## In the Matter of:

St. Johns County Airport Authority Regular Meeting

## REGULAR MEETING

June 16, 2025



1260 North Ponce de Leon Blvd., Suite E St Augustine, FL 32084 (904) 825-0570 www.staugcr.com ST. JOHNS COUNTY AIRPORT AUTHORITY

Regular Meeting

held in The Conference Center Meeting Room

4730 Casa Cola Way

St. Augustine, Florida

on Monday, June 16, 2025

from 4:00 p.m. to 6:35 p.m.

## BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

REBA LUDLOW, Chairman
DENNIS CLARKE, Treasurer
MICHELLE CASH-CHAPMAN
JENNIFER LIOTTA
LEN TUCKER

## ALSO PRESENT:

CINDY A. LAQUIDARA, ESQUIRE, Akerman, LLP, 50 North Laura Street, Suite 3100, Jacksonville, Florida, 32202, Interim General Counsel.

COURTNEY PITTMAN, Interim Executive Director.

JANET M. BEASON, RPR, RMR, CRR
St. Augustine Court Reporters
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1	INDEX	
2		PAGE
3	CALL TO ORDER	3
4	PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE	3
5	ROLL CALL	3
6	MINUTES APPROVAL	5
7	AGENDA APPROVAL	8
8	BUSINESS PARTNER UPDATES	12
9	CONSENT AGENDA	
10	Financial Report	15
11	NEW BUSINESS ITEMS:	
12	Review of General Counsel RFQ Responses Authorization to Replace Airport Vehicles	24 Tabled
13	STAFF REPORTS	Tabled
14	Courtney Pittman, Interim Executive Director	Tabled
15	_	
16	PUBLIC COMMENT - GENERAL	Tabled
17	MEMBER COMMENTS AND REPORTS	Tabled
18	ADJOURNMENT	143
19	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE	144
20	ERRATA SHEET	145
21		
22		
23		
24		
25		

1	PROCEEDINGS	
2	CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: It's 4:00, and it is time to	
3	call the meeting to order, please. What is it,	
4	June 16th, 2025, and we are calling the meeting to	
5	order. Thank you. Would you please stand for the	
6	Pledge?	
7	(Pledge of Allegiance).	
8	CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Thank you. Turn your cell	
9	phone off. Even me.	
10	ROLL CALL	
11	CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay. We're going to do	
12	roll call and then I would like to introduce our	
13	guests today.	
14	So, Ms. Cash-Chapman?	
15	MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Present.	
16	CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Mr. Clarke, he's going to be	
17	late, but I think he will show up. Ms. Liotta?	
18	MS. LIOTTA: Here.	
19	CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Mr. Tucker?	
20	MR. TUCKER: Here.	
21	CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Ms. Ludlow, here. So we	
22	have four out of the five, so we definitely have a	
23	quorum.	
24	And at this time, I'd like to welcome a	
25	guests, and that I want to thank the tenants and	

stakeholders for being here. 1 Boy, some of you guys 2 really tough it out with us, don't you? And that's 3 a good thing. 4 So would the quests please stand up and state 5 your name? No? Madam Chair, are you referring 6 MS. LAQUIDARA: 7 to the respondents to the request for proposals for legal counsel? 8 9 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Can I just call them quests at this point? 10 11 I'm just MS. LAQUIDARA: Yes, you can. 12 clarifying that's who you're asking to stand up. 13 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Yes, yes, yes. 14 Thank you. MS. HODGES: So --15 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Name and --16 MS. HODGES: Lawsikia Hodges, office of 17 general counsel Smith, Gambrell & Russell, LLP. 18 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Thank you. 19 Kem L. Marks, Esquire. MS. MARKS: 20 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay. 21 MR. WALKER: And you've got Christopher Walker 22 and Jeffrey Kempf from Lippes Mathias. 23 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Jeffrey. Thank you. 24 MS. BACH: Tammi Bach from Trask Daigneault. 25 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Thank you.

MR. JENNISON: Peter Jennison, The Jennison 1 2 Firm. St. Augustine. 3 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Thank you. We're really 4 happy to have you here. Nice to see some new 5 faces. MINUTES APPROVAL 6 7 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: So we will carry on. So, the first thing on the agenda would be the approval 8 of the minutes from May 19th, 2025 board meeting. 9 10 Are there any additions/corrections to the minutes? 11 Ms. Liotta. 12 I have a correction. MS. LIOTTA: 13 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Yes. 14 MS. LIOTTA: At the last meeting, I made a 15 statement laying out why I believed in support of a motion to -- for the board to take up the agenda 16 17 item of the possible termination of Mr. Pittman, 18 and in part of that statement, I talked about a 19 dual employment that the board was unaware of, and 20 I stated that that dual employment was with the 21 tower operator, Robinson Aviation, and I referred 22 to Robinson as a contractor to the airport. 23 was incorrect to the extent that Robinson Aviation 24 is a contractor for the FAA, not for the airport 25 directly.

```
Otherwise, I believe that everything in my
 1
 2
     statement I still believe is true and correct and I
 3
               The -- I believe the core of this board
 4
     is to provide quide -- policy quidance and
 5
     oversight of the staff, and if we're not willing to
     do all of our job of -- we should look at ourselves
 6
     hard in the mirror and decide if we should be on
 7
     this board.
 8
 9
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Thank you. We will adjust
10
     the minutes as requested.
11
          MR. TUCKER:
                       Move to approve.
12
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: We need to approve?
13
          MR. TUCKER:
                       Move to approve.
14
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Move to approve. So all in
15
     favor to correct the minutes, please say aye.
16
     Wait.
17
          MS. LAQUIDARA:
                          May I? I'm sorry.
18
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Please.
                                     No, that's your
19
     job.
20
             (Mr. Clarke enters the room.)
                          The -- correcting what was
21
          MS. LAOUIDARA:
22
     said, the minutes reflect what was said --
23
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
24
          MS. LAQUIDARA: -- and so, if what was said
25
     was -- was not correctly noted, that's when we
```

1 amend it. 2 If you want a clarification of what was said 3 because of subsequent knowledge, I would just 4 mention that at the board meeting. It's in the 5 minutes for this meeting. Okay. Thank you. So I quess I 6 MS. LIOTTA: can just make a clarification, not a correction, 7 because what -- I'm sure I didn't say that what the 8 9 court reporter took down was incorrect as to my 10 statements at the time. They -- I had subsequent 11 knowledge that corrected a misunderstanding I had 12 as to the tower. 13 MR. TUCKER: Then I -- then I move to approve 14 the minutes as submitted. MS. LAQUIDARA: Thank you. 15 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Yes, thank you. And all in 16 favor, say aye again as amended. And welcome, 17 18 Dennis. 19 MR. CLARKE: Thank you. Sorry I'm late. 20 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: And now we have a full 21 house, all five members. 22 MS. LAQUIDARA: Was there a vote for the 23 minutes? CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: I said -- oh, we have to 24 25 vote again? I just said all in favor, say aye.

```
1
                                              I'm not
          MS. LAOUIDARA:
                          Okay.
                                 I'm sorry.
 2
     sure that we caught that.
 3
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay.
                                   So, all in --
 4
          THE COURT REPORTER:
                               I didn't get the second.
 5
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: All in -- okay.
 6
          THE COURT REPORTER: Whoever seconded, I
 7
     didn't --
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: I'll second the motion to
 8
 9
     approve the minutes.
10
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay.
                                   We have a first and a
11
     second to approve the minutes as amended. All in
12
     favor, say aye.
13
          MR. CLARKE:
                       Aye.
14
          MS. LIOTTA:
                       Aye.
15
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             Aye.
16
          MR. TUCKER:
                       Aye.
17
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Aye. Does that do it?
18
     Okay. It takes a village.
                                 Thank you.
19
                    AGENDA APPROVAL
20
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay. So we have our
21
     minutes approval. Next thing on the agenda is
22
     agenda approval. So, does anyone have any
23
     additions or deletions or want to change anything
24
     on the agenda?
25
          MS. LIOTTA:
                       I -- I have --
```

CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Please ask -- yes. 1 2 MS. LIOTTA: I would like to make a motion to 3 add an agenda item for the exec- -- executive 4 director search. 5 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: You know what? Let me clarify that, please. 6 I was just reading that to make a motion to 7 change something on the agenda, if it was something 8 9 that had come up before, then it should have been 10 answered before the meeting. 11 MS. LAQUIDARA: The -- the -- you're in a very 12 technical area. Only if it had been brought up for 13 a vote and -- and voted down, then under 14 legislative rules, but I'd have to look at your 15 bylaws, it could not be brought up again. 16 My recollection is at the last board meeting, 17 it was a motion to terminate him that day, as opposed to today's motion is to start a search, 18 19 which does not necessarily implicate terminating 20 Mr. Pittman; it just has a search. So I think it's 21 slightly different. 22 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okav. 23 MS. LIOTTA: Yeah. And for clarification, the 24 board made a -- there was a -- a vote last year, I 25 believe it was at the December meeting, on this

```
1
     topic, and since then, there -- it's old business
 2
     essentially that I would like to -- that has not
 3
     been put on recent agendas, and I think it would be
 4
     useful for the board to look into the status and
 5
     move it forward.
                                    So we need a motion,
 6
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                             Okay.
     a first and second, to add to the agenda search for
 7
     executive director. Do I have a first and a
 8
 9
     second?
10
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                              I'll second.
11
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                             We don't -- yours is first?
     You made the motion.
12
13
          MS. LIOTTA:
                      (Nods head.)
14
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                              That was her motion.
15
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                             And you're the second?
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
16
                              Yes.
17
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                             So we have a first and a
     second to add executive search to the agenda.
18
19
     in favor, say aye.
20
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                              Aye.
21
          MR. TUCKER:
                        Aye.
22
          MS. LIOTTA:
                       Aye.
23
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                             Aye.
                                   Any opposed?
24
          MR. CLARKE:
                              I'm opposed.
                       Aye.
25
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                             Okay.
                                    We have four ayes and
```

```
one no, so the ayes have it.
                                    So we will add that
 1
 2
     to the agenda under I guess as number three before
 3
     staff reports.
 4
          Because then we'll start staff reports,
 5
     counsel reports, then board member comments and
           So we will do it after -- after number two,
 6
     so it will be number two and a half. Are there any
 7
     other changes to the agenda?
 8
 9
                         (None.)
10
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                             Then I need a first and a
11
     second to approve.
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: I make a motion to approve
12
13
     today's agenda reflecting the changes we just made.
14
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                             Second?
15
          MS. LIOTTA:
                       I'll second.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: We have a first and a second
16
17
     to approve the agenda as adding the change.
                                                    All in
18
     favor, say aye.
19
          MR. CLARKE:
                       Aye.
20
          MS. LIOTTA:
                       Aye.
21
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                              Aye.
22
          MR. TUCKER:
                       Aye.
23
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                             Aye.
                                   Any opposed?
24
                         (None.)
                             So it passes five to zero.
25
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
```

1	So we have the agenda set. Thank you.
2	BUSINESS PARTNER UPDATES
3	CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Our next thing on the agenda
4	would be is the fun part. Business partner
5	up it's so nice to have a fun part after you go
6	through the other part. So our business partner
7	updates. Ms. Ann Taylor? Oh.
8	MS. SANTIAGO: Unfortunately she had a prior
9	commitment.
10	CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Oh, okay. We'll miss her.
11	Okay. Mr. Vinny Beyers?
12	MR. BEYERS: No comment.
13	CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Vinny is here. He said no
14	comment. Mr. Brent McCammon?
15	MR. RIERA: On his behalf.
16	CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Yeah. Name and address.
17	MR. RIERA: Jose Riera, 133 Paranza Trace.
18	I'm taking place of Brent McCammon right now.
19	He could not make it here. I am doing this on
20	behalf of SAAPA.
21	Basically, the first thing we have is we had a
22	successful Wings n' Wheels. From the aviation
23	side, it was successful in the sense that we
24	completed the show without any incidents.
25	There were a couple of hiccups, and my request

25

at the moment is to have the Airport Authority or 1 2 the executive director to convene a meeting so we 3 can have a hogwash in order to discuss what went 4 well and what didn't so we can solve the problem. 5 Otherwise, we're going to continue having those -these little hiccups that are going to create more 6 7 as the event grows larger and larger. So I would request that meeting. 8 9 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: I would -- I was request --10 I was corrected to say a debrief. not requested. 11 We need a good debrief. 12 MR. RIERA: Yes, we do. Hogwash, as we call it in some other areas. A good debrief. 13 And I'd 14 like to have it done before the end of the month when it is really fresh in our minds --15 16 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Yes. 17 MR. RIERA: -- because it's really important that we have a lot of these little issues taken 18 19 care of. 20 In regards to other things, I'm going to put 21 my Coast Guard hat on right now, so Coast Guard 22 Auxiliary. Basically we're having two weeks away 23 from Operation Dry Water. So all of you that are 24 boaters, if you go out on the water during the 4th

of July weekend, be aware that there's going to be

```
a full force taking care of any boaters that are
 1
 2
     driving under the influence, boating under the
 3
     influence and there'll be stiff penalties. So, if
     you're boating, wear your life jackets, avoid
 4
 5
     alcohol, and boat safely. We're going to be out
     there in -- enforcing the rules of the boats.
 6
          Other than that, Wings n' Wheels is the main
 7
     thing that I wanted to discuss and please let's
 8
 9
     have a meeting as soon as possible. Thank you.
10
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Wings n' Wheels was a very
11
     great success. Just off the top of my head, this
12
     isn't accurate, but we had like -- actually, we can
13
     get it accurate. I thought we had about 150 cars
14
     and about 22 planes, correct, Ethan?
15
          MR. TUCKER: I thought it was closer to 300.
16
          MR. COLL: Yes, ma'am. We had like over 500
17
     cars, over 3,000 people, and I believe 22 planes.
18
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Oh, my goodness.
                                              That was
19
                  That was a great success.
     (clapping).
                                             Thank you
20
     so much. I tell you, it gets bigger and better all
21
     the time. We get smarter, too.
22
          So, I see you, Nate. So thank you, Jose.
                                                     And
23
     Nate McKendrick from Northrop Grumman is here
24
     today.
25
          MR. McKENDRICK:
                           I'm here today taking notes,
```

but thank you, I don't have anything to add. 1 2 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: To report? 3 MR. McKENDRICK: Nothing, no. It's all top 4 secret. 5 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Well, we're happy to see your face, for sure. 6 7 MR. McKENDRICK: Thanks. CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: And Mr. Reid Deputy? 8 9 isn't here. 10 MR. CLARKE: No, he's not here. 11 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay. So he is our AOPA 12 representative. So we've had our business partner 13 updates. We're happy to have all of you here and I 14 our quests. 15 FINANCIAL REPORT CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: And so, our -- well, I guess 16 17 we have our financial report next. So -- and I 18 took it off the consent agenda because it 19 anticipated questions. So, do we have any 20 questions on the financial report as presented? 21 Thank you. 22 MR. TUCKER: Yeah, I had several questions. 23 One, I noticed that we had approximately a two and a half million dollar decline in grant revenue 24 25 from both federal and state. I was wanting to get

an overview of what was going on there. 1 2 And then the next item was, our fuel service 3 revenue is off by about 11 percent from the 4 previous year and I wanted to get an update on what 5 was going on there because it appeared to me, looking at the fuel statistics, that there was a 6 7 substantial change starting in January --MR. PITTMAN: Right. 8 9 MR. TUCKER: -- when the fuel really went 10 offline and went way down. So those two items are 11 the ones I've got questions on. 12 MR. PITTMAN: I'll introduce you to Connie 13 Worley. She's our comptroller. 14 MR. TUCKER: Okay. Hi. So let's talk about the 15 MS. WORLEY: grant question first. 16 17 If you would look at the budget that was presented last year, it included five different 18 19 projects that was assumed to occur. Only one of 20 those is being constructed right now. If all three -- all five of those had 21 22 occurred, we would have a substantial amount of 23 grant revenue. Unfortunately, we only have the one 24 project going on right now, and that gives us a 25 budget shortfall of \$3.4 million in grant revenue.

