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DADE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 4, 2010

1 MR. RUMLEY: We'll go ahead and call
2 the meeting to order. I appreciate you being here
3 tonight. It turned out to be a beautiful evening,
4 especially compared to what it looked like a few
5 days ago. At this time, Robert, I would like to ask
6 you to lead us in the invocation.

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

9 MR. RUMLEY: This is the regularly
10 scheduled meeting of the Dade County Commission
11 which takes place at the same time on the first
12 Thursday of every month. Proper notice of this
13 meeting was given to the legal organ and has been
14 posted in the hallway of the Administrative
15 Building. At this time I need a roll call.
16 Mr. Lowery?

17 MR. LOWERY: Here.

18 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Cervelli?

19 MR. CERVELLI: Here.

20 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman?

21 MR. PITTMAN: Here.

22 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Goff?

23 MR. GOFF: Here.

24 MR. RUMLEY: The chair is here. The
25 reading of the minutes of the February -- the

1 reading of the February minutes of the regular
2 meeting will not be required since all Commissioners
3 have been furnished copies in advance. Does anyone
4 have any questions, again, pertaining to the
5 minutes? Okay. The minutes are public record and
6 are available for review in the office at any time
7 between 8:30 and 5:00. The minutes are included in
8 the consent agenda. Approval of the consent agenda
9 does require a vote. At this time, I will entertain
10 a motion pertaining to the consent agenda. There is
11 one item, as all of you know, that we will have to
12 vote separately after this, but everything except
13 for Mr. Pittman pertaining to the library will be
14 pertaining to this vote.

15 Don, do you want to go over the consent
16 agenda?

17 MR. TOWNSEND: Okay. We have approval
18 of previous meeting minutes; appointment of Mrs.
19 Sandra Pullen for reappointment by Resolution
20 R-06-10.

21 MR. RUMLEY: Can everybody hear him?

22 MR. TOWNSEND: Appointment of Ms. Sue
23 Gray to fulfill the unexpired term of Joe Gaddis by
24 Resolution R-07-10 and Resolution R-09-10, which is
25 a budget amendment for 2010 budget.

1 MR. CERVELLI: I make a motion we
2 approve the consent agenda.

3 MR. RUMLEY: I have a motion. Do I
4 hear a second?

5 MR. GOFF: I'll second.

6 MR. RUMLEY: I'll call a vote. Mr.
7 Cervelli?

8 MR. CERVELLI: Yes.

9 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Goff?

10 MR. GOFF: Yes.

11 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman?

12 MR. PITTMAN: Yes.

13 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Lowery?

14 MR. LOWERY: Yes.

15 MR. RUMLEY: The chair votes yes.
16 We'll move down to the district commissioner
17 committee reports.

18 MR. CERVELLI: Mr. Pittman's
19 appointment.

20 MR. RUMLEY: I'm sorry. I'm missing
21 Eddie Pittman. I would get run out of dodge,
22 wouldn't I?

23 As explained, the library board, they
24 do have a vacancy there. We had a lady that has
25 taken a job with the library and she cannot serve on

1 the board. We did discuss this. Do I hear a motion
2 to appoint Mr. Eddie Pittman for the remaining
3 period of that term?

4 MR. LOWERY: I make a motion that we
5 appoint Mr. Pittman, Mr. Eddie Pittman to the
6 library board.

7 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. I have a motion.
8 Do I hear a second?

9 MR. GOFF: I will second.

10 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. I'll call a vote.
11 Mr. Cervelli?

12 MR. CERVELLI: Yes.

13 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Goff?

14 MR. GOFF: Yes.

15 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman.

16 MR. PITTMAN: Abstain.

17 MR. RUMLEY: Abstain. Okay. Wonder
18 why. Mr. Lowery?

19 MR. LOWERY: Yes.

20 MR. RUMLEY: And the chairperson votes
21 yes. Thank you for that.

22 Now let's move down to the district
23 commissioner's report. Let's start with
24 Mr. Cervelli tonight. He said he's only got a
25 couple -- maybe one minute. I'll give you two

1 minutes.

2 MR. CERVELLI: Maybe two. Quick budget
3 review as usual. Our L.O.S.T. revenues that came in
4 for February was \$147,400. That's actually down
5 from January. It's down about four percent from
6 January's L.O.S.T. revenue. And as you know, the
7 local option sales tax funds are general funds. The
8 only thing I can say is that the trend is flat. We
9 don't seem to be losing any more sales tax, but it's
10 really not changing very much. We're still down
11 13 percent year over year if you compare the last 12
12 months to the previous 12 months. The only good
13 news is it's not going down, so that's a lot less
14 than we certainly hoped for.

15 On the S.P.L.O.S.T side, obviously the
16 percentages are the same because they're all sales
17 tax related. However, on the S.P.L.O.S.T side,
18 there is a S.P.L.O.S.T budget in what we hoped we
19 would bring in to help fund our S.P.L.O.S.T projects
20 and we're six months into the new S.P.L.O.S.T and at
21 this point we're \$140,000 less than we had
22 anticipated in terms of bringing in revenue and so
23 those projects that were not bonded, it's going to
24 be hard to tell. Obviously, if the economy picks
25 up, things will change, but it will be a challenge

1 if things continue at this rate to probably get to
2 everything that was on that original. It's only six
3 months, but the trend right now is disconcerting, if
4 nothing else.

