

CAPTIONING  
JULY 30, 2010  
CHARTER REVIEW BOARD PUBLIC HEARING AND  
REGULAR MEETING

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\*\*\*following meeting. It should be used for informational  
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>>MITCHELL THROWER: GOOD MORNING.

WELCOME TO THE JULY 30th PUBLIC HEARING.

WE'RE GOING TO BEGIN OUR PUBLIC HEARING ON THE INTERNAL  
PERFORMANCE AUDITOR.

TO BEGIN -- BEFORE WE BEGIN, I'M GOING TO HAVE MR.  
ROBINSON, JOE ROBINSON, LEAD US IN THE PLEDGE OF  
ALLEGIANCE.

PLEASE RISE.

[PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE]

OKAY.

IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN SPEAKING DURING THE PUBLIC HEARING,  
PLEASE FILL OUT A FORM IN THE BACK AND GET IT TO  
MRS. STEWART.

SHE WILL GIVE THEM TO ME.

WE'RE GOING TO START OUR PUBLIC HEARING.

IT'S TO DISCUSS THE INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR POSITION,  
AND FIRST UP IS MR. HUNG MAI.

MR. MAI, BEFORE YOU BEGIN, LET ME JUST ASK THE BOARD, IS

THERE ANY COMMENTS OR ANY QUESTIONS BEFORE WE START WITH THE PUBLIC COMMENT?

ANY PUBLIC -- ANY PUBLIC COMMENT -- OR COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD?

COMMISSIONER PLATT.

>>JAN PLATT: IS IT ABOUT THIS ISSUE?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES.

OR -- WELL, YEAH --

>>JAN PLATT: [INAUDIBLE]

>>MITCHELL THROWER: ANY ISSUES CONCERNING THE PUBLIC HEARING.

>>JAN PLATT: WELL, I JUST WANT TO -- I WANT TO THANK THE STAFF FOR GIVING US THE CORRECT MATERIAL --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES.

>>JAN PLATT: -- REGARDING THE VETO BECAUSE I LOST SLEEP OVER THAT WHEN I GOT THAT FIRST ONE, SO THANK YOU STAFF FOR GETTING US THE ACCURATE INFORMATION ABOUT THE VETO.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES, THANK YOU.

ANY OTHER PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD BEFORE WE START WITH THE PUBLIC COMMENT?

ANY OTHER COMMENTS FROM THE BOARD OR QUESTIONS?

OKAY.

MR. MAI.

YOU HAVE THREE MINUTES.

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.

MY NAME IS HUNG MAI.

THE ADDRESS IS 14031 NORTH DALE MABRY, TAMPA 33618.

IT'S MY PLEASURE AND HONOR TO BE HERE TO SPEAK WITH YOU.

FIRST AND FOREMOST, I APPRECIATE ALL YOUR WORK.

I KNOW IT'S VOLUNTEER WORK.

YOU GET ONLY 35 CENTS, YOU KNOW, PER MILE, SO THANK YOU SO MUCH, AND THE REASON, YOU KNOW, FOR ME TODAY IS THAT I SEND A LETTER, YOU KNOW, TO YOU DATED JULY, YOU KNOW, 18, AND HOPE YOU, YOU KNOW, READ THAT.

AND I ONLY, YOU KNOW, HAVE A FEW MINOR COMMENTS.

AFTER I READ THE PROPOSED, YOU KNOW, RESOLUTION, I'M A LITTLE BIT, YOU KNOW, HAPPY TO SEE -- TO SEE THIS, YOU KNOW, IF IT, YOU KNOW, BECOME A REALITY A, AND I WOULD, YOU KNOW, RESPECTFULLY ASK EACH ONE OF YOU, YOU KNOW, DEBATE AND, YOU KNOW, COME UP TO THE FINAL, YOU KNOW, SOLUTION, YOU KNOW, HERE TODAY.

I READ, YOU KNOW, MR. TARR, YOU KNOW PROPOSAL, AND IT MAKE A LOT OF SENSE; HOWEVER, YOU KNOW, I GOT SOME RESPECTFULLY DISAGREE ON THE BOARD, YOU KNOW, INTERNAL AUDIT, YOU KNOW, DEPARTMENT.

THE WAY I READ IT, THAT CONCEIVABLE THAT CREATE, YOU KNOW, ANOTHER DEPARTMENT WHICH RIGHT NOW WE DON'T WANT, YOU KNOW, TO EXPAND, YOU KNOW, THE GOVERNMENT AND AGAINST THE CONCEPT OF, YOU KNOW, TIGHTENING THE BELT AND MUST DO MORE, YOU KNOW, FOR LESS, AND I DISAGREE WITH MR. TARR, YOU KNOW, ON

THE NUMBER OF THE AUDIT, YOU KNOW, COMMITTEE.

I DON'T REALLY CONCERN ABOUT THE NAME, EITHER AUDIT COMMITTEE OR EFFICIENCY, YOU KNOW, COMMITTEE OR THE BOARD, WHATEVER THAT IS, BUT I THINK, YOU KNOW, THREE TO FIVE I DON'T THINK ENOUGH, YOU KNOW, PEOPLE.

WE GOT, YOU KNOW, OVER A MILLION PEOPLE IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY.

WE GOT A LOT OF TALENT.

WE GOT, YOU KNOW, JUST A VOLUNTEER WORKING ON THAT BOARD.

MY RECOMMENDATION IS AT LEAST, YOU KNOW, SEVEN FOR THE SAME -- FOR THE REASON, YOU KNOW, I HIGHLIGHT IN MY LETTER. YOU GOT HUMAN SERVICE, YOU GOT MANAGEMENT SERVICE, YOU GOT PUBLIC AFFAIR SERVICE, YOU GOT PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICE, YOU GOT PLANNING AND INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICE, UTILITY AND COMMERCE, YOU KNOW, SERVICE.

YOU GOT A BROAD, YOU KNOW, SERVICE, YOU KNOW, IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY.

I SERVED IN THE [INCOMPREHENSIBLE] YOU KNOW, AUDIT COMMITTEE.

AT THE BEGINNING WE GOT ONLY LESS THAN \$90 MILLION, YOU KNOW, IN ASSETS, AND I SERVE, YOU KNOW, SIX YEARS.

IT GROW, YOU KNOW, OVER A HUNDRED MILLION, YOU KNOW, ASSETS, BUT WE GOT ONLY FIVE SERVICE, YOU KNOW, ON THAT [INCOMPREHENSIBLE] STUDY -- [INCOMPREHENSIBLE] YOU KNOW, AUDIT COMMITTEE, AND WE HAVE FIVE MEMBER.

WE HAVE FIVE VOLUNTEER, YOU KNOW, MEMBER.

IT OVER LIKE THE REAL ESTATE, IT OVER THE BANKING, YOU KNOW, SERVICE, LOAN, ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE AND, YOU KNOW, THE -- AND THE BRANCH, SO THE -- WHAT I'M TALKING ABOUT, YOU GOT THREE TO FOUR BILLION, YOU KNOW, IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, SO THE COMPOSITION OF THREE OR FIVE MEMBER OF THE AUDIT I DON'T BELIEVE, YOU KNOW, IT CAN COVER, YOU KNOW, BROAD SERVICE IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, SO I'M VERY HAPPY TO SEE THIS RESOLUTION, AND I HOPE, YOU KNOW, YOU DEBATE, YOU KNOW, TODAY AND, YOU KNOW, COME UP WITH -- WITH AN AUDIT BOARD OR, YOU KNOW, EFFICIENCY BOARD, YOU KNOW, WHATEVER THAT NAME WOULD BE, AND I'M HAPPY THAT YOU KEEP THE -- THE AUDIT -- AUDITOR, YOU KNOW, POSITION WITH A CLEAR JOB, YOU KNOW, DESCRIPTION FOR HIM, AND WITH THIS OVERSIGHT BOARD, WE'RE GUIDING HIM AND ALSO, YOU KNOW, INDEPENDENT BOARD, NOT, YOU KNOW, RELATED TO THE BOCC, THAT WILL GIVE YOU THE POWER OF THE AUDITOR TO -- TO PERFORM, YOU KNOW, HIS JOB IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

AGAIN, THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH, YOU KNOW, FOR YOUR SERVICE.

I SERVE ON THIS BOARD, YOU KNOW, SIX YEARS AGO.

I KNOW HOW DIFFICULT, YOU KNOW, THAT IS ON YOUR JOB, YOU KNOW, TODAY, SO PLEASE, YOU KNOW, DEBATE AND COME UP WITH A GOOD SOLUTION.

THANK YOU SO MUCH.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: THANK YOU.

NEXT UP IS MR. AL DAVIS.

YES.

>>GINA GRIMES: SHOULD WE WAIT UNTIL THE END TO DISCUSS --

>> GOOD MORNING, MR. CHAIRMAN AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE  
CHARTER REVIEW BOARD.

MY NAME IS AL DAVIS.

I'M AT 3717 EAST WILDER AVENUE, TAMPA, FLORIDA 33610.

SINCE OUR LAST MEETING -- I MEAN THE BOARD'S LAST MEETING I  
DID SOME EDITATIVE KIND OF THINKING, AND I'M WONDERING, MR.  
CHAIRMAN AND OTHER MEMBERS, AS I LOOK AT ARTICLE III OF THE  
CHARTER, YOU KNOW, ABOUT THE SEPARATION OF POWERS AND  
ARTICLE IV REGARDING THE LEGISLATIVE POWERS AND ARTICLE V,  
I BELIEVE, ON THE EXECUTIVE POWERS OR FUNCTION, AND I WAS  
TRYING TO SEE IF THIS BOARD IS LOOKING AT THE EQUATION FROM  
THE POINT OF VIEW OF WHAT IT IS THAT YOU'RE ABOUT TO DO OR  
CONSIDERING DOING IN UPHOLDING THE PRINCIPLE OF THE  
SEPARATION OF POWERS AND PARTICULARLY WHEN YOU TRY NOT TO  
TILT THE EQUATION ONE WAY OR THE OTHER.

NOW, THIS IDEA ABOUT THE AUDITOR, MR. CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS  
OF THE BOARD, NOTWITHSTANDING, NOTWITHSTANDING,  
NOTWITHSTANDING, IT NEVER SHOULD HAVE BEEN A FUNCTION OF  
THIS COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

YOU KNOW WHY I'M SAYING THAT, MR. CHAIRMAN?

THE CONSTITUTION GIVE THE AUDITING RESPONSIBILITY TO THE  
CLERK OF COURT, AND THE FLORIDA STATUTE DESCRIBING IN THE

DUTIES AND THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE CLERK OF COURT SPECIFICALLY SAYS THAT THEY WOULD PERFORM AN AUDIT.

WHAT'S AN AUDIT?

SOME CALL IT A PERFORMANCE AUDIT, SOME CALL IT A PERFORMANCE AUDIT.

THE ONLY THING THE AUDITOR IS TRYING TO TELL YOU IS WHETHER OR NOT YOU'RE GETTING YOUR BANG FOR YOUR BUCKS.

IT MAY BE SOME EMPLOYEES ARE SITTING DOWN WHEN THEY SHOULD BE STANDING UP.

THAT'S COSTING MONEY.

SO -- IS THAT MY --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YOU HAVE 30 SECONDS.

>> 30 SECONDS.

WELL, ANYWAY, HAVE YOU DECIDED WHICH SIDE OF THE EQUATION, MR. CHAIRMAN, THIS AUDITOR'S GOING TO BE ON?

IS IT GOING TO BE ON THE LEGISLATIVE SIDE OF THE CHARTER OR IS IT GOING TO BE ON THE EXECUTIVE SIDE?

I WAIT FOR SOME GUIDANCE AND INDICATION OF THAT.

THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

ACTUALLY, IS THERE ANY OTHER PUBLIC COMMENT?

LET ME MENTION REAL QUICK, AS CHAIRMAN, I PROBABLY -- I REALIZED I KIND OF JUMPED AHEAD WITH THE PUBLIC COMMENT.

I SHOULD HAVE HAD THE INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR AMENDED RESOLUTION COME FORTH -- MENTIONED -- I SHOULD HAVE HAD

MARY HELEN GO OVER THAT FIRST, AND THEN I SHOULD HAVE HAD RICHARD TARR, SO LET ME -- AS CHAIR, I'M GOING TO LET MARY HELEN COVER THAT, THEN I'M GOING TO HAVE RICHARD TARR SPEAK, AND THEN IF THERE'S ANYONE ELSE FROM THE PUBLIC WHO WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK, I'LL GIVE THEM AN OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK SINCE I KIND OF JUMPED AHEAD.

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: THAT'S FINE.

GOOD MORNING, BOARD.

MARY HELEN FARRIS WITH THE COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.

I WAS JUST GOING TO STATE THAT THE RESOLUTION BEFORE YOU REFLECTS THE CHANGE THAT YOU ASKED FOR AT THE LAST PUBLIC HEARING, WHICH WAS TO PUT THE AUDIT COMMITTEE LANGUAGE IN TO THE CHARTER.

THIS WAS DONE BEFORE THE BOCC TOOK ITS ACTION AND ULTIMATELY AGREED TO IMPLEMENT MR. TARR'S RECOMMENDATIONS, BUT THIS REFLECTS THAT UPDATE, AND OTHER THAN THAT, I DON'T HAVE ANYMORE COMMENTS UNLESS THERE'S QUESTIONS OR WHEN THE DISCUSSION BEGINS.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: THANK YOU.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: ACTUALLY, MR. AMON.

>>JOE AMON: MY ONLY QUESTION, IS THERE ANY CONFLICT BETWEEN THE LETTER AND WHAT'S IN THIS?

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: NO.

>>JOE AMON: OKAY.

THANK YOU.

>>GERALD WHITE: MR. CHAIR.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

MR. WHITE.

MRS. FARRIS, WE MAY HAVE A FEW -- THERE MAY BE SOME  
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR YOU.

MR. WHITE.

>>GERALD WHITE: MR. CHAIR, CONCERNING THE LETTER THAT'S  
SIGNED BY KEN HAGAN, THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS, I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A MOTION THAT WE  
RECEIVE THIS LETTER INTO THE CHARTER REVIEW BOARD RECORD.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES.

EVERYBODY SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED A LETTER.

IT BASICALLY MENTIONED WHAT WAS MADE BY THE BOARD, SO WE'VE  
GOT A MOTION AND A SECOND.

ANY DISCUSSION CONCERNING THIS LETTER?

OKAY.

ALL IN FAVOR PLEASE RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND.

OKAY.

IT PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

>>GERALD WHITE: NOW, YOU CAN GO AHEAD AND READ IT TO THE  
PUBLIC, MR. CHAIR, SO THE PUBLIC --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YEAH, ACTUALLY I'LL READ IT.

IT BASICALLY JUST SAID -- IT WAS, DEAR CHAIRMAN THROWER,  
DURING THE JULY 14th, 2010, REGULAR MEETING, THE BOARD OF

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DISCUSSED CONSULTANT RICHARD TARR'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE INFRASTRUCTURE OF INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR, IPA.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO IMPLEMENT MR. TARR'S RECOMMENDATIONS, WHICH WILL ENTAIL DRAFTING AMENDMENTS TO THE IPA ORDINANCE AS WELL AS OTHER LEGAL DOCUMENTS.

THE BOARD ALSO VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO SEND A LETTER TO THE CHARTER REVIEW BOARD EXPRESSING THE BOARD'S DESIRE TO MAINTAIN THE OFFICE OF THE IPA AND IMPLEMENT THE

APPROPRIATE CHANGES RECOMMENDED BY MR. TARR.

SINCERELY, KEN HAGAN, CHAIR, BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

OKAY.

WE'LL MAKE SURE IT'S ENTERED INTO THE RECORD.

THANK YOU, MR. WHITE.

>>GERALD WHITE: THANK YOU.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

NEXT UP, WE HAVE -- ANY ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR

MRS. FARRIS?

NEXT UP, WE DO --

>>GERALD WHITE: I DO HAVE A QUESTION NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT BECAUSE I HAVE BEEN THINKING ABOUT THIS INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR POST AS IT RELATE TO THE TERM "COMMITTEE," AND I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW FROM THE COUNTY ATTORNEY WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A COMMITTEE TITLE, A BOARD TITLE, OR DESIGNATING THE GROUP AS AN AUTHORITY?

IN OUR COUNTY STRUCTURE WE CAN HAVE A COMMITTEE, WE CAN HAVE A BOARD, OR WE CAN HAVE AN AUTHORITY.

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE THREE?

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: JUST ONE OF SEMANTICS.

I THINK THE COMMITTEE IS MORE OF AN APPROPRIATE TERM IF YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE A GROUP OF LAY PEOPLE THAN AN AUTHORITY LIKE THE -- BECAUSE THAT'S LIKE THE PORT AUTHORITY, THE SPORTS AUTHORITY.

I THINK COMMITTEE WOULD BE THE BEST NAME FOR IT, WHETHER IT'S IN THE CHARTER OR DONE BY BOARD ORDINANCE.

>>GERALD WHITE: OKAY.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

NEXT UP ON OUR AGENDA IS MR. RICHARD TARR.

WELCOME.

>> THANK YOU.

GOOD MORNING.

MY NAME IS RICHARD TARR.

I RESIDE AT 3035 DAWLEY AVENUE.

A COUPLE OF POINTS.

YOU'VE ALREADY INTRODUCED AND ENTERED INTO THE RECORD THE LETTER FROM THE BOCC WHERE THEY'VE ADOPTED THE RECOMMENDATIONS I MADE PURSUANT TO THE PEER REVIEW THAT I DID BACK IN FEBRUARY.

AMONG THOSE, OF COURSE, IS THE ADOPTION OF AN AUDIT COMMITTEE ALONG WITH A SPECIFIC DEPARTMENTAL CHARTER TO

DEFINE WHAT THE RESPONSIBILITIES AND THE AUTHORITY WILL BE OF THE IPA OR, SLASH, INTERNAL AUDITOR AND ALONG WITH SOME RECOMMENDED JOB -- JOB DESCRIPTIONS OR DEFINITIONS OF THE KIND OF PERSON THAT SHOULD FILL THAT -- SHOULD FILL THAT ROLE.

THAT'S GOING TO COME UP FOR A VOTE BASED ON THE SPECIFIC LANGUAGE THAT WE'VE PUT IN TO THOSE DOCUMENTS IN I THINK THE MEETING THAT IS GOING TO OCCUR AT THE END OF AUGUST. I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A COUPLE OF COMMENTS ABOUT THE RESOLUTION THAT HAS -- THAT'S CURRENTLY IN FRONT OF YOU THAT TALKS ABOUT ENTERING IN -- IN TO THE CHARTER THE REQUIREMENT FOR AN AUDIT COMMITTEE.

MY FIRST COMMENT IS WHILE I DON'T OBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENT FOR AN AUDIT COMMITTEE BEING ENTERED INTO THE CHARTER, I THINK YOU WOULD BE MORE FLEXIBLE IF YOU LEFT THE DETAILS OF HOW MANY MEMBERS ARE GOING TO BE ON THAT COMMITTEE, THE MAKEUP OF THAT COMMITTEE, AND WHATNOT -- WOULD BE BETTER SERVED BY BOARD RESOLUTION.

OBVIOUSLY BOARD RESOLUTION CAN -- CAN ADOPT TO CHANGE MORE QUICKLY THAN PUTTING SOMETHING IN A CHARTER THAT HAS TO GO THROUGH THIS PROCESS EVERY FOUR YEARS AND THEN BROUGHT BEFORE THE VOTERS TO BE VOTED ON.

HAVING SAID THAT, THAT WAY IF -- IF SEVEN IS THE APPROPRIATE NUMBER OR FIVE OR THREE OR 40, THAT CAN BE DEBATED AND ESTABLISHED AND CHANGED AS NECESSARY.

IF YOU PUT A REQUIREMENT FOR SEVEN IN THE CHARTER, THEN, IN FACT, THEY HAVE NO LEEWAY TO ADJUST THAT IF NECESSARY.

IN THE SPECIFIC WORDING HERE -- AND I'M ON -- IF YOU HAVE THE DOCUMENT IN FRONT OF YOU, I AM ON PAGE 1, 2 -- I'M AT THE TOP OF PAGE 3, I THINK THE SECOND SENTENCE, IT SAYS, THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY INTERNAL AUDITOR'S WORK SHALL INCLUDE AUDITS OF ALL ASPECTS OF THIS CHARTER GOVERNMENT AND ITS OFFICES AND ITS OFFICIALS -- HERE'S WHERE I THINK YOU MIGHT WANT TO REWORD THIS -- WITH WRITTEN ANNUAL REPORTS SUBMITTED TO BOTH THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR.

MY INTERPRETATION OF THAT IS THAT THERE'S A REQUIREMENT FOR A WRITTEN REPORT EVERY YEAR ANNUALLY ON EACH OF THE CHARTER GOVERNMENT OFFICES AND OFFICIALS.

I'M NOT SURE THAT'S WHAT YOU INTENDED IN PUTTING THAT WORDING TOGETHER, SO IF YOU ARE GOING TO CONSIDER THIS RESOLUTION, I WOULD HOPE THAT YOU WOULD CONSIDER CHANGING THAT WORDING SO IT'S A LITTLE MORE SPECIFIC.

IT LOOK -- YOU WOULD HAVE TO HIRE A CONSIDERABLY LARGE STAFF OF AUDITORS TO BE ABLE TO ANNUALLY AUDIT ALL OF THE CHARTER GOVERNMENT AND ITS OFFICES, SO YOU MIGHT WANT TO RETHINK THAT -- RETHINK THAT WORDING.

THAT WAS -- THAT WAS MY COMMENT THERE.

I WOULD RECOMMEND TO YOU THAT YOU GO BACK AND CONSIDER WHAT YOU HAVE ALREADY LOOKED AT AT THE LAST MEETING, AND THAT IS

BASICALLY JUST CHANGING THE NAME AND DIVORCING THE INTERNAL AUDIT FUNCTION FROM THE BUDGET ANALYST FUNCTION AND LEAVE THE DETAILS OF HOW THE AUDIT COMMITTEE'S GOING TO BE FORMED, WHO THE MEMBERS ARE, THE SIZE OF THE COMMITTEE, AND ALL THAT -- LET THAT BE DEALT WITH BY BOARD RESOLUTION WHERE IT'S EASIER TO ADAPT AND ADJUST TO THE REQUIREMENTS RATHER THAN PUTTING IT IN THE CHARTER, WHICH KIND OF CHISELS IT IN STONE AND MAKES IT VERY DIFFICULT TO CHANGE OR ADAPT AS WE GO FORWARD WITHOUT HAVING TO COME BACK THROUGH THIS PROCESS EVERY FOUR YEARS.

THAT PRETTY MUCH IS WHAT MY CONCERN IS TO THIS NEW RESOLUTION.

HOPEFULLY YOU'LL CONSIDER THAT IN YOUR DELIBERATIONS. I CAN ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS IF YOU'D LIKE AT THIS TIME.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

MR. FISHER.

>>RALPH FISHER: YES.

MR. TARR, THANK YOU FOR YOUR WORK AND HELPING THE COUNTY WITH THIS PROCESS.

>> THANK YOU.

IT'S BEEN -- IT'S BEEN AN HONOR AND FUN.

>>RALPH FISHER: WELL, YOU'RE DOING A GREAT JOB.

>> THANK YOU.

>>RALPH FISHER: I WANT TO DIRECT A QUESTION TO WHAT YOU COMMENTED ON --

>> OKAY.

>>RALPH FISHER: -- AND SEE IF YOU CAN HELP US.

FIRST OF ALL, IS IT OKAY THAT THE COMMITTEE -- THE AUDIT COMMITTEE IS A BIENNIAL SO THAT THEY'RE THERE FOR TWO YEARS?

>> CORRECT.

I THINK THAT'S APPROPRIATE.

ANY TIME YOU'RE ASKING FOR NONCOMPENSATED VOLUNTEERS, I MEAN, THE LONGER YOU GO OUT, THE LESS LIKELY YOU'RE GOING TO GET PEOPLE WHO WILL -- WHO WILL DONATE THEIR TIME.

>>RALPH FISHER: WELL, THAT'S A SECOND QUESTION.

IT SHOULD STILL BE NONCOMPENSATED; RIGHT?

>> CORRECT.

>>RALPH FISHER: OKAY.

AND SO -- I MEAN, AS YOU WERE TALKING, I WAS MAKING CHANGES, LIKE I ALWAYS DO, AND SO I HAD REWRITTEN THIS TO SAY THAT, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SHALL BIENNUELY ESTABLISH AN AUDIT COMMITTEE WHO SHALL MEET WITHOUT COMPENSATION FROM TIME TO TIME FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING INTERNAL AUDIT PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, SO WHAT I DID WAS EXCISED THE LANGUAGE THAT SAID, WITH EACH COMMISSIONER APPOINTING ONE -

-

>> RIGHT.

I LIKE THAT WORDING MUCH BETTER.

YOU HAVEN'T ESTABLISHED A SPECIFIC SIZE NOR HAVE YOU ESTABLISHED HOW THEY'D BE CHOSEN, AND IN FACT, THERE ARE 50 -- I'VE BEEN TOLD THERE ARE 50 BOARDS IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, THE VAST MAJORITY OF WHICH ARE NOT COMPRISED OF MEMBERS WHO ARE APPOINTED BY EACH COMMISSIONER.

>>RALPH FISHER: YES, SIR.

THE SECOND THING ON THE -- WHERE YOU'VE GOT THE COMMENT ON PAGE 3, THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY INTERNAL AUDIT'S WORK, INSTEAD OF THE WORD "SHALL," WHAT IF THAT WAS CHANGED TO THE WORD "MAY," SO THAT IT DOESN'T HAVE TO ENCOMPASS ALL THE ASPECTS OF GOVERNMENT --

>> I WOULD AGREE THAT IT SHOULD ENCOMPASS ALL ASPECTS OF GOVERNMENT, BUT I WOULD PUT A PERIOD AFTER CHARTER GOVERNMENT AND ITS OFFICES, PERIOD, AND JUST TAKE THE REST OF THAT SENTENCE OUT SO THAT WE DON'T GIVE THE IMPRESSION THAT ANNUALLY THERE HAS TO BE A WRITTEN REPORT ON ALL THESE OFFICES PRESENTED TO THE BOARD AND THE ADMINISTRATOR.

>>RALPH FISHER: CAN YOU READ WHAT YOU WOULD SUGGEST THEN OUT LOUD?

>> I WOULD SAY, THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY INTERNAL AUDITOR'S WORK SHALL INCLUDE AUDITS OF ALL ASPECTS OF THIS CHARTER'S GOVERNMENT AND ITS OFFICES, PERIOD.

>>RALPH FISHER: AND THEN STRIKE, AND ITS OFFICIALS --

>> AND ITS OFFICIALS WITH WRITTEN ANNUAL REPORTS SUBMITTED TO BOTH THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND THE COUNTY

ADMINISTRATOR, STRIKE THAT PHRASE BECAUSE THAT IMPLIES THAT WHOEVER'S IN THAT POSITION ANNUALLY HAS TO WRITE A REPORT ON EVERYBODY.

THAT -- THAT'S -- YOU DON'T HAVE ENOUGH RESOURCES NOR WOULD YOU WANT TO.

THERE ARE SOME CHARTER GOVERNMENT OFFICES THAT MAY NOT BE LOOKED AT FROM AN AUDIT PERSPECTIVE ON AN ANNUAL BASIS BECAUSE LOOKING AT THE RISK ASSESSMENT, THERE'S NOT ENOUGH MONEY OR -- OR OPPORTUNITY THERE FOR IMPROVEMENT ON AN ANNUAL BASIS, AND SO YOU WOULD PROBABLY LOOK AT THEM ON A LESS FREQUENT BASIS.

THAT WAS MY POINT.

>>RALPH FISHER: OKAY.

THANK YOU.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: I'VE GOT A COUPLE OTHER QUESTIONS.

I JUST WANT TO MAKE A -- ASK YOU A QUESTION REAL QUICK TOO.

THE NEXT SENTENCE, TO THE EXTENT IT IS REASONABLE, THE COUNTY'S INTERNAL AUDITOR'S WORK SHALL COMPLY WITH INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS FOR THE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE OF INTERNAL AUDITS, I MEAN, I THINK THAT'S FINE; HOWEVER, MY CONCERN IS LIKE IN FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING THEY'RE MOVING MORE TOWARDS INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS.

>> THAT'S A VERY GOOD POINT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YOU'RE LOCKING YOURSELF INTO THIS.

>> THAT'S A VERY GOOD POINT.

AGAIN, IF YOU LEAVE THE REQUIREMENT FOR FOLLOWING PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS UP TO BOARD RESOLUTION RATHER THAN PUTTING IT IN A CHARTER, YOU GIVE YOURSELF MORE FLEXIBILITY, PLUS THERE -- DEPENDING UPON THE NATURE OF THE AUDIT THAT YOU'RE DOING, YOU MAY WANT TO ADOPT AND FOLLOW RED BOOK STANDARDS, AI STANDARDS AS YOU'VE MENTIONED HERE OR --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YEAH, AND THERE'S DIFFERENT ACCOUNTING --

>> YES.

OR YOU MAY WANT TO FOLLOW -- IN THE CASE OF A MORE PERFORMANCE-ORIENTED OR OPERATIONAL-ORIENTED AUDIT, YOU MAY WANT TO FOLLOW THE YELLOW BOOK STANDARDS THAT ARE PUT OUT BY THE GAO.

THIS KIND OF LOCKS YOU IN AGAIN.

YOU'RE CHISELING INTO STONE SOMETHING THAT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO CHANGE SHOULD THE NEED COME UP, AND I WOULD AGAIN LEAVE THE REQUIREMENT, WHICH I'VE ALREADY PUT IN -- I'VE PUT THE -- I'VE SAID THAT -- IN THE RESOLUTION THAT'S GOING TO GO BEFORE THE BOARD FOR A VOTE, I'VE SAID THAT, WHERE APPLICABLE, IT WOULD BE BOTH THE -- IT WOULD BE -- EITHER THE IIA OR THE YELLOW BOOK STANDARDS SHOULD BE FOLLOWED IN CONDUCTING WORK SO THAT WE'VE GOT THE FLEXIBILITY.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

I'VE GOT MR. PRESEAU, COMMISSIONER PLATT, THEN MR. AMON.

>>GREG PRESEAU: GOOD MORNING.

>> GOOD MORNING, SIR.

>>GREG PRESEAU: MY QUESTION WOULD BE IF THEY'RE APPOINTING A BOARD BIANNUALLY, WOULD THERE BE A METHOD PUT IN THERE TO STAGGER THE YEARS BECAUSE, YOU KNOW, IF ONE --

>> THAT'S A GOOD POINT.

YOU DON'T WANT THE WHOLE BOARD TO GO AWAY EVERY TWO YEARS, AND I SHOULD HAVE MENTIONED THAT.

I APOLOGIZE FOR DOING THAT.

IN THE PROPOSAL THAT I'VE PUT BEFORE THE BOARD, THEY WOULD BE STAGGERED; IN OTHER WORDS, THERE WOULD BE SOME MEMBERS COMING ON EVERY TWO YEARS AND SOME COMING OFF EVERY TWO YEARS.

OBVIOUSLY INITIALLY WE'RE GOING TO START WITH EVERYONE, BUT -- SO WE WOULD STAGGER THOSE TERMS SO THAT YOU DON'T HAVE A COMPLETE TURNOVER SO THAT THE LEARNING CURVE IS NOT FOR EVERYBODY EVERY YEAR, AND THAT'S A GOOD POINT.

THANK YOU, AND IT'S IN THERE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

COMMISSIONER PLATT AND MR. AMON.

>>JAN PLATT: QUESTIONS DOWN TWO LINES.

ONE IS THE CLERK HAD GIVEN US A LETTER RECENTLY SUGGESTING A COUPLE OF CHANGES TO WHAT YOU HAD RECOMMENDED.

ARE THOSE CHANGES IN THIS -- REFLECTED IN THIS DOCUMENT?

>> YOU'VE GOT ME AT A DISADVANTAGE.

I DON'T KNOW WHICH LETTER YOU'RE REFERRING TO.

I KNOW THE CLERK WOULD JUST AS SOON NOT HAVE --

>>JAN PLATT: WELL, I UNDERSTAND THAT, BUT SHE SENT US A LETTER THAT HAD A COUPLE OF CHANGES THAT SHE SUGGESTED, AND MAYBE YOU'RE NOT THE ONE TO ASK.

I'LL ASK SOMEBODY FROM THE CLERK'S OFFICE IF SOMEBODY COULD BE PREPARED.

AND THEN THE OTHER QUESTION ABOUT THIS COMMITTEE, BECAUSE I THINK THIS IS A TIME BOMB.

I PERSONALLY THINK, AND I KNOW -- I'M GOING TO -- I'M GOING TO MAKE A MOTION AFTER -- WHEN WE GET TO THE AMENDMENTS THAT THEY BE REQUIRED TO FILE FULL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE, ESPECIALLY SINCE THEY'RE GOING TO HAVE THE ABILITY TO GO IN AND LOOK AT EPC, THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMISSION, THEY'RE GOING TO BE ABLE TO LOOK AT THE PLANNING COMMISSION, THE -- ALL OF THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS THAT IMPACT CONSTRUCTION AND ALL KINDS OF THINGS, AND THERE'S NO REQUIREMENTS ABOUT THE MEMBERS OF THIS -- THIS COMMITTEE, AND IF -- WITH THE POWERS THAT THEY ARE GOING TO HAVE, IN MY OPINION, THEY SHOULD HAVE TO FILE FULL --

>> FIRST OFF, I WANT TO POINT OUT -- MAYBE THIS WILL HELP -  
- THAT WHEN IT COMES TO POWERS, THE AUDIT COMMITTEE CAN ONLY RECOMMEND TO THE BOCC.

