

**December 6, 2011**

Go Ahead And Begin Today's Meeting And The Board Of County Commissioners.

Today Is Tuesday, December 6th.

Our Pastor Is Pastor David Deaton, But I Would Like To Offer A Moment Of Silence To Kevin That Was A Frequent Visitor To Our Chambers That Spoke Over The Past Several Years.

We Remember Kevin That Passed Away November 29th And For His Friends And Family And Their Time Of Loss.

Please Stand With Me And We Will Recite The Pledge.

Father, We Thank You For The Privilege Of Living In This Country And Even Now, Father, I Pause To Remember Those That Gave Their Lives And Ask Your Direction Upon Those That Lead Our County In The Government Here, We Give Our Thanks Today.

Amen.

Amen.

[Pledge Of Allegiance] Next We Have Ceremonial Presentations And I Will Turn The Podium Over To Commissioner Judah.

Comm. Judah: Thank You Very Much.

This Is Really A Treat.

Norman Love Please Step Forward In Norman Love's Business In The County Serving Our Community And The World For 10 Years Now.

And Norman, It's Great To Have You Here This Morning And My Pleasure To Read The Resolution.

[Reading Resolution] [Applause] Comm. Judah: Norman, We Would Love To Hear A Few Words From You, Please.

It Is A Pleasure To Be Here And An Honor.

Thank You For Recognizing A Whole Team In The Past 10 Years Of Incredible Amount Of Effort.

We Have A Group Of Staff And Family That Has Grown From Two To 38.

And I Come To Work Every Day To Do Something Very Special.

I Created This Vision, I Created The Company To Create Is Be Hand Made.

A Product Using The Finest Ingredients With Integrity We Built This Company On Ethics, On Hard Work And A Group Of People Honestly That Truly Come To Work To Try To Be The Best Each And Every Day.

We Empower Our Staff To Be Part Of What We Do.

I Am Fortunate That We've Only Lost Two Employee Notice The Last 10 Years.

The Family Has Grown A Lot.

Our Company Has Been Given A Lot Of National Recognition, But For Me It Is A Testament To The Hard Work.

Each And Every Employee Comes To Work Each Day To Try To Be Better Than Yesterday.

It Is A Privilege To Be Part Of Lee County And The Support We Get From The People Of Lee County Is Overwhelming During The Holiday Seasons.

Thank You All So Much For The Recognition.

We Are Going To Hopefully Undergo Another 10 Years And Open This Gelato, That Will Be A True First Of Its Kind Making Fresh Ice Cream Each And Every Day With Waffles And Crepes And All Kinds Of Fun Sweets.

We Look Forward To Everyone Coming Out To Visit In January.

Norman, When Does The Store Actually Open? It Will Open The Third Week Of January.

Comm. Hall: Okay, Great.

They Are Fast At Work And I Am Really Excited.

I Started In The Ice Cream Business As A Kid.

It Was My High School Job.

To Do It With The Finest Ingredients.

We Are Importing Ingredients All Over Italy.

I've Been In Italy Last Month To Train.

Our Objective Is To Make The Finest Gelato.

We Make The Best Chocolate Notice The Country, The Next Is The Best Gelato.

Comm. Hall: I Want To Comment.

We Have Companies That Give Back To The Community And Norman And Mary Are Part Of Those Individuals From Donating To The Soup Kitchen, Going On Air And Asking Folks To Support The Children's Hospital.

Giving Us The Privilege To Have An Inspiring Dessert When We Have Prince Albert Here.

So Mary And Norman, Thank You So Much For All You Do For Our Community.

Appreciate It.

Comm. Bigelow: We Know When, But I Don't Know Where They Are Opening.

Comm. Hall: It's Right Next Door.

Comm. Bigelow: Got Ya.

Comm. Judah: Just In Time For Spring Training.

[Inaudible] We Have One Item On Our Recap Sheet.

It Is A Walk-On Item To Approve A Change Order.

Number Two Of Bonita Beach Road Phase Ii.

Is There Anyone That Wishes To Speak In Seeing None, We Will Go Back To The Board.

Any Consent Items To Be Pulled? Commissioner Hall? Comm. Hall: None.

Commissioner Mann? None.

Commissioner Judah? None.

