With. We Need To Partner And Refocus And That's Our Goal.

Thank You. Was It Betty. Katke.

Thank You. Are There Others? Commissioner Manning Did You Want To Speak?

Mr. Chairman, This Issue Was To Direct To Public Hearing The Reduction In The Affordable Housing Community Membership. I See No Problem With Holding Off Until We Get The Input From The Industry Itself, So I Will Make A Motion To -- I Don't Want To Say Table It, That's Too Final.

Defer It Until Further Study.

Second.

That Is The Motion Made And Seconded. Further Discussion?

Just One Quick Thing, If I Can -- Chris, If You Can Nod Your Head And Say Is This Going To Come To Us Soon? This Is The Focus Of Our Commission. Okay. Thank You. Thank You Mr. Chairman.

Thank You. As I Understand There Are Five Vacancies Out Of 11, I Would Like To See Some Indication Of How You Plan On Filling Those Five, Sometime Sooner Than Later, So We're Not Going To Be Put On Hold Or This Organization Is Not Going To Be Put On Hold. I Think It's Very Important And We Need To Focus In And Make Sure We Sustain The Funding That's Available. Thank You.

For The Record, The Industry Representative Mr. Lopez Who Previously Spoke Has Been Giving Us The Nod Up And Down Like We're Going To Get Right On The Issue And Deal With It. Friendly Discussion On The Issue, Objection To It, Deferred Unanimously. And We'll Hear About It Again. Now What Do We Want To Go With? We're At Carryovers I'll Be Dog Gone. We Have Walk-Ons.

Authorized To Legal Action, Lake Jefferson LLC In The Event That It Becomes Necessary. Lake Jefferson LLC Has Un-Permitted And Unauthorized That Could Result In Flooding Around Neighbors. They Have Been Working With The County Since We Noticed Them Of This Issue. However We're Respectfully Requesting This Authorization To File Litigation Should It Become Necessary To Force Their Hand To Preserve And Protect The Surrounding Homeowners From Harm Created By Their Unauthorized Activities.

Move A Motion?

Walk On Item Number One.

Motion By Manning, Seconded By Hamman. Public, We Want To Speak On If We Sue People Or Not? Back To The Commission. The Motion Second, Discussion, Objections, Passing Anonymously. Go Do Your Thing. The Next Carryover.

Number One, Two And Three Are Agreements, Number One The Gas Tax, Number Two The Municipal Services Agreement And Number Three Is The Solid Waste Agreement. The Council Has Passed -- Approved All Agreements In Their Previous Meeting, Anonymously. They're Back To You For Approval.

Would You Like To Handle This Issue?

The Public Input --

Anybody Here From The Public Officials?

Thank You Mr. Chairman. All Items, Move.

Second.

And The Motion And Second. Discuss Further, Objection, All Three Adopted Unanimously. Thank You Very Much.

I Want To Thank The Village, The Folks Who Have Spent Over A Year Working With Staff. I Would Like To Thank Staff For The Work You Have Done As Well. Do You Think It Would Be Relatively

Easy, It Was Not. It Was Not As Straightforward As You Might Think. This Is Their First Time Through, Setting Their Budget The Same Time We Were, There Were Complications. Thank You For Their Patience And Your Patience And Thank You.

Back To Roger Desjarlais.

I'm Going To Turn It Over To Introduce.

To Adopt The Program Plan Required By The State In Order For The County To Receive Grant Funding.

I Think We've All Been Briefed On This. Any Questions? Do I Have A Motion?

Second.

So Moved. Second By Manning, Further Discussion, Public Comment? Come Up And Comment Public. You're The One Who Gave Me -- Are You Shaun?

Yes.

Welcome Back Shaun.

Good Morning. I Hope Your Wife Is Feeling Better. It's Unfortunate You Weren't Able To Stay --

Yeah. Today It's My Turn.

Absolutely. I'm Here To Speak, I Was Here A Month Ago When We Were Supposed To Vote On The Issue. What I Was Told Is That The Plan Was Still Being Worked On, They Were Going To Be Making Changes To The Plan. Which I Spoke An Objection To, In The Month I Was On Their Web Site Last Night, The Plan They Have Is The Same Plan We Were Talking About A Month Ago. There Haven't Been Changes And Second, The Truth Remains That Lee Tran Has Many Riders Who Travel Over 19,000 Miles A Year With An Average Wait Time Of 49 Minutes Between Buses Because The County Only Has 48 Buses On The Road At Maximum Capacity. 48 Buses Gives You A Maximum Ridership Of 2300 Individuals Of A County Population Of 600,000. One Of The Points Missed In This Conversation About The Water, Is The Conversation If We're Going To Clean Up The Water Or Sink Into It. We're Facing Nine Feet Of Sea Level Rise By 2050 If We Don't Make An Emergency Transition Now, Away From Fossil Fuel And Dirty Energy To Wind, Water And Solar. The Quickest Way We Can Reduce Our Dependence On Gasoline Is To Increase Our Public Transit Infrastructure And Encourage People In Mass To Start Using It. Lee Tran's Own Report Says 63% Of Millennials Do Not Want To Have To Own A Vehicle. We Want To Be Able To Power Our Lives By Public Transit. That Is Not Possible In The County Today, And Under This Ten Year Plan It's Not Going To Be Possible Ten Years From Now. When We Might Have More Than A Million People. The Increase In Our Population Growth Is Not Going To Be Continued To Be Dominated By The Older Folks And Retirees. We Have An Influx Of Younger People Coming Into The County And It's Time We Start Providing The Infrastructure To Support Them. This Plan Doesn't Have A

Vision, Whether Hillary Clinton Or Dr. Stein Is Elected In November, When Increased Public Funding For Public Transit Becomes Available, We Have No Plans To Submit To Ask For The Public Funding To Improve Our Public Infrastructure. We've Had A Month To Work On It. I Was Told By You All And The Lee Tran Officials In The Back Of The Room It Is Being Worked On. We're Talking About The Exact Same Plan That Was Unacceptable A Month Ago And Still Unacceptable Today.

Thank You For Your Zeal And Personal Commitment. Staff, Any Comments On Any Change Since Looking At It Before? I Didn't See Any Other Hands Come Up.

I Have A Motion And Second To Move The Item. Is There Further Discussion? Objections? Adopted. Anonymously. Let's Quickly Do Appointments. Mr. Manning.