5 In terms of our actual expense and
6 revenue budgets, as we said last month, we're going
7 to talk about the budget 30 days ago. So we're
8 going to talk about January's budget tonight because
9 that is the one that's most firm and clear in terms
10 of what we know. We're 17 percent into the year for
11 January because this is a six-month calendar,
12 six-month year as opposed to a 12-month year and so
13 from a revenue point of view, we were 11 percent
14 revenue collections and about 16 percent expenses.
15 So in terms of revenue and expenses for the first
16 month of the year, January, we're doing okay.

17 There's probably some seasonality in
18 the revenue that still needs to be fixed to better
19 understand whether our revenue is coming in as we
20 anticipated, but not too badly.

21 I did take a quick look at February
22 just so we know that there was nothing going off the
23 deep end here and a preliminary look at February
24 says the numbers seem to be okay on budget, nothing
25 stands out in terms of a crisis. So that's the

1 quick financial overview.

2 This week, actually today I guess it
3 was, Canyon Park Estates finally got the slew
4 cleaned out. I thank our county employees for doing
5 that. It took a meeting in Atlanta to get that
6 done. We appreciate Senator Mullis' help, but over
7 in Canyon Park Estates, Ted explained to the
8 commissioner in Atlanta what we were trying to do
9 and the red tape it was taking to get something very
10 simple done and so about 120 feet -- you can explain
11 that better than I can. I'll let Ted do that.
12 We're hoping that will improve the flood situation
13 for those big rains when water comes out of
14 Cloudland Canyon.

15 In terms of the Flintstone budget --
16 sewer system, as you may have read in the newspaper,
17 we met with the GEFA, which is the environmental
18 fund folks in Atlanta and there's a \$100,000 grant
19 requested, which they will vote on probably in the
20 next two weeks, and that will be the last piece of
21 the puzzle to fix that sewer system up in Flintstone
22 near the college. So we are hopeful about that. We
23 won't know for two weeks, but we had a good meeting
24 with the environmental fund folks and we're hoping
25 that that works out.

1 I think we're going to have a little
2 bit of discussion on fire hydrants tonight and I'll
3 just say a little bit about that. I did talk to our
4 fire chiefs up on Lookout and Jerry Kyzer for down
5 here in Piney. The chiefs are taking a hard look at
6 what the fire hydrant status is. West Brow, I
7 talked to Tim Sharp today. They think they're
8 pretty good in terms of fire hydrants working. His
9 major concern are there are two hydrants that he
10 thinks need to be installed in West Brow that are
11 not there today. One to serve Mount Olive Road and
12 another to serve the folks that live over on
13 Varnell, Lingerfelt and Earl, that little triangle
14 over there. So we will work with the water
15 authority to help get those two hydrants in there
16 for West Brow.

17 In terms of New Salem, there are about
18 seven hydrants that are not working up in New Salem,
19 but they're still in the process of pulling their
20 records together to give to Doug. So it's not like
21 a request has been outstanding and hasn't been
22 addressed, but there are things that need to get
23 done in both of those communities and we'll work to
24 make sure that happens.

25 Quick last item, we attended an E

1 Summit as the State calls, it Entrepreneurial Summit
2 down in Milledgeville. The Chamber got to speak for
3 a few minutes to some of the folks from the State
4 and other departments and other Chambers of Commerce
5 about primarily what the Middle School is doing in
6 terms of teaching kids how to start their own
7 businesses and what it means to start a business and
8 needless to say, it's probably hard to believe, but
9 on that day and a half session, Dade County was the
10 high point of that entire day and a half in terms of
11 educating people on what's possible with children
12 and education and educating them about business.

13 The other thing that happened, which is
14 equally important. You think you go to these
15 meetings and all you do is make a speech or listen
16 to somebody else make a speech. There were a lot of
17 folks there from the Department of Community
18 Affairs, Department of Economic Development, One
19 Georgia Authority and we took the opportunity to
20 make some important points with those folks about
21 some of the rules and regulations that impact Dade
22 County's ability to take advantage of state programs
23 or inability to take advantage of state programs.
24 And as a result, we have another meeting with two of
25 the commissioners tomorrow in Atlanta to deal with

1 economic issues. So these meetings which turn out
2 sometimes to be just show and tell also turn out to
3 be great opportunities for our county in dealing
4 with real economic issues.

5 By the way, thank you folks in the road
6 department for the work you did on the snow for this
7 week. Thank you. That's all.

8 MR. RUMLEY: Thank you, Peter. Robert?

9 MR. GOFF: I want to give a report
10 tonight probably that affects the entire county as
11 much as it does just the south end. Something I've
12 been looking at as I get out and drive around, and
13 in this weather, we've driven around a lot. We hear
14 a lot of people and this statement has been made in
15 this room a lot of times how people love to live in
16 Dade County because it's such a beautiful place and
17 I'll agree with that, but when you're riding around
18 some of our roads and you see the trash and the
19 tires, the old living room suites and the mattresses
20 that people are throwing out, there are some places
21 that are not too beautiful. It's usually on the
22 back roads. It's not trying to make a new law, but
23 I think that it's something we need to look at that
24 there's already laws on the book on the littering.
25 And I'm not talking about a gum wrapper or coffee

1 cup blowing out of the back of a pickup truck. But
2 in riding around on some roads the other day, it
3 hasn't been that long until they were cleaned. So
4 what I'm asking citizens to do is if you find
5 somebody doing that, that's somebody's property.
6 That road and the edge of that road is someone's
7 property. To say the least, it's our tax dollars
8 when we have to send the road crews out to pick it
9 up. It's our tax dollars that are doing it. And
10 you just think how quick people are to call in this
11 weather, we've got limbs down on the road, we need
12 them moved. We've got ice on the road, we need it
13 out of the way and that has been -- it has taken a
14 lot of money not only here, but in a lot of
15 counties, that we haven't had to use that money in
16 years for salt and what we have this year. But we
17 need to do a better job on policing our streets for
18 the trash and I hope that we can somehow do that.

