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DADE COUNTY COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 3, 2009

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MR. RUMLEY: Y'all go ahead and get you a seat. We'll call the meeting to order. I appreciate all of y'all being here tonight, staying through the work session. We've got not a whole lot, but we've got quite a bit here to cover. At this time, I would like to ask Robert to do our invocation and also the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Thereupon, the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance were given.)

MR. RUMLEY: This is the regularly scheduled meeting of the Dade County Commission. Proper notice of the meeting was given to the legal organ of Dade County and has been posted in the hallway. At this time I need a roll call. Mr. Lowery?

MR. LOWERY: Here.

MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Cervelli?

MR. CERVELLI: Here.

MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman?

MR. PITTMAN: Here.

MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Goff?

MR. GOFF: Here.

MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Rumley is here. All right. Don, if you want to go over the consent agenda with us.

1 MR. TOWNSEND: The consent agenda, we  
2 have approval of the previous meeting minutes, the  
3 approval of the review and approval of the employee  
4 head count report, the approval of S.P.L.O.S.T  
5 capital equipment for West Brow Fire Department  
6 purchased from Globe Manufacturing Company for 20  
7 complete sets of turnout gear and also a resolution  
8 approving a drug and alcohol policy for all FTA  
9 funded employees.

10 MR. RUMLEY: That was quick, Don.  
11 Congratulations.

12 MR. TOWNSEND: That's all tonight,  
13 folks.

14 MR. CERVELLI: I make a motion we  
15 accept the consent agenda.

16 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. I have a motion.  
17 Do I have a second?

18 MR. GOFF: Second.

19 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. I'll call a vote.  
20 Mr. Goff?

21 MR. GOFF: Yes.

22 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Cervelli?

23 MR. CERVELLI: Yes.

24 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Lowery?

25 MR. LOWERY: Yes.

1 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman?

2 MR. PITTMAN: Yes.

3 MR. RUMLEY: And I vote yes.

4 At this time, we'll move down to number  
5 2A, district commissioner committee reports. Lamar,  
6 do you want to go first tonight?

7 MR. LOWERY: I don't have anything  
8 tonight. You can touch on the courthouse for me.  
9 That's all. Just let them know where we're at on  
10 the courthouse because you had a meeting today.

11 MR. RUMLEY: Well, also the restrooms  
12 we did complete. They're completed.

13 MR. LOWERY: Robert will get you.

14 MR. GOFF: What am I going to talk  
15 about?

16 MR. RUMLEY: Scottie, what about you?

17 MR. PITTMAN: Nothing. The transfer  
18 station is quiet.

19 MR. RUMLEY: All right. Robert?

20 MR. GOFF: Well, you stole my thunder  
21 talking about that.

22 MR. RUMLEY: All I mentioned was --

23 MR. LOWERY: I knew better.

24 MR. GOFF: Without the toilet, I have  
25 not much. I would like to say, again, I talked with

1 David Swader today at the parks and soccer and rec  
2 league football is beginning as well as middle  
3 school, high school football and all that's going on  
4 in the county not only at our county park, but also  
5 the school facilities. So, again, I urge people to  
6 get out, if you can, if it's your cup of tea to go.  
7 If you don't, if football is not your thing or  
8 soccer is not your thing, do encourage. Encourage  
9 those young people.

10 I would like to say it's not -- it's a  
11 county thing, but Dade County looked real well the  
12 other night against Fyfe, Alabama in football and  
13 that's just where a lot of our kids are. This time  
14 of year that's where they are and I'm just thankful  
15 we have a place to provide where they can go and do  
16 that.