I Have Seven.

Just Kidding.

Can I Have A Motion On The Balance? Motion By Commissioner Hall, Second By Commissioner Mann.

Motion Carries.

Administrative Item Agenda 4a.

Comm. Judah: My Executive Assistant Will Make This Presentation And I Would Like To Thank Molly For Taking The Initiative And Putting Together, If You Haven't Had An Opportunity To Look At The Booklet That She Has Put Together, It Would Help To Celebrate 125th Anniversary.

And I Thought It Would Be Helpful And Actually Out Of Respect Tomalley-- To Molly.

Thank You.

Thank You.

For The Record, Molly Sheers.

Next Year Is Our 110th Anniversary.

At The 100th Anniversary There Was A Parade And Celebration Downtown, But We Can Incorporate Celebrating In Things We Are Doing Throughout The Years Any Way.

I Have A Brief Power Point Here.

My Idea Is To Celebrate Throughout The Year.

We've Got Stuff That There's No Additional Costs.

Stuff That Does Include Maybe A Loss Of Revenue.

The Only Hard Cost Is A \$200 Reception At The End.

Start Off In January With A Kick Off And The Ceremonial Proclamation.

And Reaching Out To Our Partners To See If They Would Like To Get On Board With The 125th.

They Could Offer Drinks, \$1.25 Hot Dogs.

I Talked To The Marketing People And They Are Excited About It.

They Proposed An Online Coupon Book That Partners Could Opt In And Out Of.

Maybe Start It A Little Later In January.

We Don't Want To Infringe On People's Big Money Time.

In February, I Thought It Might Be Fun And Coordinated To The Library Friends To Invite People That Lived In Lee County For 75 Years.

The Old Timers.

I Think It Is Not A Bad Term.

If They Would Like To Do A Lecture Series In Library.

There Wouldn't Be Any Cost That Would Require Coordination But I Think There Would Be People That Would Share Their Experience Of Growing Up In Lee County.

Commissioner Mann, I Don't Think You Make The Cut Off, I'm Sorry.

Chairman Mann: I Don't Qualify.

We Could Change The Age Group, If You Would Like.

And I Think It Would Be Nice To Tape Those Just As A History But There Is A Cost Involved There.

So What We Could Do That Doesn't Cost, We Have Already This Untold Story Series That Is Produced And We Own And We Could Run That Through The Month.

And I've Included A List Of All Of Those In Your Packets.

They Are Great If You've Ever Caught Them On Our Tv Station.

March Of Course, The Red Sox Stadium Is Opening.

That Will Be A Big To Do Already.

There's Not Any Additional Cost To Add In.

It's The 125th Anniversary.

In April, Sustainably We've Done Stuff In The Past.

One Of The Things We've Done Is Ride The Bus Day.

That's Part Of A Marketing Cost That Is Budgeted In Some Years.

Other Years Not.

They Do Different Initiatives.

I Talked With Lee Tran Marketing And They See A 50% Increase In Ridership That Day.

And It Is A Good Way To Let People Know About The Bus.

I Know We've Got Sustainability Initiatives.

It Would Be A Good Time To Announce Them And The Energy Waste Facility.

For June, This Is A Little More Work.

125 Fun Facts About Lee County.

It Could Be As A Road Scavenger Rally.

I Picture It Happening In Parks.

Originally I Thought 125 People Could Win, \$125 Gift Certificate.

You Could Have A Passport That You Could Check That You've Gone And Checked -- You've Gone To The Parks, You've Seen What We Have And You Discovered Some Of The Fun Facts About Lee County.

That's Something That Employees That Work At The Different Parks Could Contribute.

I Certainly Don't Know All Of Them.

July, This Is Something We Do Every Month Is Our Free Beach And Park Day.

We Also Have A Lot Of Tournaments That Our Sports Authority People Are Bringing Here.

The Roller Hockey, I Don't Know If You Went Down.

But We Went To See Teams From The City Of Columbia Playing Denver.

Thousands And Thousands Of People Are In Town.

That's A Good Place To Really Promote The 125th.

And That Would Be A Good Time For The Partners To -- That Is A Slower Time For Them.

In August I Looked For 125 Celebrations Of Excellence Recognizing The County Employees.