19 Also, something that -- I had a good
20 friend of mine kind of appoint me to the census --
21 be the census leader.

22 MR. RUMLEY: He wasn't there that day,
23 so he got to be chairman.

24 MR. GOFF: But I talk about the census
25 and I know -- and I want to say this right off. I

1 believe in the TEA party. I believe that we're
2 taxed enough already, but the thing about it is the
3 census is only getting those things that we have
4 always -- we've always been able to get, but we are
5 entitled to more if our numbers are correctly
6 counted.

7 And one thing I want to say as I kind
8 of talk for the census tonight. There's a lot of
9 things that go around in emails and things about
10 watch who you let in your house. First of all,
11 everyone will be mailed a census form and if it's
12 mailed back in, there's going to be nobody even
13 coming to your house. So we need to keep this in
14 mind because our schools, as far as doctors'
15 offices, probably -- possibly a new congressional
16 district and on and on, it goes based on these
17 numbers. So I ask you to, you know, if somebody --
18 if you talk to people and they're talking against
19 it, it's something we do every ten years and it's to
20 our benefit to do it.

21 Thirdly, again, I think you need to
22 look at the legislation that's going on. I told you
23 last month if you look on the ACCG web site, you'll
24 be surprised at some of the laws or bills that are
25 coming before. One of them that's coming right now

1 out of Atlanta and it's already affected us, we
2 haven't had a county agent in a year and a half. A
3 lot of people know that since Ted Dyer moved on to
4 another place, they've never replaced us. They're
5 even talking about now of closing our -- cutting 4H
6 completely, closing a lot of the offices, the
7 agricultural offices that we have and then out of
8 the other side of their mouth, they say that
9 agriculture is one of our largest employers, and it
10 is. So I urge you to look at that and call the
11 Congressman, call the Representative and the Senator
12 and tell them that you think there's better things
13 to cut because there's a lot of kids involved in
14 this in our school, in the cattle judging and just
15 all that goes on in the 4H and in that end of
16 things.

17 Nathan Deal, everybody knows our
18 Congressman has resigned his seat to better his
19 chances to run for the governor of the state, but
20 that is going to cost us probably. We're going to
21 be -- have to have an election to fill his seat if
22 something doesn't change and they allow us to wait
23 until later on in the year when we're having a
24 primary in July anyway, so I hope maybe that will
25 happen. But these are some things that are going to

1 benefit -- they're either hurting our county or they
2 will benefit our entire county.

3 I would like to say with Peter and the
4 rest of the commissioners, I'm thankful for all that
5 we've been through that we have come through it and
6 the employees have worked well. The sheriff's
7 department, the fire departments. It may sound like
8 we give them a lot of credit, but you know what,
9 they deserve that credit because a lot of them were
10 up at 2:00 and 3:00 in the morning making sure you
11 could get to and from your place of business or work
12 or whatever and so we thank them and just keep these
13 things in mind. God bless you.

14 MR. CERVELLI: Can I take 30 seconds on
15 the census just to tell you how real this issue is.
16 Everybody remembers the tobacco settlement that took
17 place and those billions of dollars that the tobacco
18 companies have turned over to the government and
19 those tobacco dollars flow to the states to use on
20 programs and that's a very large amount of money.
21 The program in Georgia is run out of the One Georgia
22 Authority, pretty much that takes that tobacco
23 money, as I understand it, and spends it. But we're
24 not eligible here in Dade County for any of that
25 money for several reasons. One of them, we're not

1 poor enough to take advantage of it and I spoke to
2 the commissioner down there the other day and I
3 said, the latest numbers show that we have
4 14-and-a-half percent poverty in Dade County based
5 on projections that are done by UGA, a reputable
6 institution known as a college, university,
7 fourteen-and-a-half percent, so that's model based.
8 That's computers estimating what the poverty level
9 is. She said, we don't use that, we use the numbers
10 out of the census.

11 Well, those poverty numbers are ten
12 years old and so do you think that because we're
13 living with a ten-year-old number, we don't have
14 access for other reasons as well. We don't have
15 access to that money that most of the state has
16 except metro Atlanta, Catoosa County and Dade
17 County. Everybody else in the state of Georgia has
18 access to that money. That's how important the
19 census can be.

20 MR. RUMLEY: That's just one instance.
21 There's a lot of -- we run into it almost monthly,
22 you know, when we're applying for grants. Our
23 poverty level is not, you know, where it should be
24 -- maybe it's not -- but going off the census
25 compared to what it really is today and the only way

1 we can truly have the true count is for you to fill
2 that out and get it in and it's simple. Robert said
3 he was going to fill his out, I think, on the Monda
4 and Ann show.

