

DADE COUNTY COMMISSION  
WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING  
AUGUST 7, 2014

1 MR. RUMLEY: We'll go ahead and call  
2 the work session to order. We'll move right along.  
3 Has everyone had time to look at the agenda? Any  
4 changes or comments? You had your previous minutes  
5 from our last meeting. I know you've went over them  
6 several times. Any changes or comments on those?

7 Number three, personnel status. We've  
8 got, of course, the changes right now that have been  
9 made. They're not reflected yet on this as far as  
10 any of the changes that are made to the sheriff or  
11 in the jail. We will have some --

12 MR. TOWNSEND: This is through June 30  
13 or July.

14 MR. RUMLEY: July. This is August,  
15 yeah. Other than that, there's really not that  
16 much. Our next meeting, which will be the September  
17 meeting, there will be a difference there.

18 Okay. Move down to number four, board  
19 appointments and proclamations. We've had a vacancy  
20 there on the Board of Assessors that was Nadine  
21 Wood. Ricky has talked to her and I think he has  
22 talked to her a few times. She's actually agreed  
23 to --

24 MR. BREEDEN: I've not heard to the  
25 contrary.

1 MR. RUMLEY: She did get with Paula on  
2 the training. That's a big thing, big issue. You  
3 have to be gone. I think it's a week's training,  
4 but she'll be taking Laura Holder's place if y'all  
5 agree to this. But Rick talked to several people.  
6 That's a pretty stressful board because you do get  
7 -- it is concerning the assessment of your taxes.  
8 If you feel comfortable and you've talked to her --

9 MR. BREEDEN: She has not notified me  
10 to say I decline. I took the packet to her on --

11 MR. RUMLEY: Well, we can hold off if  
12 you want until next week or the next meeting.

13 MR. BREEDEN: We don't have to. While  
14 you're continuing, I'll send her a text.

15 MR. RUMLEY: Yeah. We need to know for  
16 sure. I know she was kind of hesitant at first and  
17 then I think she -- the main reason is because of  
18 the training, right?

19 MR. BREEDEN: I think that's worked  
20 out.

21 MR. RUMLEY: I mean, if she's fine,  
22 everybody -- all right.

23 Number five, we've got zero on that  
24 one, capital equipment, S.P.L.O.S.T.

25 MR. TOWNSEND: Consent order or not,

1 Nadine?

2 MR. RUMLEY: Well, no, it's part of  
3 that replacement of that board member; is that what  
4 you're talking about?

5 MR. TOWNSEND: She is on it or not on  
6 it, consent agenda?

7 MR. RUMLEY: We'll tell you in just a  
8 minute.

9 Okay. Let's move down to number six.  
10 Paula, you're here, aren't you? She's going to talk  
11 to us concerning the 2013 sales tax ratio report.

12 MS. DUVALL: All right. I think you  
13 all have a copy of it.

14 MR. RUMLEY: Number six, tab six.

15 MS. DUVALL: Okay. What this sales and  
16 ratio study is, this is a study that we get every  
17 year from the Department of Audits. We are audited  
18 every year by the Department of Audits. They check  
19 our values. They check our sales. They check to  
20 make sure we're using correct procedures, that all  
21 our values are in line with what we're actually  
22 selling. It's a very thorough report as far as what  
23 they do. Now, they use a little bit different  
24 method than what we do, so their numbers may be a  
25 little different than what our numbers would show

1 because they do use these different methods, but  
2 I'll go through little by little what we  
3 particularly look at when we get these ratio  
4 reports.

5           The first thing we're going to look at  
6 is the overall ratio. If you look at this page  
7 right here, about the third page in. Now, you'll  
8 see the number of samples they use in their sample  
9 study is -- so our county is a very small county, so  
10 we're not going to have hundreds of sales to be able  
11 to use, which kind of is not in our favor because  
12 the more sales you have the more statistics you can  
13 get. But anyway, that's the number of samples that  
14 they use to do our audit reports, the overall ratio.

15           Your ratio tells you how well our fair  
16 market values that we have set in the system  
17 compared to what is actually sold. Since the state  
18 of Georgia taxes at 40 percent, you're looking for  
19 that number to be as close to 40 as possible.  
20 Anything at a 36 or 42 is a passing ratio, meaning  
21 that our values are in value with what's actually  
22 selling on the market.

23           Now, this is a 2013 sales ratio. We  
24 get these a year behind every year, so this is for  
25 2013. Our overall ratio is 38.62, which is a great

1 ratio. It tells you our values are perfectly in  
2 line with what they're selling on the market and the  
3 reason -- another reason you want this ratio to be  
4 between 36 and 42 is it also affects how you collect  
5 your public utilities. If it falls below that 36,  
6 you can't collect public utilities at 40 percent.  
7 You would only collect at whatever that ratio were  
8 to be. So it being a 38.62, we can for 2013 collect  
9 public utilities -- or actually '14 I think they use  
10 this number. You can collect 40 percent of your  
11 utilities, which is good.

12 All right. If you'll go to not the  
13 next page, but the page over. It's in the back.  
14 There it is right there. Go back a couple of pages.  
15 There you go. It looks like this. Everybody got  
16 it? Now, the other numbers that we look at is  
17 called the COD. The COD is your coefficient of  
18 disbursement. That measures uniformity within your  
19 class of properties. You can see the class of  
20 properties are divided into four classes. You have  
21 your residential, your agricultural, commercial and  
22 industrial. Each class of property is audited each  
23 year to get these three particular numbers, your  
24 median number, which is your ratio number, your COD  
25 and your PRD. Your agricultural properties, your

1 COD should not go above 8.5 -- sorry, a .15. As you  
2 can see, it's 16.91. So what the Board of Assessors  
3 has chosen to do this year, we are going to appeal  
4 this because we feel there may be some issues with  
5 the sales that they use and things we just disagree  
6 with. So we are going to appeal this to see if we  
7 can get a better number on the COD.

8           Your PRD, that's your price related  
9 differential. What that tells you is are you  
10 valuing a certain type property more than you're  
11 valuing others. Are we changing the lower value  
12 property more than we're changing the higher value  
13 properties or vice versa.

14           Now, according to Department of  
15 Revenue, that should not be -- that should be .95 or  
16 1.10. As you can see, per Department of Revenue  
17 standards, we are well within that guideline at  
18 1.05. Now, according to Department of Audits, that  
19 number should be .93 to 1.03. So a little bit  
20 different. So that's why sometimes it's hard for us  
21 to kind of keep up because we're asked to look at  
22 two different standards, two different methods. So  
23 that's just something we're going to appeal to see  
24 if we can't get some of these numbers actually  
25 showing in our system when we pull these numbers.

1 THE COURT: What's the process? What  
2 are you talking about timeline?

3 MS. DUVALL: We have 30 days from the  
4 day we received this to file the appeal. I received  
5 this last Friday. So I took it to the meeting of  
6 the Board of Assessors, their regular meeting for  
7 August, had it approved to appeal and I've talked to  
8 Stan King, who is our digest consultant to consult  
9 with me on this appeal and I'll probably talk to  
10 Ashley O'Donnell who was previous chief appraiser  
11 here who also worked for Department of Audits to get  
12 some guidance from him also as to the best way to  
13 handle this, but we do plan to appeal this.

14 MR. PITTMAN: What if we lose the  
15 appeal?

16 MS. DUVALL: The numbers will stay the  
17 same. The only way they will change is if they  
18 correct them.

19 MR. PITTMAN: It won't affect our  
20 ratio?

21 MR. TOWNSEND: The goal to go down or  
22 up?

23 MS. DUVALL: We're wanting the COD to  
24 be more in line with what the Department of Revenue  
25 recommends at 1.5, which we're pretty close. For

1 2012, which is something we'll talk about in a  
2 moment with the consent order, the COD was .18, so  
3 we were pretty far off on that. Now, we did not  
4 appeal at that time. Should we have, yes, we should  
5 have appealed that, but live and learn with those  
6 kind of things. But you can see it has improved,  
7 you know, since then.

8           But just to give you a little idea of  
9 the different methods they use, we're required by  
10 the Department of Revenue to use previous year's  
11 sales to get the current digest values. Well, the  
12 Department of Audit uses current year sales to get  
13 their numbers for that current digest year, which is  
14 totally different than what we do. So, you know,  
15 sometimes things just aren't going to match up. The  
16 best thing we can do is appeal and find out how can  
17 we fix this, what can we do to get these things more  
18 in line with one another.

19           That's just kind of some of the  
20 struggles that we face as far as these audits. And  
21 that's basically because of Senate bill 346 that was  
22 passed in 2012 where they stated that we cannot tax  
23 above the selling price for that first year. Well,  
24 one of the reasons the Department of Audit changed  
25 their method was because of that. If you pull any

1 of those ratios, they're all going to be at 40  
2 because the fair market value and the selling price  
3 are the same thing. So that's one of the issues as  
4 to why this hasn't changed. But, you know, it's  
5 causing some problems with counties now because,  
6 again, they're using a totally different method.  
7 There's a lot of counties out there that are  
8 charging -- or their CODs especially, you know,  
9 would be off from what they're supposed to be.

10 MR. RUMLEY: Any questions? Now, your  
11 board has approved your --

12 MS. DUVALL: That's correct.

13 MR. RUMLEY: And they've approved you  
14 going ahead?

15 MS. DUVALL: That's correct.

16 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. I appreciate you.

17 Let's move on down to the number seven  
18 there and that's on the approval, the Georgia  
19 Department of Revenue consent order. She can touch  
20 on that, too, as concerning the appraisers.

21 MS. DUVALL: The reason that we  
22 received this consent order, the 2012 digest was  
23 initially approved by the Department of Revenue  
24 because that COD number was not in line with the  
25 Department of Revenue standards. We did appeal

1 that, the County appealed that conditional approval  
2 and that's where the Department of Revenue came in.  
3 They also did very thorough studies of our  
4 procedures. You know, what procedures were used to  
5 value residential values, mobile homes. Everything  
6 that our office does was very looked at as far as  
7 they were concerned. So some of the things are  
8 basically what the Department of Revenue study at  
9 that time showed as far as our office and what some  
10 improvements --

11 MR. RUMLEY: How much time -- was it  
12 like a week or two weeks?

13 MS. DUVALL: They were here in January.

14 MR. RUMLEY: January, yeah.

15 MS. DUVALL: And it took me a while to  
16 actually get -- the consent order came back and I've  
17 been trying to get their notes that they took while  
18 they were here to make sure that everything that was  
19 discussed and I made sure we were doing everything  
20 we were supposed to do, if there's anything that  
21 needs to improve, we're certainly working on that.  
22 The only thing in this consent order that we were  
23 not doing and we were not in compliance with is, of  
24 course, the personal property audit, which is, of  
25 course, what's making our budget increase a great

1 deal this year. The personal property audit -- the  
2 audit is done every three years just like you do a  
3 residential property. Now, personal property, what  
4 they're talking about is business personal property,  
5 equipment, furniture, fixtures, inventory, anything  
6 that's used for that business they're supposed to  
7 return for taxation in the state of Georgia. And  
8 those accounts are supposed to be audited by our  
9 office once every three years. I knew we were not  
10 in compliance with that, but I also knew how  
11 expensive it was, which is why I never really  
12 brought it up.

13 Now, we have -- our personal property  
14 appraiser in our office has been to the auditing  
15 class. We are doing our best to get her trained.  
16 When these auditors come in, we will have her work  
17 with them. They will train her on how to audit  
18 these properties, so that hopefully from here on out  
19 we can do these audits in-house. We won't have  
20 to --

21 MR. BREEDEN: So this personal property  
22 assessment has nothing to do with residential?

23 MS. DUVALL: That's right. It's a  
24 totally different class.

25 MR. BREEDEN: Okay. I understood it

1 county wide, every resident, personal property.

2 MS. DUVALL: No, no, no. The only  
3 thing residential, which will not even be included  
4 in this personal property audit are things like  
5 boats, jet skis, things like aircraft will not be  
6 included in this audit. Those are all kinds of  
7 personal -- they will not be included, just your  
8 businesses. And what we're dealing with in this  
9 audit is if your business account is 50,000 and  
10 above is where we're going to start, which is where  
11 you're going to see your most unreturned property.

12 Through this audit, what your goal is,  
13 even though it is an expensive audit to do, you're  
14 hoping to recoup that money, plus more that will be  
15 revenue the county can have on the digest for years  
16 to come. And once this audit is done and any  
17 unreturned property that these auditors find, we can  
18 tax back three years, the year they find it, plus  
19 three years you can collect back on that property.

20 So that's the goal and that was one of  
21 the things in this consent order. The other, of  
22 course, was the employee and what they look at to  
23 determine how many employees we should have in our  
24 office is an IAAO standard. IAAO is International  
25 Association of Assessing Officials. They say you

1 should have one appraiser for every 2,500 parcels.  
2 Now, what they count as -- we do not count our  
3 mapper. He is not a field appraiser. We did not  
4 count our clerk. She is not a field appraiser. It  
5 was myself and our field team. So based on that, we  
6 were basically one person short. And another reason  
7 they say that is because we are mandated in  
8 regulations to have one person just for personal  
9 property. We don't have that. We have to use our  
10 personal property appraiser also as our field  
11 appraiser. That's why personal property just has  
12 not been able to be what it should be because we  
13 just haven't had the staff or the resources to be  
14 able to do. That's why it was put in here. That's  
15 what it was based on. That's where it came from.  
16 Everything else in this consent order that I've  
17 read, we're already doing it. Besides those two  
18 things we're on --

19 MR. BREEDEN: When a new business comes  
20 in, you do the original audit, I assume? No?

21 MS. DUVALL: We hope to discover it and  
22 what we do once we discover a new business --  
23 because most of them aren't going to come in and  
24 tell us they're here.

25 MR. BREEDEN: Well, I figure they must

1 have to have their power turned on or something.

2 MS. DUVALL: Well, if it's a new  
3 building, maybe. If it's just they're moving in  
4 somewhere, no, we're not going to know they're --

5 MR. BREEDEN: So they don't have to  
6 have a business license or anything?

7 MR. RUMLEY: Except in the city.

8 MS. DUVALL: Exactly. Outside the city  
9 limits, you don't. We look through the newspaper,  
10 telephone book, anything that we see that's not in  
11 our system. What we do is we create an account and  
12 that way when we send out personal property returns  
13 in January, that new business will get --

14 MR. BREEDEN: Well, I would assume that  
15 Georgia Power determines commercial rates versus  
16 residential rates, so you could probably look at the  
17 power bills.

18 MS. DUVALL: I don't -- business  
19 licenses would be wonderful.

20 MR. BREEDEN: Well, I was just -- I was  
21 just inquiring. I didn't know how that you --

22 MS. DUVALL: Sure. That's the best we  
23 can do.

24 MR. BREEDEN: I just thought if you  
25 started a business anywhere, you had to be licensed

1 to do so. You can peddle or do anything you want.

2 MS. DUVAL: Outside the city limits.  
3 In the city limits you do have to go to City Hall.

4 MR. BREEDEN: So how does the State  
5 determine that we're out of compliance, because it's  
6 been a long time since we've had an audit?

7 MS. DUVAL: Since there's never been  
8 an audit.

9 MR. BREEDEN: There's never been an  
10 audit. Oh, I guess we are out of compliance.

11 MR. RUMLEY: What is the time limit on  
12 that? How long will that take?

13 MS. DUVAL: We have to the 2015 digest  
14 to complete everything.

15 MR. RUMLEY: I know that, but once it  
16 starts, once this group comes in, what is the  
17 projected time? Will it take six months, three  
18 months?

19 MS. DUVAL: I would say probably a  
20 county our size that doesn't have a huge amount of  
21 personal property. I think we have over 1,000  
22 accounts, but that does include boats and things  
23 like that. I would say for this audit, it would  
24 probably take six months, maybe a year to totally  
25 complete. Yeah, this consent order, we have until

1 2015.

2 MR. RUMLEY: We need to put that -- if  
3 everybody is -- put it on the consent agenda. Any  
4 questions for Paula? Okay. Pretty well cut and dry  
5 really. Thank you.

6 Okay. Let's move down to number eight,  
7 Resolution R-34-14, approval of the transfer deed  
8 from Georgia Forestry Commission property. Robin,  
9 you've been working on that for, what, three years  
10 now?

11 MR. ROGERS: This is an agreement we've  
12 been working on for some time. The agreement itself  
13 has been approved by the Commission. This is the  
14 last step in the process. We have been waiting for  
15 the State to approve the signing of their deed of  
16 the forestry -- of the old forestry property over to  
17 us. So as I understand from their attorney, that  
18 has happened, so this should conclude this.

19 MR. RUMLEY: All right. All of you are  
20 probably -- except for Rick, I guess, he wasn't  
21 here. But that's the land transfer between Georgia  
22 Forestry and the County when we had the tornado and  
23 it blew Georgia Forestry away. That's what that  
24 involved. Robin has been working with them for two  
25 years, I know. So it's --

1 MR. BREEDEN: So we just traded even,  
2 swapped land?

3 MR. RUMLEY: Yeah.

4 MR. BREEDEN: Did we have to do  
5 anything to the property that we traded to them or  
6 was that all up to them to do what they done?