Commissioner Items Next --

I Know But --

I Have Two Reappointments To The Land Development Code, Roger Ward To The District 8 Claim Council, Reappointment Of Sharon Murphy To The Same Group And Reappointment To The Executive Regulatory Oversight Committee.

Is There Discussion Or Objections?

New Appointment John, Lee, And Tj Of The Land.

Is There Discussion Or Objection. Adopted Without Objection, I Would Appreciate A Motion For The E-Rock Committee. Moved And Seconded. Is There Discussion Or Objections For The Doctor Without --

Bob Knight To The Oversight And Thomas Maclean To The Land Committee.

Second.

Adopted.

Thank You. I Have One Reappointment, Matthew To The Regulatory Oversight.

Adopted Without Objection. Mr. Manning.

Mr. Chairman, For The Record I Want To Put On The Record, The Final Four People That Will Be Interviewing For The Rsw Chief. The First Individual Is Mr. Kevin Dillon Of The Connecticut Airport Authority. The Second Is Jeff Molder Of The Oklahoma Airport. And The Third Individual Is Mark Vanlo Of The Kansas City Aviation Director. And Finally Mr. Victor White, The Director Of The Wichita Airport.

What's The Next Step?

Internal Interviews With Staff At The Airport And The Selection Will Be Tentatively Scheduled For I Believe The 16th Or 17th Of October. It's A Little Tight But I Think We Can Pull It Off. If Not We'll Defer It.

Mr. Pendergrass --

Thank You Mr. Chairman, A Request From A Great Partner We Have In The District Here In Downtown Fort Myers, They're Working On The Final Phase Of The Burn Davis Center, I Think We Have All Seen What A Beautiful Facility It Is. They Have -- They're Going To Apply For \$470,000 Grant From The State That Is Supported By The Senator According To The Letter We All Got. They Do Need \$400,000 Local Match. And The Representative From The City Of Burn Davis Center Said He Wants To Ask The County Commission If We Can Do 200,000 Or 50% Of The Local Match And Seek The Other Half From City Of Fort Myers Or Other Avenues. Wanted To Bring That Forward And See If The Board Wishes To Support The Request.

Well, I'll Say This, Sydney And Burn Davis Is Center Piece For So Many Positive Things In Lee County And Fort Myers And All The Efforts That Have Been Made To Reestablish Fort Myers As A Vibrant Ongoing Operation, Mrs. Davis Has Given Well Over A Million Dollars, I Think She's Approaching The Two. As Far As A Match By The Public For What The City Of Fort Myers Has Done, We're Being Asked To Do Such A Small Token And I Would Hope That We Could Reexamine Our Resources And Be Able To Do This. So Much Good Has Happened In Downtown Fort Myers And This Is One More Example.

Thank You. I Have A Couple Of Questions, Because As I Understand, There's An October 5th Time Certain That Has To Be Accomplished In Order To Qualify For The Grant, Is That Correct?

That's My Understanding As Well.

My Problem I'm Having An Issue, And That Is Why So Late In The Game We're Getting Involved In This And Go Back To February 11th, 2016, The Minutes For News Business, Which Mr. Jim Griffith, The Board Recommended Anonymously That They Support This Funding But Make A Final Decision On The Funding. That's Since February. I Apologize, But What Has Been Going On Since February That We At Such A Late Notice, I Mean, This Afternoon We're Doing Our Final Budget Hearing And As I Understand, You're Going Ask For A Change In Our Budget This Afternoon In Order To Accomplish This Which Is One Of The Questions I Have. And The Second One Is Why Is It Just Now Getting In Front Of Us. And That's The Question. Anybody Help With It, I Could Appreciate It.

Very Good Points You Brought Up. They Did Recommend To The Board Of County Commissioners Support It. I Believe There's A Representative For Sydney And Burn Davis Who Could Speak To Us. And Finally, I Hadn't Planned To Ask For A Change In The Budget Hearing Tonight, If The Board Wishes To Move Forward With This, Going To Ask That We Direct Staff To Final Possible Funding Options For Us. We're Not Sure Which Fund This Would Be Eligible For At This Point In Time. It Would Be Great To Have Staff Research, Probably The Best Way.

My Point I Guess Is -- If I May --

Continue.

If The Board Is Willing, I Would Ask --

That's Fine. I Would Love To Hear That Side, Too. I Think It's Imperative We Understand What It Is You're Asking For, Do We Need To Adjust The Budget? If We're Going To Make \$200,000 Available, It's Going To Require A Vote, It's Going To Require Some Sort Of Public Input And As I Spoke With Mr. Griffin Yesterday, It Might Include Other People In The Surrounding, Immediate Surrounding Area That Have Businesses That Might Be Affected By This. They May Want To Have Their Voice Heard In This As Well. So That's What I'm Saying, This Whole Thing Coming Down So Quickly Is Way Past Inconvenient. But It Also, Into The Process Of It We've Established, I'm Not Against The Project, I Just Worry About How You Want To --

All Excellent Points And That's Why My Plan Was Staff Research And Bring It Back For October 4th Decision Should The Board Want To Do That. You're Right, You Can't Do These Things On The Fly And I'm Well Aware Of Our Budget And Produce.

We Can Amend The Budget.

Absolutely.

I Don't Have A Problem With Any Of That. My Concern Becomes If They Have A Deadline Of October 5th And They're Waiting Until October 4th, There's A Lot Of Involvement From Different Folks Including The Senator Which You Pointed Out And I Don't Know How That Affects All The Different Decision Makers Along The Way, Not To Exclude The Fact That I Don't Believe The City Of Fort Myers Has Voted On This Themselves. That's My -- I'm Finished, Thank You.

Thank You. Yeah It Was Probably February Or March, A Great Project Downtown, An Exciting Time. I Was Surprised To Hear This Weekend, I Was Contacted By City Council From Fort Myers That They Haven't Voted On It. They Wanted More Public Perception. I Was Surprised At Other Business Owners In Opposition, Wondering Why Use The Tax Dollars To Basically Fund A Bar On A Roof, How Much Would It Take From Their Businesses Downtown. My Question To The County Attorney, If We Funded The Project, No Matter How It's Structured, What Type Of Exposure To Lee County If It Was Funded As A Bar With No Alcohol For Liability For Exposures For The County And What Would Be Insurance And All That. How Would It Affect The County?

