

December 16, 2008

Chairman Judah: Happy Holidays.

For Those Listening In And Have Taken The Time To Be Here, We Have A Real Treat In As Much As This Is The Final Commission Meeting Before The Christmas Edison Park Creative And Expressive Arts School Will Be Here Performing.

First Of All What I Would Like To Do Is Have The Invocation, The Pledge Of Allegiance And Call On Representatives To Introduce The Children.

So At The Time The Invocation From Pastor Ryan Deaton From Life Church.

Pastor, Good Morning.

God, We Thank You For This Day And Thank You For Each One Of These Commissioners This Morning.

We Pray That You Grant Them Wisdom And Guidance As They Make Decisions That Affect So Many Across This County.

You Taught Us To Pray Our Father Who Art In Heaven, Hallowed Be Your Name, Thy Will Be Done On Earth As It Is Done In Heaven.

We Thank You For It This Morning.

Amen.

Chairman Judah: Let's Remain Standing For The Pledge Of Allegiance.

[Pledge Of Allegiance] I Pledge Allegiance To The Flag Of The United States Of America And To The Republic For Which It Stands, One Nation Under God, Indivisible, With Liberty And Justice For All.

Chairman Judah: At This Time Either If A Principal Or Representative Of Edison Park School Please Step Forward To Let Us Know Who We're Greeting And What We're Expecting To Hear From The Children.

Good Morning.

Good Morning.

Good Morning, My Name Is Lisa And I'm The Dance Teacher At Edison Park And We Have Our String Director And Music Director.

We Are Honored To Be Here And Proud Of Our Students For Presenting To You One Singing Number From Our Chorus, One Dancing Number From The Dance Team And Our String, Chamber Group Performing As Well.

Chairman Judah: The Parents Here Welcome And Please Feel Free To Take Photographs In The Commission Chambers.

And By The Way, Don, If You Could Make Arrangements Before The Students Get Started To Make Sure Stacey Is Here To Take A Few Photographs? Thanks.

[Applause] Petite In French Means Small.

Allegro In Italian Means Fast.

This Is A Dance That Has Small And Lively Steps.

[Applause] The Chorus Will Sing A Joyful Israeli Cannan.

It Is Filled With Rhythms That Create A Bouncy Uplifted Feeling.

Rise Up In Song And Lift Up Your Voices.

[Applause] Chairman Judah: Principal Jamie, We Are So Privileged, Thank You So Much For Being Here This Morning.

Thank You.

Let's Give The Boys And Girls Another Round Of Applause, Please.

Good Job, Guys.

The Kids And Teachers Always Continue To Amaze Me.

We Went To The Mall Last Weekend And We Couldn't Do It Without The Parents.

Thank You Parents And The Teachers That Are Here, Also.

My String Teacher, My Arts Teacher, My Drama Director, My Dance Director, My Music Director.

All Of Those People Are So Important For The School Of Creative And Expressive Arts And We Are Blessed To Have That At Our School.

I Can't Thank You All Enough For Letting Us Have This As A Time To Spread Our Cheer, But Also As A Platform To Speak To You All.

You Can See This Is Extremely Important.

Even Though Edison Park Is Blessed To Have Above And Beyond What Some Schools Do, The District Is In Tough Times.

12% Reduction Is The Word Coming Down.

Lee County Will Have To Cut In Addition To Our \$50 Million Last Year.

Imagine Going To High School And Not Have Been Any Elective Or Going To An Elementary School And Having Your Own Teacher Having To Teach You All This.

I Was A Pretty Good Teacher, But There Is No Way I Could Do Any Of That What The Teacher Does At The School And The Arts Director.

There's So Much Research That Goes Into This.

Two Things, As All Of You Here In The Audience, Too.

To Go To Your Legislatures And Talk To Them About Our Moratoriums, Asking To Put Moratoriums On The Non-Funded Programs Brought To Us Such As P. E. For 30 Minutes A Day With No Interruption, And Number Two Would Be The Class Amendment Which Is A Wonderful Thing, But It's Not Good Timing For Us.

That Would Account For Half Of Our \$50 Million Or \$60 Million Reduction.

It Would Be \$25 Million For August To Start That.

She Told Me To Put On My Big Girl Boots.

I Said, Did You Throw Me Under The Bus Having Me Be The Principal, But I Am Never Going To Forget This And I Will Fight Every Day For These Kids And I Know The Parents Will, Too, And The Teachers Will, Too.

Thank You For Having Us Here Today.

It's A Privilege And You're A Wonderful Ambassador Of The School System.

It's Important Of How The Music And Arts Are And Fully Supported.

We Thank The Parents And Grandparents That Support And Allowed These Children To Enrich Their Lives By Learning Music And Song And Dance.

We Do Thank You.

I Would Like To Have The Children Step Over Here.

We Will Ask That A Photographer Be Up Stage To Take A Photograph And Support Teachers With Them.

Wonderful.

Thank You.

Let's Give The County Commissioners An Applause For Having Us Here.

Thank You All Very Much.

I Forgot To Mention Something, Sorry.

I Have A Program Here.

We Have Our Holiday Concert.

This Is Just A Snippet Of What You Can See At Edison Park On Thursday At 12:30 And 6:30.

We Will Have Special Guests Come And We Will Welcome Anyone Here In The Audience.

Thank You, Commissioners.

Mr. Chairman, While The Kids Are Coming Around For The Picture, Let Me Simply Comment.

I Can't Let This Opportunity Pass Me By.

The Standards At Edison Park Are So Much Higher Than They Were 56 Years Ago When I Graduated From The Same School.

That's Where I Learned To Play The Trumpet And Began My Career In Music And Having Failed In That, That's Why I'm In Politics Today.

But These Kids, The Violinists, Outstanding, The Dancers, Vocalists, You Are Truly Outstanding And Ms. Rafferty Can Be Proud.

You Are An Outstanding Group And This Alumnus Of Edison Park Is Proud Of What You Guys Are Doing.

[Applause] Mr. Chairman, It Was A Wonderful Way For Us To Welcome The Holiday Season.

We Always Have Such Serious Business To Undertake And It's Nice To Have The Opportunity To Share In Some Of The Positive Things In Our Community.

We Appreciate It.

Back To School, Guys.

Just Wanted To Give A Little Break.

Thank You Very Much.

Chairman Judah: The Next Item On The Agenda Is The Ceremonial Presentations And I'm Very Honored, And We All Are, To The Widman Family, This Entire Community Is Your Community.

We Are Proud To Honor Officer Widman.

I'll Turn It Over To Commissioner Bigelow At This Time.

Comm. Bigelow: Mr. Baker, If You Could Please Come Forward And Any Men And Women In Uniform Would Also Please Back Up The Interim Chief.

Chairman Judah: And If I Could, Commissioner Bigelow, As You Brought In Our Fort Myers Police Chief, Welcome And Thank You For Being Part Of The Presentation This Morning.

Comm. Bigelow: This Is Not A Ceremonial Presentation That We're Proud To Present In The Chambers, But This Is A Routine Resolution That We Authorize A Plat Be Amended That It Will Appropriately Recognize That Peck Avenue Has Been Changed To Widman Way In Honor Of A Fallen Police Officer.

It Was A Very Dark Day In The Summer When Officer Widman Gave His Life For Us, All Of Us, In Or Outside Of The City Of Fort Myers.

As A Resident Of The City Of Fort Myers, I Am Personally Very Humbled And Honored That The Hero Of Andrew Widman Served Us As Well As The Men And Women In Uniform That Day.

I Would Like -- I Really Don't Have Anything To Read, But I Would Like To Present To You.

Interim Chief, Right? If You Would Please Take This And Would You See That Mrs. Widman Gets It.

She Couldn't Be Here Today And She's Got A Busy Schedule.

She's A Mother Of Three, A Widow.

I Hope We Will All Remember This Family In Our Holiday Celebrations This Year Because Families Have Given So Much.

Thank You So Much.

I Want To Thank The Commission For Doing This.

This Has Been A Difficult Year For The Police Department And The City Of Fort Myers To Get Through The Incident Over The Summer.

And I Would Be Remissed In The Event I Don't Mention It, But The Community Support

That We Receive And The Widman Family Received, She Is Appreciative And So Are We.

Throughout The Holiday Season You Mentioned Keeping The Family In Your Thoughts And Prayers, But Also The Local Law Enforcement.

We Receive So Much Support From The Sheriff Department, Airport P. D. And Helped Us Through A Difficult Time And Keep A Thought, Keep A Prayer Through The Holiday Season.

A Lot Of Men And Women Patrolling The Streets While You're Home With Your Families, By All Means, Keep Them In Mind And Thank You So Much For Recognizing This And We'll Make Sure We Get This To Her This Afternoon.

[Applause] Chairman Judah: If I Could Have The Three Of You.

Comm. Bigelow: A Little More Work Here, If You Don't Mind.

Thank You.

Comm. Bigelow: A Very Good Job, Too, With The Sunset Blue Light Ceremony That The Department Put On.

Excellent Job.

I'm Sure We'll See More Of Those.

Chairman Judah: Thank You Commissioner Bigelow.

Commissioner Hall Will Read The Next Resolution Or Semi Presentation Recognizing Special Olympics Athlete Appreciation Day.

Commissioner Hall? Comm. Hall: If I Could Ask Kim, David And Other Special Olympics Guests To Come Forward To The Podium So I Can Read This Resolution.

And While They're Coming Forward To The Podium, We Are So Blessed In Our Community To Have So Many Special People Putting Lee County On The Map Nationwide.

You Can Stand Right There At The Podium.

That's Fine.

They Can Stand Right There.

That's Fine.

And I Want To Thank Nancy And Ron For Making Me Aware Of Kim's Accomplishments And It's An Honor For Our Board To Recognize The Accomplishments And -- Hi Kim.

So It's Again My Privilege And Honor On Behalf Of The Board To Read This Resolution.

[Reading Resolution] There Be It Be Resolved By The Board County Commissioners Of Lee County Florida That We Proclaim Tuesday, December 16, 2008 As Special Olympic Athlete Appreciation Day And Urge All Citizens Commending Many Athletes And Volunteers In Our Community For Embodying The Spirit Of The Special Olympic Movement.

It Was Signed By Our Chairman Ray Judah.

We Want You All To Come Forward And Take A Photograph And If You Would Like To Say A Few Words For Us.

[Applause] Good Morning, Everyone.

Comm. Hall: If You'd Like To Tell Us A Little About Our Winning Athletes And Their Accomplishments, We'd Like To Hear.

And Congratulations To All Of You.

[Applause] Good Morning.

My Name Is David, A Special Olympics Global Messenger And Lee County Athlete.

On Behalf Of All Of The Special Olympic Athletes In Lee County, It Is My Privilege To Accept This 2008 Proclamation For Special Olympics.

I Would Like To Personally Thank Each Commissioner For Your Ongoing Support To Our Athletes And Special Needs Programs.

Without Your Support Many Athletes Would Not Have The Opportunity To Participate.

These Allow Them To Improve Their Health Levels And Be The Best They Can Be.

Thank You.

[Applause] Thank You, David.

My Name Is Amanda And I Am The Lee County Coordinator For Special Olympics.

We Have Over 400 Athletes That Participate In Sports.

It's A Year-Round Program.

January Starts With Basketball, Volleyball, Tennis, Cycling And Soccer.

Our Athletes Excel Incredibly In Sports With Their Peers Also After Their Experience With Us.

Our Athletes, We Do Not Change The Rules For Them.

They Have To Learn All The Sports As Typical Athletes Do, And That's Why We Say We

Train Our Athletes To Be Athletes In Special Olympics.

We Thank You For All Your Support.

Thank You, Amanda.

[Applause] And Nancy And Ron, I Want To Thank You For Bringing To My Attention The Gold Medals And Silver Medals And Bronze Medals Received This Year.

We Do Want To Take Special Time To Recognize The Accomplishments Of These Special Residents Of Our Community And The Acknowledgment They Bring To Our Community For Their Success.

Their Success Is Our Success.

Those Of You Who Don't Remember Nancy, She Used To Be The Parks And Recreation Director In The City Of Fort Myers.

Thank You Very Much.

Chairman Judah: I Have The Privilege To Read The Final Ceremonial Presentation And It's A Real Honor Particularly Since I Can Relate Just A Little Bit To This Young Man Who Is Receiving The Billy Mitchell Award.

For Many Of You, Billy Mitchell Was Considered The Father Of Our Air Force That Serves This Great Nation Today.

So This Is Quite An Honor And Joshua Partain If You Could Step Forward.

I Know You Have Your Family And Support With You Today.

This Is Incredible.

The Resolution Reads As Follows And Of Course As We Get Into This Resolution, Why It's So Special For Myself, Joshua You're Going To Have A Wing Man When You Entered The Air Force Academy For The Class Of 2013 And My Own Son Is There.