THE BOCC --

>>JAN PLATT: I KNOW.

>> -- STILL HAS THE FINAL SAY.

>>JAN PLATT: I UNDERSTAND THAT.

I'VE BEEN -- I KNOW THAT, BUT A RECOMMENDATION FROM A COMMITTEE IS POWERFUL.

>> TRUE.

>>JAN PLATT: AND IF -- JUST LIKE YOU SEE WHAT HAPPENED THE OTHER DAY WITH CITY COUNCIL.

THEY DID NOT REQUIRE FULL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE BEFORE THE PEOPLE HAD TURNED IN THEIR -- TURNED IN THEIR NAMES, AND THEN AFTER THE FACT YOU FIND OUT WHO THEY'VE REALLY GOT ON THAT NEW BOARD, AND THAT'S GOING TO BE THE SAME THING WITH THIS AUDIT COMMITTEE.

>> ISN'T THAT A QUESTION FOR THE ATTORNEY GENERAL?

I THOUGHT THAT'S WHAT --

>>JAN PLATT: NO.

I REALLY --

>> I'M ASKING.

>>JAN PLATT: I'M NOT ASKING YOU TO BE AN ADVOCATE ONE WAY OR ANOTHER, I'M JUST INFORMING YOU THAT THAT'S WHAT I'M GOING TO PROPOSE ONCE YOU SIT DOWN --

>> OKAY.

>>JAN PLATT: -- IS THAT WE REQUIRE FULL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE OF THESE MEMBERS BECAUSE OTHERWISE WE COULD HAVE SOME TROUBLE DOWN THE LINE, AND IT WILL BE EMBARRASSING TO

THE COMMISSIONERS AS WELL AS THIS BOARD FOR HAVING PROPOSED IT IN THE FIRST PLACE.

BUT THINK ABOUT IT BECAUSE --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. AMON.

>>JOE AMON: YEAH.

WE'VE TAKEN OUT THIS -- YOUR RECOMMENDATION IS TO TAKE OUT THE SPECIFIC STANDARD.

HOW DO WE REWORD IT SO THERE IS A STANDARD THAT THEY'RE GOING BY?

>> YOU COULD USE SOMETHING GENERIC AND SAY THAT THE WORK WILL BE DONE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ACCEPT -- ACCEPTED PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS, AND THAT BASICALLY LEAVES THE SELECTION OF WHICH STANDARDS ARE APPROPRIATE TO THE APPROPRIATE AUDIT WORK THAT'S BEING UNDERTAKEN.

>>JOE AMON: IS IT NOT THE CASE THAT THERE'S REALLY TWO PRIMARY STANDARDS OR ARE THERE MORE THAN TWO?

>> THERE ARE ACTUALLY THREE, DEPENDING UPON IF YOU'RE DOING FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDITS, BUT INTERNAL AUDITORS DON'T DO THAT, PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRMS DO THAT.

>>JOE AMON: RIGHT.

>> SO FOR INTERNAL AUDITING THERE ARE PRIMARILY TWO SETS OF STANDARDS, THE YELLOW BOOK STANDARDS PUBLISHED BY THE GAO AND THEN THE RED BOOK STANDARDS WHICH ARE PUBLISHED BY THE INSTITUTE OF INTERNAL AUDITORS, WHICH ARE THE ONES THAT ARE REFERRED TO HERE.

>>JOE AMON: HOW DO WE GET THAT INTO THIS?

WHAT IS THE WORDING THAT WOULD GET IT IN?

MY CONCERN IS I DON'T WANT TO LEAVE IT SO OPEN.

WE PUT THIS IN FOR A REASON, AND THE REASON WAS TO BE MORE SPECIFIC.

I DON'T WANT TO --

>> BUT YOU COULD, IN FACT, SAY EITHER RED BOOK OR YELLOW BOOK, WHATEVER'S APPROPRIATE, AND THEN JUST PUT THE NAMES OF THOSE TWO STANDARDS IN THE -- IN THE RESOLUTION IF, IN FACT, THAT'S WHAT YOU WANT TO DO.

AGAIN, I LIKE THE CHAIRMAN'S IDEA IS THAT THEY'LL BE IN THERE, BUT THEY'LL BE IN THERE BY BOARD RESOLUTION RATHER THAN BY CHARTER.

>>JOE AMON: CORRECT.

BUT THE CHARTER WOULD SAY -- WOULD BE SPECIFIC ENOUGH TO SAY YOU HAVE TO USE THIS -- A STANDARD, AND IT CAN BE -- THE CHOICE IS UP TO THE COMMITTEE?

>> CORRECT.

NOW, IF YOU DIDN'T WANT TO SPECIFICALLY NAME THE STANDARD, WHICH IS WHAT WE WERE TALKING ABOUT, YOU COULD PUT IN THE CHARTER THAT AUDIT WORK WILL BE DONE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ACCEPTABLE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS, PERIOD, END OF SENTENCE, AND NOT ACTUALLY SPECIFY RED BOOK OR YELLOW BOOK.

THEN AGAIN, THAT COULD BE CARRIED FORWARD IN THE BOARD RESOLUTION THAT WOULD ALSO MIMIC THAT, SAYING, ALL RIGHT,

THESE ARE THE TWO STANDARDS WE WOULD EXPECT YOU TO CHOOSE FROM.

>>JOE AMON: OKAY.

>> AND THEN IF WE NEEDED TO CHANGE THAT FOR WHATEVER REASON AND A THIRD SET OF STANDARDS WOULD WANT TO BE ADOPTED OR WHATEVER THE CASE MAY BE, IT WOULD BE EASY ENOUGH TO BE CHANGED BECAUSE WE COULD DO IT THROUGH BOARD RESOLUTION RATHER THAN HAVING TO COME BACK TO THE CHARTER AND SAY, OKAY, NOW WE'VE GOT TO PUT IT TO THE VOTERS AGAIN AS TO WHICH SET OF STANDARDS WE WANT TO USE.

I'M JUST THINKING OF THE FLEXIBILITY OF NOT SPECIFICALLY STATING WHICH SPECIFIC SET OF STANDARDS IN THE CHARTER BUT SAYING IN THE CHARTER THAT WE EXPECT THE WORK TO BE DONE IN ACCORDANCE WITH ACCEPTABLE AND APPLICABLE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS, PERIOD, END OF SENTENCE, AND THEN JUST LET BOARD RESOLUTION FILL IN THE DETAILS.

>>JOE AMON: OKAY.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: AND THE REASON I MENTIONED THAT WAS IN FINANCIAL -- AND I'M NOT IN FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING, SO IF I SAY SOMETHING INCORRECT, I JUST WANT TO MENTION THAT, BUT FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING, FROM WHAT I'VE READ, IS MOVING MORE TOWARDS INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS, SO, YOU KNOW -- AND THAT'S AN EXAMPLE.

IF THEY HAD HAD SOMETHING LOCKED IN, YOU HAVE TO COMPLY WITH, YOU KNOW, GASB OR FASB AND THEY'RE MOVING TOWARDS

INTERNATIONAL, YOU'D BE LOCKED INTO THAT, AND I GUESS THAT'S MY CONCERN.

I DON'T WANT THE CHARTER TO LOCK YOU INTO SOMETHING SPECIFIC WHEN IT COULD POSSIBLY CHANGE IN THE FUTURE, AND THEN YOU'VE GOT THIS WHOLE ISSUE WHERE AS -- AS WE KNOW, IT'S HARD TO CHANGE SOMETHING IN THE CHARTER, SO --

>> [INAUDIBLE]

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YEAH.

MR. TOKLEY SAID FLEXIBILITY IS THE KEY AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED.

>> CORRECT.

AND THAT'S WHAT WE'RE TRYING TO GO FOR HERE IS WHILE -- WE'RE NOT SAYING WE DON'T WANT THIS IN THE CHARTER, BUT WE WANT IT IN THERE IN A FORMAT WHERE IT GIVES THE BOARD THE FLEXIBILITY TO ADJUST TO WHAT'S NECESSARY IN THE CURRENT CIRCUMSTANCES.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. WHITE.

>>GERALD WHITE: YEAH.

WELL, FIRST, I PREFER THE NAME HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY AUDIT AUTHORITY OVER COMMITTEE.

I WOULD LIKE TO -- TO TERM IT THAT INSTEAD OF COMMITTEE, HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY AUDIT AUTHORITY, AND I ALSO PREFER TO FIX THE NUMBER BECAUSE I THINK THAT'S ONE OF THE -- THE CONTINUAL PROBLEMS WITH THIS POST IS THAT THE CHARTER BOARD -- THE PREVIOUS CHARTER BOARD HAD IMPRESSIONS AND

INTERPRETATIONS OF THEIR OWN AS A BOARD WHAT THEY THOUGHT THINGS WERE GOING TO TURN OUT TO BE, BUT THEY LEFT SO MUCH -- WE LEFT -- THE PREVIOUS CHARTER BOARD LEFT SO MUCH DISCRETION IN THE LANGUAGE UNTIL IT TURNED OUT TO WHAT WE HAVE TODAY.

SO MANY PEOPLE ARE UNHAPPY, SO I WANT TO FIX THE NUMBER. I PREFER ONE MEMBER PER COMMISSIONER, SO WE -- IF WE'RE GOING TO FIX IT, WE NEED TO JUST GO AHEAD AND JUST FIX IT, ALL RIGHT.

I PREFER ONE MEMBER PER COMMISSIONER, AND I PREFER ELEVATING THE POST TO HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY AUDIT AUTHORITY, AND I THINK THAT WILL GO A LONG WAY TO MOVING US FORWARD. SO I JUST WANT TO START WITH THAT.

WHAT DO YOU GUYS THINK ABOUT THAT, MR. FISHER?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: ANY OTHER QUESTIONS FOR MR. TARR?

MR. ROBINSON.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: [INAUDIBLE]

A QUESTION FOR THE ATTORNEY.

THE REASON WE'RE HERE IS BECAUSE WE EXTENDED THE VOTE ON THIS, I THINK; RIGHT?

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: THAT'S CORRECT.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: AND WHAT I'M HEARING IS THE PAPERWORK WE HAVE IN FRONT OF US STILL NEEDS SOME MODIFICATIONS.

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: THAT'S WHAT THE DISCUSSION IS.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: THAT'S WHAT I'M HEARING.

NOW, I WANT TO ASK YOU, WHICH HAS GREATER AUTHORITY, THE CHARTER OR A RESOLUTION FROM THE BOARD?

SAY THERE'S CONFLICT IN LANGUAGE BECAUSE IF WE GO THE WAY WE'RE GOING WITHOUT CLEANING THIS UP A LITTLE BIT MORE, WE'RE GOING TO PROBABLY HAVE A POTENTIAL CONFLICT IF THIS PASSES, IF IT GETS ON THE BALLOT, AND THEN WE HAD AN ISSUE WHERE THE INTERPRETATION OF THE BOARD RESOLUTION VERSUS WHAT WE PUT ON THE BALLOT AND SAY THE VOTERS PASSED. WHICH WOULD HAVE THE WEIGHT?

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: THE CHARTER WOULD RULE OVER A RESOLUTION.

THE RESOLUTION WOULD HAVE TO CONFORM WITH THE CHARTER.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: OKAY.

SO WE LEAD -- WE'RE THE LEAD AND THE RESOLUTION'S THE LAG?

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: CORRECT.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: SO WE NEED TO MAKE SURE WE HAVE THE LANGUAGE CLEAR IN THE CHARTER?

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: CORRECT.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: OKAY.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

MR. AMON.

>>JOE AMON: ONE LAST COMMENT.

I HAPPEN TO AGREE WITH MR. WHITE ABOUT THE NUMBER.

WE HAD THIS DISCUSSION, AND I THINK WE CAME TO A REASONABLE CONSENSUS THAT EACH COMMISSIONER SHOULD HAVE A VOTE ON --

OR A PERSON ON THAT PARTICULAR COMMITTEE, SO I AGREE WITH WHAT HE SAID.

THE SECOND THING IS I'M BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND THE FLEXIBILITY OF THE PERFORMANCE SO THAT IT WOULD BE SIMPLY - - YOU COULD STRIKE THAT AREA WHERE IT TALKS ABOUT THE SPECIFIC INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND JUST SAY APPLICABLE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS FOR THE PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE OF INTERNAL AUDITS, AND THAT WOULD ABSOLVE THAT INDIVIDUAL ENTITY, SO IT'S A MATTER OF CHANGE, SO I MAKE THOSE RECOMMENDATIONS.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: DO WE NEED TO -- MR. CHAIR --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YEAH.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: -- DO WE NEED TO TAKE FORMAL ACTION ON THAT?

I'LL SECOND THAT IF THAT'S -- I MEAN -- I DON'T KNOW.

ARE WE READY NOW?

ARE WE THROUGH LISTENING TO PEOPLE?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE EVERYBODY HAS HAD A CHANCE TO COMMENT.

IF WE COULD MAKE SURE EVERYBODY'S HAD A CHANCE TO COMMENT FIRST.

LET ME LET MRS. REBACK AND THEN MR. FISHER.

AND I WANTED TO MENTION I PASSED TO COMMISSIONER PLATT THE LETTER FROM PAT -- THE CLERK OF THE COURT, PAT FRANK.

>>JAN PLATT: HAVE WE HEARD FROM EVERYBODY IN THE AUDIENCE?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YEAH.

THAT'S A GOOD POINT TOO.

I WOULD LIKE TO OPEN IT UP JUST TO MAKE SURE -- I HAVEN'T RECEIVED ANYMORE SHEETS.

IF THERE'S ANYONE IN THE AUDIENCE WHO WOULD STILL LIKE TO COMMENT, WE'RE GOING TO OPEN IT UP TO PUBLIC COMMENT AGAIN, AND ACTUALLY THAT'S A GOOD POINT, SO --

>>GERALD WHITE: MR. CHAIR.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: LET ME LET MRS. REBACK GO AND THEN MR. FISHER, AND THEN I'LL LET YOU KNOW, MR. WHITE.

>>GERALD WHITE: I JUST NEED -- CAN YOU JUST US GET A COPY OF THAT LETTER?

I CAN'T FIND MY LETTER FROM THE CLERK, PAT FRANK, AND CAN YOU JUST GET EVERYBODY A COPY OF THAT SO WE CAN READ IT.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: WE'LL PASS IT TO YOU.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: I'LL PASS IT OVER.

>>GERALD WHITE: CAN YOU JUST GET EVERYBODY -- EVERY MEMBER NEED TO HAVE A COPY.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: EVERYBODY -- IT'S BEEN PASSED AROUND.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: IT'S BEEN -- YEAH.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: MR. TARR, I HAVE A QUESTION.

>>GERALD WHITE: CAN SOMEONE GET ME A COPY OF THAT LETTER?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: IT'S COMING.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: IT'S COMING TO YOU.

>>GERALD WHITE: FOR EVERYBODY, JUST GET EVERYBODY A COPY.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: EVERYBODY SHOULD HAVE RECEIVED A COPY BY E-MAIL AND EVERYTHING.

IT'S BEEN DISTRIBUTED TO THE BOARD BEFORE.

OKAY.

MRS. REBACK.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: MR. TARR, YOU HEARD WHAT MR. MAI SAID EARLIER ABOUT THE NUMBER -- THE PROPOSED NUMBER OF PEOPLE SERVING ON THE AUDIT COMMITTEE, AND I READ WITH -- I DON'T KNOW IF YOU HAD A CHANCE TO READ HIS -- HIS LETTER, BUT I READ WITH INTEREST HIS OUTLINE OF THE NUMBER OF AREAS OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY GOVERNMENT AS HE CONCEIVED OF IT IN TERMS OF IT BREAKING DOWN, AND I'M NOT CONVINCED THAT AN AUDIT COMMITTEE MEMBER NEEDS TO BE ASSIGNED INDIVIDUALLY TO EACH OF THOSE TYPE OF AREAS AS OPPOSED TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE AS A WHOLE REVIEWING ALL OF THE AREAS OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

>> I COMPLETELY AGREE.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I'M NOT -- SO I WANT TO MAKE THAT CLEAR, BUT I AM CURIOUS TO KNOW WHAT YOUR RECOMMENDATION WAS AND WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR IT WITH REGARD TO THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE BECAUSE ON THE ONE HAND, I SEE CERTAIN REASONS FOR HAVING AN APPOINTMENT BY EACH COMMISSIONER, BUT ON THE OTHER HAND, I ALSO SEE -- I ALSO SEE PERILS IN THAT AND THE POTENTIAL FOR JUST HAVING THE AUDIT COMMITTEE BE A MINI -- A MINI BOCC WITH THE PRIORITIES OF THE COMMISSIONERS BEING

THE PRIORITIES OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE AND HAVING SOME -- THE OPPORTUNITY FOR GRIDLOCK TO ARISE; WHEREAS, IF THE BOARD WAS COMPOSED IN A DIFFERENT FASHION WITH EITHER LESS OR MORE MEMBERS, THEN THE BOARD WOULD FIND ITSELF IN A POSITION WHERE THEY NEEDED TO BE MORE COMPROMISING AND MORE -- I THINK THERE WOULD BE MORE OF AN OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THINGS WITHOUT A COMPLETE POLITICIZATION OF THE PROCESS, SO I'M NOT CONVINCED THAT THE COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD NEEDS TO BE EACH MEMBER OF THE BOCC APPOINTING SOMEONE.

AT THE SAME TIME, I, LIKE YOU, VALUE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAINTAIN FLEXIBILITY AND HAVE THE BOCC RETAIN THE AUTHORITY TO COMPOSE THE BOARD AS THEY SEE FIT WITH THE INPUT FROM YOU AND THE PUBLIC, PEOPLE SUCH AS MR. MAI WHO HAVE A REAL INTEREST IN THIS TYPE OF THING, OFFERING COUNSEL ON THE COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD, BUT I ALSO UNDERSTAND MR. AMON'S CONCERN THAT MAYBE IT NEEDS TO -- SOMETHING NEEDS TO BE IN THE CHARTER SO THAT WE'RE NOT JUST PERMITTING THE BOCC TO CREATE A MINI BOCC.

>> YES.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: AND SO THOSE ARE MY OBSERVATIONS ON THE COMPOSITION OF THE BOARD, AND IF YOU WOULDN'T MIND COMMENTING ON THAT.

>> MY RECOMMENDATION WAS A MINIMUM OF THREE, WHICH IS CONSIDERED GOOD PRACTICE AND, IN FACT, IS A REQUIREMENT OF

THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT THAT CORPORATE BOARDS HAVE TO FOLLOW, BUT NO MORE THAN FIVE.

THREE TO FIVE SEEMS TO BE THE NORM FOR AUDIT COMMITTEES. ONCE YOU GET BEYOND FIVE, THEN YOU START TO GET INTO NUMBERS THAT ARE SO GREAT THAT IT'S DIFFICULT TO GET ANYTHING DONE.

ALSO, LIKE YOU, I HAVE A CONCERN THAT IF WE REQUIRE EACH BOARD MEMBER TO APPOINT SOMEONE TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE, WE'RE GOING TO GET VARYING DEGREES OF INTEREST IN THE BACKGROUND OF THE PEOPLE THAT ARE APPOINTED.

IF WE REQUIRE A COMMISSIONER TO APPOINT SOMEONE TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE, THEY GO, I MAY OR MAY NOT HAVE AN INTEREST IN THE AUDIT COMMITTEE, I MAY OR MAY NOT HAVE AN UNDERSTANDING OF WHO SHOULD BE APPOINTED, BUT I'VE GOT TO APPOINT SOMEONE, SO HERE'S --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: HERE'S JOE.

>> -- HERE'S JOE, AND JOE'S GOT NO BUSINESS -- WE SHOULDN'T HAVE PICKED JOE.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: JOHN DOE.

>> JOE HAS HIS OWN AGENDA, HAS NO BUSINESS BACKGROUND, OR EXPERTISE IN WHAT INTERNAL AUDIT'S ALL ABOUT, AND CONSEQUENTLY WE WIND UP, AS YOU SAY, CREATING A MINI BOCC. SO THAT WOULD BE MY FEAR.

IF WE -- IF WE SAY THREE TO FIVE AND THAT EACH COMMISSIONER IS NOT REQUIRED TO APPOINT SOMEONE, THEN WE HAVE A VETTING

PROCESS IN PLACE -- AND WE ALREADY HAVE THAT IN PLACE  
BECAUSE WE DO IT FOR OTHER BOARDS -- WHERE WE ASK PEOPLE  
WHO WOULD HAVE AN INTEREST, WE LOOK AT THEIR BACKGROUND, WE  
EXCHANGE THEIR RESUMES AMONG -- AMONG THE BOARD MEMBERS,  
AND THERE'S A PROCESS WHEREBY, OKAY, THOSE THAT ARE  
INTERESTED IN WHO'S GOING TO BE ON THAT COMMITTEE WILL LOOK  
AT THOSE AND RECOMMEND WHO THEY'D LIKE TO SEE.  
THEN IT GETS VOTED ON.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: OKAY.

SO YOU'RE -- TO BE CLEAR -- BECAUSE I GUESS I DIDN'T  
UNDERSTAND THIS BEFORE.

OKAY.

SO TO BE CLEAR, YOUR RECOMMENDATION IS THAT THE AUDIT  
COMMITTEE BE STAFFED IN A SIMILAR WAY TO, SAY, THE LIBRARY  
BOARD --

>> CORRECT.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: -- WHERE IT'S PUT OUT TO THE PUBLIC AND  
PEOPLE APPLY --

>> CORRECT.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: -- AND THEY'RE VETTED AND --

>> CORRECT.

BECAUSE FAIR -- I MEAN, WE WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT PEOPLE  
WHO ARE ON THE AUDIT COMMITTEE, NUMBER ONE, HAVE A BUSINESS  
BACKGROUND AND HAVE BOTH FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL  
EXPERIENCE AND UNDERSTAND WHAT CONTROLS AND WHAT AUDITING

IS ALL ABOUT, AND SO WE WOULD WANT AN OPPORTUNITY TO LOOK AT THEIR RESUMES AND SEE IF, IN FACT, THEY HAVE THE KIND OF BUSINESS BACKGROUND AND INDUSTRY BACKGROUND THAT WOULD BRING SOME VALUE TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE IN HELPING THE INTERNAL AUDITOR OR IPA, WHATEVER YOU WANT TO CALL IT, COME UP WITH A REASONABLE PLAN AND LOOKING AT WHAT SHOULD BE AUDITED ON ANY GIVEN --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: BUT YOU DON'T RECOMMEND THAT THAT APPLICATION PROCESS AND THAT SELECTION PROCESS BE PART OF THIS CHARTER BALLOT MEASURE?

YOU DON'T RECOMMEND THAT?

YOU'RE SAYING THAT YOU WANT TO LEAVE IT UP TO THE BOCC, SO THE BOCC COULD CONCEIVABLY CREATE A PROCESS WHEREBY IT'S BY APPOINTMENT BY EVERY COMMISSIONER AND THEN THE ENTIRE COMMITTEE IS POLITICIZED.

>> WELL, IF YOU SET THE -- IF YOU SET THE NUMBER AT SOMETHING LESS THAN SEVEN, IT'S GOING TO BE DIFFICULT FOR THEM TO ADOPT THAT EACH COMMISSIONER APPOINTS THEIR OWN BECAUSE THEN THE NUMBERS DON'T WORK OUT.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: SO THAT IS A REASON, THEN, THAT SUPPORTS MR. AMON'S RECOMMENDATION THAT A NUMBER BE PLACED IN THERE.

>> AS LONG AS IT'S LESS THAN SEVEN, THEN IT WOULDN'T BE DIFFICULT, IF, IN FACT, YOU'RE CONCERNED ABOUT THE BOARD COMING UP WITH A PROGRAM WHERE EACH COMMISSIONER APPOINTS

THEIR OWN PERSON.

SO JUST SAY THE AUDIT COMMITTEE WOULD BE -- CONSISTENT OF A MINIMUM OF THREE BUT NOT MORE THAN FIVE.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I APPRECIATE THAT THEN.

THAT IS, I THINK, ILLUMINATING TO ME ABOUT WHAT WE NEED TO DO.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

THANK YOU, MRS. REBACK.

MR. FISHER.

>>RALPH FISHER: I HAVE A QUESTION TO MS. PLATT, ACTUALLY.

ARE THERE ANY OTHER BOARDS WHERE PEOPLE MAKE FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES, THESE VOLUNTARY BOARDS IN THE COUNTY?

I DON'T KNOW.

I MEAN, WE DIDN'T THAT I KNOW OF.

WERE WE SUPPOSED TO GIVE FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE TO BE ON THIS BOARD?

>>JAN PLATT: WELL, NO, BUT BECAUSE OF THE VERY NATURE OF THIS BOARD, BECAUSE IT IMPACTS THE OPERATION OF THE COUNTY ON A DAY-TO-DAY BASIS -- IT'S LIKE THE KEYSTONE COPS.

YOU KNOW, THINK ABOUT -- THINK ABOUT -- IT IS -- THAT'S WHAT IT'S GOING TO BE, AND THINK ABOUT SOMEBODY WHO IS APPLYING FOR A JOB IN THIS COUNTY WHO IS A TOP -- YOU KNOW, I TALKED TO SOMEONE ON THE ELEVATOR TODAY WHO'S ONE OF THE TOP EXECUTIVES OF THIS COUNTY GOVERNMENT, AND HE'S RETIRING, AND THE COUNTY WILL HAVE TO GET A REPLACEMENT.

ALL RIGHT.

SO WHEN YOU ADVERTISE FOR THESE REPLACEMENTS FROM ALL OVER THE UNITED STATES AND THEY FIND OUT THAT THERE'S SEVEN PEOPLE WHO YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT THEIR BACKGROUND IS AND THEY HAVE THE ABILITY TO AUDIT YOU ON ANY GIVEN DAY, I MEAN, IT'S -- WE'RE JUST MAKING OURSELVES LOOK RIDICULOUS, I MEAN, REALLY, AND SO THAT'S WHY I SAY PUT IN -- AND THERE MAY NOT BE FOR OTHER COMMITTEES, BUT THIS ONE IS CRITICAL THAT IT BE DISCLOSURE BECAUSE THIS SPEAKS TO THE VERY HEART OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE COUNTY, AND SOME OF THESE GUYS CAN HAVE VERY SERIOUS CONFLICTS.

AND THAT'S WHY I THINK IT'S TO THE PUBLIC -- IF YOU WANT TO SELL THIS TO THE PUBLIC -- AND I DON'T WANT TO SELL IT TO THE PUBLIC, BUT SINCE YOU-ALL ARE INTENT IN SELLING IT TO THE PUBLIC, YOU MAY WANT TO JUST MAKE SURE THAT THEY'RE -- BECAUSE WHAT YOU'RE DOING IS YOU'RE TRANSFERRING THE POWER OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WHO ARE ELECTED TO THIS VOLUNTEER GROUP.

>>JOE AMON: NO.

>>JAN PLATT: YES, YOU ARE.

YES, YOU ARE, BECAUSE THEY'RE THE ONES WHO ARE GOING TO BE DECIDING AND MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ABOUT WHAT TO DO, AND HAVING SAT AS A COMMISSIONER OVER THE YEARS, IT'S -- VERY SELDOM DO YOU SEE A COUNTY COMMISSION SAYING NO TO A VOLUNTEER BOARD WHO HAS

RECOMMENDED TO THEM SOMETHING THAT OUGHT TO BE DONE.

>>RALPH FISHER: MR. CHAIRMAN.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. FISHER.

>>RALPH FISHER: IF THAT WAS PUT IN, THAT THE BOARD THAT IS APPOINTED -- THE THREE TO FIVE OR SEVEN WAS IN THERE, WOULD YOU SUPPORT THE CHANGES TO THE IPA TO PUT ON THE BALLOT?

>>JAN PLATT: NO, I'M NOT GOING TO SUPPORT IT AT ALL.

>>RALPH FISHER: OKAY.

OKAY.

>>JAN PLATT: BUT -- BUT -- NO, NO, NO, BUT I KNOW THAT THERE ARE THE VOTES TO DO IT.

I'M NO DUM-DUM.

I CAN COUNT, AND IF YOU'RE GOING TO DO IT, AT LEAST DO IT RIGHT --

>>RALPH FISHER: BUT EVEN THOUGH, YOU WOULDN'T SUPPORT IT.

>>JAN PLATT: -- OR YOU'RE GOING TO GIVE ME MORE FODDER TO FIGHT IT.

AND DON'T DOUBT FOR ONE MINUTE THAT I WON'T BE OUT THERE FIGHTING IT, BUT I'M GOING TRYING TO HELP YOU OUT BECAUSE IT MAY PASS, HEAVEN HELP US.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MRS. REBACK, AND THEN I WANT TO MAKE SURE I GIVE SOMEBODY WHO HASN'T SPOKEN AN OPPORTUNITY --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I JUST WANT TO RESPOND TO THAT ISSUES OF THE FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES BY SAYING THAT IF THE PROCESS IS AN OPEN APPLICATION PROCESS, A LOT OF INFORMATION IS

REQUIRED TO BE DISCLOSED, AND, YOU KNOW, REALLY, THAT'S WHAT WE ARE SUPPOSED TO HAVE AN AGGRESSIVE LOCAL PRESS ABOUT, AND THE APPLICATION PROCESS ITSELF IS PUBLIC. ANYBODY CAN OBTAIN THE APPLICATION -- THE FILLED-OUT, COMPLETED APPLICATIONS AND REVIEW THEM, AND ANYBODY CAN MAKE INQUIRIES AND INVESTIGATE THE APPLICANTS, AND ANYONE CAN CORRESPOND WITH THE COUNTY COMMISSION TO OBJECT TO AN APPLICANT ON ANY PARTICULAR GROUNDS, INCLUDING FINANCIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST.

YOU KNOW, I MYSELF IN THE PAST HAVE MADE, YOU KNOW, AN OBJECTION TO AN APPLICANT FOR A PARTICULAR BOARD BECAUSE OF WHAT I PERCEIVED TO BE A CONFLICT OF INTEREST, AND ANYBODY -- AS A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC, NOT IN ANY OFFICIAL CAPACITY, AND ANYBODY HAS THAT -- THAT OPPORTUNITY, AND WE JUST NEED A VIGILANT CITIZENRY AND A VERY VIGILANT PRESS, AND I -- YOU KNOW, THAT'S MY FEELING ABOUT THAT.

>>JAN PLATT: UNFORTUNATELY, WE DON'T HAVE IT RIGHT NOW.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: LET ME -- MRS. REBACK, I'VE GOT A NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO WANT TO SPEAK.

I WANT TO GIVE THE PEOPLE WHO HAVEN'T SPOKEN YET AN OPPORTUNITY.

SO I KNOW MR. WHITE WANTS TO SPEAK.

YOU'VE ALREADY SPOKEN.

I'M GOING TO LET SOMEBODY ELSE.

MR. SULLIVAN, THEN I'M GOING TO LET MRS. GRIMES AND

MRS. LEYTHAM SPEAK AND MR. ROBINSON.

SO MR. SULLIVAN.

>>DAVID SULLIVAN: THANK YOU.

I UNDERSTAND YOUR CONCERNS ABOUT THIS BECOMING A SALEM WITCH-HUNT COMMITTEE, IF YOU WILL.

THAT'S NOT THE PURPOSE -- THAT IS WHAT IT IS RIGHT NOW.

RIGHT NOW IT IS THE WHIPPING POST FOR THE COUNTY COMMISSION TO PULL HIM OFF FOR FOUR HOURS AND GO BEAT ON A DEPARTMENT. WE'RE TRYING TO GET AWAY FROM THAT.

I THINK THIS SENDS A MESSAGE TO ANY POTENTIAL CANDIDATES, AS YOU JUST MENTIONED FOR EXECUTIVE POSITIONS, THAT WE DO HAVE GOOD CORPORATE GOVERNANCE.

I MEAN, SARBANES-OXLEY IS A BIG ISSUE TODAY.

I THINK HAVING THREE TO FIVE MEMBERS MAKES IT A MANAGEABLE COMMITTEE THAT YOU CAN GET CONSENSUS, AND THIS IS NOT THE TYPE OF COMMITTEE THAT SAYS, OH, LET'S GO BEAT ON THE HIPAA DEPARTMENT TODAY, LET'S GO BEAT ON THE TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT TODAY.

IT'S TO HELP TO DEVELOP A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN TO MAKE SURE THAT WE'RE LOOKING AT THE EFFICIENCIES AND THE OPERATING STRUCTURE WITHIN OUR COUNTY TO MAKE IT MORE EFFICIENT, TO MAKE IT MORE RESPONSIVE TO OUR CONSTITUENCIES SO THAT THEY CAN GET THEIR NEEDS MET, SO I DON'T THINK THIS IS INVESTING TOO MUCH POWER IN A COMMITTEE.

I DON'T KNOW HOW I FEEL ABOUT THE FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE.