We Would Have A Concern And Like To Be An Active Participant In Whatever Documents Are Drafted In It Choose To Go Forward. We Would Look At And Be Cognizant Of The Fact That We're Merely A Funding Agency. We Would Want To Protect The County's Interest And That Might Include Additional Insurance Requirements And Agreements From The Foundation Back To The County Now That Alcohol Is Reportedly Going To Be Involved.

On That Note, Do We Want To Get Involved With That Type Of Exposure And The City Council -- My Question, If We Supported It And The City Doesn't Support The Funding Match, Where Does That Leave Us After October 5th. Roger, Maybe You Can Fill Us In On That. If We Fund It And The City Votes Not To Support It. Then What Happens?

My Suggestion, If We Move Forward In A Week Or Two Or Came Back And Looked At It After The Budget Process, We Would Make An It Equal With The City's Participation.

As I Understand, The City Will Take A Vote Tomorrow. And We'll Know Soon What Their Position Is. We Took The Time To Review The Video From Their Last Meeting Where They Discussed It At Some Length And I Don't -- I'm Not Convinced At The Moment That The City Is Going To Approve Donating \$200,000 To The Project. I Would Like To -- This Is My Standard Caution. I Have Great Respect For The Performing Arts Center And Commissioner Hamman, I Appreciate The Issue For Discussion, We're Outside Of The Budget Process Right Now. We Were Able To Do Some Dollars This Year In Excess Of The Board's Policy On Reserves, We Have A Lot Of Projects That You All Are Going To Need To Consider Over The Next Year. Not The Least Of Which Is Some Of The Redevelopment That Might Take Place In North Fort Myers. It's Not Going To Be As Simple As A Study That Shows Retail Opportunities. It's Probably Going To Take Real Money To Make Something Good Happen. We Don't Know How Much Yet But Nonetheless, Every Dollar We Distribute, Those Are Dollars You Don't Have Available For Your Own Project. If You Approve This \$200,000 Appropriation, I Can Guarantee The Arena Will Be Right Behind These Folks. They Have Asked For Folks To Upgrade And Renovate The Stadium, The Arena, When The Place Was Built, There Was Emergency Management Money Used To Harden The Roof In Order To Make It A Hurricane Shelter And The Owner Would Really Like For Us To Donate Dollars To Help Them Upgrade The Facility In General. Behind Them, Will Be The College With Capital Projects They're Working On And Prepared To Make A Request Of You On The Order Of A Million And A Half Dollars. The City Of Fort Myers Is Going To Ask For Dollars To Invest In The Stars Complex, That They Believe Needs Upgrading And Moving The Boat Ramp, Bonita Springs Is Looking For Partners To Do Upgrades To Bonita Beach Road And The Human Services Yet To Be Defined In The Community. The List Of Worthwhile Organizations Asking For Dollars Is Going To Be Long. I Want To Caution The Board.

Thank You For Answering That. Would It Be Easier To Deal With This Where The Funding Is Used For Tourism Since It's A Culture And Arts, Draw For Tourism. Would It Be Easier To Work From The Funding In That In The Future For That?

I Don't Want To Answer The Question Today, But I Would Like To Hear About The Tdc Conversation.

That's What Initially That Conversation -- Up Until This Weekend, That's What We're Talking About. Now It's A Budget Issue. Initially We Talked In February, It Was -- This Is Different. Now It's General Revenue Funds.

Tamara Piat. No Funding Request Was Made. It Was A Presentation And Concept Because As You Know, The Portion Of The Tax Available For Art Centers, Welcome Centers, Museums, Etc Cetera Is The Same Portion That Covers The Stadium Debt Service. At This Time, We Are Fully Committed In That Line. So The Tdc, When They Heard The Presentation, They Were Not Able To Approve Funding Because There Are No Dollars Available In That Line. So It Was A Hearing Of The Project And A -- This Sounds Like A Good Concept But No Recommendation For Funding. And I Believe Mr. Griffith Understood He Would Need To Proceed Through The Board.

We're Running Out Of Time. Jim, Take A Minute And Respond To The Commissioner's Concern Of The Timing, What Has To Happen First Here. And -- Are You On The Edge Of The Cliff And Bad Things Are Going To -- Summarize The Best You Can.

Yes, We Did Approach The Tdc Back In February And Understood The Funding Mechanisms In Place With Them Were Strictly For The Ball Field And There Wasn't Really A Process For Other Organizations To Take Advantage Of That. And They Did Vote To Support Anonymously That The County Considered Some Sort Of Funding Request. That's What Was Presented To The County Commissioners. And Two Months Ago, I Did Send A Letter Of Request And Copied All The Commissioners To Consider This Possible Funding Somewhere In The Budget For The County For This Project. Because We Have Nearly A Million Dollars Coming From The State In Grants, All We Need Is The Required Match. The Remaining Match Is 400,000 And Hoping To Get It Split Between The County And City. We're Having Similar Discussions On The City Level And Tomorrow Will Be The Final Vote For That. Regarding The Bar, They Have A Liquor Licence For The Past 10 Years Now. It's Part Of What We Do. You Can Enjoy A Glass Of Wine While Looking At The Art. There Will Be Events And Concerts And Other Things On The Roof. There Will Be Beverage Service But We're Not Building A Bar. I Wanted To Clarify That.

Let Me Ask You A Question Mr. Chairman, Will You Have Hours Where People Can Come And Enjoy Cocktails And Sit On The Roof Or The Bar Operating Event By Event Basis, If Somebody Scheduled An Event For The Roof Top, There Will Be Bar Service.

It's Going To Be A Combination Of Both. When There Are Private Functions, It Will Be Available For The Functions And If There's A Way To Have Additional Revenue From The Kitchen As Well, Then We'll Take Advantage Of That. The Revenue From What's Going To Take Place On The Roof Will Add Into The Revenue Bringing In Through Various Sources To Fund The Arts And Community Projects We Do.

Personally I Don't Have A Problem Sharing With You, I Don't Really Agree With The Idea Of Government Funding A Bar Type Establishment Open Monday Through Friday Or Seven Days A Week To Compete With The Other Roof Top Bars In The Area. I Don't Think It's A Fair Use Of Government Money. I Did Want To Bring The Request Forward So The Board Could Have The Discussion Today, Because It Is A Valued Member Of District 4 Downtown And An Iconic Facility Downtown And I Think The Decision Is Worth Having.

