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DADE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
DECEMBER 2, 2010

1 MR. RUMLEY: We'll call the meeting to
2 order. Before we begin the meeting, I would like to
3 ask Robert to lead us in prayer and also the Pledge
4 of Allegiance.

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

7 MR. RUMLEY: This is the regularly
8 scheduled meeting of the Dade County Commission
9 which takes place at the same time on the first
10 Thursday of every month.

11 As I was saying, this is the regularly
12 scheduled meeting which takes place at the same time
13 on the first Thursday of every month. Proper notice
14 of this meeting was given in the legal organ of the
15 Dade County Sentinel. It has been posted in the
16 hallway of the Administrative Building. At this
17 time, I need a roll call. Mr. Lowery?

18 MR. LOWERY: Here.

19 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Cervelli?

20 MR. CERVELLI: Here.

21 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman?

22 MR. PITTMAN: Here.

23 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Goff?

24 MR. GOFF: Here.

25 MR. RUMLEY: The chair is present.

1 Okay. Before we do the district commissioners'
2 report, as most of you know, we've got a fellow here
3 that's going to be leaving us tonight. This is
4 Lamar's last meeting here as a commissioner and we
5 want to commend Lamar for many years of service,
6 eight years.

7 MR. LOWERY: Eight years. It went by
8 in a hurry.

9 MR. RUMLEY: Do what now?

10 MR. LOWERY: It's went by in a hurry.

11 MR. RUMLEY: I know. You blink an eye.
12 But we've got a plaque here. It's not much, but it
13 says the Dade County Commission proudly recognizes
14 Tommy Lamar Lowery for eight years of dedicated
15 service to the citizens of Dade County and that's
16 really an understatement really because he's really
17 put a lot of time and a lot of effort. I worked
18 with him most of those eight years really. Of
19 course, Scottie has been on board, too, and we're
20 proud of him and we appreciate you. I want to give
21 you this, Lamar, tonight. I would say speech
22 speech, but I'm going to give Lamar some time here
23 toward the end of the meeting and he can -- he might
24 even want to take some questions. I don't know.

25 MR. LOWERY: No questions.

1 MR. RUMLEY: We do appreciate you,
2 Lamar. And, of course, Mitchell, I need to
3 recognize Mitchell. Mitchell is back there. He's
4 kind of quiet in the back, but he's going to be --

5 MR. CERVELLI: He goes to work now.

6 MR. RUMLEY: He what now?

7 MR. CERVELLI: He has to go to work
8 now. Just sitting back there watching us.

9 MR. RUMLEY: Well, he's got to be
10 educated first. He's leaving Sunday to go to
11 school. He's got a full week next week of being --
12 Mitchell will be on board after -- or in January.

13 All right. We'll start right here, if
14 you want to, Lamar, go ahead with your report.

15 MR. LOWERY: Well, we had the open
16 house at the new courthouse and we had a real good
17 turn out, a lot of good positive comments about the
18 courthouse. I appreciated everyone coming on. And
19 due to my accident that I've had, I've not really
20 been able to keep up with the jail, so I'll turn
21 it -- building the kitchen for the jail, so I'll let
22 Ted report where we're at on that. That's about all
23 I have on that.

24 MR. RUMLEY: Scottie?

25 MR. PITTMAN: Well, everything seems to

1 be pretty quiet at the transfer station. I would
2 just like to use my time to tell Lamar, it's been
3 eight years and like Lamar said, it seems just like
4 eight days. It's went by really fast. We started
5 eight years ago like Mitchell going to our new
6 commissioner training not really knowing what to
7 expect and we've had some bumps in the road. The
8 first two years, they went by really good. We
9 enjoyed it and then we had a stretch there in the
10 middle that was kind of rough. But we've been
11 beside each other for eight years.