7 MR. RUMLEY: You mean down where  
8 they're at?

9 MR. BREEDEN: Yeah.

10 MR. RUMLEY: That was all their --  
11 yeah, they paid for the survey and everything,  
12 everything that was done on it. Everybody fine with  
13 that? It's kind of old. We've talked about it so  
14 much over a period of time.

15 Okay. Resolution R-35-14, declaration  
16 of surplus property. We have some copiers, some old  
17 copiers, faxes, shredder, one car. Did you get  
18 that -- we have one car we're going to declare  
19 surplus. Look back on number nine on the back side.  
20 And all this stuff here. Some of it is not working.  
21 Some of it is still -- I think one of the jet  
22 printers you can't get parts for it anymore.

23 MR. PITTMAN: It's going to GovDeals?

24 MR. TOWNSEND: Or --

25 MR. RUMLEY: Or have an auction. It's

1 got to be sold to the highest bidder.

2 MR. BREEDEN: So you can't just trade  
3 these in when you're getting another vehicle?

4 MR. RUMLEY: Oh, you could.

5 MR. BREEDEN: You could? Nobody has  
6 ever asked though what you could get on trade-in?

7 MR. RUMLEY: You do, but you don't  
8 get -- like this right here, this car right here, if  
9 you trade it in, we could do that. But normally,  
10 you know, you put it on GovDeals. I don't know why  
11 people like to buy those Crown Vics, but they bring  
12 a lot more on that than if you trade them.

13 MR. BREEDEN: Than trade?

14 MR. RUMLEY: This car, they would  
15 probably give you \$1,000 for it and we can probably  
16 sell it for 2,500, 3,000.

17 MR. BREEDEN: Okay.

18 MR. RUMLEY: A lot of time on trade --  
19 especially if it's a car that's been government  
20 used, you know, it's got a couple of hundred  
21 thousand on it. It's a Crown Vic, too. Especially  
22 that's been run probably, you know, by the sheriff's  
23 department or whatever and they know when you trade  
24 it in that it's probably got some hard miles on it,  
25 but yet, you know, you have some person that just

1 wants to buy one. For some reason I've seen sales  
2 just go crazy. Any questions about that? All  
3 right. That's number nine.

4 Move down to the Resolution R-36-14.  
5 It's on the FY15 Amendment, number one. That's the  
6 budget we accepted the other day. That's what we've  
7 been working on now since --

8 MR. TOWNSEND: If we could, we'll come  
9 back to that. I'm printing them. It's hot off the  
10 press.

11 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. I'm sorry. We'll  
12 come back to number ten. Did you get ahold of her  
13 before we --

14 MR. BREEDEN: No.

15 MR. RUMLEY: We need to do that tonight  
16 if we can, go ahead and appoint her if we possibly  
17 can. If we can't, we can do it at the next meeting,  
18 but it would be good to make that appointment  
19 tonight.

20 Let's move down to number 11, R-37-14.  
21 This is something we did several years ago and we  
22 brought it back. It is a hiring freeze for all  
23 county employees. The only exception would be if  
24 someone were to die or, you know, actually retire,  
25 whatever to replace that spot, you know, if needed.

1 As far as any new hires, that will be -- it's pretty  
2 well self-explanatory and it's -- we have to do a  
3 resolution to do this though. So if everybody is on  
4 board with that, we've discussed it one-on-one. So  
5 if there's any questions, now is the time to ask  
6 them.

7 MR. PITTMAN: How binding is this,  
8 Robin?

9 MR. ROGERS: On the County or the  
10 Commission?

11 MR. PITTMAN: Constitutional officers.

12 MR. ROGERS: The constitutional  
13 officers, we set their budget and they can -- they  
14 spend the budget however they want to do that.

15 MR. RUMLEY: So regardless of whether  
16 we put a hiring freeze on for them or not, they can  
17 hire.

18 MR. ROGERS: No. I mean, as long as  
19 the money is in their budget, they can do that.

20 MR. RUMLEY: Well, we just hope -- you  
21 know, we've had a lot happen since Thursday, so  
22 hopefully they'll be on board. I think the sheriff  
23 will. But like you said, this is not binding to  
24 them.

25 MR. TOWNSEND: It's basically just to

1 come back to the board so you're aware of it. It's  
2 not saying that you can't. It's just saying that  
3 decision lies here with the board until it's  
4 relieved.

5 MR. RUMLEY: Except for the  
6 constitutional officers.

7 MR. TOWNSEND: Except for the  
8 constitutional officers.

9 MR. BREEDEN: Well, let me ask you  
10 something. It says that the employees funded --  
11 shall not exceed the total number of employees  
12 funded in the 2014 budget. We're working on the  
13 2015 budget, right? So that's using old numbers,  
14 not the numbers that we're going to cut to.

15 MR. TOWNSEND: You can change that if  
16 you want to.

17 MR. BREEDEN: Is that correct what I'm  
18 saying?

19 MR. TOWNSEND: That is correct. That  
20 means they can't exceed that old number. But if you  
21 want to change it to the new number, you could.

22 MR. BREEDEN: But that's saying that  
23 they could hire back up to that if they wanted to.

24 MR. TOWNSEND: That's true. So if you  
25 want to amend that to the new number, you could.

1 MR. BRADFORD: You would have to amend  
2 the resolution.

3 MR. TOWNSEND: I'll just change it.

4 MR. RUMLEY: Yeah, you can just change  
5 it.

6 MR. PITTMAN: It should be the same  
7 numbers basically.

8 MR. RUMLEY: No. It will be a  
9 different number.

10 MR. BREEDEN: It will be to the 2015  
11 budget.

12 MR. RUMLEY: That's fine.

13 MR. TOWNSEND: We can change that to  
14 2015.

15 MR. BREEDEN: Well, I mean, you may as  
16 well work with your latest budget.

17 MR. RUMLEY: Of course, the biggest  
18 thing, too, is the freeze itself. I mean,  
19 actually -- they can't hire unless they come back  
20 and we'll do it in an open meeting just like this  
21 and they can come back and request an employee or  
22 whatever. That's fine. We'll change that or Don  
23 can change that. All right. Any more questions  
24 before we move on to this next one?

25 Okay. Number 12, Resolution R-38-14,

1 pertaining to layoffs, furlough of county employees  
2 and change of business -- possibly change of  
3 business hours. That's something we're going to  
4 have -- we'll have to talk about that. But Don, if  
5 you want to go into details on that.

6 MR. TOWNSEND: This is a resolution  
7 we've used in the past. Actually, I guess four or  
8 five years.

9 MR. RUMLEY: About four years.

10 MR. TOWNSEND: Yeah. We actually  
11 passed the same one last year. It was a little bit  
12 different in hours.

13 MR. RUMLEY: Different.

14 MR. TOWNSEND: But 30 hours per week  
15 now is a full-time employee and the reason for that  
16 is to encourage employee -- I mean, they still have  
17 benefits, but if they reduce their hours  
18 voluntarily, it will save -- it will be like a  
19 voluntary furlough. Some employees want to work  
20 less hours and that helps the county if they can  
21 accomplish their job. We save money that way.

22 Also, the second section down here is  
23 two designated holidays. We've learned in the last  
24 three or four or five years that county holidays are  
25 the really only way to get all governmental offices

1 of nonessential employees to close and this would be  
2 without pay, including county holidays designated on  
3 November 26 and also December 24. And yes, that is  
4 the day before Thanksgiving and the day before  
5 Christmas. And so to ask the employees, of course,  
6 again, to furlough, at least the only benefit to the  
7 employee is they can be home around those holidays  
8 with family, but it is without pay.

9           And the third section down there is the  
10 requests of constitutional officers. You can read  
11 that. But the first section is about the hours and  
12 we've looked at that. Do we do what we did last  
13 year? We've been doing this now for about four or  
14 five years. Still, we've tried to take our hours  
15 back to a regular 40-hour week and opening five days  
16 a week and -- but we've got to come up with some  
17 kind of measure to reduce expenses. It's hard to do  
18 that, be open five days a week and continue what  
19 we've been doing on that same path.

20           We're trying to think outside the box  
21 and one thing we've come up with is if we're open  
22 Monday through Thursday, instead of opening at 8:30,  
23 here it will 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Friday we'll  
24 still be open 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The courthouse  
25 and other constitutional offices cannot do whatever

1 they want to. They have to do whatever the  
2 governing authority does, our office. It's the same  
3 situation on snow days. If we're closed, they can  
4 close. If we're not closed, they cannot legally  
5 close. So if we do this, it allows them to do that.  
6 Now, you say why 2:00? Well, courts are very clear  
7 in the Constitution of Georgia that they have to be  
8 open five days a week. Currently, they open the  
9 courthouse, I believe, at 9:00, I believe; is that  
10 correct? As far as I know it's still 9:00 a.m. to  
11 the public. We would be recommending that it would  
12 be open an hour earlier. The employees would arrive  
13 there and open an hour earlier for extended business  
14 hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and then on Friday  
15 8:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

16 Traditionally, if people are out and  
17 about, they can get most of their business done  
18 before or right after lunch. It's not to say that  
19 they -- you know, we're not trying to inconvenience  
20 anybody. We want to make sure everyone is  
21 inconvenienced as possible, but still cut expenses.

22 MR. RUMLEY: So what's the total  
23 expense?

24 MR. TOWNSEND: The benefit here though  
25 is cutting the power, the heating and air off at

1 2:00 p.m. on Fridays. It would remain off until  
2 Monday morning unless Monday is a holiday, which we  
3 do have several here. Then it would be Tuesday  
4 morning at 4:30 in the morning. So you would save  
5 all that time with the heating and air off.

6 A lot of times we've heard in the  
7 public hearings recently that people come in and  
8 it's cold in the hallways or whatever. Well, that's  
9 true and it needs to be addressed. I mean, if it  
10 means just throwing a breaker if we have to to get  
11 units turned off, whatever to get them off. We've  
12 calculated it would save \$26,000, as high as 39,000,  
13 but I'm not going out on that limb, but \$26,000 in  
14 savings on that particular item. And on the  
15 holidays, those two days we cannot -- we have to  
16 exclude public officials and that sounds so adverse  
17 and not fair, but that's just the way set law runs.  
18 Elected officials still have to receive 100 percent  
19 of their pay. There's nothing you can do about  
20 that. You all have voluntarily tried to cut your  
21 pay in the past. There's nothing we can do about  
22 that. The IRS just doesn't allow it. And the same  
23 thing with any other elected officials in the  
24 county, but that would save 28,000. We're just  
25 talking about shifting hours. We're not talking

1 about requiring them to furlough. If a department  
2 wants to, that would be great.

3 Now, we realize around tax season and  
4 especially in Jane Moreland's office, of course  
5 around late December, she may want to stay open  
6 until 6:00 if she wants to. And I'm sure if there  
7 are people in line, she would. Most likely the  
8 couple or last three weeks in December, she's  
9 probably going to stay open on Fridays in order to  
10 let people come in and pay their taxes, but come  
11 January, we will be back on this. Now, I'm talking  
12 about that's up to her to do that. That's not us.  
13 We have to close. If she chooses to close, then she  
14 could.

15 MR. RUMLEY: Well, another thing though  
16 on that that would be kind of inconvenience though  
17 to people would be like -- and that's something  
18 she'll have -- if we do this, would be like if your  
19 birthday -- because they're real strict on your  
20 birthday. If you don't buy that tag or whatever,  
21 you know, the next day you come in there and you're  
22 going to pay a penalty. You know, I paid one last  
23 year. I just sat there and forgot to do it. It was  
24 on four tags. So that's something -- that could be  
25 big to people as far as that Friday -- if they come

1 in and get paid on Friday, come in and get their  
2 tag, you know, I would be mad, too.

3 MR. TOWNSEND: Most people receive the  
4 tag prebill 30 days in advance. She has a drop box  
5 outside. She also takes online payments.

6 MR. BREEDEN: Or you can mail it in.

7 MR. TOWNSEND: Or you can mail it in.  
8 I mean, I did the same thing. It sat on my desk  
9 this past year and I walked in on Monday and I said,  
10 I'm sorry, I meant to come in on Friday. She said,  
11 I'm sorry, you owe me a late charge and penalty and  
12 interest and I had to pay it. I'm a county  
13 employee. I didn't get out of paying it. I had to  
14 pay it. My wife wrote the check three weeks before  
15 and I got in trouble, but that's the way it is.

16 Anyway, it's not -- we're trying not to  
17 inconvenience anybody, but if we think we can save  
18 \$26,000, that's an employee. We're about to talk  
19 here shortly on this budget about laying off up to  
20 33 employees. There are 33 family members to me and  
21 to Ted and to all of us. So if we have to lay off  
22 people, we surely want to try to do everything we  
23 can. Now, granted we have to get permission from  
24 this judge, that judge and every judge around here  
25 in order to do this at the courthouse.

1 MR. RUMLEY: And we'll have to --  
2 Robin, can we do it tentatively to actually getting  
3 it? I tried to call Judge Wood. I've talked to  
4 House, but before we actually go there on the  
5 courthouse, you know. I mean, there's some issues  
6 there we've got to work out. I mean, can we do this  
7 tentatively?

8 MR. ROGERS: We can. We can go ahead  
9 and do that. We do need to advise them to be sure  
10 that there's no objection. We can do it  
11 tentatively.

12 MR. TOWNSEND: Again, if they're  
13 opening at 9:00 and closing at 5:00 and we're  
14 opening an hour earlier basically every day of the  
15 week, I don't know, hopefully the judge will agree  
16 to allow them to leave. Most of the time from 2:00  
17 to 5:00 on any given week, it's pretty slow around  
18 the courthouse.

19 MR. RUMLEY: On Friday.

20 MR. TOWNSEND: Really everywhere. Most  
21 people is done with their business. Now granted, if  
22 you get paid and you want to come pay your taxes, we  
23 want to take your payment and, you know. That's  
24 what this is about.

25 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. So Robin, you're

1 the judicial person here and the biggest thing is on  
2 the court closing. So we can actually put it on the  
3 consent agenda, but do we need to make a footnote  
4 there that actually it's upon the approval of the  
5 chief judge?

6 MR. ROGERS: I think we do. The court  
7 calendar has already been set and so we need to be  
8 sure that we're --

9 MR. RUMLEY: That's not a problem.  
10 House looked at it. He said it's not a problem.  
11 There's some other things that he mentioned that the  
12 chief judge needs to look at or something, some  
13 legal stuff there. So -- but we can finalize that  
14 tomorrow or Monday.

15 MR. ROGERS: That's fine.

16 MR. RUMLEY: All right. Any questions?

17 MR. PITTMAN: Along those same lines,  
18 if you look at these two furlough days, the day  
19 before Thanksgiving and the day before Christmas,  
20 Thanksgiving and Christmas are both on a Thursday.  
21 It would be put on the day after Thanksgiving.

22 MR. TOWNSEND: We're already off up  
23 here.

24 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. If there's no other  
25 questions, then we'll -- I'll advise you as soon as

1 the chief judge, you know, tells me. I'll call each  
2 one of you and let you know what's going on.

3           Let's see, move down to number 13.  
4 This is something we've talked about for the last  
5 year or so. Under this resolution, R-39-14, we're  
6 asking the Commission to consider this resolution  
7 because it is to implement a county motel/hotel tax  
8 for revenue. We're one of the few counties in the  
9 whole state of Georgia that does not have this. So  
10 what this would do is actually -- actually put Robin  
11 in motion there to actually with the DCA and the  
12 legalities of it and actually start the footwork to  
13 make this happen.

14           So if you've got any questions -- I  
15 know, Ricky, this is new to you, but we talked about  
16 this a few years ago, but we didn't really see  
17 the -- you know, the only motel we have is in the  
18 city, but we found that there's other things that  
19 the DCA, Department of Community Affairs, declares  
20 as lodging.

21           MR. BREEDEN: Right. Like with the  
22 lineman school, the dorming of the students when  
23 they come in could be considered.

24           MR. RUMLEY: That's a lot of people.

25           MR. BREEDEN: You've got Covenant

1 College and several things that could possibly be --  
2 participate in that.

3 MR. RUMLEY: But that's something that  
4 we're asking to actually advise our attorney to go  
5 ahead and get started on this, you know. Possibly,  
6 you know, even we have the cabins on Lookout out  
7 there at the Cloudland Canyon and we're not --

8 MR. BREEDEN: Well, I just wonder if it  
9 would also apply down on The Preserve where they  
10 rent the cabins out.

11 MR. RUMLEY: I think anything that's  
12 declared as a --

13 MR. SMITH: Short stay.

14 MR. RUMLEY: But Robin can report back  
15 to us on that. Is everybody on board with that?

16 MR. SMITH: There is a -- I can't find  
17 it right now. An exception that if there's a  
18 disaster or something within the county, if somebody  
19 needs to go to it, they don't have to pay it.