We Have Raised \$6 Million To Restoring The Former Federal Building. It Was One Of The Major Sparks That Reignited The Spark Downtown. And Most Of The Funds Were Raised By Private Dollars, We've Had Help By The State Of Florida, Our Relatively Small Request, I Hope You Take Into Consideration.

What Is Your Drop Dead Date, When Do We Have To Show Good Faith At This End?

The State Has Given An Extension To October 5th To Find The Match. If We Don't Find The Match, We Lose The --

The State Granted The Grant From Last Session Or Applying For It This Session.

There Are Two Grants, The First For 328,000, We Were Awarded And Found The Match Locally. The Other Grant Is Dependent On The Match. If We Don't Get The Match By October 5th We Won't Get It.

Do You Have A Contractor In Place With Plans.

The Plans Are Drawn, We're At The City For Consideration --

I Guess Back In February And March, Some Of That Was Not On Place Yet. That's Why I Was Asking.

Thank You. Good Luck.

Thank You.

Mr. Chairman. I Know You're In A Hurry But I Think This Is An Important Subject. Miss Piat, I Wanted To Ask If This Request Qualifies For Tdc Funds. What I Heard Was You Were Out Of Capacity And That Was The Reason You Said No To This Request. Had There Been Money, Would It Have Qualified?

A Review From The County Attorneys Office Is It Would Have Qualified For Funding.

So It Would Need To Be Reviewed By The County Attorney Office Before?

We Received The Information, I Think You Took A Quick Look At It. Right?

I Believe I Took A Look And Said Some Of It Might Qualify But Maybe Not All At The Time. I Would Have To Review That.

What I'm Thinking Is We Probably Need To Have That Information Going Forward. I Know There Was What, \$45,000 That Tdc Gave Them, The Very Onset, I Accompanied Mayor Henderson When I Was Mayor To The Senator And They Got Over 600,000 For A Grant. I See A Lot Of Money Coming Into The Organization And Just Like Commissioner Hamman I Applaud Having Them As A Resource Locally. But I Think We Need To Be Prudent And Go Through The Legality Of It, The Process Of It. I Don't Mind Talking About It Later If That's What You Choose. But That October 5th

Date Is Going To Be Tough And As Roger Said, We're Not Even Certain About The Actions Taken By The Town. So Like I Said, We Need An Abundance Of Caution Moving Forward.

It Would Be Asking Too Much For Kind Of Legal Staff To Between Now And The 4th Do Another Review On This And See If Technically Those Tdc Funds Would Be Eligible For Use? Then We'll Figure Out How To Get There If At All.

If The Board Directs We Can Undertake That Analysis. Yes, Sir.

Is That Okay For The Review?

I Believe It Would Be Appropriate For The Legal Team To Take A Look At And Also The Staff Looking At Funding Options If The Board Decided To Go That Way, What Funds They Would Use, How To Set Up Contingencies Or Whatever.

That Will Give Us More Time To See What The City Says. I Thought It Was A Great Thing For Downtown And The Center But Then I Heard From Council Members And Business Owners, I Was Surprised The Different Stories We Were Hearing.

We'll Learn More About That Tomorrow And We're On A Short Fuse Left. I'm Just Thinking About All How For 25 Years Downtown Fort Myers Set In Decay And There's Not A Building With More Personal Commitment In Terms Of Dollars And Match Than This One Building. And They Ran Into A Problem Here When They Were Doing Their -- The City's Own Fire Marshal Came In And Said You Have To Do A Whole Lot More Than You Thought You Were Going To. It Cost 2 Or \$400,000.

One Final Please.

The Source Funds, It's Not Tax Dollars, It's Pretty Simple After That, General Fund Reserves. And The -- If The Board So Chooses To Appropriate Those Dollars, I Would Ask You Make A Contingent Upon The City Of Fort Myers, Agreeing To Provide Their \$200,000, I've Heard That The Community Foundation May Be A Back Up Plan For \$200,000. I Would Think That We Would Want To See That -- Whether Or Not The Foundation Would Provide The Dollars Before Lee County Does. And Then Of Course, The Usual Agreements Associated With The Money Being Reimbursable.

We Understand Where You're Coming From. Let's See What The City Does And Then We'll Have Conversations About This. Thank You Guys For Your Participation On This. Thanks For All You Guys Have Done Down There In The Outstanding Facility. Can We Do Quickly This Little Item. All You All Have Had This, The Greater Charlotte Coastal Wetlands. They Want To Get Acknowledged, Our Staff Thinks It's Critically Important.

I Move.

Second.

Can Somebody Explain What It Means?

It Says Cherished Title.

You Have To Ask The Simple Question.

Good Morning. I Missed The Question.

What -- Wetlands Of International Importance.

Yes, It's A Collective Body Of Scientists And Sites World Wide, This Shell Harbor Island Joined 2200 Other Sites In The World Gaining International Recognition For The Resources We Have, Opening Up Grant Opportunity Dollars, Signs World Wide Recognition. It's Not Regulatory But Provides International Recognition For The Charlotte Harbor.

Is There Implication That By Being Named This, The County Would Have To Follow The Plan For Sustainable Development And All That?

It Provides Some Guidance In Terms Of Strategic Planning. Possibly Shell Harbor Utilizing Some Of The Information Coming From It. There's No Mandate To Follow. It's Basically To Provide Resources To The Area.

Just, You Know, I Got A Chance To --

There's Nothing But Global Warning.

That's What Always Gets Us. If You Read Their Web Site, You Go To The Web Site, It's Like Quoting The Bernie Sanders Platform If You Will. I Just Wanted To Make Everybody Aware Of What It Is. If You're Saying The Designation Is A Good Thing For Us And We're Not Tied To The Rest Of Their Platform, Non Regulatory.

It Doesn't Cost Us Anything And We Can Waive A Flag If We Feel Like It.

Then What's The Purpose Of Doing It?

They Asked For It.

Part Of The Mission Is To Protect Coastal Wetlands And Provides International Recognition And Brings Scientists From The International Security And Provides Strategic Planning For Those Who Plan Those Types Of Activities In Coastal Wetlands. That's Basically -- Taking A Look At The Web Site, I Did The Same Thing.