12 First we started in the rookie corner
13 over here toward Peter and Robert and we graduated
14 over here. So me and Lamar, we've not always
15 agreed. We've butted heads on several things, but
16 we've always been friends and we always will be. He
17 may be leaving the Commission, but we'll still be
18 friends. I talk to him about every morning on the
19 way home before he got hurt. We would talk. I
20 would call him when I got off work and he was going
21 to work and we would catch up on what was going on
22 in the county or just what was going on in each
23 other's lives. So he's a true friend and if
24 Mitchell is half the commissioner he is, then we've
25 done good.

1 MR. LOWERY: I thank you, man.

2 MR. RUMLEY: Durn, Scottie, I'm going
3 to get you to say something about me. You brought
4 tears to my eyes.

5 MR. PITTMAN: You've done pretty good,
6 too.

7 MR. RUMLEY: I tell you though, I'm
8 right with you. Lamar is a friend of mine, always
9 will be from now on. Robert?

10 MR. GOFF: Well, I was not here at the
11 last meeting. I was in St. Simons Island. I
12 actually went down for Ted or in his stead to the
13 regional commission meeting and heard a lot of stuff
14 that we continue to hear through the state. The
15 state is out of money and we love y'all, but we
16 ain't got no Christmas for you this year and so on.

17 But I would like to say that Dade
18 County has done very well and continue to say that.
19 In light of the economy and what some of the other
20 counties are facing, we've done very well and it's
21 because of the men sitting in these seats right
22 here. I'm not tooting my own horn. I know I with
23 Scottie will say that Lamar -- I guess one of my
24 favorite Lamar moments was one of our days at the
25 transfer station after one of the holidays and

1 somebody pulled up with an out-of-state tag and he
2 had absolutely no problem telling them, you go
3 across the scales and they went. He was looking out
4 for Dade County. That may sound like a little
5 thing, but you just think when the county taxpayers
6 are paying for those services and other people are
7 getting them free, it's not fair to the county and I
8 appreciate Lamar for doing that and for the eight
9 years that he has served on this commission and just
10 I would like to thank him for being my friend as
11 well and I don't want to make Ted cry, so I'll hush.
12 I know time flies. Time flies when you're having
13 fun and even if you're not.

14 But things are quiet on my end. I'm
15 over the ball fields and obviously nothing goes on
16 there this time of year. We just want to keep it
17 ready if we can for next year because that will be
18 here before we know it.

19 One thing that was changed and I'll
20 hush. When the election rolled back around in this
21 past election, there was a referendum on the ballot
22 and it was that these commissioners be elected at
23 large. They will still be in their own county.
24 Some people were still confused by -- in their own
25 district. They were confused by that. You still

1 have to live there, but they will be -- like the
2 School Board is now elected county wide. These
3 commissioners will be and that was something that
4 started right here and I still hear a lot of --
5 there's going to be some people that were against
6 it. Obviously, they were, but the vote proved that
7 a lot of people thought it should be that way and so
8 me and my old buddy from Chile here will be the
9 first ones to have to experience that great feat of
10 going out all over the county to run for a district
11 commissioner.

12 And I will be in -- can't let him get
13 up on me. I will be in Puerto Rico next week on a
14 mission trip, so I won't be around to bother Ted and
15 the girls in the office, so maybe they'll get a
16 little done or get a little rest next week, but keep
17 us in your prayers.

18 MR. RUMLEY: Thank you, Robert. Peter,
19 do you want to go ahead and combine your report with
20 the --

21 MR. CERVELLI: Yeah. I'll start off by
22 just saying, Lamar, I really appreciated the time on
23 the commission with you. I had an opportunity to
24 watch you for a number of years sitting out there
25 and that was an interesting experience. But one

1 thing you may not know about Lamar, Scottie alluded
2 to it, Lamar spent a lot of time on the phone
3 talking to people and even though he had a job, he
4 called in a lot and I know he spent a lot of time
5 talking to Ted and he did a lot of work trying to
6 keep up, asking questions, trying to deal with
7 issues in the county. So he was a commissioner that
8 even though he had another job, he used that phone
9 pretty significantly to keep abreast and to work
10 issues with the rest of us and so I've enjoyed it.
11 I suspect you won't disappear and I hope to see you
12 around. But, Lamar, thank you. We welcome
13 Mitchell, but thank you.