If we're not building, we can't request the grant 1 2 reimbursements. 3 The second question you had was? 4 MR. TUCKER: The fuel revenue. 5 Starting in January, just looking at the numbers from year-to-date this year versus last 6 year, they were positive up until January. 7 January, all of a sudden, they took a tremendous 8 9 decline, like about a 35 percent decline from the 10 other year. 11 MS. WORLEY: Oh, okay. 12 So, Mr. Tucker, this part MR. PITTMAN: Yes. 13 I will speak to. 14 All right. So, in January is when the tower 15 had a shortage in staffing. So we had several complaints about the -- from the tenants around the 16 17 airport and elsewhere around, maybe within a hundred nautical miles, that services were being 18 19 declined as far as touch-and-goes, full-stop 20 taxi-backs, and things of nature because at the 21 time, the tower had only one person in there and 22 due to safety concerns, they limited the flow of 23 traffic. 24 So if you look at the ops report along with 25 the fuel, it's connected. And so, with them

being -- now they are actually two people short. 1 2 That just happened here recently. 3 So with the shortage and we had complaints --4 if you look at the new last month, I think it was 5 Jax 4 news, they actually did a -- ran a special on it because they asked me for an interview. 6 ran a special on it right outside the conference 7 building talking about the shortage in -- with 8 9 tower personnel. 10 Like, so that's what the domino effect with 11 the shortage of -- I'm sorry, with services not 12 being provided. And the Putnam -- so, for example, 13 Florida Flyers ended up going to Palatka and 14 fueling there and doing their touch-and-goes there, 15 and so that subsequently affected us here at 16 St. Augustine Airport. MR. TUCKER: Well, and I also heard that the 17 18 Palatka fuel price was significantly less than 19 ours. 20 MR. PITTMAN: Yeah, I researched it. It is --21 it is less than ours. But they have -- they're a 22 different type of airport. They're not a 139 23 airport, they don't have all the services and 24 things that we provide here at this airport. 25 So, yes, based on the way the design of the

```
airport and the requirements of the airport, they
 1
 2
     are able to beat us out on price, but they don't
 3
     provide what we provide.
 4
          MR. TUCKER: Yeah, but as long as
 5
     Florida Flyers is there, I'm sure they're going
 6
     to --
                        I have a plan for that.
 7
          MR. PITTMAN:
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: So what is their fuel price
 8
 9
     now?
10
          MR. PITTMAN:
                        The fuel price now is, if I
11
     remember correctly, $4.95 with the tax. So we went
12
            So, if you -- if you want me to discuss it
13
     now, I will, or if you want me to wait for the
14
     staff report.
15
          MR. TUCKER: The staff report is fine.
16
          MR. PITTMAN: Okay. I'll stay in case you
17
     have any more questions about finance.
18
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Thank you. Everyone's
19
     really happy to see that. Are there any questions?
20
          MS. LIOTTA: Yeah, I've got questions.
21
          Thank you to Mr. Tucker because I had similar
22
     concerns about the fuel. And not the -- if we're
23
     going to revisit that, I'd like to break that down
24
    between what might be attributed to jet fuel sales
25
     versus avgas, if I'm saying that right, because
```

```
obviously Florida Flyers is not consuming jet
 1
 2
     fuel --
 3
          MR. PITTMAN: Correct.
 4
          MS. LIOTTA: -- so there may be multiple
 5
     factors going on.
          One question I had on the -- of concern I had
 6
     on the financials is that we -- the airport
 7
     continues to blow its budget on professional
 8
 9
     development.
10
          The budgeted amount for the entire fiscal year
11
     was -- what was it -- a little over $5,000, I
12
     believe. Excuse me, under $5,000. And as for the
13
     March report, it showed we are -- it was spending a
     hair under $14,000. And this month, we're being
14
15
     presented with financials showing that it is now
16
     16,300 and change.
17
          So that math is about almost $3,000 of
18
     additional over-budget spending in one month.
19
     I'd like an explanation of why we're over budget,
20
     where that's been going, and -- and specifically
21
     which staff.
22
          MR. PITTMAN: Okay. So when it comes to the
23
     budget of last year, we all remember how the budget
24
     was done last year. It didn't really capture the
25
     airport; it was done in a pinch with an outside
```

vendor who did our budget, right? And so, there 1 2 were certain things that were unable to be done and 3 certain things unable to be captured. To be honest 4 with you, there's a lot of things that went up this 5 year based off the budget across the board. Now, to professional services, one, we have 6 7 the branding that's going on. MS. LIOTTA: I'm sorry. Let me correct it. 8 9 Professional development. I'm not asking 10 about lawyer fees or other outside. I'm talking 11 about professional development, which my 12 understanding is it's training, it's going to 13 conventions, different things like that. And I 14 didn't ask for a narrative on why the bud- -- the 15 number --16 MR. PITTMAN: Yeah. MS. LIOTTA: -- was what it was, I'm just 17 asking for the information of what are we spending 18 19 it on and for whom. 20 MR. PITTMAN: All right. So some of the 21 professional development's for me. So going to --22 getting the trainings, the AAAE, the SSI. And then 23 we have also have customer service and different 24 things for our staff. So most of the professional 25 development is for me.

```
1
          MS. LIOTTA: And how is that getting dealt
 2
     with on a -- is that on a reimbursement basis?
 3
     the airport paying the fees in advance? How is --
 4
     how is that getting done?
 5
          MR. PITTMAN: All right. So, no, the airport
     isn't paying the fees in advance.
 6
 7
                       So it's on a reimbursement basis?
          MS. LIOTTA:
          MR. PITTMAN:
                        No, that is a monthly fee.
 8
 9
          MS. LIOTTA:
                       So have you been providing
10
     receipts to the airport to show that this is going
11
     to professional development costs?
12
                        Yes.
          MR. PITTMAN:
13
          MS. LIOTTA:
                       And that those would be available
     for review?
14
          MR. PITTMAN:
15
                        Yes.
16
          MS. LIOTTA:
                       Okav.
                              Thank you.
17
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Thank you. Any other
18
     questions?
19
                        (None.)
20
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: We'll carry on.
                                              Thank you.
21
     Was that it?
22
                       Any other questions?
          MS. WORLEY:
23
                        (None.)
24
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay. Good. Well, thank
25
     you. Good to see you. We -- she got moved to
```

```
another building, so we don't get to see her as
 1
 2
     much as we did. We miss her and that one, that's
 3
                Okay. Anything else on the financial
     for sure.
 4
     report?
 5
                        (None.)
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: So, our first item is review
 6
     of general counsel RFQ responses. So, do you want
 7
     to speak to that first or should -- I can't hear
 8
 9
     you.
10
          MR. PITTMAN: You want to vote on the
11
     financials, to accept the financials?
12
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: I need to vote?
                                              Okav.
     So -- okay.
13
          MR. CLARKE: We need to vote on the
14
15
     financials.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: So, the -- thank you,
16
17
     Jennifer, for your question and your clarification.
18
     That was very good for all of us.
19
          So, may I have a first and second to accept
20
     the financials as received?
21
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: I make a motion to accept
22
     the financials as received.
23
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Second?
24
          MR. CLARKE: I'll second.
                            We have a first and a
25
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
```

```
1
              Any discussion?
     second.
 2
                         (None.)
 3
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: So all in favor, say aye.
 4
          MR. CLARKE:
                       Aye.
 5
          MS. LIOTTA:
                       Aye.
 6
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                            Ave.
 7
          MR. TUCKER:
                       Aye.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Aye. Any opposed?
 8
 9
                         (None.)
10
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            So the financial report is
11
     approved as presented. Thank you very much.
12
        REVIEW OF GENERAL COUNSEL RFO RESPONSES
13
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Our -- our number one item
14
     is review of general counsel, pardon me, RFO
15
     responses. So, are you going to talk and then
     introduce?
16
17
          MR. PITTMAN: Yes, I'll talk first, if it's
18
     okay, Madam Chair.
19
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                             Okay.
20
          MR. PITTMAN: You just go up and down.
21
     Madam Chair, if I may.
22
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                             Thank you.
23
          MR. PITTMAN: I want to talk about the
24
     process.
25
          So, we have the RF- -- the RFP process for
```

legal counsel services. First thing we did is we 1 2 put out the advertisement, as you see in 1.139. 3 put out the advertisement after we received the 4 instruction from the board. If you'll scroll down, 5 please. Scroll down, please. All right. So now we received the proposals 6 from all the potential respondents to the RFP and 7 we notified them. As you see at 1.140, all 8 proposals received shall be affixed with a date and 9 10 timestamp attesting to receipt by the Authority. 11 All proposals re -- delivered after the advertised 12 date and time will not be accepted. We took 13 pictures and notified the individuals that we 14 received what they have. Now, we're in Section 1.141, the review 15 16 committee. For a full transparency, I submitted --17 I gave the proposals to the board for them to review to have time. Also --18 19 I'm sorry. May -- may I? MS. LAOUIDARA: 20 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Yes. Excuse me. 21 MR. PITTMAN: Uh-huh. 22 Procedurally, in the RFO, as MS. LAOUIDARA: 23 is not unusual, there wasn't a review committee or 24 evaluation matrix for a review committee to rank them before they came to the board, so that the 25

```
1
     staff didn't have the authority to rank the
 2
     respondents --
 3
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Right.
 4
          MS. LAQUIDARA: -- and bring them to you --
 5
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Right.
          MS. LAOUIDARA: -- which is different from
 6
     what's anticipated.
 7
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                             Oh.
 8
 9
          MS. LAOUIDARA: Under the procurement code,
10
     it -- it talks about you have a review committee
11
     that's in the sunshine, et cetera. But you didn't
12
     have that here.
13
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Right.
14
          MS. LAQUIDARA: So the RFOs are coming
15
     directly to you, having been checked by staff to
     ensure they were all timely and compliant.
16
17
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                             That's right.
18
          MR. PITTMAN:
                        Correct.
19
                                    So you will
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay.
20
     correct --
21
                        Thank you, general counsel.
          MR. PITTMAN:
22
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                             Okav.
          MR. PITTMAN: And so, that is where we are at
23
24
     today.
25
          So we -- we didn't have, as she stated, in the
```

RFO the evaluation criteria as in a point grading 1 2 scale or anything to that effect, all right? 3 again, that is why we shared them. 4 So with there being, if I recall correctly, five submissions, it says, if you scroll down one 5 more, that at Section 1.143, a short list is 6 supposed to be developed and recommended order of 7 preference of no fewer than three firms deemed to 8 be most qualified to perform solicited services 9 10 shall be made to the Airport Authority by the 11 executive director. 12 Then on 1.144, an agenda item, the executive 13 director will prepare an agenda item listing the 14 firms in order of qualification, rank order, for acceptance in its discretion and the 15 16 Airport Authority may, and I'm almost done, accept 17 the recommended firms from the executive director's listing, require an oral presentation from the 18 19 short-listed firms, add or delete the firms from 20 the executive director's listing. 21 Airport Authority will approve rank order of 22 form -- firms for future contract negotiations. 23 Now, why did I say that? This is for 24 transparency and to put it on the record, right? 25 Because of the RFQ process, I invited these

```
attorneys to come here, and at the board's
 1
 2
     discretion, for you-all to determine the course of
 3
     the path that you want to chart going forward.
 4
     Whether you want us to do a committee headed by me
 5
     and I'll have the general counsel or if --
                          Madam Chair?
 6
          MS. LAQUIDARA:
          MR. PITTMAN: -- you move forward, I can set
 7
     it back here and we'll move forward.
 8
 9
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Excuse me.
10
          MS. LAQUIDARA: Madam Chair, the RFOs went out
11
     stating that the board is going to select counsel
12
     in your discretion. Those are the terms in which
13
     people submitted these forms. So it can't go to
14
     staff to be ranked at this point. You'd have to
15
     reject all responses, not recommended, you'd have
     to reject all responses and then reissue them with
16
17
     a committee and criteria and come to you.
18
          And it's just you -- you clearly want to pick
19
     your own counsel. And so I'm not saying there was
20
     an error when it went out. It went -- goes
21
     directly to.
                   So no, you -- you cannot at this
22
     point ask the staff to evaluate them in accordance
23
     with criteria that are new after people already
24
     submitted.
25
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Exactly. And what I --
```

21

2.2

23

24

25

what -- the way I understood it is we got the -- we 1 2 got the -- the board -- the resumes were 3 distributed by the executive director, the board 4 should grade and rank them, and then we get -- we 5 get back -- I guess we tell the executive director to get in touch with these -- the people that we 6 decide for interviews and then we have individual. 7 Usually we had an interview -- we would invite a 8 couple of people for interviews and each board 9 10 member was assigned a time to speak with the 11 person. 12 All right. MS. LAOUIDARA: 13 MS. LIOTTA: As point of clarification, I 14 think you might be getting confused with the prior history of doing the executive director search, and 15 16 that is where we did have individual candidates who 17 were kind of the top two/three that were going to be interviewed, have the time to speak with 18 19 individual board members. 20

My recollection of the last time we did a general counsel search was it was more of a situation like this where the board had been provided all of the responses and people from the different firms or solo practitioners showed up at the meeting and we just talked about it and people

got up and -- from the various respondents and gave a very short -- I think they were given up to maybe ten minutes, but most people didn't use that amount of time, as I recall. And then as uncomfortable as it is to talk about people in front of them in a situation like this, that's what we did, and we made our -- our first choice and we did that both for general counsel services and aviation counsel services.

CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay. I agree, but I don't think that our candidates have been informed that they would be doing a presentation today.

MS. LAQUIDARA: The -- what the candidates were informed is that they submitted proposals and you are going to decide today.

CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Oh.

MS. LAQUIDARA: As long as you treat them all fairly here and ask them questions, which you can't do which -- because of the manner in which the RFQ is drafted, which is I think what's troubling you, is you can't have the meetings outside of the sunshine as you have with architects or engineers where you negotiate and ask questions, because that would have had to have been put in the RFQ.

And because it wasn't and because lawyers are

```
used to speaking with the other side there all the
 1
 2
     time, that's, you know, what we do, as painful as
 3
     it is to listen to the other side, we -- we do --
 4
     they're used to it.
 5
          And so, if you want to talk with them as
     opposed to just look at it, everybody has a right
 6
     to stay here in the room and -- and can't be asked
 7
     to leave, and then you can ask each entity to come
 8
 9
     up and give a few minutes' spiel and then ask some
10
     questions --
11
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay.
12
          MS. LAQUIDARA: -- if you like, based on the
13
     written submissions.
14
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: And -- and so we ask the
15
     others to stand outside while we --
          MS. LAQUIDARA: We can't -- I'm sorry.
16
                                                   Wе
17
     can't because that limitation was not put in the
18
     RFO --
19
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Oh, I see.
                                         I see.
20
          MS. LAQUIDARA: -- and the statute is very
21
     clear on this, that you can't ask people to step
22
     out if you haven't set that process.
23
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Right.
24
          MS. LAQUIDARA: It's a very detailed process.
25
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            So, I hope they're prepared
```

```
that -- I'm sure they didn't know they were going
 1
 2
     to be doing a presentation today --
 3
          MS. LAQUIDARA:
                          Well --
 4
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: -- did they?
 5
          MS. LAOUIDARA: -- I don't think anybody's
     expecting a formal presentation or PowerPoints,
 6
 7
     dancing bears, any of that.
          I think what -- what they're going to do is
 8
 9
     introduce themselves and if you have a question,
10
     maybe they'll state their philosophy on what they
11
     do, where they are, how they approach the boards,
12
     in a few minutes as they did last time. If board
13
     members have a suggestion, you're welcome to of
14
     course refine the questions among you and -- and
15
     have those questions answered.
16
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: But we vote today?
17
          MS. LAQUIDARA:
                          If you want to.
                                           It was
18
     noticed today. It's an odd procedure, but it has
     been noticed that it's coming in front of the
19
20
     board. It is an action item. It doesn't have to
21
     be voted today.
22
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Right.
                                    I see.
23
          MS. LAQUIDARA: You certainly can think about
24
     it, and the board -- I think the board members
25
     might each have some input on the process they
```

```
It's very awkward the way it is, I think --
 1
     want.
 2
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Right.
 3
          MS. LAQUIDARA: -- I can tell you that, but
 4
     the law doesn't let you add requirements --
 5
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            After.
          MS. LAQUIDARA: -- after people have already
 6
 7
     submitted.
                            I understand.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                                            Thank you.
 8
 9
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             Can I ask a question?
10
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Michelle?
11
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Would it be appropriate for
12
     us to, after we go through these five
13
     introductions -- because this is a really important
14
     decision for us to make, would it be appropriate
     for us to narrow down and make that short list
15
     tonight and then invite, you know, our top two or
16
17
     three, whatever we decide, back for a little bit
18
     more of an extensive presentation?
                                         Because quite
19
     frankly --
20
          MS. LAQUIDARA:
                          Yes.
21
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: -- I don't -- I mean, we
22
     all know how long an interview can go, and I don't
23
     want to do a real quick: Hi, it's so nice to meet
24
     you, answer these three questions, now we're going
25
     to pick the future of our airport based on those
```

three questions. If we could make that short list 1 2 and then give them some time to prepare and us some 3 time to kind of --4 MS. LAQUIDARA: That would be helpful because 5 then you could actually do a notice of intent to award, which is a process that one typically sees 6 in a multistep. This usually is multi steps. 7 So if the board is able to reach a short list 8 9 decision today, you could, again, because you can't 10 change the requirements of the RFQ, people will be 11 able to listen to each other. But anybody who's 12 thwarted by listening to somebody else's, I think 13 able counsel in this room, I don't see anybody who's going to have -- have a problem competing 14 15 under those conditions, and you'll have free rein 16 to ask follow-ups and all. 17 So if you could do that process, if you get a 18 motion or a second on that process, to get it that 19 far today, rank, and then bring back for your 20 decision, you -- you certainly are able to do that. 21 MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Okay. So we would need to 22 make a motion to do that prior to us --23 MS. LAOUIDARA: Yes. 24 MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: -- listening to their introductions? 25 Okay. I would like --

```
Are you ready to make --
 1
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
 2
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Yeah, is that -- were you
 3
     okay?
 4
          I'd like to make a motion to come up with a
     short list based on the five candidates that are
 5
     here for -- responding to the RFO so that we can
 6
     make a short list and invite them back for a proper
 7
    presentation at a special meeting.
 8
 9
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            After we listen to their
10
    presentation --
11
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Correct.
12
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            -- today.
13
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Uh-huh.
14
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay. So we listen to their
15
     presentation today and then we make a short list
     and invite the -- I know what I'm saying, it's just
16
     kind of embarrassing. I'm -- I'm afraid --
17
18
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Maybe invite our top two
19
     back for --
20
                       The intent -- the intent to hire.
          MR. CLARKE:
21
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay. So comment, Dennis?
22
          MR. CLARKE: I believe our general counsel
23
     could clarify that the next thing would be to,
24
     after we make a short list, issue a or publish an
25
     intent to appoint?
```

```
A notice of intent and --
 1
          MS. LAOUIDARA:
 2
                       Notice of intent, okay.
          MR. CLARKE:
 3
          MS. LAQUIDARA: -- then you would decide at
 4
     the next meeting if you're not comfortable deciding
 5
     today.
             If you rank them one, two, and three today,
     then the notice of intent is to award it to the
 6
 7
     first person, you -- you've made that decision --
          MR. CLARKE:
 8
                       Okay.
 9
          MS. LAOUIDARA: -- based on what you have
10
     here.
11
          MR. CLARKE:
                       Okay.
12
          MS. LAQUIDARA: If not, if you're just hearing
13
     presentations today and you want to rank them next
14
     time, select number one and direct staff to reach
15
     an agreement with them, you can certainly do that.
16
          So hear them today, hear part of it today,
17
     hear them again with more notice, and then select
18
     one and rank the others.
                               The ranking is important
19
     so that you -- in case somebody wanted to file a
20
     protest.
21
          MR. CLARKE:
                       Okay.
22
                          It has to do with the right
          MS. LAOUIDARA:
23
     to -- to file one.
24
          MR. CLARKE: I'm comfortable with that
25
     approach.
```

MS. LIOTTA: 1 T --2 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Comment? 3 MS. LIOTTA: I think we might be putting the 4 cart before the horse a little bit. We haven't 5 discussed among ourselves if we have any initial reactions to any of these. We may find ourselves 6 more of at a consensus than we think. I don't 7 know, we haven't talked about it. 8 9 Also, after we hear from -- after we have a 10 little bit of discussion, we may as a group decide 11 that we've got some questions that we want, that we 12 can then ask every single person who's here what 13 their responses are, which again may lead us to a consensus quickly and, you know, having more 14 information before we decide how we're going to 15 16 deal with this matter. 17 I -- I would be more comfortable doing --18 doing that than saying, oh, we're not going to make 19 a decision today. We may actually find enough 20 information to do that today. And I -- I agree. 21 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: 22 I thought, you know, our RFOs were passed to 23 all of us and then I thought that we would get together, we would grade -- we would rank them, and 24 25 then when we have our workshop or the board -- when

```
we had another meeting, then we would ask those --
 1
 2
     the ones we decide to come back for interviews,
 3
     so...
 4
          MS. LAQUIDARA: So, if I --
 5
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Please.
          MS. LAQUIDARA: May I? And I really am sorry
 6
     this is so -- it's very difficult --
 7
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Yeah.
 8
 9
          MS. LAOUIDARA: -- that you're wrestling with
10
     it when -- when it doesn't come up in the usual
11
     form.
12
          So, what I'm hearing is -- is perhaps a
13
     general discussion among the board members of what
14
     they've done, how they want to proceed, just
15
     generally have they looked at them, is there
     somebody that -- that automatically, someone say,
16
17
     well, you know what, I see a clear front-runner, I
18
     see a clear two or three front-runners, and may
19
     make -- want to make a motion on that.
20
     passed, then the board would then have a narrower
21
     field that they might want to ask people to
22
     discuss.
               So there's no quarantee of interviews or
23
     things --
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: So, today we can -- we can
24
25
     introduce them and hear their presentations if they
```

```
were ready -- I'm sorry, guys -- if they were
 1
 2
     ready, and then the board will -- will rank
 3
     their -- each individual board member will rank
 4
     their own, and then the board will get back
 5
     together and bring it -- no.
          MS. LAQUIDARA: I think what the board does
 6
     have to do -- because clearly nobody's violated the
 7
     Sunshine Law, nobody's talked about it --
 8
 9
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Yeah.
10
          MS. LAQUIDARA: -- and we're here today
11
     wrestling with it for the first time. I think what
12
     the board does want to do is discuss, as
13
     Ms. Chapman has, here's one process.
                                           Ms. Liotta
14
     said, well, maybe there's another process that we
15
     have.
16
          So if -- I think the board needs to discuss
17
     what process they want to use, make a motion on
18
     one, have a second, discussion, and see if it
19
     passed. And we have two processes, as I just
20
             It got a little unwieldy procedurally, so
     heard.
21
     if somebody wants to make one of those as a motion.
22
          MS. LIOTTA:
                       I can restate my process --
23
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: I think what Ms. Liotta is
24
     saying makes more sense. I didn't know if we had
25
     to make the motion before or after, but I think it
```

makes the most sense to hear the five introductions
and then we can decide among ourselves if we're
making a decision tonight or if we're going to
invite some back or ask questions for everyone to
come back for a formal presentation.

MS. LIOTTA: So I think my process I -- I suggested was slightly different than that.

Have a quick conversation about our initial thoughts, preferences, whatever, as a group, and any questions we may have that maybe didn't get in the RFQ. Not that we're going to change the terms of the RFQ on the fly; we're not going to do that.

But is there any -- anything that came up that we would ask everybody? And I think it's -- you know, if we -- to the extent we can come up with any questions before people make -- stand up and introduce themselves, I think that's more fair, and -- or at least more efficient so we don't have people to come back up to answer questions and then have the introductions.

And again, I don't really like the word interview, because I don't really think that that's applicable here. Between the RFQ responses and all the information available on their websites and I -- I don't really -- I've never hired a law firm

```
because they -- they came up to a meeting with a
 1
 2
     power point. That's just not -- that's just not a
 3
     thing.
 4
          So, having the discussion and then deciding,
 5
     do we -- do we have a clear front-runner or do we
     not and do we need to make plans for this to move
 6
     into a second meeting?
 7
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay.
                                   Thank you. Go ahead.
 8
 9
     Len?
10
          MR. TUCKER:
                       No, I have no comment.
11
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Anything else, Dennis?
12
          MR. CLARKE:
                       No.
13
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay. I think we should
14
     hear their presentations today and then -- and then
15
     rank them ourselves, and then the top -- either
     give it to Cindy or the -- then they can be invited
16
17
     back for interviews.
18
          MS. LAQUIDARA: I -- you're close -- the two
19
     of you are close. You may not necessarily have to
20
     come back, I think --
21
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Right.
22
          MS. LAQUIDARA: -- I think is Member Liotta's
23
     suggestion. You also don't have to each
24
     individually rank until you're ready --
25
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Right.
```

MS. LAQUIDARA: -- until all members say, you 1 2 know, or three members say we're ready to rank, 3 we're ready to pick so that you think you have 4 somebody who -- who you'd like to select. 5 So it's not the same as -- as being on a procurement committee where they're not meeting in 6 the sunshine and they have to individually rank and 7 come talk about it. 8 9 You're in the sunshine, so you can talk about 10 this all you want, and you don't have to rank and 11 your vote will be of course public on -- on your 12 ranking as opposed to writing it down and sharing 13 it as if it were on a procurement committee. 14 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okav. 15 MS. LAOUIDARA: So --16 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: I was going to say restate 17 So we let -- we give them -- they do their 18 presentations, we ask questions --19 MS. LAOUIDARA: So, Ms. Liotta had wanted to 20 talk among the board first to see whether you had 21 some questions that you might want to ask so people 22 would know them when they stood up at the 23 presentation. 24 It's purely up to the board how they want to 25 do. If they want to hear, just set a time frame

```
1
     for each entity to come up and discuss what they
 2
     feel is important in -- in discussing it, they're
 3
     all here today for the meeting, and then talk about
 4
         Or, are there a couple of key questions
     it.
 5
     that -- that board members might say, well, we'd
     like them all to answer this when they come up?
 6
 7
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay. Well, I -- I for one
     have recognized, so I know already who I would vote
 8
 9
     for.
10
          MS. LAQUIDARA:
                          Good.
11
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Yes.
12
          MS. LAOUIDARA: That's -- that's to -- to
13
     Ms. Liotta's point --
14
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            So --
          MS. LAOUIDARA: -- is if individual members of
15
     the board have read the -- the responses --
16
17
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Yes.
          MS. LAQUIDARA: -- and feel comfortable and
18
19
     they're like, based on the responses, I see a clear
20
     number one and number two, as you say, let's
21
     discuss that because it may be unnecessary to do
22
    presentations.
23
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Uh-huh.
24
          MS. LAQUIDARA: Yeah. If --
25
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            So we have to say this in
```

```
1
     front of them, that --
 2
                                              The juries
          MS. LAQUIDARA: Yes.
                                That's okay.
 3
     come back and tell you, right, while sitting there?
 4
     So --
 5
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay.
                                   So the way I
     understand, then, we will do a roll call for the --
 6
     the first and second choice or first choice?
 7
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             I would prefer to hear from
 8
 9
     everybody first --
10
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay.
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: -- before we start ranking
11
12
     people.
13
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Hear from everybody first
14
     and we'll hear them for --
15
          MR. CLARKE:
                       I agree.
16
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            I agree. That's right.
                                                      Ι
17
     agree. And then we -- then the board can just --
18
          MS. LAQUIDARA:
                          Discuss.
19
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: -- rank them.
20
          MS. LAQUIDARA: Well, someone could then make
21
     a motion --
22
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay.
23
          MS. LAOUIDARA: -- okay? You don't have to
     rank them as a committee because there's nobody
24
25
     you're reporting to. You're discussing it in the
```

sunshine. 1 2 And you may change your mind when you hear 3 somebody else -- when there's a motion for -- for 4 Company A to prevail or Individual A to prevail, 5 and a second, and then during the discussion, the person who made the motion might say, well, those 6 are good points, so I'll --7 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: So we have a presentation. 8 9 Then we get a first and a second motion and --10 MS. LAQUIDARA: And then you discuss --11 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: -- and a discussion --12 MS. LAQUIDARA: -- whether you've selected 13 somebody. So if there's a consensus -- I don't 14 think you necessarily have to vote, if there's a 15 consensus --16 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Riaht. 17 MS. LAQUIDARA: -- among the board to -- to hear people for a certain period of time, then --18 19 then you proceed there. If you'd like to vote, if 20 you're not certain if -- if the majority of the 21 board wants that, then certainly call a vote. 22 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay. I'm trying to put 23 these in alphabetical order. 24 MS. LAQUIDARA: All right. So -- so right 25 now, why don't we call a vote to see whether the