It Is Not The Easy Time To Be An Elected Government Official, As You All Know.

Chris Has Started The "We Are Community" Campaign Online Where People From The Community Can Recognize An Employee.

So That Could Be Changed To Be 100 Celebrations Of Wellness.

You Know, Help Our -- Get Us To Be A Healthier Group Of People.

September, 125 Pets.

Our Animal Services Is Good About Having Ongoing Adoption Campaigns.

I Thought Dog Days Of Summer, But That's The Time Of Year You Would Do That.

October, This Would Take -- I Don't Know How This Would Go Over.

But Fiscal Sustainability.

That's Our Budget Month.

We Are A Strong County.

We Own A Lot Of Our Infrastructure.

It's Good.

And We Can Celebrate That And Promote What We Have Done Right Over The Last Decade.

There's A Lot To Praise.

We Also Have The Huge Roy Hobbs Tournament.

The Calusa Blu-Ray Festival.

It Could Be Incorporated And December A Grand Finale.

Having Just A Reception Like We Do Downstairs With The New Commissioners Come In.

That's Pretty Easy To Do.

A Cake.

I Could See Having The Kids In Singing, The Old Timers In.

Anyone That Was Involved During The Year And Celebrate That We've Done It.

There Are -- I Outlined This In Your Packet And Showing It Again Here.

The Costs Are Really Loss Of Potential Revenue.

You All Would Have To Decide If You Would Want To Touch Those Or Not.

I Would Encourage The Reception For \$200.

There's A Lot You Can Do.

It Doesn't Cost Anything And I Would Open It Up To Departments.

They Have Their Own Ideas Of How They Want To Promote Their Department.

And I Haven't Touched Like Economic Development.

I Am Sure There's Great Business Opportunities Out There To Promote.

Norman Love Being One Of Them.

Our Airport, Their Numbers Are Up.

Even Though Industry-Wide Numbers Are Down, Our Numbers Are Up.

I Have Not Incorporated The Twins, And We Want To Incorporate Them.

The City And Other Incorporated Areas, They Have Things That Go On As Well.

The Boat Parade, Edison Festival.

We Could Bring Them In, If You Want.

And There's So Many Departments I Haven't Touched.

I Don't Know How Community Development And Purchasing Would Be Involved, But The Opportunity Is There.

So We Really Just Need Approval That You Guys Are On Board.

Comm. Hall: Mr. Chairman, I Think Molly In Administration Should Get Going.

We've Done Free Day Notice Our Parks And I Think It's A Wonderful Opportunity To Say Thank You To Our Residents That Is Support And Pay For Our Parks.

Get Someone From Each Department And -- Thank You.

We Need A Motion? Get Her Done Motion.

Can I Offer Some Accolades First, Molly? Wow, Awesome Work.

Thank You.

Comm. Bigelow: Testament To Your Time Here In Lee County And The Public Resources Department And Your Heart And Soul And Institutional Knowledge Is Demonstrated Here.

Just A Couple Of Ideas.

I Don't Think I Can Squeeze My Father Into The Old Timer's Status, But I Know I Could Squeeze Him Into Former Commissioner Status.

We Might Want To See If We Could Reach Out To All Former Commissioners To Gather With Us To Kick It Off.

My Father Had A Little To Do With The Minnesota Twins Landing Here In Lee County, Bringing Spring Training Back To Lee County.

That's A Shout Out To Him, Of Course.

But Also You Were Recognizing Maybe Doing Something, Partnership With The Twins Would Be Helpful And Maybe He And I Could Collaborate On The First Pitch, Just An Idea.

As Far As The Airport Goes, I Would Like To Point Out That I've Travelled Through Some Airports Very Recently And In The Not-So-Distant Past And Have Noticed There's A Lot Of Attention Given To Posters And Other Forms Of Public Display That Really Highlights And Cheerleads, If You Will, Their Community.

Their Airport Is Really Indicative Of What They Are As A Community.

And There's A Lot Of Travellers, It's A Gateway To And From Lee County And I Think That If We Could Reach Out To Bob And His Staff We Could Do Big Things In That Way.

That's All I Have.

Awesome, Awesome Work.

Molly, Thank You So Much.

The Consensus And Staff Will Get Together.