20 MR. RUMLEY: Oh, you mean for extended  
21 housing like if they lost their home?

22 MR. SMITH: I don't know exactly what  
23 it said, but that was the gist of it I got.

24 MR. RUMLEY: Yeah. Okay. Is everybody  
25 fine with that on the consent agenda?

1                   Move down to number 14. This is  
2 Resolution R-40-14. This is actually authorizing  
3 issue to bid the solid waste transportation disposal  
4 proposal. It's on number 14 on your tab if you want  
5 to look at it. It's just a standard, but it's  
6 something we have to do.

7                   MR. BREEDEN: This is to bid out?

8                   MR. RUMLEY: This is to bid it out.

9                   MR. SMITH: And it was pretty  
10 substantial, I think, what --

11                   MR. RUMLEY: Well, they're looking at a  
12 price increase now. They kept it the same for  
13 several years, you know, and now they're talking  
14 about not only an increase, but also they have a  
15 surcharge on fuel, but now they're talking about --  
16 a lot of counties do. We just need to bid it out  
17 and see what's out there. Is everybody fine with  
18 that? And to do that, we've got to have a  
19 resolution to do it.

20                   Okay. Number 15, this is Resolution  
21 R-41-14. This is to increase the fare box on our  
22 public transportation. Annette, are you here  
23 tonight? Do you want to come up and talk to us?  
24 She's over our transportation and she can bring you  
25 up-to-date on this.

1 MS. CASH: In 2009 we started  
2 transportation in Dade County. We never charged  
3 before for the public. We never had a public. It  
4 was all our senior citizens. We decided to start  
5 charging a fare box. It was \$2 round trip. That  
6 was for Chattanooga and Trenton. They got up to  
7 four stops. It's been five years and we decided we  
8 really need to increase that. In Trenton, up to  
9 four stops, it would be \$4 round trip and in  
10 Chattanooga, we would take them to any of the  
11 doctors, stop and get their medicine, whatever they  
12 needed to. They can have up to four, increase it to  
13 \$3 one way and \$6 round trip.

14 MR. RUMLEY: Except the seniors.  
15 They're exempt.

16 MS. CASH: The seniors are exempt. We  
17 never charge them. We do have funding that covers  
18 our seniors that come to our center. It's 36,000  
19 that does take care of them.

20 MR. RUMLEY: Now is the time to ask  
21 questions if you've got any.

22 MR. BRADFORD: Who all can use this?

23 MS. CASH: It's open to everyone.

24 MR. BRADFORD: Who all uses this  
25 service?

1 MR. RUMLEY: What was the question?

2 MR. BRADFORD: Who all uses this  
3 service?

4 MS. CASH: 2009 and back, it was just  
5 our seniors and we decided in 2009 we do have a  
6 bigger need and opened it up to the public.

7 MR. RUMLEY: What it amounts to, you've  
8 got people that's on dialysis that's not a senior.  
9 That really, you know, several people are going to  
10 therapy or whatever.

11 MR. PITTMAN: Do you have a lot of  
12 people use it?

13 MS. CASH: And also, if they can't pay,  
14 that's all they say. We don't question them. We  
15 don't embarrass them. We don't ask them. We don't  
16 refuse anyone. And I didn't bring the sheet in with  
17 the numbers, but for the year, it was 16,288 trips  
18 that we made this past year of people in Dade  
19 County.

20 We did call and -- we have respect for  
21 our clients. We did call to see how they felt about  
22 it. We didn't have one person disagree because they  
23 know we accept the ones that couldn't. We had a  
24 couple of people that questioned it, didn't like it,  
25 but they did call back. It was two people exactly.

1 They did call back and apologize for it and said  
2 once they got to thinking about it, they thought it  
3 was ridiculous to argue about that amount of money  
4 with gas and fuel being the way it is.

5 MR. BREEDEN: But you do prioritize,  
6 you were telling me, you know, for a citizen if  
7 they're just going to an elective place. A doctor's  
8 appointment takes precedence over --

9 MS. CASH: It's strictly doctors and  
10 seniors first priority. If somebody has a need to  
11 go to Wal-Mart to get medicine, it's just going up,  
12 we'll work them in as we're going to Chattanooga.  
13 Most people get it here at Fred's or CVS. We do  
14 have some wheelchair patients that have never been  
15 able to -- we're the only help they have and they'll  
16 even go as we're taking people up and let them out  
17 at Wal-Mart and they may stay as much as three hours  
18 at a time just to be able to have that privilege to  
19 be able to get out.

20 MR. BREEDEN: Right. You don't make  
21 any special trips to the Wal-Mart?

22 MS. CASH: We do not make special  
23 trips.

24 MR. BREEDEN: Anybody being dropped off  
25 there is because you're going and taking them --

1 MS. CASH: We are going that way to  
2 begin with. Even our people we bring off the  
3 mountains, it's 20 minutes up, 20 minutes down. We  
4 try to have drivers on each end to cover the four  
5 areas transits. We bring people in, our cancer  
6 patients included. They're so thankful to be able  
7 to go to the doctor. It's up to an hour to two  
8 hours just to go to doctors and us not have to go  
9 back up and down. We do make exceptions. If I  
10 don't have anybody going to Chattanooga, a little  
11 later, we'll pick them up. Nine times out of ten  
12 everybody come in and it starts out at the same time  
13 every day.

14 MR. BREEDEN: And you don't just sit  
15 around waiting on them to get done at Wal-Mart  
16 either. You've got a special time. You tell them  
17 you better --

18 MS. CASH: It's according to what  
19 they're doing. If we know they're just going in for  
20 medicine, they'll tell you, I'm just going in to get  
21 my medicine, if you'll just please wait. We will  
22 wait on those. If we know they're going to be in  
23 there -- we do take our seniors once a month out to  
24 eat and to Wal-Mart. That's the ones that do not  
25 have any vehicles, no family to take care of them.

1 They're the ones that come to our senior building.

2 We try to do things with them once a month.

3 MR. BREEDEN: Right. But when you come  
4 back through to pick up the other, they better be  
5 out there --

6 MS. CASH: They have to be there.

7 MR. BREEDEN: -- or you're going to  
8 leave them just like a MARTA or a CARTA.

9 MS. CASH: Yes, we do. They have that  
10 understanding. And CARTA, we do very well with our  
11 system spread out as we are, CARTA, they do take  
12 people for dialysis and places. They wait two to  
13 three hours. That's the reason they -- the two that  
14 we have, they have begged us to take them because of  
15 having to stay and wait so long for them to make it  
16 back to the mountain, Sand Mountain. We could  
17 refuse them totally because of their health, but we  
18 know we're going that way anyway and they are there  
19 three to four hours. Sometimes if they start  
20 bleeding or whatever, we may be there to get them  
21 and they have to go on to the hospital. It may be a  
22 no-show trip. We've never waited over 20, 30  
23 minutes at the most that I know of unless there's a  
24 problem or a breakdown or something. We've never  
25 had that problem either.

1 MR. BREEDEN: One other thing just so  
2 that everyone here will know is when we do get a  
3 van, that van is approximately -- if we bought it  
4 straight out would be how much, 40,000? What does  
5 it cost the county to buy a van?

6 MS. CASH: It's 20 percent. We pay  
7 20 percent and they pay --

8 MR. TOWNSEND: It's five percent of the  
9 cost of the van.

10 MS. CASH: The state actually owns  
11 these vans.

12 MR. BREEDEN: I just want everybody to  
13 know where they come from. It's not from property  
14 taxes. It's from the state. Of course, we all pay  
15 state tax, but I mean --

16 MS. CASH: Right. And the biggest  
17 reason we're opening it up to the county is to try  
18 to take some of the burden off the children and the  
19 wife or spouse is still working, the other one, it  
20 takes the burden off them to try to give them a  
21 little bit of relief. One of our dialysis patients,  
22 we take him so his wife doesn't miss three days of  
23 work. She missed up to a year. When we started  
24 taking him, it took all that burden off her because  
25 somebody has to work to help.

1 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Any more questions?  
2 Is everybody fine with it? Okay. What is Walker  
3 now? Do you know what they're charging just as a  
4 comparison? We talked about that the other day.

5 MS. CASH: I think four. I'm pretty  
6 sure it's four. We're still under the other  
7 counties.

8 MR. RUMLEY: Thank you, Annette.

9 Okay. Move down to Resolution R-43-14.  
10 This is the state cable and video service franchise  
11 agreement. Okay. Sorry. I did miss that.

12 R-42-14, which is 2008, which we're  
13 coming to the end of the allocation project fund  
14 cost on S.P.L.O.S.T. Don, I'll let you go ahead and  
15 explain that. We do this at the end of probably  
16 every S.P.L.O.S.T. when it starts winding down.

17 MR. TOWNSEND: We're pretty close.  
18 We're within a 12-month cycle probably now of  
19 closing in on our 2008 S.P.L.O.S.T. And based on  
20 the historical data that we received, the numbers  
21 that we've actually received into the bank, we can  
22 guesstimate pretty well now on what we think we'll  
23 get between now and 12 months from now. So knowing  
24 that, it's -- our auditors like for us to go ahead  
25 and reallocate the budgets as close as we can to

1 make sure that they get to 100 percent. So I can  
2 always -- here is the list. County projects, other  
3 is 250. The reallocations is \$268,756. County  
4 roads and bridges, \$4,900,000. Emergency services,  
5 1,059,240. Fire truck lease equipment, \$775,138.  
6 Industrial park would be now zero. Water lines and  
7 fire hydrants, 1 million. Public works, \$622,207.  
8 Sheriff's department, jail, \$707,714. Parking lot  
9 and site work, which mostly they are dealing with  
10 the court facility, \$586,941. Parks and recreation,  
11 \$270,000. Animal control facility, \$200,00, old  
12 courthouse, \$200,000. Davis Community Center and  
13 track, which I understand there's -- I don't know if  
14 it's a problem, but there's some questions about  
15 that.

16 MR. RUMLEY: The real estate.

17 MR. TOWNSEND: It's 100,000. Library,  
18 commission -- you know, I don't want to insult the  
19 commissioner over here, but library, 40,000.  
20 Extension agency is 50,000 and that's the total of  
21 10,770,000. So, again, our goal is just to try to  
22 get that at 100 percent per each allocated project  
23 line item so that we will have that in our audit.  
24 They'll try to end right at 100 percent or right at  
25 it. Those that don't, we have the right to -- we've

1 actually already put most of these on the next  
2 S.P.L.O.S.T. They're ongoing type projects. I  
3 can't say for sure about Davis.

4 MR. RUMLEY: That's why you put  
5 contingent on it, contingent the money comes in  
6 because you never know on S.P.L.O.S.T. You still  
7 won't know until -- we've got 12 months.

8 MR. TOWNSEND: A lot of these things  
9 are like the sheriff's department -- I say sheriff's  
10 department, jail. That's where we try to purchase  
11 vehicles out of versus using the general fund. In  
12 the past, we bought fire equipment, emergency  
13 services, you know, software, hardware, equipment  
14 required for updates on our 10 to 15-year plans.

15 County roads is huge and very important  
16 here, 4,900,000 and then, of course, the old  
17 courthouse is still on here that we need to start  
18 working on. We probably should have already worked  
19 on it a little bit, but we've had so many other  
20 priorities that we've had to digress on those plans  
21 for now. We're probably about ready to ramp that  
22 up.

23 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Any questions on  
24 that? Rick, I know -- have you got any questions on  
25 it? It's pretty wrapping up on the old S.P.L.O.S.T.,

1 before you get into the new, which we're 12 months  
2 out. Because, you know, it winds up the actual  
3 dollar amount. Have you got any questions?

4 All right. Let's go to number 17.  
5 That's the state cable and video service franchise  
6 agreement, Resolution R-43-14. That's an agreement  
7 that actually lets us -- or actually it's a  
8 resolution that actually authorizes us to collect a  
9 fee from the actual cable and video service  
10 franchise. Robin, do you want to comment on this?  
11 This is actually something that we've been  
12 collecting, you know, this for years.

13 MR. TOWNSEND: Before Robin chimes in  
14 here --

15 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. You go ahead.  
16 Robin brought this to my attention, along with a  
17 local provider. In fact, it was last meeting and  
18 prior to that, that vendor had contacted me. We've  
19 been looking for this. I contacted our association  
20 attorney with the ACCG and he sent this to me. If  
21 we ever received it, I don't ever recall reviewing  
22 it or seeing it personally. This is something we  
23 probably should have passed in the past several  
24 years ago, to be honest with you. Once it is,  
25 though, adopted, I do need to get it to the

1 Secretary of State. That's what this says. We have  
2 several actually. I mean, we have Charter  
3 Communications.

4 THE COURT: Comcast, Trenton Telephone.

5 MR. TOWNSEND: Trenton Telephone, TVN,  
6 their new TV service, cable service and --

7 MR. BREEDEN: Would that -- how would  
8 that Direct TV fall into this because it's a  
9 cable -- I mean, it's a satellite system.

10 MR. PITTMAN: And Dish Network.

11 MR. TOWNSEND: We don't receive  
12 anything from Direct or Dish Network.

13 MR. BREEDEN: I'm just saying, so  
14 they're not any kind of provider, so they wouldn't  
15 fall under this?

16 MR. TOWNSEND: I wish they did, but  
17 they don't. Also, I think EPB. There's a small  
18 area out on Lookout that's serviced by EPB. And  
19 there's -- you know, I think most of the vendors are  
20 aware it's a five percent rate. This is a state  
21 agreement that almost all counties, probably all  
22 counties have adopted it. It's a model ordinance  
23 that we basically in Dade County --

24 MR. BREEDEN: So a Dish provider  
25 wouldn't be considered a video service franchise?

1 MR. ROGERS: That's my understanding.  
2 The way the statute -- the state statute is written,  
3 I don't think they'll qualify. But that's certainly  
4 something we can go back and be sure. We adopted  
5 the model form.

6 MR. BREEDEN: What kind of franchise  
7 would they be if they weren't a video?

8 MR. ROGERS: The way you regulate  
9 something, I mean, I don't know that you can  
10 regulate something, a satellite transmitting, but  
11 you can do --

12 MR. BREEDEN: They're retailing in your  
13 county.

14 MR. ROGERS: If there's a physical sort  
15 of plant or something within the county, you can do  
16 that. It's much more difficult if it's by  
17 satellite, but we can take a look at that and see.

18 MR. RUMLEY: Lionel, can you comment on  
19 it?

20 MR. AUSTIN: It has to be a physical  
21 facility.

22 MR. RUMLEY: Just like a cell tower.  
23 It's got to have a physical -- okay. Lionel Austin,  
24 they're here from our phone company.

25 MR. SMITH: (Inaudible)

1 MR. BREEDEN: Maybe we need to tax you  
2 for it.

3 MR. AUSTIN: That's private property.

4 MR. TOWNSEND: It's private property he  
5 said, not public.

6 MR. BREEDEN: What is?

7 MR. TOWNSEND: Where your dish is  
8 located. They have to have it on public property on  
9 right-of-ways.

10 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Everybody fine with  
11 that?

12 MR. BREEDEN: Then they're playing  
13 unfair.

14 MR. AUSTIN: Yeah, they are.

15 MR. BREEDEN: So I understand that if  
16 you implement this, you're going to go for the four  
17 or five percent? This says up to and includes. I  
18 didn't know.

19 MR. TOWNSEND: We have it.

20 MR. RUMLEY: We've been collecting from  
21 Charter for a long time or Comcast.

22 MR. BREEDEN: So we can't charge  
23 Georgia Power this since they're a cable company?

24 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Everybody fine with  
25 it? Any more questions?

1 All right. Let me back up to -- I  
2 don't think she's texted you back?

3 MR. BREEDEN: She's -- no. I've asked  
4 her are you thinking, but I haven't --

5 MR. RUMLEY: Let's move back up to the  
6 R-36-14. Don, I'll let you go ahead and go over  
7 that.

8 MR. TOWNSEND: You have a copy there.  
9 Oh, this has been -- well, normally the amendment is  
10 on a budget, a page. So I don't know how you want  
11 to look at this. We've been discussing this all  
12 week. We've been discussing this since February to  
13 be honest with you, but this has been a very much  
14 live and living document.

15 Currently the budget has now been  
16 reduced -- it was at one time close to 10 million.  
17 It's now \$8,847,700. As stated -- as I stated in  
18 the public hearing, I guess all three, I know the  
19 third one for sure, I was asked the question what do  
20 we have to do if this doesn't pass? We have to cut  
21 services and employees, because we've already cut  
22 for the seven years actually things like general  
23 supplies, contract services, all those kind of lines  
24 that run up and down the budgets. We've been  
25 cutting those for seven years. So, I mean, believe

1 it or not -- I mean, I'm sure a lot of people out  
2 here think we don't, we haven't really done that,  
3 but you can call each department head,  
4 constitutional officer, whoever or myself, Ted,  
5 y'all. I think all of us here --

6 MR. RUMLEY: We've actually cut  
7 employees since --

8 MR. TOWNSEND: So what we're looking  
9 at -- I mean, we can go line item by line item on  
10 the changes or we can go by the departments. But if  
11 you look at the -- and I've had several calls. I  
12 know everybody is wanting a copy. It literally just  
13 finished printing. I mean, we've been changing and  
14 updates. Some people would come back and say, well,  
15 I can do a little more. Here it is. The sheriff  
16 came back three times. Jane Moreland's office came  
17 back three or four times today.