1 board members want to hear five-minute 2 presentations from each of the respondents? 3 that be an appropriate motion, members? 4 want to speak --I'll -- I'll move that we start 5 MS. LIOTTA: with a five-minute presentation from any respondent 6 that wishes to introduce themselves. 7 MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: I second. 8 9 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: We have a first and a 10 So -- so we can hear the presentations and second. 11 then bring it back to the board. 12 MS. LAQUIDARA: And so then now the vote on 13 the first and the second. 14 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay. First and second. All in favor, say aye. 15 16 MR. CLARKE: Aye. 17 MS. LIOTTA: Aye. 18 MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Aye. 19 MR. TUCKER: Aye. 20 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Aye. It's unanimous we will 21 hear presentations. Janet can't hear you. Sorry. 22 MS. LAQUIDARA: I'm sorry. 23 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay. So let me see. 24 So do I -- alphabetically, it would be 25 Jennison, Kemberli --

```
Marks, Mathias --
 1
          MR. CLARKE:
 2
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Lippes, Smith, and Trask.
 3
     Do I have that right?
 4
          MR. CLARKE:
                       Yep.
 5
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay.
                                   So, is it -- oh, Jen-
     is Peter Jennison. Kemberli, Lippes Mathias, and
 6
     then Smith and then Trask.
 7
                 So, I'm sorry you guys had to go
 8
          Okav.
 9
     through this, but that way you get to know us and
10
     we'll know you, too.
11
          So, first I would like to ask Peter Jennison
12
     to come up and have your presentation, please.
13
          MR. JENNISON:
                         Somebody had to go first.
14
     quess it's me.
15
          Members of the board, thank you for
     considering my application. I am Peter Jennison.
16
17
     I'm a solo practitioner in North Florida.
     been a resident of North Florida since the mid 90s.
18
19
          I'm a 30-year member of the Florida
20
     Army National Guard retired, a hundred percent
21
     disabled veteran. Did three tours combat Iraq,
22
     Afghanistan, and Kuwait.
23
          I'm a career aviator.
                                 I speak aviation.
24
     don't have to teach me aviation. I've flown in and
25
     out of this airport on multiple airframes multiple
```

1 | times, so I speak aviation.

I'm a former policy advisor to President Trump on the National Security Council in The White House. I was a member of the NSC during the COVID crisis. I was also a member of the NSC advising the President during the George Floyd protest.

I worked on the President's domestic crisis council team for almost a year. So my job as an advisor was advising the boss on domestic crisis issues and also wrangling the Executive, all the members of the Executive, to the President's desired policies. So I have a lot of experience with federal executive regulations. I helped write some of the COVID regulations. I helped write some of the blueprint for the COVID response.

On the state level, I was the full-time director of Strategic Policy and Plans for the Florida Army National Guard, so I developed the strategic plan for General Haas, who is the current commanding general of the Florida Army National Guard.

I worked closely with Governor DeSantis and his team to launch multiple initiatives for the state, including our National Guard support to the prison during the prison crisis, and also to start

1 the Florida State Guard, which was another 2 initiative that the governor launched. I was the 3 first person on the ground to do that. 4 I am a certified project manager, you know, a So I am very detail oriented as far as 5 project management. I think that brings something 6 to the board. But I'm also -- I'm also -- my 7 passion is business and organizational 8 9 transformation. 10 I see this board and I see this authority as a 11 body that is in the middle of a major 12 transformation, if what the news is telling me is 13 halfway correct, and I just think that it's a good 14 fit for me. 15 I just retired from the military. I'm looking 16 for a big challenge. I'm an aviator. 17 aviation. I speak organizational transformation. I'm familiar with the Commission on Ethics. 18 19 familiar with the Florida Sunshine Law, with voter 20 and nonconflict law, conflict of interest law, 21 working with -- working knowledge of those laws. 22 You're going to find better attorneys out 23 there probably, but I am a dedicated retired 24 military officer who's dedicated to whatever 25 project I take on.

```
I just bought a house two miles south of here.
 1
 2
     So whether you call me at 10:00 at night or 10:00
 3
     in the morning, I'm going to be here. And you're
 4
     going to talk to me because I'm a solo
 5
     practitioner; you're not going to talk to one of my
            And this will be a priority for me; I won't
 6
     teams.
     be juggling this with 50 other clients.
 7
          Pending your questions.
 8
 9
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Thank you, Peter.
                                               That's
10
     very nice.
                 So, do you have family?
11
          MR. JENNISON: My wife and I live here in
12
     St. Augustine. I have a 25-year-old son.
                                                My son
13
     just lost his leg in a car accident. He's also
14
     active duty Army and he'll be coming home in the
15
     next six to eight weeks, and so he'll be living
16
     with us for a while until he prepares. We also
17
     have a cat.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: I wondered where that came
18
19
           You had the -- the disabled thing in here.
20
     So -- and are you a rotary pilot or --
21
          MR. JENNISON: Yes, ma'am. I'm a rotary
22
     wing -- a career rotary wing aviator. I flew the
23
     AH-64 Apache. Also the Alpha, Lima, and Mike model
24
     UH-60 and HH-60 Black Hawk lift and MEDEVAC.
25
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay. I thought so. Okay.
```

```
So then I will go alphabetical. Ms. Cash-Chapman,
 1
 2
     questions?
 3
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             Not yet.
 4
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay. Mr. Clarke,
 5
     questions?
          MR. CLARKE: Yeah.
                              Thank you, Mr. Jennison,
 6
 7
     and thank you for your service.
          I'm -- I'm -- my only question is -- it's one
 8
 9
     I'll be asking all the proposers, is on
10
     February 20th, the board received a letter from our
11
     previous general counsel with Douglas Law Firm.
12
     And I'll just quote. It says "This letter is to
13
     inform the board that the Douglas Law Firm will be
14
     withdrawing as legal counsel to the
     Airport Authority." And to me, that came out of
15
16
     the sky like a Ukrainian drone. We had no
17
     forewarning at all.
          And I would just like to hear, you know, some
18
19
     thoughts on that. You know, would you do the same
20
     thing, you know, to the Authority or how would you
21
     handle this, you know, with these allegations that
2.2
     we're all faced with?
23
          MR. JENNISON: I'm familiar with the letter.
     I'm familiar thoroughly with the situation.
24
25
     familiar with out -- outgoing counsel thoroughly.
```

It was the perplexing that outgoing counsel 1 2 would walk when I feel potentially like they could 3 have protected and advised and still remain on 4 board. I'm a little bit more loyal to the cause. 5 not suggesting they're not. I don't know a lot of 6 the inside details, only what I've read in the 7 public in the sunshine. But I would like to think 8 9 that having a good rapport with the board and the 10 executive and the staff, you never get yourself 11 into that situation in the first place. You do 12 that by advising in realtime on ethics and policies 13 and procedures. You're always educating. And then 14 you avoid that -- that moment where you're at a 15 pullout point. 16 So my answer to your question directly would 17 be I -- I would like to think that I would not have 18 I would like to have stayed and advised 19 the board correctly, which is my job. 20 MR. CLARKE: Okay. Thank you. 21 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Good answer. 22 MR. CLARKE: Thank you. 23 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Ms. Liotta? 24 MS. LIOTTA: Well, first of all, thank you for 25 your service and I hope your son has a good

That sounds like a tough situation. 1 recovery. Ι 2 do have, I quess, one comment and then one 3 question. 4 As a global comment, I think as a -- during 5 this process, it is best for the board and all people speaking here not to comment on things 6 touching on an active criminal investigation. 7 Ι think that's just better practice. 8 And I don't think it's fair to ask any of the 9 10 respondents to speculate on things that they have 11 no direct knowledge about and make comments about 12 fellow members of the board or of the Bar. I iust 13 don't think that's appropriate, and my apologies 14 that you were asked to answer that question. 15 And so, my question is pretty simple. Your proposal mentioned a proposed fee with a hourly for 16 17 outside of scope. Very standard, we've seen that What's outside of scope? 18 before. 19 MR. JENNISON: Well, I understood the scope to 20 be pretty specific, seven or eight items, and it 21 was reviewing contracts, the more general 22 garrison-type procedures of the board. 23 But outside the scope for me, basically understanding of what we're going through as a 24

board and organization is -- is all the other

```
facilitation that's going to be required to get --
 1
 2
     to transition the board to the next step, whatever
 3
     that looks like.
 4
          So I feel like it's going to be a lot of time
 5
     on the ground, it's going to be a lot of research.
     Does that adequately answer that or --
 6
          MS. LIOTTA:
 7
                       So your scope is -- you're
     referring back to what's in the RFO --
 8
 9
          MR. JENNISON:
                         I was.
10
          MS. LIOTTA: -- language?
                                      Okay.
11
          MR. JENNISON: Yeah. Yeah, and quite frankly,
     you know, if you're asked to come in as a general
12
13
     counsel, I -- I based up my fee on 30 hours to 40
14
     hours a month and I really didn't have any other
15
     insight to that, so --
16
          MS. LIOTTA:
                       No.
                            It's not --
17
          MR. JENNISON: -- obviously, yeah.
18
          MS. LIOTTA:
                       Well, appreciate it's not -- it's
19
     not a gotcha. We had other respondents --
20
          MR. JENNISON:
                         Okay.
21
          MS. LIOTTA: -- that were a little bit more
22
     specific about what was out of scope --
23
          MR. JENNISON:
                         Okay.
24
          MS. LIOTTA: -- so I just wanted to give you
     the opportunity if you wanted to add any
25
```

```
specificity.
 1
 2
                                       I think as an --
          MR. JENNISON:
                         Yes, ma'am.
 3
     as an Army officer, we're always expected to do
 4
    more and we take on a lot, so generally we just do
 5
     everything that we can with what we've got.
 6
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Thank you. Are you keeping
 7
     time track?
          MS. SANTIAGO: I wasn't, ma'am.
 8
 9
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay.
10
          MS. SANTIAGO: How much time is it supposed to
11
    be?
12
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: We could do --
                       I think --
13
          MS. LIOTTA:
14
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: -- five minutes?
15
          MR. TUCKER:
                       I think the Q and A is outside of
     the time limit.
                      The time limit of the
16
17
    presentation --
18
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okav.
19
          MR. TUCKER: -- I would think.
20
          MS. LIOTTA: Yeah, that's not in the
21
     respondent's control, so...
22
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: I just wanted to be sure.
23
            So -- so you're Army.
24
          MR. JENNISON: Yes, ma'am.
25
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Well, you've been
```

```
celebrating a big birthday, haven't you?
 1
 2
          MR. JENNISON:
                         Yes, ma'am.
                                       250 vesterday.
 3
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Yes.
                                  You're quite --
 4
          MR. JENNISON:
                         And 55 on the day before.
 5
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Mr. Tucker?
          MR. TUCKER: Yeah, I just have one fairly
 6
     simple question.
 7
          Are you qualified to practice in federal
 8
 9
     court? And if not, how would you deal with a
10
     subject if it came up that required practicing in
11
     federal court?
12
          MR. JENNISON: So I am admitted U.S. District
13
     Court for the Middle District of Florida.
14
     admission to the court is -- is pretty
15
     straightforward. Usually it requires a case in
     front of the court and some sort of nomination from
16
17
     another -- an existing member. So I could probably
     gain Southern and Central admission if I needed to.
18
19
          MR. TUCKER:
                       Okay.
20
          MR. JENNISON:
                         Along with that also, board
21
     certification. So I understand board certification
22
     in my profession is important.
23
          I've looked into the -- the qualifications,
     and I know they take admission requests in
24
25
     September/October. So I would be seeking board
```

```
certification as a government lawyer.
 1
 2
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Thank you.
 3
          MR. TUCKER:
                       Okay.
 4
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay. Well, I did mine
 5
     first, so I don't have any other questions.
     other questions?
 6
 7
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: I do have one more.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            You do?
 8
                                     Yes, you passed.
 9
     Sorry.
10
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             So -- I had to process.
11
          So you mentioned that you're pretty well
12
     aware -- I mean, anyone that knows anything about
13
     our board knows that we can be a little high
14
     maintenance.
                   That's not a surprise to anybody
15
     here.
16
          But you did mention that it would require a
17
     lot of time in the ground with us to kind of get us
18
     back to where we should be. But you also mentioned
19
     that you're a solo practitioner.
20
          Can you discuss with us a little bit -- I
21
     mean, I don't need your time management skills or
22
     anything like that -- but a little bit on how you
23
     think you would be able to balance the five very
24
     unique personalities that sit before you, along
25
     with, I don't know, your life, and how you -- how
```

```
you think your -- you'll be okay with representing
 1
 2
     us with all that time on the ground --
 3
          MR. JENNISON: Yes, ma'am --
 4
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: -- without having some
 5
     of --
          MR. JENNISON: -- I have given that a lot of
 6
     thought, and I know -- I believe that the -- it was
 7
     a five-year commitment. And I think that what you
 8
     do up front will probably lessen what you have to
 9
10
     do on the back side. Preventive maintenance, you
11
     know, prevents emergency maintenance, if you will.
12
          I do think we'll be front-loaded with a lot of
13
     time in the first one to two years. But if we
14
     can -- if we can get process and procedures in
15
     place, protect the public trust of the people,
16
     and -- and project that while maintaining the
17
     operations of the airport and bring in more
18
     customers, you know, after one to two years, I
19
     don't think the lift will be that heavy.
20
          I think we're just in a big transition period
21
     right now, based on what I've -- what I understand.
22
     And I would hope to get down to 30 hours, but I do
23
     expect it's probably going to be a lot more than
24
     that. So it's a full-time gig for me if I accept
25
     it. It's basically going to be my priority if I
```

```
accept it, and I'm willing to commit to that.
 1
 2
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             Thank you.
 3
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Next.
                                   And I did go back
 4
     through some of our previous attorneys' hours, and
 5
     they were right in the middle of 30 and 35. It was
     sometimes 20, sometimes 45. So that was a surprise
 6
 7
     to me.
            So you're right on it. You might have your
     hands more full, however. Any other questions for
 8
 9
     Mr. Jennison?
10
                        (None.)
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Thank you for your
11
12
     presentation.
13
          MR. JENNISON:
                        Yes, ma'am. Thank you.
                            And I did -- I put L -- I
14
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
15
     put Kemberli as K, but she should be Marks.
     after Jennison should be Lippes Mathias. Who will
16
17
     be speaking there?
                      Hi. Good afternoon.
18
          MR. WALKER:
19
     Madam Chairwoman, through the board, my name is
20
     Christopher Walker. I'm here with my colleague
21
     Jeffrey Kempf from Lippes Mathias.
          We are a national law firm with over 232
22
23
     lawyers spread across 17 offices in the
24
     United States, including what now amounts to four
25
     offices here in Florida, including Jacksonville,
```