I HAVEN'T REALLY THOUGHT THROUGH THAT PROCESS YET, BUT THIS IS NOT TO BECOME A WHIPPING POST, IT IS TO BRING GOOD CORPORATE GOVERNANCE, TO PROVIDE A MASTER PLAN, NOT TO IDENTIFY SPECIFIC DEPARTMENTS, IF YOU WILL, TO PICK ON. I THINK IF WE SELL IT THAT WAY IN THE COUNTY, I THINK YOU'RE DOING A GREAT DISSERVICE TO THE COUNTY.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MRS. GRIMES.

>>GINA GRIMES: YES.

I WANTED TO ADDRESS THE FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE ISSUE.

I AGREE WITH YOU THAT IN MOST -- WITH -- IT MAKES GOOD SENSE TO HAVE SOME FORM OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE.

I KNOW MOST BOARDS WHERE PEOPLE SERVE ON A BOARD THAT HAS DECISION-MAKING POWER YOU FILE WHAT'S CALLED A LIMITED FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE AS OPPOSED TO A FULL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE.

USUALLY THE ELECTED OFFICIALS ARE THE ONLY ONES THAT HAVE TO FILE THE FULL FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE.

BUT WHAT I THINK SHOULD HAPPEN IS THAT THE -- THE ISSUE SHOULD BE ADDRESSED BY THE STATE CODE OF ETHICS FOR PUBLIC OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES BECAUSE IN THERE IS WHERE YOU HAVE THE STANDARDS FOR WHEN FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES HAVE TO BE FILED BY VARIOUS MEMBERS OF VARIOUS BOARDS, AND MAYBE THE COUNTY ATTORNEY CAN ADDRESS THAT.

I DON'T THINK THIS BOARD NECESSARILY SHOULD BE TREATED ANY DIFFERENTLY.

I THINK IT SHOULD BE JUST GOVERNED BY THE STATE LAW THAT WE HAVE IN EFFECT NOW, AND IF IT REQUIRES A LIMITED FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE TO BE FILED, THEN SO BE IT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

MRS. LEYTHAM.

AND ACTUALLY, LET ME -- MRS. FARRIS, DO YOU HAVE ANY RESPONSE?

I KNOW YOU MIGHT HAVE TO RESEARCH IT, BUT --

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: NO.

GINA'S RIGHT.

THERE IS -- THERE'S TWO DIFFERENT KIND OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES.

THE FULL AND PUBLIC IS DONE BY ELECTED OFFICIALS.

THE MORE LIMITED DISCLOSURE -- THERE'S A GROUP OF OFFICE HOLDERS THAT HAVE TO FILE, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, COUNTY ATTORNEY, CERTAIN BUILDING OFFICIALS, AND THEN WHEN IT COMES TO BOARDS AND COUNCILS, YEARS AGO ALL OF THEM HAD TO FILE, BUT THEY CHANGED THE LAW, AND NOW IT'S ONLY THOSE COMMITTEES AND COUNCILS THAT HAVE ZONING POWER OR THE POWER TO ENFORCE ORDINANCES SUCH AS YOUR CODE ENFORCEMENT BOARD, AND THERE'S A FEW OTHER SPECIFIC ONES, BUT SHE'S RIGHT, THE STATE ETHICS CODE IS VERY CLEAR ON WHAT BOARDS WOULD HAVE TO FILE AND WHICH ONES WOULD NOT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

MRS. LEYTHAM.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: OKAY.

MR. TARR, I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE I'VE GOT MY MIND AROUND ALL OF THIS CONVERSATION.

>> OKAY.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: ESSENTIALLY WHAT YOU ARE RECOMMENDING THAT WE DO IS JUST CHANGE THE NAME AND TAKE OUT THE BUDGET ANALYST?

>> YES, MA'AM.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: AND THAT SUPPORTS THE -- WHAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS THEMSELVES HAVE DECIDED THEMSELVES TO DO TO ADDRESS THE ISSUE OF THE AUDITOR?

>> THAT'S ABSOLUTELY CORRECT.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: CORRECT?

AND WITHIN THOSE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT THEY'VE AGREED TO --

>> YES.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: -- IS THE THREE- TO FIVE-MEMBER COMMITTEE?

>> YES, IT IS.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: IS THE BIENNIAL?

>> YES.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: ALL OF THAT IS ALREADY THERE.

>> ALONG WITH THE REQUIREMENT TO FOLLOW PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS AND ALONG WITH THE REQUIREMENT -- OTHER REQUIREMENTS AMONG THOSE THAT THERE WILL BE AN ANNUAL AUDIT PLAN THAT WILL BE DEVELOPED WITH THE AUDITOR AND THE AUDIT COMMITTEE, AND THEN THE AUDIT COMMITTEE WOULD THEN FORWARD

IT TO THE BOARD AND THAT ALL THE POWER OVER THE -- THE  
INTERNAL AUDITOR RESTS WITH THE BOARD.

THE AUDIT COMMITTEE HAS NO POWER OTHER THAN TO RECOMMEND  
AND ADVISE.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: AND FROM YOUR PERSPECTIVE THEN, WHAT WE'RE  
DOING HERE ADDS A LOT OF UNNECESSARY AND INFLEXIBLE  
DETAIL --

>> CORRECT.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: -- TO -- AND ESSENTIALLY IMPAIRS THE BOARD  
FROM PERHAPS CORRECTING THINGS THAT THEY DID ERRONEOUSLY  
LAST TIME?

>> CORRECT.

IT'S VERY DIFFICULT TO LOOK FAR ENOUGH INTO THE FUTURE TO  
SAY THIS IS DEFINITELY WHAT WE WANT DONE FROM HERE GOING  
FORWARD, WHICH MEANS THE FURTHER YOU GET DOWN INTO THE  
WEEDS, EXCUSE THE EXPRESSION, AND THE MORE YOU TRY TO  
MICROMANAGE THIS IN DETAIL, THE MORE YOU COMMIT YOURSELF TO  
SOMETHING THAT MAY BE DIFFICULT TO DEAL WITH GOING FORWARD  
BECAUSE YOU'VE TAKEN THAT FLEXIBILITY TO MAKE THOSE  
DECISIONS AWAY FROM THE BOARD, WHICH IS WHY YOU HAVE THE  
BOARD.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: AND IN FACT -- AND IN FACT, IF THE  
COMMITTEE, THE AUDIT COMMITTEE, WHICH I DON'T PERSONALLY  
AGREE WITH -- I THINK IT'S -- IT'S A PROBLEM WAITING TO  
HAPPEN MYSELF, WHETHER IT'S THREE MEMBERS, FIVE MEMBERS,

SEVEN MEMBERS.

>> OKAY.

FAIR ENOUGH.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: BUT IT IS MORE EASILY REMEDIED IF IT IS KEPT AT THE BOARD LEVEL THAN IN THE CHARTER; CORRECT?

>> ABSOLUTELY CORRECT.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: OKAY.

I'M --

>> IN OTHER WORDS, THERE'S MUCH MORE FLEXIBILITY FOR THE BOARD TO MAKE WHATEVER ADJUSTMENTS ARE NECESSARY IN THE SIZE OR THE COMPOSITION.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: SO -- I JUST HAVE ONE MORE THING.

SO IF WE WANT TO CONTINUE THIS SCIENCE EXPERIMENT -- I'M GOING TO CALL IT THAT -- THEN IT IS EASIER IN GOOD CONSCIENCE TO LET THE BOARD MANAGE IT AND HANDLE IT --

>> CORRECT.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: -- FROM THAT PERSPECTIVE?

>> CORRECT.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: THANK YOU.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. AMON?

>>GERALD WHITE: I THOUGHT I WAS NEXT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YOU'RE -- I'M GIVING PEOPLE AN OPPORTUNITY.

ACTUALLY, MR. AMON IS LETTING YOU GO FIRST, SO MR. WHITE.

>>GERALD WHITE: THANK YOU.

FIRST I'D LIKE MARY HELEN TO COME UP AND ANSWER A QUESTION CONCERNING THE UNANIMOUS VOTE LETTER THAT WE HAVE PLACED INTO THE RECORD.

THE CHANGES THAT WE CAN SEND TO THE BALLOT, THEY WOULD NOT BECOME EFFECTIVE UNTIL AFTER NOVEMBER; IS THAT CORRECT?

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: CORRECT.

>>GERALD WHITE: NOW, THE BOARD THAT UNANIMOUSLY VOTED AND SENT US THIS LETTER, WE WILL HAVE A NEW BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS IF THE CITIZENS CHANGE THE AUDIT POST?

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: THERE'S A POTENTIAL.

>>GERALD WHITE: THERE'S A POTENTIAL.

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: THERE'S SOME SEATS THAT ARE OPEN, YES.

>>GERALD WHITE: THERE'S SOME SEATS THAT ARE OPEN, SO WE WILL HAVE A CHANGE AS FAR AS ELECTED OFFICIALS; RIGHT?

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: CORRECT.

>>GERALD WHITE: NOW, THE NEW BOARD THAT WILL TAKE OFFICE NEXT YEAR, WILL THEY BE TIED TO THIS LETTER?

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: NO, THEY WOULD NOT BE BOUND.

>>GERALD WHITE: THEY WOULD NOT BE BOUND?

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: YEAH, THAT'S NOT A BINDING LETTER ON A FUTURE BOARD.

>>GERALD WHITE: THAT'S SO IMPORTANT BECAUSE WE DON'T KNOW WHO WILL BE ON THE COMMISSION, WHETHER OR NOT THEY WOULD CONTINUE TO SUPPORT WHAT THIS LETTER INDICATES, AND SO YOU

GUYS NEED TO KEEP THAT IN MIND.

THAT'S WHY I STRONGLY BELIEVE THAT WE NEED TO FIX IT.

IF WE'RE GOING TO VOTE SOMETHING OUT, WE NEED TO MAKE THE CHANGES, AND SO I'D LIKE TO MAKE A MOTION THAT WE FIX THE BOARD AT ONE MEMBER OR COMMITTEE OR AUTHORITY, WHATEVER WE'RE GOING TO EVENTUALLY CALL IT, BUT IT BE FIXED TO ONE MEMBER PER COMMISSIONER TO THIS AUDIT GROUP.

THAT'S MY MOTION.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: YOU IT ALREADY SAY THAT.

>> YEAH.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: IT ALREADY SAYS THAT.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: IT'S IN THE RESOLUTION, GERALD.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: IT ALREADY SAYS THAT ON THE FRONT PAGE, BUT I'M WAITING MY TURN.

>>GERALD WHITE: I WANT TO MAKE IT AS A MOTION BECAUSE I WANT TO PUT IT -- I WANT -- I WANT THIS BOARD TO DO THAT AGAIN.

ALL RIGHT?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: DO WE HAVE A SECOND TO THAT MOTION?

OKAY.

THAT MOTION DIES FOR LACK OF A SECOND.

NEXT --

>>GERALD WHITE: WELL, I JUST WANT TO SAY THAT I CAN'T SUPPORT -- I CAN'T SUPPORT -- I CAN'T SUPPORT -- IF YOU CAN'T FIX IT LIKE IT NEEDS TO BE FIXED, THEN I CAN'T

SUPPORT A VOTE FOR THIS AND I CAN'T SUPPORT A GROUP THAT WOULD BE OVER -- REVIEWING OVER \$4-BILLION BUDGET AND MILLIONS AND MILLIONS OF STATE AND FEDERAL MONEY WITHOUT ANY FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE.

IT'D BE POLITICALLY SUICIDAL FOR THE PUBLIC TO SUPPORT SOMETHING LIKE THAT WITHOUT ANY KIND OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE.

AND MY OVERALL CONCERN, NOT FIXING THE BOARD TO ENSURE THAT THE MINORITY COMMUNITY IS PROTECTED WHEN THESE AUDIT REPORTS COME OUT.

WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT THE VOICE OF THE MINORITY ELECTED OFFICIAL IS HEARD WHEN THESE APPOINTMENTS ARE MADE.

IT'S POSSIBLE THAT THE MINORITY PERSON THAT SITS ON THERE CAN ALWAYS BE ON THE LOSING SIDE AND WE COULD NEVER HAVE A PREFERENCE AS IT RELATE TO GETTING APPOINTED TO SUCH A COMMITTEE, AND SO IT COULD BE DAMAGING, OUTRIGHT DAMAGING TO THE MINORITY CITIZENS OF THIS HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY IF OUR VOICE IS WEAKENED ON SUCH A COMMITTEE, AND SO WE HAVE TO -- MEMBERS, WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE WHEN WE PUT SOMETHING LIKE THIS TOGETHER WE KEEP IN MIND WHAT OUR COUNTY IS MADE UP OF, AND WE HAVE TO ALWAYS IN THE VERY END MAKE SURE THAT ALL THE PEOPLE ARE BEING SERVED IN ANYTHING THAT IS FORMED.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

MR. AMON AND THEN MR. ROBINSON.

>>JOE AMON: YES.

THIS IS WHAT MR. WHITE SAID THAT I AGREED WITH IN THIS REGARD.

YOU HAVE TO REMEMBER WHY WE HAVE BEEN DOING THIS.

THE IPA WAS JUST FLAT BROKEN, AND WHAT WE WERE DOING IS TRYING TO REPAIR IT AND DO IT IN SUCH A WAY THAT IT GAVE THE COUNTY COMMISSION SOME FLEXIBILITY BUT SOME GUIDANCE, AND I THINK THIS DOCUMENT DOES THAT VERY WELL.

I GO BACK TO MY COMMENT ABOUT THE -- ABOUT THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS.

I UNDERSTAND THE -- ALWAYS THE RISK OF POLITICIZING, BUT I THINK IN ORDER TO BE FAIR, EVERY COMMISSIONER SHOULD HAVE THE ABILITY TO APPOINT SOMEONE TO THIS BOARD, THIS COMMITTEE FOR AUDIT.

WITH THAT, AGAIN, I GO BACK TO WHAT I SAID.

I CAN AGREE WITH MR. WHITE ABOUT THE NUMBER OF MEMBERS.

I AGREE WITH THE CONCEPT OF [INCOMPREHENSIBLE] TO APPLICABLE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS.

OTHER THAN THAT, THE DOCUMENT DOES, I THINK, WHAT WE INTENDED TO DO WHEN WE FIRST GOT INTO DISCUSSION.

AND FOR THAT REASON, I'M READY TO VOTE ON IT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

MR. ROBINSON.

LET ME -- LET ME MAKE A COMMENT.

WE HAVE A TIME CERTAIN FOR MR. DOUG BELDEN AT 10:00.

I'M GOING TO SUGGEST IN A MINUTE THAT WE RECESS OR TAKE A

BREAK FROM THE PUBLIC HEARING, LET DOUG BELDEN SPEAK AT 10:00, AND THEN WE CAN START THE PUBLIC HEARING BACK UP BECAUSE WE'RE OBVIOUSLY NOT GOING TO FINISH BEFORE 10:00, SO LET ME LET MR. ROBINSON GO -- SPEAK AND COMMISSIONER PLATT.

THEN WE'LL TAKE A RECESS, LET MR. BELDEN, AND THEN WE'LL BRING -- START THE PUBLIC HEARING BACK UP AGAIN BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO RUSH THIS, AND OBVIOUSLY WE'VE GOT SOME THINGS THAT WE STILL NEED TO DISCUSS.

MR. ROBINSON.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR.

WELL, LET ME BRING IT BACK TO YOU GUYS.

REMEMBER WE STARTED OUT, WE WANT TO GET RID OF THE INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR, EVERYBODY AROUND HERE BUT ME.

WE DON'T NEED IT, THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SAID THEY DON'T WANT IT.

THAT'S ALL VOODOO HOODOO, OKAY.

THAT'S WHAT I KEEP TELLING YOU, YOU KNOW.

YOU'RE MOVING TOO FAST, JUMPING THE GUN UNTIL ALL THE FACTS ARE OUT.

NOW ALL OF A SUDDEN YOU'RE HERE WANTING TO GET AN AUDIT COMMITTEE, YOU WANT TO HAVE SEVEN INSTEAD OF FIVE.

WELL, YOU SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT OF THAT IN 2005 WHEN YOU PUT IT ON THERE, JOE, SO WE'RE GOING TO FIX IT NOW.

THE OTHER THING IS IS, ONCE AGAIN, I TOLD YOU GUYS THE

REASON WE EVEN HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS IT IS  
BECAUSE I PUT ON HERE AND GOT A MOTION PASSED TO HAVE AN  
ALTERNATIVE.

BECAUSE I KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON UP THERE WITH THE SAME  
PEOPLE SITTING UP HERE.

I HEAR WHAT'S GOING ON.

THE PEOPLE TALK TO ME.

SO, YOU KNOW, THAT'S WHY I PUT THE ALTERNATIVE ON HERE,  
WHICH IS GIVING US A GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO DO SOMETHING.

OKAY.

IT'S BROKE.

NOW, LIKE I SAID ORIGINALLY, ALL I WANTED -- WHAT MS.  
LEYTHAM JUST CAME BACK AROUND THE CIRCLE AND SAID  
ORIGINALLY -- WAS CHANGE THE NAME FROM INTERNAL PERFORMANCE  
AUDITOR TO INTERNAL AUDITOR AND TAKE THE BUDGET ANALYST  
OUT.

I'VE BEEN SAYING THAT FROM DAY ONE, BUT, YOU KNOW, I'LL GO  
ALONG WITH ALL THESE FANCY DANCIES, YOU KNOW, HAVE AN AUDIT  
COMMITTEE, I'M FOR ALL FOR THAT, THE CHAIR AND ALL THAT,  
BUT I WANT TO THROW THIS AT YOU.

WE DIDN'T HAVE TO FILL OUT AN APPLICATION WHEN WE GOT  
APPOINTED TO THIS BOARD, OKAY.

I DONE SAT ON PLENTY OF BOARDS.

I SAT ON SWFWMD BOARD FOR EIGHT AND A HALF YEARS, BASIN  
BOARD, AND I HAD TO FILL OUT A FORM.

I THINK IT WAS FORM 1.

I THINK FORM 6 IS THE BIG ONE.

I FILL THEM OUT EVERY YEAR, SO I'M FAMILIAR WITH FILLING THAT OUT, BUT THAT WAS BECAUSE WE WAS DEALING WITH AD VALOREM TAXES.

WE SET AD VALOREM TAXES ON THAT, SO WHEN YOU START DEALING WITH TAXPAYERS' MONEY, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO START FILLING OUT ONE OF THOSE FORM 1s AND FORM 6.

IT SAYS HERE, JUST TO CLEAR IT UP -- IN ITEM 4 IT SAYS THAT ONE MEMBER -- EACH COMMISSIONER APPOINTING ONE MEMBER, SO IT ALREADY SAYS IN HERE THAT EACH COMMISSIONER WILL APPOINT ONE MEMBER TO THIS BIANNUALLY ESTABLISHED AUDIT COMMITTEE. SO IT ALREADY SAYS THAT IN HERE, SO THERE'S NO ISSUE ABOUT HOW MANY, WHO CAN APPOINT WHAT.

THE OTHER THING IS IS THAT IT SAYS APPOINTING IT, SO WE GOT TO BE CAREFUL HERE BECAUSE WE GOT APPOINTED HERE.

WE DIDN'T HAVE TO FILL OUT NO APPLICATION.

I MEAN, IT CAME AFTERWARDS, BUT WE WERE ALREADY APPOINTED.

THERE WAS NO MANDATORY APPLICATION, SO IF WE SAY APPOINTMENT, WE NEED TO SAY APPOINTMENT WITH AN APPLICATION PROCESS IN SOME KIND OF WAY.

WE JUST CAN'T SAY THE BOARD APPOINTED, THEY GOT APPOINTED BY RECEIVING APPLICATION.

SOMEWHERE WE GOT TO SAY THAT BECAUSE THEY COULD DO WHAT THEY DID WITH US, JUST APPOINT US.

WE DIDN'T HAVE TO FILL OUT NO APPLICATION, AND THIS IS THE CHARTER REVIEW BOARD.

SO WE NEED TO TIE THAT TO SOME TYPE OF APPLICATION.

THE FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE -- YOU KNOW, IF YOU WANT TO GET INTO THE MINUTIA OF IT, YOU KNOW, YOU CAN EVEN START TALKING ABOUT WELL, THE PEOPLE THEY APPOINT GOT TO HAVE SOME TYPE OF MINIMUM BACKGROUND OR THEY SHOULD HAVE SOMEBODY -- YOU KNOW, IF YOU PUT SOMEBODY ON THE MECHANICAL BOARD, THEY OUGHT TO AT LEAST HAVE SOME KNOWLEDGE OF MECHANICAL.

I DON'T KNOW IF WE NEED TO START GETTING INTO THAT WITH THE CHARTER BECAUSE LIKE YOU SAID, GERALD, YOU KNOW IT TAKES YEARS TO CHANGE THE CHARTER.

IF YOU MAKE A MISTAKE IN THE CHARTER, IT STAYS IN THE CHARTER, AND THIS WAS OBVIOUSLY A MISTAKE WHEN IT WENT IN THE CHARTER AND WHEN IT GOT PUT ON THE BALLOT AND THE VOTERS GOT DUPED, I GUESS, OKAY, BECAUSE YOU-ALL CLAIMED THE VOTERS DON'T UNDERSTAND.

THEY GOT DUPED PASSING THIS WAY BACK WHEN, SO I'M HERE TO SAY THAT I AGREE WITH JOE OVER THERE, YOU KNOW, US ENGINEERS USUALLY AGREE, BUT I THINK THAT WE MODIFIED IT.

I THINK MR. FISHER EVEN ADDED LANGUAGE TO THIS.

I MEAN, WE DONE GOT THE SEVEN IN HERE, WE DONE -- MR. TARR SAID TAKE OUT THE PART ABOUT AFTER OFFICES THERE, I AGREE WITH THAT, AND I AGREE WITH PUTTING IN THERE, WORK SHALL

COMPLY WITH ACCEPTABLE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS.

I THINK OTHER THAN THAT, WE'RE GOING TO START BECOMING THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, SO IT'S ONE OF THEM SITUATIONS WHERE WE GOT TO GET IT RIGHT NOW WITHOUT THINKING FORWARD THAT IN THE NEXT FIVE TO TEN YEARS THAT WE DON'T WANT TO HAVE A CHARTER REVIEW OR REFERENDUM OR ANOTHER RESOLUTION COME UP FOR PEOPLE TO VOTE ON IF THERE'S A PROBLEM.

SO IT'S GOT TO BE GENERIC ENOUGH AND PUT ALL THAT MINUTIA ON THE COUNTY COMMISSION AND NOT TRY TO THROW IT IN THIS CHARTER BECAUSE IF YOU DO THAT, IF -- LIKE IF ONE MINOR CHANGE COMES, LIKE, FOR EXAMPLE, IT SAYS INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR AND IT SHOULD HAVE SAID FROM DAY ONE INTERNAL AUDITOR, YOU GOT TO WAIT ALL THIS LONG TIME TO GET IT CHANGED, YOU GOT TO GO THROUGH ALL OF THIS, SO I'M FOR MOVING -- LIKE I SAY, I'LL BE GLAD TO GO BACK TO THE BARE BONES, JUST CHANGE THE NAME AND GET RID OF BUDGET ANALYST, BUT I ALSO THINK THAT MR. FISHER, I THINK THE DIALOGUE WE HAD AROUND THIS DAIS HAS BEEN HEALTHY, AND I THINK WE'RE THERE.

I JUST DON'T THINK WE HAVE THE LANGUAGE IN FRONT OF US UNLESS WE MAKE SOME MINOR CHANGES TO GO FORWARD, BUT I THINK WE'RE THERE.

I HATE TO THROW ALL THIS OUT AND GO TO ZERO, BUT I WOULD SAY IF YOU DECIDE TO NOT GO WITH THIS LANGUAGE, LET'S AT

LEAST DO WHAT WE KNOW WE GOT TO DO, CHANGE THE NAME AND GET  
RID OF BUDGET ANALYST.

I'M ALL FOR THAT.

SO I'M READY TO START TALKING ABOUT HOW DO WE DICE, SLICE,  
CUT THIS, CHANGE THIS, AND GET SOMETHING TO THE ATTORNEYS,  
OR DO WE HAVE TO -- WILL WE HAVE TO COME BACK AGAIN, MARY  
HELEN, TO ANOTHER VOTE?

IS THIS SUBSTANTIAL --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: HOPEFULLY, WE CAN GET THIS  
ACCOMPLISHED TODAY [INDISCERNIBLE CROSS TALK]

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: OKAY.

WE GOING TO GET THIS DONE TODAY?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: COMMISSIONER PLATT, WOULD YOU MIND  
HOLDING OFF UNTIL AFTER DOUG BELDEN?

YOU'LL BE THE FIRST UP.

>>JAN PLATT: SURE.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: ONE FINAL THING.

>>JAN PLATT: LET ME --

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: LET ME FINISH.

THIS LETTER HERE YOU BROUGHT UP --

>>JAN PLATT: YEAH.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: -- COMMISSIONER PLATT, IT SAYS HERE  
CONSIDER -- IT TALKED ABOUT ANY DUTIES OF THE CLERK OF THE  
COURT.

I DON'T THINK WE TOUCHED ANY CLERK OF THE COURT DUTIES IN

THIS HERE.

IT SAYS OUTLINE THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE IPA.

I THINK WE SORT OF DID THAT, AND THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ALSO GOT THEIR RESOLUTION THEY'RE GOING TO WORK ON IN TWO OR THREE WEEKS OR WHATEVER MR. TARR SAID.

THE THIRD ONE SAYS, CONSIDER THE OPTION OF PERFORMANCE AUDITOR AND A BUDGET ANALYST HIRED BY BOCC BEING AUTHORIZED BY ORDINANCE.

THIS COULD PERMIT FOR FLEXIBILITY IN THEIR DUTIES [INCOMPREHENSIBLE] WHICH IS WHAT I'M HEARING NOW. WE WANT TO KEEP FLEXIBILITY IN HERE.

I DON'T KNOW TODAY ABOUT ORDINANCE OR RESOLUTION.

I THINK HE SAID THEY'RE GOING TO DO THAT, BUT I THINK THAT WE HAVE TO SET THE TONE IN STONE SO THAT WE KNOW THAT THIS IS THE WAY WE FELT IT OUGHT TO BE, AND THEN LET THE VOTERS DECIDE IF THEY AGREE WITH US, SO I THINK THAT WE MET ALL HER THREE QUESTIONS IN THERE.

I THINK WE HAVE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: COMMISSIONER PLATT, AND THEN WE'LL TAKE A RECESS FOR MR. BELDEN.

>>JAN PLATT: AND I'M GLAD THAT WE'LL TAKE THIS RECESS BECAUSE WHAT I WANTED TO DO WAS TO ADDRESS THIS LETTER AND HAVE SOMEBODY FROM THE CLERK'S OFFICE HERE, MAYBE AFTER DOUG BELDEN, SO THAT WE CAN TALK TO THE CLERK'S OFFICE ABOUT WHAT IS BEING CONSIDERED AND ABOUT THIS SEPTEMBER

2nd, 2010, COURT CASE THAT'S COMING UP AND HOW DOES THAT IMPACT THIS DOCUMENT.

I THINK WE NEED TO HEAR FROM THE CLERK BEFORE THERE'S FURTHER ACTION, AND SO THAT'S -- THAT'S WHAT I WANTED TO RAISE WAS THAT ISSUE, SO AFTER DOUG BELDEN, MAYBE WE CAN HEAR FROM THE CLERK'S OFFICE.

>> [INAUDIBLE]

>>GERALD WHITE: AND I NEED SOME INFORMATION --

>>JAN PLATT: I WANT TO HEAR FROM --

>>GERALD WHITE: -- TOO, MR. CHAIRMAN.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. WHITE.

>>GERALD WHITE: I'D LIKE TO UNDERSTAND BECAUSE THE CLERK TALKS ABOUT THE SEPARATION OF DUTIES AND ALL OF THAT, AND THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, YOU KNOW, IS IN THE PROCESS OF IMPLEMENTING A NEW BUDGET, AND I PASSED OUT THE PROPOSED BUDGET, AND A LOT OF THESE DUTIES THAT ARE -- THAT WERE SUPPOSED TO BE PERFORMED BY THE INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR WAS PASSED ON TO THE CLERK THROUGH THIS INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT, AND IF YOU LOOK AT THE LANGUAGE IN THE RECOMMENDED BUDGET, NOTHING HAS CHANGED, YOU KNOW.

A LOT OF THESE DUTIES ARE STILL BEING SHIFTED TO THE CLERK'S OFFICE, AND SO EITHER SOMEBODY FROM THE BUDGET OFFICE OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY OR FROM THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE NEED TO COME DOWN HERE BEFORE WE VOTE AND EXPLAIN THE INTENT OF THE BOARD WITH THIS PROPOSED

BUDGET BECAUSE IT HAS BEEN MENTIONED THAT -- AND MR. TARR RECOMMEND THAT THE AUDIT ANNUAL REPORT IS TO GO TO THE -- TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR AND THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS, AND SO WE NEED TO REALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT ROLE THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR IS PLAYING IN THIS -- IN THE POST THAT WE'RE ABOUT TO CHANGE AND HOW WILL THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR BE PERFORMING IN THE NEW POST IF IT BECOMES A REALITY.

SO THE BUDGET THAT'S PROPOSED TODAY AND THEY JUST SET A MILLAGE RATE OR WHATEVER, IT'S MOVING FORWARD.

WE NEED TO UNDERSTAND THAT, AND SO SOMEBODY NEED TO EXPLAIN THAT TO ME, AND I WANT TO -- THE NUMBER THAT YOU SAID IS FIXED, JOE, CAN SOMEBODY ACTUALLY SHOW ME THAT.

I WANT TO MAKE SURE I UNDERSTAND THAT.

AND --

>> PARAGRAPH 4.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: PAGE 2, PARAGRAPH 4, THE THIRD LINE FROM THE BOTTOM.

>>GERALD WHITE: OKAY.

AND COMMISSIONER PLATT, WHEN WE COME BACK, I HOPE YOU WILL MAKE A MOTION ON AT LEAST LIMITED FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE BECAUSE YOU'RE NOT TALKING -- YOU'RE NOT TALKING ABOUT A LITTLE BIT OF MONEY HERE, BOARD MEMBERS.

YOU HAVE TO THINK ABOUT NOT THE SEVEN MEMBERS OF THE BOARD, NOT THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, YOU GOTTA THINK ABOUT THE OVER MILLION CITIZENS HERE IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY AND THE

DIFFERENT PROGRAMS AND DEPARTMENTS THAT THIS GROUP COULD POSSIBLY AFFECT, AND I SERVE ON COUNTY BOARDS, I SERVE ON THE HOSPITAL AUTHORITY, AND I HAVE LIMITED FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YEP.

ACTUALLY, MR. WHITE, I HATE TO CUT YOU OFF, BUT I'M GOING TO HAVE TO CUT YOU OFF RIGHT NOW.

>>GERALD WHITE: I JUST WANT TO THANK YOU FOR CUTTING ME OFF BECAUSE -- WHEN YOU COME BACK AND MAKE THAT MOTION, I'LL SECOND IT BECAUSE WE AT LEAST NEED TO TAKE A VOTE ON THAT, MR. CHAIRMAN.

I WANT TO KNOW ABOUT THIS FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE ISSUE.

WE NEED TO GET A VOTE ON THAT BY THIS BOARD.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WE'RE GOING TO RECESS FROM THIS PUBLIC HEARING.

WE'RE GOING TO ALLOW MR. DOUG BELDEN TO COME FORWARD RIGHT NOW AND DO HIS PRESENTATION SINCE HE HAD A TIME CERTAIN AT 10:00, AND WE'RE AFTER 10:00 ALREADY, AND THEN WE'LL START UP THE PUBLIC HEARING AGAIN BECAUSE WE DO HAVE ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS SIGNED UP TO SPEAK TOO.

SO MR. BELDEN, WELCOME.

>>DOUG BELDEN: GOOD MORNING.

FOR THE RECORD, DOUG BELDEN, HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR, 601 EAST KENNEDY, 14th FLOOR, TAMPA, FLORIDA 33602.

I WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF YOU FOR THE INVITATION TO SPEAK BEFORE YOU.

MY SUBJECT MATTER TODAY IS EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

AS A PUBLIC SERVANT, I BELIEVE THAT IT IS CRITICAL TO THE PROSPERITY OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY THAT WE PROVIDE THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF SERVICE TO TAXPAYERS, RESIDENTS, AND BUSINESS OWNERS AT THE LOWEST COST.

TO ACCOMPLISH -- TO ACCOMPLISH THIS, THE TAX COLLECTOR'S OFFICE, WE'RE CONSTANTLY ON A JOURNEY TO IMPROVE OUR PROCESSES AND OPERATE FASTER, BETTER, AND CHEAPER.

EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT ORGANIZATIONS, BOTH IN THE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR, HAVE SOME KEY ELEMENTS THAT MAKE THEM SUCCESSFUL AND ENSURE THEIR SUSTAINABILITY.

AND LET ME GIVE YOU AN EXAMPLE.