They Do That Through The Natural Resources Department. Are They Trying To Use Our Title To Get More Funding? They Have Their Own Natural Resources. I Don't Know, That's Why I Was Asking.

I Didn't See Any Sort Of Secret Motives Here. It Seemed Like A Positive Gesture. We're Not Going To Have To Come Out In Favor Of Global Warming Or Against It. If It's A Strong Objection, Show It, Adopt It.

Mr. Chairman. Can I Have My Turn?

I'm Sorry.

Just A Couple Things. One Of Those Is That, You Know, Water Quality Has Been A Big Discussion, A Big Item For Discussions And I Would Like To If I May Roger Desjarlais, Can You Catch Everyone Up On Where We Are With The Funding For Water And Where We Are Now?

Yes, Sir. Thank You Commissioners, Good Morning. The Senate Passed 2016 And It Includes The Central Everglades Planning. The Second One, People Are Starting To See The Insurance Bills Going Up Quite A Bit. Can You Give Us A Status On That And Where We Are In The County?

Yes, Sir --

Let Me Interrupt With Apologies. I Yield The Chair For The Vice Chair Commissioner. I'm Sorry We Had To Keep You Going.

Good Luck At The Doctor.

Yes, Sir, The Non Grandfathered Policies Are Subject To 18-23% Increases In Premium Right Now. The Nfip Program Needs To Be Reauthorized Before It Expires In The Fall. Our Understanding, The Bill Will Be Drafted By The Relevant Probably House Committee For Introduction Early In The New Calendar Year. We Understand The Real Work Will Start Again Probably In January Or Thereabouts. The Other Thing We're Doing, And You All Are Involved In Fact, Is We Are Trying To Help Spearhead A State Wide Organization Through Fact To Tackle The Reauthorization And Reform. Our Lobbyist From The Ferguson Group Is The Lead Staff Person For Facts, Nfip Advocacy.

That's All. I Just Wanted An Update On That. Thank You.

Next Thing We Have On The Agenda, County Manager Not Here. I Will Go To Richard Instead.

One Item For Your Consideration. An Update Pertaining To The River Hall Issue. Commissioners As You Know, We Have Been Scheduling Back And Forth with Difficulties A Final Hearing Before The Governor In The Cabinet On This Matter. We Have A Date Certain Tallahassee On October 4th. The Purpose Of My Presentation This Morning Is Two Fold, One To Let You Know We Have The Final Hearing Set For October 4th. County Staff Will Be Appearing Before The Cabinet Aids In Their Meeting September 27th. As You Know, Commission Chairman Has Said He Will Be Present On October 4th. In The Past, Members Of This Board Have Indicated Their Potential Interest In Participating As Well. I Bring It To Your Consideration For Thoughts Or Comments You Might Have. If Not, Our Office And Other Representatives Will Be In Tallahassee On The 27th And The 4th To Defend And Put Forward The Board's Position In This Matter.

Discussion By The Board.

I Would Like A Volunteer If It's The Will Of The Board, I Would Be Happy To Be The Liaison.

Sure.

Thank You.

Commissioner Mann Is Going To Be There.

I Would Ask Mr. Hamman If You're Going To Go, Can You Attend The Meeting Beforehand If Necessary. I'm Not Sure Of Commissioner Mann's Schedule. If He's Going To Go Attend On The 26th, 27th, 28th. Thank You For Volunteering. I'm Confident In You Representing The Board. You Are Very Familiar With The Project. You Have Been There To Talk To All The Residents. Thank You For Volunteering. We're Confident In Your Ability For The Boards Decision.

Any Other Discussion?

If We Could Have A Motion?

We Accept The Motion. Seconded By Cecil Pendergrass, Motion Carriers.

Commissioners On October 4th Three Of You There For The Meeting. We Do One Of A Couple Things, Lighten The Agenda Up As Much As Possible So The Commissioners Don't Miss Anything That's Important To Them. But We Would Also Normally Schedule To Have A Work Session In The Afternoon. A Question To You Is Shall We Postpone A Work Session Discussion, We Don't Really Have A Topic Yet, But We Would Have One For You By That Time.

That Would Be Prudent. In My View. Any Other Discussion?

Okay. Thank You Mr. Chair.

Next, Public Presentations Of Matters By Citizens. The First Card, Kay Herring.

I'm Kay Herring. I've Been Here Before. I'm Here To Ask For Your Mercy And Your Compassion. The Power You Have That You Hold In Your Hands, We're Encroaching Into What Was Bear Territory, Cities And Developments Are Going Into Areas Where The Bears Have Lived. We're Taking Plenty, Reducing Their Original Territory Down To A Mere 18% Of The Original Size, But We're Doing Very Little In Helping The Animals Readjust That Have Been Displaced. Our Development Activity Is Dramatically Increased Distinction On The Florida Treasurer. They Have Offered Assistance To Lee County And There Are Solutions. The Bears Are Drawn Into Neighborhoods By Food Attractants. It's A Human Created Conflict. I'm Asking The Commission Today To Consider Enacting Bear Friendly Ordinances, Encouraging The Bears To Remain In Natural Habitat For Their Own Safety And Health. Many Counties Are Working With Bear Resistant Trash Cans With Great Success. We Need Those Ordinances In Place In Lee. And Simply Put, Bears Can't Read. They Don't Know That They're Not To Go Into Our Trash. When The Citizens Call To Remove The Bear, It's A Misconception That The Bear Will Be Relocated. More Often Than Not, The Bear Will Be Killed And This Is Fact Noted On The FWC Site. They Don't Know That Getting Into The Trash Will Label Them As A Nuisance Bear. And Their Penalty Is Severe, It's

Death. Some Are Removed But For Many It's Death On First Strike. In June 2016 We Went With Resolutions Signed By Seven Counties And 15 Cities Stating We Don't Want Bear Hunts The Take Place In Our Counties. And It Saved The Lives Of About 300 Bears In 2016. We're Asking Lee County To Adopt Both The Bear Trash Can Ordinance And A Resolution To FWC Against Having Bear Hunts In Lee County. I Have Resolution Samples. The Resolutions Compliment The Ordinances. There Is An Old Indian Saying, Treat The Earth Well, It Was Given To You By Your Parents, It Was Loaned To By Your Children. We Borrow The Land From Our Children. Nature Works In A Scientific Balance And By Saving The Lives Of Our Bears, We're Saving All Our Wild Life.