Comm. Judah: I Do Want To Thank Molly.

We Have A Lot To Be Proud Of In Lee County.

And With The History, Being Able To Recognize The Old Timers, There's A Lot Of Wonderful People That Have Great Stories To Tell About The History Of Our Community.

The Untold Stories Is An Excellent Idea Of Wonderful Documentary.

I Want To Thank Molly -- As Commissioner Bigelow Indicated, Demonstrating The Passion And Interest.

This Would Have Been A Tremendous Opportunity Lost If Molly Wouldn't Have Taken The Effort.

I Thank You Molly And Thank The Commissioner For Coordinating With Administration.

She Gave A Few Creative Examples To Keep The Power Point Short.

But Working With The Department Employees, I Know We Could Come Up With A Wonderful, Enjoyable, Creative Celebration Of Our 125th Anniversary.

If The Board Is So Inclined I Think It Would Be Great To Give Molly And The Administration The Opportunity To Get Together.

Comm. Hall: Bruce Did A Great History Of Lee County.

A Brown Pamphlet.

It Would Be Great To Update That To The 125 Years.

It Had Interesting Facts.

Since He's Done That There's A Lot More.

And I Think There's A Way To Find Non-Property Tax Dollars To Support Any Funding That Needs To Be Done.

One Of The Things I Love About Our Staff, Your Bake Sales Raise A Lot Of Money.

You Are Fantastic Bakers.

And I Am More Than Happy -- I Think There's Lots Of Ways For Us To Find Dollars To Cover Some Of The Minor Expenses.

If You Could Get Rid Of Some Of The Old Commissioner Pictures, I Would Appreciate It.

Thank You.

Let's Move On.

Molly, Thank You Very Much.

[Applause] Consent Ite M-14a.

Objection, Motion Carries.

Item 14b.

Did You Say Consent? Administrative Item 14b.

What About 10a? I'm Sorry, Item 10a.

Motion To Approve 10a By Commissioner, Second By Commissioner Hall.

Discussion? Objection? Motion Carries.

We Are On 14b.

Motion To Approve 14b By Commissioner Hall.

Second By Commissioner Judah.

Discussion? Comm. Bigelow: I Am Going To Support This, I Am Just Interested In Knowing Does This Lock In The Ent Paramedic Costs And Wages -- Comm. Hall: That Was 14a.

We Approved 14a.

We Are On 14b.

We Went Back And Went Forward.

Comm. Bigelow: Okay.

Well -- Comm. Hall: Go Ahead And Ask.

Comm. Bigelow: Is There Chief Dickerson -- I Apologize, Mr. Chairman.

I Just Wanted To Be Sure I Understood Something Moving Forward.

We Are Of Course As We Did Yesterday Looking At Budget And Moving Into That Process Early Because Of What We All Know To Be The Situation About Reserve Spending And Personnel Cost Being A Large Component Of Our Budget.

I Am Curious If It Would Lock In The Emt And Paramedics That We've Opened Opportunities Within That Period Of Time To Negotiate Different Costs If We Should Do Something With Other County Employees.

If That's In Your Thinking At All.

Kim Dickerson, This Contract Is A One-Year Contract That Will Expire December 30th.

There Is No Cost Increase In This Contract.

The Salaries Are Frozen.

However, We Are Working With The Human Resources To Do A Salary Survey Of All Of Public Safety To Look At The Different Salary Levels Compare That To Other Like Services Throughout The State Of Florida.

Using County-Base Services To Look At Their Salaries.

We Will Start Negotiations Again Probably Early Summer, Once We Get A Good Read For What Our Budget Challenges Are For The Next Fiscal Year And Work With Them To Address The Issues.

But Keep It In Concert With What Our Budget Is Forecasted To Be.

Comm. Bigelow: Good.

That's What I Wanted To Hear.

Thank You, Mr. Chairman.

Further Discussion? Objection? Motion Carries.

We Have One Walk-On Item.

Move The Item.

Motion To Approve This Item.

Commissioner Judah, Second By Commissioner Hall.

Discussion? Objection? Motion Carries.

Commissioner Items.

Commissioner Hall? Comm. Hall: I Have A Couple.

First I Would Like To Thank The Word Of Life Church.