THERE'S A BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT. AS A EXAMPLE, IF YOU OWN A MANUFACTURING COMPANY AND YOU PRODUCE A SHOE, SOME SORT OF HUSH PUPPY OR WHATEVER, YOU MAY HAVE A VERY EFFICIENT WAY OF PRODUCING THOSE SHOES IN MASS QUANTITIES; HOWEVER, WHEN YOU GO TO THE MARKET, THE SHOE DOESN'T SELL, IT'S A FAILURE; THEREFORE, IT IS NOT EFFECTIVE.

I'M JUST TRYING TO DIFFERENTIATE BETWEEN THE TWO.

I TRULY BELIEVE THAT EFFICIENCY IS A FOUNDATION FOR SURVIVAL.

EFFECTIVENESS IS A FOUNDATION FOR SUCCESS.

SUCCESSFUL ORGANIZATIONS HAVE STRONG ETHICAL LEADERSHIP THAT COMMUNICATE, MOTIVATES THEIR STAFF, FOCUSES THEM ON A COMMON SET OF GOALS, AND AWARDS THEM FOR DOING A GOOD JOB. WE COMPENSATE OUR EMPLOYEES ON PERFORMANCE.

IF THEY -- THEY HAVE TO -- WHEN WE DID GIVE AN INCREASE -- OF COURSE, NOW, DUE TO THE ECONOMY, WE HAVE A HIRING FREEZE AS WELL AS A SALARY FREEZE.

-- ONLY THOSE WITH A EVALUATION OF SATISFACTORY OR ABOVE WILL RECEIVE ANY ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION.

I BELIEVE THAT LEADERS DO NOT ACCEPT THE STATUS QUO.

THEY'RE LONG-TERM THINKERS WHO SEE BEYOND A CRISES AND SPEND TIME PLANNING.

THEY INVEST TIME WITH PEOPLE.

PEOPLE DO NOT CARE HOW MUCH YOU KNOW UNTIL THEY KNOW HOW MUCH YOU CARE.

LEADERSHIP HAS LESS TO DO WITH POSITION THAN IT DOES WITH DISPOSITION.

THE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF PEOPLE IS THE HIGHEST CALLING OF LEADERSHIP.

THEY ALSO REALIZE THE IMPORTANCE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING ON SUCCESS IN THE LONG-TERM.

SO YOU REGULARLY REVIEW ALL KEY FACTORS AFFECTING OPERATIONS TO IDENTIFY BLIND SPOTS AND PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE.

THEY INVOLVE EMPLOYEES IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS AND LET THEM SHARE THE SUCCESSES.

THEY ANALYZE FEEDBACK FROM STAKEHOLDERS TO DRIVE IMPROVEMENT.

LONG-TERM SUCCESS REQUIRES A PROACTIVE RATHER THAN A REACTIVE APPROACH.

THAT IS WHY MY OFFICE HAS FORMED AN EMPLOYEE ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

THEY MEET.

WE DISCUSS EVERY CONCEIVABLE SUBJECT MATTER, AND OVER THE YEARS, THEY HAVE GIVEN OUR ORGANIZATION GREAT IDEAS WHICH WE'VE IMPLEMENTED.

EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT ORGANIZATIONS RECOGNIZE THE NEED OF THEIR CUSTOMER AS A TOP PRIORITY BECAUSE WITHOUT CUSTOMERS, BUSINESS WOULD CEASE TO EXIST.

THEY GATHER FEEDBACK FROM CUSTOMERS TO IDENTIFY WHAT THEIR NEEDS ARE AND TO SEE IF THEY'RE SATISFIED WITH THE SERVICES THEY RECEIVED.

WE COLLECT OVER 60,000 COMMENT CARDS EACH YEAR IN OUR OFFICE, AND I'M PROUD TO SAY OVER THE LAST SEVEN YEARS, THE NUMBER OF COMMENT CARD RATINGS OF OUR OFFICE BETWEEN GOOD AND EXCELLENT IS AT 99%.

WE MAY BE A GOVERNMENT AGENCY WITH NO OBVIOUS COMPETITORS, BUT THE ATTITUDE WE CONVEY TO OUR CUSTOMERS IS IF YOU COULD CHOOSE, WOULD YOU CHOOSE US?

IT IS COMMON OF GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO MANAGE BY PERSONALITY RATHER THAN ACCOUNTABILITY; HOWEVER, EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT ORGANIZATIONS MEASURE PERFORMANCE, DETERMINE PROGRESS TOWARDS GOALS, AND IDENTIFY OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVEMENT.

THEY MAKE DATA-DRIVEN DECISIONS BASED ON BUSINESS RESULTS, AND THEY VALUE QUALITY OVER QUANTITY.

FOR EXAMPLE, I BELIEVE IT IS MORE IMPORTANT TO IDENTIFY FIVE MEANINGFUL AND RELEVANT PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS THAN 50 THAT TELL US NOTHING ABOUT HOW WE'RE DOING OR WHERE IMPROVEMENTS ARE NEEDED.

GOOD INTENTIONS ARE GREAT; HOWEVER, SUCCESS IS DETERMINED BY MEASURABLE RESULTS.

NEXT, EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT ORGANIZATIONS ARE FOCUSED ON THE WORKFORCE.

THEY ENSURE EMPLOYEES HAVE THE TRAINING TOOLS AND RESOURCES NEEDED TO PERFORM THEIR JOBS WELL.

THEY COMMUNICATE WITH THEIR EMPLOYEES TO MAKE SURE THEY HAVE A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF OUR MISSION, VISION, AND CORE VALUES AND HOW THEY FIT IN THE PICTURE AND CONTRIBUTE TO THE SUCCESS OF THE ORGANIZATION.

I MAKE FREQUENT BRANCH VISITS TO DIRECTLY ENGAGE AND INTERACT WITH MY EMPLOYEES.

EVERY YEAR FOR THEM AT MY EXPENSE I GO OUT AND COOK HAMBURGERS FOR THEM AT LUNCH.

I CAN LEARN A LOT FROM AN EMPLOYEE.

VERY, VERY IMPORTANT I THINK IN BOTH THE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR.

AND BY -- AND I STRONGLY BELIEVE YOUR EMPLOYEES ARE YOUR GREATEST ASSET IN ANY ORGANIZATION.

I'M ALSO PROUD TO SAY I DON'T HIRE OR PROMOTE PEOPLE BASED ON ANYTHING, QUOTAS.

I'M HAPPY TO SAY THAT 45% OF MY ORGANIZATION THE EMPLOYEES ARE MINORITIES, WHICH IS PROBABLY THE HIGHEST IN THE COUNTY.

THAT'S BEEN CONSISTENT, AND WHAT I MEAN THERE TOO IS FROM THE VERY, VERY TOP, THROUGH THE MIDDLE, ALL THE WAY TO THE BOTTOM.

FINALLY, TO DESIGN AND IMPROVE THEIR PROCESSES TO ENSURE THEY'RE FASTER, BETTER, AND CHEAPER THAN COMPETITORS.

THIS IS BECAUSE THE IMPROVEMENT JOURNEY IS NEVER-ENDING AND THERE'S ALWAYS A BETTER WAY TO DO BUSINESS.

EACH PROCESS WITHIN THE ORGANIZATION SHOULD BE MAPPED EITHER ON A LOW OR HIGH SYSTEMIC LEVEL TO MAXIMIZE EFFECTIVENESS.

ON OUR JOURNEY TO BE AN EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT AGENCY, THE TAX COLLECTOR'S OFFICE HAS IDENTIFIED PERFORMANCE MEASURES IN EACH DEPARTMENT THAT KEEP US FOCUSED ON WHAT'S MOST IMPORTANT.

WE ADOPTED THE STERLING-BALDRIGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IN 2004

AND RECEIVED THE GOVERNOR'S STERILE AWARD IN 2008  
VALIDATING OUR EFFORTS.

SINCE THEN THE SYSTEM HAS HELPED US TO GET ALL OF OUR  
EMPLOYEES FOCUSED ON A COMMON SET OF GOALS, ELIMINATE  
SILOS, INTEGRATE OUR STRATEGIC PLANNING AND BUDGET PROCESS  
TO ENSURE OUR SUSTAINABILITY, CREATE ACCOUNTABILITY THROUGH  
PERFORMANCE MEASURES IN EACH DEPARTMENT, DECREASED OUR  
CUSTOMER WAIT TIME THE PAST 12 YEARS FROM OVER AN HOUR TO  
LESS THAN 20 MINUTES FOR THE AVERAGE TRANSACTION, IMPROVED  
OUR PROPERTY TAX PAYMENT TURNAROUND TIME FROM ALMOST TWO  
WEEKS TO THE SAME DAY FOR 97% OF THE PAYMENTS WE RECEIVE,  
REDUCED OUR CALL CENTER ABANDONED CALL RATE FROM 6% TO 2%,  
ACHIEVED A CUSTOMER SATISFACTION RATE OF 99%, IMPROVED OUR  
EMPLOYEE SATISFACTION RATE FROM 83% TO 91%, INCREASED OUR  
ECOMMERCE PROPERTY TAX TRANSACTIONS FROM 3% TO 12.5%, AND  
WE'VE DONE IT ALL WITH AN ANNUAL INCREASE IN TRANSACTIONS,  
LESS STAFF, NO FURLOUGH DAYS, NO SALARY REDUCTION, AND A  
REDUCED BUDGET OVER THE LAST SEVERAL YEARS.

FROM FISCAL YEAR 2006 TO FISCAL YEAR 2009 WE'VE INVESTED  
\$132,000 TO IMPLEMENT THIS MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AT THE TAX  
COLLECTOR'S OFFICE IN TRAINING AND PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENTS.  
AND OUR HARD-DOLLAR SAVINGS HAVE TOTALED OVER \$2 MILLION,  
WHICH DOES NOT INCLUDE THE INTANGIBLE BENEFITS OF IMPROVED  
STAFF MORALE AND EMPOWERMENT, NOT TO MENTION HAPPIER  
CUSTOMERS.

AT THE TAX COLLECTOR'S OFFICE, OUR PHILOSOPHY IS IF IT  
AIN'T BROKE, IMPROVE IT.

BECAUSE EVEN IF YOU THINK YOU'RE GREAT, THERE'S ALWAYS A  
BETTER WAY TO DO BUSINESS.

THERE'S NO PROCESS THAT CANNOT BE IMPROVED OR TWEAKED, AND  
I WOULD SAY THAT BOTH FOR THE PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTOR AS  
WELL.

THIS INCLUDES SHARING RESOURCES AND BEST PRACTICES AMONG  
ALL COUNTY AND CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICES TO SAVE TAXPAYER  
DOLLARS.

FOR EXAMPLE, MY DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION SERVICES HAS FORMED  
THE LARGEST AND MOST COMPREHENSIVE CITY-COUNTY I.T.

COALITION TO IDENTIFY BEST PRACTICES AND OPPORTUNITIES TO  
SHARE RESOURCES TO SAVE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY TAXPAYERS MONEY  
AND COSTLY I.T. EXPENDITURES.

AND CURRENTLY, THERE ARE 14 AGENCIES INVOLVED IN THIS  
COALITION.

THIS IS WHAT THE STERLING-BALDRIGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM IS ALL  
ABOUT, AND AS LEADERS, WE HAVE TO GO OUT OF OUR WAY TO DO  
WHAT'S RIGHT TO OPERATE MORE EFFICIENTLY.

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT ALL COUNTY AGENCIES WORK IN  
PARTNERSHIP TO ENHANCE SERVICE AND REDUCE COST.

DURING A PREVIOUS BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING I  
PRESENTED THE STERLING-BALDRIGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM TO THE  
BOARD AND COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR.

THE BOARD VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO ALLOW OUR OFFICE TO ASSIST IN IMPLEMENTING THIS SYSTEM OVER A TWO-YEAR PERIOD TO EVERY SINGLE COUNTY AGENCY.

I'D LIKE TO TAKE A MOMENT TO COMMEND INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR MIKE MERRILL FOR CONTINUING SUPPORT OF THE STERLING-BALDRIGE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM.

OUR OFFICE HAS WORKED WITH HIM TO ASSIST HIM ON MANY OF THE COMPONENTS THAT HIS IS GOING THROUGH NOW.

I BELIEVE HE'S DEDICATED TO RESTRUCTURING COUNTY GOVERNMENT AND ENSURING A PROACTIVE PLAN WHICH WILL CREATE A MORE EFFICIENT AND EFFECTIVE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

I CAN TELL YOU FROM EXPERIENCE FOR THIS SYSTEM TO WORK IT REQUIRES BUY-IN AND DEDICATION FROM THE BOARD, THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, AND TOP LEADERS.

IT WILL SET THE TONE FOR THE REST OF THE EMPLOYEES.

IN ORDER TO CHANGE PEOPLE, ONE MUST CHANGE THEIR PERSPECTIVE, NOT THEIR PROBLEM.

AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, ALL EMPLOYEES, NOT JUST MANAGERS, HAVE TO BE EMPOWERED TO MAKE YOUR PROCESSES WORK MORE EFFICIENTLY.

THE COUNTY HAS NUMEROUS SMART AND CAPABLE EMPLOYEES, SO THE BURDEN TO CHANGE DOES NOT REST SOLELY ON LEADERSHIP.

STERLING IS NOT A QUICK FIX.

IT IS A NEW WAY OF DOING BUSINESS AND A WHOLE NEW MIND-SET FOR ALL COUNTY STAFF FROM THE TOP DOWN.

BUT I CAN ASSURE YOU HAVING ENGAGED, EMPOWERED EMPLOYEES  
COUPLED WITH HIGH MORALE PRODUCES PHENOMENAL RESULTS.

I KNOW HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY HAS MADE EFFORTS TO IMPROVE THE  
MEASURE OF PERFORMANCE, BUT LET ME ASK YOU THESE QUESTIONS.

HOW DO YOU KNOW HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY GOVERNMENT IS HIGH  
PERFORMING AND THAT YOUR EFFORTS ARE WORKING?

NUMBER TWO, WHAT IS YOUR PROCESS FOR BENCHMARKING?

WHO ARE YOU BENCHMARKING AGAINST?

HOW DO YOU KNOW YOU'RE THE HIGHEST PERFORMING COUNTY IN THE  
STATE AND THE NATION?

NUMBER THREE, HOW DO YOU ENSURE YOUR STRATEGIC PLANNING  
PROCESS DRIVES DECISION-MAKING AND IS YOUR STRATEGIC  
PLANNING PROCESS INTEGRATED WITH YOUR BUDGET PROCESS?

AND NUMBER FOUR, DO YOU KNOW THE KEY PERFORMANCE MEASURES  
IN EACH OF THE COUNTY DEPARTMENTS?

AFTER RECEIVING THE STERLING AWARD, MY OFFICE HAS APPLIED  
THIS YEAR FOR THE 2010 NATIONAL MALCOLM BALDRIGE NATIONAL  
QUALITY AWARD, THE HIGHEST PERFORMANCE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD IN  
THE NATION.

ONLY 15% OF BALDRIGE APPLICANTS EVEN RECEIVE A SITE VISIT.  
SHOULD WE RECEIVE A SITE VISIT, I BELIEVE IT WILL BE A  
GREAT STEP FORWARD.

SINCE THIS AWARD IS PRESENTED ON A NATIONAL LEVEL, THE  
LEVEL OF COMPETITION IS SIGNIFICANTLY HIGHER THAN THE  
STERLING AWARD; HOWEVER, IT IS BASED ON THE SAME BUSINESS

MODEL.

I BELIEVE THAT THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY TAX COLLECTOR'S OFFICE HAS DEMONSTRATED AND DOCUMENTED THE BUSINESS RESULTS NECESSARY TO BE RECOGNIZED ON A NATIONAL LEVEL.

THIS PRESTIGIOUS AWARD IS PRESENTED ANNUALLY IN WASHINGTON BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES.

OUR OFFICE WILL NOT ALWAYS BE PERFECT.

WE HAVE MADE MISTAKES, AND WE LEARN FROM OUR MISTAKES.

BUT I ASSURE YOU THAT WE WILL CONTINUE TO STRIVE TO ACHIEVE THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF EFFECTIVE AND EFFICIENT GOVERNMENT POSSIBLE.

I AM VERY CONFIDENT THAT WE WILL BECOME THE RECIPIENT OF THE BALDRIGE AWARD.

THE QUESTION IS WHEN.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. BELDEN, THANK YOU.

ARE YOU WILLING TO TAKE QUESTIONS?

>>DOUG BELDEN: SURE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. ROBINSON.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: DOUG BELDEN, SO YOU-ALL KNOW THAT'S MY CLASSMATE, CLASS OF '72 AT TAMPA CATHOLIC.

HE WAS THE SHORTEST GUY IN THE CLASS, BUT HE WAS A SMART GUY.

I JUST HAD TO SAY THAT, AND I WANT TO SAY -- I WANT TO THANK YOU, DOUG.

YOUR OFFICE HAS BEEN A MODEL AROUND HERE.

I MEAN, AS FAR AS THAT I.T., I MEAN, YOUR WEB SITE, WHEN YOU -- BEFORE YOU CAME IN AND -- I MEAN, I PAY A LOT OF TAXES.

EVERYBODY KNOWS JOE ROBINSON IN THE TAX COLLECTOR'S OFFICE.

I TRIED EVERYTHING YOU CAN DO IN THE TAX OFFICE, DELAY THEM, GET THEM WIPED OFF, ALL KIND OF THINGS DEALING WITH CODE ENFORCEMENT OVER THE YEARS WITH MY MOM'S PROPERTIES.

I JUST WANT TO THANK YOU, AND I THINK YOU'RE DOING AN EXCELLENT JOB AND YOU SET AN EXCELLENT MODEL.

MY QUESTION IS, AS A CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICER -- I'M ASKING EVERYBODY THAT GOT UP THERE THAT'S A CONSTITUTION, DAVID GEE AND ALL -- DO YOU SEE ANYTHING THAT -- IN THE CHARTER THAT WE NEED TO ADDRESS THAT DEALS WITH YOUR OFFICES, ANYTHING -- THE TAX COLLECTOR IS A CONSTITUTIONAL.

IS THERE ANYTHING IN THE CHARTER THAT YOU SEE THAT WE EVEN NEED TO TAKE A LOOK AT TIED WITH YOUR OFFICE OR ANYTHING?

>>DOUG BELDEN: I THINK THE WAY IT'S SET UP NOW IS PERFECTLY FINE.

WE'RE INDEPENDENT CONSTITUTIONALS.

WE'RE HELD ACCOUNTABLE TO POLLS.

I THINK YOU GET REELECTED IF YOU DO A GOOD JOB.

FORTUNATELY I HAVE AN EXCELLENT RELATIONSHIP WITH COUNTY GOVERNMENT, ALL THE COMMISSIONERS.

I'M A BIG PROPONENT IN DOING JOINT VENTURES.

I WORK VERY CLOSELY WITH THE CLERK'S OFFICE.

FOR EXAMPLE, WE HAVE BIG TOWERS TO SAVE MONEY ON T-1 LINES THAT TRANSMIT DATA AND TELEPHONE.

WE LET OTHER COUNTIES SHARE WITH A DIFFERENT SATELLITE FREQUENCY TO SAVE THEM THE COST OF BUILDING AN \$80,000 TOWER, AND THAT SAVES AN ENORMOUS AMOUNT OF MONEY FROM THESE VERY EXPENSIVE VERIZON T-1 LINES WHICH KEEP GOING PERPETUALLY UP AND UP EVERY YEAR.

I'M A HUGE PROPONENT OF THAT.

WE WORK VERY CLOSE WITH THE SHERIFF'S OFFICE.

WE SHARE WAREHOUSE SPACE.

I DON'T KNOW IF YOU'VE READ, BUT WE PARTICIPATED AND GOT FUNDING -- THEY JUST PUT SOLAR PANELS -- WE'RE VERY GREEN -- OUT AT OUR FALKENBURG FACILITY.

WE'VE CONSOLIDATED OUR CALL CENTER.

WE MEASURE BASICALLY EVERYTHING WE DO.

WE MAP EVERYTHING OUT, AND RIGHT NOW WE'RE WORKING ON A VERY IMPORTANT PROJECT TO COMPLETELY RESTRUCTURE THE WHOLE 119 REQUEST PROCESS, PUBLIC RECORDS, WORKING WITH MARY HELEN.

WE HAVE A WHOLE TEAM, WHICH WE'RE GOING TO UPDATE PEOPLE ON VERY SOON.

WE ARE MAPPING OUT THE CURRENTS PROCESS, FINDING WAYS TO IMPROVE IT, CONSISTENCY WHERE IT ALL COMES INTO A CENTRAL REPOSITORY.

IT'S TAKING A LOT OF TIME, BUT I THINK IT'S GOING TO BE WORTHWHILE DOWN THE ROAD.

I ASKED THE BOARD IF WE COULD TAKE ON THAT, AND THEY WERE EXCITED ABOUT THAT.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: OKAY.

THANK YOU.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: ANY OTHER QUESTIONS?

MR. AMON AND THEN MR. WHITE.

>>JOE AMON: JUST A QUICK COMMENT.

10:00 MONDAY NIGHT I WAS ON YOUR COMPUTER -- YOUR WEB SITE. WEDNESDAY IN THE MAIL I GOT MY RENEWALS FOR THE AUTOMOBILES.

YOU CAN'T GET ANY BETTER THAN THAT.

>>DOUG BELDEN: APPRECIATE THAT.

>>JOE AMON: IT'S A GREAT -- YOUR DEPARTMENT DOES -- YOUR WHOLE ORGANIZATION IS VERY EXEMPLARY.

>>DOUG BELDEN: THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

>>JOE AMON: IT OUGHT TO BE A MODEL FOR HOW WE OPERATE THE COUNTY.

>>DOUG BELDEN: THANK YOU.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

MR. WHITE AND MRS. REBACK.

>>GERALD WHITE: THANK YOU FOR COMING, AND CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR CONTINUING EXCELLENT WORK IN YOUR OFFICE.

WE'VE HAD A CITIZEN -- A FORMER CHARTER REVIEW BOARD MEMBER

ASK THIS BOARD TO CREATE I GUESS AN EFFICIENCY BOARD, AND I UNDERSTAND YOU'RE WORKING WITH THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS RELATED TO THE STERLING AWARD THAT YOU RECEIVED, AND WE'RE ALSO DEALING WITH THIS INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR POST. BASICALLY DO YOU HAVE ANY RECOMMENDATIONS ON -- ON THIS AUDIT POSITION, THE MAKEUP OF THIS COMMITTEE THAT'S BEING DISCUSSED, THE POSITION ITSELF IN ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR AND THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND THE POSSIBILITY OF INTRUSION ON OFFICERS OF THE COUNTY, THE CLERK, TAX COLLECTOR, PROPERTY APPRAISER, THE SHERIFF, SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS?

DO YOU HAVE ANY THOUGHTS ON THIS POST AND SOME OF THE DISCUSSION ON FIXES THAT HAS BEEN ADVOCATED RELATED TO THIS AUDIT POST AND SHOULD IT BE ELIMINATED, SHOULD IT BE KEPT?

>>DOUG BELDEN: I MADE A COMMENT TO THAT, MR. WHITE, SOMETIME AGO, EVEN THOUGH IT'S REALLY NOT MY BUSINESS.

I DON'T WANT TO GET INTO THAT.

MY PHILOSOPHY IS IF THIS GOVERNMENT IMPLEMENTED EVEN A PART OF THE STERLING SYSTEM AND WAS ACCOUNTABLE AND HAD STRONG, MEASURABLE RESULTS, IN MY PERSONAL OPINION, I WOULDN'T SEE THE NEED FOR ANY TYPE OF AUDITOR.

THAT'S MY OWN OPINION.

BUT GIVEN THAT, YOU'VE GOT TO, YOU KNOW, DEMONSTRATE TO THE TAXPAYERS, THE RESIDENTS, GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, YOUR BOARD THAT THEY'RE ON A PATH WHERE THERE'S PERFORMANCE

MEASUREMENTS IN PLACE, THEY'RE ACCOUNTABLE, THERE'S  
TRANSPARENCY, AND THAT SORT OF THING.

THAT'S MY OWN PERSONAL OPINION.

WHAT I'M DOING NOW, I'M WORKING VERY CLOSELY WITH MIKE  
MERRILL.

WE HAVE KIND OF BACKED OFF IMPLEMENTING THIS TWO-YEAR PLAN  
BECAUSE AT THIS POINT IN TIME, BASED ON THE RESTRUCTURING  
OF THE GOVERNMENT, THERE MAY BE FEWER AGENCIES THAT WE  
WOULD GO THROUGH; IN OTHER WORDS, WE'D GO THROUGH ONE  
VERSUS THREE THAT HAVE BEEN CONSOLIDATED, BUT AT THE SAME  
TIME, OUR OFFICE AND JENNIFER CASTRO WHO IS IN CHARGE OF  
ALL OF OUR STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT, WE ARE HELPING APPLY A  
LOT OF THESE EFFICIENCY MODELS TO WHAT HE'S TRYING TO DO TO  
IMPROVE COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

THAT IS ONLY -- I'M ALWAYS A FIRM BELIEVER, AGAIN, WORKING  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH OTHER AGENCIES.

I DON'T CARE IF IT'S CONSTITUTIONAL, WHETHER IT'S THE CITY,  
WHETHER IT'S THE COUNTY, TEMPLE TERRACE, PLANT CITY.

I'VE ALWAYS BELIEVED THAT REGARDLESS IF YOU DISAGREE, YOU  
HAVE GOT TO BE ABLE TO DEBATE WITH CIVILITY AND COME UP  
WITH A PLAN THAT'S THE BEST FOR THE TAXPAYERS AND CITIZENS  
OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY.

THAT'S MY OWN PERSONAL PHILOSOPHY.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

>>GERALD WHITE: THANK YOU.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: THANK YOU.

MRS. REBACK.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I THINK YOU -- EXCUSE ME.

I THINK YOU PARTIALLY ANSWERED MY QUESTION, WHICH WAS WHAT, IF ANYTHING, YOU WERE DOING TO ASSIST COUNTY GOVERNMENT GENERALLY WITH SOME OF THE SUCCESSES THAT YOU -- YOUR OFFICE HAS HAD, AND THEY'VE BEEN, YOU KNOW, EXTRAORDINARY. I HAVE TO SAY, MY OWN EXPERIENCE WITH YOUR OFFICE HAS BEEN NOTHING BUT POSITIVE.

>>DOUG BELDEN: I CAN BE VERY SPECIFIC WITH YOU.

WE HAVE ALREADY STARTED THIS JOURNEY VERY SUCCESSFULLY WITH THE COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.

I HAVE WORKED WITH DR. GARRITY.

HE HAS COME TO US AND REACHED OUT.

CIVIL SERVICE HAS COME TO US.

WE'RE WORKING WITH CIVIL SERVICE.

FLEET MANAGEMENT.

WE HAVE AN ACTUAL TWO-YEAR SCHEDULE PRINTED OUT.

WE HAVE WORKED WITH ABOUT FIVE AGENCIES, AND WHAT I MEAN BY THAT IS THEY'RE NOW TAKING A SELF-ASSESSMENT TO SEE WHERE THEY STAND, WHERE THEY NEED TO GO, AND OF COURSE, I WANT TO CONTINUE THAT, AND THEY HAVE BEEN VERY RECEPTIVE, APPRECIATIVE OF WHAT WE'RE DOING WITH THEM, AND THAT'S THE KIND OF STUFF WE ENJOY DOING.

WE LOVE HELPING OTHER PEOPLE THAT MAY NEED SOME HELP OR

SOME DIRECTION BASED ON YOUR EXPERIENCES, AND IT TOOK US YEARS TO GET THIS LEVEL OF STERLING.

WE APPLIED THREE TIMES, AND YOU UNDERSTAND WE'RE COMPETING WITH PEOPLE LIKE LOCKHEED MARTIN.

THE RITZ CARLTON WON IT TO THE SAME YEAR THAT WE DID, AND QUITE FRANKLY, ON THIS YEAR'S APPLICATION ON THE NATIONAL LEVEL, THERE ARE ONLY I BELIEVE FIVE AGENCIES LIKE MYSELF APPLYING IN THE ENTIRE COUNTRY, AND LIKE I SAY, THERE IS A TOTAL OF 84 APPLICANTS.

A LOT OF THEM ARE IN HEALTH CARE BECAUSE HEALTH CARE HAS A LOT OF RESULTS THAT THEY NEED FOR THEIR CERTIFICATIONS, A LOT OF -- YOU KNOW, AND YOU HAVE TO HAVE DATA POINTS GOING BACK FOUR AND FIVE YEARS YOU SEE TRENDS, AND AGAIN, AS I WAS SAYING, I WOULD BE TICKLED PINK IF WE EVEN GET A SITE VISIT, WHICH WOULD BE HUGE ON A FIRST-TIME APPLICANT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

COMMISSIONER PLATT.

>>JAN PLATT: CONGRATULATIONS.

YOU MAKE US ALL PROUD.

>>DOUG BELDEN: THANK YOU.

>>JAN PLATT: AND IS THERE ANYTHING THAT YOU WOULD SEE IN THE CHARTER THAT WOULD -- THAT WE OUGHT TO CHANGE OR THAT COULD BE HELPFUL IN THIS REGARD?

>>DOUG BELDEN: WELL, FIRST OF ALL, I THINK YOU-ALL HAVE DONE AN EXCELLENT JOB, AND AGAIN, JUST FROM MY PERSONAL

STANDPOINT, I THINK THE CHARTER'S GOOD.

THERE'S ALWAYS A WAY TO TWEAK THINGS AND MAKE THINGS BETTER.

TO BE QUITE HONEST, I HAVEN'T GONE INTO DEPTH, WHICH I'LL BE GLAD TO DO, IN THE CHARTER AND GIVE YOU-ALL SOME KIND OF FEEDBACK IF YOU WISH.

>>JAN PLATT: I THINK THAT MIGHT BE HELPFUL.

>>DOUG BELDEN: SURE.

BE GLAD TO.

>>JAN PLATT: THANKS.

AND AGAIN, CONGRATULATIONS.

>>DOUG BELDEN: THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS, COMMISSIONER PLATT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS, COMMENTS?

>>GERALD WHITE: WELL, SPEAKING OF -- YOU KNOW, MR. CHAIR, WE'VE BEEN ASKED ABOUT THIS EFFICIENCY COMMITTEE, AND I HAVE IN THE PAST ADVOCATED LIKE A FINANCE REVIEW BOARD. IS ANYTHING -- CAN YOU THINK ABOUT THAT ON WHAT WAY CITIZENS THAT HAVE AN EXPERTISE IN FINANCE CAN ASSIST THE BOARD, AND THE COMMISSIONERS IN THE PAST HAVE ESTABLISHED A FINANCE BOARD OF EXECUTIVES OF OUR COMMUNITY TO HELP THEM AND LOOK AT THE MONIES IN OUR COUNTY. THINK ABOUT THAT, IF YOU HAVE ANY RECOMMENDATION ON ADVOCATING SOME SORT OF FINANCIAL BOARD, A FORMAL FINANCIAL BOARD TO ASSIST THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OUTSIDE

OF THIS INTERNAL AUDIT POST.

>>DOUG BELDEN: FOR EXAMPLE, WHEN WE LOOK AT FINANCES, THAT IS A PART OF OUR PROCESS.

IT'S A PROCESS TO US.

THE WAY WE GET -- OUR BUDGET IS APPROVED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE.

I GO BEYOND WHAT'S REQUIRED.

WE -- MY SENIOR LEADERSHIP, WE -- THEY PRESENT ME WHAT THEY NEED, OKAY, AND WE PRIORITIZE THE BUDGET ONE, TWO, OR THREE.

ONE MEANS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY TO OPERATE, FOR EXAMPLE, A PIECE OF SOFTWARE.

NUMBER TWO, WE DO A COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS ON ANYTHING WE SPEND OVER \$10,000.

IF THERE'S NOT A PAYBACK IN THREE YEARS OR LESS, IT'S NOT BEING APPROVED, AND THAT'S HOW WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO CONTROL THIS PROCESS.

AND ON TOP OF THAT, THINGS THAT WE DO IMPROVE, WE DO IT BY LINE ITEM, NUMBER ONE, AND NUMBER TWO, A VERY THOROUGH JUSTIFICATION, INCLUDING A CBA -- IT DEPENDS ON THE SIZE OF THE EXPENDITURE -- AND THEN WE SUBMIT IT.

AND I'M ONE -- WE HAVE A WONDERFUL RELATIONSHIP -- I'M AN AGENT BASICALLY FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE, OF FLORIDA HIGHWAY SAFETY, AND -- EXCUSE ME, HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLE, FISH AND WILDLIFE.

SO WHAT I DO IS I PERFORM STATE FUNCTIONS ON THE LOCAL LEVEL, LIKE COLLECTING PROPERTY TAXES, ISSUING MOTOR VEHICLES, AND THINGS LIKE THAT.

IN FACT, THE GENTLEMAN THAT USED TO BE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE WHOLE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY -- EXCUSE ME -- THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE IS THE ONE THAT GOT ME ENTICED TO GO INTO THE WHOLE STERLING PROCESS, BUT I GUESS THE ANSWER TO YOUR QUESTION, TO US THE FINANCE IS ONLY PART OF THE OVERALL PICTURE OF HOW EVERYTHING IS INTEGRATED, AND THAT'S WHAT WE DO.

BUT AGAIN, IF YOU NEED ASSISTANCE OR IF THIS BOARD DECIDES TO FORM ANY KIND OF COMMITTEE, WE'D BE GLAD TO ASSIST IN TERMS OF OUR THOUGHTS OF HOW TO MAKE THIS AN EFFECTIVE SYSTEM OR PROCESS.