22

23

24

25

West Palm Beach, St. Augustine, which will be 1 2 opening up in about the next week to ten days, and 3 Tampa. 4 I think what Lippes brings to the table was 5 a -- is an interesting proposal for the board, which is a full-service law firm that provides not 6 only national and, quite frankly, international 7 expertise on a variety of matters, whether that be 8 procurement-related legislative issues, bylaw 9 10 issues, processes, procedures, down through 11 employment-related matters to environmental 12 real estate development matters, including also 13 government investigations. 14 We have the former New York Attorney General 15 and the former number two prosecutor on behalf of 16 the State Attorney's Office that practice with us, 17 the one, Ms. Dodson, being here in the Jacksonville 18 office. 19 I think what we look to bring to the board is 20

I think what we look to bring to the board is a holistic approach. We would look to staff this as one or two points of contact, myself and Mr. Kempf. But we would bring to the board's use the ability to tap into much deeper resources, whether that be our lobbying team in D.C. that is in front of the FAA, whether it be our employment

```
lawyers that are here in Jacksonville who would
 1
 2
     deal with employment matters, whether it be
 3
     environmental matters who have dealt with the
 4
     Army Corps and wetland credits here in
 5
     St. Augustine, the whole way down through the pike.
          So I think we're looking at this as an
 6
 7
     opportunity to build a team around the
     Airport Authority, a team that can answer specific
 8
 9
     questions from the general down to the specific.
10
     I'll demure here for a minute to my colleague.
11
          I should add we're both St. Augustine
12
     residents. I live down on the south side,
13
     almost -- or actually just by the 206 bridge.
14
     Mr. Kempf is in St. Augustine. We're both pilots.
15
     Admittedly, I am a student pilot, so please don't
     get in a plane with me. Not yet. But I'll let,
16
17
     Mr. Kempf, if you want to introduce yourself as
18
     well.
19
          MR. KEMPF:
                      Yeah.
                             I am Jeffrey Kempf.
20
     colleague said, I do live in St. Augustine.
                                                   I've
21
     lived here just about five years right near King
22
     and U.S. 1, kind in the heart of downtown.
23
     mentioned I am a pilot as well. I've attended the
24
     past I think four or five of these meetings and I
25
     know what I'm getting into.
```

1	CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: And you came back.
2	MR. KEMPF: I think that our firm does offer a
3	good wide range of services and we can advise you
4	up and down the practice areas.
5	MR. WALKER: Be happy to answer any questions
6	from the board.
7	CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Well, since I started off as
8	chairman, I guess I'll stay number one.
9	You have five people in in your
10	Jacksonville office? Is that
11	MR. WALKER: No, ma'am.
12	CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: No.
13	MR. WALKER: We have approximately 22 lawyers
14	in our Jacksonville office
15	CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay.
16	MR. WALKER: with a full staff complement
17	when brings us to 49 full-time employees.
18	CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Right.
19	MR. WALKER: Of the 22 lawyers, you have
20	myself and Jeffrey, along with other real estate,
21	corporate, employment, governmental, and corporate
22	coverage in the Jacksonville office.
23	In addition to that, we would bring in our
24	colleagues from wherever they would be in the firm.
25	West Palm Beach is another great example. Our

```
colleagues in West Palm Beach have a significant
 1
 2
     experience in Sunshine Law, qualifying around the
 3
     sunshine, what process and procedures would be
 4
     representing boards, things of that nature as well.
 5
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            I see.
                                    So, if necessary,
     you could be general counsel and also aviation
 6
 7
     counsel.
          MR. WALKER:
                       While we appreciate the RFO was
 8
 9
     not specific to aviation counsel, yes, our
10
     colleague in Washington, D.C., Ian Shavitz, who I
11
     speak with on a daily basis, we currently represent
12
     several different airport authorities across the
13
     United States in their dealings specifically with
14
     respect to aviation law, you know, direct in front
15
     of the FAA, grants, et cetera.
16
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: But he's -- well, he's in
17
     Washington?
          MR. WALKER: He is. Mr. Shavitz --
18
19
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Yeah, this is --
20
          MR. WALKER: -- is in D.C.
21
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Yeah, but this is a great
22
     representative experience for all you've done with
23
     aviation.
                So I feel like getting you would be
24
     getting a full basket, you know, because we would
25
     have general and aviation at our disposal.
```

```
So, do either of you have a plane?
 1
 2
                       I do. Vinny is kind enough to
          MR. WALKER:
 3
     host me at Atlantic Aviation, so I --
 4
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Oh, you're lucky.
 5
          MR. WALKER: -- do have a plane. We fly
     clients in and out routinely, you know, obviously
 6
     using the FBO, which we appreciate.
 7
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: What kind of plane?
 8
 9
          MR. WALKER: It is a Piper Cheyenne.
10
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Oh, nice. Very nice.
                                                    Ι
11
     have a Piper Cherokee. When it grows up, it will
12
     be a Cheyenne.
13
          So that's really -- I'm very impressed with
14
     the aviation experience and also all of your
15
     general governance and general counsel experience.
16
     So that's the end of my questions.
17
          So, Ms. Cash-Chapman?
                             I'm still processing.
18
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
19
     need a minute. I don't make decisions very
20
     quickly.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Mr. Clarke -- I'm going
21
22
     alphabetical.
                    That's why that happens.
23
     Mr. Clarke?
24
          MR. CLARKE: Well, I -- I would ask you the
     same question that I asked Mr. Jennison, unless you
25
```

```
agree with Mrs. Liotta and you don't feel
 1
 2
     comfortable or feel it's appropriate to answer that
 3
     question. I'm -- I'm okay with that if you don't
 4
     feel like.
 5
          MR. WALKER: Appreciating the guestion, I do
     think it's important to note that, you know, as
 6
     members of the Bar, we have heightened duties to
 7
     clients, but there's also information that I would
 8
 9
     not be privy some to, so would I have done things
10
     differently?
                   I don't know the answer to that.
11
     There's just information that I'm not privy to that
12
     I wouldn't be qualified to make that decision at
13
     this moment.
14
          MR. CLARKE:
                       All right.
                                   Thank you.
15
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Ms. Liotta?
16
                       I found your -- your RFO response
          MS. LIOTTA:
17
     very detailed, so I actually don't -- don't have
18
     any, but thank you for the -- for making sure I
19
     don't have questions.
20
          MR. WALKER:
                       Thank you.
21
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Very good.
                                         That's a
22
     compliment.
23
          Mr. Tucker?
24
          MR. TUCKER: I have no questions, either.
25
     Thank you.
```

Darn, you guys must have 1 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: 2 really covered it. I mean, I had -- I had my pages 3 all earmarked down here, too, so we have done our 4 homework for sure. So, Jenni- -- Michelle? 5 MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: No, I hate to not have a question when someone comes up, like, that really 6 bothers me, but I don't have any right now, so ... 7 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: 8 Okay. 9 Thank you, very much. MR. WALKER: 10 MR. KEMPF: Thank you. 11 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Thank you for your 12 presentation. And thanks, Chris, for coming to our 13 meetings and also, Jeffrey, you've been, too. 14 know, it isn't always fun and games. 15 Okay. Next. Kemberli Marks? Thank you. 16 MS. MARKS: Good evening, members of the 17 board, and thank you so very much for hosting us. 18 I would like to say that, in the current 19 circumstance and under review of the RFP and 20 following along with your organization, I would 21 consider myself to be more of the rescue squad and 22 a specialist who has had unique experiences that 23 could certainly benefit this authority. 24 I would have to say that I'm probably one of 25 the few who has actually worked in-house at a

commercial airport authority as their chief legal officer, general counsel, and corporate secretary.

In addition to that, I also have experience dealing with aviation from more of a national perspective, but also having been barred in the Florida Bar since 2000.

And so, certainly, you know, from my materials there, I think that a -- at a certain point, there requires a degree of objectivity, there requires a degree of consensus building, there certainly requires a lot of training in order to effectuate change that's going to be sustainable. And I think that at this point, you know, you have an organization who clearly has put out an RFP, meaning that they are volunteering for sustainable change.

And I think that under those circumstances, sometimes it does require a specialist and someone who I think you know from my materials that I certainly understand the optics of having someone who is not a resident immediately of the state, but I also understand the importance of having someone who is uniquely qualified to lend insight as a matter of checks and balances, as a matter of putting one's best foot forward toward change. And

 $1 \mid I$  have come forward in order to be that person.

I have followed this organization mainly through the news and have just offered myself up for service based on seeing things that are fixable. And that's the thing about -- that's the thing about being an attorney sometimes.

I don't know if you guys have -- have seen a movie -- and I'm not going to name the movie, no free pub -- but there is a movie where the client says, "Why do you even deal with me?" The client says "Why do you even deal with me? Because I don't listen to what you say, I always go back and forth, I bring a whole bunch of drama." And the lawyer says, "Well, you're my best client because that's what I do. My business is fixing things and solving problems." And so, if there aren't problems to be solved and if everything is fixed, then what would one's attorney do?

Now, there are things that are preventive, but I think that there's still work to be done in maintaining those things, and I think that, again, we have a board who has exhibited some willingness to effectuate positive change. And a lot of times mistakes that are made are made from lack of information, lack of understanding, not knowing

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exactly what the rules and requirements are.

And so, to the extent that you have someone who can serve as a lamplight through those things -- and certainly I've done that, I've navigated through FBI investigations. The state is one thing, but I've navigated through FBI investigations, state-level investigations, FAA investigations, various environmental investigations.

And so, certainly I feel like I could partner with anyone and be an asset to any team. But most importantly, I have worked as outside counsel long term for an airport. I've also worked as an actual badged employee, so I understand the nuances and the differences between working with a board member who's a volunteer board member but still has a public mandate and things to accomplish but purely from the standpoint of an outside firm that has outside interests, but I've also understood the dynamics of working with that same group of people but you're a badged employee and your paycheck is actually connected to having to negotiate some of those roles. And so, I think that that is a unique perspective that I can bring to whatever it is that you guys see as a path forward, and I would offer

```
myself in whatever capacity that I am contracted to
 1
 2
     contribute.
                  Thank you.
 3
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Wait.
 4
          MS. MARKS: Oh, I'm sorry. I'm open to
 5
     questions.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: So, Kemberli, are you -- did
 6
     I miss this? Are you sole practitioner or do you
 7
     have others in your office?
 8
 9
                      Well, I'm a sole practitioner who
          MS. MARKS:
10
     has strategic relationships.
                                   To the extent that I
11
     need some additional assistance, I can associate,
12
     but for something like this, like I said, I'm
13
     willing to partner with other local firms, but I
14
     also -- these are things that I would handle just
15
     myself because, you know, depending, some of it is
16
     so high accountability that it should be considered
17
     nondelegable.
18
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Uh-huh.
                                     Are you still of
19
     counsel for Alabama's largest airport?
20
          MS. MARKS:
                      No, I'm not. That's what I'm
21
     saying, is that that's the thing, is that -- so
22
     here's the thing --
23
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: I probably was writing a
24
     note.
25
          MS. MARKS: -- is that once you work for the
```