14 I'm -- since Don left tonight to go to
15 a church event, he had a Christmas event at his
16 church, I'm going to do some of the financial report
17 that I normally don't do, all those boring readings
18 of the fund balances that I don't know why we do it,
19 but we do it anyway.

20 Let me talk a little bit about the
21 local option sales tax collections and the check we
22 got in November. It was \$144,000. That was a
23 significant drop. That was an \$11,000 drop from the
24 previous month. That's seven percent lower than the
25 month before. That's actually the lowest number

1 I've seen since March of 2010. In fact, it's lower
2 than -- lower than November of 2009 and November of
3 2008. So for comparable months for the last two
4 years, it's been the lowest November. The trend
5 seems to have gone backwards, but we're still ahead
6 in terms of overall collections for the year, from
7 how much we've collected from January to this date
8 versus last year by about five percent. But, you
9 know, any trend that I might have seen that was
10 hopeful, I don't know anymore.

11 Sales tax, I don't know where it's
12 going. So our local option sales tax collections
13 were not a good sign. S.P.L.O.S.T., obviously, the
14 same percentages are true. We collected \$180,000 in
15 terms of our November check. That's \$30,000 less
16 than we budgeted for. We expected to make about
17 \$210,000 a month on our S.P.L.O.S.T revenues when we
18 put the S.P.L.O.S.T budget together for those police
19 cars, etc., and I think it's only been two months
20 since the new S.P.L.O.S.T. has started that we made
21 the budget projections in terms of S.P.L.O.S.T. So
22 that's the reality in terms of what sales tax is
23 doing.

24 Our budget numbers, we're through with
25 a third of the year. We're reporting on October of

1 2010 right now. We've attained about 31 and a half
2 percent for revenues for a third of the way through,
3 and that number will increase because we are
4 collecting property tax right now and our expenses
5 are at 29.7 percent. So they're running behind what
6 you would normally expect for being a third -- not
7 by a whole bunch, but a little bit. All departments
8 are staying within budget. Some -- most of them are
9 a little bit lower.

10 In terms of the impact of the furlough,
11 it's still a little too early to tell, but the folks
12 in the back room here are starting to see some of
13 the implications of payroll coming down. So I think
14 when we get a little bit more data under our belt,
15 we'll be able to see some real impact and it's
16 starting to show, but we haven't done a formal
17 report on that yet.

18 So let me read the account balances
19 that we normally do. The general fund balance is
20 503,415. The federal asset fund is \$285. The
21 special sheriff's fund is 6,733. The drug abuse
22 education fund, 62,309; supplemental juvenile
23 service fund, 17,586; victim assistance fund, 1,535.
24 The jail fund, 19,539; federal assets fund, 3,660.
25 Payroll account has 55,696. The 2004 S.P.L.O.S.T

1 fund has a total P&I fund balance of \$146,055.

2 The 2009 S.P.L.O.S.T fund total
3 project, subtotal for our project fund is 416,517.
4 Tax proceed fund is 14,842. Construction fund is
5 249,952 for a total available of 681,311.

6 The only other thing I want to report
7 on is we've put down some more reflectors. You've
8 seen them on Burkhalter Gap Road if you drive up
9 there in the last weather event that we had here
10 just a couple of days ago. In fact, there's been
11 some put on Sand Mountain as well. These reflectors
12 are really -- given how bad some of our road
13 striping is that we need to fix, these reflectors
14 are making a big deal improvement in my opinion. So
15 hopefully you're experiencing that, especially in
16 the bad weather when the stripes disappear when the
17 road gets wet. So I appreciate the road crew for
18 doing that. And if we get any warm weather between
19 now and whenever, we'll put some more down.