You Need To Wrap It Up Soon.

What Good Is Empty Conservation Land If We Don't Have Wild Life To Live There.

Thank You. The Next Card Is Gene Jane And Then Teresa Park. Gene?

Good Morning. Thank You For The Opportunity.

You Can Pull The Mic Down.

People Are Leaving Attractants Such As Bird Feeders Accessible To Bears. Bear Wise Ordinances Are Needed To Secure Attractants To Keep Bears Out Of The Neighborhood With A Human Bear Conflicts. Lee County Is One Of Those 15 Counties. You May Be Interested To Know, FWC Surveys, 86% Of People Require Attractants To Be Secured From Wild Life. 80% For Signs Not Being After. 75% Are Willing To Remove Pet Food At Night. The FWC Has Funds Available For The Cities And Counties Who Intend To Pay Us A Bear Wise Ordinance Or Adopting An Ordinance With Other Techniques In Areas. Lee County Is Eligible To Apply For Funds For A Specific Aspect Of Problems With Bears Such As Retro Fitting Dumpsters To Be Bear Resistant Or Places Frequented By Bears. The Example For A Dumpster, FWC Pays 100% Of The \$4,000 Cost For The Dumpster. In Addition Due To The Fact The Cans Cost More Than Regular Cans, As An Added Incentive, The Nature Conservancy Announced Keep Bears In The Wild. Bear Resistant Trash Cans For Communities Implementing The Ordinances. Perhaps Lee County Could Follow The Lead And Implement The Pilot Program. The Application Deadline Is October 14th. The FWC Is Willing To Assist In The Application Process. Thank You.

Teresa? My Next Card Is Teresa Parks?

I Just Want To Thank You For Taking Time To Listen To Us Today. What I Want To -- I Want To Thank You Mr. Hammon And Kiker For Visiting With Us Beforehand. I'm Here For The Backyard Hen Program. I Know You Received An Ordinance. One Of The Feedbacks, It's Really Long And It's Lengthy, Well, The Reason It's Long And Length Why Is Because We Understand That In Southwest Florida We Have Three Groups Of People, Residents, Snow Birds And Tourists. And Because Of The Tourists And Snow Birds And Some Residents Who Haven't Heard Of The Program, It Needs To Be An Education Piece As Well. People Don't Understand There Would Be

Problems -- With Predators And All These Other Things. We Needed To Add Things To The Ordinance That Maintained The Way That People Would Keep Their Coops. One Of The Things That Came Up In 2011, I Was Home Schooling My Children And We Wanted To Participate In 4-H. When They Got Caught By Code Enforcement, They Were Told To Give Up Chickens And Everything. We Got Committees And Positions. That Type Of Experience For A Home Schooler Provides Educational Opportunities That Are Not Warranted Unless They Are Participant In 4-H. We Want You To Think About It For An Upcoming Meeting.

Thank You For Having Us Here Today To Address This. Chicken Issue, I'm Sure You Guys Know Me. I'm Trying To Pull Up My Notes Here. What I Want To Basically Do, Dispel Some Of The Myths There Are About This Backyard Chicken Thing. Number One, That Chickens Carry Disease. The Cdc Has Issued A Statement That Says There Is Literally No Risk Of Flu To Humans, Small Scale Poultry Is The Solution Not The Problem. Also, The Chickens Are Noisy, Here's The Fact, Laying Hens At Their Loudest If You Have Five, The Noise Is Equal To One Human Voice, No Louder Than One Person Talking In Your Backyard. The Biggest Thing People Want To Talk About, The Waste And Odor. A 40 Pound Dog Creates More Waste Than 10 Chickens. And More Smell. Also, Another Myth, The Chickens Attack Predators, Pests And Rodents. The Fact Is, The Rodents Are Already Here In The Area And People Attract Them With Bird Feeders And Pet Food And Gardens And Fish Ponds. As Long As The Chicken Feed Is Put In A Proper Container It Attracts No Rodents Than Anything Else. Here's The Big One. The Realtors E-Mailing You Guys To Death, Okay, Seven Out Of Ten Cities On Forbes Most Desirable Places To Live Allows Chickens. There's Not One Documented Case Of Backyard Chickens Reducing The Value Of Real Estate. Not One. They Can't Find Any. And -- Oh, Here's The Last Myth, Well, No There's Two More. One Is Well, I'll Do The Last One. The Fact Is, You Can't Control Your Neighbors, Much Less All The Neighbors. My Experience, Once Folks Understand The Advantages And Charms Of Chickens, Most Prejudice And Fear Evaporates. Especially When You Share Some Heart Healthy Good For You Eggs With Your Neighbors. Requiring Neighborhoods Consent Is A Civil Liberties Violation. You Don't Need Your Neighbors Consent To Have Motorcycles, Machine Guns Or Have A House Full Of Loud Children. Why Would A Flock Of Children Need To Be Approved By A Neighbor?

Thank You Larry.

I Know You've Been Blasted About The E-Mails And Hearing The Benefits And Good Reasons To Have Chickens. I Want To Express My Thoughts On I Feel What Has Happened, Especially District 5, A Special Interest Group That Has Probably Blasted You With All The Bad Things, Portraying Us As A Bunch Of Dumb Hillbillies With Chickens Running Around Town. That's The Farthest Thing From The Truth. They Had A Commentator On Fox News Spewing All These Bad Ideas, If Anybody Read Mr. Mann's Proposal, They Would See All These Things Are Untrue. We're Responsible Homeowners With Beautiful Backyards And Flowers And Bushes And Nice Gardens. We Want To Continue That With Our Right To Life, Liberty And The Pursuit Of Happiness And All These Other Cities Have Based That Right On Allowing Backyard Chickens To Grow Our Own Food And Be Sustainable. That's Just Our Goal. I Just Wanted To Let You Know That I Feel Like

We've Been Portrayed In The Wrong Light. This Issue Is Not Going To Go Away. You're Going To Have To Face It And Face It. It's A Movement That Is Sweeping Across The Whole Nation. People Want To Grow -- Go Green And Grow Their Own Food. I Believe We Have That Right And We'd Like You To Consider That. The People In District 5 Have Overwhelmingly Shown Their Support. That's Why The Proposal Was Given To Mr. Mann And The People There In District Five Are In Favor. We Would Like You To Consider That. If There's -- This Is Pertaining To The Whole County, The People In District Five Would Like To Have That Right.