17 There was a break-in last week at the  
18 Dade -- at the South Dade Community Center. I don't  
19 think a lot of vandalism or damage was done, but  
20 there was. I just urge the citizens there and  
21 anywhere else if you see people, maybe you get a  
22 glimpse of someone hanging around a facility like  
23 that that's not occupied for most of the day and  
24 most of the -- very few times in a week, then maybe  
25 just give a call to somebody in the area, to the

1 Sheriff's Department or whatever and maybe just have  
2 it checked out. Again, not a lot of damage was  
3 done, but it is something that the people of Rising  
4 Fawn has worked very hard to have or the South Dade  
5 Community has worked very hard to have.

6 With that, one more thing, they will be  
7 having their barbecue this Saturday; is that  
8 correct, Ted? This Saturday from noon until all the  
9 chicken and stuff is gone, so I invite you down to  
10 that to have a barbecue dinner before Labor Day.  
11 That's it.

12 MR. RUMLEY: I appreciate it, Robert.  
13 Five minutes.

14 MR. CERVELLI: Five minutes? I get  
15 to -- quick overview of the budget. We're  
16 66 percent. Two-thirds of the year is gone. Our  
17 revenue is behind. We're at 60 percent of revenue  
18 basically versus 66 percent. People are, in fact,  
19 controlling their expenses. They're at 60 percent  
20 versus 66 percent, so we're having great expense  
21 control. It's just that our revenues are not  
22 keeping up with what our expectations were.

23 Our L.O.S.T., our Local Option Sales  
24 Tax is the one we keep an eye on mostly because  
25 that's the one we just never know how that's going

1 to affect our general fund. It did increase from  
2 last month in terms of the check we got. We got  
3 \$151,000 this month at the end of August versus  
4 119,000 in July, which was just awful. So there has  
5 been an increase. However, we are still behind.  
6 We're about ten percent below where we were last  
7 year. So overall our collections are ten percent  
8 down in terms of S.P.L.O.S.T and L.O.S.T.

9           There are great fluctuations in these  
10 numbers. As I said last month, it's very difficult  
11 to predict, make any judgments about how things are  
12 going to improve. So I did a little statistical  
13 trick, not very complicated, do a little smoothing  
14 of the data. If you're using a three-month moving  
15 average -- that's just for anybody that wants to  
16 write that down. A three-month moving average says  
17 that our revenues are down 14 percent versus where  
18 we were last year. The trend has been increasing in  
19 terms of the amount of money that our revenue  
20 continues to drop.

21           Whether we're turning around or not, I  
22 think it's going to take a couple of months still to  
23 know whether, in fact, we're going to see an actual  
24 turnaround, but the trend has been an increase.  
25 It's not as bad as it was last month, but the trend

1 is still dropping in terms of what our sales tax  
2 revenues are compared to last month. So time will  
3 tell.

4 A quick community report. I want to  
5 thank the road department. They've made me a hero  
6 out in Head River in terms of the work that they've  
7 done on all the dirt roads out there. They've  
8 probably been in the best shape they've ever been.  
9 So I thank the road folks, street folks for going  
10 out and doing that. The roads are -- for dirt  
11 roads, they're great.

12 In terms of West Brow, you know they're  
13 building a new fire station there. If you get an  
14 opportunity, go up there and look and if you would  
15 like to leave a contribution, I'm sure you could  
16 find somebody to take a check from you and please  
17 stop by and take a look.

18 The Flintstone community over by the  
19 college, we're getting closer and closer to getting  
20 a sewer problem up there fixed. A grant went in to  
21 the Appalachian Regional Commission last Friday for  
22 \$200,000 toward fixing that project. It was a  
23 cooperative effort with the town of Lookout  
24 Mountain, Georgia, the college, Dade County Water  
25 and Sewer Authority and, of course, all the grant

1 people we're trying to get some money out of.  
2 Lookout Mountain, Georgia applied for this grant  
3 because eventually if this program works, they will  
4 eventually take over ownership of that sewer system,  
5 so we're making great progress. We're not there  
6 yet, but we feel fairly confident in terms of how  
7 that's going to turn out. We'll know something in  
8 October.