20 That's all I have. Oh, Merry
21 Christmas, everybody.

22 MR. RUMLEY: I appreciate it, Peter.
23 It's been kind of a busy -- November went by real
24 fast, but it was a busy month. I had several things
25 going on. I'm trying to get everything cleared from

1 the fire marshal where we can actually start our
2 jail kitchen as we've been talking about for several
3 months. But we're actually -- I'm still waiting for
4 approval from him on our plans. I say myself, the
5 sheriff and myself and the commission. We are
6 after -- we were going to start this this week, the
7 demolition part of the courthouse or the room, but
8 we've had a state -- or a county-wide -- there's
9 several counties involved in a police training
10 they've got going on over there, so we didn't want
11 to disturb them. But after this week, probably next
12 week, we're going to start the demo process,
13 removing the benches and all that and getting ready
14 to start the wall, but I really can't start any
15 major construction until probably -- it will
16 probably be in reality the first week in January
17 because the fire marshal is -- with his own right,
18 it's a big deal because we are extending essentially
19 part of the jail, which we knew we were going to do
20 that, but actually when it comes to safety and
21 actually the -- even though you're not -- you've got
22 a building that's secure as a jail and, of course,
23 all the fire codes. So anyway, once it starts, it's
24 going to go fast, but he will be back probably --
25 hopefully he'll come back in next week or the next

1 week and we'll get started on that.

2 Anyway, also I've had a couple of
3 meetings here with this new roundtable -- our
4 transportation money now is actually going to be
5 actually filtered through or the state is wanting to
6 filter it through a 15-county roundtable, which is
7 the counties 15 -- counties north of Atlanta. It's
8 our regional commission.

9 This is a real -- it's not so much a
10 big news item, but it will be as time progresses
11 because what the state is wanting to do is pretty
12 much -- all of our transportation money, which comes
13 from the state back into our roads and bridges and
14 also our transportation, which our transportation is
15 our buses that actually move our elderly people and
16 also our buses that do the transportation for anyone
17 in Dade County if you need actually a ride to
18 Chattanooga or the doctor. So we're talking about a
19 big deal here when it comes to funding and getting
20 our fair share of the money coming back to Dade
21 County.

22 The kind of strange thing about it is
23 they're making a big deal about this, but this is
24 something that the people -- we the people will vote
25 on in 2012. So they're actually starting here a

1 couple of years before it's actually a reality, but
2 they're wanting to -- we've already got -- the
3 roundtable, we had our first meeting Thursday --
4 yesterday -- I'm sorry, Tuesday and it was really
5 one of the strangest meetings I've ever been to.
6 I've been to a lot of meetings, but we had 15
7 actually county chair commissioners and we had 15
8 mayors in the same room as per se a roundtable and
9 it was interesting to listen to this discussion as
10 far as -- we had a state moderator there from the
11 State of Georgia. And, of course, he was laying out
12 on the table the projected funding and how much each
13 county would be projected to receive and how many --
14 and the cities also, what they would receive.

15 And, of course, when it comes to money
16 and even like on our S.P.L.O.S.T, a lot of your
17 counties and cities do not agree. The cities are
18 not getting their fair share. So there was some
19 choice words. You know, it was a real -- kind of a
20 strong meeting there to start with. Of course, at
21 the end, everything -- the State they had the
22 answers to most of the questions, but it was really
23 a long meeting and an informative meeting. So in
24 the next few months or the next year or so, you're
25 going to see a lot about this in the news because

1 it's a big deal.

2 MR. CERVELLI: You might also mention
3 that you were appointed to the five member executive
4 committee to help put the project list together for
5 this.