He Is In His Second Year.

He Will Be A Junior Or Second Degree And I Know You Can Count On Him.

It's A Real Brotherhood And You're Going To Have An Extraordinary Future Once You Step Foot On The Grounds Of The Air Force Academy And You Have Accomplished A Tremendous Amount Get To Go This Point.

The Resolution Reads As Follows.

[Reading Resolution] Therefore Be It Resolved That The Board Of Commissions Takes Great Pleasure In Congratulating Joshua Partain On This Billy Mitchell Award.

I Am Honored To Sign The Resolution.

[Applause] Chairman Judah: Let Me Let You Hold This During Our Photographs.

You Have Completed All Requirements And Entitled To The Billy Mitchell Award.

The 5th Of November, 2008.

Unbelievable.

Congratulations, Sir.

[Applause] Chairman Judah: We'd Love To Take A Picture Of You Flying Solo With Us And Then You Can Bring Everybody Forward.

Thank You, Joshua.

Chairman Judah: Okay.

If We Could Have His Support Group Around Joshua? Good Morning, Everyone.

Chairman Judah: Thank You.

We'd Love To Hear A Few Words From You All.

Thanks For Being Here.

Thank You Commissioners.

The Air Patrol Was Founded Back In September 1941, Seven Days Before The Attack On Pearl Harbor, Since Then We've Had Youths From Age 12-21 Go Through Our Program.

We Do Emergency Services, We've Trained With The North Fort Myers Fire Department At A Point Of Distribution, We Do Cap Programs, Which Is Teaching Discipline, Moral Leadership, And Aerospace Education.

We Train Cadets To Fly.

He's A First Person In Our Unit That I Can Recall That Has Gone Through This.

I Have Been Through In Unit Over Two Years And In The Past Four Years We've Had One Cadet Achieve An Officer Ranking.

He's The First One.

We've Had No Officers To -- We'll Be Having Three At The End Of Next Month.

That's The Basic, Gone Through The Officer And Achieving Second Rank.

For A Unit That Didn't Do It For Four Years And Now Is Doing It Is Showing We're Doing Something Right Finally.

We're Here To Serve.

We Help Out At Different Air Shows.

I Work The Largest Air Show In The Country In Wisconsin.

Seeing 150 Cadets Out There Managing 12,000 Aircraft Is Amazing.

We Like To Thank You For Your Support.

Chairman Judah: What Great Work.

Thank You.

[Applause] Chairman Judah: Joshua It's A Privilege To Have You Here And If You'd Like To Share A Few Words.

No Pressure, If You Don't.

I Just Want To Thank You For Having Us Here.

We're Looking Forward To Having A Bunch More Of Us Coming Through Here.

It Is An Honor To Have This Presented To Me Especially Here.

Being The First Officer In This Unit, I Thank You Very Much.

[Applause] Chairman Judah: Thank You So Much.

Okay.

We'll Get On With The Rest Of The Agenda.

We Do Have A Recap And It Looks Like Consent Item 4.

Any Objections? Discussions? Hearing None, Motion Passes. We'll Get To An Walk-On Item On The Administrative Agenda.

We Have A Comment On The Administrative Agenda.

Jack.

Good Morning.

Good Morning Chairman And Commissioners.

I'm Here For One Reason.

I Support The Red Sox Even Though I'm A Yankee Fan And Number Two, To Add The Red Sox To The Select Committee For The Design And Choosing Of The Site Is Commendable.

I Would Also Ask You To Consider Having Some Residents That Are Within The Geographic Area Specified For This Site To Be Added To This Committee.

I Know You Seek Public Input On Most Everything You Do And I Think That Would Be A Nice Touch.

And I Wish You All A Merry Christmas And Thank You For The Entertainment Today.

Chairman Judah: Thank You, Jack.

Carl, Followed By James.

Chairman Judah: Carl, It's Great To See You Here This Morning.

I Know You Had Some Health Issues.

Thank You So Much Chairman Ray Judah For That.

I Was In The Hospital And Had A Near Heart Attack.

I'm Fine And Back At It.

Being An Educator For 37 Years It Was A Thrill To See The Smile On All Those Kids' Faces And I Hope That In The Future You Will Have More Kids In Here Honoring Them.

It Was Just Great.

My Name Is Cal For The Record.

I'm Here For Number 08-0004-S And That's Babcock Water Management District Plan Presented.

I Think We Should Postpone It.

One Commissioner Says It Will Entitle Three Different People Who Own The Land To Manage The Water And I Don't Know What Will Be -- You Know, We Have A Lawsuit.

Not A Lawsuit, A Public Hearing On The Water Issue.

Jim English, Karen, Myself, I Believe The County, Too, And Two And Three Others.

I Don't Know How It Will Affect This Hearing.

We're Going To Have To Talk To Three Different People.

I'm Not Sure.

So I'd Like To Read It And Understand It And I Think That The Water District With The Other Issue That They Said There Would Be Two Different Districts And I Don't Know What This Would Do.

It Should Be Managed As A Whole Plot, Not Two Districts Because It Takes A Lot Of Time And Repetition.

Thank You.

Have A Very Merry Christmas And Prosperous New Year.

It's Always A Pleasure To Talk To You.

Chairman Judah: Thank You, Carl.

Jim English.

Thank You Very Much.

I'd Like To Speak To You About The Item 15 On The Consent Agenda.

We Didn't Receive Notice Of This Until After Close Of Business On Thursday And What's Being Asked Is That You All Agree To Divide The Permit That Has To Do With The Babcock Property, The Entire Babcock Property.

And There's No Urgency To Do This And In Addition It's My Understanding That The Staff Is Recommending That Course Action To You Primarily Because That's What The South Florida Water Main Personnel And Some Of These Other Regulatory Agencies Are Suggesting To Them That That's What They Ought To Do.

I Would Like To Pointed Out To You, Although They Advised You To The Contrary That There Are Numerous 298 Districts.

These Water Main Districts That Are Not Divided.

One Of Them Is The Lehigh District.

If You Were Going To Divide That There Would Be About 100,000 Permits Out There.

The Other Is The County Line Drainage District.

That Joins This District On Two Sides.

There's Been No Division.

There's Only One Permit There.

No Division Of The Permit Based On Ownership.

And If You Do This And You Follow It On Out There They Will Have 18,000 Units In The Babcock And Before You Get Through You Will Have 18,000 Permits Out There.

And Lee County Has A Very Serious Water Management Problem.

It's Not Of Your Making And You Can't Solve It On Your Piece Of Land Without Spending A Lot Of Money.

And It's Not In The Best Interest Of Lee County Orly County's Taxpayers Or Citizens For You To Request What The Staff Is Asking For You This Morning.

What They're Asking Is Imprudent From The County Standpoint And I Recommend You Do Not Grant Their Request.

I'm Not Accusing Them Of Any Conspiracy Or Any Intellectual Dishonesty, They've Just Been Misinformed And They Don't Understand What The Situation Is Up There Or The Issues Are Or What The End Result Is Going To Be.

As A Matter Of Fact In A Meeting They Told Me We Have Filed An Exception With The South Florida Water Main District With The Hearing Officer Or Whoever You File It With And The Last Time I Met With The Kitsons, They Advised Me They Had Withdrawn Their Revision.

I Told Commissioner Mann Earlier This Morning, We Just Paid Our Bills For November With Regards To -- We've Been Fighting This Thing And Trying To Have An Agriculture Operation With What's Going On And We Just Paid The Bills Relative Our Problem With This Problem.

For The Month Of November They Came To A Little Over \$4,000.

So It's Costing Me And My Family About \$50,000 A Year Just To Stay In Business With The Problem.

If You Divide This Permit, We're Not Going To Be Opposing The South Florida Water Management District Or County Line Drainage District, We're Going To Be Fighting With You Folks And Somebody Else Is Putting The Water On You.

It's Not To Your Advantage Or The Advantage Of The Taxpayers Or Citizens Of This County.

You're Doing What You're Requested To Do And I Specifically Request That You Do Not Do That.

Chairman Judah: Thank You, Jim.

Let's Show Hands Of Who Else Would Like To Speak On The Administrative Agenda? No, Okay.

Good Morning.

Good Morning Commissioners.

I Am Here To Speak For The Transfer Of The Permit And I'd Like To Clarify Two Or Three Things That I've Heard This Morning.

One Is Telegraph Cypress Water Management District Which Is The Current Permittee Did Start Out Covering The Entire Ranch.

In December 2006 The Boundary Was Contracted.

It Now Only Represents The Area That Kitson Still Owned And Retains The Ownership Of.

Therefore Telegraph Cypress Water Management At The Moment Is In The Odd Position Of Being A Permittee Of Something They Don't Own.

That's Why They're Asking For This Transfer Of Permit To Go Forward.

It Would Not Be Like The East County Where There's Thousands Of Land Owners And Needing A Permit For Each Land Owner.

That's Not The Issue Here.

The Issue Is There Is No Longer Cypress Water Management Encompassing The Property Lee County Owns.

It's A Totally Different Situation Than What Was Just Described To You.

The Area Six, The Kitson Property In A Remains, That Application Has Been For Transfer Of The Permit Has Been Wrapped Into The Active Erp Conceptual That Is Ongoing For That Property.

It Has Not Been Dropped Or Done Something Else With, It's Been Wrapped Into The -- So There's One Permit Action Happening For The Just Shy Of 18,000 Acres In Area Six.

So All Of The Pieces And The State Has The Same Package Of Application That They Can Submit To The Water Management District To Get The Permit For Their Property In Their Hands Just As Lee County Is Being Asked To Do This.

So Yes, There Will Be Three Distinct Permittees, But It's For The Ownership Of The Land/Where The District Boundaries Are.

If You Have Questions, I'll Be Glad To Answer Them.

If Not, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year.

Chairman Judah: Thank You, Andy.

David.

Good Morning.

For The Record, I'm David Yourik And I'm Speaking For Myself Rather Than Responsible Growth Managements.

Because Of The Time Frame I Do Not Have Board Approval For What I'm Saying.

On My Blue Card I Indicated Other Rather Than Yes Or No.

I Feel Like, Although We Just Had Two Contradictory Proposals From The Prior Two Speakers, That This Needs To Be Looked At A Little Bit More Carefully And All I'm Asking For Is People Take A Hard Look At This.

Sometimes You Lose Some Details If You Divide Up In Three Sections, You Don't Have The Inter Play Of The Entire Water Flow And I'm Not Saying That Isn't What Could Happen.

I Couldn't Begin To Tell You From What Little I Was Able To Read Since Last Night, But I Doubt That This Should Just Be On The Consent Agenda And Gone Through Routinely.

Thank You Very Much.

Chairman Judah: Thank You, David.

Okay, Back To The Board.

Items To Be Pulled.

Commissioner Bigelow.

Comm. Bigelow: 6-B.

Chairman Judah: Commissioner Hall? Comm. Hall: 15-A.

Chairman Judah: Commissioner Janes? Comm. Janes: 3-A, And 17-A.

Chairman Judah: 8-A.

That Will Do It.

Motion By Commissioner Hall.

Seconded By Commissioner Mann.

Any Objections? Discussions? Hearing None, Motion Passes. Commissioner Bigelow 6-B
Comm. Bigelow: I'll Move The Item.

Chairman Judah: Motion To Move By Commissioner Bigelow.

Seconded.

They're Donating Easements And Simple Title To Some Land To Making Summerlin Road Expansion Possible And It's In My District.

I Know There Was A Swap There That The College Got Some Benefits From The Road Work So There Was A Fair Exchange For What They Did And It Was A Beautiful Example Of Government Agencies Working Together.

Chairman Judah: Any Objections? Discussions? Hearing None, Motion Passes..

Comm. Hall: Do You Want To Come Up And Talk About This And I Want To Make Sure We Haven't Rushed Into This Decision.

Just A Brief History.

It Is The Transfer Of The Water -- The Surface Water Management Permit For The Lee County Owned Portion Of The Babcock Ranch Preserve Under The Florida Administrative Code 40-E.

Owners Of The Property Are Required To Have Permits For The Operations On That Property.

This Particular Scenario Is A Bit Unique.

As You Know Babcock Ranch Was A Large Purchase With Three Separate Entities, But Currently There Is Only One Permit And It Is Under The Previous Owner As Was Stated Earlier.

And That Name Is? I'm Sorry.

It Is The Telegraph Cypress Water Management District, But There Was Modifications That Gave Babcock Florida Companies Operation And Maintenance Of The Permit.

But Neither Entities Have Ownership Interest In The Three Parcels That We're Talking About Today.

So Basically This Action Today Is To Get Our Name On The Permit And The Water Management District Initially Proposed A Co-Permit, But We're Not Comfortable With That.

We Would Like To See Our Own Permit.

In The Future The Operations On Our Property, We May Have A Different Opinion About What Happens On Our Property As Opposed To State And Opposed To The Development Of The Babcock Holding's Portion.