9           Two quick announcements. When you  
10 leave here, you'll probably hear some bluegrass  
11 music going on over at the gazebo. Every Thursday  
12 night through November, toward sometime the end of  
13 November every Thursday there will be bluegrass  
14 picking in the park over here starting at 6:30. So  
15 if you've got something -- nothing to do on a  
16 Thursday night or if you would like to do something  
17 that's fun, come out and listen to the bluegrass.  
18 It's the Big Woods Bluegrass Band playing out there  
19 and I sat there and listened last week and they do a  
20 fine job. So you'll hear that sound when you leave.  
21 Stop by and you'll enjoy it.

22           One last thing, the American Legion,  
23 the Soldiers for God have opened up a museum at the  
24 American Legion. It will be open every day. It's a  
25 military war memorial museum. It will be open from

1 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Just walk in. You don't  
2 need to make an appointment. If the school or you  
3 would like to bring a group, they would like you to  
4 call to make an appointment and they'll give you a  
5 tour of the museum. Please stop by and see what  
6 they've done. I've been there and they've done a  
7 great job. That's it.

8 MR. RUMLEY: Thank you, Peter. Good  
9 job.

10 As far as my report, this month has  
11 been kind of a stressful month because we did go  
12 into the furlough mode if you want to call it. I  
13 say stressful. It's hard to dig into -- get into  
14 people's livelihood and paychecks. You know, we  
15 just had to make that call. We also -- I think most  
16 of you know this, we are shutting this main floor  
17 down now on Fridays. We're working -- went to a  
18 nine-hour work week. We actually cut it to 36  
19 hours, which is four nines and I hope all of you  
20 understand why. We're trying to save all the money  
21 we can and still not lay off any more people. I  
22 think most of our employees understand that. I've  
23 talked to most all of them, you know, head on, you  
24 know, and our departments that are participating in  
25 this. I appreciate all -- because the elected

1 officials, they really do not have to do that, like  
2 the sheriff. Some of them couldn't do it. The  
3 judges, they could not. Their hours are set by the  
4 State, so -- but the sheriff is doing a real good  
5 job and this week especially is a real critical week  
6 because we're -- you don't just do that. You don't  
7 just on paper -- you've got to go into the system  
8 and figure everything out, who is going to make  
9 what.

10           So next week is our payroll and we want  
11 to be sure that everything is right, but I just want  
12 everyone to bear with us. We're going to try this  
13 until January. We're looking at fifty plus thousand  
14 dollar savings. Like we said last week, I think  
15 it's going to be more than that from looking at it  
16 now.

17           The courthouse, hopefully -- I've had a  
18 couple of people ask me today about that. We should  
19 actually see some dirt start moving down there by  
20 the end of this next week. There's more to it.  
21 When we -- Robin is taking care of the actual  
22 legalities of it. It's not a matter of just  
23 overnight doing this. He got everything, I think,  
24 taken care of today. The contractor has to take  
25 that and get his bonding and all, which that

1 shouldn't take but a couple of days. So what I'm  
2 saying is we should actually break ground by the end  
3 of next week, if not the first of the next week.

4 As Robert said, down at the four  
5 fields, I know we keep talking about this, but you  
6 wouldn't believe how many people -- you think that's  
7 a little item, but you wouldn't believe how many  
8 people that actually have praised everyone, not just  
9 the Commission, but everyone that's involved in  
10 getting these restroom facilities because it's  
11 something that's been needed for, you know, several  
12 years. And if you don't believe it gets used, drive  
13 by there in the evenings and see the soccer fields.  
14 There's about 250 kids down there.

15 I just want all of you to bear with us  
16 through these next few months. If you call this  
17 number, our commission number on Friday -- well, if  
18 you call it anytime now, it will roll over. It will  
19 give you -- of course, it will give you an apology  
20 first and explain why we're closed on Fridays, but  
21 it will go directly to my number, my cell number.  
22 So that's -- I'm here on Friday, too. I don't take  
23 off. So, you know, you have to call me because I  
24 have to keep the door locked, but I will be here.  
25 And my number, it's the same as always. I

1 appreciate everybody working with us on it.