5 MR. GOFF: I'm going on the Monda and
6 Ann Show and fill mine out.

7 MR. RUMLEY: Scottie, go ahead. I'm
8 sorry.

9 MR. PITTMAN: Okay. I've been waiting
10 a while on these two old men.

11 MR. RUMLEY: These two old men, did you
12 hear that?

13 MR. PITTMAN: Peter said he was going
14 to keep it short tonight. Thank you, Peter. My mic
15 has not worked all night.

16 One thing I've been asked to talk about
17 is one of the projects I've worked on since I was
18 elected is the walking track community center in the
19 Davis area. We've had fundraisers, male beauty
20 pageants. Some of y'all remember those. We still
21 have this money in the bank and Jeff Mullis
22 several -- about three years ago, two years ago he
23 called me and he had more money to give us for the
24 walking track. Well, the week that it was supposed
25 to come, he was supposed to meet me with the check

1 is when the economy really crashed and the money
2 just disappeared. So I've had people ask me what's
3 going on with the walking track, what's going on.
4 We have around \$7,000 still in the bank. We haven't
5 spent any of it. It's still there. The only thing
6 we pay every year is a 35 or \$40 yearly renewal on
7 our license.

8 So as soon as we can -- as soon as Jeff
9 or the State can come across with a little more
10 money or we can do some more fundraisers and get
11 some more money, we plan on building a walking
12 track. Everybody knows we've got S.P.L.O.S.T money
13 that should help with the community center in Davis
14 and a walking track in New Home. So everything is
15 still lined up, but right now the money is just not
16 there, so that's what I was asked to talk about
17 that.

18 The transfer station, as far as that
19 goes, we're still planning on building a concrete
20 pad so that they can swap the dumpsters out without
21 holding traffic up. I was down Saturday. It's
22 really not that bad. They're pretty good about
23 swapping the cans out and not holding the public up,
24 but there was probably ten or twelve cars that had
25 to wait in line while they did swap the cans around.

1 So again, the money is what's holding us up there.
2 We don't have the money to construct the pad. As
3 soon as we do, we'll get that done and it will flow
4 a little more efficiently.

5 But Davis and New Home fire
6 departments, I've talked to my fire chiefs as well
7 as Peter. They did have a few recurring fire
8 hydrants that they had turned into the Water
9 Authority that had not been fixed. Hopefully now
10 that this came out in the open and everybody is
11 aware of it, hopefully all the hydrants in the
12 county will be functional. The ones we can't fix
13 will be replaced. It looks like we're heading in
14 the right direction on that. And I think that's
15 all.

16 MR. LOWERY: Pikes Peak.

17 MR. PITTMAN: Yeah. Pikes Peak, that
18 issue has hopefully been resolved. I see
19 Mr. LaValla back in the back and I think the
20 citizens there are happy with the solution as long
21 as it all comes to pass.

22 MR. RUMLEY: Well, I don't know. We
23 haven't really had the final meeting to look it
24 over. I've been out there. Lamar went out there
25 with me the other day. We'll let him elaborate on

1 that. Maybe if you want to speak to us in the
2 five-minute thing if you don't care, kind of bring
3 us up-to-date.

4 MR. LOWERY: Well, the courthouse, of
5 course, they're fighting the weather, but I've seen
6 them working on Saturdays. It's coming along, doing
7 good. It's like Ted told me, when they do get it
8 dried in, the studs start going down, it will really
9 move on. We're still hoping for the August or
10 September finish date if all goes well, which we
11 hope it will.

12 Also, we want to say special thanks to
13 our 911, our road department, our sheriff's office.
14 The guys are working all kinds of hours in all kinds
15 of weather. We really appreciate them. We just
16 can't say it enough. The way the economy has been,
17 we haven't given raises in a while, don't know if
18 we're going to be able to for a while. Appreciation
19 is the best thing we can give them at this time.
20 Maybe some day soon it will be where we can help
21 them out financially, too.

22 Now, as far as the fire hydrants in my
23 district, I'm going to be a little bit more upset
24 than what these other commissioners are. My fire
25 department met with me after the last meeting that

1 Roger Woodyard came to from the south end. They've
2 turned me in a whole pamphlet full. There's like 12
3 fire hydrants in here that don't work. If they turn
4 them on, they can't get them turned off if they turn
5 the valve on to them, but they can't turn them off.
6 Or if they turn them on, water is blowing up out of
7 the ground everywhere around them. There's no
8 pressure. One whole neighborhood, which happens to
9 be the neighborhood that I live in on the Creek
10 Road, there's a two-inch water line that comes under
11 U.S. 11 under the railroad tracks and feeds a
12 six-inch water line. You don't got to be a plumber
13 to realize two inches won't keep a six-inch line
14 filled full to fill up a tanker truck when timing is
15 everything. If you're sitting there too long trying
16 to fill up a tanker truck, all you're going to be
17 putting out is the foundation.

18 And, you know, I personally am sick of
19 telling my firefighters and telling my citizens that
20 we have -- there's nothing we can do about it. And
21 there is nothing we can do about it the way it's
22 currently set up right now.

23 We have, I think, in Scottie's district
24 out there, Bible Camp Road. These people have been
25 through -- are going through something right now

1 that I've been through personally. The last house
2 we built was 400 feet away from the water line. We
3 had to buy the water pipe from the water company,
4 hire their contractors to put it in and once it was
5 in, it belonged to them. Same thing that's happened
6 on Bible Camp Road. Everybody has got their little
7 single lines running down through there and the
8 water company is refusing to put them in a main
9 line, from what I understand. This ain't right,
10 folks.