Additionally, We Get Our Name On The Permit.

We Have Greater Leverage With Future Changes To This Permit.

Right Now We're Not On It, But We Own The Property.

And Changes That Come Forward, We Will Have More To Say When The Changes Are Applied For.

There Are No Other Changes Being Requested At This Time, No Changes To The Permit Conditions , The Kitson Has Filed A Permit For Their Property.

There Are A Number Of Angles Involved In This And This Is Just One Step In That Direction.

If You Have Any Questions.

I Don't Have Any Questions, But I'd Ask Roland To Come Up.

I'm Concerned About The Issues Jim English Raised And I'm Asking The Staff Look At That From That Point Of View.

What Impact Would That Have On The Pending Or Possible Lawsuit That Jim English Has? Does It Make It More Difficult To Achieve What It Is He Wants To Get? I'm Not Exactly Sure What He Is Looking For.

I'm Only Advising You As -- To This Board In What We Believe Is In The Best Interest Of Lee County.

I Don't Know Particulars --Well, That's What I Was Interested In.

To Our Advantage To Divide It Up Or Keep It As One Unit As We Go Forward To Issues Pertaining To The Management And Water Issues On Our Property.

We Feel We Will Be In A Better Position If We Divide It Up In This Manner, Yes.

Chairman Judah: Commissioner Mann? Comm. Mann: I Don't Know For Sure What Questions I Want To Ask And I Spent An Hour Trying To Understand This And I Still Don't And I Have Spoken With Mr. English About This For Some 30 Years.

And I'm Still Confused.

This Just Heightens My Confusion By Dividing It Into Three What Was A Single Issue.

I'm Trying To Understand The English Family's Concern Here.

They Seem Borderline Paranoid That This Will Make It Easier For Mr. Kitson In Pursuing His Development For Bad Things To Happen Or For The Status Quo To Be Exacerbated For The Flooding That Occurs From Time To Time On Their Family Property.

And That's When He Approached Me 30 Years Ago And I Was Wearing A Different Hat All

Together.

They Were Concerned About Nothing Is Going On And The Existing Permit That Covers All Of That Area Has Not Prohibited Continual Flooding From Time To Time.

And Now I Think They're Concerned That By Breaking Us Out, That's Going To In Some Way Allow The Bad Things That Have Happened To Continue To Happen.

At Some Point Mr. Kitson And His Operation Are Going To Need Some Permit To Do Their Development Up There.

Now, Let Me Take This And Give You A Specific Question.

I'm Kind Of Thinking Out Loud With You.

You Just Said This Will Give Us A Better Seat At The Table In Dealing With The Permit Application That Mr. Kitson Has.

Correct. Comm. Mann: If We Didn't Do This, Would Lee County Not Still Have Every Avenue Into The Permit Process As A Potential Victim Of Some Activities Up There? That's Correct.

We Would.

It Would Be As A Property Owner And Additionally As The County As A Whole, We Would Have A Substantial Interest To Challenge That, But The Point I'm Making Is That With Us, Our Name, Lee County On The Permit, The Changes Can Happen Without Us Agreeing To It.

It Gives -- It Puts Us In A Better Position.

Comm. Hall: Our Name Is Not On The Permit Right Now.

The Current Permittee Does Not Own The Property.

Bizarre.

But We're Impacted Nonetheless By Activities Above Us.

We Will Have The Challenge Of Any Permits Issued For The Development Of The Kitson Parcel.

In My Opinion I Believe That We Have A Better Standing If We Take This Action Today.

Comm. Mann: Two Things Have Been Said That Are 180 Degree Is Apart.

Mr. English Doesn't Think Mr. Kitson Is Pursuing This At This Time And What Does The Other Party, The State Of Florida Doing At This Time? Are They Pursuing The Division And How Are They Going About It? We're Taking Some Action Here, I'm Not Certain What It Is,

But What Are The Other Two Parties That Own This, Are Partners This This Permit? It's My Understanding That They Will -- The State Will Be Taking Similar Action Transferring The Permit And The Kitson Group Will Take Similar Action To Transfer The Permit.

And Additionally, If They Don't Take The Similar Permit Transfer Approach, They Have An Application In Right Now For The Development Of Their Parcel.

Comm. Mann: And You're Saying It Is Your Considered Opinion That We Strengthen Lee County's Position In Dealing With Any Future Permit A Mri Dagss And -- Applications And Modifications On Land Where Water Will Flow And Flow On Our Surface, We'll Be In A Stronger Position.

Is That What I Hear You Saying? Yes, Sir.

If We Take This Action Today? Regrettably, Mr. English Feels Strongly That That's Not The Case And Somehow We're Losing Ground Here And Leverage That We Have Today By Being Collectively Part Of The Original Permit That Would Have To Be Modified.

So I Don't Know What I'm Asking You To Say To Give Him Comfort Or Me Comfort.

One Last Question.

The Urgency, If We Had A Management And Planning Meeting And Spent A Half Hour, Hour, So Everybody Felt Much Better About It, Would We Be Losing Something By Taking The Six Weeks Or Two Months? I Don't Think We'd Be Losing Anything.

The Only Concern I Would Have And I Don't Know What The Timeline Is For The Kitson Application.

We Don't Want To See Anything Issued Prior To Us Taking This Action.

Comm. Mann: I Haven't Heard That There's Any Risk Of A Permit Being Issued On The Kitson Application.

They Are Pursuing Right Now.

It's Under Review.

Our Staff Has Been Submitting Comments And The District Has Been Requesting Additional Information.

So They're Going Through The Process.

Comm. Mann: Normally This Would Take Six Months Or Another Year Or Something.

I Feel So Likely Armed, Mr. Chairman, As We're Moving Here.

I Would Hope We Could Give Ourselves The Opportunity To Look At This A Little More Closely Since There Seems To Be Such Strong Feelings On The Two Sides.

They Think We're Weakening The County's Position By Pursuing This In This Direction.

Chairman Judah: Why Would We Want Some Of The Entities To Carry Water Management Permit On Property Owned By Lee County.

I Think That's The Point You're Trying To Make.

This Reflects Ownership.

That's Correct.

Eventually We'd Like To See In The Long Run Our Own Permit With Our Own Conditions And That May Be A Number Of Years Away, But This Is A Step Towards That Direction.

Chairman Judah: I See.

Giving Us A Greater Seat At The Table When Addressing All Water Management Conditions.

Comm. Hall: Mr. Chairman, Right Now We Are Not On This Permit.

We Are An Outside Participant On Our Own Property On A Permit That Doesn't Have Us In Any Standings.

To Bring This Home For A Landing, What You're Asking Us Is That We Number One Want To Be On The Permit And Separate Ourselves From The Other Permittees And I Would Assume This Is Similar To Other Permits When We Go Around The County On Other Water Issues.

It's Sort Of Hard To Sue Ourselves.

If We're On The Same Permit, We Will Have To Work Internally In A Process.

And I See The Advantage To Have Our Own Standing On Our Property With Our Own Permit And Do What We Have Done Successfully In Being Able To Challenge The Actual Property Owner On A Permit.

We're Challenging A Permit That Doesn't Have The Actual Property Owner On It, So We're Challenging An Entity That Has No Ownership.

So The Idea That Everyone Who Owns Property Now Will Be On This Permit Is A Major Step In The Right Direction To Ensure That The Permits Are Accomplishing The Objectives And Goals That Our Natural Resource Department Is Trying To Accomplish In Addition To What Mr. English Is Trying To Accomplish.

Am I Summarizing That Somewhat Correctly? I Think It's Important To Recognize No One Is On This Permit That Owns Property.

Comm. Mann: I Understand That, But This Begs This Question.

Does Not The New Owner -- Is The New Owner Not Entitled To All Of The Rights And Obligations Of The Existing Permit When We Bought The Land? Would That Not Be The Same As Ownership? Are We Exempt From Requirements Under That Permit? Can We Ignore That Permit Because We Bought The Land? I Don't Think So.

Well, We Can't Ignore Those.

We Are Taking This Action With An Understanding That The Permit As It Is Today Is Going To Have To Be Modified.

Comm. Mann: You're Lucky You Brought Your Clients Behind You.

Comm. Hall: You Have A Gallery Behind You Nodding Their Heads.

Comm. Mann: Mr. Chairman, I'm Still Confused As You Can Tell By The Tone Of My Voice And Nature Of My Questions.

You All Do What You Want.

I'd Be More Comfortable If We Took This Up And Get The Other Two Parties To Participate.

The Planning Council Made This Recommendation.

I'd Love To Have A Representative From Them To Say Why They Think This Is Best.

There's A Lot Of Players Not Represented And We're Getting Third Hand Information.

It Would Make Sense To Buy A Few Days Here And Do Something That We Will All Feel Confident About.

Chairman Judah: We're Taking Action Here One Way Or The Other.

Comm. Hall: I Don't Feel We Are Getting Third-Hand Information Because Our Staff Has Been Engaged In This Process And A Recommendation From Our Staff To Put Us In The Best Legal Position.

These Are Complicated Water Issues.

We See Several Correspondents From Mr. English's Legal Team.

And The Development In Charlotte County, How It Will Impact Lee County.

We're Working On Several Other Projects That Are Separate From This That Are Further East That Are Going To Help Again With All Of These Water Issues That We Have In This Particular Area Of The County.

This One Permit Is Not Going To Solve All These Issues.

We Want To Do What This Needs To Do And Enhance It To The Best Of Its Ability And

Benefit All Of The Residents And Property Owners In This Section Of The County.

I Don't Have A Problem.

January's Mmp Is A Heavy Duty Mmp Already.

It Will Be A Long Meeting.

I Don't Seeing Us Delay This Until March.

The Application Has Been In For About Three Months, Maybe Longer.

I Don't Think It's Healthy To Delay, But I Don't Have A Problem Pushing This To The January 6th Meeting If You Want More Time To Talk Among Yourselves, But I Guess I'm Not As Confused.

Maybe It's Because I Work On The Water Issues In More Depth Than Some Of The Other Commissioners.

I Certainly Would Want To Afford You Time To Be Comfortable With Where We're Going Because I Think It's An Important Issue And I Don't Want Residents To Think We're Flippant With What's Happening With The State Property.

Just Because It's The State Doesn't Mean They're Dog It Right.

So Can We Wait Or What's Your Recommendation? Why Don't We Hear Some Insight From Roland.

Comm. Mann: I Would Offer Even The Suggestion Of The January 6th That Would Allow Me To Talk With These Other Two Parties And Feel More Confident.

I Just Want To Reiterate That This Is Just A Permit Transfer.

This Is In No Way Shape Or Form Lessens Our Interest In The Proper Management.

We're Following The Results Of The Modelling, The Studies Out There To Make Sure Discharge Rates Are Returned To Historic Levels Or The Extent It's Practical That The Applicants Can Do, But What We Do In Restoration Activities As Well On Our Property.

We Have The Same Goals And Ensure Those Things Occur Through Even Babcock's Village, So In Terms Of Delay I Don't Think There's A Problem With A Week Or Two Delay, But Recognizing That Activities Occur As A Co-Applicant, Properties Outside Of Us Makes Us Liable For Other Entities Out There.

This Is Why We Want To Get This Cleared Up As Soon As Possible.

We Don't Want To Take On That Liability.

Comm. Mann: January 6th? I'd Rather Have The Legal Office Tell You If That's A Board

Meeting Or Not.

Comm. Hall: That's Our Next Board Meeting.

Well, Further Exposure Of Liability Of The Property.

Chairman Judah: All We're Trying To Accomplish Is The Line Up, The Ownership With The Entity That Is The Permittee.

That's Right.

Chairman Judah: I Don't Understand What The Problem Is Here.

Comm. Hall: I Don't Either.

Comm. Mann: I Have To Tell --I Too May Not Understand.

A Fellow Came Up And Said I Understand Einstein's Theories, But I Don't Know Where He Got All The Formulas From.

I Think The Issue Is Rather Basic.

If It's A Parcel We Own, We Ought To Be The Ones That Have The Say And Regulate About What's Going To Happen On That Property, Not Kitson Or Anybody Else.

And So For This Purpose I Do Support That.

And I Think That's All The Intent That This Does Is Transfer The Interest.

I Think That The Issue With Water As You Indicated Is Still Ongoing.

We Have A Lot Of Ways To Go Before We Can Get That Resolved, And That Is A Critical Issue To Lee County.

And Perhaps The Best Way To Do It Is To Make Sure We Have The Most We Can Say On The Property We Own.

And I Think That Is Worth A Lot Of Clout.

Chairman Judah: Is That A Motion Mr. Janes? Mr. Bigelow? Comm. Bigelow: I'd Like To Ask You To Address This, He Said That We'll Stand At A Better Seat At The Table.