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largest airport -- it's a national industry and
 1
 2
     certainly I was recruited to join other airports,
     received calls from Detroit, received calls from
 3
     Denver -- but if you want to stay in your state,
 4
 5
     which is what it is that I wanted to do because at
     the time I had family, my child was in high school
 6
     and things like that, and so I just launched more
 7
     of a consultancy and did other -- other legal work.
 8
     And so that's where I am, is that I do consultancy
 9
10
     work that is aviation-specific within the industry.
11
                            I see. 25 years is --
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
12
          MS. MARKS: Certainly.
13
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Right.
                                   Wow.
                                                  That is
                                           Okay.
14
     all I have. Ms. Cash-Chapman?
15
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             I'm ready.
          So, are you still in Alabama right now?
16
                                                    Is
17
     that where you plan -- could you just talk to me?
18
     Because we're really hands-on.
19
          MS. MARKS:
                      No, I --
20
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: So if you could just
21
     clarify what that looks like for you should you
22
     accept the position?
23
          MS. MARKS:
                      And I -- and I understand that.
24
     So I am still -- so what I did is I bought this
25
     historic building that I just fell in love with,
```

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

and so I do have an actual headquarters building 1 2 that that is in Alabama. But, you know, I -- just like I'm here today, 3 4 I think she was surprised when I actually walked 5 She's like, "Are you here from Alabama?" like, "Yes, ma'am, I am." 6 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Yeah. 7 MS. MARKS: So -- so I certainly can be as 8 9 hands-on as you guys need me to be, but like I also 10 said, though, is that sometimes -- again, I've 11 worked for an airport as outside counsel and I've 12 also worked inside an airport and I do understand 13 the optics of -- so you mean to tell me that with 14 all of the attorneys in the state of Florida, the only person that they could find to solve this 15 16 issue was some lady from Alabama? 17 So understanding that, that is what I said, is

So understanding that, that is what I said, is that, you know, certainly I am willing to partner with local counsel or even partner with whomever you select as your counsel from among these people, but to provide a voice of objectivity and a check and balance of someone who has actually sat in the seat at a commercial airport, who's actually sat in the seat as an employee just to offer perspective and offer solutions that may not be readily

available, having served only as outside counsel or 1 2 having never been actually employed by an airport 3 or having not actually practiced within commercial 4 aviation. 5 And so -- so, hopefully I've answered your question, is that, you know, I can certainly 6 provide a broad range of services. I would be as 7 available as I need to be, but I can also provide 8 9 limited representation, if that is something that 10 would interest the board for a specific degree of 11 expertise. 12 So, like, we meet once or MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: 13 twice a month. Would we expect to see you sitting 14 here with us --15 MS. MARKS: You would expect --16 MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: -- that once of twice a 17 month? 18 MS. MARKS: -- to see me sitting here, yes, 19 ma'am. And -- and then that's the thing, is that 20 certainly this is the information age. I think 21 that, you know, we've all become accustomed to Zoom 22 and cell phone and -- and various other forms of --23 of meeting. 24 I know that certainly you guys are not able to 25 vote, but I'm saying in working with staff and

```
things like that, certainly I'm available for Zoom.
 1
 2
     To the extent that you are here, I am here.
 3
     then, again, behind the scenes working with
     whomever I would need to work with, I'm fully
 4
 5
     available.
                             Thank you.
 6
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
 7
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Thank you. Mr. Clarke?
          MR. CLARKE:
                       No, no questions.
 8
 9
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            No questions.
                                           Ms. Liotta?
10
          MS. LIOTTA:
                       I think I had the same questions
11
     as Ms. Cash-Chapman, so I'm good.
12
                            Okay. Mr. Tucker?
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
13
          MR. TUCKER:
                       What was your -- what is your
14
     connection to St. Augustine? How did you --
15
          MS. MARKS: So my connection is not to
     St. Augustine, but more to Florida and the aviation
16
17
     industry.
18
          So, if you're an aviation industry attorney
19
     and also working as a consultant, then you
20
     routinely see what RFPs are available, who is
21
     looking for what work and, you know -- and even
22
     what positions might be available in the aviation
             And then from there, you also just kind of
23
24
     research what their issues are.
25
          I mean, it's a public agency, so things are in
```

```
And, you know, in respect to Ms. Liotta,
 1
     the news.
 2
     not to go venture too far, but everybody knows
 3
     what's in the news. And so you can get a snapshot
 4
     of what the work is and whether or not you would be
 5
     of service and whether or not you should enter or
     answer an RFO under those circumstances.
 6
 7
          So, again, I'm a member of various trade
     organizations that deal with commercial airports,
 8
 9
     both commercial and general, and honestly, I have a
10
     little budding practice that deals with space as
11
            I'm kind of developing some space things.
     well.
12
     Alabama has Huntsville. And so -- so that's the
13
     thing, is that, you know, if you're an actual
14
     industry professional, then you just follow the
15
     work, sir.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: I understand.
16
                                            That's yours,
     Mr. Tucker? Well, thank you, Kemberli, and how
17
18
     long did it take you to drive?
19
                      Not very long because my --
          MS. MARKS:
20
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Do you --
21
          MS. MARKS: -- my husband is from Dothan,
2.2
     Alabama --
23
                            Oh, okay.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
24
          MS. MARKS: -- and so we routinely go there
25
     and visit. And so, you know, it's just kind of --
```

```
I think it's maybe four and a half to five hours
 1
 2
     from Dothan.
 3
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            I see.
 4
          MS. MARKS: And -- and again, you know, I come
 5
     to Florida in general several -- several times a
     year, so it wasn't much of a drive.
 6
 7
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Thank you for making the
     trip. I appreciate that.
 8
 9
          I have to get -- okay. Smith
10
     Gambrell & Russell, LLP.
11
          MS. HODGES: Yes.
12
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            There you are. Lawsikia.
13
          MS. HODGES: Lawsikia.
14
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Yes.
15
          MS. HODGES: It was meant to be in order.
16
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: And he's local.
17
          MS. HODGES: Yes. Dan Bean was not here with
     me when you asked us to stand and introduce
18
19
     ourselves --
20
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Right.
21
          MS. HODGES: -- but this is my copartner that
22
     will be helping me staff the board, and he is a
23
     resident of St. Johns County.
24
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: And -- and he's what firm?
25
          MR. BEAN:
                     Smith Gambrell.
```

CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: 1 Oh, same. Okay. Thank you. 2 I recognize him. 3 MR. BEAN: Uh-huh. 4 MS. HODGES: So, for anybody who did not take their five minutes, I would like to add that on to 5 my time, if that's okay in true lawyer style. 6 So as the chairwoman said, my name is Lawsikia 7 This is my colleague, Dan Bean. And 8 9 first, I really want to thank you for this 10 opportunity to allow our firm to come and present 11 It's nice to be the fourth firm to to you. 12 present, and as the other firms were talking, I 13 thought about a few things that I wanted to start 14 out with. 15 Number one, I want to point out that I think what you'll find in my representation and Dan 16 17 Bean's representation and the firm in general is We have a love for what we do. 18 Okav. passion. 19 love working for city, county, and local 20 governments and special districts like yourself. 21 We have the resources. We have resources of 22 350 lawyers at your fingertips. We have 35 lawyers 23 that's right here in downtown Jacksonville. 24 very near. As I said, Dan Bean is a resident of 25 St. Johns County, I'm a resident of Clay County,

1 | and our offices are downtown.

And most importantly, we have specific experience. And I really think that's very important. What I mean by specific experience, I mean Florida experience, representing Florida city, county, and local governments.

I am a bird -- board certified specialist in city, county, and local government law. And with that certification, I have been evaluated by my peers. I had to go through a rigorous Florida Bar examination as -- as well as also getting recommendations from several other lawyers that practice in the specific area of city, county, and local government law.

And I think that's very important because with city, county, and local government law, the things that are unique to you, to special districts, we just can't afford to make mistakes. You know, we're talking about Sunshine Law and ethics and public records and procurement.

You know, you have a wonderful master plan.
You're getting grants coming in. As your interim
executive director said a couple of months ago at a
meeting, many people are trying to have a
relationship with this Airport Authority, and so

you're going to need to know about the public 1 2 bidding requirements for Florida. You'll need to 3 know about, you know, CCNA, the Competitive 4 Consultants' Negotiation Act. You need to know how 5 to your contracts. And so, these are all areas that I'm very experienced in. 6 So let me quickly go through some specific 7 points that were referenced in our RFP. I lead the 8 9 governmental affairs practice for Smith Gambrell. 10 I have 17 years of experience in the City of 11 Jacksonville consolidated government. 12 And 17 years working for the City of 13 Jacksonville is more like, you know, 50 years 14 translated in realtime because that's a 15 consolidated government and you're not just representing the mayor's office and the 19 elected 16 17 officials, but you're also representing constitutional offices, departments, directors, as 18 well as independent agencies, as we call them, or 19 20 special districts. So your Port Authority, your 21 Housing Authority, your Airport Authority. 22 So the Jacksonville Aviation Authority was one 23 of my former clients when I was at the City of 24 Jacksonville. And while there, I should say I was 25 a deputy general counsel. So I oversaw all of the

25

Can

government operations transactions for the entire 1 2 consolidated government and its independent 3 authorities. 4 My colleague here, Dan Bean, I could probably 5 talk about him for days, but he is a veteran, and Dan Bean has also specifically represented the 6 St. Johns County Commission on matters. He's also 7 represented Governor DeSantis as well as other 8 elected local officials on matters dealing with 9 10 investigative matters or ethics issues that they 11 may have faced. 12 So we're a full-service firm, as I said, 350 13 lawyers. We do have a very strong aviation 14 In fact, we started our practice practice. 15 representing Eastern Airlines. 16 We have several offices here in Florida and 17 across the nation as well as internationally, and 18 we -- our avia- -- aviation attorneys are based out 19 of Miami, New York, and Atlanta. We also have 20 labor and employment lawyers that are right here in our Jacksonville office. We have intellectual 21 22 property lawyers. 23 I happened to be looking at your website.

that -- is that my time? Is that my time?

want to donate some minutes to me? I see not.

```
I just make one quick point and then I'll allow you
 1
 2
     to ask questions?
 3
          I represent one of your, maybe you call them a
 4
     distant cousin, the Anastasia Mosquito Control
 5
     District --
                            I was going to --
 6
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
 7
          MS. HODGES: -- of St. Johns County.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: -- ask you about that.
 8
 9
          MS. HODGES: And it's been quite a joy
10
     representing them and getting to know those board
11
              Feel free to go watch any of those tapes.
     members.
12
     I think you will be able to see in the six months
13
     of me representing them, they had similar
14
     organizational parliamentary rules, maybe being
15
     versed in that, and we were able to basically put
16
     the processes in place and working with those board
17
     members, you know, to make it more efficient.
18
          So that -- you know, you are volunteers.
19
     so as well as the people that come and attend the
20
     meetings. So I'll close with that since I'm out of
21
     time, but I've probably got another 30 minutes I
22
     could talk about.
23
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: But, yes, I did see that you
24
     represented the Mosquito Control. Are you still
25
     doing that?
```

```
I am still doing that.
 1
          MS. HODGES:
 2
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay. And you're town
 3
     attorney for Orange Park?
 4
          MS. HODGES: Correct.
 5
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: And, Dan, now I know.
     couldn't think and talk at the same time.
 6
 7
     TPO, when I went to the TPO meeting --
          MR. BEAN:
                     That's right.
 8
 9
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: -- and you were there.
10
    you invited everybody for a tour of the ship but
11
    me.
12
          MR. BEAN: Well, you're welcome any time.
13
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: I won't hold that against
14
    you.
15
          MS. HODGES: Please don't hold that against
16
     us.
17
          MR. BEAN: I was the chair of the Jacksonville
18
     Port Authority board.
19
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Right. Right. Yeah, you
20
     have a ton of experience --
21
          MR. BEAN:
                     Thank you.
22
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: -- yes, I'm well aware.
23
          So actually, you know, I'd already gone
24
     through this, so I don't have any other questions
25
     on that. Is that all you do, Tammi (sic), is the
```

```
Orange Park and Mosquito Control? I mean, are you
 1
 2
     on other --
 3
          MS. HODGES: I also do transactional work for
 4
     the City of Jacksonville, right.
 5
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay. City of Jacksonville.
            Thank you. That's all I have, thank you.
 6
     Okay.
 7
     And Ms. --
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: I am not ready.
 8
 9
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Mr. Clarke?
10
          MR. CLARKE:
                            That was very thorough.
                       No.
11
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            No questions.
          MS. HODGES: Can I address, through the
12
13
     Chair --
14
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Yes.
15
          MS. HODGES: -- Mr. Clarke's earlier question,
16
     if it's --
17
          MR. CLARKE: Oh, yeah, please do.
18
                      -- that's okay?
          MS. HODGES:
19
          Here's -- I mean, I can't speak to other
20
     firms, obviously, and I will not speak to what
21
     other firms are. As the board members have so
22
     eloquently said, I don't have enough facts.
23
          But what I can tell you, having worked
24
     in-house for a government entity for 17 years, I am
25
     not wired to withdraw from my client, because it's
```

```
kind of been ingrained in me that you're almost,
 1
 2
     once you sign up to be an attorney, that's your
 3
     client. And so, I can at least tell you from my
 4
     perspective, the 17 years at City of Jacksonville
 5
     in-house has wired me to not withdraw, so...
          MR. CLARKE:
 6
                       Thank you.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
 7
                            I see.
                                     Thank you.
                                                 Okay.
     Ms. Liotta?
 8
 9
          MS. LIOTTA:
                       Okay.
                              Well, I quess that I do
10
     have a question, then.
11
          It's my understanding, though, that under the
12
     Florida Bar rules for ethics, there are certain
13
     situations in which an attorney is actually
14
     required to withdraw; is that -- my understanding
15
     correct?
16
          MR. BEAN:
                     Yes.
17
          MS. HODGES:
                       Correct.
18
          MS. LIOTTA:
                       Okay.
19
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay.
                                    Mr --
20
          MR. BEAN:
                     But how you withdraw is a different
21
     matter, right?
                     Whether you go out publicly or
22
     privately, right?
                        Because you're a lawyer, right?
23
          MS. LIOTTA:
                        (Nods head.)
24
          MR. TUCKER:
                       I have no further questions.
25
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Did you know Jennifer?
                                                     Do
```

```
you know Jennifer?
 1
 2
                     No. We just did our preparation
          MR. BEAN:
 3
     for the meeting.
 4
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: I see. Very nice. Thank
 5
     you.
          MS. LIOTTA: I'll just make a statement for
 6
 7
     the record. I have no personal relationships with
     any of the respondents who have put in any of
 8
 9
     the -- in connection with this RFP.
10
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Thank you.
11
          MR. BEAN: Thank you.
12
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: So, and no --
13
     Ms. Cash-Chapman?
14
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: No, I think I've heard
15
     everything I need to.
16
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay. So thank you for your
17
     services and thank you for being here. And I'm so
18
     happy I recognized where I knew him from.
19
     wouldn't have been --
20
          MR. BEAN: And you're welcome on the ship any
21
     time.
22
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Yeah, right. All right.
23
     Thank you, so much. So, now I have
24
     Trask Daigneault. Oh, that's Tammi. That's right.
25
     I said the wrong name.
```