>>GERALD WHITE: OKAY.

THANK YOU.

>>DOUG BELDEN: YOU'RE WELCOME.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

ANY ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR MR. BELDEN?

>>DOUG BELDEN: THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR TIME.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: THANK YOU, MR. BELDEN.

>>RALPH FISHER: THANK YOU, SIR.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

WE ARE GOING TO -- ACTUALLY, LET'S TAKE A FIVE-MINUTE RECESS IF ANYONE NEEDS TO USE THE RESTROOM, AND WE'LL

RECONVENE THE PUBLIC HEARING.

WE HAVE THE CLERK OF THE COURT, PAT FRANK, HERE TO SPEAK,  
AND WE'LL MAKE SURE SHE HAS AN OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THE  
BOARD.

WE'LL TAKE -- IN FACT, IF EVERYBODY COULD BE HERE AT 40  
AFTER.

THAT'S ABOUT SEVEN MINUTES.

[RECESS TAKEN]

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MEMBERS, PLEASE TAKE YOUR SEATS.

OKAY.

MR. PRESEAU WAS CHECKING THE HALLWAY TO LET EVERYBODY KNOW  
TO COME BACK IN.

>>RALPH FISHER: YOU'VE GOT A QUORUM.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: I WAS GOING TO LET -- MR. PRESEAU  
OFFERED TO LET EVERYBODY IN THE HALLWAY KNOW.

>> [INAUDIBLE]

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

WE'RE GOING TO GET STARTED.

WE'RE GOING TO RECONVENE THE PUBLIC HEARING, AND I WANTED  
TO THANK THE CLERK OF THE COURT, PAT FRANK, FOR COMING DOWN  
TO ANSWER SOME OF OUR QUESTIONS AND EVERYTHING.

IF WE CAN -- LET ME -- COMMISSIONER PLATT, I WANT TO MAKE  
SURE SHE HAS A CHANCE TO GET BACK TOO BECAUSE SHE HAD SOME  
SPECIFIC QUESTIONS.

>> I BELIEVE SHE'S COMING.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: I WANT TO MAKE SURE COMMISSIONER PLATT'S IN HERE TOO SINCE SHE HAD SPECIFIC QUESTIONS, AND SHE WANTED TO MAKE SURE YOU CAME -- SHE'S THE ONE WHO BROUGHT UP YOUR LETTER.

>>GINA GRIMES: SHE'S ON HER WAY.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

OKAY.

I JUST WANT TO MENTION, I KNOW WE HAVE ONE BOARD MEMBER THAT IF WE GO PAST 12:00 -- AND I DON'T KNOW IF WE'RE EVEN ABLE TO GET PAST 12:00 IN THIS ROOM, BUT WE HAVE ONE BOARD MEMBER THAT HAS A FLIGHT THAT THEY'RE GOING TO HAVE TO LEAVE BEFORE 12:00, SO I JUST WANTED TO MENTION THAT.

I WANT TO THANK AGAIN THE CLERK OF THE COURT, PAT FRANK, FOR COMING, AND IF YOU COULD COME UP.

THANK YOU.

>>PAT FRANK: THANK YOU VERY MUCH, MR. CHAIRMAN, CHARTER REVIEW BOARD MEMBERS.

AND I AM PAT FRANK, CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT AND COMPTROLLER FOR HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, AND I THINK THE REFERENCE WAS MADE THAT -- COMMISSIONER PLATT MADE SOME OBSERVATIONS ABOUT THE LETTER THAT I HAD CERTAINTY AND WANTED SOME CLARIFICATION OR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, SO IF YOU HAVE SPECIFIC QUESTIONS TO ASK, I'D BE HAPPY TO ANSWER THEM.

>>JAN PLATT: WELL, FIRST OF ALL, WOULD YOU CLARIFY -- YOU

REFERENCE A SUPREME COURT CASE THAT'S GOING TO BE DECIDED  
ON SEPTEMBER THE 2nd.

DOES --

>>PAT FRANK: YES.

LET ME --

>>JAN PLATT: DOES THAT -- TELL US HOW THAT CASE IMPACTS  
WHAT WE ARE CONSIDERING.

>>PAT FRANK: ALL RIGHT.

I'D BE HAPPY TO DO THAT.

IT'S A CASE BETWEEN THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COLLIER  
COUNTY AND THE CLERK OF THE COURT, DWIGHT BROCK, AND IT  
INVOLVED A VOLUNTARY FIRE ORGANIZATION THAT CLERK BROCK  
DECIDED TO POST-AUDIT.

HE WANTED TO KNOW IF THE FUNDS WERE BEING MISUSED.

THE COUNTY COMMISSION SAID HE DEPARTMENT HAVE THE AUTHORITY  
TO DO THAT.

THE LOWER COURT AGREED WITH THE COUNTY COMMISSION.

IT WAS THEN PLACED IN AN APPEAL, AND THAT WAS REVERSED, AND  
THE OPINION IS THAT THE CLERK DOES HAVE THE ABILITY TO DO  
THAT UNDER THE CONSTITUTION AND THE STATUTES, SO THAT'S NOW  
UP AT THE SUPREME COURT, AND THAT HEARING IS GOING TO BE  
HEARD ON SEPTEMBER 2nd.

I'LL JUST GIVE YOU AN OFF-THE-CUFF OPINION, BUT I THINK  
THAT THEY'RE GOING TO RULE THAT THE COURT -- THAT THE CLERK  
DOES HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO DO THAT, AND IT'S VERY

INTERESTING BECAUSE IN THE CONTEXT OF ALL THIS DISCUSSION ABOUT WHAT AUTHORITY THE CLERK HAS OR DOESN'T HAVE, WHICH IMPACTS UPON YOUR EVALUATION OF THE AUDITOR THAT'S MENTIONED IN THE CHARTER, I, FOR THE FIRST TIME, HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH THE INSTITUTE OF INTERNAL AUDITORS, AND I'M SURE MR. THROWER KNOWS WHAT THAT IS. THEY WERE IN WITH AN AUDIT ON DAN POHTO, THE AUDITOR FOR MY OFFICE FOR THE COUNTY, AND I WAS MENTIONING MY CONCERN ABOUT THE CONFUSION ABOUT THE DUTIES AND EVERYTHING, AND THEY SAID TO ME THAT THE CLERK DOES HAVE THE ABILITY TO PREAUDIT AND POST-AUDIT AND THAT IF THE CHOICE WAS TO GO AHEAD AND HAVE WHATEVER THIS TITLE OF THIS INDIVIDUAL IS -- RIGHT NOW THE INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR -- TO GIVE THAT -- THAT FUNCTION TO THE INDIVIDUAL THAT THAT AUDIT WOULD BE SUBROGATED BY THE CLERK'S AUTHORITY AND AUDIT, SO RIGHT OFF THE BAT, I'M GETTING CONFIRMATION OF THE FACT THAT THIS COULD BE QUITE CONFUSING AND DUPLICATIVE. THE BOTTOM LINE OF WHAT THE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT I -- I WAS MAKING IS THAT I DON'T WANT TO SECOND-GUESS WHAT YOUR OPINIONS ARE. I MEAN, I HAVE MY OWN VERY CLEARLY SET BECAUSE I WORK WITH IT EVERY DAY, BUT LOOKING AT IT FROM YOUR POINT OF VIEW AND TRYING TO HELP THE BOARD FERRET OUT WHAT THEY SHOULD DO, IT DOES SEEM TO ME THAT THE MOST LOGICAL REASON WOULD BE TO SAY SOMETHING OF THIS SORT.

AL DAVIS, WHO I THINK YOU ALL KNOW AND HAS BEEN A COMMUNITY ACTIVIST AND A VERY RESPONSIBLE PERSON IN THE COMMUNITY, JUST HAD A CONVERSATION WITH HIM, AND HE MADE A LOT OF SENSE.

HE SAID WHEN THE 14th AMENDMENT WAS PASSED, WHICH GAVE EQUALITY TO EVERYBODY EXCEPT WOMEN --

>>GINA GRIMES: AMEN.

>>PAT FRANK: -- THE -- THE AUTHORITY WAS GIVEN TO THE LEGISLATURE TO IMPLEMENT THAT BECAUSE OF SEPARATION OF POWERS, AND I THINK THERE'S -- THERE IS A COMPARABLE -- COMPARABLE STUDY THAT COULD BE MADE OF THIS SITUATION BECAUSE IF THE COMMISSIONERS WERE GIVEN THE AUTHORITY TO CREATE THESE POSITIONS AND THEN THEY DECIDED TO DO IT BY ORDINANCE, THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO DRAFT EXACTLY WHAT THEY WANTED TAILOR-MADE.

IF IT DIDN'T WORK OUT, THEY COULD CHANGE IT.

AN ORDINANCE SIMPLY REQUIRES SEVERAL PUBLIC HEARINGS TO CHANGE IT, AND THERE WOULD BE ADEQUATE PUBLIC NOTICE GIVEN AND PUBLIC OPPORTUNITIES TO COMMENT, BUT IT MAY BE THAT THEY WOULD FIND OUT THAT ALL OF THESE SUGGESTIONS THAT HAVE BEEN MADE ARE VERY -- VERY INTERESTING BUT VERY DIFFICULT TO IMPLEMENT.

IN MY MEETING WITH THE INTERNAL AUDITOR'S INSTITUTE REPRESENTATIVES, I SAID THAT ONE OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS THAT WAS MADE, I BELIEVE BY MR. TARR, WAS THAT AN ADVISORY

COMMITTEE BE SET UP, AND I SAID, WHAT IS YOUR OPINION OF ADVISORY COMMITTEES, AND THEY SAID, WELL, THEY'RE VERY GOOD IN PRIVATE INDUSTRY, WORK QUITE WELL, THEY WOULD NOT WORK IN GOVERNMENT, AND I AGREE WITH THAT TOTALLY, AND I AGREE, AS I POINTED OUT, THEY -- THE PEOPLE WHO SIT ON THIS BOARD WOULD HAVE TO HAVE FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE, AND THERE ARE MANY PEOPLE WHO WILL NOT RUN FOR PUBLIC OFFICE BECAUSE OF THE OBSTACLE OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE.

AN EXAMPLE MIGHT BE THAT WHY WOULD THEY WANT TO AUDIT A DEPARTMENT WITH WHICH THEY HAD PERSONAL ENCOUNTERS OR ASSOCIATES OF THEIRS?

SO I THINK THAT'S -- THAT IS GOING TO BE A HANDICAP AS IT STARTS TO GET IMPLEMENTED UNLESS THERE ARE CERTAIN RESTRICTIONS PUT ON IT.

YOU CAN'T DO ALL OF THAT IN CHARTER REVIEW.

THE CHARTER WOULD RUN PAGES AND PAGES AND PAGES.

THOSE DETAILS OUGHT TO BE LEFT TO THE COUNTY COMMISSION.

SO I THINK YOUR CHARGE -- WHAT I WOULD THINK IT WOULD BE WOULD BE OUTLINING THE AUTHORITY TO THE COMMISSION TO IMPLEMENT THE DUTIES OF THESE INDIVIDUALS.

IF YOU CHOOSE NOT TO HAVE A BUDGET ANALYST, SO BE IT.

FRANKLY, THAT WAS THE ONLY THING THAT I WANTED OUT OF THIS AMENDMENT, AND I STILL THINK IT'S IMPORTANT BECAUSE I THINK THERE ARE THINGS THAT THE BOARD CAN TAKE A LOOK AT IN GREATER DEPTH THAN HAVING THE ADMINISTRATOR RECOMMEND

SOMETHING WITHOUT FULL DISCLOSURE OF WHAT THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION IS, AND IT DOES HAPPEN THAT WAY.

SO I'D JUST ASK YOU TO REMEMBER THAT THIS IS OUR MINI CONSTITUTION.

DON'T CLUTTER IT UP WITH THINGS THAT ARE GOING TO BE TROUBLESOME AND LEAVE THE AUTHORITY TO THE COMMISSION TO DO WHAT THEY WANT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

MR. WHITE.

>>GERALD WHITE: THANK YOU, CLERK FRANK, FOR COMING.

MY EARLIER CONCERN WAS THE BUDGET PROCESS MOVING ALONG, AND IN THE BUDGET IS THE INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDIT POST, AND IN THAT DOCUMENT IT CITES THE AGREEMENT WITH YOUR OFFICE, AND THE WORK THAT YOU ARE SCHEDULED TO DO IS FINANCIALLY BUDGETED, AND SO AS WE MOVE FORWARD, CAN YOU TALK ABOUT THE RELATIONSHIP THAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN WHEN THE BUDGET IS IMPLEMENTED WITH THE CHANGES THAT CAN POSSIBLY TAKE PLACE THROUGH A VOTE TODAY AND THE LONG-TERM RELATIONSHIP WITH THE CLERK'S OFFICE?

I'VE BEEN TRYING TO GET SOMEONE FROM THE BUDGET OFFICE OR FROM THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE TO COME DOWN HERE, AND THEY JUST CONTINUE TO IGNORE THE CHARTER REVIEW BOARD FROM HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY.

WE HAVE HEARD -- WE HAVE NOT HEARD FROM ONE PERSON FROM THE SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY

CONCERNING THIS POST, AND I -- I'M TROUBLED BY THAT, THAT THE ADMINISTRATOR, THE BUDGET DIRECTOR HAVE BEEN REPEATEDLY PUBLICLY ASKED TO APPEAR, AND THEY JUST REFUSE TO SHOW UP, SO CAN YOU COMMENT ON THAT.

>>PAT FRANK: WELL, I CAN TELL YOU JUST FROM MY POSITION, I'M NOT GOING TO DO ANYTHING THAT'S GOING TO PUT THE CLERK'S OFFICE IN A CONFLICT OF INTEREST BECAUSE THAT'S VERY IMPORTANT FOR OUR INTEGRITY, AND IF WE'RE ASKED TO DO SOMETHING, THAT'S WHY WE WANT TO HAVE A MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING, SO IT'S VERY CLEAR THAT WE ARE OUR OWN PEOPLE AND WE'RE GOING TO MAKE DECISIONS APART FROM THE OTHER PARTIES WHO ARE INVOLVED IN WHATEVER THE AREA THAT WE'RE LOOKING AT IS, SO I CAN'T SPECIFICALLY TALK ABOUT THE BUDGET PART.

YOU KNOW, I DON'T KNOW WHAT SPECIFICALLY YOU'RE REFERRING TO.

DAN, DO YOU HAVE ANY --

>>DAN KLEIN: EXCUSE ME.

DAN KLEIN, CLERK TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS. SPECIFICALLY, AS THE STRUCTURE IS NOW BASED ON THE CHARTER AND THE ROLES OF THE IPA, THEIR FUNCTIONS WERE PRIMARILY DIRECTED TOWARDS THE AREA OF PERFORMANCE AUDITS. THE CLERK'S OFFICE HAS SPECIFICALLY STAYED AWAY FROM THAT AREA BECAUSE OF THAT ROLE.

IT WAS VERY WELL DEFINED, AND THAT WAS THE DIFFERENCE

BETWEEN THE CLERK'S COUNTY AUDITOR AND THE IPA.

THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS ARE THE ONE THAT APPROACHED THE CLERK'S OFFICE WITH A REQUEST FOR THE CLERK TO PERFORM PERFORMANCE AUDITS ON THEIR BEHALF, AND THAT WAS THE RESULT OF THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING, SO IT WAS VERY CLEAR THAT WE WERE NOT PURSUING THAT WORK, THAT ACTUALLY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WAS REQUESTING THE CLERK TO DO THAT FUNCTION.

NOW, AT ANY POINT -- AT ANY POINT IN TIME THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CAN PULL THAT WORK AWAY FROM THE CLERK, DIRECT IT TO SOME OTHER INDIVIDUAL, SO WE ARE DOING THAT ON BEHALF OF THE CLERK.

WHEN THAT REQUEST WAS MADE, THE CLERK'S OFFICE PRESENTED THE OPTIONS TO THE BOARD AS TO THE WORKLOAD IMPACT OF THAT. WE CAN DO FEWER COUNTY AUDITS, ALL RIGHT, AND HAVE NO INCREASE IN STAFF; THEY COULD STAFF THE CLERK'S AUDIT FUNCTION TO PERFORM THOSE.

THE BOARD DIRECTED US TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF COUNTY AUDITS TO -- IN ORDER TO TAKE ON THAT WORKLOAD, SO THAT CAPABILITY IS THERE UNDER THAT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.

THERE ARE TWO PERFORMANCE AUDITS BEING CONDUCTED AT THIS TIME.

WHEN THOSE ARE COMPLETED, WE WOULD NOT PURSUE ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCE AUDITS WITHOUT THE BOARD'S DIRECTION.

>>GERALD WHITE: OKAY.

THAT'S WHAT I WANTED ON THE RECORD BECAUSE I -- YOU KNOW, YOU DON'T WANT TO KEEP AN AUDIT POST THAT DON'T HAVE ANY DUTIES, BOARD MEMBERS.

IF THE COMMISSIONERS CONTINUE TO PASS THE WORK ON TO THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, WHY DO WE NEED AN AUDIT, YOU KNOW, AND I'VE SPOKEN IN THE PAST ON HOW THIS POSITION HAVE BEEN ALLOCATED OVER THE YEARS, 2.8-PLUS MILLION DOLLARS, AND ONLY FIVE AUDITS HAVE BEEN DONE, SO I'M REALLY -- MY OVERALL CONCERN IS WASTING TAX DOLLARS, GENERAL REVENUE, AND THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO PREVENT FROM HAPPENING IF WE MOVE FORWARD WITH THIS POST, SO --

>>PAT FRANK: TO THAT POINT, GERALD, IF -- WITH -- WITH THE DESIGNATION OF THESE TWO POSITIONS IN THE CHARTER, PRIORITY IN FUNDING HAS TO BE GIVEN TO THEM.

IT'S IN THE CHARTER, AND THAT MEANS THAT THEY'RE GOING TO HAVE TO BE STAFFED.

IF THERE'S AN ADVISORY COMMITTEE, IT'S GOING TO HAVE TO BE STAFFED.

THERE WILL BE EXPENSES WITH IT.

WE WERE TRYING TO GET A ROUGH HANDLE ON WHAT THIS ALL WOULD MEAN, AND WE WERE GUESSING THAT IT MIGHT MEAN A HALF MILLION DOLLARS BEFORE THEY GOT THROUGH.

THAT MEANS THAT YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO THINK ABOUT PUBLIC SAFETY BEING THE NUMBER ONE PRIORITY OR TAKING CARE OF THE AGED OR RECREATIONAL FACILITIES, THE THINGS THAT

PEOPLE REALLY WANT AND ARE CRYING FOR, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO FUND THESE POSITIONS AND YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO PROVIDE SUPPORT FOR THEM TO BE ABLE TO FUNCTION.

SO THAT'S ONE OF THE REASONS I SAID, YOU KNOW, MAKE IT FLEXIBLE SO THAT THE BOARD ISN'T TIED IN TO SOMETHING THAT IT REALLY CAN'T WORK WITH.

AND THAT'S THE WAY TO DO IT IS TO LET THEM DO IT BY ORDINANCE.

>>GERALD WHITE: OKAY.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: COMMISSIONER PLATT.

>>JAN PLATT: MRS. FRANK, YOU ARE IN THE UNIQUE POSITION OF HAVING SERVED AS A COUNTY COMMISSIONER AS WELL AS NOW IN THE POSITION OF CLERK, AND I THINK THAT WHAT YOU'VE SAID IS VERY ENLIGHTENING BECAUSE I GUESS BASICALLY WHAT I'M HEARING YOU SAY IS THAT IF WE CLEAR THE SLATE, THEN LET THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, AS IT BEST SEES FIT, ESTABLISH THIS BY ORDINANCE, AND THEN THEY WILL HAVE THE FLEXIBILITY SO THAT IF COURT CASES COME UP OR IF THERE ARE MEMOS OF UNDERSTANDING THAT THEY WANT TO DEAL WITH, THAT THEY ARE FREE AND CLEAR TO DO IT, BUT THAT ONCE IT BECOMES IN THE CHARTER, IT'S ENGRAVED IN STONE.

IS THAT BASICALLY WHAT I'M HEARING FROM YOU?

>>PAT FRANK: YES, BUT IF -- IF YOU WANT THESE POSITIONS TO BE MAINTAINED, I THINK WHAT YOU'D DO IS KEEP THE LANGUAGE AS IT IS BUT ADD SOMETHING AND SAY, THE BOARD SHALL

IMPLEMENT THIS PROVISION BY ORDINANCE, YOU KNOW, SO THAT IT DOESN'T -- YOU AREN'T SPELLING OUT ALL THE DUTIES IN THE -- IN THE CHARTER.

THAT'S -- THAT'S, YOU KNOW, CUTTING THE BABY IN HALF, BUT IT DOES SEEM TO BE A COMPROMISE IN THE WHOLE THING.

PERSONALLY, I'D WIPE AWAY THE AUDITOR BECAUSE I THINK IT'S A DUPLICATION OF SERVICES.

>>JAN PLATT: AND IF THEY DID -- IF WE DID, THEN THEY CAN ESTABLISH IT ALL BY ORDINANCE, AND THEN THEY HAVE THE FLEXIBILITY TO DO WHAT THEY WANT AS THEY SEE FIT?

>>PAT FRANK: UH-HUH, EXACTLY.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: OR NOT.

>>JAN PLATT: OR NOT.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: [INAUDIBLE]

>> EXCUSE ME, YOU'RE NOT ON THE RECORD.

PLEASE TURN YOUR MIKE ON.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: I'M SORRY.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MRS. LEYTHAM.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: I MEAN, HER POINT IS WELL TAKEN.

THE BOARD HAS MADE SOME INDICATION THAT THEY'RE WILLING TO TAKE IT ON AND ESTABLISH SOME RULES, YOU KNOW, FOR AN IPA. I THINK THAT THEY WOULD PROBABLY EXTEND THAT ARGUMENT AND SAY, HEY, IF IT'S OUT OF THERE, WE STILL NEED TO DO IT AND COULD EASILY DO IT BY ORDINANCE; RIGHT?

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: WELL, THAT'S TOTALLY UNENFORCEABLE,

THOUGH.

>>PAT FRANK: YEAH.

I'M NOT SURE YOU COULD --

>>BETH LEYTHAM: WHAT I'M SAYING IS I THINK THERE'S AN INDICATION FROM THIS BOARD OF WANTING TO PUT SOME KIND OF A PERFORMANCE AUDITING STANDARD IN PLACE FOR THE COUNTY. IF THE IPA WAS TAKEN OUT OF THE CHARTER, IF THIS BOARD COULD SEE FIT TO, YOU KNOW, CLEAN THE SLATE ON THIS ISSUE, SIMILAR TO WHAT WE DID WITH THE VETO, I THINK THE BOARD COULD THEN COME BACK IN ITS WISDOM, LOOK AT IT AND SAY, HEY, WE STILL WANT TO PUT SOME OF THESE POLICIES AND PROCEDURES IN PLACE BY ORDINANCE, AND I THINK THEM JUST TAKING THAT STAND LAST WEEK INDICATES A PROPENSITY TO DO THAT.

AND I THINK IT DOES FIX THE CHARTER.

I DON'T THINK WE, AS I'VE SAID, NEED THIS IN THE CHARTER.

>>PAT FRANK: THE BOARD HAS A LOT OF -- A LOT OF AUTHORITY TO DO ANYTHING THAT IT WANTS BY ORDINANCE, AND I --

>>BETH LEYTHAM: I PUT YOU IN A BAD SPOT.

I KNOW YOU CAN'T SPEAK FOR THAT BOARD, I JUST THINK THAT THERE IS SOME INDICATION THAT WE DON'T NEED TO JAM THIS DOWN THEIR THROAT AND TO OVERDETAIL WITH, YOU KNOW, OUR EXPECTATIONS IN THE CHARTER.

I MEAN, THAT'S A COMPELLING ARGUMENT TO ME.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. AMON.

>>JOE AMON: IT WAS PUT IN THE CHARTER, NOT THIS TIME BUT PREVIOUSLY, FOR A REASON.

YOU GO BACK AND LOOK AT THE DOCUMENTS AS WE'VE ALL HAD THE ABILITY TO DO.

THERE WAS A CONCERN THAT IT WASN'T HAPPENING.

AND IT -- OBVIOUSLY FOR THE LAST FOUR YEARS IT HASN'T HAPPENED EITHER, AT LEAST NOT EFFECTIVELY, SO WHAT WE'RE TRYING TO DO IS CLEAN IT UP A LITTLE BIT.

I APPLAUD THE COUNTY COMMISSION FOR THE LETTER THAT THEY WROTE.

WE FINALLY GOT SOMEBODY'S ATTENTION, BUT NOT HAVING IT IN THE CHARTER -- AND I REALIZE YOU CAN'T BE SO SPECIFIC IN THE CHARTER THAT YOU TIE THEIR HANDS, BUT YOU MUST HAVE SOMETHING IN THE CHARTER TO GIVE THEM A GUIDE BY.

WITHOUT THAT, YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE THE SAME THING FOR THE LAST EIGHT YEARS FOR ANOTHER EIGHT YEARS.

IT MAKES NO SENSE.

I THINK IT'S IMPORTANT THAT YOU HAVE AN ACCURATELY WRITTEN DOCUMENT AS PART OF THE CHARTER THAT DOES NOT TIE THE HANDS OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION BUT AT LEAST GIVES THEM GUIDELINES, AND THAT'S WHERE WE ARE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

[INAUDIBLE] MR. AMON.

ACTUALLY, I WANTED TO MAKE A COMMENT REAL QUICK TOO.

I'M CONCERNED ABOUT THE CLUTTERING UP OF THE CHARTER.

I THINK THAT'S A MAJOR CONCERN.

WE NEED TO KEEP IT AS SIMPLE -- I MEAN, WE DON'T WANT TO PUT TOO MUCH DETAIL IN THERE BECAUSE I THINK IT WILL BIND THE COUNTY WITH CHANGES IN THE FUTURE AND EVERYTHING ELSE.

>>JOE AMON: TOTALLY AGREE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: I AGREE WITH MR. ROBINSON'S COMMENT CONCERNING, YOU KNOW, THE NAME CHANGE TO THE BUDGET ANALYST.

THOSE WERE THE TWO ORIGINAL RECOMMENDATIONS BY MR. TARR.

I THOUGHT THOSE WERE GOOD SUGGESTIONS.

I ALSO -- THROUGH OUR DISCUSSION, I WOULD BE WILLING TO SUPPORT PERSONALLY, YOU KNOW, THE STATEMENT THE OFFICE WILL COMPLY WITH APPLICABLE PROFESSIONAL AUDIT STANDARDS, AND ANOTHER STATEMENT MAYBE, AN AUDIT COMMITTEE WILL BE ESTABLISHED CONSISTING OF AT LEAST THREE BUT NO MORE THAN FIVE MEMBERS.

I THINK BY THOSE FOUR ISSUES YOU PRETTY MUCH COVER YOUR BASES AND YOU STILL HAVE THE FLEXIBILITY.

YOU'VE MADE THE CHANGES TO MR. TARR'S RECOMMENDATIONS, YOU'VE SET UP -- YOU SET THAT THERE WILL BE AN AUDIT COMMITTEE, YOU'VE STATED THAT APPLICABLE AUDITING STANDARDS WILL BE COMPLIED WITH, BUT YOU HAVEN'T BOUND THEM SO STRICT AND YOU HAVEN'T STATED SPECIFIC STANDARDS THAT MAY CHANGE IN THE FUTURE.

MY THOUGHT IS THAT WOULD COVER IT, AND THE BOCC HAS MADE

THE STATEMENT THAT THEY WANT TO GO FORWARD, THEY'RE WILLING TO -- YOU KNOW, THEY WANT TO -- THEY WANT TO TRY TO MAKE THIS WORK.

YOU KNOW, I THINK A LOT'S GOING TO COME DOWN TO HOW THEY GO ABOUT HIRING THE NEXT PERFORMANCE AUDITOR.

YOU COULD HAVE THE BEST SYSTEM IN PLACE.

YOU GET THE WRONG PERSON IN THERE, AND IT'S GOING TO FAIL.

THE SAME AS THE COUNTY MAYOR.

BEST SYSTEM -- IT'S ONLY AS GOOD AS THE PERSON YOU HIRE IN THE END, SO I THINK IT'S KEY, AND I'M GLAD TO HEAR THAT THEY'RE -- I HEARD OR I READ MR. TARR SAY THAT THE BOCC IS WILLING TO HAVE HIM ONBOARD DURING THE HIRING PROCESS, BECAUSE I THINK THAT'S KEY.

MRS. REBACK.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I HAVE TWO COMMENTS.

FIRST OF ALL, THANK YOU, MRS. FRANK.

YOUR EXPERTISE, BOTH AS A FORMER COMMISSIONER AND NOW AS AN INDEPENDENT CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICER, THE CLERK, I THINK IS VERY VALUABLE, AND AT LEAST IN MY MIND YOUR INTEGRITY IS UNQUESTIONED.

HAVING SAID THAT, THOUGH, I THINK IT'S ALSO IMPORTANT TO POINT OUT THAT THE ABSENCE OF A PERFORMANCE AUDITOR IN THE COUNTY DOES CREATE THE OPPORTUNITY FOR MORE AUDITS TO BE SHIFTED TO YOUR OFFICE, AND WITH THAT, YOU KNOW, THE ADDITIONAL BUDGET THAT WOULD BE NECESSARY TO SERVICE THOSE

AUDITS AND BASICALLY EXPAND, YOU KNOW, THE CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICE THAT YOU HOLD BY VIRTUE OF HAVING THE OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS FROM MORE OF AN AUDIT PERSPECTIVE THE FUNCTIONS OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

THAT MAY BE REALLY GOOD, AND I THINK, YOU KNOW, HAVING A CLERK OF YOUR INTEGRITY GIVES ME THE CONFIDENCE THAT IT WOULD BE, BUT YOU MAY NOT SERVE FOREVER, AND THE OPPORTUNITY, AGAIN, FOR MORE AND GREATER POLITICIZATION OF THE PROCESS BY SHIFTING MORE AUDIT FUNCTIONALITY TO ANOTHER CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICER, FRANKLY, IS SOMETHING THAT CONCERNS ME.

IT DOESN'T CONCERN ME ABOUT YOU, BUT IT CONCERNS ME FROM AN OFFICE PERSPECTIVE.

I JUST -- YOU KNOW, I WANT TO -- I WANT TO MAKE THAT COMMENT AND SEE IF YOU, YOU KNOW, HAVE ANY -- IF YOU WANT TO ADDRESS IT.

>>PAT FRANK: I CAN -- I CAN SHARE YOUR VIEW BECAUSE I CAN TELL YOU, WE -- AS DAN SAID, WE DIDN'T ASK FOR THE MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING, WE DIDN'T ASK FOR THE PERFORMANCE AUDIT. WE'RE PINCHED ENOUGH AS IT IS RIGHT NOW.

I MEAN, THE PRESS HAS SHOWN THAT WE'VE -- WE'VE LET A LOT OF PEOPLE GO.

ON THE COURT SIDE WE'RE GETTING COMPRESSED MORE AND MORE. WE'RE TRYING TO PUT IN A NEW AUTOMATED COURT TECHNOLOGY. WE ARE FRANKLY HAVING A DIFFICULT TIME BECAUSE WE DON'T

HAVE THE PERSONNEL TO DO THIS.

SO OUR OFFICE IS STRESSED ALREADY, AND WE DON'T NEED MORE WORK.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: RIGHT.

AND I APPRECIATE THAT, BUT I GUESS MY FOCUS IS A LITTLE DIFFERENT.

WHAT I'M SAYING IS THAT WE CURRENTLY -- I'LL BE BLUNT.

WE CURRENTLY HAVE A MAJORITY -- WE HAVE TWO PARTISAN OFFICES.

YOUR OFFICE IS A PARTISAN ELECTED OFFICE AS IS THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

WE CURRENTLY HAVE A SITUATION WHERE WE HAVE ONE PARTY MAJORITY ON THE BOARD AND A DIFFERENT PARTY OFFICERS -- A DIFFERENT PARTY INDIVIDUAL SERVING IN THE OFFICE THAT YOU HOLD.

IN THAT TENSION, I THINK, THERE'S AN OPPORTUNITY FOR POTENTIALLY GOOD AUDITS TO BE CONDUCTED, BUT AT THE SAME TIME, THAT MAY NOT ALWAYS BE THE CASE.

SINCE THEY'RE BOTH PARTISAN -- SINCE THEY'RE -- IT'S A PARTISAN SYSTEM AND YOUR OFFICE IS A PARTISAN OFFICE, I CAN SEE THAT WE NEED TO HAVE AN INDIVIDUAL FROM AN ADMINISTRATIVE PERSPECTIVE, AT LEAST IN MY VIEW, CHARGED WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY OF COUNTY AUDITS ONLY BECAUSE I CAN'T TRUST THE POLITICAL PROCESS WHEN THE BOARD IS THE SAME PARTISAN POLITICS AS THE AUDITOR AND THEY'RE BOTH

ELECTED.