Could You Explain That To Me If You Believe That To Be True And Also He Said The South Florida Water Management District Supports -- I'm Pair Phrasing, Supports The Three-Party A Mri Indication -- Application.

Maybe You Could Address Those? As A Co-Applicant We're Liable For Any Activity That Occurs On All Three Parcels Right Now.

With A Separate Permit, We're The Downstream Permit Owner We Could Have More Clout At The Table In Terms Of Discharge Rates, Water Quality Flowing From Somebody Up Stream By Having An Individual Permit.

Now We Would Have To, I Guess, Negotiate Within Ourselves.

We're Partly Responsible As The Co-Applicant.

It Cleans It Up, I Believe, As Having A Clear Definition Of Our Portion Of The Watershed.

It's A Reasonable Issue, It's A Matter Of How You Work Out The Details Of The Permit Obligations.

And Why Is It A Three Party Application Approach? That's What He Said, I Believe.

I Think They Probably Prefer To Go To One Entity.

I Think It's Easier For Them To Write One Document.

That Was Their Initial Request Is Having All Three Of Us On One Permit.

We Felt Lee County Would Be In A Better Position By Having Their Own Permit.

I'd Like To Know Why It Is We Don't Have District Here Or Any Opinion In This Back Up From Them As To Why They Would Prefer A Three-Party Application.

Well --If You Could Address Why It Is You Said We Would Have A Better Seat At The Table And Why The District Wants A Three-Party? I Can't Speak Directly From The District, But The Initial Proposal Was Co-Permittee Approach.

I Think From Their Perspective It Would Be Easier For Them To Manage.

One Permit Was -- With Three Separate Co-Permittees, But From Our Perspective We Didn't Agree With That.

We Want Our Own Property, Our Own Permit.

And In Addition, I Think The Administrative Code Sets Out The Requirement That The Property Owner Hold The Permit.

There May Be Some Way To Have A Co-Permittee Status, But From Our Perspective We Were Not Comfortable With That.

With A Better Seat At The Table, We Would Have A Permit With Lee County's Name On It.

Right Now We Don't.

How Much Better A Seat At The Table, I Can't Quantify That, But It Is A Greater Seat.

And I Don't Know Who Put The Blue Sheet Together And The Back Up, But There's Nothing Here From The District And That's A Significant Statement You Made That They Would Prefer A Three-Party Application.

I Would Like To Know More About That From Their Professional Perspective.

I Guess I See No Reason Why We Can't Pause And Give A Little Time To Consider This A Little More.

I Do Believe The Significant Issue That Kind Of Came Up And Items Have A Much Greater Chance Of Passing With Little Consideration By Us If They Are Placed That Way.

In Two Years I've Kind Of -- I Kind Of Smell Things Sometimes When They See Them On The Face And This Tells Me That There's Something Here That I'm Not Quite Understanding Fully.

I Would Support Putting This Into The New Year.

Chairman Judah: A Motion On Some Type Of Action? Comm. Hall: Mr. Chairman, We Got Our Books Well In Advance Of These Meetings And I'm Struggling Here Because Of The Basic Request.

I'm Going To Move The Item And Ask That Staff Meet With Commissioner Bigelow And Mann So They Understand The Process Is Not Impacting The Ability To Challenge Or Redirect Or Stay On The Path That We Have Been On, But It Is Really To Get Us Away From The Liability Issue Of The Other Two Property Owners And Their Decisions With The Water Management District To Put Us In A Better Position To Challenge And Not Be Internally Challenging Ourselves, But Externally Challenges.

I Believe We've Had Great Success With That.

I'm Going To Move This Item And Ask If There's Something That Needs To Come Back On The 6th, That This Board Allows Either Commissioner They Feel Needs To Come Back For Further Discussion.

Chairman Judah: We Have A Motion And A Second Under 15-A.

Any Further Discussion? Yes, Commissioner Mann.

Comm. Mann: One Last Troubling Thought That Between The January 6th, I'm Sure We'd Find The Answer To.

If We Are A Part Of An Existing Permit That Needs To Be Modified By Mr. Kitson As He Moves Forward With His Development And We're A Part Of That Existing Permit That He's Attempt To Go Modify, I Think An Argument Could Be Made That We're In A Stronger Position In Having To Agree With Whatever He Is Suggesting By Way Of Changes That He Would Have To Get Us To Agree To Before He Took It To The Water District To Get The Modifications.

We're A Part Of The Existing Permit That Is About To Be Modified As Opposed To Be In A Separate Party That Would Have To Object To What He Is Suggesting.

Simple Questions Like This Is Reasons Why January 6th Would Give Me A Comfort Zone.

I Need A Chance To Justify And Make A Little Further Comment Because While I Have Great Respect For You Personally And Your Opinions, I Think In This Case We Could Look At The Down Side And The Down Side Would Be Supposing Mr. Kitson Convinced The Water Management District To Go Along With It, We Could Be Outvoted 2-1 Because We're On That Permit.

I Don't Like That Because That's -- And Outvoted On Property We Own And I Don't Like That.

I Like To Have Complete Control On The Property That Lee County Has.

Comm. Mann: But Mr. Chairman Is That How It Works If You're A Three-Party Or More Permittee, Does One Hold Out Or Get Overruled? Chairman Judah: Would You Like To Elaborate? I Don't Know Either.

That's Exactly Why We're Recommending Not To Go Down That Route.

I Don't Know -- There Would Have To Be Some Type Of Determination And That's Why We're Recommending Our Own Property, Our Own Permit.

That Undermines Your Argument That We Have A Better Seat At The Table.

No Because If We Can Be A Hold Out On An Application That We Object To As One Vote, I Think That's A Better Seat At The Table.

But That's A Question And The District Not Being Here, Their Recommendation Not Being Back Up To This, It's Cause For Pause, I Think.

Well, I Think You Have The Opportunity To Bring It Back January 6th If You Have Issues If You Need Further Clarification Or Change.

Comm. Hall: Let's Remember, None Of The Parties Are On The Permit Right Now.

The Permit Has Been Transferred Over, But None Of Us Are On The Permit Right Now.

We're Not Named On The Permit.

So We Could Pursue The Multiple Party Approach And That's Apparently Why The District Recommends And I'd Like To Know The Advantages Or Disadvantages Of That Approach.

Comm. Mann: I Have One Last Question And I'm Giving Up My Second Opportunity To Speak Here.

What Does This Action Accomplish Today? It Triggers Some Finality, I Would Think.

My Point Is If I Come Up With Some Piece Of Information Or Suggestion Between Now And January 6th, We Would Have Taken Action Today.

What Good Is January 6th Going To Do Me Even I Could Convince Everybody Wow, We Probably Should Have Waited And Done So And So.

What Does This Action Accomplish Today That We Are Taking? Do The Other Two Parties Have To Agree To This Or Water District Have To Agree To It? What Are We Accomplishing Here Today? We Are Transferring The Permit Into For That Portion Of Land That Lee County Owns.

We're Transferring That Portion Of The Permit To Lee County.

Comm. Mann: We Have The Authority To Transfer Or We Would Have To Request That Of The Water District? We Are Requesting That In The Water Management District.

It's A Form.

A Water Management District Form That We Sent To Them.

A Request For The Permit Transfer.

We Fill It Out, We Sent It To Them, They Approve It Or Disapprove It.

Comm. Mann: At Their Speed We May Have January 6th Or January 6, 2010 To Work On This.

We May Have That Time.

Okay.

I'm Through Asking Questions.

Chairman Judah: If I Could, We're Very Much At The Table With Our Challenge.

Two Major Issues With Charlotte County And The Agreement With Kitson Is Traffic And Water Resource Issues.

So We're Still Very Much At The Point Where We Need To Be To Ensure That The Rate Of Discharge, Storage Has To Be Adequately Addressed.

Mr. Bigelow? Comm. Bigelow: I Brought Something Forward Before That I Think You Were Going To Take It In Address And I Wanted To See All The Stakeholders In This Area And In Particular On This Issue Of Water Management To Together.

And Let's Start Committing To A Process Of Working Out The Issues Collaboratively.

And I'm Afraid This Goes In The Opposite Direction.

We're Dividing Again, Drawing Lines, Furthering Ourselves From Each Other.

Possibly.

I Will Put That Out There, The Qualifier.

And So I Don't Know What's Going On With That Effort That I Put Forward That I Thought You Would Agree With That We Would Come Together Round Table This And Bring In The Various Counties, The Agencies, Everybody That -- The English's.

Chairman Judah: It's Not Exactly What You Wanted To Do With A Meeting Of Mr. English, The South Florida Water Management, Lee County, I'll Provide The Back Up To You Indicating Their Efforts.

Any Further Discussion? Any Objection? Motion Passes 3-2 Commissioner Mann And Bigelow Dissenting.

This Is For Helping People Who Are About To Be Foreclosed On And With 20,000 Of Those, It Seems Like A Drop Of The Bucket.

How Does This Work And How Can We Expand It? Gloria For The Record.

We're Using Ship Funds To Help Prevent Foreclosure For People That Would Qualify For The Ship Program.

How Would You Qualify To Be Bailed Out? Very, Low, Low Income People That Own Their Houses That Need Assistance Because They Have Some Unforeseen Emergency.

Like They Got Laid Off? But They Would Have Had To Have A Job -- They Have To Demonstrate They Could Get Back On Their Feet.

Like If They Got Laid Off And Got Behind, But They Have A New Job.

We Would Help Out.

So They Don't Get Foreclosed On.

Or If Someone Got Sick In Their House.

Do These People Have To Originally Qualify For Some Type Of Assistance For Affordable Housing? No, But They Would Have To Qualify.

The Income Range Has To Be In The Income Range Now.

So The Definition Is Based On An Income Range? Yes.

This Is State.

Ship Is State, Not --Well, I Don't Understand, But It Will Help A Handful Of People.

We Need Another 20,000 People To Help Out.

I'll Move The Item.

Chairman Judah: Motion By Commissioner Mann.

Do We Have A Second? Second By Commissioner Hall.

Any Discussion? Commissioner Janes? Comm. Janes: If This Is A Program To Help Out Low Income Individuals To Prevent Foreclosure Actions, I Don't See How This Could Be A Long-Term Help.

It Brings Them Current With What They Owe, But What Do We Do Next Month And The Following Month Because We Haven't Improved Their Lifestyle And Ability To Earn The Higher Wages.

All We've Done Is Bring Their Debt Up To The Current Thing.

I Don't See Where It Helps.

Other Than Bringing It Up To Date.

Well, It's Specifically Targeted To People Who Have An Unforeseen, Extraordinary Emergency.

It Is Not Someone Who Has Overextended Or Has A Problem Like That.

There Are People That Have An Unforeseen Emergency And Who Are Facing Foreclosure And This Is Targeted Towards Them.

Comm. Janes: Unemployment Could Be An Unforeseen Thing.

Correct.

But They Would Have To Show They're Employed.

Before We Help Them They Would Have To Have Missed Their Mortgage Payments, In Danger Of Foreclosure, However, They're Currently Employed.

The Purpose Of The Program Is To Bring Them Current And From Then On They Make The Payments Comm. Janes: Are They Eligible To Apply Down The Road If Something Else Happens To Them? Well, It's \$8,000 Per Housing Unit.

Let's Say Someone Only Needed \$2,000.

There Are People That Only Need That Much, So Later On Something Else Happens, Yes, They Could.

The Cap Is \$8,000.

Most People Will Need The Whole Amount, But There Might Be A Special Circumstance Where Someone Needs A Lower Amount Now And Something Else Happens.

We've Had This Happen, Somebody In The Household Got Very Ill And People Had To Stop Working To Take Care Of Them.

And Then They Went Back To Work After The Medical Emergency Had Be Resolved.

It Will Not Exceed \$8,000 Per Household.

Comm. Janes: And It Seems To Me That It Would Be In Our Benefit, The People And Agencies, If Somehow These Could Be Regarded And Resolving Type Funds.

In Other Words, We Lend Someone \$8,000 Or \$2,000 To Get Current.

They Get Current And Working And All Their Problems Are Over, So They Say, Couldn't They Somehow If They Sold The House Or Otherwise Move It Could We Get The Money Back To Invest In Another? We're Securing The Loan With The Mortgage On The House.

It Will Be A Five-Year Mortgage On The House.

If They Stay In The House Five Years, Then The Mortgage Is Forgiven, But If They Should Sell Or Move On Before Then, They Would Have To Repay It As Part Of The Proceeds Of The Sell Of The House.

Comm. Janes: That Missing My Point On How We Can Use This As A Resolving Type Fund That Would Always Be Available For Assistance Of Somebody Else If They No Longer Needed It.

Because At The End Of Five Years It's Gone.

Well, It's Part Of The Ship Program And -- Comm. Janes: I Understand.

Well, That's -- We've Secured The Loan If They Should Move On In The Five-Year Period, They're To Repay It.