2 Anybody got anything else? Are you  
3 sure you haven't thought of anything to say, Lamar?

4 MR. LOWERY: I'm good. Me and Scottie  
5 is wanting to go watch the ball game.

6 MR. RUMLEY: All right. Moving down to  
7 the appearance of Mr. Barton Harris. I didn't see  
8 Barton here tonight. I don't think he's here  
9 tonight. He's the mayor. Everything must be  
10 running pretty smooth in Trenton. And Fred  
11 Stephens, he's not here tonight. He did call a  
12 little while ago and Fred thought he was coming, but  
13 he's got some migraine headache there. He'll be  
14 here next week to give us a report on the Industrial  
15 Development Authority.

16 Okay. Don, you have the floor there.

17 MR. TOWNSEND: Since two commissioners,  
18 almost the majority, wants to leave early, we'll  
19 make it really quick.

20 MR. RUMLEY: I've got all night.

21 MR. TOWNSEND: Peter did an excellent  
22 job of doing the financials. He was right on  
23 target. General fund has a current balance of  
24 228,606, but believe me, that's -- Melissa is  
25 sitting over there chomping at the bits to release

1 the checks that she printed today, so that's pretty  
2 much gone. Federal asset fund, U.S. Treasury,  
3 17,721; special sheriff's fund, 9,373; drug abuse  
4 education fund, 24,545; supplemental juvenile  
5 service fund, 14,247; victim assistance fund, 3,025;  
6 jail fund, 18,200; federal asset fund, Department of  
7 Justice, \$2,253 and payroll account, \$95,240.

8 As I mentioned earlier on the  
9 S.P.L.O.S.T, we do have a current balance of the  
10 principal and interest and capital bond of  
11 \$2,770,052. Total approved P&I debt service fund,  
12 28,303 and total investments to come in in the next  
13 probably 45 days, 100,000 with interest \$460.  
14 That's a total amount of 2,898,815 on the old  
15 S.P.L.O.S.T. On the new S.P.L.O.S.T we have  
16 availability of about \$2,514,224.

17 You see at the bottom the fire  
18 departments and the -- some have leases. New Salem  
19 is out there. Trenton did not spend any money on  
20 their leases, but I understand all their trucks are  
21 in now, their new trucks that they ordered, so we'll  
22 be receiving those bills here probably in November,  
23 paying the first bill. Davis, New Home, North Dade  
24 and West Brow all have balances. Davis has 4,847;  
25 New Home, 3,781; North Dade, 155,618 and West Brow

1 109,150 for a total available to the fire  
2 departments of 1,023,396.

3 I won't repeat everything Peter said,  
4 but under our department revenues for the month, we  
5 had 442,000 and our expenses though were 578,000.  
6 So we outspent our expenses, outspent revenues by  
7 \$135,614.

8 Year-to-date we have collected  
9 5,124,984 and we've spent 5,205,416, so we're a  
10 little heavy, but I understand that the digest has  
11 cleared the Department of Revenue and everything  
12 looks good there. The tax bills, which I'm sure  
13 we'll all be happy to hear, is going to go out two  
14 weeks early this year, but the due dates will remain  
15 the same. October 20<sup>th</sup>, I think, through  
16 December 20<sup>th</sup>. Is that about right, I believe.  
17 But they decided to go ahead and issue those a  
18 couple of weeks early to give people a little bit of  
19 flexibility as far as knowing how much so they can  
20 kind of budget. So you should be receiving those  
21 probably around October 1<sup>st</sup> or so.

22 That's pretty much it. I mean, I've  
23 got, you know, a lot detail here, but the  
24 S.P.L.O.S.T is looking up. It's a positive thing.  
25 We'll see how well -- see how many months in advance

1 here we continue to go up. We pray it continues to  
2 go up. Shop in Dade County.