18 MR. RUMLEY: She's been in there four  
19 times today.

20 MR. TOWNSEND: So we've had several  
21 people working with us on this. It's not just the  
22 constitutional officers. They have greatly assisted  
23 us, helping us. Legislative appointed boards is --  
24 we're talking about like the Board of Assessor --  
25 no, the Board of Equalization and ABC Board, Alcohol

1 Beverage Control Board. I can go line item by line  
2 item. I prefer not to, but if you want to, that  
3 does include payments to board members themselves  
4 and such things as professional fees, postage and  
5 shipping, travel, education and training, general  
6 supplies. That's a \$6,000 cut. It's only \$8,000.

7 Board of Elections, we have a voluntary  
8 furlough in this department and we also have a cut  
9 in part-time employees, \$10,400. Again, 10,000 in  
10 election. We're hoping that the federal runoff  
11 that's scheduled for January 2015 does not occur.  
12 If it does occur, we're going to have to come back  
13 and figure out how we're going to pay for it. We're  
14 going to gamble though and take it out of the  
15 budget.

16 When I talk about taking employees out,  
17 you can almost always assume there's a reduction in  
18 payroll taxes, which is FICA, workers'  
19 compensation --

20 MR. RUMLEY: And insurance.

21 MR. TOWNSEND: -- and insurance.

22 Travel in this budget was cut, education and  
23 training, general supplies and materials and  
24 electricity you can see is even being cut on some of  
25 these departments as a result of the reduction or

1 the switch in hours if we are able to accomplish  
2 that.

3           The next is the Commission. We're  
4 looking now at a \$48,200 cut. That includes almost  
5 all these departments. Any hardware, computer  
6 hardware or software, all that's cut. You see on  
7 page two, 3,000, 1,000, 5,000 is cut out for  
8 equipment. Employee -- regular employees, we've got  
9 4,000 in part-time employees, 15,400 in regular,  
10 1,000 under insurance deductibles, 1,200 in  
11 advertising, 7,000 in travel, 3,000 in education in  
12 and electricity. I believe those electricity should  
13 actually be more.

14           MR. PITTMAN: Don, one thing on our  
15 page, I don't know if you explained it to everybody,  
16 but you told me why the general supplies and  
17 material --

18           MR. TOWNSEND: Oh, yeah. General  
19 supplies, we did cut that. Our is higher because  
20 most of these boards and different folks that come  
21 through, I won't say they steal our pencils and  
22 pens, but they borrow them and never bring them back  
23 and, you know, granted, I mean, if someone needs a  
24 box of this or that, we let them have it. We try to  
25 charge that budget if they need it, but we can't --

1 we don't have someone manning the gate there. I  
2 mean, we're talking about employees now. We're not  
3 talking about strangers walking in and stealing  
4 rubber bands, but still it is reduction.

5           Management information systems, which  
6 is computer folks, IT department, we've cut that  
7 \$20,000, which is a very risky business. That  
8 budget includes things such as computer hardware,  
9 software, equipment, maintenance, education and  
10 training and general supplies, \$20,000. That's our  
11 network that runs from up here basically -- well, I  
12 guess the justice building all the way to the  
13 senior. If the network goes down, we're all down.  
14 Right now we're in the best shape we've been in in a  
15 long time. They've maintained it and that's what  
16 it's all about. It's kind of like taking care of a  
17 car. If you change the oil and everything and keep  
18 the fluids going, we should be good and the same  
19 thing with this. They watch it daily. We do three  
20 backups and it's very necessary. But we're going  
21 to, again, risk it a little bit here.

22           Tax commissioner, the big number on  
23 this page at the very top and that's where the  
24 millage rate, three percent -- the three mill  
25 increase did not occur. We have reduced real

1 property tax current year by \$1,052,300. So that's  
2 the big number there and there are a couple of --  
3 well, two increases, 2,000 in timber and 10,000 in  
4 motor vehicle. We did review motor vehicle title ad  
5 valorem tax when your MPA -- whatever it is called,  
6 TAVT.

7           Based on projections -- we finally got  
8 numbers for the year and based on those numbers plus  
9 a .05 percent increase, we anticipate 25,000 more  
10 and that's good. That's great news. We just found  
11 that out yesterday. \$7,000 increase on mobile  
12 homes. And at the bottom, there is reductions and  
13 1,200 -- I'll talk about this in a minute. In  
14 regular employee, part-time employees, 5,600, group  
15 insurance, 4,200. Payroll, FICA and all that stuff,  
16 200. Peter Cervelli -- it's smaller numbers, but  
17 they do add up. Computer hardware, I'm talking  
18 about \$600 under electricity, 400 under travel and  
19 such.

20           But we're talking about there is an  
21 employee out of this budget and that's one question  
22 the commissioners have had. So I'm here to report  
23 there is an employee out of this department. Board  
24 of Property Assessors, \$700. You're seeing some  
25 numbers up here that are small. Let me tell you, in

1 the past, there has been a deferred payment around  
2 Christmas. Used to we liked to call it a Christmas  
3 bonus. Now, this will be the headline, I'm sure.  
4 CFO said it, but go ahead and put me down, but bah  
5 humbug that these mean commissioners have taken out  
6 the Christmas bonus. And I'm sorry, but that's --  
7 you know, when it's -- you're talking about overall  
8 thousands of dollars. It's \$150 a year for a  
9 full-time employee, \$75 a year for a part-time  
10 employee. Well, if you add all that up, it comes up  
11 to an employee's salary and to be honest with you,  
12 we would rather have an employee here for the whole  
13 year than to have -- than to give her the money  
14 back. I'm sorry to say we had to do that, but  
15 that's currently the way it is. If we can come up  
16 with some money some other way, we'll try to do it.  
17 That has been a deferred compensation. That's the  
18 way the attorney prefers to hear that, but we don't  
19 get free things.

20                   Two hundred dollars for travel, 500 for  
21 uniforms, 600 for electricity, 1,300 for gas -- I'm  
22 sorry, computer hardware at the Board of Assessors.  
23 I couldn't really change a lot on their budget  
24 because of the consent order that's already been  
25 discussed tonight.

1 MR. BREEDEN: Let me ask you this, Don.  
2 Where was the taking out of the Christmas bonus?

3 MR. TOWNSEND: It's under employees.  
4 You'll see those small numbers at the top, 600, 500,  
5 300, based off --

6 MR. BREEDEN: You spread it out over  
7 different departments?

8 MR. TOWNSEND: Yes. Regular employees,  
9 \$600, building repairs, a couple of thousand dollars  
10 there, 500 insurance, property, 1,800 cleaning  
11 supplies, 600 in gasoline, 1,000 in computer  
12 hardware --

13 MR. RUMLEY: All that is --

14 MR. TOWNSEND: Right. 6,000 out of  
15 judicial administration, which is the -- basically  
16 Judge House we're talking about the hallways. The  
17 5,000 is a big thing there, the electricity and I  
18 believe that would be more. Again, I'm trying to be  
19 conservative. I have no idea.

20 Superior court clerk's office is  
21 regular employees, 27,400. We did put \$1,000 back  
22 for overtime just in case because we've taken an  
23 employee out here so in case during court week, if  
24 someone happened to be sick and she's in court, she  
25 has to have someone answer the phone. We never know

1 when those things are going to go on an evening or  
2 weekend. 5,200 was cut under the other insurance  
3 and taxes, 1,500 under equipment, 1,000 in travel,  
4 37,000 total for that department reduction.

5 District attorney even got cut.  
6 They're planning on hiring an assistant district  
7 attorney for Lookout Mountain judicial circuit.  
8 Dade County only pays ten percent of that bill  
9 annually and so we cut \$3,100 out. That doesn't  
10 sound like much, but Dade County (inaudible) than  
11 the other three counties in the circuit.

12 Chief Magistrate's office, \$1,800  
13 overall. Probate judge, we increased revenue 19,700  
14 and a lot of that is probate court fines and fees.  
15 It's something only the judge controls based on  
16 fines and fees. Well, I mean, she controls it from  
17 the standpoint of tickets and e-mails, etc. And  
18 then travel, 1,200, \$1,000 for the computer hardware  
19 and software, 2,200 overall.

20 Juvenile court, 5,000, which is mostly  
21 out of attorney fees because of attorney ad litem  
22 now -- used to -- Robin can help me with this. It's  
23 my understanding that they -- if they have five  
24 children in the family, used to be one attorney  
25 could represent all five children. Now each

1 person -- each child gets their own attorney under  
2 state law.

3 MR. ROGERS: Well, it differs depending  
4 on what case it is, but it's very possible.

5 MR. TOWNSEND: Right. So Judge Henry  
6 has been very helpful with us on this trying to  
7 maintain that cost. But he said the pendulum  
8 sometimes swings heavier and then other years it's  
9 not a heavy case load. This is a heavy case load  
10 year. I have no idea why, but DFACS, they've been  
11 really working hard, I guess, and it's just a big  
12 time of year. So that's going to be close. It's  
13 down to 50,000 and you would think that would cover  
14 it, but I have no idea. This is the first full  
15 12-month cycle.

16 Public defender's office also did not  
17 escape. They have 1,600. Law enforcement overall,  
18 mostly through employees, regular employee cuts gave  
19 up 33,000 on that -- I mean, out of the line item.  
20 That's a second round of cuts. Group insurance,  
21 13,250, 2,500 under education and training and as  
22 well as travel, 6,400, computer hardware for a total  
23 of \$66,300.

24 Community watch programs we discussed  
25 taking out completely, but they fund themselves.

1 Everything that -- if they expense \$200, guess what,  
2 they give us a check for \$200. They bring it back  
3 to us. So we left that alone.

4 Adult correctional, which is the jail,  
5 again, we're talking about employee cuts and at the  
6 top, the insurance and for a total of 67,300.

7 MR. RUMLEY: Now, let me explain how  
8 many employees that is because that's out of the  
9 jail.

10 MR. TOWNSEND: Out of the jail -- let  
11 me say this about the sheriff's office. Originally,  
12 I had three cuts. They've added one more cut for a  
13 total of four.

14 MR. RUMLEY: Not counting the jail.  
15 That's the sheriff's department.

16 MR. TOWNSEND: Yeah. That's just the  
17 sheriff's office. Under the jail alone, they have  
18 cut two employees, one part-time and one full-time.  
19 When I say cut, I mean, lay off. So \$67,300 in  
20 cuts.

21 Juvenile justice, there was no change  
22 to the budget because 100 percent of it is paid back  
23 to us and plus we make \$11,400 to the state agency.  
24 Each fire department there's always heavy equipment  
25 amount listed. This year we narrowed it down to

1 8,000. We took it out. That's for major repairs.  
2 So 8,000 is gone overall as far as the  
3 administration goes and each department or South  
4 Dade Fire Department, North Dade Fire Department,  
5 West Brow Fire Department, New Salem Fire  
6 Department, New Home Department, Davis Volunteer  
7 Fire Department and Trenton Volunteer Fire  
8 Department each were cut \$150 per month for a total  
9 of \$1,800 out of their supplement. That's hard.  
10 You wouldn't think \$150 would buy a lot. It buys a  
11 lot for our fire departments.

12 MR. RUMLEY: And their supplement, the  
13 total amount of their supplement per month.

14 MR. TOWNSEND: The reduction is 1,800  
15 from their supplement. That brings their supplement  
16 back to 19,200 each.

17 THE COURT: A year?

18 MR. TOWNSEND: Yes.

19 MR. RUMLEY: So they're getting almost  
20 20,000 a year?

21 MR. TOWNSEND: They are. Ambulance is  
22 \$6,000. We cut three -- mostly three employees.  
23 And I mean, I can get you the numbers, I guess.  
24 That's seven. We cut seven employees out of EMS.  
25 That's ambulance services.

1                   Coroner, Johnny Gray only makes \$3,253  
2 a year, so we're not cutting him out of his salary,  
3 considering that's not the most pleasant job in the  
4 world. We did cut his computer though. He asked  
5 for a new computer, so we'll just fix it, cut  
6 \$1,000.

7                   I'm sorry. Emergency 911 had a  
8 reduction in employees. They laid off two  
9 employees. \$67,600 is the total on that, 77,300 for  
10 the entire department, 4,250 in education and  
11 training along with a host of other cuts, general  
12 supplies and such.

13                   Animal control, we only pay \$3,500 a  
14 year to the City of Trenton and that's for vicious  
15 animals. So we did not reduce that. Emergency  
16 management is a required mandated department or  
17 whatever of the county, so -- or the state. Their  
18 budget remains at 29,800, plus we get the grants  
19 that total \$11,000.

20                   Public works, road department cut one  
21 employee and we're having a partial layoff of nine  
22 employees in the department for four weeks, each  
23 employee will be laid off for four weeks sometime in  
24 the fall or the spring. So one employee is laid off  
25 entirely, \$43,700 savings for a year, 4,500 in

1 insurance. 33,900 under general supplies, 10,000  
2 under gasoline, 20,000 under site improvement and  
3 road construction was \$157,500 for a total reduction  
4 of \$276,500. Public works transfer station  
5 recycling was cut a couple of three years ago. That  
6 reduced it. Monday is closed. So there's not a lot  
7 we did there, but we did take their Christmas bonus.  
8 I'm sorry. Deferred compensation. 5,000 off the  
9 landfill and \$400 for general supplies. \$6,000  
10 total cut.

11 MR. SMITH: After the RFP, this would  
12 be --

13 MR. TOWNSEND: That's what I'm counting  
14 on. Landfill fees was 170, but I hope to save  
15 5,000. Billy is pretty tight and he's got that  
16 budget down to pennies. So we'll hopefully -- yeah,  
17 that's the goal with that RFP.

18 95,800 was regular employees for the  
19 barn. We did cut only \$400. They are mechanics, so  
20 we have three excellent ones. \$2,000 on general  
21 supplies, 2,400 deduction.

22 Public health, you don't see any  
23 deduction here, but from the original budget that  
24 got us to this point on June 19th, which was the  
25 last approved budget, there was \$7,600 cut out of

1 that budget. So we felt like that was already  
2 sufficient, a sufficient cut to the health  
3 department. Welfare, there was no change. The  
4 budget is 54,700, which is mostly utilities, which  
5 utilities are being reimbursed 100 percent, plus  
6 their lease is 131,940 that they paid to the county.  
7 Again, we're actually making in revenues \$150,000.

8           Senior citizens building was reduced  
9 2,200. There was discussion of completely closing  
10 it, but we did not do that. So \$2,200 will be cut  
11 on general supplies and maintenance. If we require  
12 more, then we will cut the contracted services out,  
13 which is the cleaning lady.

14           Public transportation has been reduced  
15 \$50,500. That is one full-time driver. There was  
16 discussion of having three and have gone round and  
17 round on this one this week. Currently right now it  
18 is one driver, one full-time, \$25,500 along with the  
19 insurance and such, repairs and maintenance to that  
20 vehicle. Not just that vehicle, but reduction of  
21 3,000, 1,200 in insurance, 1,600 for telephone,  
22 4,000 contracted services, 8,000 in gasoline for a  
23 total of 50,500. In addition to that though, the  
24 other four employees will face four weeks of partial  
25 layoffs, which is sometime in the year, they'll have

1 to take a four-week layoff. It may not be together,  
2 but anyway.

3 MR. BREEDEN: So the whole public  
4 transportation system, even though it's a \$245,000  
5 budget cost the taxpayer \$85,400 out of that  
6 245,000. The rest of it is grants from --

7 MR. TOWNSEND: That's correct. It's  
8 cut down from 300,000. Basically, the taxpayer --  
9 85,400 is the exact number.

10 MR. BREEDEN: Right.

11 MR. TOWNSEND: Because we get a public  
12 assistance grant from Section 5311. 414,165 federal  
13 grant capital, 4,626 in transit trips for the  
14 senior. I don't know where Annette went, but anyway  
15 34,220 in passenger fares, which was just increased  
16 7,000.

17 MR. BREEDEN: Right. And 35,000 of  
18 that 85,000 is gasoline.

19 MR. TOWNSEND: Yes. Parks and  
20 recreation, there was discussion of closing the  
21 parks, but at this point, there is a reduction in  
22 staff. They're going to have a partial layoff of  
23 one employee from November 15th through  
24 February 15th and the part-time person has been --  
25 two other part-time people have already been laid

1 off. Well, yes, that's correct. Two people have  
2 been laid off in July. So that's already happened.  
3 And then general supplies, we're looking at possibly  
4 closing the park as far as power, having access to  
5 lights and such completely from November 15th  
6 through February 15th.