11 When the Water Authority was created --
12 I've got a little history here on it. In 1958, the
13 year before I was born in March, the Water Authority
14 was created and when it was created, the County was
15 run by an Ordinary, but whoever drew up this
16 legislation, I don't recognize the name, but it was
17 Summers, Senator Summers.

18 MR. RUMLEY: E.G. Summers.

19 MR. LOWERY: E.G. Summers. Maybe some
20 of you recognize him. It was before my time, but
21 whenever he wrote this legislation, he was smart
22 enough to put in there that if the County ever went
23 to a sole commissioner or to a board of
24 commissioners, that that chairman of that board or
25 that sole commissioner would be the chairman of the

1 Water Authority and that's the way it was until
2 1973, April 2nd of 1973. That's when it got away
3 from being appointed by anything to do with the
4 County and I don't know why. I haven't found that
5 history yet. Nobody has been able to tell me that.

6 But now it's appointed by the grand
7 jury. That leaves no control for us over who's
8 appointed on that board, what they do. We've got
9 citizens here in Dade County that are needing water
10 lines put in, but they're expected to pay for them,
11 but then we've got 100 miles of water line in Walker
12 County. Do you think Walker County paid for them?
13 I don't.

14 Now, when we were in Atlanta three
15 weeks ago, we talked to Senator Mullis and he said
16 that if we were all in unanimous consent, he said,
17 that he wouldn't introduce local legislation. I'm
18 not sure. I talked to Robin a little bit about
19 this. I don't know that it would have to come
20 before the people. It's always a good idea to come
21 before the people. I don't think it would have to.
22 I think you could actually introduce local
23 legislation as long as there's a consensus among all
24 the commissioners that's what we want to do. And
25 what we're actually wanting to do is make the

1 chairman of this board the chairman of the water
2 board and have a member from each district, each
3 voting district. When it first started, it was
4 militia districts. Nobody knows to tell me exactly
5 where the militia districts are now, but we all know
6 where the voting districts are at. So we would have
7 one from each district and we would have the
8 chairman of this vote, whoever was elected to it and
9 we would have two members from the City of Trenton.
10 We're going to be asking this in local legislation
11 and I'm glad -- like I said, I'm sick and tired of
12 telling citizens, firefighters, there's nothing we
13 can do about it.

14 At least there would be some authority,
15 some way that we can answer to the citizens on their
16 public utility, answer to them and be responsible to
17 them and I believe all the commissioners are on
18 board with this and we will be presenting something
19 to Senator Mullis, I believe, maybe Tuesday.

20 MR. RUMLEY: Tuesday. We've got to go
21 back tomorrow and we've got to go Tuesday.

22 MR. LOWERY: I won't be going tomorrow,
23 but I'll be going -- hopefully going Tuesday. But I
24 just wanted to let you know where I'm at on the fire
25 hydrants. It's a bad problem. And once you're made

1 aware of it, if somebody loses their life and you're
2 aware of it and you don't do nothing about it, I
3 don't see how you live through that. This is my
4 attempt to do something about it.

5 These other commissioners, I'm proud to
6 work with them. I think we're all in consensus on
7 this.

8 MS. FORD-WALLACE: May I ask, are we
9 all in a consensus on this?

10 MR. RUMLEY: I haven't talked yet.
11 You'll get your turn in a minute, press.

12 No. What Lamar said, we've talked
13 about this, all of us has went over the paperwork
14 from 1958 all the way through and what we feel, you
15 know, I think the people, the majority of the people
16 and all of us do because it's not something we just
17 drew up. It's from all over the county, that the
18 Commission should have some say-so on that board.
19 Now, whether it's -- I think, you know, it could be
20 drawn up as five people, four from each end of the
21 county, the mountain, one on each mountain and one
22 from each end of the county and then one in the city
23 and then if the chair, whoever that may be, if
24 that's the way the people feel, he would be a
25 nonvoting chair. The only time he would vote would

1 be if there is a tie and that would give the
2 Commission actually not authority over the board,
3 but it would give you -- if you call this office,
4 call one of these Commissioners, you know, at least
5 we could give you an answer. We could actually --
6 and it may be that, you know, the -- Robin, this is
7 something we've got to talk over and over, but it
8 may be that the legislation, you know, would be
9 to -- that we just appoint the board and that may
10 be. But there's a lot of things that we've got to
11 go over before we do this.

12 You know, Robin and I have talked about
13 this. Robin, he's actually the attorney for the
14 Water Authority, too, and he's our attorney, so
15 we've got to work that out, too, because he can get
16 into a conflict of interest. It is something we're
17 working on. You know, we're not just -- we're not
18 just talking about it. We've got to do something
19 here. It's not all of us just talking about it.

20 MR. LOWERY: It's so people can
21 actually come to a meeting, know when the meetings
22 are and be welcome at a meeting.

23 MR. RUMLEY: Yeah. That's right. I
24 mean, that's where we stand on it. I really don't
25 have anything else right now to say about it because

1 there is some discussions between our attorney and
2 ourselves that we've got to -- you know, legalities,
3 but it's pretty interesting. If you want a copy of
4 this, come by and I'll give you a copy of the
5 legislation, the one that actually started and right
6 up to today. It's pretty interesting reading.