>>PAT FRANK: WELL, MS. REBACK --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: AGAIN, I SAY I DON'T HAVE THAT CONCERN WITH YOU, BUT YOU MAY NOT ALWAYS SERVE IN THAT OFFICE, AND THE CONFIGURATION OF THE POLITICS OF THE COUNTY MAY NOT ALWAYS BE THE SAME, SO --

>>PAT FRANK: WELL, I CAN SAY ONE THING.

YOU'RE NEVER GOING TO TAKE POLITICS OUT OF POLITICS, AND IT'S POLITICAL WHEN PEOPLE ARE APPOINTED ALSO.

YOU VERY WELL KNOW THAT EACH OF YOU HAD A SPONSORSHIP TO GET THIS APPOINTMENT, SO YOU CAN'T IGNORE THOSE FACTORS, AND THE MORE THAT YOU GET AWAY FROM PEOPLE AND DON'T DISCLOSE ALL OF THIS, THE MORE DIFFICULT IT BECOMES FOR THE PUBLIC TO KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON.

I FRANKLY -- YOU KNOW, I DON'T LIKE BOARDS THAT ARE OUT THERE IN THE HINTERLANDS MAKING HUMONGOUS DECISIONS ABOUT OUR AREA WHEN WE ONLY HAVE ONE OR TWO REPRESENTATIVES ON THEM AND EVERYBODY IS A POLITICAL APPOINTEE, AND SO I'M -- I'M VERY LEERY OF BOARDS BECAUSE THEY'RE INSULATED FROM PUBLIC VIEW AND YOU DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT'S ON THEIR MIND OR WHAT POLITICAL DIRECTION THEY'RE GOING IN, SO I FEEL SAFER TO HAVE AN ELECTED OFFICE OUT WHERE THE PUBLIC KNOWS VERY WELL WHAT YOUR POLITICAL THINKING IS OR SHOULD KNOW BY THE TIME THEY'RE THROUGH WITH AN ELECTION, YOU DEBATE ALL THAT, AND THEN YOU SETTLE DOWN AND YOU WORK WITH WHOMEVER

IT IS YOU HAVE TO WORK WITH.

IF YOU DON'T, YOU DON'T GET REELECTED, AND IT'S JUST AS  
SIMPLE AS THAT.

THE PUBLIC IS THE ONE WHO HIRES AND FIRES, BUT IT'S -- THE  
TWO-TIERED STEP OF APPOINTING PEOPLE TO THINGS AND THEIR  
MAKING DECISIONS MAKES IT HARDER TO GET RID OF THOSE  
PEOPLE.

YOU'VE GOT TO SAY, WELL, YOU HAVE TO GET RID OF THE PERSON  
WHO APPOINTED THEM FIRST, YOU KNOW, AND --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: WELL, I APPRECIATE THAT VIEW.

I DON'T AGREE WITH IT COMPLETELY BECAUSE I THINK WE CAN --  
AND MR. THROWER STARTED TO TALK ABOUT THIS.

BY VIRTUE OF THE LANGUAGE WE MAY ADD TO THIS BALLOT  
RESOLUTION TO SOME EXTENT ADDRESSED THAT BY SAYING -- AND  
IT WOULD BE MY PROPOSAL -- WHEN WE ALLOW MRS. FRANK TO  
LEAVE, I THINK I WOULD MAKE A MOTION TO THIS EFFECT, TO ADD  
LANGUAGE TO PARAGRAPH 4 WITH RESPECT TO THE ESTABLISHMENT  
OF AN AUDIT COMMITTEE -- THAT WE ADD LANGUAGE FOLLOWING THE  
WORD "COMMITTEE" THAT SAYS, OF THREE TO FIVE MEMBERS WHO  
SHALL BE SELECTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FROM  
AMONG QUALIFIED APPLICANTS FROM THE PUBLIC, AND I THINK IF  
WE ADD THAT LANGUAGE, IT WOULD BE MY HOPE THAT BY ORDINANCE  
-- OR MAYBE THE COUNTY ATTORNEY CAN ADVISE US.

MAYBE THE BOARD ITSELF IS A PUBLIC BOARD.

THE AUDIT COMMITTEE OR THE -- AS WE ENVISION IT IS A PUBLIC

COMMITTEE, SO I DON'T BELIEVE IT WOULD BE HIDDEN AWAY IN THE HINTERLANDS, IT WOULD BE A PUBLIC BODY, AND THEN I THINK IF WE ADD THE LANGUAGE ABOUT SELECTED FROM AMONG QUALIFIED APPLICANTS FROM THE PUBLIC THAT IT'S NOT GOING TO BE QUITE AS POLITICIZED AS IT OTHERWISE COULD BE IF THERE WERE NO RESTRICTIONS ON BOCC APPOINTMENTS TO THE BOARD, AND IF THE APPLICATION PROCESS IS OPEN, AS IT GENERALLY IS IN THE COUNTY, THEN THE PUBLIC AS WELL AS THE MEDIA CAN VET THE APPLICANTS BEFORE THEY'RE SELECTED, AND SO I THINK WITH THOSE SAFEGUARDS -- I AGREE IT WILL ALWAYS BE POLITICAL, BUT WITH THOSE SAFEGUARDS WE CAN DO AND BE AS RESPONSIBLE AS WE CAN BE TO TRY TO CURB AS MUCH OF THE POLITICIZATION OF THE PROCESS AS WE POSSIBLY CAN.

>>GERALD WHITE: MR. CHAIR.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: LET ME -- ACTUALLY I'VE GOT MR. ROBINSON AND THEN MR. TOKLEY.

MR. ROBINSON.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR.

I HEARD THAT A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING -- IS THIS BETWEEN THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS AND THE CLERK'S OFFICE?

>>PAT FRANK: UH-HUH.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: AND THAT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING SPEAKS TO PERFORMANCE AUDITS.

>>PAT FRANK: CORRECT.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: WELL, WE'RE CHANGING THE NAME -- I HOPE WE CHANGE THE NAME FROM INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR TO INTERNAL AUDITOR, SO I GUESS THAT MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING THEN IS NOT -- IS STILL IN PLACE.

IT'S PROBABLY MORE A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BECAUSE BEFORE YOU HAD A PERSON TITLED TO DO THE INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITS, AND THEN THEY TURNED AROUND AND HAD A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING THAT SAY DO PERFORMANCE AUDITS, SO NOW IF WE GET RID OF THE TITLE OF INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR AND SAY INTERNAL AUDITOR, WHICH THEN GETS US OUT OF THE RED AND YELLOW BOOK ISSUE, OKAY, I THINK WE'RE OKAY.

I WANT TO SAY THIS IS THAT -- AND I'M GLAD YOU BROUGHT THAT OUT AND I'M GLAD YOU BROUGHT -- HAD THEM BRING THAT OUT, MRS. PLATT AND GERALD.

I AGREE WITH OUR CHAIR.

I THINK OUR CHAIR -- AND NOT EVERYBODY SITTING UP HERE -- YOU KNOW, I'M AN ENGINEER, JOE'S AN ENGINEER, WE GOT TWO OR THREE LAWYERS AROUND HERE, AND HE IS THE CPA AROUND HERE AND I GOT TO GO WITH HE KNOWS SOMETHING ABOUT THIS, BUT I WOULD SAY I AGREE WITH HIM.

THE MAJOR THING WITH THIS AUDIT COMMITTEE, BE IT SEVEN OR BE IT THREE TO FIVE -- HAVING SAT ON BOARDS AND ALL AND KNOWING HOW TO GET PAST ALL THESE RULES AND REGULATIONS ON FINANCIAL DISCLOSURES, I THINK ONE OF THE MAIN THINGS THAT WAS SAID WAS THAT CONFLICT OF INTEREST.

IF YOU HAVE AN AUDIT COMMITTEE PERSON, YOU WILL NOT KNOW IF THEY HAVE A CONFLICT OF INTEREST UNLESS THEY PREFILL OUT SOME TYPE OF DISCLOSURE FORM, SO IF WE'RE GOING TO START CHANGING LANGUAGE, THEN I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE SURE THAT WE HAVE -- THAT WE INCLUDE THAT WHOEVER THEY APPOINT MUST FILL OUT A DISCLOSURE FORM.

LET THE BOARD DETERMINE IF IT'S FORM 1 OR FORM 6, BUT IT SHOULD BE SOME DISCLOSURE.

IF THEY'VE GOT SOME DISCLOSURE, THEN YOU CAN LOOK AT THAT AND SAY, OH, THEY OWN THIS PROPERTY, THEY OWN THIS [INCOMPREHENSIBLE] AND I THINK WE NEED TO TIE THAT THEY HAVE TO DO DISCLOSURE AS OPPOSED TO DEFERRING TO THE STATE STATUTE WHERE THE STATE STATUTE WOULD SAY WHO HAS TO FILL OUT A FORM 1.

I THINK I'VE HEARD ENOUGH IN HERE THAT I WOULD LIKE TO THINK ABOUT HAVING THAT IN THERE BECAUSE OF THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST THAT A COMMITTEE MEMBER COULD HAVE.

THE OTHER THING IS -- I THOUGHT WAS A GOOD IDEA I HEARD WAS THAT WE -- A WAY OF GETTING SOME OF THIS PASSED ON TO THE BOARD IS BY PUTTING -- WHICH I THINK YOU SAID BOARD SHALL IMPLEMENT BY ORDINANCE -- THAT THERE'S CERTAIN -- ONCE WE SET UP THIS COMMITTEE AND WE GO OVER WHAT I CALL BASICALLY AN OUTLINE TO THE CHARTER -- BECAUSE I DON'T THINK WE NEED TO GET INTO THE MINUTIA, BUT WE MAY MAKE A STATEMENT IN THE CHARTER THAT THE BOARD SHOULD IMPLEMENT WHATEVER WE WANT TO

DO TO GET THE FINE-TUNING BY ORDINANCE, AND I AGREE WITH THE CHAIR WITH THAT.

SO WITH THAT SAID, I WANT TO -- MR. TARR, YOU HEARD WHAT THE CLERK SAID.

DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY ABOUT THAT?

I MEAN, IT'S GOING BACK AND FORTH, WHAT YOU SAY, WHAT SHE SAY, AND I'M TRYING TO -- I DON'T WANT TO THROW THE BABY OUT WITH THE BATHWATER.

I DON'T WANT TO GET RID OF THE POSITION.

THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS TOLD US THEY WANT TO TRY TO KEEP A PERFORMANCE AUDITOR.

I THINK WE'RE GETTING CLOSE, BUT NOW WE'RE GETTING INTO DOTTING IS AND CROSSING TS, AND I JUST WANT TO KNOW HAVE YOU HEARD WHAT THE CLERK SAID.

IS THERE ANYTHING --

>> I AGREE WITH TWO AND DISAGREE WITH ONE.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: OKAY.

>> THE TWO I AGREE WITH IS, YES, WE DON'T WANT TO PUT TOO MUCH DETAIL INTO THE CHARTER, OKAY.

WE WANT TO LET THE BOARD ADJUST ACCORDINGLY.

I ALSO AGREE WITH THE CLERK THAT WE SHOULD SAY IN THE CHARTER THAT WE EXPECT BY ORDINANCE THAT THEY DO THIS SO THAT THEY CAN'T OPT OUT OF DOING NOTHING.

I THINK THAT STRENGTHENS THE INTENT OF THE CHARTER IN ESTABLISHING THE AUDIT COMMITTEE AND ALL THE OTHER FACTORS

THAT WE WANT ASSOCIATED.

THE ONLY THING I DISAGREE WITH THE CLERK ON -- AND I'M SURE WE'LL CONTINUE TO DISAGREE -- IS THAT AN INTERNAL AUDIT FUNCTION UNDER THE BOARD WILL NOT DUPLICATE WHAT THE CLERK IS DOING.

IN FACT, IT MAY VERY WELL COMPLEMENT THE FINE WORK THAT THE CLERK'S AUDIT GROUP DOES.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: AND THEN MY STATEMENT ABOUT US CHANGING IT FROM INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR, WHICH THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING CLEARLY SAYS THE CLERK WOULD DO PERFORMANCE AUDITS, THAT --

>> IF ASKED, THAT WOULD STILL STAND.

I MEAN, IF THE BOARD DECIDED THEY WANTED THE CLERK TO DO A PERFORMANCE AUDIT, THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING STILL STANDS, AND IN FACT, THEY COULD GO TO THE CLERK AND SAY, WOULD YOU -- OUR INTERNAL AUDITOR'S COVERED UP OR WE HAVE HIM OR HER DOING OTHER THINGS, WOULD YOU -- WOULD YOU OVERSEE A PERFORMANCE AUDIT ON OUR BEHALF.

THAT WOULD STILL STAND AND THAT WOULD NOT BE AFFECTED, SO THAT OPTION IS STILL THERE.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: OKAY.

>> AND TO THE EXTENT THAT THE CLERK COULD AGREE THAT SHE HAD THE RESOURCES OR COULD OBTAIN THE FUNDING TO OBTAIN THE RESOURCES, THAT OPTION IS STILL OPEN FOR THE BOARD.

WE'RE NOT SLAMMING THE DOOR ON THAT AT ALL.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: OKAY.

LET ME SAY THIS, MR. CHAIR.

THANK YOU, MR. TARR.

WE CAN DRAFT THIS, CRAFT THIS, SLICE IT, DICE IT, GET IT OUT THERE, AND THE VOTERS DON'T EVEN VOTE FOR IT, SO WHERE WE ARE?

THEN WE GOT THE OLD ONE STILL IN THE CHARTER AND NOTHING IS CHANGED, AND THEN IT'S GOING TO BE ANOTHER FIVE OR TEN YEARS, GERALD, TO TRY TO GET RID OF THAT MONSTER, SO WE'RE FACED HERE -- WE'VE GOT TO HAVE SOMETHING THAT WE KNOW THE VOTERS PROBABLY MOST LIKELY IS GOING TO GO ALONG WITH BECAUSE IF WE DON'T AND THEY DON'T PASS WHATEVER WE CRAFT OR EVEN IF WE PUT OUT THERE TO ELIMINATE IT ALL, WE'RE GOING TO BE STUCK WITH WHAT IT SAYS IN THE CHARTER RIGHT NOW, SO WE'VE REALLY GOT TO PUT SOMETHING THAT WE FEEL'S REALLY GOING TO GO THERE, AND I THINK WE'RE ALMOST THERE, SO I JUST WANTED TO THROW THAT OUT TO YOU.

JUST BECAUSE WE DO ALL THIS, DON'T MEAN THE VOTERS -- I KEEP TELLING YOU THE VOTERS ARE SMARTER THAN WE ARE.

SO, YOU KNOW, I'M JUST SAYING WE JUST NEED TO BE CAUTIOUS WITH THAT.

SO I'M READY WHENEVER SOMEBODY WANTS TO MAKE A MOVE HERE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: LET ME MENTION I'VE GOT THREE PEOPLE WHO WANT TO SPEAK AND I'VE GOT TWO MORE ADDITIONAL PUBLIC COMMENTS, SO I WANT TO MAKE SURE BEFORE -- BEFORE WE GET TO

A MOTION, I WOULD LIKE TO ALLOW THESE PEOPLE TO SPEAK JUST SO THE BOARD HEARS IT BEFORE WE VOTE.

MR. TOKLEY.

>>JAMES TOKLEY: YES.

CLERK FRANK.

>>PAT FRANK: YES, SIR.

>>JAMES TOKLEY: GUIDE US, PLEASE.

WE JUST HEARD YOU SAY, QUOTE, WE DON'T NEED MORE WORK.

NOW --

>>PAT FRANK: THE ADVISORY BOARD YOU'RE REFERRING TO?

>>JAMES TOKLEY: WELL, WHAT I HEARD YOU SAY IS THAT YOU DON'T NEED MORE WORK REGARDING THE --

>>PAT FRANK: UH-HUH.

>>JAMES TOKLEY: -- THE AUDITING PROCESS.

LET US SAY, THEREFORE, WE DO NOT HAVE AN INTERNAL AUDITOR.

>>PAT FRANK: WE ARE THE INTERNAL AUDITOR.

>>JAMES TOKLEY: WELL, LET US SAY WE DON'T HAVE THE INDIVIDUAL WE'RE TALKING ABOUT --

>>PAT FRANK: UH-HUH.

>>JAMES TOKLEY: -- THE OFFICE WE'RE TALKING ABOUT.

MY QUESTION TO YOU IS SIMPLY THIS: HOW WOULD YOU BALANCE THE RESPONSIBILITIES?

WHAT -- WHAT DEGREE OF IMPACT WOULD THAT PUT ON YOU IN TERMS OF BEING RESPONSIVE?

>>PAT FRANK: WELL, I WOULD SAY THAT THE PERFORMANCE AUDIT

THAT WE'VE HAD HAS NOT RELIEVED US OF ANY RESPONSIBILITY  
BECAUSE THERE HASN'T BEEN ANY WORK DONE, SO, YOU KNOW,  
WE'VE BEEN ABLE TO HANDLE WHAT WE'VE HAD TO DO, AND, YOU  
KNOW, WE'RE NOT -- WE HAVE STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS.

WE'RE NOT GOING TO IGNORE THOSE.

AND MR. ROBINSON, I UNDERSTAND YOUR DESIRE TO AVOID THE  
CONFUSION ABOUT THE TITLES AND THE DUTIES, BUT IF YOU TAKE  
"PERFORMANCE" OUT OF AUDITOR AND MAKE IT INTERNAL AUDITOR,  
THAT STILL CONFLICTS WITH US BECAUSE THAT'S REALLY WHAT --  
THE BUSINESS THAT WE ARE DOING.

WE ARE INTERNAL AUDITORS.

WITHIN THAT WE CAN DO PERFORMANCE AUDITS, AND IF -- YOU  
KNOW, AS I SAID, I MET WITH THE INSTITUTE OF INTERNAL  
AUDITORS WHO HAS TO CERTIFY THAT OUR AUDITOR IS DOING  
EVERYTHING ACCORDING TO HOYLE.

THAT'S WHAT IT'S CALLED, INTERNAL AUDIT, SO THAT'S WHAT  
CONCERNS ME IS THE CONFLICT, AND THEN IF THIS FELLOW'S  
RUNNING UNDER RED BOOK -- THE BOOK -- WHATEVER IT IS, THE  
TWO OF THEM --

>>JAMES TOKLEY: YELLOW BOOK.

>>PAT FRANK: -- YELLOW BOOK, HE'S GOING TO GO AHEAD AND  
ASSUME THAT HE'S GOT THE SAME DUTIES THAT WE'VE GOT, AND  
WE'RE GOING TO FIND TWO AUDITS BEING MADE BECAUSE I'M NOT  
GOING TO SHIRK MY DUTY, SO THEN SOMEONE WILL HAVE TO DECIDE  
WHICH ONE IS THE BETTER OF THE TWO.

>>JAMES TOKLEY: BECAUSE WHAT WE WOULDN'T WANT TO DO IS PUT YOU IN A SITUATION WHERE YOU ARE SIMPLY OVERLOADED.

>>PAT FRANK: YEAH, I APPRECIATE THAT.

WE CAN HANDLE OUR RESPONSIBILITIES.

WE DON'T LOOK FORWARD TO ASSUMING ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES.

THAT'S WHERE WE -- WE HAVE A PROBLEM.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. WHITE.

>>GERALD WHITE: THANK YOU.

ONE AREA THAT I DIDN'T SEE IN MR. TARR'S RECOMMENDATION IS -- AND THERE'S BEEN A TALK ABOUT POLITICAL PARTICIPATION, POLITICAL ACTIVISM.

>>PAT FRANK: UH-HUH.

>>GERALD WHITE: AND THERE'S NOTHING IN THE LANGUAGE THAT PROHIBIT THE AUDIT POST FROM ENGAGING IN POLITICS, AND IF YOU LOOK AT SECTION 6.05 RELATED TO THE COUNTY ATTORNEY -- AND THERE'S ALSO LANGUAGE, I BELIEVE, CONCERNING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY.

>>PAT FRANK: UH-HUH.

>>GERALD WHITE: -- THE COUNTY ATTORNEY SHALL NOT HOLD ANY POLITICAL OFFICE, TAKE PART IN ANY POLITICAL ACTIVITY OTHER THAN VOTING.

DO YOU THINK SOME LANGUAGE LIKE THAT NEED TO BE INSERTED RELATED TO THIS AUDIT POSITION?

>>PAT FRANK: UH-HUH, I DO.

>>GERALD WHITE: OKAY.

>>PAT FRANK: AND I THINK THAT'S SOMETHING THAT YOU -- THAT THROUGH THE ORDINANCE PROCESS OUGHT TO BE DISCUSSED IN TERMS OF A COMMITTEE IF THEY ESTABLISH THAT.

>>GERALD WHITE: OKAY.

AND ALSO, THERE'S SOME INCONSISTENCIES, MADAM CLERK, RELATED TO HIRING AND FIRING THE AUDIT POSITION.

WE JUST -- THE COMMISSIONERS BY UNANIMOUS -- BY I BELIEVE IT WAS UNANIMOUS -- TERMINATED OUR PREVIOUS PERFORMANCE AUDITOR, AND THE LANGUAGE IS JUST DIFFERENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, THE COUNTY ATTORNEY, AND THE AUDIT POST ON HOW THEY'RE HIRED AND HOW THEY'RE TERMINATED.

>>PAT FRANK: IT IS, BUT YOU KNOW, FRANKLY, MY OPINION IS THESE PEOPLE SERVE AT THE WILL AND PLEASURE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

IF THEY'RE NOT DOING A GOOD JOB, THEY'RE LIKE UNCLASSIFIED EMPLOYEES, YOU CAN FIRE THEM ON THE SPOT.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO PAY THEM SEVERANCE PAY, YOU DON'T HAVE TO HAVE A BUNDLE OF MONEY WRITTEN INTO THEIR CONTRACTS THAT THEY'RE ENTITLED TO.

IF THEY DON'T DO THE JOB, THEY'RE NOT PERFORMING, THEY'RE GONE.

>>GERALD WHITE: OKAY.

SO YOU THINK THE LANGUAGE SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE JUST SOME -  
- FIVE VOTES TO TERMINATE?

>>PAT FRANK: YEAH, I DO.

>>GERALD WHITE: OKAY.

THANK YOU.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

COMMISSIONER PLATT.

>>JAN PLATT: CORRECT ME IF I'M WRONG.

YOU, UNDER THE STATE CONSTITUTION, ARE THE INTERNAL AUDITOR FOR HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY; IS THAT CORRECT?

>>PAT FRANK: YES.

>>JAN PLATT: THE LANGUAGE HERE IS CREATING A COUNTY INTERNAL AUDITOR, WHICH IS IN DIRECT CONFLICT WITH THE STATE CONSTITUTION AND HER RESPONSIBILITIES.

NOW, LET ME -- LET ME ASK ANOTHER QUESTION.

WHEN THIS STARTED OFF -- WHEN IT WAS -- WHEN RALPH HUGHES CAME IN WITH IT AND EVERYBODY BOUGHT INTO IT, IT WAS THE INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDIT, AND EVERYBODY LIKED THE IDEA OF THAT INTERNAL PERFORMANCE.

IN SPITE OF THAT, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS HAS CONTRACTED WITH HER TO DO THE PERFORMANCE AUDITS TOO.

NOW, THAT WAS THEIR DECISION.

>>PAT FRANK: UH-HUH.

>>JAN PLATT: WHAT THIS LANGUAGE WILL DO THAT IS BEING PROPOSED WILL ELIMINATE WHAT IT ALL STARTED OUT ABOUT, AND THAT'S THE PERFORMANCE AUDIT; IS THAT CORRECT?

>>PAT FRANK: UH-HUH.

>>JAN PLATT: THAT'S WHY IF WE WIPE THE SLATE CLEAN AND LET THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SIFT THROUGH IT AND REALLY DECIDE WHAT IT IS THEY WANT TO DO, THEY CAN PUT ON THE BALLOT -- THEY HAVE THE ABILITY, FIVE MEMBERS OF THAT BOARD, AND BECAUSE -- IF -- ALL THE VOTES THAT WE'VE SEEN LATELY ON THIS ISSUE HAVE GOTTEN THOSE KINDS OF VOTES, THEN THEY CAN -- THEY CAN GO THROUGH ALL THIS AND REALLY DECIDE WHAT IT IS THAT THEY THINK THEY WANT, BUT I THINK WE LOOK FOOLISH PUTTING AN INTERNAL AUDITOR ON THERE WHEN WE ALREADY KNOW SHE'S OUR -- UNDER THE CONSTITUTION IS THE INTERNAL AUDITOR.

THERE'S A SUPREME COURT CASE THAT'S GOING TO COME UP SEPTEMBER THE 2nd, 2010, WHERE IT SAYS THAT ANY -- ANY -- IF HER DUTIES ARE ALTERED IN ANY WAY THAT THERE'S -- SOMEBODY CAN TAKE LEGAL RECOURSE.

I MEAN, WE'RE MAKING A BAD SITUATION WORSE, AND IT WOULD JUST SEEM TO ME IF WE LET THE VOTERS HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO WIPE THE SLATE CLEAN AND THEN LET THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS SPEND SOME TIME BECAUSE THIS IS NOT A -- THIS IS NOT AN EASY ISSUE, BUT WHAT'S INTERESTING IS THEY'RE CONTRACTING WITH HER TO DO WHAT IS ON THE BOOKS, SO SOMETHING'S NOT MAKING SENSE, AND I DON'T WANT US TO BE DUPED IN TO GETTING INTO IT, AND THAT'S WHY I THINK THE BEST THING TO DO IS JUST ELIMINATE IT AND THEN LET THEM SPEND A PERIOD OF TIME AND LET THEM APPOINT A COMMITTEE --

YOU-ALL WANT THESE COMMITTEES -- TO COME AND HELP THEM, A GROUP.

CPAs, PEOPLE WHO KNOW LIKE MITCH, WHO KNOW THE NUANCES TO COME UP WITH A PROPOSAL THAT THEY COULD PUT ON THE BALLOT THAT EVERYBODY WOULD UNDERSTAND, BUT THIS LOOKS FOOLISH.

I MEAN -- YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M SAYING IF UNDER THE CONSTITUTION SHE'S THE INTERNAL AUDITOR AND YOU'RE ELIMINATING THE ONE THING THAT WAS NEW AND DIFFERENT THAT THE VOTERS VOTED FOR, AND THAT WAS PERFORMANCE?

AND EVEN WITH THAT, THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS DECIDED THEY'D STILL CONTRACT WITH HER TO DO IT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MS. LEYTHAM, THEN MR. TOKLEY, THEN MR. ROBINSON.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: OF COURSE, THAT'S A COMPELLING ARGUMENT TO ME.

I'M WONDERING IF YOU GO ONE STEP FURTHER, DOES IT PUT US IN A POSITION FOR CALLING FOR A LEGAL CHALLENGE?

ARE WE GOING TO BUY A LEGAL CHALLENGE IF WE PUT OURSELVES DIRECTLY IN CONFLICT?

I WANT TO ASK AN ATTORNEY THAT.

MARY HELEN.

OKAY.

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: WELL, THERE'S ALWAYS A POSSIBILITY OF A LEGAL CHALLENGE, YOU KNOW.

THAT ALWAYS EXISTS, BUT, I MEAN, I THINK WITH MAKING IT AN

INTERNAL AUDITOR, IT COULD DO PERFORMANCE AUDITS, IT COULD DO OTHER THINGS.

PERHAPS THAT'S WHAT THE BOARD COULD FLUSH OUT IN THE ORDINANCE, BUT, I MEAN, YOU CAN'T RULE OUT A LEGAL CHALLENGE, BUT I THINK IT'S --

>>BETH LEYTHAM: YOU THINK THE DISCUSSION WE'RE HAVING -- I LOOK AT IT, IT LOOKS LIKE A NAME CHANGE, A BUDGET ANALYSIS, AUDIT COMMITTEE, STANDARDS LANGUAGE, AND SOME -- NO POLITICAL ACTIVITY.

YOU THINK IF THIS CHARTER BOARD PUT THAT ON THE BALLOT, IT DOES NOT SET UP A DIRECT CONFLICT WITH THE CLERK'S OFFICE?

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: NOT A DIRECT LEGAL CONFLICT WHERE IT WOULDN'T -- WE WOULDN'T BE MOVING FORWARD.

I UNDERSTAND THE POINTS THAT ARE BEING MADE --

>>BETH LEYTHAM: OKAY.

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: -- THAT IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S A DUPLICATION BECAUSE IT'S INTERNAL AUDITOR, AND THAT'S ALSO WHAT SHE IS KNOWN AS, SO, I MEAN, I UNDERSTAND THE POINT, BUT I DON'T THINK IT PROHIBITS GOING FORWARD IF THAT'S WHAT THE BOARD WANTS TO DO.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: OKAY.

OKAY.

THERE WOULD JUST BE SOMETHING THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS WOULD HAVE TO --

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: CORRECT.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: -- ADDRESS.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. TOKLEY.

>>JAMES TOKLEY: I WAS VERY HAPPY -- AT THE END OF OUR JOURNEY, I WOULD LOVE TO SEE A COMPILATION OF QUOTES THAT HAVE BEEN MADE ALONG THE WAY THAT -- THAT CAN BE USED IN THE FUTURE.

ONE WE JUST HEARD, AND I WAS SO HAPPY TO HEAR IT, I'VE BEEN WAITING TO HEAR IT, AND THAT IS THERE'S ALWAYS A POSSIBILITY OF A LEGAL CHALLENGE.

THE FEAR OF THAT OR SHOULD I SAY HOW OFTEN HAS THE FEAR OF SAME STOPPED US FROM DOING THAT WHICH IS RIGHT FOR FEAR OF -- OF LEGAL REPERCUSSIONS.

NOW WE'RE DEALING WITH SOMETHING WHICH IS NOT SIMPLY POLITICAL OR LEGAL, BUT WE'RE DEALING WITH SOMETHING WHICH IS EITHER RIGHT FOR THE PEOPLE OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY OR WRONG.

ANOTHER QUOTE THAT SHOULD GO INTO THE LITTLE POCKETBOOK OF QUOTES IS THE ONE WE HEARD FROM CLERK FRANK, WHICH IS, YOU'RE NEVER GOING TO TAKE POLITICS OUT OF POLITICS.

[LAUGHTER]

>>BETH LEYTHAM: I LOVE THAT.

>>JAMES TOKLEY: HAVING SAID THAT, GOTTEN THAT OFF MY CHEST, WHAT I WANTED WAS TO HAVE BROTHER TARR, IF HE WOULD, TO RESPOND TO WHAT COMMISSIONER PLATT SAID REGARDING THE -- IF HE -- IF HE CAN REMEMBER WHAT HE WAS TALKING ABOUT.

>>PAT FRANK: COMMISSIONER PLATT ASKED ME A QUESTION THAT I RESPONDED TO JUST INTUITIVELY AND SAID THE CHARTER SAYS INTERNAL AUDITOR.

IN FACT, I DON'T THINK IT DOES.

I WAS JUST TRYING TO REFRESH MY MEMORY AND ASKING DAN.

I THINK IT SAYS COUNTY AUDITOR.

BUT, YOU KNOW, WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO IF YOU'RE THE COUNTY AUDITOR?

>>JAMES TOKLEY: MR. TARR, WOULD YOU RESPOND TO ANY OF THOSE COMMENTS THAT WERE MADE? PLEASE.

>> OF THE 67 COUNTIES IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA, OKAY, SEVEN, EIGHT OF THEM HAVE AUDIT FUNCTIONS THAT REPORT TO THE BOARD.

SEVEN OF THOSE EIGHT ALSO HAVE AUDIT FUNCTIONS UNDER THE CLERK'S OFFICE.

THE CLERK IS THE INTERNAL AUDITOR; HOWEVER, FLORIDA STATUTE SAYS THAT IF THE VOTERS VOTE AND IT'S APPROVED IN A CHARTER FOR A GOVERNMENT ENTITY LIKE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, THEY CAN, IN FACT, OKAY, ESTABLISH THEIR OWN AUDIT FUNCTION AND IT WILL NOT BE IN CONFLICT WITH WHAT THE RESPONSIBILITIES ARE OF THE CLERK'S INTERNAL AUDIT DEPARTMENT.

NOW, THE CASE THAT'S COMING BEFORE THE STATE SUPREME COURT, OKAY, DOESN'T IN ANY WAY, SHAPE, OR FORM IMPACT WHAT WE'RE DOING HERE BECAUSE IN SETTING UP THE COUNTY AUDIT FUNCTION,

THE COUNTY INTERNAL AUDITOR, OKAY -- THE BOARD INTERNAL AUDITOR, EXCUSE ME, LET ME USE THE PROPER TERM, WE ARE NOT USURPING OR CHANGING OR ALTERING THE RESPONSIBILITIES OR THE DUTIES OF THE CLERK BECAUSE THAT CAN ONLY BE DONE BY THE VOTERS, AND WE ARE NOT ASKING THE CLERK TO NOT DO ANY AUDITS, WE'RE NOT TELLING THE CLERK THEY CAN'T DO PREAUDITS OR POST-AUDITS, WHICH IS THE ISSUE THAT'S BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT, WE'RE MERELY SAYING THE BOARD WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THEIR OWN AUDIT CAPABILITY DIRECTED BY THEM, OKAY, SO THAT THEY HAVE THAT FACILITY AND THAT OVERSIGHT CAPABILITY THAT ANSWERS TO THEM AND DON'T HAVE TO RELY, AS WAS POINTED OUT, ON ANOTHER ELECTED OFFICIAL TO MAKE A DECISION AS TO WHETHER OR NOT SOMETHING GETS AUDITED OR NOT.