7 MR. RUMLEY: The park won't be closed,  
8 but any night activity.

9 MR. TOWNSEND: Right. While the  
10 sunshine is out, you can still walk, still use the  
11 tennis courts.

12 MR. BREEDEN: If you walk with a  
13 flashlight --

14 MR. TOWNSEND: You can walk with a  
15 flashlight, your flashlight. Anything y'all want to  
16 say about that?

17 MR. RUMLEY: Well, the tennis courts,  
18 we had an evaluation on the lights on the ball  
19 fields back last year. We know exactly how much it  
20 cost to turn just one field on, the startup on it  
21 between 75 and \$100 just to turn those lights on one  
22 field. After it gets up to maximum, you know, the  
23 power drops because it takes a lot to bring it up to  
24 par. The tennis court lights we do have a timer on  
25 them, but Georgia Power is going to do an evaluation

1 on that and see what we're looking at. We may cut  
2 the timer in half or something, but people still use  
3 it. There's still a lot of people that use the  
4 tennis courts more than you think. We'll just make  
5 a decision on that later on whether, you know --

6 MR. TOWNSEND: That's a reduction of  
7 \$38,600. Regional -- let's see, the library, the  
8 library was at 69,500. Right now with this budget,  
9 it's listed at 55,600. It was zero earlier in the  
10 week, but it couldn't technically be zero because we  
11 already wrote two checks. So then it went back up  
12 to 59,000 and then back down to 35,000. It's  
13 currently 55,600. That's a 13,900 reduction.

14 MR. BREEDEN: Right. I think that one  
15 thing that disturbed me when I come -- and I want  
16 all you library people to know I'm not wanting to  
17 close your library. But what disturbed me about  
18 this library thing is what the school -- how the  
19 school system handles it. And in my mind, I don't  
20 know how they can separate themselves from the  
21 library. I know for a few years they wasn't giving  
22 anything to it. This year I think they're giving 10  
23 or 10,500 to it. If the library is no more  
24 important to the school system than that, you know,  
25 I ask myself why is it that important to us? I

1 mean, to me, they're so intertwined and most of the  
2 advocates for the library are teachers and so that's  
3 how I intertwine them. What I'm getting is I think  
4 there should be some matched funds across the board  
5 with the City, County and the school board. That's  
6 just my personal opinion.

7 MR. PITTMAN: That's how it's set up.

8 MR. BREEDEN: It's how it's set up?

9 MR. PITTMAN: It's how it's supposed to  
10 be.

11 MR. RUMLEY: He's talking about  
12 equalized.

13 MR. BREEDEN: Well, the County gives  
14 68,000, the City gives 24,000 and the school gives  
15 10,000, so it's not equal share or it's not matched  
16 and that's what I'm saying. It should be matched  
17 funds, you know. Now, I know it's all taxpayers'  
18 money, but who gets beat up the worst, the City, the  
19 school board or the County when you're raising  
20 taxes? I dare say the County gets beat up the worst  
21 when we're having to deal with this. Hey, I'm just  
22 speaking out loud as to what I feel needs to be done  
23 here. I think the school should step up to the  
24 plate and support their library better and they're  
25 not.

1 MR. TOWNSEND: That equaled a  
2 20 percent cut by the way.

3 Soil conservation reduction of 9,400.  
4 You've got to remember, we do have a 16,000 grant  
5 for that department. That's based on a voluntary  
6 furlough on his part. Extension agency is down  
7 \$1,000. The County did make a commitment to the  
8 university system and to the state to bring Katie  
9 Hammond, an agent, back to Dade County and we made  
10 that commitment for a three-year commitment and  
11 we're in the second year of that commitment and so  
12 we have not touched that.

13 MR. RUMLEY: That's when Ted Dyer left,  
14 replaced Ted.

15 MR. TOWNSEND: Chances are in the  
16 future, and it may be, it may be a more drastic cut,  
17 but with that commitment made by us, we're trying to  
18 honor that commitment. Anyway, it's a \$1,000  
19 reduction.

20 MR. BREEDEN: Up top on that, you've  
21 got three line items, but nothing out from it. I  
22 mean, is that stuff that you used to get reimbursed  
23 on?

24 MR. TOWNSEND: It varies. Some  
25 years -- I mean, sometimes they may bring back a

1 miscellaneous travel voucher or something that  
2 wasn't used, somebody gets sick or something. But  
3 it's nothing we can count on.

4 MR. BREEDEN: So you're not getting any  
5 kind of federal grants or state grants or something?

6 MR. TOWNSEND: If you look at their  
7 salaries, we only supplement the salaries. The only  
8 true salary there is -- well, I don't have the  
9 breakdown, but is what's her name, Jill Mavity.  
10 Jill is the only really county employee. The other  
11 two, the county pays a supplement. The university  
12 system pays like 70 percent of their salary. So  
13 it's not shown there because they pay it directly  
14 from the state. (Inaudible) is a place holder for  
15 that department, brings in 6,700 mostly from  
16 electrical inspections a year, timber permits and  
17 it's \$1,000 expense.

18 And economic development, which is the  
19 Northwest Georgia Joint Development Authority and  
20 Northwest Georgia Regional Commission, Association  
21 of Tennessee Valley governments, the Chattanooga  
22 Hamilton County CEOs, it totals \$42,837. And also,  
23 in that there was a reduction of \$2,170. We did  
24 remove the JDA. We did put back the JDA this week.  
25 There was a lot of discussion about that. Y'all may

1 want to comment on it.

2 MR. RUMLEY: The reason being if we  
3 removed it now, we found out that the actual deal  
4 that they're working with Accellent and JMS would be  
5 practically eliminated. We'd be probably losing  
6 about 75 jobs, plus 40 new jobs that they're  
7 bringing to it because the state would automatically  
8 retrieve that offer and they dropped it down to  
9 about \$75 for tax incentive per head, where now  
10 they're getting close to \$900 a head. It would  
11 be -- you know, we need to bear with it another year  
12 and just see what happens because these two plants  
13 are -- JMS especially, they're fixing to hit the fan  
14 and also Accellent. We would be -- we can't  
15 jeopardize those jobs over there. There's no way.

16 MR. TOWNSEND: And the other thing  
17 there is the Chamber and the Chamber was reduced  
18 \$4,033. They now have a budget of \$9,967. It could  
19 have been 9,900, but we had 67 extra dollars, so I  
20 gave it to the Chamber. Shame on me. Whatever. I  
21 don't care. But anyway, 9,967. We've already cut  
22 two checks. There are two options there. One,  
23 reduce it to \$800 a month. I think we probably just  
24 need to talk to their board about that, let Ted work  
25 that out or continue to pay them what we've been

1 paying them and then if it runs out in April or May,  
2 it runs out. But with the initiation of the  
3 hotel/motel tax, it's a lot, if not 100 percent  
4 tourism type dollars that could be funneled toward  
5 the Chamber or whoever.

6 MR. RUMLEY: Well, that's all it can be  
7 spent on. It's got to be spent on tourism.

8 MR. TOWNSEND: So if those proceeds  
9 were to come in, perhaps we can restore that back to  
10 another value.

11 MR. BREEDEN: Right. So to clarify,  
12 that hotel/motel tax doesn't relieve the burden on  
13 property tax. I mean, it does, but it don't. It  
14 goes to the Chamber.

15 MR. RUMLEY: Well, it can be spent in  
16 other ways.

17 MR. BREEDEN: In advertising or  
18 tourism?

19 MR. RUMLEY: It's got to be spent on  
20 something related to that.

21 MR. BREEDEN: But I mean the only  
22 direct relief it can give is the \$10,000 for the  
23 Chamber really if it could carry that.

24 MR. RUMLEY: One thing.

25 MR. BREEDEN: Can it be applied to the

1 JDA since it is advertising for the county? Is it  
2 strictly tourism?

3 MR. RUMLEY: Well, that's why we want  
4 him to do the research.

5 MR. ROGERS: The statute only allows  
6 you to apply the proceeds for very specific  
7 designated purposes.

8 MR. BREEDEN: The hotel/motel tax.  
9 You've got to apply it only in special places?

10 MR. ROGERS: That's correct.

11 MR. BREEDEN: But it can fund the  
12 Chamber?

13 MR. ROGERS: It can go towards tourism  
14 and various things like that.

15 MR. BREEDEN: It can take the place of  
16 this \$10,000?

17 MR. ROGERS: Yeah. We can provide that  
18 money and it can be used by the Chamber for tourism  
19 purposes. I don't know what their budget is or  
20 anything like that, but yes, we can use it for that  
21 money. We can't directly fund an executive  
22 position, but we can fund the Chamber for tourism.

23 MR. BREEDEN: You're talking like a  
24 lawyer in court now. Hang on a minute. When we  
25 give them a budget, that \$9,967, it's for them to

1 spend, I guess, however they designate. If they get  
2 this hotel/motel tax, it's only got to be spent  
3 specific ways. So that hotel/motel tax won't  
4 necessarily replace that budgeted money fully? Do  
5 you understand what I'm saying?

6 MR. RUMLEY: It will take that line  
7 item off right there.

8 MR. BREEDEN: Well, what I was  
9 understanding him saying, the Chamber could only use  
10 it for tourism.

11 MR. TOWNSEND: The ordinance has  
12 been --

13 MR. ROGERS: That's correct. When we  
14 provide that money to the Chamber, we don't say we  
15 are giving you this money for funding whatever  
16 position. That's correct.

17 MR. BREEDEN: Right. We don't attach  
18 strings to our money, but this would have strings  
19 attached.

20 MR. TOWNSEND: Some, to a degree.

21 MR. BREEDEN: I was just trying to  
22 figure out if it would totally --

23 MR. ROGERS: Right.

24 MR. BREEDEN: -- take care of their  
25 needs.

1 MR. TOWNSEND: Probably. We can't say  
2 100 percent until we write the --

3 MR. BREEDEN: Right.

4 MR. TOWNSEND: I talked to the  
5 Department of Community Affairs and they're having a  
6 meeting, I believe, next Thursday in Blairsville  
7 that I hope to attend. I can't believe I'm saying  
8 that because I don't like going to Blairsville. I  
9 have a lot of kinfolks up there. It's not the  
10 easiest --

11 MR. BREEDEN: Well, we've knocked that  
12 travel expense out.

13 MR. TOWNSEND: Yes, I know. I'm going  
14 to catch a ride on a Greyhound, I guess, at my  
15 expense, of course. But anyway, hopefully someone  
16 else from the Chamber perhaps would like to go with  
17 me and drive and I would be glad to ride with them  
18 and we'll study up on this and have the Department  
19 of Community Affairs hopefully come to Dade County.  
20 I mean, we want to do it right so that we get the  
21 best benefit. If it's set up wrong out of the gate,  
22 it can be a nightmare, to be honest with you. We  
23 don't want a problem. We want something that's  
24 going to help us. I mean, if it's -- most Dade  
25 Countians at night don't go spend the night in

1 hotels. I mean, you know, so it's people passing  
2 through and hopefully those people staying a night  
3 can help us draw other people for tourism.

4 MR. RUMLEY: All right. Move on to the  
5 next.

6 MR. TOWNSEND: All right. Moving on to  
7 the next thing, I just want to talk about real quick  
8 the layoffs. We had two part-timers, I guess you  
9 would say, completely laid off. Three, maybe four  
10 furloughs there and in the building maintenance, one  
11 furlough -- yeah, one voluntary furlough. We have  
12 one layoff in Annette's public transportation, four  
13 partial layoffs. Parks and rec, three, one partial  
14 layoff and two -- one partial layoff and two  
15 complete layoffs.

16 MR. PITTMAN: Don, can you start over?

17 MR. TOWNSEND: All right.

18 Administration had two layoffs, which is  
19 part-timers. Three furlough, voluntary furloughs.  
20 I hate to say voluntary because nobody likes to  
21 volunteer to lose money. But anyway, one furlough  
22 in building maintenance. One layoff in public  
23 transportation, four partial layoffs. One complete  
24 layoff and four partial layoffs. Parks, one partial  
25 layoff and two layoffs. Elections, one furlough and

1 everybody else there is part-time. So if you don't  
2 bring them in, they don't work. One layoff in the  
3 road department, one layoff, eight partial layoffs.

4 Superior court, one layoff. I said one  
5 cut. Layoff, whatever. Soil conservation, one  
6 furlough. Sheriff's office, again, they had three  
7 already before this second round of cuts, so that's  
8 a total of four. The jail, one part-time layoff and  
9 one full-time layoff. EMS, seven layoffs. E-911,  
10 we've got two layoffs, which again that's 22  
11 layoffs, 13 partial layoffs, six furloughs for a  
12 total of 41.

13 MR. SMITH: The total is --

14 MR. TOWNSEND: Forty-one. It's 22, 13  
15 and six. And, you know, there could be additional  
16 furloughs. We haven't been able to talk to  
17 everyone, of course, but we've talked to every  
18 department head and constitutional officer and  
19 supervisor.

20 So those are hard numbers. And, again,  
21 that big number, of course, was the reduction in the  
22 tax revenue because that is truly -- the only thing  
23 we here can set is that. We can try to control a  
24 lot of revenues here, but the bottom line is federal  
25 grants, fees and all these other things, but

1 basically if someone is using public transportation,  
2 we can't charge them. If someone does not  
3 provide -- we've got malt beverage sales. If  
4 someone doesn't buy it, they don't collect it.  
5 Grants can come and go depending on the economy. We  
6 saw that big time in 2009.

7           And emergency services such as  
8 mobile -- surcharges on mobile wireless, land lines,  
9 all those things, they've been cut in half and we're  
10 trying to find out why. We've discovered only this  
11 week that the state once again has chosen to send us  
12 what they wish to send it. It used to be \$1.50.  
13 Some of these vendors have interpreted the law a  
14 couple of years ago and now they're sending 75 cents  
15 over to the Department of Community Affairs and we  
16 get the other 75 cents.

17           MR. BREEDEN: That directly hurts your  
18 E-911.

19           MR. TOWNSEND: Sure.

20           MR. BREEDEN: I was talking to Alex.  
21 The bottom line, from what I can understand, in the  
22 old days, you might say, when it was all land line,  
23 it was a lot more economical to run E-911 with the  
24 land line system. Now that everybody is getting  
25 cell phones and that's the way the world is turning,

1 it cost more to run a cell phone wireless E-911 than  
2 it does a land line E-911. So, you know, that is an  
3 elective service. It's crazy in my mind that is  
4 elective, but it is. I mean, you don't have to have  
5 it according to the state government. But it's more  
6 expensive to have a wireless E-911 and that's part  
7 of the reason why it's \$700,000.

8           And part of what's hurting that is the  
9 state is doing something with about half of the  
10 money that's coming from the wireless providers. I  
11 don't know what, but it's killing the revenues on  
12 E-911. Because I was looking at the past budgets  
13 and I was asking Alex why is this cell phone charge  
14 dropping. We all know that it should be growing.  
15 Even if you cut off a land line, most people are  
16 going and doing that because they've got a wireless  
17 cell phone. And he said, well, because of what you  
18 explained, the government that's the state down  
19 there is doing something with half of this money.

20           MR. TOWNSEND: The vendors are actually  
21 choosing to do it.

22           MR. BREEDEN: Oh, the vendors?

23           MR. RUMLEY: That's right.

24           MR. TOWNSEND: And we can't figure out  
25 why.

1 MR. BREEDEN: I mean, it's got to be  
2 paid by them regardless. But somehow or another  
3 we're getting cut out of the loop on that and it's  
4 killing the revenue on the E-911.

5 MR. TOWNSEND: We are investigating it.  
6 We'll find out and get an answer.

7 So that is, again, \$1,052,300 cut to  
8 taxes. We're not going to collect, in other words.  
9 That's what we've had to make up. This week  
10 starting last Thursday after the meeting in my  
11 office and we worked until midnight and we worked  
12 until 11:00 the next night and basically we've made  
13 a lot of changes, but it's just nip and tuck and we  
14 don't want to cut anybody, but this is what we've  
15 got to do.

16 MR. PITTMAN: What does this bring it  
17 to, Don, as far as what a millage rate increase will  
18 be, the cost to what an average homeowner would be?

19 MR. RUMLEY: Well, it's actually 1.733.  
20 We've got a public hearing we've got to go through,  
21 but roughly on \$100,000 house without the exception  
22 or anything, you're looking at around \$70. I think  
23 it was \$68 and something on \$100,000.

24 MR. PITTMAN: So 1.733?

25 MR. BREEDEN: Angie, do you want to

1 come up and do any speaking as far as -- you know, I  
2 talked with you and your mom today. Don't give me  
3 that deer in the headlight look back there. I mean,  
4 your office took a pretty hard beating the other  
5 night and you know, I -- in meeting with you, I  
6 thought it was pretty cut and dry, just cut an  
7 employee. It's been said that -- I guess it's okay  
8 if I speak to her. Is it?

9 MR. RUMLEY: It's a work session.

10 MR. BREEDEN: Okay. And it's been  
11 said, you know, that it's, I guess, a relaxed  
12 environment in your office or your mom's office,  
13 whoever you want to call it. But in speaking with  
14 you and your mother, she said she has the same  
15 amount of employees that she had in '93. And what  
16 people don't realize is that the state is running a  
17 whole lot more stuff through your office than was  
18 being run through there back in '93 and they're  
19 doing it with the same number of people. That's  
20 what I understood. Is that all correct?