3 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Thank you, Don.  
4 Good job. Anybody got any questions for  
5 Mr. Townsend? At this time I would entertain a  
6 motion to approve the financial report from  
7 Mr. Townsend.

8 MR. PITTMAN: I make a motion we  
9 approve the financial report as read.

10 MR. RUMLEY: Do I have a second?

11 MR. LOWERY: I second.

12 MR. RUMLEY: All right. I'll call the  
13 roll. Mr. Goff?

14 MR. GOFF: Yes.

15 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Cervelli?

16 MR. CERVELLI: Yes.

17 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Lowery?

18 MR. LOWERY: Yes.

19 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman?

20 MR. PITTMAN: Yes.

21 MR. RUMLEY: And I vote yes.

22 Okay. Legal matters, do you have  
23 anything, Robin?

24 MR. ROGERS: No new legal matters to  
25 discuss. We did have the Rex Blevins hearing last

1 Thursday and we anticipate a decision on that  
2 sometime this month.

3 MR. RUMLEY: At the end of the month?

4 MR. ROGERS: Sometime during the month.

5 MR. RUMLEY: During the month. Okay.

6 Any questions for our attorney before we go on?

7 Unfinished business? New business? We  
8 discussed everything there. Anyone want to come up  
9 and talk to us tonight? You've got -- we'll give  
10 you five minutes or longer if you need it. You're  
11 welcome to come up, good or bad.

12 We appreciate all of y'all coming. We  
13 really do. If you understand what Don said, really  
14 if you just put it all in a little ball of wax, this  
15 is the time of year you really have to tighten up.  
16 We have to tighten up and we have to watch our  
17 accounts receivable and accounts payable, so -- but  
18 we're doing -- Don does a good job and we're holding  
19 it in the road. I just appreciate all of y'all  
20 supporting us.

21 My phone number -- I'm not a hard  
22 person to find, nor is any of these commissioners.  
23 I say that every meeting and I mean it. If you need  
24 us, you just call us and we'll try -- we can't  
25 always say yes, but we'll give you an answer, won't

1 we, Peter?

2 MR. CERVELLI: Eventually.

3 MR. RUMLEY: It's been a rough week for  
4 Peter. I'm not going to go into it. That's why my  
5 face is so red. I think my blood pressure is about  
6 300. If there's nothing further, I'll entertain a  
7 motion to adjourn.

8 MR. CERVELLI: I'll make a motion to  
9 adjourn.

10 MR. RUMLEY: Do I hear a second?

11 MR. GOFF: I'll second.

12 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Goff?

13 MR. GOFF: Yes.

14 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Cervelli?

15 MR. CERVELLI: Yes.

16 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Lowery?

17 MR. LOWERY: Yes.

18 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman?

19 MR. PITTMAN: Yes.

20 MR. RUMLEY: The chair votes yes. We  
21 are adjourned.

22  
23 END OF MEETING  
24  
25

## 1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

2 STATE OF TENNESSEE )  
 3 COUNTY OF HAMILTON )

4  
 5 I, Erin M. Flatt, Court Reporter and  
 6 Notary Public, in and for Hamilton County and the  
 7 State of Tennessee at Large, do hereby certify that  
 8 I reported in machine shorthand the proceedings had  
 9 in the above-styled cause on the 3rd day of

10 September, 2009;

11 That the said proceedings were  
 12 reduced to typewriting under my personal supervision;  
 13 and that the foregoing is a transcript of said  
 14 proceedings.

15 This the 28th day of September 2009.

16  
 17  
 18  
 19  
 20 Erin M. Flatt  
 21 Erin M. Flatt, Notary Public  
 22 in and for the State of  
 23 Tennessee at Large.  
 24 My commission expires  
 25 November 7, 2010.