```
Hi there. My name is Tammi Bach
 1
          MS. BACH:
 2
     and I'm with the firm of Trask Daigneault. And our
 3
     law firm is in Clearwater. That is our main
 4
     office, but like me, a few of our attorneys work
 5
     remotely and we use our ten -- we have ten lawyers,
     and we represent cities and special districts.
 6
          I am -- I recently left the City of
 7
     Fernandina Beach after 17 years as the city
 8
 9
     attorney there. And if you know, we have a -- a
10
     general aviation airport. Not as -- not as big as
11
     yours, but --
12
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: But it's beautiful.
13
          MS. BACH: -- it's -- it's very -- it's very
14
     beautiful --
15
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Yes.
16
          MS. BACH: -- and it's very similar.
17
          I was the -- as the city attorney, I probably
18
     spent at least 20 percent of my time working
19
     day-to-day with the airport manager. And with --
20
     so I have some few notes very specific.
21
          But generally, I am a board certified local
22
     government lawyer, city, county, and local
23
     government, just like Lawsikia said. I've been
24
     board certified since 2006. So that's all I've
25
     done. And I have been a member of the Bar since
```

```
1
     '99.
           So for almost 26 years, all I've done is
 2
     local government law. I was board certified in
 3
     2006 and that was right before I joined the -- the
 4
     City of Fernandina Beach and became their city
 5
     attorney.
          I was the sole attorney, in-house attorney.
 6
     We had some insurance defense counsel and things,
 7
     but I rarely sought special counsel, so it was
 8
 9
     myself and a paralegal for 17 years.
10
          So, some of the things that I did were -- that
11
     is -- I can -- Sunshine Law, ethics, sovereign
12
     immunity, all of those things, Cindy can tell you,
13
     Lawsikia, any of these lawyers, those -- all of
14
     those general areas of local government law, that's
     my area of expertise. But then I have some special
15
16
     expertise from serving the City of
17
     Fernandina Beach.
          So at the airport, we went through in my 17
18
19
     years, five airport managers. We had a Part 13
20
     complaint with the FAA that I handled with the
21
     Atlanta office personally. We had certainly lots
22
     of threats that the FAA grant assurance 22 was
23
     being violated, and I handled those complaints
24
     informally before they got to the FAA.
25
          We -- FHB, as Fernandina Airport is known, we
```

developed new minimum and updated minimum 1 2 I headed that up. standards. Rules and 3 regulations for the airport. We had a brand new 4 FBO join the airport after having another FBO for 5 over 20 years. I negotiated that lease. seek an aviation attorney, Mr. Ed Booth, out of 6 Jacksonville, to help us a little bit with that. 7 We had litigation with the old FBO, McGill 8 9 Aviation. Right as I was coming on, we were finishing 29 days of arbitration, so we had to 10 11 finish out that litigation. 12 We had a new terminal building constructed. Τ 13 handled the construction contract. And also 14 throughout the construction, we had a few problems which ended in a paint job that needed to be done 15 16 redone that I handled getting that repainted. 17 had -- as I said, we didn't have to make a bond 18 claim in that case. So, from those experiences, that's just a 19 20 I won't bore you or take more of your time 21 with the other -- oh, one more thing. 22 Airprop -- Airport Layout Plan, we've done that now 23 twice since I was there. And so I'm very familiar 24 with all of those general aviation, local airport 25 issues working with the airport manager on a daily

1 basis, working with airport consultants. 2 worked with Passero many times. They also worked 3 at the Fernandina Airport. And so, I think that 4 day one, I can hit the ground running for you. 5 I live in Fernandina Beach. I don't spend very much time in Clearwater at all. That's our 6 home office, but I am frankly building an office 7 for us in North Florida. So I hope to add another 8 9 attorney, although besides this, right now my other 10 client is the Port of Fernandina, the Ocean Highway 11 and Port Authority, but they have a very limited 12 budget and they have me about 15 hours a month. 13 In addition to being able to help you as a 14 local government lawyer, we do in our office have a 15 real estate lawyer. That's all she does, is real estate transactions, closings, title work, 16 17 that kind of a thing. And we have a labor and 18 employment lawyer. So we cover all of the areas 19 that I think the Authority would need coverage in. 20 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: I see. 21 MS. BACH: And it's about an hour and 15 22 minutes it took me to get here today, so I'm happy 23 to be here of course in person any time I'm called 24 upon.

Well, I mean, you have two

CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:

```
wonderful places, Fernandina and Clearwater.
                                                   Gosh,
 1
 2
     that'd be a tossup. I don't know which one there I
 3
     would go for.
 4
          MS. BACH: I told them I could not leave
 5
     North Florida, though. It really has my heart.
     Even though I went to Stetson Law School and so I
 6
 7
     spent a lot of time in Pinellas County.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Yes, I was going to mention
 8
 9
               I was born in DeLand, so I ran up and
10
     down the halls of Stetson as I was through grammar
11
     school, so I know -- know that well.
12
          How much did that building cost for the
13
     airport?
14
          MS. BACH:
                     $4 million.
15
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay. I wondered that.
16
     Okay. That's all I have. So, Ms. Cash-Chapman?
17
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             I'm not ready yet.
18
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Mr. Clarke?
19
          MR. CLARKE:
                       No.
                            No thanks.
20
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Ms. Liotta?
21
          MS. LIOTTA: I quess just one for now. You
22
     mentioned a Part 13. Any Part 16 experience?
23
          MS. BACH:
                     No, that -- not the formal Part 16.
24
     The person did not have standing to bring a
25
     Part 16, so had to do the informal Part 13.
```

```
CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
 1
                            I see.
                                    Thank you.
 2
     Mr. Tucker?
 3
          MR. TUCKER:
                       I have no questions.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Well, thank you, Tammi.
 4
 5
          MS. BACH:
                     Thank you.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: That was -- actually that
 6
 7
     was a great way to end. So we've heard all -- no
    more questions. We've heard all the presentations.
 8
 9
     And I'm quite impressed. I was -- had my mind all
10
     made up, and now you made me waffle a bit.
11
     those presentations work, let me tell you.
12
          Okay.
                 So, now I --
          MS. LAQUIDARA: If -- if the -- if you have a
13
14
     recommendation, you can make that be a motion and
15
     see if there's a second, or you can first ask for
     some general discussion on the process that the
16
17
     board members would like to have:
                                        Is there a
18
     general idea do they want to vote today?
19
     follow-ups that they want to schedule?
20
          You would -- you would choose at least a first
     and a -- and the second. So, I don't know the
21
22
     board's preference in how they'd like to proceed,
23
     whether people are ready, having reviewed the
24
     submissions and asked questions --
25
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay.
```

```
MS. LAOUIDARA: -- for someone to make a
 1
 2
     motion to approve or the candidates.
 3
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            I see. And I apologize to
     the audience. We obviously didn't allot a right
 4
 5
     amount of time for this, but it's very necessary,
     so I'm glad we're getting it done.
 6
 7
          So, discussion. Michelle, what are your
     thoughts?
 8
 9
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Well, I have a lot of
10
     thoughts.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: I could tell.
11
12
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Who would be surprised?
13
     But I'd like to hold off for a minute because I --
14
     I have a lot in my head. So maybe if you guys
     discuss a little bit, that might help me clarify
15
16
     some things before I start talking.
17
          MR. TUCKER:
                       I will.
                            Mr. Tucker?
18
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
19
          MR. TUCKER: Yeah, I -- I'm really not
20
     prepared to try to whittle it down much at this
21
     point in time because I think the presentations
22
     have brought up several items that I would like to
23
     follow up on and get a little more information
24
     either from them or from other people that they
25
     mentioned about that. So I would like to see us
```

```
defer at least whittling it down until a little bit
 1
 2
     later.
             That's just my opinion.
 3
          MS. LAQUIDARA:
                          Through the Chair?
 4
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Yes.
          MS. LAOUIDARA: Once the submissions are made,
 5
     people can't amend them or go to third -- you know,
 6
     other areas to go look at information and bring it
 7
     in, because now the rules are different for
 8
 9
     different people. They all -- they all have to
10
     make their submissions on the same thing.
11
          So the information you have, now you may want
12
     to cogitate on it and not be ready today, but the
13
     information you have is -- is closed.
14
     they -- you can't amend and change the -- the terms
15
     of the RFQ now.
                       Okay. I understand.
16
          MR. TUCKER:
17
          MS. LAQUIDARA:
                         Okay.
                                 I'm sorry.
18
          MR. TUCKER: I'm still not prepared to make a
19
     decision today.
20
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay. Ms. Liotta, thoughts?
21
          MS. LIOTTA: Well, I -- I think we do have --
22
     I mean, I -- one way to approach this maybe is say,
23
     hey, we've got a couple -- as I see, a couple of
24
     buckets maybe a profile of responses.
25
          Specifically, we've got solo practitioner and
```

```
we have firm.
 1
                    So we've got two essentially solos
 2
     and three firms. If there's a consensus that we
 3
     believe -- you know, we really prefer a firm, then
 4
     we've narrowed down -- we've narrowed it from five
 5
     to three right there.
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: That's a good way to look
 6
 7
     at it.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            That's -- anything else?
 8
 9
     Anything else, Dennis?
                       Well, I hadn't thought about the
10
          MR. CLARKE:
11
     difference between a sole practitioner and a firm,
12
     but I -- you know, I do -- because I'm very
13
     impressed with all five candidates.
14
          Every one of them brings something that the
     Authority needs to the table, so it's going to be a
15
     very difficult decision. But, you know, I'm
16
17
     prepared to recommend two or three for further
18
     exploration.
19
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: So, could be that we could
20
     narrow it down to two or three? Thoughts?
21
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: I would be comfortable
22
     narrowing it down to two or three, but I do
23
     appreciate Ms. Liotta's maybe point that we should
24
     discuss if we prefer a firm or a solo practitioner.
25
          I know that my thoughts lie more on a firm
```

```
side, just to give us that -- I mean, we know
 1
 2
     how -- we know how much time we require. And so to
 3
     know that we have kind of more -- more resources
 4
    behind us.
 5
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Uh-huh.
                             Honestly, it sounds like,
 6
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
     one, while a solo practitioner, sounds like someone
 7
     that we would kind of keep a file on for consulting
 8
 9
     purposes later, as well, but maybe not our full
10
     general counsel.
11
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay.
                                   Thank you.
                                               And so,
12
     Dennis, what do you think about -- do you want to
13
     narrow it down at this point between solo and
14
     firms?
15
          MR. CLARKE:
                       No.
                            I would think we would go
16
     with a firm. I think there's -- there's going to
17
     be enough activity going forward. I mean, we have
     some rather ambitious plans on both, you know, the
18
19
     existing airfield and a possible new airfield that,
20
     you know, we're going to need a lot of resources,
21
     both, you know, legal management, financial, and so
22
     I think a firm would be preferable at this point.
23
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Ms. Liotta?
24
          MS. LIOTTA: I agree. I think -- I wasn't
25
     trying to lead anybody, but I think -- I'm
```

```
imagining a situation of what if we wanted to do a
 1
 2
            If we had to then do an RFP for a bond
 3
     counsel because we didn't have an established
     relationship, you know, I don't know if that's how
 4
 5
     it would play out, but if we did have to do -- if
     we had a big project like that, that would slow
 6
     things down tremendously if we -- if we had a solo
 7
     or -- you know, on board as an our GC. No -- no
 8
 9
     disrespect to the -- I agree that they're all
10
     strong attorneys, but it's a matter of what do we
11
     see as potentially our need as an airport.
12
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            I see.
                                    Your opinion,
13
     Mr. Tucker?
14
          MR. TUCKER: I am not prepared to whittle it
15
     down like that, but of course I'm just one person.
16
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okav.
                                   Okay. I'd prefer a
17
            So, we have four, so what do we do now?
18
                       So to maybe -- to keep it clean,
          MS. LIOTTA:
19
     maybe we just make a motion and a vote. So I quess
20
     I'll move that we narrow the candidate responses to
21
     the three firms which I understand are,
22
     Lippes Mathias; Smith, Gambrell, Russell; and
23
     Trask --
24
          MS. BACH:
                     Daigneault.
          MS. LIOTTA:
25
                       Daigneault. Thank you.
```

MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: I'll second. 1 2 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okav. So we have a first 3 and a second to narrow it down to three firms. 4 I have any discussion? 5 (None.) CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Do I need to ask public? 6 MS. LAQUIDARA: You do have to have public 7 comment before you take final action, so --8 9 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: So is there any public 10 comment on narrowing this down to? 11 MR. CLARKE: Mr. Jennison. 12 MR. JENNISON: I'm Peter Jennison of Yes. 13 The Jennison Firm. I'm a solo practitioner, so I 14 think I'm already out, but I would be willing to 15 partner with you as a firm if you wanted to work together. She's an expert and I'm local and you 16 17 could get the best of both worlds. So that's my 18 public comment. 19 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Good for you. Thank vou. 20 Thank you for saying that. Any other public 21 comment? We weren't ready for this today, so... 22 Right. And -- and the MS. LAOUIDARA: 23 submissions are closed at the time and on the date 24 that they were submitted. It's one of the few hard 25 and fast laws that -- when they get arbitrary if

people amend their submission after the time and 1 2 date for submission. So interesting, but can't be 3 done unless you were to reject them all under 4 Florida law. 5 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: I see. MS. LAQUIDARA: So that's where we are. 6 it doesn't mean later one of these firms might not, 7 having heard such talent, wanted to connect to 8 reach somebody or this body may at a later date 9 10 take some action. But on this RFO, the decision is 11 based on the submissions that were on the date and 12 time. 13 MS. MARKS: And I did have one public comment. 14 I think that if you review my submission, you 15 will see that, in my submission, I made myself available for limited representation and not as the 16 17 general counsel, but to have limited responsibilities and being partnered. And that is 18 19 a part of my specific submission that I anticipated 20 in the beginning. 21 So that -- that would be an option in terms of 22 at least what I submitted as is. I wanted to 23 clarify that I am available to be contracted more 24 as a consultant, as a specialist, and partnered

with whomever the -- the Authority may select.