21 ANGIE: We collected \$9 million more  
22 than we did then.

23 MR. BREEDEN: Collected \$9 million  
24 more. If you're collecting, you've got to have  
25 somebody to collect it.

1           ANGIE: Yeah. It's not flying in on a  
2 magic carpet. You know, it's hard to come by.

3           MR. BREEDEN: Well, I mean, I know I  
4 wanted y'all to be able to kind of defend yourself a  
5 little bit in the fact of what is going on. You  
6 know, just like I told your mom, we've got to take  
7 it at face value that she is running a tight ship  
8 when she says she is. That's just where I've got to  
9 leave it.

10           ANGIE: Don, have you made him aware we  
11 did come back and cut somebody? Somebody lost their  
12 job.

13           MR. TOWNSEND: Yeah, I said that.

14           MR. BREEDEN: Right. I know. But I  
15 just want to say what we've discussed today, too.  
16 There's a whole lot more stuff being run through  
17 your office than what used to be with the same  
18 amount of employees that you had in '93.

19           ANGIE: And I'm not aware of any other  
20 office being audited six times a year either other  
21 than ours.

22           MR. BREEDEN: So I guess that's that.

23           MR. RUMLEY: And who Ricky is talking  
24 to, if y'all couldn't see, is our tax commissioner,  
25 our deputy tax commissioner. Our mother is our tax

1 commissioner. That's the office that Ricky was  
2 talking about. Okay. Is there any -- do you have  
3 anything else?

4 MR. TOWNSEND: That's all on the  
5 budget. Do you want to announce this next?

6 MR. RUMLEY: Well, you can. Go ahead  
7 and do it. We've got three public hearings coming  
8 up. You can go ahead and do that tonight. Of  
9 course, it's in the paper.

10 MR. TOWNSEND: Right. It will be in  
11 the paper. State law requires -- the Department of  
12 Revenue required us to have three more public  
13 hearings even though we've had three and the first  
14 one will be at 12:00 p.m. on August 21st. The  
15 second will be at 6:00 p.m. on August 21st and the  
16 third will be on August 28th at 6:00 p.m. Those  
17 are Thursdays. So skip next Thursday and then back  
18 on the next schedule. So 12:00 and 6:00 two weeks  
19 from tonight and then three weeks from tonight will  
20 be at 6:00 p.m. And then following that meeting at  
21 6:30, there will be a special-called meeting to  
22 adopt the millage rate. The millage rate now  
23 proposed is 8.179.

24 MR. RUMLEY: That's total.

25 MR. TOWNSEND: Unincorporated by the

1 way and incorporated is 10.093, but the total, what  
2 was 44 whatever .28 percent is now 25.53 percent and  
3 that's after these cuts.

4 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Any questions to  
5 Don? If not, we'll go ahead and -- Robin, do you  
6 have anything you want to add to the work session?

7 MR. ROGERS: I do not.

8 MR. RUMLEY: If not, we'll take --

9 MR. TOWNSEND: Consent agenda, the  
10 budget amendment?

11 MR. RUMLEY: Yeah. Everybody on board  
12 with that? Are there any questions? We went  
13 through the whole thing? Mitchell, do you have  
14 anything? Scottie?

15 MR. PITTMAN: No. I'm good.

16 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. We'll go ahead and  
17 recess.

18 MR. PITTMAN: I do have one thing, Ted.

19 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Go ahead.

20 MR. PITTMAN: To the county employees,  
21 I apologize. When we started this year's budget  
22 cycle, we said we would not balance the budget on  
23 you guys' back and that's exactly where we're at.  
24 From last week, the three mill increase on \$100,000  
25 house, the average citizen would have paid \$120 more

1 a year. Now with all these cuts which affect 41  
2 employee positions -- 42 positions, it's still going  
3 to be a tax increase and it's going to be \$70 on  
4 \$100,000 house. So if you have a \$100,000 house,  
5 you're saving \$50, but the county is getting 41  
6 positions affected.

7 MR. TOWNSEND: Forty-two.

8 MR. PITTMAN: Forty-two. I wish I was  
9 here Thursday night.

10 MR. RUMLEY: That's what they asked us  
11 though. That's what the public meeting was for.  
12 They came, you know, and actually showed -- they  
13 want less government, you know. That's what the  
14 people --

15 MR. PITTMAN: So now we're losing one  
16 senior van. We're losing -- the library was going  
17 to be open more. Now it's going to be the same  
18 probably, less. The ball fields are going to be  
19 closed at night. There's going to be -- there's  
20 going to be a lot of people mad on that side of the  
21 fence, too, guys. So y'all better get ready to hear  
22 some heat from both sides.

23 MR. RUMLEY: We've been getting it from  
24 both sides.

25 MR. PITTMAN: Again, I apologize to the

1 employees and the fire departments. We've got our  
2 volunteer fire departments here. We're cutting  
3 \$1,800 a year out of their supplements. They make  
4 nothing. But if you have -- I guess probably a good  
5 estimate will be you'll save 70 bucks a year. So  
6 anyway, that's what I've got to say.

7 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. We'll go ahead --  
8 if no one has anything further, we'll take a quick  
9 break. We'll go right on into the meeting.

10 (Thereupon, the work session was  
11 adjourned.)  
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3 MR. RUMLEY: We're going to start the  
4 meeting here. At this time as always, we do have  
5 prayer and Pledge of Allegiance. Tonight, Chris,  
6 would you come up and lead us in prayer? Chris, he  
7 is our executive director of our Chamber.

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

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

18 MR. SMITH: Here.

19 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman?

20 MR. PITTMAN: Here.

21 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Breeden?

22 MR. BREEDEN: Here.

23 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Bradford?

24 MR. BRADFORD: Here.

25 MR. RUMLEY: And the chair is present.

1 Mitchell, do you want to do your district report or  
2 your committee report, please?

3 MR. SMITH: I don't have much of  
4 anything other than a lot of discussion on taxes and  
5 millage rates and so forth.

6 MR. RUMLEY: Is that it? Scottie?

7 MR. PITTMAN: Yeah. One thing I got  
8 handed earlier, we're having -- our high school  
9 Wolverines are having a preseason football game  
10 tomorrow night at Lafayette starting at 7:30. In  
11 fact, they've got scheduled out we'll have another  
12 preseason game on the 22nd of August in Fort Payne  
13 at 8:00. I'm sure you can find some schedules  
14 around Trenton. It's always good to get out and  
15 support your local area high school team. Our guys  
16 work hard and get out and prepare. So it's always  
17 good for them to have a stand full of people.

18 On a sadder note, Trenton has lost a  
19 wonderful person this week, Sue Buffington. Most  
20 everybody knows her if you've ever been to JB's  
21 Variety Store. Just a wonderful woman. I grew up  
22 my high school years hanging around with her  
23 daughters and I spent a lot of time down there. Her  
24 husband passed earlier in the year and she's been  
25 having some health issues, so let's keep her family,

1 her daughters, all the relatives in our prayers.  
2 She will be in the funeral home tomorrow from 2:00  
3 to 8:00. Services are Saturday I do believe.  
4 That's all I've got.

5 MR. RUMLEY: Rick?

6 MR. BREEDEN: Just that, of course, we  
7 had Laura Holder to resign her position of the  
8 Assessor's Board.

9 MR. RUMLEY: Is your mic working?

10 MR. BREEDEN: I don't know. Well, it  
11 says it is. But I had talked to Nadine Woods and  
12 she spoke positive about it. I haven't gotten a  
13 reply back, but I got to thinking she could be out  
14 of the country. I know her and General Woods had a  
15 planned vacation out of the country in August, so  
16 that may be why I'm not getting a reply. We'll give  
17 her that benefit. That's --

18 MR. RUMLEY: We can do that at our next  
19 meeting anyway. Allan?

20 MR. BRADFORD: I would like to back up  
21 what Scottie said. Sue Buffington was a great lady.  
22 I thought the world of her and her family. Her  
23 daughter stayed with my daughter a lot of the time  
24 and she was a good lady for our county. You  
25 couldn't ask for a better personality type of lady.

1           The thing I would really like to say, I  
2 don't know how many people live on Lookout Mountain,  
3 Burkhalter is paved and it does look really good.  
4 We do have a few more things to do. A lot of people  
5 are happy and they're excited. I've had a lot of  
6 calls about it.

7           Another thing to bring up is Highway  
8 137 coming from Lafayette to Trenton. I've been  
9 dealing with the state the last couple of days. I  
10 finally got ahold of the gentleman today and they're  
11 paving 136 from Highway 27 up to the Walker County  
12 line on 136 and they're stopping. And I asked him  
13 how that happened and he said we didn't get selected  
14 because our road is like forty percent good. I just  
15 asked him when was the last time he was down 136 off  
16 of Lookout Mountain. So anyway, he's going to call  
17 me back this next week and let me know what they  
18 find out, but that part does need to be paved  
19 because it is getting really bad. And so why they  
20 paved 27 all the way up to the Walker County Road I  
21 don't understand. It doesn't make any sense to me.  
22 Well, I did know why. Tom Black is back there  
23 giving me a hard time. He has been all day.

24           The other thing I would like to say is  
25 there's been a lot of rumors running around since

1 this budget. We've had a lot of things, people said  
2 a lot of things. And I wish these things wouldn't  
3 happen, but before you jump, you need to go to the  
4 individual and talk to that individual before you  
5 say they've done certain things to make sure that's  
6 what that individual has done. This has been a very  
7 hard and trying time for your side and our side.  
8 Ted and Don have worked mostly on this situation.  
9 You know, Rick and the rest of us are in there most  
10 of the time, but they have spent a lot of time on  
11 this budget. It's been very hard on everyone.

12                   But I just say if you have a rumor, you  
13 need to go to that individual and make sure that  
14 that's the right rumor. You know, because you're  
15 going to hear anything. And most people know me, I  
16 don't say anything about anything or anybody and I  
17 would like to keep it to that point. Even though I  
18 had a real good day about Burkhalter being paved, I  
19 had a bad day about what people are saying. You  
20 know, if you've got anything to say to me, you can  
21 come to me. It doesn't matter. You can call my  
22 phone. I go to bed at 12:00 or 1:00 every night,  
23 get up at 6:00 every day and I'm available. But I  
24 would just like to bring that out because we are  
25 trying to do what's best for our county and

1 everybody has worked really hard to solve this. And  
2 I hate to see us laying people off. That's the  
3 worst thing that a person can do, but you have to do  
4 those things sometimes to make things work. If you  
5 own your business, you have to do that sometimes. I  
6 have had to do that and it's a bad situation. I  
7 would just like to say that if you've got anything  
8 to say, you need to go to individual and tell them.  
9 I feel that way. That's all I've got.

10 MR. RUMLEY: Thank you, Allan.

11 MR. BRADFORD: I did say one other  
12 thing, we could save some money on our jail by  
13 feeding them bologna sandwiches like they do in  
14 Arizona.

15 MR. RUMLEY: What now? What did you  
16 say?

17 MR. BRADFORD: We could feed our  
18 jail -- people in jail bologna sandwiches like they  
19 do in Arizona and probably cut back some.

20 MR. RUMLEY: Oh, was that on the news?

21 MR. BRADFORD: That's just a joke.

22 MR. RUMLEY: Thank you, Allan. We have  
23 worked -- we have worked a lot on this since  
24 Thursday and put lot of hours in it. Of course,  
25 you're talking about rumors and stuff. My ears burn

1 all the time. You know, it's just part of being  
2 politically involved because you open your life up  
3 to the public. If you don't know that when you  
4 cross the line and you actually are elected into  
5 that office, especially a commission position, then  
6 you better not cross that line because it's -- you  
7 know, to a lot of people -- you know, you're  
8 instantly -- people you've known all your life,  
9 you're the bad guy, I guess you might say. You're  
10 the government. So that's part of being in this  
11 position and it's just -- you just have to accept  
12 it.

13 MR. BREEDEN: You didn't tell me that  
14 part of it either.

15 MR. RUMLEY: No, I did, too. I sat  
16 there and talked to you an hour about it.

17 MR. BREEDEN: You said vote your  
18 conscience. You didn't tell me I was going to get  
19 beat up.

20 MR. RUMLEY: Well, anyway, I've had a  
21 pretty busy month and mainly most of my time was  
22 spent trying to work actually on this budget and on  
23 the millage rate and trying to, you know, be fair  
24 across the board on some things, but I do have some  
25 good things. You know, we did go to a meeting with

1 the people that own the spinning mill, the actual  
2 building down here. Jeff Mullis -- actually, I  
3 picked him up. We went to a meeting in Dalton just  
4 to find out, okay, what's going on with this thing  
5 because there's been a lot of traffic down there, a  
6 lot of cars different days and tractor trailers in  
7 and out.

8           Of course, they wouldn't tell us  
9 anything positive, but they did assure us that the  
10 building totally now is off the market. They have  
11 got plans for it. They didn't tell us what. The  
12 building is completely gutted now. There's nothing  
13 in there at all and they're actually having a  
14 cleaning company come in and completely strip and  
15 clean all walls and floors.

16           So when we left there, you know, really  
17 I was hoping to bring back maybe good news, you  
18 know, jobs, jobs, but that is good news to me  
19 because I know they're not going to spend that many  
20 -- that much money on that building unless they've  
21 got something going on. So I feel good about it.  
22 He couldn't tell us what or anything, but I felt  
23 good about the meeting.

24           We had the tournament down -- Dixie  
25 Youth tournament we reported on last -- I meant to

1 get you to comment on that. It went real well  
2 except for the fact that the week that we chose to  
3 have it, it rained every day from the time they  
4 started almost. That did kind of -- that kind of  
5 hurt us on that. But it was a really -- it went  
6 real smooth, had a lot of people go to it. We did  
7 have two teams in the tournament. So hopefully next  
8 year they'll think about using us again and it won't  
9 rain like it did. But they did a good job. The rec  
10 league, they really did a great job. They had  
11 people volunteering and working and Stacy and all of  
12 them. It would rain one day and -- one morning they  
13 were out there way before daylight working getting  
14 the thing dried up. So I just wanted to say to  
15 everyone there, we appreciate the -- all the help  
16 and for making that happen.

17           Let's see here, also met with -- this  
18 may not sound like big news to y'all, but a lot of  
19 people are involved in gardening and canning and  
20 we've discussed about -- I guess the last, I don't  
21 know, year about actually helping the 4-H, the 4-H  
22 getting together with private people and putting a  
23 cannery in, you know, like one room or whatever.  
24 Well, the school has offered the old lunchroom over  
25 here behind where the old high school is at. And we

1 met the nutritionist over there, our 4-H rep and  
2 some volunteers that are going ahead. We've just  
3 got to get out now and try to make it happen because  
4 it's an ideal place. They've got a lot of equipment  
5 in there. A lot of people will look at you and  
6 think, well, why that? Well, Cleveland, Tennessee  
7 is what kind of sold me on it because I never really  
8 take it serious, but they have a little building up  
9 there they run through the summer and -- well,  
10 volunteers do and people bring their garden -- their  
11 vegetables and their cans or jars and everybody  
12 helps each other and when you walk out of there,  
13 everybody, you know, has -- they've got all their  
14 canning done for the winter.

15           You don't even have to have a garden.  
16 A lot of people, they'll buy maybe ten dozen corn,  
17 you know, and whatever. It's something we're  
18 looking at and with our 4-H. And Katie, I know  
19 she's excited about it. She can report on that.  
20 They're going to have a canning class before too  
21 long here in the county. I'll let her touch on  
22 that.

23           Other than the meeting with the ribbon  
24 cutting with the Pointe Apartments, the new  
25 apartments here at the south end, you know, we did

1 go down there. There was several people that  
2 attended that, saw it in the paper. It really  
3 amazed me to go through those apartments and see  
4 just what we have there. They're really nice. I  
5 mean, it's amazing for 55 and older people. It's  
6 very modern and, you know, I think they said they  
7 had like four left the other day when we were there.  
8 It's just amazing. It's such an asset to this  
9 county to have that.

10 But the rest of my month, most of it,  
11 like I said, has been spent on these figures here.  
12 We're doing the best we can. I just want you to  
13 know that. And we are public servants as I say at  
14 every meeting and every commissioner up here, we  
15 know what a public servant is. We're just trying to  
16 live and prove that to you. So anyone got anything  
17 else to say? Rick, have you got anything under  
18 comments? I mean, we'll move on, if not. Sometimes  
19 while I'm talking, you know, you'll think of  
20 something to say, like the Dixie Youth. I know you  
21 had that on your mind.

22 MR. SMITH: Well, somebody help me  
23 here. Girl's softball plays Saturday, right?  
24 Aren't they supposed to start this week or is it  
25 next week?

1 MR. HARRISON: High school starts noon  
2 Saturday here.

3 MR. SMITH: They start this week, too.

4 MR. PITTMAN: One thing I would like to  
5 say, Ted, I was born here on Sand Mountain in 1971,  
6 went to Davis for elementary and middle school,  
7 graduated at the high school in 1988. I went to  
8 work at Randy's Restaurant, worked there for about  
9 three years. I left there and went to the spinning  
10 mill, worked there for 13 years. Finally when I was  
11 32 years old, I went to work in Chattanooga. Other  
12 than that, I spent my first 32 years in Dade County.  
13 I've got aunts, uncles, brothers, sisters and  
14 hundreds of friends. So when us five guys -- and  
15 I'm probably the least tenured person in Dade County  
16 up here on this board. Everybody here has probably  
17 lived here longer than me. But when we talk about  
18 raising taxes, we're not pointing at citizen A or  
19 citizen B and saying let's raise his taxes. We're  
20 raising it on ourselves. We're raising it on our  
21 family, our friends and we understand it's hard.  
22 It's really hard. So don't think that we take it  
23 lightly.