But We Really Didn't Want To Make It To Difficult For People To Participate.

And The Idea Is To Really Operate It As A Bridge.

And It's Patterned After Our Main Ship Program And Some Other Programs Where We Require People To Stay In The Home For A Certain Amount Of Time, And If They Can't Do That They Need To Pay It Back.

Chairman Judah: Really Con Strained To State Guidelines.

Comm. Janes: I Understand.

Chairman Judah: Commissioner Hall? Comm. Hall: This Goes Back To Our Own Ordinance We've Defined Affordable Housing To Low To Very Low And Rather Than Take Payments We Were Asking The Developments Of Using The Bonus To Build It.

We're Working With Low To Very Low Income Families.

Some Of You May Not Think Am More Advertising \$8,000 Over Five Years Is Not A Big Deal, This Is A Very Big Deal For These Folks.

This Is Desperation For Them.

When We Say This Is A Loan That You Must Pay Back, They're Trying To Take Their Monthly Income To Get Food, Keep Their Kids In School While Gas Prices Are Down, The \$1.59 Is A Big Number For Them.

They're Trying To Find The Balance Of Keeping These Folks Active In Their Home So We're Not Dealing With Homelessness.

I Applaud Commissioner Janes Because We're Looking For These Revolving Loan Programs.

If This One Can Only Help 1,000 People, How Can We Help 5,000 People.

But In This Time, I Don't Think We Would Get People Coming In And The Idea Is To Keep The Folks In Their Homes And Not Let The Homes Go Dark.

We Need To Think Along The Lines Of What Commissioner Janes Is Talking About So As We Get Out Of This Recession We Can Help Other Folks And Find These Programs That Can Self-Sustain Themselves.

Let The State Dollars Become \$2 Instead Of \$1 And I Appreciate Commissioner Janes Who Spends Hundreds Of Hours Across This Country Looking At These Programs.

I Think There's A Way For Us To Do That, But I Don't Think This Particular One Is The Time.

Comm. Janes: First Of All, I'm Not Opposed To The Program.

I Was Looking For A Mechanism To Keep The Money Back In The Community And Keep It Working.

I'm Not Suggesting Is What They Do Is Make Monthly Mortgage Payments Or Anything Like That At All.

I'm Suggesting That If The House Is Sold Or Somehow They Left That That Money Would Have To Be Paid Back Because It's The People's Money And That Money Could Be Used To Help Somebody Else Whose Need May Be Great Or Greater.

I Would Like Us To Look Around To See If There Isn't Some Way We Can Work Out A

Program That Might Do That.

But Apparently If There Isn't --Commissioner Janes, So Rather Than Putting The Five-Year Limitation, You're Saying Keep It There So If It's 10 Years From Thousand, The \$8,000 Would Be Paid Back? No Interest, It's On The Books As Something That Was Advanced To Them That They Have To Pay Back.

It's Public Money.

It's Not A Gift To Them.

Chairman Judah: I Can Appreciate Everything You're Saying, But My Concern Is Do We Run Afoul With The Parameters Set To Date? This Program Has Been Set And In Place And Ready To Go As It Is.

To Change It Right Now Would Require Us Working With The State And, You Know --
Comm. Janes: I Guess It's A Hopeless Path.

It Is Secured For Five Years.

It Is A Mortgage That's On There.

If They Leave Within Five Years, We Will Get The Money Back.

The Idea Is To Also Encourage People To Stay In Their Homes Long Term And Quite Frankly With The Way The Market Is, This Is A Secondary -- Well, It Would Probably Be Third Place.

Commissioners, Why Don't We Get This Question Answered With The State And Bring It Back To You? Well, We Would Have To Amend The Local Housing Assistant Plan And Put Forth A Request To Review An Amendment And Put This On Hold.

No, No.

This Is A Good Idea To Look Into It.

Not On This Particular Instance.

I Agree We Need To Take This Up With The Legislature To Try To Modify The Parameters For The Next Time.

Right Now We're Ready To Roll.

I Agree.

Why Don't You Take Your Action Today And Let Us Look Into The Concerns And See If We Can Do Something.

Comm. Hall: And Mr. Chairman, This Isn't A Legislative Action.

We Write The Ship Program And They Approve It.

If We Wrote The Ship Program And Said, When You Borrow From Here You Will Have A Permanent Loan Or Whatever Position That Is And When That Home Is Sold, That Money Will Be Paid Back.

We Are Capable Of Rewriting The Future Ship Requirements To Do That.

We Don't Have To Do Any Other Big Deals.

When Gloria Brings Forward, I Think Commissioner Janes Is Saying Let's Be More Active.

Let's Make That \$1 Of State Funding Become \$2 So We Want In The Future Mechanism Toss Recycle That Money Long Term.

And If People Stay In Their Homes For 50 Years, We Won't Get The Money Back For 50 Years.

That's A Great Compromise.

I Do Have A Question.

We Have The Homeownership Resource Center That Provides The Same Kind Of Intake And Financial Counseling And They Were Left Out Of The Loop Here.

Well, They Weren't Left Out Of The Loop.

This Money Was Advertised And They Did Not Apply For It.

The Resource Center, From My Conversations With Them, They Really Did Not Want To Participate In This Because It Requires Compliance With The Ship Guidelines.

That Means That The People Have To Be Income-Qualified, Income-Certified And Then There's The Mortgage That Needs To Be Placed On The Property.

They Did Not Feel Like They Wanted To Engage In Those Types Of Activities.

Chairman Judah: Thanks For The Clarification, Gloria.

We Do Have A Motion.

Discussion? Commissioner Bigelow? Comm. Bigelow: Is This Low Income Only? I Think It Could Go Up To \$120, But People That Are Very Low Or Receive Funds In The Past.

So It's Not Restricted To Low And Very Low? It's Open To That, But In Practice --That's Better.

There's More Folks --It Provided Some Flexibility To People -- To The Councillors That See People That -- The Key Is They Have To Experience An Unforeseen And Extraordinary

Emergency.

Comm. Bigelow: Thank You, Gloria.

Chairman Judah: Any Objections? Discussions? Hearing None, Motion Passes.
Commissioner Mann, 7-A.

Comm. Mann: This Is The Human Services Capital Issues Program.

I Think We Need To Talk About It.

Connect Me If I'm Wrong, But This Was An Issue We Were Dealing With During Budget Time When There Was Several Requests Brought To Us For Charitable Corporations And 5013c's.

We Sent This Back To Staff And Staff Is Going To Come Up With Some Set Of Rules As How We Could Decide If These Are Legitimate Or Not.

It's Now Back Before Us With A Negative Recommendation From The Staffer To Not Even Adopt The Rules And Not Let This Become A Part Of Our Program, Any Kind Of A Capital Assist.

As You Know We're A Little Bit Pregnant Because We Have Done This In The Past And That's Why It Lingers Before Us Now.

Can We Pull The Cord On It Totally Or Where Do We Go From Here? My Dilemma, We Have Committed The \$25 Million In Our Last Budget For Business Assist.

Things That Would Assist Business And Attract Them To Coming To Lee County.

And By Definition, That Becomes A Part Of Our Core Activities Because We Don't Spend Money That Our County Manager Doesn't Recommend That Isn't In His Core Activities And How We Can Turn Our Back On Abused Kids And Abused Mothers, At Risk Kids, At Risk Neighborhoods And Say That's Not Going To Be A Part Of Our Core Activities.

I'm Not Suggesting We Approve A Grant Today, But I Cannot Support Really Huge Money The Business Community Out There And Bring Them To Our Community That Has Gaping Holes In The Social Infrastructure.

I'm Not Going To Close The Door Gently On These Groups.

I'm At Least Trying To Leave A Crack In It So They Can Still Approach Us And We Will Make The Decision On The Money We Have, The Need And That Sort Of Thing At The Time.

I Cannot Vote To Just Eliminate The Standards That We've Worked To Adopt Now.

I Would Like To See Us Go Forward With That.

And Then We'll Take The Issues One At A Time When It Comes Before Us For Funding.

Chairman Judah: Commissioner Hall? Comm. Hall: First Of All, We Have Not Abandoned, We Put 4.4 Million --I Apologize.

Comm. Hall: Excuse Me, I Have The Floor.

We Have Put \$4.4 Million In The Operation Of Abused Children.

Making Sure Children Have Meals, Recreational Activities, Disadvantaged Children, Homeless Children.

There's A List.

That's In Addition To What We Give To Lee Memorial.

That Number Is Close To Over \$8 Million.

That's In Addition To What We Give To The Health Department.

So This County With Resident's Tax Dollars Is Very Generous.

I Do Not -- I Do Support, If We're Going To Do Capital, A Program.

I Have No Problem Adopting Criteria The Staff Came Up With.

I Feel It's An Equitable Process.

I Believe It's Fair.

I Believe It Puts The Burden On The Non-Profit To Have A Partnership.

I've Never Been Opposed To Taking The Public's Money And Taking An Organization To The Next Level.

When They've Exhausted Their Resources, But I Don't Want To Confuse And Put On The Backs Of The Incentive Program, When The Economy Is Good, The Non-Profits Benefit Generously From The Business Community.

You Can Go Out There And Talk To Any Ceo, President Of Any Organization And Talk About What Kind Of Contributions They Put Out Annually In Their Budgets.

These Are Not Normal Times.

Our Staff Reached A Benchmark To Be Applauded.

Individuals Are Giving.

I Know What I've Done And Little Things That We've Done.

I'm Not Opposed Of Putting Forward The Criteria, But I'm Not Anticipating That This Criteria Allows Organizations Throughout The Year To Hit Us.

We Have To Be Very Conscientious Of This Overall Reserve Budget That We Have.

If We're Going To Go Forward, I Think What Staff Is Recommending If We Adopt This We Follow The Format As To One Request Out There.

Applications Come In.

We Award Once A Year.

Not Throughout The Year.

Because We Haven't Seen The Worst Of This Budget Yet.

On Just The Things That Have Been Talked About That We've Held Off, We're Talking Millions Of Dollars Coming Out Of Reserves.

If We Look At Crude Lands, 20/20, Dot, In Addition To This.

Before We Can Put A Number On What's Going To Be In This Pot Like Everything Else, We Do \$4.2 Million For Partnering Results? 4.1.

Comm. Hall: \$4.1 Million.

We Have To Talk About Where We Are Budget-Wise, Our Revenue Projections Are And Talk Big Picture Of What Will Be The Priorities.

And Then Say What Can We Fund If We Want To Move Forward, But I Don't Have A Problem Adopting The Criteria.

I Don't Want To Put Out There That There's Going To Be 3 Million, \$5 Million In This Fund This Year.

I Have A Problem Moving Forward With The Criteria.

I Don't Have A Problem Providing Capital Funding Especially Under This Criteria, I Have To Applaud Staff In Assuring There's A Partnership And We're On The -- Over The Hump Of That Partnership, Not On We'll Get You Started And Well, Our Money Is Tied Up For Years While They're Doing The Rest Of The Work.

It Has To Be A Private Public Partnership.

If I May, I Never Envisioned That This Would Be A Perpetual Program In Light Of The Current Economic Conditions We Are In And In Regards To Even A Tougher Budget Year Next Year.

I Saw A Particular Need, Just Like We Saw A Need, Getting Them Over The Hump So They

Could Have Their First Detox Outpatient Facility Built In The Community.

Our Commitment Helped Them Move Forward With That Project.

The Children Advocacy Council Is In A Situation Where They're Able To Purchase A Building That Needs To Be Renovated.

It's In The Process In The Same Couple Plus Setting And There's A Lot Neutral Beneficial Benefits That Can Take Place By Having The Children Advocacy Council Next To Swafas.

And Raising A Significant Amount Of Money And This Is A Situation Where We Could Put Them Over The Hump.

I Thought We Should Consider, Given Again The Economic Conditions And The Referral Rates Are Going Through The Roof With Neglected, Abandoned And Abused Children That They're Attempting To Take Care Of.

I Agree With Commissioner Mann That That Should Be A Core Service That We Should Address And Partner With.

That's Why I Thought It Was Appropriate That We Should Consider Helping In That Campaign.

Now This Mushroomed.

Now There's Other Issues And Other Projects And Programs.

Agree These Parameters That Have Been Set Will Hone It Down To The Point Where It Will Have To Be Demonstrated By Those Agencies That They Have Indeed Exhausted Their Fundraising Efforts.

That They Have Demonstrated That They Will Be Able To Manage, Maintain And Carry Out Of Programs Without Perhaps Additional Help Of What The County Is Already Providing With This Expanded Facility, But After This Year, I'm Not Envisioning This Going Beyond What We're Doing For Whatever Agencies Apply Under These Current Parameters.

We May Not Be Able To Continue This Program.

So I'm Hopeful That With The Needs That Are Out There Today, We Can Address Some Of Them And I Don't Know If We Can Go Beyond That.