>>JAMES TOKLEY: THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: LET ME JUST MENTION, I'VE GOT FOUR SPEAKERS WHO JUST WANT TO ASK -- FOUR BOARD MEMBERS WHO WANT TO ASK QUESTIONS.

I ALSO WANT TO MENTION -- I DO NOT KNOW IF WE CAN STAY IN THIS ROOM PAST 12:00.

WE MAY LOSE BOARD MEMBERS AT 12:00 WITH OTHER COMMITMENTS, SO I JUST WANT YOU TO BE AWARE OF THAT.

I'M GOING TO LET MR. PRESEAU AND THEN MR. QUINTELA GO SINCE THEY HAVEN'T ASKED QUESTIONS TODAY, AND THEN MR. ROBINSON AND MR. AMON STILL WANT TO SPEAK, SO MR. PRESEAU.

>>GREG PRESEAU: THANK YOU.

I HAVE A COUPLE ISSUES.

MR. TARR, COULD I ASK YOU.

I JUST WANT TO CONFIRM A COUPLE THINGS.

YOU KNOW, BASED ON HOW THINGS ARE WRITTEN, OUR BOCC COULD AT ANY POINT RESCIND AN ORDINANCE OR A RESOLUTION; CORRECT?

>> THAT IS CORRECT.

>>GREG PRESEAU: OKAY.

SO, YOU KNOW, I WOULD THINK THAT THE INTENTION OF THIS BOARD IS PRETTY MUCH THROUGH THE CHARTER HOLD THEIR FEET TO THE FIRE, SO TO SPEAK, AS TO WHAT THE PEOPLE OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY EXPECT OUT OF AN AUDIT FUNCTION.

>> CORRECT.

>>GREG PRESEAU: OKAY.

THANK YOU.

YOU KNOW, WE'VE HEARD THAT THE COURT'S OFFICE IS OVERWORKED, UNDERSTAFFED, AND DOESN'T PARTICULARLY WANT THE EXTRA LOAD OF WORK, AND THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING IS ONLY AS GOOD AS THE CLERK OF THE OFFICE, YOU KNOW, WHICH WE HAVE A GREAT ONE, BUT DOWN THE ROAD WE MAY NOT.

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES, THEY CAN BE CHANGED BY A LESSER BOARD, SO THERE WE HAVE NOTHING THAT HOLDS THEIR FEET TO THE FIRE IF WE DO NOTHING.

THE PEOPLE OF HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, THEY VOTED FOR AN AUDIT FUNCTION.

THEY WANT SOME SORT OF OVERSIGHT, ALL RIGHT, AND THE ONLY CONFLICT -- EVERYONE'S TALKING ABOUT CONFLICT.

THE ONLY CONFLICT COMES IF YOU -- IF THE BOCC ASKS THE CLERK'S OFFICE AND THEIR OWN INTERNAL AUDITOR TO DO THE SAME AUDIT.

I MEAN, THAT'S THE ONLY DUPLICATION.

NOW, IF THEY PROCEED TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT, THEN -- THEN WE'VE GOT TO QUESTION WHAT IS -- WHAT ARE THEY DOING, YOU KNOW, AND THAT'S KIND OF OUR GOAL HERE IS HOLD THE BOCC'S FEET TO THE FIRE, OKAY.

THERE'S NO CONFLICT UNLESS YOU ASK THEM TO DO THE SAME THING, YOU KNOW.

WE'RE NOT CHANGING THE DUTIES OF THE CLERK HERE, WE'RE JUST -- WE'RE STREAMLINING OUR AUDIT FUNCTION AND WE'RE MAKING IT MORE ACCEPTABLE TO THE PEOPLE BECAUSE WITHOUT, YOU KNOW, DESCRIPTION OF THE FUNCTION, YOU KNOW, AND SOME OVERSIGHT THERE, YOU KNOW, IT'S GOING TO END UP, YOU KNOW, FOR ANOTHER FOUR OR EIGHT YEARS UNTIL THE NEXT REVIEW BOARD GOES IN AND THEN DECIDES TO DO SOMETHING.

SO I THINK SOMETHING NEEDS TO BE CHANGED HERE, AND WE NEED TO KEEP IN MIND WHAT'S REALLY GOING ON.

THERE IS NO CONFLICT, OKAY.

CONFLICT COMES IN THE MIND OF THOSE WHO WANT TO DUPLICATE THE DUTIES.

WELL, WE'RE NOT DUPLICATING THE DUTIES.

YOU KNOW, THE BOCC IS GOING TO HAVE THE INTERNAL AUDITOR PERFORMING A DIFFERENT FUNCTION, PERFORMING DIFFERENT AUDITS, NOT THE AUDITS THAT THEY'RE GOING TO REQUEST FROM THE CLERK.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: THANK YOU.

>> AND THAT'S WHAT THE AUDIT COMMITTEE WOULD DO WOULD BE IN QUESTIONING WHAT ARE THE AUDITS YOU'RE GOING TO DO AND HAVE YOU COORDINATE IT WITH THE CLERK TO MAKE SURE WE'RE NOT DUPLICATING, AND, IN FACT, THAT WOULD BE PART OF THE VETTING PROCESS FOR THE ANNUAL AUDIT PLAN WOULD BE ARE WE SURE THIS IS NOT ALREADY BEING COVERED BY SOMEBODY ELSE SO THAT IT'S NOT A DUPLICATION.

>>GREG PRESEAU: IS IT ALSO MY UNDERSTANDING THAT -- AND I THINK WE HAD A CONVERSATION TO THIS EARLIER ABOUT THE FOUR-HOUR STUDIES, THAT --

>> I'VE RECOMMENDED IN WHAT I -- IN MY RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD IN THAT -- IN SETTING UP THE RULES FOR ESTABLISHING THE ANNUAL AUDIT PLAN, WHICH WOULD BE REVIEWED AND RECOMMENDED TO THE BOARD, THAT WE DO AWAY WITH THE FOUR-HOUR PLAN BUT WE MAKE IT A 20-HOUR PLAN, BASICALLY SAYING THAT ANY COUNTY COMMISSIONER COULD ASK FOR WHAT WE TERM A SPECIAL AUDIT AS LONG AS IT DOESN'T EXCEED 20 HOURS. IF, IN FACT, IT IS EXPECTED THAT IT'S GOING TO TAKE THE SPECIAL AUDIT THAT THEY'VE PERSONALLY REQUESTED, IF IT'S GOING TO TAKE MORE THAN 20 HOURS, THEY WOULD HAVE TO GO

BACK TO THE FULL BOARD TO GET THE APPROVAL OF THE RESOURCES TO DO SOMETHING LARGER THAN 20 HOURS.

IT'S JUST A THROTTLING MECHANISM TO MAKE SURE THAT ONE COMMISSIONER DOESN'T MONOPOLIZE THE RESOURCES OF THE INTERNAL AUDIT SHOP.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

>>GREG PRESEAU: THANK YOU.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. QUINTELA.

>>ARIEL QUINTELA: THIS QUESTION WILL BE DIRECTED TO MS. FRANK.

MS. FRANK, THANK YOU FOR ALL YOUR SERVICE.

>>PAT FRANK: THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

>>ARIEL QUINTELA: JUST TO KIND OF -- FOR MY UNDERSTANDING, AS FAR AS THE COST TO THE TAXPAYER FOR THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR -- I KNOW -- I UNDERSTAND WE'VE HAD HIM FOR THE LAST ABOUT EIGHT YEARS AND SO FORTH -- DO YOU BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE A SAVINGS TO THE TAXPAYER BY USING YOUR OFFICE VERSUS HAVING THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S FUNCTION AS WE'RE DISCUSSING TODAY?

>>PAT FRANK: WELL, OBVIOUSLY HAVING ONE OFFICE DOING IT WOULD BE CHEAPER, BUT THE QUESTION IS THE INDEPENDENCE. YOU KNOW, I -- IF THE BOARD WANTS TO DO SOMETHING -- AND THAT MAY NOT BE MY FIRST PRIORITY.

I WOULD WANT MY FIRST PRIORITY TO BE THE ONE THAT WOULD BE THE ONE TO CONSIDER BECAUSE ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS LOOK AT

SOME OF THE AUDITS THAT WE'VE DONE, AND IF YOU WILL, AT THE NEXT BOARD MEETING WE'LL BE PRESENTING AN AUDIT THAT IS VERY DETAILED DEALING WITH RISK MANAGEMENT.

AND ALL THE FINDINGS THAT WE HAVE IN THERE, THE WIDTH AND BREADTH OF WHAT WE DO AND THE NECESSITY TO DO THESE AUDITS IS VERY APPARENT.

IT MAY BE THAT THE BOARD WOULDN'T WANT US TO DO THAT, SO I MAINTAIN -- I WANT TO MAINTAIN MY OWN INDEPENDENCE, AND FRANKLY, THE MORE THAT I'VE HEARD FROM THE INSTITUTE OF INTERNAL AUDITORS, I THINK I'VE GOT MORE ABILITY TO USE MORE LATITUDE THAN EVEN I REALIZED, SO I MAY CONSIDER THAT IN TERMS OF WHAT THE SCOPE WOULD BE OF THINGS THAT WE DO. I'M CERTAINLY NOT GOING TO, YOU KNOW, BE A LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCY OF ANY SORT, BUT I THINK WE COULD DO BROADER JOBS THAN WE DO SOMETIMES.

>>ARIEL QUINTELA: AND AS FAR AS WHAT THEY HAVE REQUESTED AND SO -- IN THEIR AUDITS, HOW WOULD IT COMPARE WITH THE WAY YOU WOULD DO THE AUDITS AND THE WAY OF THINKING ABOUT THE APPROACH?

>>PAT FRANK: WELL, I THINK THE BOARD DOESN'T GIVE MUCH DIRECTION TO THE PERFORMANCE AUDITOR, YOU KNOW, AND THAT'S BEEN OBVIOUS, SO I REALLY -- I'M NOT SURE THAT I'VE SEEN HOW THAT HAS FAILED BECAUSE IT OBVIOUSLY HAS FAILED. WITH US WE FOLLOW THE REGULAR ROUTINE THAT INTERNAL AUDITORS DO ACCORDING TO THE INSTITUTE, AND IT'S A VERY

PROCEDURAL STEP.

YOU KNOW, NOBODY IS SURPRISED BY WHAT WE'RE DOING.

WE DISCUSS WITH THE ADMINISTRATOR THE AREAS THAT WE'RE GOING TO COVER, WE HAVE A YEAR PLAN, WE LAY IT OUT.

DOESN'T MEAN IT CAN'T BE CHANGED IF THERE ARE HIGHER PRIORITIES THAT COME UP, BUT THEN WHEN WE TAKE DEPARTMENT BY DEPARTMENT IF THAT'S WHAT IT IS, WE LAY OUT FOR THEM WHAT WE'RE GOING TO BE LOOKING FOR.

THEY MAY HAVE SOME REACTION.

THEY MAY SAY THAT'S SOMETHING THAT WE'RE IN THE MIDST OF REEVALUATING OURSELVES, THAT SECTION OF THE DEPARTMENT, SO PLEASE GIVE US A CHANCE TO DO THAT FIRST, AND WE'RE GENERALLY VERY CONSIDERATE OF THAT BECAUSE THERE'S SO MANY CHANGING THINGS THAT ARE HAPPENING, AND DEMANDS MEAN THAT YOU HAVE TO CHANGE, BUT THEY AREN'T SURPRISED.

AND THEN WE GO IN AND WE GO IN AND INTERVIEW PEOPLE AND THE FINANCIAL RECORDS, ALL THE BACKUP, ALL OF THE -- THE SAFETY FACTORS, THE DEFAULT FACTORS THAT ARE IN PLACE SO IF AN ERROR OCCURS, THERE'S SOMEBODY THAT BACKS IT UP WITH A VERIFICATION THAT THAT WAS AN ERROR AND ALERTS EVERYBODY TO IT.

SO THESE -- THEY'RE FINANCIAL AUDITS AND THEY'RE ALSO DEALING WITH THE STRUCTURE OF HOW THINGS ARE DONE BY THE DEPARTMENTS.

JUST LOOK AT OUR NEXT AUDIT AND YOU'LL GET A SENSE.

IT'S THE RISK MANAGEMENT.

AND I THINK THERE ARE ABOUT 30 FINDINGS IN THERE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

THANK YOU.

MR. QUINTELA.

>>ARIEL QUINTELA: JUST THANK YOU SO MUCH.

>>PAT FRANK: THANK YOU.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WE HAVE THREE BOARD MEMBERS THAT WANT TO SPEAK.

I WANT TO REITERATE -- DO ANY OF THE BOARD MEMBERS HAVE TO LEAVE AT NOON, RIGHT AT MOON?

OKAY.

WE'RE GOING TO LOSE BOARD MEMBERS AT NOON, SO IF WE'RE NOT DONE BY NOON, I'M GOING TO SUGGEST THAT WE PUSH THIS BACK -- WE MAY HAVE TO PUSH IT TO THE 2nd OR WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO CONTINUE THIS PUBLIC HEARING BECAUSE WE'RE NOT GOING TO BE ABLE TO VOTE ON SOMETHING ONCE WE START LOSING BOARD MEMBERS, ESPECIALLY SINCE WE HAD IT ADVERTISED FROM 9:00 TO 12:00, SO I'M GOING TO LET THE ADDITIONAL SPEAKERS SPEAK, AND I HAVE TWO INDIVIDUALS WHO WANT TO SPEAK IN PUBLIC COMMENT, SO I WANT TO MAKE SURE THEY HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TOO.

SO MR. ROBINSON.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: OH, MAN, WE'RE GETTING THERE.

WE'RE GETTING THERE, WE'RE GETTING THERE.

SLOW BUT SURE WE'RE ALL GETTING THERE.

I HEARD -- AND WE HEARD HERE NOW PRIORITIES.

NOW, WE GOT THE FINE GENTLE LADY, MS. FRANK THERE.

WE KNOW HOW HER CHARACTER AND HER DIGNITY AND ALL OF THAT IS.

SAY WE GET SOMEBODY ELSE.

THEIR PRIORITIES MAY NOT BE WHAT HER PRIORITIES ARE, SO WHEN THAT REQUEST COMES IN, SHE MAY OR MAY NOT -- THEY MAY OR MAY NOT DO IT, SO -- NOW I DONE HEARD THAT THE CLERK HAS -- CAN SET PRIORITIES, EVEN THEY'RE REQUESTING -- GOT A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING.

THAT MAY NOT BE SOMETHING I CAN'T GET TO RIGHT NOW BECAUSE WE JUST SAID THEY GOT A BIG RISK MANAGEMENT.

THAT TAKES PRIORITY OVER MAYBE CHECKING SOMETHING OUT WITH THE ANIMAL CONTROL OR SOMETHING, OFFICE DEPOT OR SOMETHING.

THEN I HEARD, I DON'T NEED NO MORE WORK, I DON'T NEED NO MORE WORK, THAT'S WHAT I HEARD, I DON'T NEED NO MORE WORK, SO I DON'T NEED NO MORE WORK AND I DO SET MY PRIORITIES, YOU KNOW, AN I RESPECT THAT.

THEY'RE A CONSTITUTION.

THEY CAN DO WHAT THEY WANT TO DO, BUT I AGREE WITH MR.

PRESEAU.

WE CAN'T LEAVE IT UP TO THE COUNTY COMMISSION.

COME ON, THEY APPOINTED US.

I MEAN, COME ON.

[LAUGHTER]

WE CAN'T LEAVE IT UP TO THEM.

THEY APPOINTED US, SO -- SO WE GOT TO DO SOMETHING, AND I AGREE WITH YOU, MR. PRESEAU, AND I'M GOING TO STOP TALKING AND LET JOE GET IT, BECAUSE EITHER WE'RE GOING TO VOTE THIS OR WE'RE GOING TO CONTINUE IT.

I THINK WE'RE GETTING THERE, SO WE FINALLY GOT IT ALL IN THE OPEN NOW.

I'M GLAD OF THAT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: THANK YOU.

MR. AMON.

>>JOE AMON: I HAVE A QUESTION FOR MR. TARR.

MAYBE A POINT OF CLARIFICATION FOR ME.

THIS POSITION WE'RE TALKING ABOUT IS A PROCESS-DRIVEN POSITION VERSUS A FINANCIAL-DRIVEN POSITION, NOT TO SAY THAT THE FINANCIAL MAY NOT COME INTO IT, BUT THE PRIMARY REASON FOR THE AUDIT IS TO SEE IF THE PROCESSES ARE EFFECTIVE, THE PROCESSES ARE REACHING THE GOALS SET FOR WHATEVER THE ORGANIZATION IS, THAT'S THE REASON FOR THE INTERNAL --

>> CORRECT.

AUDITING FOCUSES -- NOW, NOT FINANCIAL STATEMENT AUDITING, BUT THE KIND OF AUDITING THAT THE CLERK'S OFFICE DOES AND THAT THIS POSITION WOULD DO ARE FOCUSED ON PROCESSES, OKAY, IS THE PROCESS PROVIDING REASONABLE ASSURANCE THAT WE'RE

GOING TO ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVE THAT WE'RE AFTER?

NOW, WHETHER THAT'S A -- THAT'S PROCESSING FINANCIAL TRANSACTIONS OR WHETHER THAT'S ACHIEVING SOME TYPE OF OPERATIONAL OBJECTIVE, WE GO IN AND LOOK AND SAY, OKAY, DO WE THINK THE PROCESS AS IT'S DESIGNED AND AS IT EXISTS WILL ACHIEVE THE OBJECTIVE?

BY DEFINITION, THAT'S THE OBJECTIVE OF INTERNAL CONTROL.

>>JOE AMON: NOW, SECOND -- SECOND QUESTION FOR EITHER YOU OR MS. FRANK.

THE CLERK'S OFFICE IS MORE AKIN TO THE FINANCIAL USE OF THE MONEY, HOW IT WAS USED, WHETHER IT WAS APPROPRIATELY USED, ARE THERE ERRORS IN KEEPING UP WITH THE RECORDS, ET CETERA. IS THAT AN ACCURATE REPRESENTATION?

>> THAT'S AN ACCURATE -- IN FACT, THAT'S A DEFINITION.

PREAUDIT FUNCTION, AND OF COURSE, WHAT'S BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT IN THIS CURRENT CASE IS WHETHER THEY CAN ALSO LOOK AT THE POST-AUDIT FUNCTION, SAYING AFTER THE MONEY WAS COLLECTED AND PAID OUT, WAS IT PROPERLY USED?

AND I AGREE WITH -- WITH THE CLERK THAT THE SUPREME COURT'S PROBABLY GOING TO FIND THAT THAT'S CERTAINLY WITHIN THE VENUE OF THE CLERK TO LOOK AT THE PREAUDIT AND THE POST-AUDIT, BUT AGAIN, THAT DOESN'T AFFECT WHAT WE'RE DOING HERE.

>>JOE AMON: CORRECT.

THAT'S THE POINT I'M TRYING TO GET TO.

>> YES, SIR.

>>JOE AMON: I'M BACK TO WHERE WE ARE, JOE.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: OKAY.

>>JOE AMON: IT'S AN IMPORTANT POSITION, IT'S A PROCESS POSITION.

I DON'T SEE THE CONFLICT WITH THE CLERK'S OFFICE WHATSOEVER.

I'D LIKE TO SEE US MOVE ON AND TAKE A VOTE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MS. LEYTHAM.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: I JUST HAVE ONE REAL QUICK QUESTION. THIS COMMITTEE, THIS AUDIT COMMITTEE, WHO STAFFS THAT? WHERE DOES THAT GET STAFF WITHIN -- WITHIN YOUR PROCESS?

>> THERE CURRENTLY IS -- THERE ARE SOME 50 EXISTING COMMITTEES ALREADY AND BOARDS.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: OKAY.

>> AND THERE'S ALREADY AN INFRASTRUCTURE --

>>BETH LEYTHAM: IN PLACE.

>> -- IN PLACE TO MANAGE THE CREATION AND KEEPING UP WITH. IN FACT, IT'S UNDER THE CLERK'S OFFICE.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: WELL, I JUST KNOW AT THE BEGINNING OF THIS THERE WAS A LOT OF PUSH AND PULL ABOUT WHO WAS GOING TO DO WHAT AND WAS THERE A BUDGET TO REALLY OVERSEE THE COMMITTEE PROPERLY, SO THAT'S A HUGE CONCERN I THINK WE NEED TO JUST THROW OUT THERE.

THE SECOND THING, IS THERE ANY COST ATTACHED TO SETTING UP

STAFFING OVERSEEING THIS AUDIT COMMITTEE?

HAVE YOU LOOKED AT THAT?

>> I CAN'T SPEAK TO THAT.

I HAVE NOT LOOKED AT THAT.

BECAUSE OF THE FACT THAT THERE'S ALREADY AN INFRASTRUCTURE  
IN PLACE TO DO THAT, THIS WOULD BE AN ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE  
THAT WOULD GO INTO THAT INFRASTRUCTURE, AND I HAVE NO WAY  
OF KNOWING --

>>BETH LEYTHAM: MR. KLEIN, DID YOU WANT TO COMMENT ON  
THAT?

THANK YOU.

>>DAN KLEIN: YES, PLEASE.

DAN KLEIN, CLERK TO THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS.

IN ALL RESPECT TO MR. TARR, THAT IS A MISSTATEMENT.

THERE IS NOT AN INFRASTRUCTURE IN PLACE TO SUPPORT THE  
ADMINISTRATIVE FUNCTIONS OF THIS AUDIT COMMITTEE.

THE CLERK'S OFFICE ON THE SECOND FLOOR HAS A BOARDS AND

COUNCIL COORDINATOR THAT FACILITATES THE BOARD'S

APPOINTMENT PROCESS.

THAT'S ALL THEY DO.

THEY DO NOT PROVIDE ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT TO THE BOARD,

THEY DO NOT TAKE THE MINUTES OF THOSE BOARDS AND COUNCIL

MEETINGS, THEY ARE NOT THE ONES THAT PROVIDE THE REPORTING

TO THE BOARD ON THE ACTIONS OF THOSE COMMITTEES.

THAT IS AN INFRASTRUCTURE THAT WOULD HAVE TO BE IN PLACE

FOR THAT GROUP.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: DO YOU HAVE A SENSE OF THE COST, THE NUMBER OF MAN HOURS, THE PEOPLE, HOW LONG IT WOULD TAKE TO GEAR UP, THOSE KINDS OF THINGS?

>>DAN KLEIN: NO, I REALLY DON'T BECAUSE THAT IS A FUNCTION FOR -- AND MR. TARR IS CORRECT, THERE IS A SIGNIFICANT NUMBER OF BOARDS AND COUNCILS WITHIN COUNTY GOVERNMENT. TYPICALLY WHAT WILL HAPPEN IS A COUNTY DEPARTMENT WILL BE ASSIGNED RESPONSIBILITY AS THE, QUOTE, UNQUOTE, LIAISON FOR A BOARD AND COUNCIL THAT IS IN THEIR SPECIFIC AREA, AND THEY WILL BE THE ONES THAT WOULD HAVE TO PROVIDE THAT SUPPORT.

>>BETH LEYTHAM: OKAY.

THANK YOU.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. WHITE.

>>GERALD WHITE: MR. CHAIR, I WANTED TO MAKE THE FIRST MOTION TO INSERT THIS INTO THE LANGUAGE RELATED TO --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: LET ME MENTION, I'D LIKE TO HEAR FROM THE PUBLIC BEFORE WE MAKE ANY MOTIONS.

SO IF YOU WANT TO MAKE A MOTION, I WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM THE PUBLIC.

>>GERALD WHITE: OKAY.

BEFORE THE OVERALL THING IS DONE, I WANT TO MAKE THE MOTION ABOUT POLITICAL -- POLITICAL ACTIVITY.

I WANT TO MAKE SURE THAT'S INSERTED, A SECTION IN THE

RESOLUTION IS INSERTED RELATED TO POLITICAL ACTIVITY, SO I WANT TO DO THAT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

>>GERALD WHITE: BECAUSE I'M TRYING TO FIGURE OUT A WAY TO SUPPORT THIS, BUT THAT'S ONE OF MY KEY CONCERNS.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

ANY OTHER QUESTIONS BEFORE I CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENT?

OKAY.

FIRST UP, I'M GOING TO LET MR. DAVIS SPEAK AGAIN.

HE HAS SOME ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS, AND SINCE HE HAD THE --

HE'S WAITED AND HE HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO HEAR FROM THE --

MR. TARR AND FROM THE CLERK OF THE COURT, PAT FRANK, I

WOULD LIKE TO GIVE HIM AN OPPORTUNITY, AND ALSO, WE HAVE

MR. WILLIAM DENNIS, SO MR. DAVIS, YOU'RE FIRST UP.

YOU HAVE THREE MINUTES, AND PLEASE INTRODUCE YOURSELF

AGAIN.

>> YES.

THANK YOU, MR. CHAIRMAN.

I'M STILL AL DAVIS OF 3717 EAST WILDER AVENUE, TAMPA,

FLORIDA.

MR. CHAIRMAN, YOU KNOW, I POSED A QUESTION THAT I WOULD

LIKE TO HAVE A RESPONSE SO THAT IT WOULD FURTHER MY

ENTHUSIASM TO CONTINUE TO COME TO THESE MEETINGS.

I'M IN SYMPATHY WITH WHAT YOUR CHARGE IS BECAUSE ONCE UPON

A TIME I SERVED AS A MEMBER OF THE CHARTER REVIEW BOARD, SO

I WON'T BELABOR, YOU KNOW, THE TIME FOR THAT.

MR. CHAIRMAN, YOU KNOW WHAT I ASKED FOR EARLIER?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: ABOUT THE LEGISLATIVE OR EXECUTIVE?

>> THE LEGISLATIVE AND THE EXECUTIVE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: UH-HUH.

>> SO HAVE YOU DECIDED ON WHICH SIDE OF THE EQUATION OF THIS INDIVIDUAL THIS DUTY'S GOING TO LIE?

YOU KNOW, YOU SPENT A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF TIME -- YOU KNOW, MY BLACK-EYED PEAS WILL BURN BEFORE I GET BACK HOME, MR. CHAIRMAN, BECAUSE I WAS CALCULATING.

YOU HAD IT ALL TOGETHER, AND YOU WERE GOING TO COME.

YOU'VE ALREADY DELIBERATED, YOU DELIBERATED THE DELIBERATING, SO I HAD CALCULATED TO GET BACK IN TIME, BUT NONETHELESS, WILL YOU PLEASE COMMENT ON THAT, MR. CHAIRMAN, OR SOMEBODY HELP ME OUT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: I MEAN, MRS. FARRIS -- OR MRS. GRIMES, YOU MAY WANT TO COMMENT.

>>GINA GRIMES: IT'S IN THE CHARTER -- IN THE CHARTER, IT'S UNDER THE SECTION ENTITLED "LEGISLATIVE BRANCH."

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

THAT ANSWERS THE QUESTION.

THANK YOU.

>> WHAT WAS THE COMMENT?

>>GINA GRIMES: IN THE CHARTER, THERE'S --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: IT'S UNDER THE LEGISLATURE.

>>GINA GRIMES: ARTICLE IV OF THE CHARTER IS ENTITLED "LEGISLATIVE BRANCH," AND RIGHT NOW THAT'S WHERE IT'S PLACED IS UNDER THAT --

>> YEAH, BUT IS THAT THE PROPER PLACE FOR IT TO BE?

>>GINA GRIMES: THAT'S A GOOD QUESTION.

>> AND THAT'S WHAT I WAS THINKING THIS CHARTER REVIEW BOARD WOULD TAKE A LOOK AT A COMPREHENSIVE STUDY OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT.

IT AIN'T SUPPOSED -- IF IT AIN'T SUPPOSED TO BE THERE, THEN YOU HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE THE RECOMMENDATION --

>>GERALD WHITE: MR. CHAIR.

>> -- TO CHANGE IT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. WHITE.

>>GERALD WHITE: MR. DAVIS, I WANT YOU TO KNOW THAT I HEARD YOUR CONCERN RELATED TO LEGISLATIVE AND EXECUTIVE BRANCH EARLIER IN OUR MEETINGS, AND I WAS LOOKING AT AN ARTICLE IN THE TAMPA TRIBUNE WHERE COMMISSIONER JIM NORMAN RAISED A CONCERN ABOUT THE BOARD INFRINGING ON THE EXECUTIVE SIDE OF COUNTY GOVERNMENT, AND SO I PASSED OUT THAT ARTICLE IN THIS MEETING, AND I INTEND TO ASK THE BOARD UNDER NEW BUSINESS TO GET SOMEONE IN HERE, EITHER THE COUNTY ATTORNEY OR OUR INDEPENDENT COUNCIL, TO GIVE US AN EDUCATION ON HOW THIS CHARTER IS STRUCTURED AND WHERE THINGS SHOULD BE AND HAVE THERE BEEN ACTIVITY OF ONE SIDE OR THE OTHER CROSSING OVER OR WHERE THINGS SHOULD ACTUALLY BE SITTING, AND SO YOUR

CONCERN NOW HAS REACHED THE HEART, I BELIEVE, OF THIS BOARD RELATED TO WHAT HAPPENED IN THE BUDGET MEETING LAST WEEK, THIS WEEK, AND SO IT'S GOING TO BE TAKEN UP, I HOPE. I'M GOING TO BRING IT UP UNDER NEW BUSINESS BECAUSE WE DO NEED TO KNOW THE FACTS RELATED TO THE LEGISLATIVE AND THE EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONS IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY.

>> THANK YOU, MR. WHITE.

MR. CHAIRMAN, ONE LAST.

NOW, I WANT TO BE SURE I'M ON THE RIGHT TRACK.

THIS WAS A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED RESOLUTION --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES.

>> -- THAT YOU HAD BEFORE?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: FOR THE INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR, JUST THAT TOPIC.

>> JUST THAT TOPIC.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES, BUT TO CONFUSE THE ISSUE, WE DID HAVE A MEETING IN BETWEEN OUR PUBLIC HEARING, SO --

>> NOW, I DO KNOW THERE WAS SOME SUGGESTED LANGUAGE AND SO FORTH AND SO ON --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES, SIR.

>> -- AND THERE'S ANOTHER FACTOR THAT YOU MIGHT ALTER.

NOW, I MAY NOT BE ABLE TO STAY HERE BEYOND 12:00, BUT --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: I DON'T THINK OUR BOARD'S GOING TO BE STAYING HERE MUCH LONGER THAN 12:00 BECAUSE WE'RE GOING TO BE LOSING MEMBERS, SO WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO CONTINUE THIS.

IT'S LOOKING LIKE THAT'S WHAT WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO DO UNLESS SOMEBODY MAKES A MOTION AND WE VOTE ON IT PRETTY QUICKLY.

>> OH, SO -- SO -- SO THE QUESTION IS ON THE RESOLUTION.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES, THE INTERNAL PERFORMANCE AUDITOR RESOLUTION.

THAT'S THE WHOLE -- THAT'S THE MAIN PURPOSE -- THAT'S THE ONLY PURPOSE OF THIS PUBLIC HEARING.

>> THERE'S A LOT OF VERBIAGE IN THERE, AND EVEN AFTER YOU HAVE YOUR PUBLIC -- PUBLIC HEARING ABOUT IT, YOU MAY ALTER SOME OF THAT VERBIAGE; RIGHT?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES, SIR, AS LONG AS WE DON'T MAKE SIGNIFICANT -- I MEAN, IF IT'S MINOR CHANGES, WE CAN STILL GO FORWARD WITH IT, BUT IF IT'S SOMETHING SIGNIFICANT, WE'RE GOING TO PROBABLY HAVE TO HAVE ANOTHER PUBLIC HEARING, SO --

>> NOW, DOES THAT MEAN THAT IF YOU GO FORWARD WITH IT, ARE YOU GOING TO PUT IT ON THE BALLOT?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES.

MR. DAVIS, I'M GOING TO HAVE TO CUT YOU OFF.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COMMENTS.

>> THANK YOU.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: NEXT UP, MR. WILLIAM DENNIS.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: MR. CHAIR, WHILE MR. DENNIS COMES UP, I JUST WANT YOU TO KNOW I WANT TO FORMALLY MAKE THE MOTION I

REFERRED TO EARLIER TO AMEND THE RESOLUTION LANGUAGE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

MR. DENNIS, THREE MINUTES.

PLEASE INTRODUCE YOURSELF AND STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS.

>> GOOD MORNING.

WILLIAM DENNIS, 4217 LAKEWOOD DRIVE, SEFFNER, FLORIDA.

AND I WANTED TO STATE THAT I'M HOPING THAT WE STAY WITHIN  
THE CONFINES OF THE CONSTITUTION.

I APPRECIATE OTHER PEOPLE WHEN THEY THINK THEY CAN  
SUBSTITUTE THE CONSTITUTION WITH THEIR BENEVOLENCE, BUT I -

-

THE OTHER THING I WANT TO SAY IS I BELIEVE WHEN A COMMUNITY  
SUCH AS OURS HAVE HAD THE BENEFIT OF A DOUG BELDEN AND PAT  
FRANK THAT DO SERVICE, YOU KNOW, WE KNOW WHAT IT IS TO GET  
GOOD SERVICE, AND SO FOR SOMEONE TO TRY TO GIVE US  
SOMETHING LESS THAN THAT, YOU KNOW, WOULD BE AN AFFRONT TO  
US.