24 And when you have a legitimate  
25 complaint, we want to hear it. If you have a good

1 recommendation, we want to hear it because it could  
2 be something we've overlooked. None of us up here  
3 are above listening to a citizen's input. Nobody  
4 here is hard headed. We're not really set in our  
5 ways. We're not the enemy. We're really not.

6           When I was on vacation last week, which  
7 was scheduled months ahead of time, I answered my  
8 call three or four times. I'm in the middle of  
9 Disney walking around the parks and I'm talking to  
10 people that live in Dade County that had legitimate  
11 concerns about their taxes. I mean, I think that --  
12 not everybody would want to take time away from  
13 their family in the middle of their vacation to  
14 explain to a citizen why we're doing what we're  
15 doing. Some of them understood. Some of them  
16 didn't and that's the way it goes. So again, we're  
17 not the enemy. If you have something to talk to us  
18 about, anytime my phone is on 24/7.

19           MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Thank you, Scottie.  
20 We'll move down to appearances. Ms. Marshanna  
21 Sharp. She's our manager of our Dade County Public  
22 Library.

23           MS. SHARP: Okay. We had a busy month.  
24 Today was our final story time -- I mean, summer  
25 reading day and I just want to give you the reports.

1 We had 310 children that participated in the summer  
2 reading program. With the donations from the local  
3 businesses, all these programs are free to the  
4 public, but they are free because we go out and get  
5 donations. The businesses and the people in the  
6 county donate the money for the programs. We were  
7 able to have nine programs. We tallied all the  
8 numbers up of the people who come to the program and  
9 it totaled up to be 2010 children and adults come to  
10 the programs.

11 We will be having a story telling event  
12 on August 12th at 6:30. And it's Ellie Phillips.  
13 She writes for the Chattanooga newspaper and she's a  
14 story teller. She will be doing -- for adults doing  
15 a class on how to bring your past into your future  
16 and tell the stories to your family.

17 The book club will meet on  
18 August 19th and we will begin Ready to Read on  
19 August 21st and I do thank y'all and I know what  
20 y'all have been through and understand.

21 MR. RUMLEY: Any questions for  
22 Marshanna? We appreciate what you do, Marshanna.  
23 Thank you. Ms. Christy Hammond, our regional from  
24 4-H.

25 MS. HAMMOND: Well, we finished up the

1 last of our summer fun days with 4-H. We took them  
2 to Raccoon Mountain for a cave tour, which was  
3 supposed to be four hours, but it turned into six.  
4 It was still a great trip. The Etowah Indian Mounds  
5 in Cartersville and then we had a day of games,  
6 cooking and crafts at the Ag Center. And Brenda  
7 McKaig came down and volunteered and led a craft  
8 activity with the kids that they enjoyed.

9 We had a show sheep workday where our  
10 first-time livestock showers brought in their sheep.  
11 They were shown how to bathe, blow dry them and clip  
12 them for shows and Dr. McKaig came down and wrote  
13 health papers, which are required for shows.

14 Our land judging teams are practicing  
15 and this Saturday I take them to Watkinsville for  
16 the land judging competition. My northwest district  
17 PDC, Dr. Lori Bledsoe, came up as well as our  
18 extension 4-H specialist, Mark Ziegler, on  
19 August 1st and met with some shotgun parents,  
20 coaches. And I also had a really good meeting with  
21 my extension leadership team on the 2nd of July.

22 Coming up, Mr. Rich and I will attend  
23 the 4-H kickoff at Rock Eagle on the 14th of August.  
24 As Mr. Rumley mentioned, we're going to have a  
25 canning class on August 8th from 10:30 to 12:30.

1 Ms. Kathy Floyd is a family and consumer science  
2 agent in Bartow County and she will be presenting.  
3 And after she presents, we will be testing pressure  
4 canner lids for free. So if you have any questions  
5 about that, feel free to ask me.

6 I personally last month attended the  
7 National Association of County Agricultural Agents  
8 meeting in Alabama. I attended the state congress  
9 banquet with Joey Reese, Stetson Stephens, who is  
10 the shotgun coach, and Joey's mom's and aunt. Joey  
11 was the state winner in the modified track contest,  
12 shotgun competition. He was honored at a very nice  
13 banquet in Atlanta on the 24th. And also there was  
14 an Alfalfa Field Day in Walker County and myself and  
15 four other producers in the county went. That's all  
16 I have. Thank you.

17 MR. RUMLEY: Thank you. Any questions?  
18 I appreciate all y'all do over there for the 4-H.  
19 Okay. Chris, he's our director of the Chamber of  
20 Commerce.

21 MR. MUSSER: Good evening. Thanks for  
22 all you guys' hard work. I do also appreciate the  
23 sweat you guys have been -- and been talking to Don  
24 a little bit about budget cuts and I appreciate what  
25 you guys are doing.

1           Our biggest focus this month was Dade  
2 Days. It went off pretty successfully. We were  
3 pretty happy with it. We have different estimates  
4 of how many people showed up. We couldn't have a  
5 hard number on that. We think upwards of 1,000 or  
6 more than that. We're very thankful for that. So  
7 thank you everyone who attended, greatly appreciate  
8 it and we're glad we could do something to bring the  
9 community together.

10           I do have to shout out. They didn't  
11 come for this, but Audrey, Seth and Holly on the  
12 board over there. Holly is the chair of the events  
13 committee. Seth and Audrey are on the executive  
14 committee and they worked unbelievably hard on this.  
15 You probably saw them out on the square doing  
16 gardening and doing everything else in the world to  
17 prepare for this event. So they're volunteered. No  
18 money for them on this, but spent long hours on  
19 this. We really appreciate it.

20           At Dade Days, we had -- a lot of you  
21 were there. We had some of our favorite  
22 commissioners get dunked in the dunk tank, got a  
23 little wet. We had some good times there. Thanks  
24 to everyone who participated. Those of you weren't  
25 able to, I know were out of town and different

1 things, but we do appreciate very much those of you  
2 who were involved with us. So thank you very, very  
3 much to you all and thanks to the community. Thank  
4 you to the sheriff's department. I was very, very  
5 grateful for their hard work. They also got up  
6 unbelievably early in the morning, went to bed well  
7 past midnight on the day of and were doing those  
8 types of things for days and days ahead of time.  
9 Between all the logistics and everything else, they  
10 are to be commended greatly and I am very, very  
11 thankful to them.

12 I'll move on to the vision committee.  
13 Our chair actually William Back is here and we've  
14 met again since the last commission meeting. We now  
15 have four special project groups formed. And these  
16 special project groups are essentially aimed at  
17 allowing certain groups of people to be empowered to  
18 work towards things they're passionate about.

19 So the four project groups that are  
20 currently in existence are the Downtown Trenton  
21 Project, which is going to aim to do some facet  
22 renovations, landscaping in downtown to really  
23 beautify our downtown tourism project, Courthouse  
24 Renovation Project. We need to work with you all  
25 and do grant applications and whatnot to really get

1 this courthouse renovated and art group as well. So  
2 that's been a very exciting process. William has  
3 worked very hard on gathering the people, sending  
4 out e-mails, preparing and filing and drafting all  
5 these things. So very thankful for that as well.

6           The Tourism Swat Team, the people who  
7 came up here and did two full days of analysis on  
8 our county to tell us what our tourism has, what we  
9 have as a natural asset and how we can build off of  
10 those. They will be returning in September. They  
11 will give us the date here in the next few weeks. I  
12 talked to Janet Cochran again just yesterday about  
13 that. They don't have a set date yet, but they said  
14 September is your closest estimate and we'll get  
15 that out to the public and we would like to have a  
16 meeting possibly in this room. Bring the community  
17 in, hear their thoughts, you guys share your  
18 thoughts and work through it that way. We'll be  
19 getting that out in the paper and to the community  
20 as soon as we find out a hard date on that.

21           And lastly, we've been continuing to  
22 recruit businesses. So specifically for the Ace  
23 Hardware, Case Hardware vacancy that will be on the  
24 square here very soon. We're really working to get  
25 someone in to fill that spot and we have all of our

1 statistics, all of our metrics, all of our numbers  
2 that we're working hard with. We're compiling  
3 documents to send out to different potential  
4 businesses and haven't heard responses yet, but  
5 we've not been disheartened. We're going to  
6 continue to send out those packets and really  
7 actively recruit, so we keep our downtown vibrant.  
8 I'll leave it at that for now. Are there any  
9 questions from anyone at this time?

10 MR. RUMLEY: Any questions for Chris?

11 MR. BRADFORD: Just remember when you  
12 volunteer for the dunk tank, we've got some kids  
13 that are very accurate with that ball.

14 MR. MUSSER: And some adults, I'll have  
15 to say.

16 MR. BRADFORD: Several adults.

17 MR. RUMLEY: Appreciate you. Thank  
18 you.

19 Sheriff Cross, do you want to come up  
20 and talk to us tonight?

21 SHERIFF CROSS: I want to talk just a  
22 minute on public safety. As you know, here recently  
23 we've had some terrible accidents on Highway 24 that  
24 has caused some deaths and some serious injuries to  
25 some of our citizens here in the county. I spoke

1 with Senator Mullis yet and today and I sent a  
2 letter to the Department of Transportation and  
3 Department of Highway Safety of getting a guardrail  
4 put from the Tennessee line all the way to Slygo  
5 Road that will hopefully save some lives. So if you  
6 can, please contact your senators and see if we can  
7 get this guardrail in to help save lives.

8 MR. RUMLEY: Thank you, Ray. Greg, do  
9 you want to come up and talk to us just a minute? I  
10 think you had a couple of comments.

11 MR. GREG: This has been tough times  
12 for everybody, you guys, not so much us. I don't  
13 think -- four of you work for nothing as far as I'm  
14 concerned, and Ted, I wouldn't take your job if it  
15 paid twice what it pays.

16 But there's -- with all the cuts and  
17 all the negative that's going on, we need to try to  
18 think of what's positive and what we can do maybe.  
19 We can always cut, but let's try to think of what we  
20 can do to get income stream up and there's some  
21 exciting things going on. You may not be aware of  
22 it. And I don't have my hands in much, but I kind  
23 of observe a little bit.

24 I don't know if you're aware of all the  
25 things that Nathan Wooten and Peter Cervelli are

1 doing with the IDA. There's a lot of prospects  
2 going on from what I understand. The previous board  
3 was able to buy property and times are tough. It's  
4 not easy out there. There's a few prospects and  
5 there's a lot of competition, but we do have  
6 opportunities that can come along. So when you  
7 start talking about hiring 100 people or 50 people,  
8 it sounds like there's activity going on. Even my  
9 little company is growing. It won't amount to much  
10 compared to the big companies, but those are all  
11 positive things. They go to restaurants. They buy  
12 things. They buy groceries. All this stuff  
13 compiled.

14                   And I'm always the guy that's always  
15 talking about we need to keep our youth here and we  
16 need to recruit young people in. The fact is we  
17 also have -- we're becoming a retirement  
18 destination. I mean, right down the road where I  
19 live, someone has bought up every vacant lot and  
20 they're going to market that to south Florida and  
21 these people want to move back -- they want to move  
22 this direction, and I think that's actually probably  
23 a positive. These people are very well educated,  
24 have probably a high disposable income. We need to  
25 create some opportunities for them to spend the

1 money. And I think these people also can contribute  
2 a lot maybe to our community. I think that's an  
3 asset.

4           Also, and I'm just a member and sit  
5 back, but the Chamber of Commerce has really, I  
6 think, turned around a lot to basically to kind of  
7 follow along these things and take advantage of  
8 them. I can't say how lucky I think we are to have  
9 Chris. I believe the board -- the board that hired  
10 him made a good decision. We're really fortunate to  
11 have a young man with his energy here. I know when  
12 I came down from Chattanooga, I was a member in  
13 Chattanooga and also Charlotte before that and I  
14 can't say -- people call me all business. And I  
15 went to the Chamber and I probably didn't see as  
16 much business as what I was probably thinking of.  
17 And, again, just moving back home -- I'm from here,  
18 by the way. I didn't really have a good feel. But  
19 I told Chris, I said, when you start doing Chamber  
20 things that can help me, I said, I'll join and I  
21 have joined. About 29 other people have joined,  
22 too, in the last four or five months. I think he's  
23 brought in 6 or \$7,000 just in dues and maybe some  
24 bigger companies looking at doing some major  
25 sponsorships.

1                   So he has a lot of energy, very  
2 persistent. I don't think -- he won't take no from  
3 anyone. I think if the Pope was in town, if he  
4 could help us, he would get an appointment with him  
5 somehow. So I know he's a tiger by the tail for the  
6 board probably, but that's a good thing. I would  
7 rather have that any day as the alternative. So I  
8 want everybody to really commend the board for  
9 hiring him and we're lucky to have him. Thanks.

10                   MR. RUMLEY: I agree. Thank you, Greg.  
11 I appreciate it.

12                   Okay. Let's move down. Number four,  
13 Don, I'll go ahead and turn it over to you. This is  
14 our financial report.

15                   MR. TOWNSEND: As of July 31st, 2014,  
16 the general fund had a balance of \$270,826; Federal  
17 Assets Funds, U.S. Treasury, \$288; Sheriff's Special  
18 Fund, \$19,469; Drug Abuse Education Fund, \$72,705;  
19 Supplemental Juvenile Services Fund, \$23,448; Victim  
20 Assistance Fund, \$1,359; Jail Fund, \$29,872; Federal  
21 Assets Fund, Department of Justice, \$742; Employee's  
22 Flexible Spending account, \$52,766; payroll account,  
23 \$242,673.

24                   Construction account, \$149; projects  
25 account, \$30,931; proceeds account, \$1,278,856. And

1 the Dade Series 2013 IDA/County Construction Series  
2 B Fund is \$344,422 and Debt Services Series A is  
3 \$94.

4           Looking at the next page in your packet  
5 there, this is the 12-month report. However,  
6 traditionally, we wait another 25 days or so more  
7 and then we close out the year officially with all  
8 the revenues and expenditures that are put back to  
9 revenue and expenditure. Actual of June 30th,  
10 2014, revenues was \$405,040. Budgeted was \$815,111  
11 and year-to-date we brought in \$10,394,225.  
12 11,448,100 was the budgeted amount. That is under  
13 budget \$1,053,874, which is only 90.79 percent of  
14 what was -- attainment of what was originally  
15 budgeted.

16           Under actuals for June 30th, for the  
17 month is \$961,358 for expenses. Budgeted was  
18 \$1,109,490. So we were actually under budget  
19 148,131. The important number to acknowledge  
20 tonight is the year-to-date, which is 12 months  
21 \$10,180,713 in expenses and year-to-date, that was  
22 budgeted 10,421,100. So we were under budget  
23 \$240,386. That's 98.68 percent attainment. Of  
24 course, budget attained at this point should be 100  
25 percent. Revenues attained, 90.79 and expenses

1 attained 97.68.

2           Looking at the next page, flipping over  
3 to local option sales tax, we didn't have -- it was  
4 up a little, \$154,152.91 for July and S.P.L.O.S.T  
5 alike was up, 192,691.70.

6           Following that report, you see, again,  
7 a 2009 tracking worksheet that shows all the  
8 construction funds and project fund. Construction  
9 funds there you see is at 100 percent across the  
10 board. I think we have a balance -- I said \$149, so  
11 we need to close that account out and then that  
12 construction fund will be complete. Projects  
13 account, you see. What we did tonight was amend  
14 those -- reallocated, I should say, those  
15 expenditures, the budget for those. So there was  
16 one here of 101 percent. There's one at 44 percent.  
17 So you can see down through there if you've got time  
18 to review that.

19           All the fire departments have spent all  
20 their money and we have enough -- accrued enough  
21 amount of money at this point to make our next bond  
22 payment, which is not due until November. The  
23 following three pages are just the detail behind  
24 that.

25           The final pages of the financial report

1 is the year-to-date tax collections for 2014. And  
2 as of July 7th, 2014, and this was a period  
3 beginning July 1st, 2013, through June 30th,  
4 2014. Budgeted in the tax commissioner's office  
5 \$3,728,200. We have year-to-date revenue  
6 3,773,198.15. So that actually came in at  
7 101.21 percent. That's excellent. So they've  
8 already collected over 100 percent of what was  
9 budgeted. And a lot of that, as we talked about  
10 earlier, was the TAVT and the new motor vehicle  
11 title ad valorem tax that came in much healthier  
12 than anticipated. That did come in at like 418,327  
13 for the year. And then behind that is the detail  
14 for the whole year of tax commissioner's office.  
15 That concludes the report.

16 MR. RUMLEY: Is that it? Okay. Any  
17 questions for Don? I know you've had it and went  
18 over this several times. If there's no questions, I  
19 will entertain a motion to approve our financial  
20 report as presented by Don Townsend. Do I have a  
21 motion?