However, I'll Say This, There's Just A Couple Of Items And I'll Turn The Floor Back To Commissioner Hall, But I'm Appreciative If We Can Go Forward And Give Some Of These Agencies A Chance To Get The Ball Rolling.

Comm. Hall: I Wanted To Say, We Have To Review The Partner For Results Every Year.

I Think The Question Do You Want To Do Capital This Year Is One That's Fair.

It Affords Everyone An Opportunity That Lee County Government Will Do Capital Or Not Do Capital.

We All Sit On Numerous Boards.

I've Lost Count And I'm Sure All Of You Are The Same And Were Engaged In Several Organization And Doing Our Personal Best To Help Them Out.

It Affords A Process That Is Fair And Equitable, But Outlines What's Appropriate For Tax Dollars To Go Toward.

I Like The Idea That We Have This Outline And Every Budget Year We Can Say This Is Not A Year We Can Put Any Capital Dollars We Can Put Into The Program Or This Is A Year We Can Put \$2 Million In The Capital Program And Let The Applicants Come Forward.

But I Think It Puts Together A Criteria Not To -- If You Divide This Board On What Is A Better Cause And Just Because One Comes To You With A Sad Video, That We'll Consider Them Outside Of The Process.

Because Five Or Six Of The People Will Say, We Didn't Know We Could Do It That Way.

I'm Looking For A Structure That Provides An Opportunity To Be Evaluated On An Equal Playing Field And For The Public To Know That We Have Their Best Interest And Tax Dollars To Be Utilized For The Most Need That Has An Effect For A Larger Number Than A Few And Is A Core Service.

Commissioner Janes Has Worked So Diligently With The Justice Of Mental Health And Lee County Has Invested A Lot Of Money With Those Services.

These Are Sort Of Duck Tailing On To What We Have As A Core Service.

I Agree With You And I Think In January When We Hear The Budget Issue We Can Determine How Much Money Can Go In Here And Get It Done Quickly Hopefully Before Summer.

Chairman Judah: Those Are Valid Points, Commissioner Hall.

A Couple Questions, If I May.

On The Second Page.

[Reading From Agenda] Chairman Judah: Could We Clarify That That Pertains To Reapply For Capital Funding? Yes.

Chairman Judah: And This Could Be Retroactive.

We Have A Situation Where We've Been Trying To Build Into The Process And Parameters, But Also In A Situation Where We May Wanted To Reimburse An Entity That's Been Out There Doing The Work With The Anticipation Of Possibly Being Able To Receive Funding.

Our Agreements Are Always Reimbursement Based.

All Our Contracts Are Reimbursement Based.

If They Had Eligible Expansions, They Could Come Back For Reimbursement.

Chairman Judah: Thank You.

Commissioner Janes? Comm. Janes: Thank You, Mr. Chairman.

I'll Having A Little Bit Of A Problem Here.

It Seems To Me That If They've Applied For A Fixed Amount Of Money, I Don't Know Why We Are Talking About Continuing Them On Applying For Operating Funds Because That's Part Of The Rational For Giving Them Bricks And Mortar Money.

The Operational Money Is Not An Entitlement.

And I'm So Fearful That These Organizations Become To Regard Those Funds As Entitlement.

Try To Do Away With Some Of Them Or Reorient Some And You Set Off A Fire Storm Because They Regard It As An Entitlement Fund.

And That's Something We Have To Guard Against And So I Guess I Would Go Back To The Original Language, That Once They Get The Bricks Mortar Money, That's It For Six Months.

Not For Us To Continue Funding It.

The Intent There Was That They Have Plans In Place To Be Operational, Not That They Were Trying To Start Something Up And Figure Out How They Were Going To Pay The Operations.

A Lot Of The Plan Will Include Some Of Our Money, Which Are Restriction And Results Is We Will Not Fund More Than 40% Of Their Agency's Budget.

A Lot Of Them Were At 30%.

They're Getting Money From All Different Sources, But There's A Lot Of Agencies Out There That This Would Not Be Able To Function Based On The Need Without County Money.

Comm. Janes: I Understand.

But I've Always Tried To Insist That When We Give Operational Money That They Must Demonstrate A Need Or Effort To Secure Funding To Be Able To Replace Those County Funds With Money That They're Able To Raise On The Outside.

And It Seems To Me, The Last Thing We Want To Do Is Encourage The Entitlement Concept

Because That Is A Slippery Slope You'll Never Get Out Of.

The Difficult Part Is Many Of These Agencies The Primary Funder Is The State And Many Of The State Contracts, The State Will Say We Don't Care What It Costs You To Do Business, We Will Reimburse You This Much.

It Might Behalf Of Their Costs And They Have To Recoup That From Another Source.

And While They Get Private Donations And Contributions They Can't Get The Level They Need To Do The State Business.

Comm. Janes: I Have No Problem With Money Coming From Other Sources, It's Just County Dollars That I Have A Problem With.

Right, But In Most Instances We End Up Filling The Gap That The State Money Does Not Compensate Them For Their True Cost Of Doing Business.

The State Will Say Here's What You're Getting, Take It Or Leave It.

We Don't Care If It Cost You Twice And Much.

This Is What You're Getting.

Figure Out The Rest.

So Many Of The Contracts We Fill The Hole In The Gap That The State Will Not Pay Them.

Comm. Janes: And Then You Fall In The Entitlement Trap.

The State Is Only Paying So Much.

The Difficulty Is They Explore The Private Donations They Get Them To The Extent They Can.

Comm. Janes: We Need To Force Them To Reorient The Way They Do Business To See Where They Might Cut Back Or Reorient For Services And That Sort Of Thing.

We Need To Encourage Them To Do That Like We're Going To Have To Do.

Chairman Judah: Commissioner Hall? Comm. Hall: How Much -- What Is Our Contribution To Them Annually? They Are Currently Getting \$2 Million Annually Which Includes \$400,000 For Drug Court, The Treatment And Drug Court.

Comm. Hall: So Operational And What We Do For -- It's \$1.6 Million Because We Put -- I Think It Would Be Difficult.

If We Said To Them Because You Have \$2 Million In Capital, We Need To Wean You Off Of The Operational Side, It Would Be Devastating To Them.

It Would Reduce A Lot Of Detox In Lee County.

I Think Human Services Should Look At All That And Bring Us Back An Evaluation.

These Are Public Dollars And I Think There's A Balance To Be Made There.

Partner For Results Started Out As An Enhancement.

Our County Dollars Wants You To Service Five More People.

Because Of The Shift In The State And Things, I Think It Would Be Healthy And Maybe In March Or Whatever To See Where The Shift Has Happened So We Can Be On The Same Page And Recognize In The Changing And See If We Want To Start Looking At This Differently.

Your Goal Was That And Now We're Back Down To Core Helping These People Stay Core Services And So -- I Think That Discussion Would Help Before We Bring On The New Partner For Result Selection Committee On Where We Have -- We Can't Do Things The Same Way We've Always Done Them.

We Don't Want To See Services Go Away.

I Think It's A Healthy Conversation To Have.

One Of The Initiatives Is To Do A Revenue Manual And Look At All The Sources Of Federal, State, Local Money Coming Into The Community For Human Services.

That's Something Karen Is Working On With That Group Now.

I Just Want To Clarify Direction That We Will Just Do One Cycle This Year.

We Always Publicly Advertise And Pay For Advertisement In The News Press.

We Put It On Our News Site And Send Out Lists That We Get Requests Over The Year.

There's Always A Group That Comes Back And Says We Missed The Boat And Didn't Hear About It, But Short Of Putting People Out On The Street With A Sandwich Board On Them, I Don't Know What Else We Can Do To Get The Word Out.

I Was Hearing One Cycle This Year And If People Come Back And Say I Didn't Know About It, We're Not Looking At Recouping That So It Was -- Chairman Judah: That Is Correct.

At Least We Have The Criteria In Place.

We Do Keep A List Of Agency That Is Call Throughout The Year For Partnering Results.

Usually There Is Somebody That Surfaces That Says They Didn't Know About It.

So We May Be In That Situation.

And The Other Thing Is That It Sounds Like Acute Care Services Based On The Comments From The Detox And Children Advocacy.

I Know There's A Lot Of Prevention Groups Out There And More Service Oriented, And Those Are Important And As Times Get Tighter, Those Are The Things That End Up Being Cut.

Do You Want Us To Prioritize Or We Can Categorize Requests That Say These Are More Acute-Level Care, More Core Service In Our Opinion That Have Other Impacts On The County Versus Prevention And Present Them That Way So You Understand The Realm Of Services? The Other Option Would Be To Award Points That Acute Would Get More Of A Priority On A Scoring Basis Than A Prevention-Type Program.

Chairman Judah: Perhaps The Point System.

Comm. Hall: Mr. Chairman? Chairman Judah: Yes, Commissioner Hall.

Comm. Hall: She's Hoping To Put The Cycle Out There And I'd Like To Wait Until After Our Workshop On Budget So We Have An Idea Of What We're Talking About On Money.

I Want To Adopt The Criteria, But Not Let Her Go Out.

I'd Like For Them To Understand What Kind Of Dollars Are We Talking About That We Can Put In This Program And Then Say Yes, We Can Put X-Number Of Dollars.

Whether That's A Million Dollars, Two Million Dollars, I Don't Know.

But I'd Like To Put It In This Context So There's Not An Over-Expectation Of What This Would Be.

Chairman Judah: That's Fine.

Comm. Hall: I'd Like To Hold Off Until Our Workshop Is Done.

Chairman Judah: When Is Our Workshop? January Some Time? Chairman Judah: Do We Have A Motion To Move The Criteria -- Commissioner Mann? Comm. Mann: Look At These Criteria The Staff Suggested On Page Two.

The First One Says Agency Will Be Required To Execute A Mortgage.

We Didn't Do That With Swafas.

I Didn't Think We Talked About That.

The Mortgage Is A Non-Repayable.

It Was Addressing An Issue That You Brought Up About Someone Getting Money For An Agency, Buying A Building And Going Out And Getting Other Loans.

They're Non-Repayable, But Unlike The Ship One, They Will Be There Forever.

Comm. Mann: That's Not What This Says.

We Do Mortgages All The Time That Do Not Require Repayment Unless It Gets Sold Or Used As A Different Purpose.

Comm. Mann: If They Sell Out Or Go Somewhere Else --We Would Do Both.

We Would Get The Money Back.

What The Mortgage Will Do Is If They Go To A Bank And Apply For Another Mortgage, We Will Be Notified And Get A Request To Subordinate Or Something Like That.

If We Do The Covenant, Nothing Prevents Them From Taking Other Liens Out Against Their Property.

So The Mortgage Note Document Is Protecting Us And Requiring Us To Be Notified If They're Trying To Get Financing On Their Property.

It Would Not Require Them To Pay Back The Money.

The Money Is A Grant, Unless They Don't Do It For The Intended Purpose Or Sell It.

Comm. Mann: Okay.

And We Have To Work With Legal Staff To Work Out That Language.

Comm. Mann: Is There Some Way You Can Put In A Parenthesis In That -- I Might Understand What You're Saying And I Want That.

That Protection That They Don't Go Out And Subsequently Mortgage The Building And Get In Some Operational Dollars And Waste That And Then Go Broke.

Chairman Judah: Can That Be Accomplished? Yes, Sir.

That Will Not Be A Problem.

Comm. Mann: I'm Happy With That.

And Commissioner Hall, I Think We Agree On Everything.

All I'm Suggesting Is We Adopt These Criteria And See Where We Go.

Comm. Hall: I Just Wanted To Clarify For Ann.

Comm. Mann: I'd Like On Action Request Here.

Approved Proposed Guidelines For Human Services Capital Funding Program.

Could We Not Just Stop Right There? We Don't Need To Establish The Source And The Amount? Right.

We'll Do That In January.

Absolutely.

Chairman Judah: Commissioner Janes? Comm. Janes: I Would Like To Add One Thing.

We're Talking About Going Out With An Rsp One Time.

We Need To Be Careful Because There May Not Be Any Money Available For That One Time.

That's A Real Problem.

People Don't Seem To Understand That At This Point.

We Are Not The Santa Claus With A Whole Bunch Of Pickings, You Know, Thousand Dollar Bills We Can Pick Off.

It's Gone.

That's Why -- Comm. Janes: I Agree With Commissioner Hall.

We Have To Wait To See What Kind Of Money We Have Available.

Chairman Judah: Commissioner Bigelow? Comm. Bigelow: I Have To Step In And Say Something.

It's Hard For Me To Get This Straight That We Gave Sanibel \$3 Million.

We Are About To Give The Red Sox 50 To Some Figure Above That Million.

We Have Been Able To Find A Way To Give Without All Of These Criteria Attached To Them, Funds To Entities That By A Large Measure Are Capable Of Carrying Themselves Financially.