6 MR. RUMLEY: I don't know if that's
7 good or bad.

8 MR. CERVELLI: I don't know if it's
9 good or bad, but I'm glad you're there.

10 MR. RUMLEY: It is. We actually had --
11 the State actually as part of the guidelines, we've
12 got all these people here, 15 -- say 30 people that
13 are actually voting people and we had to have five
14 people out of that group that would be actually what
15 they would call the executive committee and that's
16 the people that -- like I'm actually the person for
17 Dade, Walker and Catoosa and so we actually have
18 the -- they will actually submit their plans to
19 myself and actually I will present them to the
20 five-panel board and we will review those and we're
21 talking -- we're not talking about small projects.
22 We're talking about multi-million dollar projects
23 that, you know, 25 years down the road could -- and
24 then we present them to the roundtable. We don't
25 make recommendations. That's something I asked.

1 But we actually handle to make sure that all of
2 their documents are in a row, you know, that they've
3 got actually suitability to even be on the table,
4 you know, and so it's -- it was an honor to be chose
5 that, but still it's something that -- it's
6 something that's never happened in Georgia.

7 Our governor now, Governor Perdue and
8 his people actually came up with this. It's not
9 only to eight counties. They've got their ace in
10 the hole, too. Their ace is -- this is one of their
11 answers to actually -- for their spending as far as
12 transportation goes. That's the big one. Anyway,
13 I'll keep you -- I'll give you kind of a monthly
14 report on this and how we're going with it and what
15 road we're going on. It's going to be pretty
16 interesting.

17 MR. LOWERY: And something was needing
18 to change with our road funding, too.

19 MR. RUMLEY: We've got to do something.

20 MR. LOWERY: Eight years ago when I
21 was -- when Scottie and I were first elected and you
22 were the chairman, I mean, we were getting seven,
23 eight miles of road paving a year. Now we get three
24 quarters of a mile.

25 MR. RUMLEY: And if this passes

1 actually, just Dade County's part, we would actually
2 receive about 15 times or almost 18 times the money
3 we normally would receive as far as going back into
4 our paving of your roads.

5 MR. CERVELLI: It's about 600-plus
6 thousand dollars.

7 MR. RUMLEY: Right. If it's projected.
8 If it's right.

9 MR. CERVELLI: Right. And the City
10 would get about 60,000 a year.

11 MR. RUMLEY: Somewhere around that if
12 you figure money.

13 MR. CERVELLI: I mean, it's less than
14 we would generate because the rest of it goes to a
15 regional pot, but that's still a substantial amount
16 of money to spend every year on all of our
17 transportation needs.

18 MR. RUMLEY: Actually the projection
19 they showed us yesterday was higher or the day
20 before was a little bit -- they made it sound
21 sweeter I think is the way one of the commissioners
22 put it.

23 MR. CERVELLI: Well, I'm always
24 skeptical of those numbers anyway.

25 MR. RUMLEY: Yeah. But anyway, I

1 mentioned the kitchen. Also, the North Georgia
2 Community Action, which is a group that has been
3 around for many years, this group actually brings
4 money back into the county to help our poor and
5 elderly people. We've been missing -- a vacancy has
6 been on that board for several years and I'm
7 actually going to start attending those meetings in
8 Dalton. They have them every other month. You
9 know, I'm not saying that there's -- I just don't
10 feel like we've been getting our fair share as far
11 as money coming back for our elderly people and our
12 poor people and so hopefully -- I don't know that I
13 can make a difference, but we're going to do our
14 best to try to bring everything we can back here.
15 We've got some people in really bad shape in this
16 county.

17 So I'll keep you -- I'll also give you
18 a report on that as I go to these meetings and I can
19 give you dollar figures of how much we've
20 actually -- what I'm comparing it to is our other
21 counties. They've got ten counties in that region
22 that this group is over and they're actually
23 operated -- the operations is out of Gilmer County,
24 Georgia and so I will -- as it goes along, I will
25 give a comparative to you and show you compared to

1 Gilmer and Fannin and all those counties what we --
2 all I ask for them is just to be treated fairly.

3 MR. CERVELLI: I don't want to keep
4 interrupting Ted, but he doesn't give you the whole
5 story. He really shook up those people when he
6 asked them about how fair share of funding is in
7 terms of the elderly dollars coming to this county
8 and he's put us back on the map and he's -- that was
9 a project he undertook on his own, but he's really
10 made them take notice.