22 MR. SMITH: Motion to approve the  
23 financial report.

24 MR. RUMLEY: Do I have a second?

25 MR. BRADFORD: Second.

1 MR. RUMLEY: I'll call a vote. Mr.  
2 Smith?

3 MR. SMITH: Yes.

4 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman?

5 MR. PITTMAN: Yes.

6 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Breeden?

7 MR. BREEDEN: Yes.

8 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Bradford?

9 MR. BRADFORD: Yes.

10 MR. RUMLEY: The chair votes yes.

11 Let's move down to legal matters. Do you have  
12 anything, Robin?

13 MR. ROGERS: I do not.

14 MR. RUMLEY: Nothing. Okay.

15 Unfinished business. Okay. The reading of the  
16 minutes of the last regularly-scheduled meeting and  
17 any special-called meeting will not be required  
18 since all commissioners have been furnished copies.  
19 The minutes are public record and available for  
20 review in the county commission office. The minutes  
21 are included in the consent agenda. At this time,  
22 Mr. Townsend, would you go over the consent agenda  
23 and we will entertain a motion on that.

24 MR. TOWNSEND: On the consent agenda  
25 for tonight, approval of the agenda as presented,

1 approval of the previous meeting minutes, review of  
2 the personnel status report. The approval of the  
3 Georgia Department of Revenue Consent Order;  
4 approval of Resolution R-34-14, approval to transfer  
5 deed from Georgia Forestry Commission property.  
6 Resolution R-35-14, declaration of surplus property  
7 which includes a GBC Shredmaster shredder, an HP  
8 LaserJet 1320 printer, HP multifunctional printer,  
9 LaserJet 1536DNF, Sharp multifunctional  
10 printer/fax/copier/scanner and a Mercury Grand  
11 Marquis four-door vehicle noted by the county as  
12 unit 261.

13 Resolution R-36-14, fiscal year 2015  
14 budget amendment number one. Resolution R-37-14,  
15 hiring freeze of county employees. Resolution  
16 R-38-14, layoffs and furlough of county employees  
17 and changes of business hours contingent to the  
18 courthouse of the chief judge of Lookout Mountain  
19 Judicial Circuit. Resolution R-39-14, county  
20 motel/hotel tax as a new revenue stream. It's just  
21 to initiate that process tonight.

22 Resolution R-40-14, request for  
23 proposal for solid waste transportation and disposal  
24 of proposals and Resolution R-41-14, increase fare  
25 on public transportation and that would be a fee in

1 the amount of \$3 per person for a one-way trip  
2 outside of Dade County or \$6 per person for a  
3 two-way trip outside of Dade County. Also, a fee in  
4 the amount of \$2 per person for a one-way trip  
5 inside of Dade County or \$4 per person for a two-way  
6 trip with a notation that senior citizens 65 and  
7 older are exempt from that. Resolution R-42-14,  
8 2008 S.P.L.O.S.T. reallocation project fund cost and  
9 Resolution R-43-14, approval of state cable and  
10 video service franchise agreement.

11 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Any questions?

12 MR. BRADFORD: Yeah. I didn't hear  
13 what he said on Nadine on the Board of Assessors.

14 MR. BREEDEN: We never heard.

15 MR. RUMLEY: No, we're not going to do  
16 it. She's not accepted. We thought she had. We'll  
17 just table it until the next meeting.

18 Any other questions? Okay. If not,  
19 I'll entertain a motion to approve the consent  
20 agenda as --

21 MR. BRADFORD: I make a motion.

22 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Do I have a second?

23 MR. PITTMAN: Second.

24 MR. RUMLEY: Okay. Motion is seconded.  
25 I'll call a vote. Mr. Smith?

1 MR. SMITH: Yes.

2 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman?

3 MR. PITTMAN: Yes.

4 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Breeden?

5 MR. BREEDEN: Yes.

6 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Bradford?

7 MR. BRADFORD: Yes.

8 MR. RUMLEY: The chair votes yes.

9 All right. Move to citizen

10 participation. Anyone want to come up and talk to  
11 us? Come up to the mic and -- come on up. State  
12 your name.

13 MR. WEST: Guys, my name is Hershel  
14 West and I've lived here 35 years and I appreciate  
15 the job you do. Last month I come to your office  
16 with a problem of animal control. Y'all sent me to  
17 Monda Wooten. I was lucky to get off out of there  
18 alive. I wouldn't advise anybody to do that again.  
19 As far as I recognize, we don't have any animal  
20 control in Dade County.

21 MR. RUMLEY: Just the vicious dog.  
22 That's all.

23 MR. WEST: We've got \$200,000 in  
24 S.P.L.O.S.T. money since 2008 sitting there  
25 somewhere, according to Mr. Townsend there. We need

1 somebody in charge of animal control. We've got a  
2 real problem in this county. I didn't realize it.  
3 I thought I only had the problem over where I live,  
4 but everybody seems to have a problem with feral  
5 cats and dogs and everything else. And I'm not  
6 saying we build a dog pound. I'm not saying we get  
7 in the animal business. But we could farm them out,  
8 do something with it. Actually, that's what we're  
9 paying y'all to do, to control -- solve the county  
10 problems or address them. But ignoring animal  
11 control is not addressing the problems. We've got  
12 to do something.

13 I mean, it's going to result in  
14 somebody getting rabies. There's like 27 diseases  
15 you can get from cats, feral dogs and cats, their  
16 ticks and fleas and all that stuff. But, you know,  
17 if we've got a deer problem or something, we call  
18 Georgia game and get something done. But because  
19 these are feral house cats or feral dogs, nobody  
20 will help us with it and this is a real issue. I  
21 mean, we've got in our neighborhood between 25 to 50  
22 at all times.

23 MR. RUMLEY: Cats?

24 MR. WEST: Cats. My neighbor had -- we  
25 run them on Ebay and run them on Craigs List and

1 we've done everything to give them away. Monda give  
2 me the number of two people to get them neutered and  
3 all that and I've called them numerous times and  
4 nobody has ever answered my calls. But, you know,  
5 it's an addressable problem that needs something  
6 done to it.

7 MR. RUMLEY: Well, let me tell you what  
8 we've got in the near future. We've got the  
9 S.P.L.O.S.T. money. Of course, that was put  
10 contingent that the money -- that's what he was  
11 trying to explain a while ago. You've got -- and  
12 that was one of the projects that was back in 2008.

13 MR. WEST: Right. I understand.  
14 You're just rolling it over.

15 MR. RUMLEY: Yeah. And so we've got an  
16 area there that -- by the transfer station, a pad  
17 down there. Hopefully, we can get on here by the  
18 summer -- I mean, by the spring this next year and  
19 like you said, it won't be -- I guess you can call  
20 it a dog pound if you want to, but it will be a  
21 small facility, a facility that's smaller than the  
22 Walker County one because it's so large, but we've  
23 got to start.

24 I know where you're coming from because  
25 my phone -- especially in the last six months. I

1 don't know why, in the last three to five months, I  
2 get more calls on dogs than I've ever got, and cats,  
3 but mainly dogs that are being dropped in the  
4 county, you know, wherever. Whether they come  
5 across the state line, I don't know. The only thing  
6 we've got is that vicious dog ordinance. You know,  
7 in the near future, we've got -- all we can do is  
8 build a complex with what we've got. Of course,  
9 manning it is another thing. Most places have got a  
10 tremendous amount of volunteers that help at these  
11 places. In fact, a lot of them are like 85 percent  
12 volunteers.

13 MR. WEST: Well, what I'm saying though  
14 is as a county, when you come to the commission  
15 office, don't send them to Monda Wooten.

16 MR. RUMLEY: I didn't know you were  
17 here.

18 MR. WEST: She's going to chew you up.  
19 Monda is going to chew you up and it's not going to  
20 be good.

21 MR. RUMLEY: I didn't know that  
22 happened.

23 MR. WEST: But in doing all these  
24 layoffs and all, I'm ashamed to come up here and  
25 talk to you about this.

1 MR. RUMLEY: No, it's a problem. I'm  
2 telling you. It's more a problem than it's ever  
3 been.

4 MR. WEST: But we need to have somebody  
5 assigned for the public to go to. I'm not saying  
6 increase -- like we talked earlier, I don't think  
7 there's anybody just standing around not doing  
8 everything. I know everybody is working and  
9 everybody is having to work shorter handed and all  
10 that. But this is a problem that we've got and it  
11 needs to be address.

12 MR. RUMLEY: And it ain't getting no  
13 better. I'm telling you that.

14 MR. WEST: When you said next spring,  
15 next summer, whatever, what are we going to do until  
16 then? There is state money out there to help get  
17 them neutered and all that, but we need to have  
18 somebody that we can contact and actually take them  
19 to. And if they bring them back to you or whatever,  
20 I don't care. I don't mind them being there, but  
21 they're multiplying. I mean, it multiplies every  
22 day.

23 MR. BREEDEN: Let me ask you something.  
24 You neuter -- feral, that's like wild, right?

25 MR. WEST: They are wild, yeah. You

1 have to trap them.

2 MR. BREEDEN: So you neuter them and  
3 then you turn them back loose?

4 MR. WEST: That's what they do. That's  
5 what the law says you have to do. They put it back.  
6 What I want to do is catch them and take it to them  
7 and they keep it, but they won't do that. That was  
8 my plan.

9 MR. BREEDEN: So you're saying the  
10 biggest problem is that they're multiplying, not  
11 that they're going to bite somebody? Because if you  
12 turn them back loose -- well, if you've got to turn  
13 them back loose, they're going to bite people still.

14 MR. WEST: Well, the whole thing is I  
15 think -- people cut the multiplication down. All  
16 right. Then you cut down the breeding and that cuts  
17 down a lot of the fighting and the property damage.

18 MR. BREEDEN: Well, it will suck the  
19 wind out of them if you neuter them.

20 MR. WEST: We've got -- where I live,  
21 we can't fire a firearm. All right. Daddy told me  
22 you either bury it or eat it. I'm not going to eat  
23 cats. We need to do something, guys. If y'all do  
24 it --

25 MR. BREEDEN: I'm just trying to

1 understand.

2 MR. WEST: Everybody has this problem,  
3 but eventually if you neuter them, they'll die of  
4 old age or whatever. I think they have to give them  
5 a Rabies shot. That's another thing, you know,  
6 raccoons and all, you call Georgia Game, they'll  
7 come out and throw out pellets for Rabies. We need  
8 to do something about the cats, too, if we can get  
9 somebody to fund it or whatever. There's hundreds  
10 of cats out there.

11 Monda told me while we were there,  
12 they're feeding them over at the four fields,  
13 Randy's Restaurant. Everywhere they've got problems  
14 with them. I wasn't aware. I thought I had them  
15 all on Daniels Road, but evidently I don't. Thank  
16 you very much.

17 MR. RUMLEY: Anyone else want to come  
18 up tonight and talk? Linda Wilson.

19 MS. WILSON: I want to address -- I'm  
20 Linda Wilson and I am a former library board member  
21 and I volunteer at the library. The County  
22 Commission has really supported the library in the  
23 last several years when we went from \$39,000 a year  
24 from the school board to zero. And the City cut us  
25 from 30 to 24 and as Rick mentioned, I would be glad

1 to get more money from them. We would be very happy  
2 to. The 13,000 I believe is the figure that you  
3 discussed cutting us. I am hoping that a couple of  
4 you might sit down with us. I know you haven't had  
5 much time with all this pressure on you and let us  
6 talk to you about how it will affect us because it  
7 won't just be a matter of not being able to increase  
8 our hours. It's going to hurt us and we may lose  
9 some very valuable employees.

10                   Also, you're talking about the school  
11 system. I would like to get more money out of the  
12 school system, but be aware that the library isn't  
13 just for children. We put a lot of emphasis on our  
14 children's programs, but we happen to have some  
15 statistics and we have 7,349 card holders, library  
16 card holders. Some of those are even from Alabama.  
17 They pay for it. 5,928 are adults. 1,421 are  
18 juveniles under 18. Now, I know some parents  
19 don't -- you know, use their own cards to check out  
20 books for their kids, but we encourage -- I'm sure  
21 you can see why, but we encourage people to get  
22 cards for their kids and a lot of them do.

23                   We have also registered 561 new card  
24 holders just since the beginning of this year. So  
25 it is being used, but we have -- I think the school

1 system probably would say, you know, most of your  
2 card holders are adults. And we have heard many  
3 times from the city that they feel like they're  
4 paying for the library three times. So that's -- I  
5 just want you to be prepared and know what you're  
6 going to hear when you talk to the other funding  
7 agencies because that's what we've heard.

8           But if you have any questions about our  
9 budget and what this might -- you know, how it might  
10 affect us, we would really like to talk to you about  
11 it. Thank you.

12           MR. RUMLEY: Anyone else?

13           MR. GREG: I sent four men in my shop  
14 and they gave them an Excel class. I was trying to  
15 get them interested more in computers where they  
16 could work with more of our CNC equipment, just some  
17 exposure and they set up a class. I wasn't sure  
18 they went and lo and behold they did and all of them  
19 seemed to like it. But that was a free service we  
20 were able to get at the library.

21           MR. RUMLEY: Anyone else want to talk  
22 tonight? If not, I appreciate y'all being here. We  
23 do have our public hearings coming up not the next  
24 week, but the next. We'll have two like we did  
25 before, one day at 12:00 and one at 6:00 and then

1 we'll have the final one on the 31st of August. I  
2 hope all of you can come to that. If we have to put  
3 more chairs in, move the meeting, we'll do it,  
4 whatever we need to do. Do you have something,  
5 Monda?

6 MS. WOOTEN: I just wanted to say, I  
7 heard you say you have a pad down here.

8 MR. RUMLEY: No. I said we've got a  
9 place kind of picked out.

10 MS. WOOTEN: Well, something about a  
11 pad for an animal shelter. I really want y'all to  
12 keep that in mind. You know, I've been coming -- I  
13 quit because I felt like it was just useless. But  
14 we've had this problem with animal control and y'all  
15 know it. It's been here for years and years. And I  
16 didn't mean to be hateful with him, but, you know, I  
17 run a business and word gets out and I mean, you  
18 know, I have more calls about animals than I do my  
19 business. And, you know, it just gets old and the  
20 thing about it is I'm weak, you know. When they  
21 start telling me these stories and telling me  
22 they're going to shoot them and they're going to do  
23 this, you know, and I'll go a little bit further  
24 than most people will.

25 I've been emotionally, financially,

1 physically just bankrupt over the animal thing.  
2 I've just had to start saying no, I can't. My  
3 husband threatens to leave me all the time. I mean,  
4 he does. I can't take another dog to my house  
5 because I'll be living by myself. And so, you know,  
6 but just please -- and you do have a lot of  
7 volunteers. Listen, there are some people in this  
8 county and I don't have to name their names, but  
9 they're against anything and everything that goes  
10 on, anything and everything. I mean, y'all heard  
11 from them last week. And I'm saying, this animal  
12 thing, they'll be totally against that, too.

13           There's several people like me in this  
14 county that is willing to volunteer, that has spent  
15 many, many hours, many, many dollars over the years.  
16 Y'all know that. There's a lot of us and you know  
17 what, we would just like to have something. We're  
18 not wanting no doggie Taj Mahal. We're not wanting  
19 none of that kind of bull that has been said in the  
20 past. Just anything that would help the situation.

21           We have resources. We have avenues to  
22 help with animals, to get them out of this county.  
23 You know, there's a lot of things out there, bigger  
24 counties that are willing to help little counties  
25 like ours. And so you would be shocked at how much

1 help you really would get. And so, you know, it  
2 would be about like the library over here.

3           You know, I have never been big on the  
4 library until just recently, but I am telling you I  
5 have been so impressed with those people because  
6 they get cut here, they get cut there and you know  
7 what, they rise up and they do something else. They  
8 do. And I'll tell you, if you haven't been over  
9 there to the library, you need to go over there.  
10 That is the most beautiful place and they do so much  
11 and they're just full of volunteers all the time. I  
12 didn't stand up to plug the library.

13           MS. WILSON: But thank you.

14           MS. WOOTEN: And I'm not an  
15 ex-schoolteacher either. I heard somebody say  
16 they're all schoolteachers. They're really not.  
17 There's some of us, too.

18           MR. RUMLEY: Thank you, Monda. If  
19 there's nothing further, like I said, I appreciate  
20 you coming. Keep up with the advertisements in the  
21 paper when our public hearings are. At this time  
22 I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

23           MR. PITTMAN: I make a motion we  
24 adjourn.

25           MR. RUMLEY: Second?

1 MR. BRADFORD: Second.

2 MR. RUMLEY: I'll call a vote. Mr.  
3 Smith?

4 MR. SMITH: Yes.

5 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Pittman?

6 MR. PITTMAN: Yes.

7 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Breeden?

8 MR. BREEDEN: Yes.

9 MR. RUMLEY: Mr. Bradford?

10 MR. BRADFORD: Yes.

11 MR. RUMLEY: The chair votes yes.

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13 MEETING ADJOURNED

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