Last Night They Held A Covenant Of Israel And Was Fortunate To Have The Counsel General From Florida And Puerto Rico As Well As The Mayor Goldsmith There Speaking To Us And It Was A -- Over 400 Folks Were There Celebrating The Relationships That We Have With Israel And I Want To Thank Them.

They Did A Fantastic Job And It Was My Honor To Be There With Them.

I Have An Accolade For Rick Berges.

I Appreciate Him Taking His Saturday To Work With Me Onto Presentation To Them.

He Did A Great Job And Had A Great Slide Presentation And Helped With A Lot Of The Questions.

Rick, If You Are Listening, Thank You Very Much For Spending Saturday Morning With Me.

And We Have Everglades Coalition Meeting Coming Up On January -- It's Actually January 4th To The 8th.

And I Want To Make Sure That We Know Who Is Going.

And I Am Also Not Sure -- I Am Assuming I Am Going And I Am Assuming Commissioner Judah You Are Going.

But Normally What We Do Is We Have Our Folks Set Up The Series Of Meetings For Us.

And You Know, I Want To Make Sure We Are Okay Reaching Out To Them To Do That.

I'd Like To Coordinate For Them The Meetings That We Want And Make Sure The Commissioners -- That We Are Informed Of What Those Meetings Are So We Can Publicly Notice Them Appropriate Ly With The County Attorney Because Last Year There Was Some Confusion And I Don't Wants To Put Any Of Us In A Situation That Anybody Would Question Our Public Notification.

So If We Can Kind Of Coordinate, I Would Appreciate It.

Because We Were Scrambling To Give The County Attorney Time To Notice And We Needed To Add You At The Last Minute.

I Don't Want There To Be Any Question.

If You Can Coordinate With Our Office And Make Sure Our Unpaid Consultants Know Who We Need To See.

I Am Traveling For The Holiday.

It's In Hutchinson Island This Year.

In Stewart.

Okay.

Thank You.

Comm. Hall: And That's All I Have.

Commissioner Mann? Commissioner Judah? Comm. Judah: Yes.

Ron Peer Made A Request That We Give Direction To Our Administrative Staff And The Department Of Natural Resources To Look Into Some Possible Drudging Activities In Repair Of Markers Along The Spring Creek Area And Some Of The Tributaries Leading Into Spring Creek.

I Would Think That This Would Be In Line With What We Would Normally Do At A Constituent's Request, But I Was Advised To Bring It To The Board's Attention.

This Information Is Important Any Way From A Manager Standpoint Of The Resources.

And So If You Want To Step Forward.

I Am Aware Of The Issue.

I Received A Similar Memo.

If You Could Bring Back An Item On A Future Agenda.

I Certainly Would Like To Take A Look At It If There Are Problems Out There.

That's Fine.

Comm. Judah: Thank You.

Okay.

Is That It? Comm. Judah: That's It.

Commissioner Bigelow? Comm. Bigelow: I Have Another Point And That Is That We Are Looking At How We Are Briefed In Advance Of These Meetings On Commissioner Items, Especially Consent Items.

And It's My Hope And I Understand The County Manager Is Out And I Convey My Best To Her, But I Would Like To Schedule Weekly Meetings With Her.

If They Have To Be Delayed Or Whatever.

And This Sounds Like Something That Should Be Handled Administratively Between My Office And The County Manager's Office, But I Would Like The Board To Know That It Would Be Routine Meetings I Am Setting Up With The County Manager And Whomever She Would Like To Bring And Wherever.

Your Office Or My Office, But Just To Put You In The Loop Because We Are Looking At It As A Body As Far As Possibly Code Amendments Coming Forward.

I Would Like To Know A Little More About The Thinking Going Into That On The Administration County Management Side.

I Sent Each Of You A Memo Requesting That One Of The Amendments To The L.B.C. That Will Be Scheduled For The 13th Be Deferred.

And That's The Matlacha Overlay District.

I Was Wondering If I Could Get A Motion.

So Moved.

Motion By Commissioner Hall, Second By Commissioner Mann.

Discussion? Comm. Bigelow: Curiosity Is Killing This Cat.

Is There A Particular -- I Would Like To Vent The Issues Since It Is My District And There Are Not A Lot Of People That Know What The Exact Information And Changes To Be Made Would Be.