WE WON'T BE REELECTING THEM AND PROBABLY WON'T ELECT THEM  
TO START WITH BECAUSE WE KNOW WHAT TO EXPECT.

WHEN I HEARD MS. FRANK REFER TO NOT LOOKING FOR ANY WORK, I  
REALLY DIDN'T HEAR LIKE SHE WASN'T LOOKING FOR ANY WORK.

SHE'S UNDERFUNDED, AND I REALLY WISH IT WAS THIS MUCH WORK  
AND EFFORT GOING FORWARD GETTING MORE FUNDING FOR HER  
SERVICE AND, YOU KNOW, HER DUTIES INSTEAD OF TRYING TO, YOU  
KNOW, STRIP AWAY SOME OF HER RESPONSIBILITY.

WHAT SHE REALLY NEED IS SHE NEED THAT MONEY, YOU KNOW, SO THAT SHE CAN AFFORD TO BRING STAFF ON TO MEET THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF HER CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICE, AND THE SAME COULD PROBABLY BE SAID FOR MR. BELDEN, BUT HE SEEM TO BE FARING MAYBE A LITTLE BETTER.

I HAVEN'T HEARD NOBODY GET AN AUDIT FOR HIM, BUT AT ANY RATE, THAT WAS THE EXTENT OF MY CONVERSATION.

I'VE BEEN FOLLOWING THESE ISSUES RIGHT ALONG WITH EVERYBODY ELSE, AND I -- AND I'M SURE THAT EVERYBODY IS SINCERE IN TRYING TO RESOLVE THIS.

THANK YOU.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: THANK YOU.

>>GERALD WHITE: MR. CHAIR.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. WHITE.

>>GERALD WHITE: FIRST I'D LIKE TO MAKE A MOTION THAT A SECTION BE ADDED TO THE RESOLUTION THAT READS, POLITICAL ACTIVITY OF THE INTERNAL AUDITOR, THE COUNTY -- THE COUNTY AUDITOR SHALL NOT HOLD ANY POLITICAL OFFICE NOR TAKE PART IN ANY POLITICAL ACTIVITIES OTHER THAN VOTING.

I'D LIKE TO MAKE THAT A MOTION.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

HAVE WE GOT A SECOND?

>>JAN PLATT: SECOND.

>>JOE AMON: SECOND.

WHERE YOU PUTTING THAT, JUST CLARIFICATION?

>> CLARIFICATION.

>>GERALD WHITE: JUST A SECTION THAT -- THE COUNTY ATTORNEY WOULD HAVE TO IDENTIFY WHAT SECTION IT NEEDS TO GO INTO.

>>JAN PLATT: POINT OF ORDER.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: COMMISSIONER PLATT.

>>JAN PLATT: IS THE RESOLUTION ON THE TABLE AND THIS IS AN AMENDMENT TO THE RESOLUTION?

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: THAT'S WHAT I HEARD.

>>JAN PLATT: IN OTHER WORDS, HAS SOMEBODY MOVED AND SECONDED --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WE HAVEN'T HAD -- MY UNDERSTANDING, WE DON'T HAVE ANY MOTIONS ON THE FLOOR RIGHT NOW?

>>JAN PLATT: THIS IS THE ONLY MOTION?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: THIS IS THE FIRST MOTION.

>>JAN PLATT: AND THIS IS JUST TO AMEND --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: AMEND IT.

>>JAN PLATT: -- THE LANGUAGE --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: [INDISCERNIBLE CROSS TALK]

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YEAH.

THIS IS THE FIST MOTION -- THIS IS THE ONLY MOTION THAT WE HAVE ON THE FLOOR RIGHT NOW UNLESS I'M MISTAKEN.

>>JAN PLATT: USUALLY FROM A PARLIAMENTARY STANDPOINT, YOU HAVE THE RESOLUTION BEFORE YOU, SOMEBODY MAKES A MOTION ABOUT THAT, AND THEN THERE'S A WHOLE SERIES OF AMENDMENTS TO THAT RESOLUTION AND THEY'RE EITHER VOTED UP OR DOWN, AND

THAT'S WHY --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I'M SORRY YOU THINK THAT.

>JAN PLATT: -- I'M ASKING THE QUESTION, BUT YOU'RE SAYING  
NO, THERE IS --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: THERE ARE NO MOTIONS -- THIS IS THE  
FIRST MOTION AND HE'S JUST MAKING A MOTION.

WE ALL HEARD THAT MOTION.

SO LET ME LET -- MR. ROBINSON.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: POINT OF ORDER HERE.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: [INAUDIBLE] BEFORE US.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: POINT OF ORDER.

WHAT WE'RE DOING NOW IS --

>>GERALD WHITE: CAN WE HAVE THE COUNTY ATTORNEY RESPOND TO  
THE --

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: YEAH.

BECAUSE -- WHAT I WAS JUST GOING TO SAY BECAUSE WE DON'T  
EVEN NEED TEN VOTES FOR THAT.

>>GERALD WHITE: I UNDERSTAND [INDISCERNIBLE CROSS TALK]

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: [INDISCERNIBLE CROSS TALK]

WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO COME BACK PROBABLY MONDAY AND DEAL  
WITH THIS.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YEAH.

THAT ISN'T VOTING TO TAKE IT TO -- I GUESS -- IS THAT YOUR  
QUESTION?

THAT ISN'T VOTING TO TAKE IT, THAT'S JUST VOTING TO AMEND

THE RESOLUTION.

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: AMEND THE LANGUAGE, NOT TO APPROVE  
THE RESOLUTION.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: THAT WOULD JUST BE A MAJORITY THERE.  
SO MS. FARRIS, THAT'S CORRECT, RIGHT, TO --

>>MARY HELEN FARRIS: TO AMEND THE LANGUAGE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: -- TO AMEND THE LANGUAGE BEFORE WE  
VOTE ON THE FINAL.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: CALL FOR THE QUESTION.

>>JOE AMON: [INAUDIBLE]

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

WE HAD A MOTION AND SECOND.

CALL FOR QUESTION.

ALL IN FAVOR OF MR. WHITE'S MOTION PLEASE RAISE YOUR RIGHT  
HAND.

OKAY.

ANYONE OPPOSED TO MR. WHITE'S MOTION?

MOTION PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I HAVE A MOTION.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

LET ME --

>> EXCUSE ME, MAY I ASK WHO SECONDED.

>>JAN PLATT: I DID.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: COMMISSIONER PLATT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. WHITE --

>> YOU SECONDED ROBINSON'S --

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: NO, NO.

>> -- CALL FOR THE QUESTION?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: NO, NO.

>>JAN PLATT: NO.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: OH, THE CALL FOR THE QUESTION.

I DON'T KNOW WHO SECONDED THAT.

>> I NEED TO KNOW WHO SECONDED THAT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WHO SECONDED THAT?

MR. AMON.

>> THANK YOU.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: SORRY ABOUT THAT.

NOW, DID YOU GET THAT MOTION?

YOU GOT THE MOTION?

OKAY.

MAKING SURE.

NOW, NEXT UP, MRS. REBACK.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I HAVE A MOTION TO -- I HAVE A MOTION  
TO AMEND SECTION 4 OF THE RESOLUTION, ONE, TWO, THREE,  
FOUR -- FIFTH LINE UP FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE.

FOURTH LINE UP FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE.

AFTER THE WORD -- AFTER THE WORDS "AUDIT COMMITTEE" -- IN  
SECTION 4, THE SENTENCE WHICH READS, THE BOARD OF COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS SHALL BIANNUALLY ESTABLISH AN AUDIT  
COMMITTEE -- AFTER THE WORDS "AUDIT COMMITTEE," I PROPOSE

TO ADD LANGUAGE THAT SAYS, OF THREE TO FIVE MEMBERS WHO SHALL BE SELECTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FROM AMONG QUALIFIED APPLICANTS FROM THE PUBLIC, COMMA, I GUESS WOULD BE APPROPRIATE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MRS. REBACK, CAN YOU SPECIFY WHERE THAT IS SPECIFICALLY?

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: THE FOURTH LINE UP FROM THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: [INDISCERNIBLE CROSS TALK]

>>MITCHELL THROWER: NUMBER 4 CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: RIGHT.

ON PAGE 2, THE PARAGRAPH NUMBERED 4, FOURTH LINE UP FROM THE BOTTOM, AFTER THE WORDS, "ESTABLISH AN AUDIT COMMITTEE," I PROPOSE TO ADD LANGUAGE STATING, QUOTE, OF THREE TO FIVE MEMBERS WHO SHALL BE SELECTED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FROM AMONG QUALIFIED APPLICANTS FROM THE PUBLIC, AND THERE MAY BE A COMMA THERE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: ACTUALLY, I DO HAVE A COMMENT REAL QUICK.

I JUST WANT TO CLARIFY.

IF YOU'RE SAYING THREE TO FIVE MEMBERS, THEN WE NEED TO STRIKE THE --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: RIGHT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: -- APPOINTING ONE MEMBER --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: RIGHT, AND THEN --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YOU NEED TO GO FORWARD --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: AND THEN STRIKE THE SECTION THAT  
REFERS -- THAT SAYS --

>>JOE AMON: WITH EACH COMMISSIONER APPOINTING ONE MEMBER.  
STRIKE --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: CORRECT.

THANK YOU.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: YOU GOING TO STILL KEEP WITHOUT  
COMPENSATION?

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: YES, AND THE BALANCE THE SAME.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: OKAY.

AND THE BALANCE THE SAME.

SO EACH COMMISSIONER APPOINTING ONE MEMBER IS STRICKEN?

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: RIGHT.

I PROPOSE TO ADD THE THREE TO FIVE MEMBERS AS OPPOSED TO  
THE EACH COMMISSIONER APPOINTING ONE, AND I PROPOSE TO ADD  
THE SELECTED BY THE BOARD SO THAT'S CLEAR.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: AND YOU SAID SOMETHING ABOUT QUALIFIED?

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: AND -- SELECTED BY THE BOARD FROM AMONG  
QUALIFIED APPLICANTS FROM THE PUBLIC SO THAT IT'S NOT  
SIMPLY AN APPOINTMENT PROCESS OF THE BOARD.

>>JOE AMON: SECOND.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: COULD I HAVE A FRIENDLY AMENDMENT TO  
THAT MOTION THAT WAS SECONDED?

>> EXCUSE ME.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: HAS IT BEEN SECONDED YET?

>> MR. ROBINSON, YOU'RE NOT ON THE RECORD.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

IT'S BEEN SECONDED.

DISCUSSION, MR. AMON.

MR. ROBINSON.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I'M SORRY, WAS IT SECONDED?

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: HE SECONDED IT, YEAH.

>> YES.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: I JUST WANT TO ADD, RIGHT WHEN YOU --  
YOU ROLLING HERE -- YOU ROLLING, YOU'RE THE LAWYER, BUT  
THEN YOU GET DOWN HERE, YOU SAID THOSE LAST WORDS, FROM --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: FROM AMONG QUALIFIED APPLICANTS FROM  
THE PUBLIC -- OF THE PUBLIC.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: AND I WANT TO ADD, WHO SHALL FILL --  
WHO SHALL FILE A FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FORM.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I DON'T CONSIDER THAT A FRIENDLY  
AMENDMENT.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: TO FILE A FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE?

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: NO OFFENSE, BUT YEAH, I DON'T BECAUSE I  
AGREE WITH GINA THAT I THINK IT'S COVERED UNDER STATE LAW,  
SO I DON'T CONSIDER THAT TO BE A FRIENDLY AMENDMENT.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: WELL, I DON'T THINK THAT THAT POSITION  
IS COVERED.

THERE'S GOING TO BE REQUIREMENTS --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: WELL, I THINK THAT --

>>JAN PLATT: I WILL SECOND HIS AMENDMENT --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

>>JAN PLATT: -- BECAUSE I DON'T THINK SHE HAS A RIGHT TO DECIDE THAT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YEAH.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: WELL, HE ASKED ME WOULD I ACCEPT A FRIENDLY AMENDMENT, AND I WON'T.

I DON'T THINK IT'S A FRIENDLY AMENDMENT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: SO BASICALLY WE HAVE AN AMENDED MOTION.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: [INDISCERNIBLE CROSS TALK]

>>MITCHELL THROWER: EITHER -- SO WE CAN DO THAT.

IT'S BEEN SECONDED, SO WE CAN DISCUSS THE AMENDED --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: WELL, JUST FOR THE SAKE OF CLARITY, MR. CHAIR.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: MR. ROBINSON CERTAINLY HAS THE RIGHT TO MAKE A MOTION TO ADD THAT LANGUAGE, BUT JUST SO THAT WE DON'T -- FOR THE SAKE OF CLARITY IN THE VOTING, MIGHT I SUGGEST THAT WE VOTE THE LANGUAGE THAT I'VE PROPOSED, AND THEN IF MR. ROBINSON WANTS TO ADD ADDITIONAL LANGUAGE, WE CAN --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO GO WITH THE AMENDED MOTION THAT'S BEEN SECONDED.

WE'LL HAVE TO VOTE FOR THAT FIRST, AND THEN IF THAT FAILS,  
WE'LL GO BACK TO YOUR MOTION.

>>GERALD WHITE: YOU KNOW ROBERT'S RULES.

>> [INAUDIBLE]

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YES, BUT THEN MR. ROBINSON MADE AN  
AMENDED MOTION TO THAT, AND THAT WAS SECONDED BY  
COMMISSIONER PLATT, SO WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO VOTE ON THAT  
AMENDED MOTION.

WE'LL DISCUSS IT FIRST, THEN WE'LL HAVE TO VOTE ON IT.  
IF THAT FAILS, WE'LL GO BACK TO MRS. REBACK'S ORIGINAL  
MOTION.

SO --

>>GERALD WHITE: MR. CHAIR.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. WHITE.

>>GERALD WHITE: I'D LIKE TO OFFER A FRIENDLY AMENDMENT,  
JOE, FOR CONSIDERATION THAT IT BE ONE MEMBER PER  
COMMISSIONER BECAUSE I AM CONCERNED THAT --

>> THAT'S NOT --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: THAT'S NOT A FRIENDLY -- THAT WOULD BE  
ANOTHER AMENDED -- THAT WOULD BE ANOTHER AMENDED MOTION.

>>GERALD WHITE: YOU DON'T CONSIDER THAT TO BE FRIENDLY,  
ONE MEMBER --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: THAT'S SUBSTANTIALLY CHANGING --

>>GERALD WHITE: I'M ASKING JOE.

IT'S UP TO JOE.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: NO, BECAUSE HE SAID THAT SHE CHANGED IT, AND I'VE HEARD THE TESTIMONY OUT HERE FROM THE EXPERT THREE TO FIVE IS THE MOST YOU NEED, AND I ALSO HEARD FROM THE EXPERTS OUT HERE, AND I HEARD FROM MS. PLATT THAT WE NEED TO THINK ABOUT WHO GETS ON THAT COMMITTEE DISCLOSING THEIR FINANCIAL -- GIVE US SOME KIND OF FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FOR A POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST, AND SO THAT'S THE ONLY THING I ADDED.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: AND YOU CAN VOTE IT -- YOU CAN VOTE NO, MR. -- MR. WHITE.

>>GERALD WHITE: I HAVE THE FLOOR.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: YOU CAN VOTE NO.

>>GERALD WHITE: MR. CHAIR, I HAVE THE FLOOR.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: PLEASE LET MR. WHITE FINISH.

>>GERALD WHITE: WELL, I JUST WANT TO KNOW -- I'M JUST CONCERNED, YOU KNOW, FROM THE ELDERS HERE, MR. TOKLEY, DO YOU FEEL AS THOUGH THAT THE MINORITY COMMUNITY COULD BE HEARD?

IF THEY JUST DECIDE TO GO WITH THEE MEMBERS, THE MINORITY SEAT CAN ALWAYS BE OUTVOTED.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: MINORITIES ARE HEARD NOW WITH ONE AFRICAN-AMERICAN ON COUNTY COMMISSION, SO I THINK MINORITIES WILL BE HEARD AND I THINK THEY SHALL BE HEARD AND I THINK THAT -- THAT THE PROCESS HERE, WE WILL BE HEARD, I REALLY DO BECAUSE WE'RE BEING HEARD RIGHT NOW AND

WE AIN'T GOT BUT ONE OUT OF SEVEN.

SO IF WE -- THREE TO FIVE, I THINK WE'LL BE HEARD.

WE HAVE FOUR AFRICAN-AMERICANS ON THIS BOARD RIGHT HERE, SO WE WAS HEARD, SO -- AND THERE WAS ONLY ONE AFRICAN-AMERICAN COUNTY COMMISSIONER, SO WE WERE HEARD, SO I THINK WE'LL BE HEARD ON THIS ONE TOO, GERALD.

>>GERALD WHITE: IT'S JUST A CONCERN.

I JUST WANT TO MAKE SURE --

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: THE MORE YOU GET, THEN IT GETS CRAZY, THEN YOU START --

>>GERALD WHITE: OKAY.

IT'S JUST A CONCERN.

I JUST WANTED TO MAKE SURE MY CONCERN WAS ON THE RECORD.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: AND IT REALLY MAKES THEM SEVEN COMMISSIONERS THINK ABOUT WHO THEY'RE GOING TO VOTE FOR BECAUSE THEY DONE GET ONE PICK.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. PRESEAU.

LET ME MENTION WE ARE AFTER 12:00 RIGHT NOW, SO WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO CONTINUE THIS PUBLIC HEARING.

>>GERALD WHITE: I HOPE WE CAN GET THIS DONE TODAY.

WE NEED TO GET THIS DONE TODAY.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WE'RE WORKING ON THIS MOTION, BUT IT LOOKS -- MR. PRESEAU.

>>GREG PRESEAU: I DON'T PARTICULARLY AGREE WITH THE FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE BECAUSE I AGREE WITH MRS. GRIMES, BUT

ALSO WHEN YOU PUT IN HERE IN THE CHARTER ABOUT -- AND YOU STATE -- USE THE WORD "QUALIFIED."

NOW THAT'S A VERY SUBJECTIVE THING.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: RIGHT.

>>GREG PRESEAU: I WOULD SUGGEST YOU LEAVE THAT OUT AND LET -- YOU KNOW, THE BOARD IS GOING TO HAVE TO SIFT THROUGH APPLICANTS, AND THEY'RE GOING TO HAVE TO COME TO A CONSENSUS, OKAY.

THEY WILL CHOOSE A QUALIFIED PERSON WITHOUT HAVING TO DEFINE THE WORD "QUALITY."

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I DON'T THINK WE NEED TO DEFINE IT, AND I THINK IT NEEDS TO BE IN THERE FOR ALL THE REASONS THAT YOU EARLIER SAID, WE NEED TO HOLD PEOPLE'S FEET TO THE FIRE, BUT I THINK IT NEEDS TO BE IN THERE, SO AGAIN, YOU CAN VOTE IT DOWN.

I THINK AT THIS POINT WE NEED TO TAKE A VOTE ON THESE PENDING MOTIONS.

I CALL FOR THE QUESTION.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: AND PEOPLE, YOU KNOW, YOU CAN VOTE IT DOWN, AND WE CAN HAVE NEW MOTIONS TOO.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: DO WE HAVE A SECOND FOR THE CALL TO QUESTION?

>>GERALD WHITE: SECOND.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: SECOND.

ALL IN FAVOR OF THE CALL TO QUESTION TO VOTE ON MR.  
ROBINSON'S AMENDED MOTION.

WE GOT A SECOND.

ALL IN FAVOR OF THE CALL TO QUESTION.

OKAY.

WE'RE GOING TO VOTE ON MR. ROBINSON'S MOTION, AND CORRECT  
ME -- BASICALLY IT'S AN AMENDED MOTION.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: IF I -- I'LL --

>>GERALD WHITE: NO, NO, LET HIM READ HIS OWN MOTION.

LET HIM READ HIS OWN MOTION.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I THINK I CAN TAKE CARE OF IT.

I HAVE THE REST OF THE LANGUAGE.

OF THREE TO FIVE MEMBERS WHO SHALL BE SELECTED BY THE BOARD  
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FROM AMONG QUALIFIED APPLICANTS  
FROM THE PUBLIC, AND MR. ROBINSON ADDED, WHO SHALL FILE  
FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FORMS.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

>>JAN PLATT: SO THE AMENDMENT IS FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YEAH, THE AMENDMENT IS ADDING THE  
FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE TO THE ORIGINAL MOTION.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: OR WHO SHALL BE REQUIRED TO FILE  
FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FORMS.

>>JOE AMON: IS THIS NOT A CONFUSING --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: I THINK IT IS, BUT I THINK THE  
QUESTION'S BEEN CALLED AND WE NEED TO VOTE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: ONCE WE VOTE ON THIS, IF THIS FAILS, WE'LL GO BACK TO THE ORIGINAL MOTION WHICH DID NOT INCLUDE THE FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE, SO ALL IN FAVOR OF THIS MOTION PLEASE RAISE -- AND THIS IS JUST THE WORDING, THIS ISN'T WE'RE VOTING TO GO TO PUBLIC HEARING.

THIS IS JUST THE WORDING OF THE RESOLUTION SO THAT, YOU KNOW --

>>JOE AMON: FOR THE -- ADDING THE FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE OR THE WHOLE --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: IT'S ADDING THE THREE TO FIVE AND THE FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE, BUT IT'S JUST TO REWORD --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: BUT IT'S A PACKAGE DEAL.

THIS MOTION IS A PACKAGE DEAL.

YOU ARE VOTING TO ADD OR NOT --

>>GERALD WHITE: WE'RE DISCUSSING IT AGAIN.

THE QUESTION'S BEEN CALLED FOR.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WE GOT A CALL FOR QUESTION.

WE VOTED ON THAT.

WE'VE GOT TO VOTE ON THE MOTION NOW.

>>JOE AMON: TELL ME WHAT I'M VOTING FOR.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: JUST FOR CLARIFICATION --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO DO, CLARIFY IT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: LET ME CLARIFY IT.

THIS IS NOT REQUIRING TEN VOTES BECAUSE WE'RE NOT VOTING TO PUT IT ON THE BALLOT.

WHAT WE'RE DOING IS VOTING TO HAVE LEGAL REWORD IT SO THAT WE HAVE THE NEW WORDING, SO ALL IT REQUIRES IS A MAJORITY. WE NEED EIGHT OF THE 13 -- EIGHT OF THE 13?

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: [INDISCERNIBLE CROSS TALK]

>>MITCHELL THROWER: SEVEN OF THE 13 TO GET THIS PASSED.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: YOU-ALL CAN LEAVE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: SO ALL IN FAVOR OF THIS AMENDED MOTION PLEASE RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND.

>>JAN PLATT: THE AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: THE AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION, PLEASE RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND.

>>JAN PLATT: REGARDING FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

ALL OPPOSED TO THIS AMENDED MOTION PLEASE RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND.

SEVEN.

OKAY.

WE'VE GOT SEVEN OPPOSED, AND THEN RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND FOR THOSE IN FAVOR ONE MORE TIME.

I'M GOING TO CALL OUT THE NAMES FOR THE CLERK.

MR. QUINTELA, COMMISSIONER PLATT, MR. ROBINSON, MR. TOKLEY, MR. WHITE, AND MS. LEYTHAM ARE IN FAVOR.

OKAY.

PLEASE RAISE YOUR HANDS OPPOSED ONE MORE TIME JUST FOR THE CLERKS.

MR. FISHER, MS. REBACK, MR. THROWER, MR. PRESEAU,  
MRS. GRIMES, MR. SULLIVAN, AND MR. AIMS -- AMON ARE OPPOSED  
TO THE AMENDED WORDING OF THE MOTION.

THE MOTION FAILS.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: SO NOW WE CALL FOR --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: NOW WE GO BACK TO THE --

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: -- THE QUESTION ON THE ORIGINAL  
AMENDED -- AMENDED --

>>RALPH FISHER: SECOND.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WE'VE GOT A SECOND.

ALL IN FAVOR OF THE CALL TO QUESTION FOR THE ORIGINAL  
MOTION WHICH TAKES OFF THE FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE AND  
BASICALLY IS THE THREE TO FIVE MEMBERS -- I'LL LET  
MRS. REBACK READ HER MOTION.

>>ROCHELLE REBACK: AGAIN, IT'S TO AMEND THE LANGUAGE,  
PARAGRAPH 4, FOURTH LINE FROM THE BOTTOM, AFTER THE WORDS,  
"ESTABLISH AN AUDIT COMMITTEE," TO ADD THEREAFTER, OF THREE  
TO FIVE MEMBERS WHO SHALL BE SELECTED BY THE BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS FROM AMONG QUALIFIED APPLICANTS FROM  
THE PUBLIC AND TO STRIKE THE PORTION, THIRD LINE -- THE  
VERY END OF THE FOURTH LINE AND THE THIRD LINE WHICH  
STATES, WITH EACH COMMISSIONER APPOINTING ONE MEMBER.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

GOT A CALL FOR QUESTION.

DID WE HAVE A SECOND JUST FOR THE CLERK.

>>RALPH FISHER: I SECONDED.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MR. FISHER SECONDED IT.

ALL IN FAVOR OF THE CALL TO QUESTION PLEASE RAISE YOUR  
RIGHT HAND.

OKAY.

ANYONE OPPOSED?

OKAY.

THAT PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

WE'RE GOING TO VOTE ON THE MOTION RIGHT NOW.

ALL IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION PLEASE RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND.

ANYONE OPPOSED?

COMMISSIONER PLATT AND MRS. LEYTHAM ARE OPPOSED.

THE MOTION PASSES.

ALL OTHERS ARE IN FAVOR.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: I WANT TO MAKE A MOTION ON THE NEXT  
PAGE.

>>GERALD WHITE: NO, NO, NO, WE'VE GOT TO VOTE TO SEND THIS  
TO THE BALLOT; RIGHT?

>> NO.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO.

>>JOE AMON: QUESTION.

BEFORE YOU MAKE A MOTION --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YOU KNOW WHAT, I'M GOING TO SUGGEST --  
WE'RE LOSING MEMBERS.

THIS MEETING WAS SCHEDULED FROM 9:00 TO 12:00.

MY CONCERN IS ONCE WE START LOSING MEMBERS, WE'RE -- YOU KNOW, I DON'T THINK IT'S FAIR -- I DON'T THINK IT'S FAIR TO THOSE MEMBERS WHO SHOWED UP AND WE HAD IT ADVERTISED FROM 9:00 TO 12:00 TO VOTE ON SOMETHING WHEN MEMBERS START TO LEAVE AFTER -- I MEAN, IF THEY LEFT BEFORE THE 12:00, I'D BE FINE WITH IT, BUT RIGHT NOW I THINK WE NEED TO CONTINUE THIS AT ANOTHER PUBLIC HEARING.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: [INAUDIBLE]

THAT WAS THE VOTE -- THAT WAS THE VOTE TO PUT IT ON THE BALLOT.

WE'RE TALKING ABOUT CHANGING THE LANGUAGE.

>>GINA GRIMES: NO, WE'RE STILL CHANGING LANGUAGE.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WE'RE STILL CHANGING LANGUAGE.

WE HAVEN'T VOTED --

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: WELL, I SAID THAT.

I SAID -- YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT 12:00.

THAT WAS IF WE WERE GOING TO VOTE TO PUT IT ON THE BALLOT.

I'M SAYING WE CAN BE HERE -- WE GOT TO CHANGE THIS SECTION WHERE THE COUNTY INTERNAL AUDITOR'S WORK SHALL COMPLY WITH SOMETHING, AND I WAS TALKING ABOUT ACCEPTED PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS.

WHAT I WANT TO ADD --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: ACTUALLY, AS CHAIR, SINCE IT'S STILL WORDING, I'LL ALLOW US TO DO THAT.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: YOU KNOW, NOT THAT WE'RE VOTING TO GO

TO THE --

>>JAN PLATT: NO, BECAUSE THE PUBLIC HEARING WAS ADVERTISED UNTIL 12:00.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YOU'RE RIGHT.  
YOU'RE RIGHT.

>>GERALD WHITE: MEETING'S OVER.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YOU'RE RIGHT.

WE NEED TO -- MY SUGGESTION IS WE HAVE A MOTION TO --

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: WE NEED TO [INAUDIBLE]

>>GERALD WHITE: I WAS SAYING THE PUBLIC HEARING, NOT THE MEETING, NOT THE BOARD MEETING.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: THE PUBLIC HEARING.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: THE PUBLIC HEARING UNTIL WHEN?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: MONDAY --

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: MONDAY, AUGUST 2nd AT 6:00?

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YEP, AUGUST 2nd AT 6:00.

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: I MAKE A MOTION THEN.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: HAVE WE GOT A SECOND?

>>GERALD WHITE: SECOND.

SECOND.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

ALL IN FAVOR TO CONTINUE THIS PUBLIC HEARING --

>>GINA GRIMES: CAN WE START EARLIER SO WE DON'T RUN INTO THE NEXT HEARING?

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: I THINK IT'S ALREADY ADVERTISED AT

6:00.

>>GINA GRIMES: RIGHT.

YOU'RE RIGHT.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: OKAY.

WE'VE GOT A MOTION.

WE GOT A SECOND.

ANY DISCUSSION BEFORE WE VOTE?

ALL IN FAVOR OF HAVING -- CONTINUING THIS PUBLIC HEARING  
UNTIL MONDAY, AUGUST 2nd PLEASE RAISE YOUR RIGHT HAND.

ANYONE OPPOSED?

THEN THE MEETING --

>>GERALD WHITE: MR. CHAIRMAN.

>>GINA GRIMES: CAN WE TAKE IT UP AT THE VERY BEGINNING OF  
THE MEETING?

>>GERALD WHITE: MR. CHAIR, BEFORE WE CLOSE OUR REGULAR  
MEETING, I PUT SOME NEWS ARTICLES IN THE RECORD.

I WANT TO MAKE SURE THEY'RE PLACED INTO THE RECORD.

AND I KNOW WE'VE LOST TRACK OF OUR AGENDA, BUT I WOULD HOPE  
THAT WE CAN INVITE THE DIRECTOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION COMMISSION.

I DON'T KNOW IF HE'S BEEN SCHEDULED TO COME BEFORE OUR  
BOARD, AND ALSO, I DON'T THINK WE'VE INVITED THE INTERIM  
COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO COME BEFORE OUR BOARD.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WE'LL TALK -- WE CAN BRING THAT UP AT  
THE NEXT MEETING, AND WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO TRY TO PICK

UP --

>>JOSEPH ROBINSON: [INDISCERNIBLE CROSS TALK]

>> EXCUSE ME, CHAIRMAN THROWER, COULD YOU POSSIBLY APPROVE THE MINUTES.

>>GERALD WHITE: MAKE A MOTION WE APPROVE THE MINUTES.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: WELL, ACTUALLY, I DO HAVE A COMMENT ON THAT.

>> YES.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: BEFORE WE APPROVE THEM, I DID WANT TO MENTION ON JULY 12th'S MEETING MINUTES, IT SAID -- IN PUBLIC HEARING FOR JULY 12th.

THAT WAS A REGULAR MEETING, THAT WASN'T A PUBLIC HEARING.

THE PUBLIC HEARING WAS THE 13th, SO I DID WANT THAT

CORRECTION FOR --

>>JAN PLATT: WELL --

>>MITCHELL THROWER: -- JULY 12th MINUTES.

COMMISSIONER PLATT, DO YOU HAVE ANY CORRECTIONS?

>>JAN PLATT: WELL, I -- WE WERE ALL -- WE KEEP BEING GIVEN INFORMATION ABOUT WHAT WE PASSED REGARDING THE VETO, AND EVERY TIME IT'S BEEN WRONG AND IT'S BEEN WRONG.

IT'S WRONG AGAIN.

AND IT WAS IN -- I WOULD REFER TO THE JULY THE 13th MINUTES.

I MADE THE MOTION AND IT WAS SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER --

MR. WHITE, AND IT SAYS DIFFERENT ON THE VETO, AND SO THAT

NEEDS TO BE CHANGED.

AND FINALLY, THEY DID CHANGE WHICH ONE WE PASSED, AND I HOPE THAT THE CLERK'S OFFICE FOR THE VOTE -- SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS GOT THE RIGHT RESOLUTION THAT WE PASSED.

>>DEBORA CROMARTIE-MINCEY: THEY DID GET THE RIGHT RESOLUTION.

WE'RE JUST -- DEBORA CROMARTIE-MINCEY, COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE.

WE JUST NEED TO WORK ON THE VOTING RESULTS.

IF YOU DON'T MIND, I CAN ELABORATE.

>>JAN PLATT: NO.

WHY DON'T YOU JUST DO THAT NEXT TIME AND GET THAT TO US.

>>DEBORA CROMARTIE-MINCEY: OKAY.

>>GERALD WHITE: WE NEED THE RIGHT --

>> MOTION TO ADJOURN.

>>GERALD WHITE: -- WRITTEN RESOLUTION.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: YEAH.

MOTION TO ADJOURN.

>> SECOND.

>>MITCHELL THROWER: SECOND.

ALL IN FAVOR.

OKAY.

MEETING'S ADJOURNED.