And Yet We're Talking About The Least Of Us.

The Kids That Are At Terribly High Risk, Because We're Talking About A Boys And Girls Club, Children Advocacy And The Ymca, Correct? Well, We Were In The Budget.

That's How This Started.

And Yet We Can't Seem To Accept That For The Little Bit Of Money, Relatively Speaking, Little Bit Of Money That They're Seeking To Move Along And Solve Some Serious Problems In Our Community, We're Going To Just Stall This And Drag Our Feet And I Would Like To See Us -- If We Can Find The Money For The Red Sox, I Think We Can Find The What, 3 Or

4 Million? Chairman Judah: I'm With You About The Concerns About The Importance Of Taking Care Of Our Youth And The Boys And Girls Clubs -- Comm. Bigelow: We're Talking About Children's Lives.

Chairman Judah: I Agree That The Staff Here Gets Us To Where We Need To Be For These Proposals.

Comm. Bigelow: I Agree.

Why Are We Stuck On A Dollar Bill Here? Because We've Reviewed This In The Budget Hearings, We Were In Agreement And Had Majority Rule At That Time That We Would Designate What The County Manager Told Me, Discretionary Moneys.

We Can't Find The Money Now.

It's Astonishing.

Chairman Judah: We As A Board Will Have The Opportunity At The Budget Workshop To Make That Decision.

And As A Member Of This Community And Somebody That Has Morals And Social Obligations To Some Very, Very At-Risk Individuals Who Need This Desperately.

Chairman Judah: We're Going To Get To That Decision Point.

Comm. Bigelow: I Hope That We Will.

I'm Pleading That We Do That.

Chairman Judah: I Still Need A Motion To Move The Criteria Along.

Comm. Hall: So Moved.

Chairman Judah: We Did Have A Motion By Commissioner Mann And Commissioner Hall Seconded It.

I Was Going To Take The Second Piece Out To Establish The Funding.

The Motion Would Be To Approve The Proposed Guidelines And Authorize Staff To Proceed With The Fees And When We Have Them In Front Of Us We Will Establish The Source And Amount Of Funds.

We're Reviewing These Applications And Even The Ones We've Talked About Have Not Gone Through This Review.

Comm. Hall: Correct.

Again, I Just Want To State -- I Don't Want To Put An Expectation On \$5 Million Or \$6 Million.

The Reason We Held Off Until January Is To See Where We Are Financially.

What I'm Asking Is Let's Approve The Criteria For The Workshop And After The Workshop Allow Ann To Go Back Out There And Put The Rp Out There.

Chairman Judah: Motion By Commissioner Mann, Seconded By Commissioner Hall.

And For The Purposes Of Criteria That This Will Not Be Applied For Capital.

Commissioner Bigelow? Comm. Bigelow: And What They Agreed To.

Chairman Judah: Any Objections? Discussions? Hearing None, Motion Passes. Thank You, Ann.

Good Discussion.

8-A.

We're Getting Ahead Of The Curve Here With Ordering Three Hybrid Buses, Reduce The Carbon Foot Print On Our Community, Providing Greater Fuel Efficiency And If You Just Explain A Little About The Hybrid Version That We'll Be Employing With The 300 Buses Coming Into A Lee County.

Thank You, Steve Meyers For The Record.

We Have Put This Proposal Before You To Purchase For The First Time In Lee County Hybrid Electric Technology.

This Technology Uses The Same Diesel Technology As Our Current Fleet Of Buses But It Adds The Electric Component To It And There's Several Advantages To The Technology Which Are Readily Apparent.

The Fuel Economy Is One.

There's Also Reduced Maintenance Cost That Has To Do With Braking Lights.

I Think Probably The Green Issues That Have To Do With Hybrid Technology Are Probably The Most Important For Transit Agencies Across The Country Because We Haven't Been Seen As A Very Green Industry.

While We Carry People, Our Technology, The Diesel Engine Is Not Environmentally Friendly Way To Do It.

So This Will Reduce A Large Percentage Of The Negatives In Our Engine Technology And Can Reduce Nitrous Oxides And It's Reduced The Negatives By Up To 97%.

Carbon Monoxide 60% Reduction And Carbon Up To 75% Reduced.

This Is The Green Side Of The Technology.

There's Also A Benefit That Comes To The Vehicle Because It Runs In A Quieter Operation So The Acceleration Curve Will Be Run Over The Electric Motors And When You Accelerate Is When The Bus Will Make The Most Noise.

The Diesel Engine Will Sit In Idle Because It's Recharging The Batteries And Kicks Into Operation At 15-20 Miles Per Hour And You Have A Dual Mode Electric Diesel Technology Operating The Bus Up To 35 Miles Per Hour And Then The Diesel Motor Takes Over Completely.

The Savings Come From The Electric Acceleration And Deceleration And Maintenance And That Produces The Benefits To The Air Quality.

Chairman Judah: I Thought It Was Important To Bring Attention To What Lee County Transit Is Trying To Do.

Comm. Hall: Move The Item.

In Our Discussion With Our Transit Agencies, Almost All Of Them Say It's Good For Them And They Plan To Do It In The Future.

Chairman Judah: Motion By Commissioner Hall To Move 8-A.

Seconded By Commissioner Janes.

Objections? Discussions? Where Is San Mateo County? We're Piggybacking On Their -- Procurement? They Went Through A Competitive Process And Purchased Their Vehicles And We Were Able To Get Some Options Off Of That To Expedite The Process For Us.

Chairman Judah: Commissioner Mann? Comm. Mann: I Want To Commend Mr. Meyers For Running The Transit Approaching 1 Million Miles You Have Done A Superb Job.

We Haven't Hit A Million Yet.

Chairman Judah: Any Objections? Discussions? Hearing None, Motion Passes. We Go On To Administrative Item 6-A.

Commissioner Janes You Want To Honors? Comm. Janes: So Moved.

Chairman Judah: Motion By Commissioner Janes, Seconded By Commissioner Hall.

Any Objections? Discussions? Hearing None, Motion Passes. Chairman Judah: On To Item 13-A.

Comm. Hall: I'll Move The Amendment.

Chairman Judah: Motion By Commissioner Hall? Do We Have A Second? Comm. Janes: Second.

Chairman Judah: Seconded By Commissioner Janes.

Any Objections? Discussions? Hearing None, Motion Passes. 13-A? Motion By Commissioner Hall.

Second By Commissioner Janes.

Any Objections? Discussions? Hearing None, Motion Passes..

Do We Have A Public Hearing? Good Morning.

Andrea Fraser For The County Attorney's Office.

The Notice Of Intent To Enact A County Ordinance Was Published In December 4, 2008 Edition Of The Fort Myers News Press.

I Have An Opportunity To Review And Find It Legally Sufficient In Content To Proceed With The Public Hearing.

If You Have Any Questions Staff Is Here To Answer.

Chairman Judah: Questions Of Andrea? Okay.

We'll Go To The Gentleman Wish To Comment On The Matter Before Us Regarding The Post Employment Benefit Ordinance? Seeing None, We'll Move The Item? Commissioner Mann? Comm. Mann: This Is The Adoption Of The Ordinance Itself, We're Adopting The Ordinance By Taking This Action? Yes, Sir.

I Want To Make Sure This Doesn't Allow For What That Guy Did Yesterday That Took Hundreds Of Billions Of Dollars And Left Everybody Without Post-Mriment Benefits.

Are We Guarded Against That? Thousands Of Them Thought They Were Protected.

This Allows The Same Kind Of Investment For The Florida Retirement Can Investment And Prohibit In Hedge Funds Which Is The Issues That You've Been Reading About Recently.

I Am Greatly Comforted.

Chairman Judah: Any Objections? Discussions? Hearing None, Motion Passes..

Go On To Walk-On Items.

We Have Two Here.

[Reading From Agenda] Any Motion? Comm. Hall: So Moved.

Chairman Judah: It's Premature If We Include A Citizen From The Community.

Mr. Chairman, Will The Meetings Not Be Open To Will Public? Chairman Judah: You Had A Comment On That? All The Processes Are Open For Anyone That Wants To Sit In And I'm Sure There Will Be Public Involvement.

Comm. Hall: I Think It Would Be Difficult To Pick One Person.

Chairman Judah: We Have A Motion, A Second? Any Objections? Discussions? Hearing None, Motion Passes..

Walk On Item Number Two.

Comm. Hall: I Will Move The Agreement Of Purchase And Sale In Lieu Of Condemnation Proceedings For The Acquisition Of Parcel 402.

Chairman Judah: Do We Have A Motion? Do We Have A Second? Any Objections? Discussions? Hearing None, Motion Passes. Commissioner Janes? Comm. Janes: I Do Have One And That Is During The Past Few Months Fema Has Been Reviewing Our Records Of Hurricane Charley And They've Been Reconciled To The Satisfaction Of Lee County And Fema, However, One Outstanding Issue Happens To Be Related To The Cost To Collect The Debris.

The Fema Reps Appear To Be More Interested To Reimburse The County For All Of The Debris Management For Upper Captiva.

They Turned It Down In 2004, Rejected The Request, But It Seems To Me That They Seem To Be Interested In Doing It, But They Cannot Accept Our Request, These Requests For Reimbursement And That's Because We Are In The Process Of Collecting Funds From The Property Owners, Via An Mstu, That Was Established For That Purpose.

I Guess We Did Pay For The Collection And Disposal Of Vegetative Waste In Upper Captiva And Not Collecting Funds From The Property Owner.

I Would Suggest We Respond To The Recent Rejection Letter That Lee Will Commit To Reimbursing The Funds Collected From The Property Owners So Long As Fema Accepts And Improves The County's Request For Reimbursement From Fema.

And I Have Prepared A Draft Letter At The Request Of This And Have The Chairman Sign The Letter And Sent It To Fema.

Comm. Hall: I Would Support That.

I Didn't Support The Mstu To Begin With.

We Need To Find Out How Much Is Collected And How Much Money We're Talking About, But We Have To Get It Going.

Chairman Judah: Let's Here From Counsel? We Did Discuss The Issues And We Did Not Find Anything That Would Prohibit It Going Forward.

Chairman Judah: Okay.

Then We Have A Motion By Commissioner Janes? Second By Commissioner Hall? Discussion? Maybe You Can Answer This Because I Don't Know -- Come On Up.

I Don't Know About Governments Reimbursing Moneys They Collected.

The Soil And Water Conservation Board Had A Problem With That.

Is That Who We Would Be Looking At? What We're Talking About Doing.

Lindsay Could Answer That.

We're Okay? You Can Do This, Commissioners And The Way We Will Know The Property How Much They Paid Based On The Description Of The Property.

We Can Figure Out --A Reimbursement Check.

Yes, Sir.

The First Concern Is Getting The Money And Then We'll Figure Out How To Give It Out.

That's The Goal Is To Get The Money.

We'll Figure It Out Later.

This Is A First Step Towards That.

Thank You.

Chairman Judah: Any Objections? Discussions? Hearing None, Motion Passes. Anything Else, Commissioner Janes? Comm. Janes: No, That's It.

Chairman Judah: Commissioner Hall.

Comm. Hall: I Have A Couple Of Things.

On The Growth And Agriculture Policy Commit I Would Like You To Have The Facts And Policy Statements And See How They Relate To Issues That The County Has And Thank You For Giving Me Time To Do That.

And Then We Received A Copy Of The Open Contracts From Jim Lavender And There Were Questions Last Week On The Closed Contracts We Received And So I Wanted To Acknowledge Jim That The Two Items That Commissioner Bigelow Thought Were Left Off Were Because They Were Not Closed And Now We Have Complete Records Of All Projects, Including The Open Project And I Appreciate You Providing That Information For Us And I'm Glad To Find It Was Not An Oversight On Your Staff's Part.

And Secondly I Would Like To Wish Our Staff And Residents A Very Happy Holidays, A

Healthy And Safe New Year.

And The Personal Contributions That Our Individual Staff Members Do, The Departments Do A Great Job Many Could Go Up With Ways To Raise Money.

I Participated In Several Contests.

We're Fortunate To Have The People That We Have And The Generosity That You Give Back To This Community.

We're A Significant Contribute For To United Way And That Speaks Volumes To This Community.

I Want To Thank You For Your Generous Donations And Time.

Chairman Judah: Thank You, Commissioner Hall.

Commissioner Bigelow? Comm. Bigelow: I Meant To Ask This Question Last Time.

On The List That You Provided To Us, Or The Back Up To Last Week's Agenda Item That She Is Referring To, There Was 12 Companies That Were Listed That Were, You Know, List Of Contractors That Were Entitled To Receive A Continuing Contract.

Jim, For Construction Management Services, And There Were Three Of Them That I Can't Remember Off The Top Of My Head, Why Were Those Three Particular Companies Have Not Received Any Continuing Contracts? Is There Something Wrong Or --No Particular Reason.