I Would -- We All Received A Bunch Of E-Mails From District Five Residents Opposing It. It's Not Everybody Supports It Though.

Thank You.

Good Morning. I'm From Lehigh Acres. All Across America, Codes And Laws Are Being Changed. Some Code Ordinances Have Been Changed Here In Your Own Districts To Make Legal Hens In The Backyard. The Declaration Of Food Rights States We Hold These Truths To Be Self Evident That People Have Rights, Life, Liberty And Pursuit Of Happiness And The Right To Grow Their Own Food In Their Yards Including A Flock Of Chicken. This Declaration Of The Amendment Went Before The State Of House Of Representatives And Passed And Is Now On The Way To The Senate. When This Passes, The Citizens Of Maine Will Have The Right To Grow Their Own Food. I Found This On The Lee County Web Site, The Sustainability Advisory Community, Sustainability Established In 2010. The Committee Goal Is To Position Lee County To Achieve Long-Term Sustainability. People Need To Control Their Own Destiny, Including The Ability To Adequately Care For Themselves, Encouraging Involvement In Consuming Local Foods And Raising Nutritional Awareness To Provide Economic Support To Local Farmers And Grocers. Consuming More Locally Grown Foods Will Reduce Our Ecological Footprint. Reported In April 2016, 169,692 Families In Lee County Struggle With Poverty, Which Is Around 16% Of Lee Residents. The U.S. Government In 1918 Advocated Raising Backyard Chickens. These Two Posters Helped In Keeping Hens. The Billionaire Bill Gates In June Stated Why He Would Raise Chickens. They Are Easy And Inexpensive To Care For. They Are A Good Investment And Keep Children Healthy. Keeping Chicks Makes Sense To The Government, Bill Gates And It Makes Sense In Lee County. My Question Is, Does Lee County Believe In Going Green And Self Sustainability. If So, It's Time For Lee County To Act. Thank You.

Pamela Lions Followed By Amber Crooks.

Thank You For Allowing Me To Speak. I Have My Own Home In Lehigh Acres. About A Year Ago I Was Given The Opportunity To Rescue Five Free Chickens From Somebody In Cape Coral Who Wasn't Allowed To Have Them. I Assumed Having Chickens Was Nasty, Smelly, Not Going To Be Rewarding Experience. I'm A Big Animal Lover And Thought Why Not. I Got The Hens And It Was So Rewarding. They Are Clean To The Extent That I Was Responsible To Take Care Of The Cages. It Was So Wonderful To Have Fresh Eggs At My Disposal. The Companionship I Got From Them, It Was Just My Understanding Of Being A Chicken Owner Was So Far From The Truth. Even The

Waste That I Got From The Chickens, I Used It To Fertilize My Trees And They Were Quite Happy. I'm Confused Why Other Counties Can Pass The Ordinance Why We Can't Get There Just Because It Was Implemented A While Ago. Things Change And I Do Believe There's So Much More Benefit. I'm A Responsible Homeowner. If They're Supposed To Be In My Yard, They're Kept In My Yard. It Doesn't Affect My Neighbors. I'm So Confused As To Why This Is So Hard To Get To The Point Of Allowing Us As A Homeowner And The Right To Have That, It's Confusing To Me. Additionally, I'm Big At Helping My Neighborhood Handle The Overpopulation Of Stray Cats. I Take As Many As I Can To Animal Control To Get Them Fixed. The Amount Of Dogs And Cats Running Around Does Quite A Lot Of Damage To Other Peoples' Properties. The Chickens Are In My Yard And I'm A Responsible Person And I Believe We'll Find Many Others That Will Be Like That. Thank You.

Amber Crooks Followed By Debbie Artist And That's The Last Card I Have.

Good Morning. I'm Amber Crooks Here For Southwest Florida And All The Supporting Members. Lee County Does Make The Top 14 In The State Being Identified As The Most Bear Activity Reports. Most Of The Calls Being Related To Bears Spotted In The Neighborhood Or Eating Out Of The Trash. We Sent You A Comment Letter Yesterday On This Issue And Included Maps That Show To The Degree Of These Activity Reports, The Calls Into FWC So You Can See How Many There Are And Where In The County. They're Widespread. Bears That Become Accustom To Trash May Be Trapped And Killed By The Agency, Considered A Nuisance To Residence. Conflicts Between Humans And Bears Can Be Better Minimized. In Efforts To Support Local Communities, FWC Has Made Over \$800,000 Available To Local Communities. About 300,000 Of The Funds That Have A Bylaw In Place Such As Not Placing Trash Until A Few Hours Before Pick Up. That's Something The County Could Implement By Ordinance. The Grant Applications Are Due October 14th. This Degree Of Funding May Not Be Available Again In Recent Years. We Would Like To Recommend Grant Funds Be Used In The County For Residential Trash Cans And School Dumpsters Or Install Bear Proof Trash Containers In Schools And Parks. In The Long-Term, The County Should Add Into The Waste Bid Request And Contracts, The Use Of Bear Resistant Equipment. It Would Allow Individuals To Purchase The Types Of Trash Cans And Know They Will Be Serviced And In The Future If The County Provides Them In Bear Hot Spots. Continued Assistance To You And County Staff On The Grand Application And The Efforts. Further The FWC Has Offered To Provide A Presentation About This Issue At A Future Meeting If You Desire. Thank You.

Thank You Amber.

And Last Card I Have Is Debbie Artist. Not Here? Okay. Does Anybody Else Wish To Speak? If Not, You'll Have To Fill Out A Card, Please. Just Come Up To The Podium For Now.