7 On my report though, we have --
8 February was a short month. It seemed longer than
9 it was, but it was a short month. We've been to
10 Atlanta a couple of times. We're going back
11 tomorrow and we're going back actually on the 9th.
12 We've had some success. No success in bringing any
13 money back I can't say, but we did -- we got things
14 rolling on our traffic light over here and some
15 things on Sand Mountain out here on 301. I had some
16 problems. The State, they were here today and will
17 probably be back in the morning doing traffic
18 counts. And also out at Covenant College we had a
19 problem out there on the road there and they're
20 going to help us on it. I feel that was a positive
21 thing.

22 We did have, you know, a lot of snow
23 and ice here in the last few weeks and it seems like
24 every time we turn around, we're calling on Billy at
25 2:00 or 3:00 in the morning. Hopefully, we're

1 through that, I hope. I'm ready for spring of the
2 year. I think most of you are.

3 We're preparing now to go into our
4 budget process. Don and I have talked about it
5 today. We're actually going to start our budget
6 hearings not this next week, because we are going to
7 be in Atlanta several times, but the following week
8 we'll go into that. Some of the people -- some of
9 our elected officials are already prepared. The tax
10 assessor's office, she wants to be first. I don't
11 know why, but she's ready to go. So anyway, we'll
12 have a report on that at our next meeting.

13 We had -- let's see here, pertaining to
14 the logging incident out on the mountain. We did
15 meet -- as you read in the paper, we had a meeting
16 with those people and we'll find out here in just a
17 little whether they're satisfied. They did gravel
18 the road. We still have a problem with the entrance
19 coming in off the county road and Bruce today, I
20 think, is supposed to have contacted the logger. We
21 do still hold a bond on him and we're going to work
22 with him in the next week or so, so hopefully we'll
23 get that resolved.

24 We had an Arbor Day celebration this
25 month that was really nice. Ms. Sells that taught

1 in our school system for many years, she was honored
2 at that meeting and we had a good attendance and she
3 gave a really good speech and it was really a
4 special day. I know she appreciated it. She called
5 me the next day and wanted to thank everyone that
6 was involved in it.

7 We also had a meeting this month. It's
8 been a couple of weeks ago, with the Johnson's Crook
9 people or the Wild Moon people here in the -- in our
10 office and myself and we had a representative from
11 our regional commission there. Actually the
12 development itself is required to actually fill out
13 what they call a DRI. It's actually forms that they
14 fill out. They go through and they actually -- the
15 regional commission will actually look this over and
16 they come up with an impact that -- if you're
17 dealing with a large development, it will -- they
18 will actually look at this and tell you how much
19 impact it will have on your government, on your
20 schools, on your roads. And so this had not been
21 done. They had not filled this out. So it's pretty
22 lengthy, so in the next few weeks, hopefully we can
23 report back on that. Maybe by the end of this month
24 or the first of next month, but it may be a couple
25 of three months process. But that meeting did go

1 good. They did come. Was that Josh that came?
2 Yeah, one of the developers.

3 We did meet with EPD and we got -- as
4 Peter said, the Cloudland Canyon, the runoff over
5 there, we did get that cleaned out this morning. It
6 did take a couple of meetings in Atlanta and we
7 threatened them with the press and I think that's
8 what kind of opened their eyes. I mean, they had a
9 whole -- when I asked them to come up and be
10 interviewed, you know, and they just like that.
11 When I mentioned Robin's name.

12 But also we had a meeting with Gill,
13 one of our manufacturing plants here in Trenton just
14 last week. It's the first time I had actually met
15 with the CEO of that group and it relates back to
16 what Peter was talking about with our DCA and a lot
17 of our work incentive programs that we can offer --
18 that we can't offer. Let me put it that way. We
19 should be able to, but Tennessee and adjoining
20 counties can offer these people these plants, even
21 existing plants so much more than we can and it's
22 because of our tier status.

23 It's because they -- this fellow even
24 mentioned -- Peter, correct me if I'm wrong, but
25 even in thought to moving the plant across the line,

1 you know, and that's scary. I mean, I don't think
2 he was really serious, but he could. So we're
3 working. Tomorrow we're going to meet with DCA and
4 Georgia -- One Georgia Money people and hopefully
5 we'll have a progressive meeting, I hope. And if
6 that happens, then we'll be able to -- we're
7 actually going to have -- whether we come out on top
8 or not tomorrow, we're going to have a session here.
9 We're going to have all our labor people, DCA,
10 anyone that can give incentives to these people down
11 in our Industrial Park in this room in the next
12 month or so and have them come in and that way they
13 can find out just what's available to them through
14 Georgia and through the federal government. It was
15 a real good meeting with the fellow. He's -- I
16 guess is he Swedish?

17 MR. CERVELLI: He's French-Canadian.

18 MR. RUMLEY: French, yeah. He didn't
19 talk like myself, but we did communicate. He's a
20 good fellow. But anyway, that was a really good
21 meeting and I look forward to working with those
22 people and hopefully we can have -- not only to
23 offer them, but even the businesses that have even
24 showed interest in coming here. There's so much
25 more that other counties can offer than Dade County.

1 I've talked too much now, but that's my report.
2 Anyone got anything to add to anything I said,
3 touched on?

4 I do want -- as everyone said, I do
5 want to tell all of our law enforcement people and
6 Billy and all, I can't stress -- you wouldn't
7 believe the calls that we've had, the positive calls
8 in the last few weeks. People appreciate that and I
9 know I appreciate it. Even though they get paid for
10 it, but I'm telling you these people go over and
11 beyond. There's a lot of hours they work. You
12 know, they go over and beyond.