11 MR. RUMLEY: I gave him \$20 to say
12 that.

13 MR. CERVELLI: That's the truth.

14 MR. RUMLEY: Honestly though if you
15 witness and went out and seen what I've seen in the
16 last -- well, since July. That's when I really
17 started getting some calls and as winter came,
18 people that were concerned about their insulation
19 and their windows and stuff. It really -- it will
20 get you on the ball. I mean, especially if you're
21 in a position like we are right here. We're
22 supposed to be the people that can make a
23 difference. It really -- it really touched me and
24 it's amazing the people that are out there that you
25 don't see every day that we sit in here where we do

1 or especially me being here every day that I talk
2 to. So we're going to do the best we can do.

3 That's pretty much all I've got. I
4 could go on and talk and all, but that's pretty much
5 touching all the highlights. Of course, we moved in
6 our courthouse down here. We're glad that happened.
7 It all went smooth. I had just a few calls,
8 communications, a couple of little small problems.
9 Alex handled those and other than that, if you
10 didn't get to see the courthouse, go down and visit
11 and go through it. It's really a nice building.

12 Okay. Barton, Mayor Harris, is he here
13 tonight?

14 MR. CERVELLI: No. He's on the road
15 somewhere.

16 MR. RUMLEY: On the road. You've
17 already presented our report, so being that said, I
18 do need to approve or a motion to approve our
19 monthly financial statement that Peter has presented
20 instead of Don tonight.

21 MR. PITTMAN: I make a motion we
22 approve the financial statement as read.

23 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Do I hear a second?

24 MR. GOFF: I'll second.

25 MR. RUMLEY: I'll call the roll. Mr.

1 Lowery?

2 MR. LOWERY: Yes.

3 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Cervelli?

4 MR. CERVELLI: Yes.

5 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman?

6 MR. PITTMAN: Yes.

7 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Goff?

8 MR. GOFF: Yes.

9 MR. RUMLEY: The chair votes yes.

10 Thank you.

11 Okay. Robin, do you have anything you
12 want to go over with us as far as legal matters? We
13 reported on the Rex Blevins case last week or last
14 meeting and so that's old news. But is there
15 anything else that you need to talk to us about?

16 MR. ROGERS: There's really not.

17 MR. RUMLEY: I hope not.

18 MR. LOWERY: What about recouping our
19 funds, Ted?

20 MR. RUMLEY: Do what now?

21 MR. LOWERY: What about recouping our
22 cost to fight that?

23 MR. RUMLEY: That's something, you
24 know, if you want to -- I know right now you really
25 don't have a lot to report.

1 MR. ROGERS: No. I don't have a lot to
2 report on that. I have taken a look at that and I
3 have spoken with -- if you'll recall when we
4 started, we had an attorney in Atlanta that was
5 assisting us. I've been working with him on that
6 and I'll -- with the commission's permission, I'll
7 report back on that in January.

8 MR. RUMLEY: All right. At this time
9 let me read this little note here. The reading of
10 the minutes of the regular meeting will not be
11 required since all commissioners have been supplied
12 with these minutes. The minutes are public record
13 and available for review in the county executive's
14 office. The minutes are included in the consent
15 agenda. At this time, Robin, you're going to touch
16 base on our consent agenda and I'll ask for a motion
17 to approve our consent agenda.