Good Morning. I Don't Speak Very Well In English But I'm Going To Try To Explain What I Feel About The Chickens. I Love Chickens, I Love It. It's My Therapy. I Got A Situation, Took My Medicine When I Started Raising Chickens. I Quit Taking Medicine. Now, Coming Back To Me. I

Enjoy It. I Feel Good. The Same Way That Some People Grow Fishes, Dogs, God Bless You, I Say Good. My Chickens, Go Over There, Make My Coffee, Be With My Chickens, Running Behind Me. I Feel Better Taking My Grand Children To See My Chicken -- (Indiscernible). I Put My Dog In The Cage. Why? The Dog Bite The Children. I Take It To The Chicken And They Play With And Call Them By Name, Too. And That's Wonderful. Nice. I Feel Great. I Don't See Nothing Wrong With That. I Keep It Clean, I Got A Big Chicken Coop. Put It In A Wood Shed -- (Indiscernible). I'm Happy. Somebody Come To My House, You Can't Have It. No Way. No Way. I'm Going To Keep It. I Just Try To -- (Indiscernible). That's The Way It's Supposed To Be. We're Responsible. You Take Away A Chicken From Me, It's Like You Kill Me. It's Like You Kill Me. The Other People Love Dogs, Wonderful. God Bless You For That. But They're More Dangerous. I Never Seen On The News That Chicken Has Hurt Anybody.

Your Red Light Is On Sir, Thank You. Next Joyce Followed By Carmen .

I'm A Retired Nurse And Live In Lehigh Acres. When The Boom Was Going On, My Husband, He's Dead Now, He Was A Builder. We Know Lots Of People In Lehigh. I'm Interested In Backyard Chicken For Three Reasons, The Environmental Benefit, The Economical Benefit And Let's Deal With The Environmental Benefit First. Chickens, They Give Us Healthy For The Environment Waste To Grow Our Organic Vegetables Which Now Everybody Is Trying To Grow Organic. The Next Thing Is Economic Benefits. There Are So Many People In Lehigh Acres, Especially The Elderly Living On Fixed Income. Now, Not Everybody Is Going To Raise Chickens, They Can't. Some Of Them Can Barely Raise Themselves Never Mind Chickens. But How Good It Is When The Younger Senior Citizens Like Myself Will Be Able To Raise Some Chickens And Share With Some Of Those Neighbors Helping Neighbors Who Can't Help Themselves Raise For Themselves. Charitable Benefits. I'm A Very Charitable Person And That Helps Me To Be Charitable. When I Raise The Organic Vegetables And Have The Nice Fresh Eggs, I Gather My Basket, Take My Eggs, Walk Down The Street And Get In The Car To Visit My Older Senior Citizens, How Are You Today. I Come To See About You. Here Are Fresh Eggs And Fresh Vegetables From My Garden. I'm Fighting Not Just For Me But My Neighborhood For Those People Who Can't Come Here To Fight For Themselves To Have Some Fresh Good Eggs. Sometimes They Go To The Super Market And The Eggs Are So Watery You Have To Break Them And Put Them In The Garage. But When We Older Citizens, I'm 63 Years-Old. And Even Though I'm A Retired Nurse, It's Still In Me To Help My Neighborhood And This Is Something That Could Help Me To Help My Senior Citizens. Like I Said, Everybody Is Not Going To Go Out There And Raise Chickens But For Those Of Us Who Have The Ability And The Know-How, I'm From Jamaica, I Know How To Deal With Chickens. For Those Of Us Who Know How And Has The Ability And Has A Heart To Share, We Would Like Backyard Chickens.

Carmen? And The Last Card Is Ryan.

Good Morning. I Live In Lehigh. I Have A Chicken, I Keep It Clean. I Have A Wonderful Garden, Tomatoes, Every Kind Of Fruit. My Chicken In The Morning, They Love To See Me. I Feed, Talk To Them, With My Coffee, Clean It Up. Every Day, Every Single Day. And My Husband Is Bipolar, He

Can Go Anywhere With Me. When I'm By The Chickens, His Mood Is Changed A Lot. My Daughter Loves The Chickens, She's 16 Years-Old, She Works And Comes Into The Home To Talk To My Chickens. I Have Two Dogs, They Love My Chickens, Please, Leave Something For Us. We're Not Asking For Nothing, This Is My Life. Everybody Can't Get Chicken, Why? Because We Can Eat It When We Don't Have The Money, The Eggs I Give To My Church, My Friends, I Give It To My Neighbors, My Neighbors Never Complain About My Chickens Because They Love It. This My Life, This My Babies. You Take It Away From Me, Nothing In My Life No More. These Are My Babies. This My Babies. I'm Not Asking You For Money Or Anything, I Respect The Law, Yes, I Respect -- I Live 34 Years In This Country, And I Never Ask Nothing. This Is The First Time I'm Asking For Something. My Chickens. I Love It. And That's My Life, My Husband's Life, My Daughter's Life. Thank You So Much.

Thank You. Ryan. That's All The Cards That I Have.

Hello. We Live In Lehigh And I Want To Speak About The Chickens. I've Had Chickens Almost My Whole Life Off And On. You Can Literally Get A Handful Of Food And They'll Stay There. They Don't Wander Off Like A Dog Or Cat. When I Lived Here Two Years Ago, I Chose Lehigh Because It's Pretty Spread Out. I Grew Up In The Country Half My Life. Somebody Offered To Give Me A Couple Chicks And I Took Them. Enforcement Came, Probably Three Or Four Months Ago Said To Get Rid Of Them. I Said I Didn't Know About The Law, It Doesn't Make Sense To Me. I'm Not Going To Argue With Them, But It Didn't Make Sense Because I'm Looking Behind Me And There's A Dozen Of White Birds Running Around. I Have Had Cotton Mouths And Snakes, Hawks, Owls, There's So Much Stuff Out There, I Can't Understand Why I Can't Have A Chicken This Big But I Can Go Spend A Thousand Dollars On A Big Bird And Bring It To My House. It's Easier To Maintain. You Can Keep Them In A Cage. I Have A Six Foot Fence Around My Half Acre Lot. I Can't Have A Chicken But I Can Have A Lot Of Other Things. The Eggs Have More Vitamins Than Store Bought Eggs. I Like To Be Self Sustaining As Possible. I Enjoy That. I Like To Have A Garden And Chickens But That's All I Got To Say.

Thank You Ryan. And The Last Work Session Update And Then Go To Public Comment In That.

There Will Be Another Work Session This Afternoon But You Have The Final Public Hearing To Approve The Lee County Budget For Fiscal Year 2016-2017 At 5:05. Any Questions By The Board? None, We're Adjourned.

Thank You.