13 We'll move right along here. Barton
14 Harris, Mayor Harris, is he here tonight? We always
15 put him down. Okay. We do have a Chamber member
16 here that wants to talk to us.

17 MS. TINKER: I know I told you I didn't
18 this evening, but from something Robert said, I
19 changed my mind. Next week I'll be going and
20 getting the supplies for the Great American Cleanup.
21 So within two weeks the Chamber will have the
22 garbage bags, gloves. Anybody that wants to start
23 cleaning up Dade County, we will have the supplies
24 here.

25 And also the Census will be training

1 people at the Chamber the last week in April. We've
2 told them they can use our large meeting room to
3 train people to go out and do the census. And also
4 if anyone has any problem doing their own form, our
5 staff at the Chamber will gladly sit down with them
6 and do their form with them. And last but not
7 least, there are quite a few organizations in the
8 community, Dade Library, American Legion, Sons of
9 Confederate Vets, Downtown Development Chamber,
10 Historical Society, the Flight Park Artist
11 Community, several individuals, Donna Street, Evan
12 Stone and I hope I've mentioned everybody and the
13 County and City governments that are planning a
14 festival this spring. It's the State of Dade
15 Heritage Festival. It's going to be on May 21st and
16 22nd and we hope to do the reenactment of the --
17 well, this is the 65th anniversary of Dade
18 rejoining the union and so we will have plays that
19 will reenact that. Entertainment is going to be the
20 Air Force Band. There will be a confederate band
21 and also one of the members of -- prior member to
22 the band of Confederate Railroad, so a lot of
23 entertainment. We hope to have a whole lot of
24 artists and we're moving it on to the square here
25 and anything that anyone wants to join in and help

1 us or anything the County and City can do to help
2 us, we will be appreciated. Thank you.

3 MR. GOFF: Thank you.

4 MR. RUMLEY: Thank you. Okay. We'll
5 move down to number four, Don.

6 MR. TOWNSEND: All right. The local
7 option sales tax revenue for February was
8 \$184,298.06.

9 MR. RUMLEY: Can everyone hear him? I
10 can't tell up here. You might want to speak a
11 little louder.

12 MR. TOWNSEND: The -- since the new
13 S.P.L.O.S.T has been in effect since September,
14 we've collected \$1,122,120. As of February 28th,
15 the general fund had a balance of \$1,283,193;
16 federal asset fund for U.S. Treasury was \$4,389;
17 special sheriff's fund, \$13,523; drug abuse
18 education fund, \$39,313; supplemental juvenile
19 services fund, \$14,170; victim assistance fund,
20 \$2,604; jail fund, \$9,101; federal asset fund,
21 Department of Justice, \$27,010; payroll account,
22 \$73,134. In the old S.P.L.O.S.T, we still have a
23 balance of -- the total P&I is \$992,523 and the
24 capital bonds remain -- capital bond fund remaining
25 is 123,349.

1 New S.P.L.O.S.T, 2009 S.P.L.O.S.T
2 funds, the project account, \$206,841; proceeds
3 account, 519 -- let me start over, \$519,479.
4 Construction account, \$1,057,341. We also have
5 invested 706,000 for a total available S.P.L.O.S.T
6 funds of \$2,489,661.

7 New Salem, South Dade and Trenton all
8 have a balance of \$200,324 left in S.P.L.O.S.T and
9 then Davis, 4,847. New Home has used their money.
10 North Dade, 3,826; West Brow, \$22,266.

11 For the month of January, as of
12 January 31st, we have collected the actual
13 year-to-date will be the same, \$456,176.98 in the
14 general funds and we expensed \$690,846.34. So we
15 were -- revenues less expenses for January was short
16 \$234,669 mostly because the -- we collect most of
17 our property tax revenues in the month of December
18 and -- but as you may recall, the general fund
19 balance is \$1,283,193, so it's not too bad. I think
20 Commissioner Cervelli covered everything else very
21 well.

22 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Any questions?
23 Okay. I entertain a motion.

24 MR. CERVELLI: I make a motion to
25 accept the financial report.

1 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. I have a motion.

2 Do I hear a second?

3 MR. PITTMAN: I'll second.

4 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. I'll call a vote.

5 Mr. Cervelli?

6 MR. CERVELLI: Yes.

7 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Goff?

8 MR. GOFF: Yes.

9 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman?

10 MR. PITTMAN: Yes.

11 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Lowery?

12 MR. LOWERY: Yes.

13 MR. RUMLEY: The chair votes yes. Good
14 job, Don. I appreciate it. Okay. Robin, do you
15 have anything to report, anything pending?

16 MR. ROGERS: No, nothing new to report.

17 MR. RUMLEY: You haven't heard anything
18 on the Rex Blevins case or anything?

19 MR. ROGERS: No. We're waiting on the
20 Supreme Court to issue a calendar that will tell us
21 when it's going to be heard, but we've not heard
22 anything.

23 MR. GOFF: It is going back to the
24 Supreme Court; is that correct? It was and wasn't
25 and now it is? I mean, they had done some kind of

1 ruling already, but now it's going to?

2 MR. ROGERS: Right. Because it's
3 dealing with a constitutional issue, there is a
4 procedure in which it can go directly to the Supreme
5 Court and that's where it is.

6 MR. RUMLEY: Normally we go through the
7 appellate process, but instead -- so once it's
8 heard, whatever, that's final. I mean, that's what
9 I understand. Or can they appeal to the U.S.
10 Supreme Court?