I Would Say That During Any Given Three-Year Period There May Be One Or Two That Don't Get Work.

It Could Be For A Number Of Reasons.

We Didn't Have Work Suitable For That Company Or We Didn't Get To Them During The Year.

That Kind Of Thing.

We Do Try To Strive And See That Everyone Gets A Fair Amount Of Work, But Sometimes It Doesn't Happen.

We Get To The End Of The Year And Haven't Used Some And That's It.

Some Were Concerned That We're Being Preferential And When You Look At The Fact That Three Or Some Are Not Getting Any And Others Are Getting A Large Sum And Several Contracts, It Makes You Wonder What's Going On With These Three That Are On The List -- We Almost Universally Have More Applicants Than We Have Work.

You Have To Understand That Some Aren't Getting Work And --I Understand Completely.

That's All.

One Other Item, Mr. Chairman, Commissioners Of The Board.

We Were Blessed To Have The Cypress Lake A Capella Group Here And They Were Here Again And They're A Wonderful Group.

Today We Heard From Edison Park Elementary.

And Commissioner Mann And The First Lady Appeared With Members Of Their Congregation To Sing And I Have To Tell You That I'm A Little Jealous That Everybody Has An Opportunity To Demonstrate Their Musical Talent When I Myself Have Some Musical Talents, Too.

I Would Like To Have 10 Seconds To Demonstrate Them.

Can I? I Would Like To Ask The Man Behind The Booth To Dim The Lights, But If You Cannot Do That Quickly, I Will Move Forward With My Musical Talent Demonstration.

Ready? Chairman Judah: That's Pretty Talented.

In The Christmas Spirit.

Merry Christmas, Happy Kwanzaa, Happy Hanukah, Thank You So Much.

Happy Holidays.

Chairman Judah: Thank You, Commissioner Bigelow.

I'm Going To Ask For A Moment Of Silence.

We've Lost A Tremendous Individual That Has Given To This Community Both Professionally And Individually.

That's Bruce Who Passed Away About An Hour Ago.

If We Could Have A Moment Of Silence, I'd Appreciate It.

Thank You.

We Will Extend Well Wishes And Sympathies To The Family.

He Is Such A Force In This Community.

On A Couple Other Items Real Quickly.

I Received Word With The State Cuts, One Of The Areas They're Look At Cutting Is The Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve Office.

It's Key That We Try To Keep That Office Open.

If The Board Would Allow Me To Write A Letter At Least To Governor Crist To See What They Can To Keep That Office Fully Operational And Fully Funded.

Motion By Commissioner Hall? Seconded By Commissioner Janes? Any Objections? Discussions? Hearing None, Motion Passes. It Could Be A Walk On Legislative Priority.

Chairman Judah: Also, Real Quickly, I've Been Asked To -- Kind Of Caught Between Here.

We Have A Number Of Folks Opposed To Incorporation.

Some Are Supporting It And Want To Go Before The Legislature To Have The Legislature Consider Sponsoring A Bill To Incorporate Estero.

I Would Like To Speak In Opposition, But I Don't Want To Put This Board In A Position If You Have Different Opinions.

I Will Speak On Behalf Of The Board, But I Can Separate My Own Personal Position Against Incorporation If You'd Like Me To Do So, Or If The Board Is Interested In Taking A Position To Oppose Any Bills In Support Of Incorporation Of Estero.

Is There Any Interest In The Advisory Referendum On That Issue? That's What We Tried To Do In Lehigh.

Chairman Judah: Not Sure.

Commissioner Mann? Comm. Mann: I Didn't Talk To Jim Who Was Actively Involved In The Pro-Incorporation And He Advised Me That They Were Not Planning Even If What They're Doing To Move Forward To Bring Us To Us To Ask For What We Did For Lehigh Acres.

They Will Deal Directly And Only With The Legislative Delegation.

I Would Myself, As I Did With Lehigh, I Didn't Take A Position, But I Did Support Their Right To Vote On It.

So You Would Find Me On The Other Side Of That.

So If -- I Have No Problem With You Or Any Of Us Taking A Position.

Chairman Judah: Why Don't We Leave It At That.

That's Fine.

Done.

Comm. Hall: Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Judah: I'm Sorry.

Comm. Hall: I Apologize.

The Caloosahatchee Water Protection Plan Was Approved And Will Be Forwarded To The Legislature.

It Was A Unanimous Vote.

And I Appreciate My Excused Absence So I Could Be There To Encourage Them To Support Our Efforts Over The Last Years.

Thank You Very Much.

Chairman Judah: That's A Terrific Accomplishment.

We're Hoping There Will Be Funding Once That's Approved.

Committee Appointments? Commissioner Mann? Comm. Mann: None.

Chairman Judah: Commissioner Janes? Reading Appointments.

Chairman Judah: Motion By Commissioner Janes, Second By Commissioner Mann.

Any Objections? Discussions? Hearing None, Motion Passes.

Commissioner Hall? Comm. Hall: [Reading Appointments]. Chairman Judah: Motion By Commissioner Hall, Seconded By Commissioner Janes.

Any Objections? Discussions? Hearing None, Motion Passes. Commissioner Bigelow? Comm. Bigelow: [Reading Appointments] Chairman Judah: Motion By Commissioner Bigelow, Second By Commissioner Hall.

Any Objections? Discussions? Hearing None, Motion Passes. Comm. Bigelow: I Have One More.

Carlo Johnson.

From Sanibel? My District? Comm. Bigelow: Yes, Is That A Problem For Appointing Someone From A Different District? Chairman Judah: Procedurally Who Has That Appointment? Comm. Bigelow: The District To Lpa Appointment.

Chairman Judah: I Suspect You Could.

It Doesn't Have To Be Someone From Inside Your District.

We'll Research It And Get A Memo To The Board For Clarification.

Chairman Judah: I Don't Think There's A Problem With Appointing Someone Outside Your District.

That's What You're Doing.

Comm. Bigelow: It's A New Appointment To The Lpa -- Commissioner Hall Is Asking Who Is Replacing The District Two Appointment Was Who Commissioner Janes Reappointed And His Rotational Seat Appointment Or District Seat.

It Used To Be My District.

Comm. Hall: In Discussing It, She Doesn't Think There Seems To Be A Problem Moving Forward.

Chairman Judah: Motion By Commissioner Bigelow? Do We Have A Second? Seconded By Commissioner Mann.

Motion Passes 4-1, Commissioner Janes Dissenting.

Anything Else? That's It.

I Have A Few.

I'll Get Them All At Once.

[Reading Appointments].

Comm. Hall: So Moved.

Chairman Judah: Motion By Commissioner Hall.

Seconded By Commissioner Mann.

Any Objections? Discussions? Hearing None, Motion Passes..

The Solid Waste Appointments I Have To Make I Will Make In Early January.

I Will Make Them In Time For The First Meeting In January.

Chairman Judah: Okay.

Thank You, Mr. Chairman, And Members Of The Board.

You Will Have An Unbelievable Year This Coming Year.

You Touched On It Briefly About The Challenges You're Going To Half.

It's Going To Be Unbelievable.

Last Year You Had An Early Out Program And I Congratulate You On Adopting That.

You're Ahead Of Everybody Else.

You See It Happening All Across The Country Now Tragically When They Have Early Out Options And Unemployment Is Very High, People Don't Take Advantage Of It.

You Took Advantage Of It When People Still Had An Opportunity To Go Somewhere Else So We Have 80 People Leave The County.

In Addition To Last Year's Budget, We Deleted About 200 Positions From Lee County Without -- Well, We Did Lay Some People Off That Were Directly Related In Permitting.

We Have Over 140 Positions In Lee County Vacant And Nowhere Near Where We're Going To Have To Be.

We're Going To Have To Reorganize, Restructure And We've Begun That Process And We're Hoping You Help Us Out On This To Talk About Where We're Going To Go Next Year And How We're Going To Get There.

It Will Not Be A Fun Time.

The Most Challenging Time You've Had.

I Promise You That.

We Cut Tens Of Millions Of Dollars From Last Year's Budget.

The Revenue Is Not There.

So With That I Do Want To Give You Something Really Positive About The Way To Do Things And We've Got A Great Example, We've Been Working With The Fellow For Years.

Well, Let Me Give It To Pete And Let Pete Talk About It.

He's Been Working Directly With David, The Consultant Along With The Courts And They've Done Something Phenomenal And It's Standard.

This Is Wonderful News From Court Administration Especially As We're Always Facing The Huge Cost Of Jail Expansions.

About A Year Ago They Implemented A Case Management System For Felony Cases That The County Helped Fund, But It Was A Refocussing Of Existing Resources On Their Part And The Idea Is So People Don't Languish In The System.

And In October Of 2007, For That Month The Average Daily Jail Population Was 2,531.

This Year It Was 2,015.

So 500 -- That's A Monthly For The Average Jail Population For The Year It Was 2400 Inmates, It Was 2200 Inmates.

200 Less.

If You Look At The 2,015 In Jail Right Now, Our Capacity Is 2,000.

We're Not Too Much Over Capacity.

It Shows That We Can't Build Our Way Out Of The Problem By Using This And Refocussing Existing Resources, They've Had A Huge Impact On The Jail Population.

You're Not Talking About A Bed A Night, You're Talking About Almost \$4 Million For The Year In Savings.

That's Huge.

Chairman Judah: That's Huge.

And You Have To Make Sure If You Haven't Done So Put Together A Press Release.

We've Been Working On This For A Number Of Years And An Extremely Trend To Recognize.

And The Other Part Of Equation That Jim Lavender Will Tell You If We Can Keep This Up With Our Corrections Entity That We're Talking About Starting, Hopefully We Can -- We Won't Have To Build More Hard Facilities In The Immediate Future.

This Is Fantastic News For The County.

It's Very Positive.

Comm. Hall: I Want To Thank Yourself And Especially Commissioner Janes For Your Leadership In These Issues.

These Are Complex Issues And Always Hard To Justify The Funding.

And Commissioner Janes Has Dedicated A Lot Of His Time To Bring Back These Programs And They're Working.

Thank You For Your Time That You Put Into To These Efforts Because It Does Require You To Take A Lot Of Time Out Of Lee County, But It's Great To See The Return On Investment.

Thank You Very Much.

Chairman Judah: Well Stated.

It Never Stops.

And This Is Why It's So Important That We Be Careful What We Say.

We Always Think We Got The Whole Picture And You Never Have The Whole Picture.

Holly Handed Me -- I Haven't Had A Chance To Read It.

The Governor's Proposing, And I Just Talked About What A Great Job We're Doing Locally, The Governor Is Proposing That We Transfer All Sex Offenders To County Jails.

That's In The Governor's Latest Proposal.

Who Pays For That? Well, You Know Who Will Pay For It.

I'm Telling You.

It's A Very Complex Problem We Have And We've Got To Be Really Careful.

I Want To Say This Nice Because I'm Not Being Mean, But The Press Reports Things Sometimes That They Haven't Had Time To Find Out The Facts On And There's A Lot Of Misinformation Out There.

We Saw What's Happening With The Red Sox And To Me It's Almost Amusing To Hear How Much This Will Cost Because The Only One That Has Any Idea Of What The Facility Might Cost Is Jim Lavender And He'll Be The First To Say, I Don't Have Any Idea.

Until We Get The Thing Designed And Proposals Based On The Design And Market Place And Time, Everyone Else Is Throwing Numbers Out There To See What Happens.

Well, Give Us A Ballpark Figure.

I Think He Will Say It's Between 50 And \$70 Million.

But What Would You Say? We Don't Need To Have A Ballpark Figure.

I've Heard It Will Be In Excess Of \$100 Million.

And I Read That In The Local Media.

Chairman Judah: We Do Have A Deadline Coming Up December 23rd For The Proposals On Property For Site Selection.

We Will Find Out.

It Was Jim Lavender That \$75 Million Was The Number He Was Going To Stay At Or Under.

That's The Number That I'm Generally Focussing On And We'll See How It Goes.

In Time We Will Know.

And One Other Point, We're Looking At Some Really Tough Times Ahead.

Absolutely We Are.

We Will Have To Tighten Up Everywhere We Can, Big And Small.

You Might Want To Think About How You Can Seat A Parks And Rec Director And Maybe Not Rehire Your Deputy County Manager For The Long Term.

Maybe Do It In A Short-Term Basis.

That Would Be Significant Savings There And Maybe Those Kind Of Ideas Need To Be Considered.

Chairman Judah: We're Not Micromanaging.

Just An Idea.

Chairman Judah: Andrea? On Behalf Of David Owen, The County Attorney And The Entire Staff Of The County Attorney's Office, We Wish You A Happy Holiday And A Blessed New Year.

Chairman Judah: Thank You.

Give Our Best To David Owen, If You Would.

On That Matter, Happy Holidays, We Are Adjourned.