The 13th Is The First Public Hearing.

There Are Two Public Hearings Because It Is A Land-Use Issue And I Would Like To Have Everybody Have The Information Before They Go Into It.

Comm. Bigelow: Okay.

Further Discussion On The Motion? Objection? Motion Carries.

Comm. Hall: I Have A Reappointment.

[Naming Reappointments] Motion, Second, Objection, Discussion, Motion Carries.

Commissioner Mann? Chairman Mann: I Have Six All Reappointments.

[Reading Reappointments] Motion, Second, Objection, Discussion? Motion Carries.

Commissioner Judah.

Comm. Judah: Yes.

[Reading Appointments] Motion? Second.

Discussions, Objection, Motion Carries.

You Have None, Commissioner Bigelow? I Have Several.

[Reading Reappointments] Motion, Second, Discussion, Objection, Motion Carries.

We Had Discussed Last Week About County Management Possibly Reviewing, Making That L.P.A. Appointment A Rotating Seat For A One-Year Term.

Are We Pulling Back That Request To County Management? Several Months Ago Mr. Green Was Approached To Apply For And He Requested That.

I Would Have Certainly Supported Him.

Probably Nominated Him Myself.

I Haven't Heard Back From County Management On That Issue.

I Know We Haven't Heard Back, But Are We Pulling That Request For County Management To Do That Review Or Not? No.

Okay.

Next We Have County Manager Items.

County Attorney Items.

One Item.

All Of You Had Received A Letter Representing The Champion Development Corporation Concerning Casino Gambling.

I Wanted To Respond On Behalf Of The Board.

The Letter Was Sent To You.

I Would Like To Respond To That.

May I Have A Motion To Make That Response On Your Behalf, I Would Appreciate It.

Motion To Ask The County Attorney To Respond.

Is There A Second? I Just Want To Know What The Message Is, What Your Response -- The Response Would Be That Their Requests Cannot Be Accommodated -- Within The Time -- Within The Time Frame They Suggested.

Okay.

That's What I Thought.

Further Discussion On The Motion? Can I Throw My Two Cents Worth In On This Gambling Issue That Seems To Not Go Away And Come Up In Different Ways? These Two Requests In The Form And In Bonita Springs Are In Incorporated Areas Of The County.

The First Public Betting Or Oversight Would Be The City Counsel And Fort Myers And Bonita Springs.

It Would Be My Preference That We Hear From Those Bodies Formally Because The Request From These Gambling Entities Is To Ask To Put It On A Ballot And County Attorney Says We Don't Have Time To Do It Now, But Any Time In The Future It Still Seems Prudent To Hear From The City Counsel As To Whether Or Not They Want To Bring Gambling Into Their Good Cities.

And I Would Suggest That We First Hear From Them Before We Consider It.

Further Discussion? That's A Good Discussion.

And We Did Hear From Bonita Springs.

And We Did Hear From The City Of Fort Myers As Well.

But We Do Need To Have It Formally Given To Us.

Yea.

And I Just Got It In An F.Y.I., We Supported It.

Further Discussion? Objection? Motion Carries, We Are Adjourned.

And I Convey My Best To Her, But I Would Like To Schedule Weekly Meetings With Her.

If They Have To Be Delayed Or Whatever.

And This Sounds Like Something That Should Be Handled Administratively Between My Office And The County Manager's Office, But I Would Like The Board To Know That It Would Be Routine Meetings I Am Setting Up With The County Manager And Whomever She Would Like To Bring And Wherever.

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Comm. Bigelow: Okay.

Further Discussion On The Motion? Objection? Motion Carries.

Comm. Hall: I Have A Reappointment.

[Naming Reappointments] Motion, Second, Objection, Discussion, Motion Carries.

Commissioner Mann? Chairman Mann: I Have Six, All Reappointments.

[Reading Reappointments] Motion, Second, Objection, Discussion? Motion Carries. Commissioner Judah.

Comm. Judah: Yes.

[Reading Appointments] Motion? Second.

Discussions, Objection, Motion Carries.

You Have None, Commissioner Bigelow? I Have Several.

[Reading Reappointments] Motion, Second, Discussion, Objection, Motion Carries.

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