11 MR. ROGERS: Well, there's a
12 possibility they would appeal it to the federal
13 courts because there were some federal issues
14 raised.

15 MR. RUMLEY: Well, pray for us on that.
16 I don't think there's any unfinished
17 business. Do y'all have anything? Okay. New
18 business?

19 Okay. You're welcome to come up and
20 talk to us, anyone that would like to come up and
21 talk. I'll give you five, ten minutes, whatever you
22 need. We don't need to go into an hour. I would
23 like for Russ to come up if he would. Rich, I'm
24 sorry. What did I say, Russ? I'm hungry. When I
25 get hungry for supper, I start dragging. Tell

1 everyone who you are in case they weren't here at
2 the last meeting.

3 MR. LAVALLA: I'm Rich LaValla and I'm
4 a property owner up at Pikes Peak and you guys were
5 nice enough to give us a hand with that and we
6 appreciate it. And the loggers and Mr. Scott
7 Flemming from the forestry there in Alabama, they're
8 very cooperative. They have started, and worked on
9 it. And again, one of the things that came up was
10 the issue of money and that was one of the things
11 that he was talking about. They did put ten
12 truckloads of rock down. Again, when you look at
13 it, it doesn't like it's finished, but again it was
14 one of their statements that was made that was, you
15 know, money issue, you know, and putting it back to
16 where they thought it was, you know.

17 And as homeowners, we're going to go
18 ahead and try to pitch in and finish it up and make
19 it look nice. I talked to Mr. Castleberry about
20 helping out there at the corner. It does need it
21 there at Poplar Springs and the entrance to it.

22 One of the other issues that we're
23 having that we would like to final up as a private
24 property road and not a County road, our rights to
25 that property and what an easement is is basically

1 land owned by one person and being able to use by
2 another person. But being a subdivision, that goes
3 to the right for those homeowners and land owners up
4 there and it's basically not a public road. So to
5 say that, it's just one of those things where we get
6 a lot of people trespassing, so we would like to try
7 to get that worked out with the sheriff's department
8 as far as getting it enforced.

9 But I appreciate everything you guys
10 had said tonight. I'm glad I came out to the
11 meeting. I really wanted to hear what's going on in
12 the county and be a part of it. I've always felt
13 that way living here in Dade County and working with
14 the 4H kids here, you know, with livestock and
15 everything and it's sad that, you know, they may
16 take that away from the state of Georgia, 4H.

17 It's one of the things I've always told
18 other people in Tennessee and how important it is to
19 get involved in 4H and how -- I used to tell them
20 how Georgia looks at it that they want all their
21 kids to know about it, so it's mandatory in fifth
22 grade that they hear about it. The other day I
23 found out that they may end it and it's just sad.
24 Like you mentioned with Ted being gone for a year
25 and a half now and not being replaced, it's one of

1 the things we do need. You know, working with the
2 kids, especially with dairy cattle. There's less
3 and less dairy farms out there and, again, we don't
4 need to go backwards and these kids are our future.
5 It's sad what happened today. I've got a niece
6 that's in the eighth grade. She knew the young man
7 there. And, again, yeah, we definitely need to pray
8 for our youth and help them out through these times
9 and trust in the Lord. So I just appreciate all you
10 guys and what you're doing and if I can do anything,
11 I want to be involved. So I thank you for your
12 time. Thank you.

13 MR. RUMLEY: I appreciate you coming
14 and hope you come back and bring the crowd you
15 brought a few weeks. Really, you know, it's
16 important. That's how you're going to keep up with
17 things. We appreciate everyone coming, everyone
18 being here. You know, it means a lot to us. We
19 don't just say that. I mean it. If you ever wonder
20 what we do or I do -- and I mean this. Those of you
21 that know me know I mean it. You come down here and
22 spend a day with me. You can come down here and
23 follow my footsteps. You can help me answer the
24 phone. This place belongs to you. My office
25 belongs to you. And if you think I'm kidding, you

1 come down here and I'll show you. We do appreciate
2 you and appreciate y'all coming. Is there anyone
3 else that wants to talk to us? I'm sorry. Anybody
4 else? If not, I entertain a motion to adjourn.

5 MR. LOWERY: I make a motion we
6 adjourn.

7 MR. RUMLEY: I've got a motion. Do I
8 hear a second?

9 MR. GOFF: Second.

10 MR. PITTMAN: Second.

11 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. We've got two
12 seconds. Okay. Mr. Lowery?

13 MR. LOWERY: Yes.

14 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Goff?

15 MR. GOFF: Yes.

16 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman?

17 MR. PITTMAN: Yes.

18 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Cervelli?

19 MR. CERVELLI: Yes.

20 MR. RUMLEY: The chair votes yes.

21 Thank y'all for coming tonight.

22
23 END OF MEETING
24
25

1 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

2 STATE OF TENNESSEE)
)
 3 COUNTY OF HAMILTON)

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I, Erin M. Flatt, Court Reporter and
 Notary Public, in and for Hamilton County and the
 State of Tennessee at Large, do hereby certify that
 I reported in machine shorthand the proceedings had
 in the above-styled cause on the 4th day of
March, 2010;

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

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This the 29th day of March, 2010.

Erin M. Flatt
 Erin M. Flatt, Notary Public
 in and for the State of
 Tennessee at Large.
 My commission expires
 November 7, 2010.