18 MR. ROGERS: The items on the consent
19 agenda are the approval of November's meeting
20 minutes, the approval of 2011 indigent defense
21 agreement, the approval of the following
22 appointments to the county -- boards and committees
23 within the county being the Alcoholic Beverage
24 Control Board to appoint Dorayne Stephens, to
25 reappoint John Case and Buford Stephens to the

1 Limestone Valley Regional Council, to reappoint
2 Charles Browning to the Board of Assessors and to
3 reappoint Larry Moore to the Industrial Development
4 Authority. Two remaining items on the consent
5 agenda are the approval of the bid from Mountain
6 View Ford for the lease purchase of six sheriff
7 deputy vehicles and the approval of the second
8 reading of ordinance number 12-02-10 for the Water
9 Stewardship Act.

10 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Any questions, any
11 corrections or anything? I'll entertain a motion to
12 approve the consent agenda.

13 MR. LOWERY: I'll make a motion we
14 approve the consent agenda.

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

17 MR. PITTMAN: I'll second that motion.

18 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. I'll call a vote.
19 Mr. Cervelli?

20 MR. CERVELLI: Yes.

21 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Goff?

22 MR. GOFF: Yes.

23 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman?

24 MR. PITTMAN: Yes.

25 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Lowery?

1 MR. LOWERY: Yes.

2 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. The chair votes
3 yes.

4 Chamber, do you want to say anything
5 tonight? I know, Lionel, you're here.

6 MS. TINKER: I believe Butch is going
7 to speak for the Chamber tonight.

8 MR. RAPER: Well, I don't know why she
9 selected me to come up here tonight. I don't know
10 what she wanted me to talk about tonight. There are
11 a few things going on in the county. We are getting
12 a new chicken restaurant, Guthrie's Chicken that
13 will be going in the old Movie Gallery location. It
14 should be opening up mid January. There's several
15 issues they've got to deal with as far as
16 construction, so that is on schedule according to
17 the last time we met with him.

18 Chamber different members as well as
19 Debbie have been visiting all the different meetings
20 around the community that we're slated to go to and
21 everything seems to be moving right along.

22 We do have the Christmas parade coming
23 up Saturday the 11th. Line-up is at 5:00 p.m. and
24 the parade is at 6:00. Also, the DDA will be
25 hosting Christmas in Veteran's Park along with the

1 Chamber will be doing some decorating of the old
2 courthouse for Santa Claus to be staged as well as
3 refreshments during that event as well. I hope
4 everybody will come out and join us for a nice
5 evening.

6 MR. RUMLEY: That date was what?

7 MR. RAPER: December 11th.

8 MR. RUMLEY: The 11th.

9 MR. CERVELLI: Next Saturday.

10 MR. RUMLEY: Next Saturday. So y'all
11 remember, that's going to be a big day, evening
12 really. And Guthrie's, now, if you didn't know
13 where the Movie Gallery was, that's right next to
14 Advance Auto Parts in that old Red Food Store
15 building. Try to patronize those people when they
16 get open. Guthrie's is real similar to Zaxby's. If
17 you've ever ate at Zaxby's and you eat at Guthrie's,
18 you can't tell the difference in the taste. I think
19 from what I understand, possibly that Zaxby's was an
20 offspring from Guthrie's. So anyway, we look
21 forward to having those people open.

22 Anyone want to come up and talk to us
23 tonight? I'll give you five, ten minutes or if you
24 need an hour, we'll sit here and listen to you.
25 We'll try to help you if we can. It's good to see

1 Burrell and Shirley here tonight, especially
2 Shirley. You're welcome to come up. Okay. If not,
3 Lamar, you've got the floor.

4 MR. LOWERY: And I'll try not to get
5 emotional either. I would just like to say thank
6 you to all the citizens in Dade County and it's
7 really been an honor to serve for eight years and be
8 elected three times. It really makes you feel good.

9 All these men up here, I really enjoyed
10 serving with them. They've -- every one of them has
11 got their heart out for Dade County. It's the
12 second time me and Scottie has had Ted for our
13 chairmen and he's a real leader. He knows how to
14 get everybody to work together. I really appreciate
15 him. And like they say, behind every good man,
16 there's a good woman and every one of us, I know,
17 Betty and Ruth and Diane and Amy and my wife Cathy,
18 we're all fortunate to have them.

19 So before I get too much more
20 emotional, I've got my dad in the crowd and he
21 served. He was serving four years before I did, so
22 I've been coming to Commission meetings for 12
23 years. I'm going to have a hard time knowing what
24 to do on the first Thursday.

25 MR. RUMLEY: You'll be right here. I

1 guarantee you'll be.

2 MR. LOWERY: Of course, through my
3 recent accident, I tell you back when I was young,
4 my daddy rolled me out of bed on Saturday mornings
5 and I was not too happy about it. At 7:00, 7:30, he
6 was, hey, boy, get out of bed, we've got work to do.
7 Back then I didn't realize how lucky I was to have a
8 daddy that's out there teaching me how to work every
9 Saturday. And now because of him, if it wasn't
10 because of him, I wouldn't have half of what I've
11 got now. He's been really -- of course, I had my
12 mom that passed away. It's been about five years
13 now and dad has met Eileen and they've been married
14 for a little over a year and she's really been good
15 to me during my accident. She's always been good to
16 me, but exceptionally good to me during my accident,
17 cooking all kind of healthy food for me. She
18 brought me some more stuff tonight. I really
19 appreciate her.

20 And, of course, my wife Cathy, all
21 y'all know, when you're in politics, there's people
22 going to be -- you know, they don't care to stop
23 your family in the grocery store, post office or
24 wherever and try to make a few points or try to get
25 their will done their way. Of course, my wife is

1 pretty -- she's a real nice person, but she'll tell
2 you right now she don't get involved in politics,
3 but she'll give you my phone number in a hurry.

4 Of course, my son is not here tonight,
5 but I'm proud of him. He's one of our local
6 paramedics. Of course, I've got my new grandbaby,
7 about three months old. I do have my daughter in
8 the crowd tonight and she's took the EMT class and I
9 think she's in cosmetology now trying to take a
10 cosmetology class and we've all kind of pestered her
11 a little bit, said, well, while you're making them
12 well -- if you can't make them well on the way to
13 the hospital, you can make them look good. So we're
14 real proud of her. She's announced her engagement
15 to everybody for next September, I think, 17th on
16 my wife's birthday. And her fiance there is Bryar.
17 I call him Bryar. His name is Breckin Cameron and
18 we're real proud of him. He's a veteran, been to
19 Iraq and just a real nice young man.

20 So I've been blessed in a lot of ways.
21 The only other thing I want to say is being a
22 commissioner sometimes is not an easy job. You'll
23 have family and friends on both sides of an issue
24 and you've got to make a decision and you've got to
25 try to do it to the best of your ability and what's

1 good for Dade County without showing favoritism and
2 I've tried to do my best. We all took an oath to do
3 just that, that -- to the best of your abilities and
4 I've tried to the best of my abilities to do a good
5 job. So I appreciate you and I guess that's all I
6 have to say about that.

7 MR. RUMLEY: Well, as I said, we
8 appreciate you. We're going to miss you, Lamar. I
9 do appreciate all of you being here tonight, staying
10 with us this cold night. I want you to come back to
11 all of our meetings. Anybody got anything else to
12 say? If not, I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

13 MR. CERVELLI: I make a motion to
14 adjourn.

15 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Do I hear a second?

16 MR. GOFF: I second.

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

18 Mr. Cervelli?

19 MR. CERVELLI: Yes.

20 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Goff?

21 MR. GOFF: Yes.

22 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman?

23 MR. PITTMAN: Yes.

24 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Lowery?

25 MR. LOWERY: Yes.

1 MR. RUMLEY: The chair votes yes.

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END OF MEETING

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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 2nd day of
10 December, 2010;

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 3rd day of January 2011.

16
17
18
19
20 Erin M Flatt
21 Erin M. Flatt, TN licensed
22 Court Reporter.
23 Tennessee LCR Number: 307
24
25