```
1
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: You made a very nice
 2
     impression, and thank you for driving all that way
 3
     for sure. We still have to vote on --
 4
          MS. LAQUIDARA: Now there's been a motion
 5
     and --
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: A second.
 6
 7
          MS. LAQUIDARA: -- and a second.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: And we've had public
 8
 9
     comment.
10
          MS. LAQUIDARA:
                          And you've had public comment,
11
     so now it's back to the board for a vote all in
12
     favor of Ms. Liotta's motion.
13
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: All in favor of -- you mean,
14
     Jennifer.
15
          MS. LAOUIDARA: Yeah. So of Ms. Liotta's
     motion to --
16
17
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Yeah, Ms. Liotta. I thought
18
     you said Michelle. Okay.
19
          MS. LAOUIDARA: -- to cut the list down to the
20
     three law firms as opposed to solo practitioners.
21
                            Right. So we should vote on
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
22
     that. Ms. Cash-Chapman?
23
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             Aye.
24
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Mr. Clarke?
25
          MR. CLARKE:
                       Aye.
```

```
1
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Ms. Liotta?
 2
          MS. LIOTTA:
                       Aye.
 3
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Mr. Tucker?
 4
          MR. TUCKER:
                       No.
 5
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Ms. Ludlow?
                                          Aye.
                                                So we
     have -- we will cut it down to the three firms and
 6
     not have the individuals. So, I'm sorry about that
 7
     and thank you all -- all for coming.
 8
 9
          So, now we still have to go further and decide
10
     between these three?
11
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             It's up to us.
12
          MS. LAQUIDARA: At some point, yes.
                                                Either
13
     today or -- or --
14
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            I wasn't prepared for this.
15
     I didn't think -- I thought the board still was --
     was still going to make their decisions and then
16
17
     get back and have this meeting, so ...
18
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             But remember, we still have
19
     that opportunity to not make a decision today, too.
20
     That's also an option. If one of us makes a motion
21
     to -- to do something to further this, that's still
22
     a choice for us.
23
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Uh-huh.
                                      That's a very good
24
     point.
25
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: We don't have to do it
```

```
right this second, if -- if most of us are not
 1
 2
     equipped to do that.
 3
          MS. LIOTTA:
                       I quess I have a question,
 4
     because that does -- if the majority of the -- if
 5
     we're comfortable saying if we just want to say who
     our top one or one and two are, there may be a
 6
     consensus. We haven't polled ourselves to see if
 7
     we have the consensus right now. I understand not
 8
 9
     everybody might not be ready to list, but if we
10
     have a majority consensus, we can move forward.
11
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Is that true?
12
          MS. LAOUIDARA: Yes. If you have --
13
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            I mean is that -- not is
14
     that true.
15
          MS. LAOUIDARA:
                         Through the Chair. Yes, if
     you have a majority, so there could be a motion, if
16
17
    Ms. Liotta, for example, or any board member has
18
     their preference in their mind and is ready, then
19
     they can make that motion and see if there's a
20
     second and then discussion to see whether it passes
21
     or -- or not. So that's certainly appropriate.
22
          If you -- if you don't vote today, there --
23
     the respondents are still required to be evaluated
24
     on what they submitted on paper, what you heard
25
     today, and there can't be any phone calls or
```

e-mails or separate research, no hitting Reddit to 1 2 see what's going on. 3 You just have to -- you've got the 4 information. If you just need time processing it, 5 reading back through it now that you've heard presentations, that's one thing. I just wanted to 6 make sure that's clear. But if -- if one of the 7 members is ready to make a motion, then certainly 8 9 they -- it's procedurally correct to make that 10 motion. 11 I see. Otherwise, I would CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: 12 say the board to vote on it at the next meeting, 13 you know, something like that. 14 MS. LAOUIDARA: With the caution that of 15 course they can't talk among each other, you know that, but you also can't talk with the parties to 16 17 get any information that was not submitted to you 18 by the deadline or presented here --19 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Uh-huh. 20 MS. LAQUIDARA: -- in the sunshine meeting. So they -- since we 21 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Uh-huh. 22 don't know, we just have these three, so all three 23 could reappear July 21st at the next meeting or 24 they would not -- it would not be necessary, we 25 would vote on -- on one of these three in the next

meeting, July 21. 1 2 MS. LAQUIDARA: Yes, all the meetings are open 3 to the public. If you don't have a motion today 4 for approval of any particular firm, then it's a 5 matter that's deferred; you haven't -- you haven't completed it. And then you can look through your 6 7 materials, ponder a great thought and then come But -- but again, you know, I'd caution 8 9 there is no more information than what you have 10 today. 11 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: So my first question Okay. 12 should be for the board: Do we want to defer it? 13 And the next -- I mean, defer the choice of these 14 And the next question would be: Do we want 15 to choose one of these three today? 16 MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Can I? 17 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Please. 18 MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: So I don't -- I don't know 19 if that question can be answered just yet. And the 20 only reason I say that is I would be open to having 21 an open discussion regarding the three that are 22 still here. And then after that discussion, if we 23 don't have a consensus or if someone is really 24 adamant that they're just not on board, I would be

comfortable deferring a selection. But I think

that either way, it's worth a discussion now, 1 2 because if we don't discuss it now, we're going to 3 postpone that to the next meeting and still have to 4 have a full discussion, so --CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: But we have had discussion 5 with them. 6 MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Right. A discussion among 7 ourselves as a board over who we think -- I mean, 8 9 to discuss each -- each qualifying person that is 10 here. 11 Because we might find after this discussion 12 that, hey, we're all kind of talking around it but 13 we're all still thinking the same thing and we 14 could move forward, or we have the discussion and say, oh, I didn't think about that, let me think 15 16 about it for a little bit longer. 17 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay. So I would go through 18 our alphabet and say, Ms. -- Michelle, you know, 19 what are your three choices or two choices or one 20 choice or whatever, and then just go through 21 alphabetically and you do the same thing? 22 MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Or we could just say a firm 23 and then just each discuss that one firm and then move -- I mean, that might be easier than starting 24 25 with Michelle ranking top three people while

```
they're staring at me first. Whichever.
 1
 2
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Uh-huh.
                                     Thoughts?
          MS. LIOTTA: I -- I think that's a good
 3
 4
     suggestion. Maybe we just generally discuss each
 5
     of the three because we may -- in that discussion,
     someone bring up something someone else hasn't
 6
     thought of and then that might eventually change,
 7
     you know, what we would rank as a consensus.
 8
 9
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Your thought, Len?
10
          MR. TUCKER:
                       I don't mind having a discussion
11
     on this at this point.
12
                                   You don't mind,
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay.
13
     Dennis?
14
          MR. CLARKE:
                       No.
                            Fine.
15
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay.
                                   So then -- yes.
16
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Do we have to do anything
17
     or just have our discussion?
                                   You looked like you
18
     had something that was --
19
                                    No, the board -- the
                          No.
                               No.
          MS. LAOUIDARA:
20
     board can just have a general discussion.
21
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             Okay.
22
                            Okay.
                                   So I would -- what I
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
23
     would say is each board member either rank these
24
     three or rank the two or tell which one you would
25
     like one, two, and three.
```

```
MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: I would be more comfortable
 1
 2
     if we just went down the list and said --
 3
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: We only have three.
 4
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: -- for this -- right.
                                                     Ι
 5
     understand. But if we start with, you know, the
     first firm that spoke, that we discuss that firm as
 6
     a whole instead of me saying, I like one, two,
 7
     three, I'd be more comfortable with that.
 8
 9
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Yeah, but I thought I didn't
10
     really see any discussion when -- since we've
11
     already heard from them.
12
          MS. LAQUIDARA: For discussion purposes
13
     only --
14
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Uh-huh.
15
          MS. LAQUIDARA: -- you can ask -- someone can
16
     make a motion to discuss the firms, the remaining
17
     firms, in alphabetical order and to identify any
     questions or concerns they have with each of those.
18
19
     If that -- that might be one way to proceed.
20
          If someone has somebody, it doesn't mean
21
     they're going to get it, but it would frame the
22
     discussion if someone said, well, I'm comfortable
23
     with Firm A, so I move approval for Firm A, second,
24
     just for the discussion purposes. And then if
25
     they -- they may not have it.
```

```
But I would either go alphabetical and ask for
 1
 2
     comments if anybody has any on each of the firms --
 3
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             Uh-huh.
          MS. LAQUIDARA: -- and then call for a motion
 4
 5
     for one of them or what seems to be --
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay.
                                   So it would be
 6
 7
     Lippes, Smith, and Trask --
          MR. CLARKE: And Trask.
 8
 9
                          If you --
          MS. LAOUIDARA:
10
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            -- in that order, right?
11
          MS. LAOUIDARA: If that works.
12
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay.
                                   So, Ms. Cash-Chapman,
13
     Lippes, Smith --
14
          MR. CLARKE:
                       Trask.
15
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: -- and Trask.
16
          MS. LAQUIDARA: All right. So --
17
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: What are you asking me?
18
          MS. LAOUIDARA:
                          If, Ms. Cash-Chapman, if you
     would make a motion, if you're agreeable, to
19
20
     discuss the three firms in alphabetical order.
21
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             I would like to make a
22
     motion to discuss the three firms that we have left
23
     in alphabetical order to see if we can discuss the
24
     pros and cons of each to see if we can come to a
25
     consensus prior to making a motion to vote.
```

```
1
                       I'll second.
          MR. CLARKE:
 2
                            Okay. We have first and a
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
 3
     second.
              All in favor, say aye.
 4
          MR. CLARKE:
                       Aye.
 5
          MS. LIOTTA:
                       Aye.
 6
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             Aye.
 7
          MR. TUCKER:
                       Aye.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Aye. Any opposed?
 8
 9
                        (None.)
10
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                                 Okay. So now we can
                            No.
11
     dis -- because you're still --
12
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: You really want me to go
13
     first.
14
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            I know it.
15
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: God, Reba.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
16
                            Your name -- no. Your name
17
     is right there.
18
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: You don't always have to go
     alphabetical, for the record. Let's switch it up
19
20
     maybe.
          MS. LAQUIDARA: There is --
21
22
                             No, that's fine.
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                                                I think
23
     that the candidates that we have are all excellent,
     and to be perfectly honest, I do not have a hard
24
25
     one, two, and three at this point, which is why I
```

think it's really important that we have a 1 2 discussion. 3 I am obviously looking at numerous things at 4 this point. I obviously love that we have local 5 candidates. I am still looking at the monthly retainer versus some of the other monthly 6 That's obviously something that we need 7 retainers. to be cognizant of, especially given our recent 8 budget hits. I do like that we have, and I think I 9 10 can say this about everyone, that we have aviation 11 experience. 12 Honestly, I'm going to put this out here. 13 appreciate that they did not answer about our past 14 issues, because they are a hundred percent right, there was not enough information for them to give 15 16 an educated answer on that. 17 And so, when people did answer, that really hit me and kind of said some things that I needed 18 19 to hear to help make a decision based on who I want 20 to work with. 21 Rank one, two, three? CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: 2.2 MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: I'm not prepared to do 23 I'm prepared to discuss each firm, as I've 24 made the motion and it was approved. So that is my

discussion on that firm and I look forward to

25

```
hearing everyone else's discussion on that firm.
 1
 2
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay.
                                    So, alphabetically
 3
     you're saying you want discussion on the
 4
     Lippes Mathis firm.
 5
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: That's what the motion was,
 6
     yes.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
 7
                            Yes.
                             That we're all going to
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
 8
 9
     discuss this one firm and then move on to the next
10
     firm.
11
          MR. CLARKE: Can't give an opinion on the
12
     other two at the same time?
13
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             Nope.
14
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            I disagree.
15
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             That was the motion, so
     that's what I'm going with.
16
17
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Yeah, I mean --
18
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: We just voted on that.
19
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Does the rest of the board,
20
     would they like to -- is that -- that just -- we're
21
     going to not be through till midnight.
2.2
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Well, that was the motion.
23
     We agreed on it. I clearly just stated I am not
24
     prepared to have a one, two, and three, but I am
25
     prepared to discuss each one, so if we could
```

```
discuss the one that we just started discussion on,
 1
 2
     I think that would make the most sense.
 3
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay.
                                   Then you start.
 4
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             I already did.
 5
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            And so, what was your
     discussion? On which one?
 6
 7
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Did you not hear everything
 8
     I just said?
 9
          MR. CLARKE:
                       Lippes.
10
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             That was my discussion.
11
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay. Mr. Clarke?
12
          MR. CLARKE: I'll -- Lippes Mathias, their
13
     strengths are they are local, they are large, they
14
     offer a wide variety of services, and particularly
15
     because of our anticipated growth, I -- I would
     expect that it wouldn't be very long where we would
16
17
     be availing ourselves to their bond counsel
18
     expertise, but -- I hope that's the case anyway.
19
          They have aviation experience, of course, and
20
     then they're -- on the downside, the retainer's a
21
     little bit high, but on the other hand, they have
22
     enough possibly lower-level associates and
23
     paralegals that could somewhat mitigate their
24
     average, you know, cost per hour.
25
          And I'm not -- you know, that's a -- that's a
```

```
secondary concern for me, but, you know, that --
 1
 2
     that's the -- my assessment on them.
                                           Would you
 3
     like my assessment on the other two or we can't do
     that?
 4
 5
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: I'd prefer to do one.
 6
          MR. CLARKE: All right.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay. Ms. Liotta,
 7
     discussion?
 8
 9
          MS. LIOTTA:
                       Sure. So my impress --
10
     impressions of the Lippes Mathias RFQ/RFP are I
11
     think pretty similar to Mr. Clarke.
12
          I do note that the -- the -- the slightly
13
     higher bill rates on the partners, but that kind of
14
     is balanced out by a lower billing rate on the,
15
     like, clerks level, and about the same bill rate on
16
     the associates.
17
          So I think, you know, that's kind of apples to
18
     apples with Smith Gambrell. The Trask RFP does not
19
     have a -- an associate bill rate, but their partner
20
     rate is lower, so all in all, if the partners are
21
     doing all of the work but it's a lower bill rate,
22
     it might kind of come out in the wash.
                                              So I'm not
23
     sure anyone's got a strong edge on the financials
24
     as far as bill rates. I did -- nothing jumped out
25
     to me, anyway.
```

I do like that they're local. I like even 1 2 more that they are actual users of this airport. 3 And I like that they've got -- you know, everyone 4 on the table now has some aviation exposure, you 5 know, anywhere -- at least exposure up through, you know, strong expertise, including with people who 6 interact with the FAA on a regular basis. So I do 7 like that they have what appears to be a strong 8 aviation in addition to the strong Florida 9 10 government practice. 11 So I -- I really like this firm, and I -- and 12 I do note that their -- their monthly is not 13 really -- I would just point out it's not really a monthly fee, per se. It looks like it's more of a 14 15 retainer style, because it is the highest of the 16 group, but it's if it's not used --17 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Right. MS. LIOTTA: -- it's just a deposit that gets 18 19 true up to that amount and then drawn down from 20 So it's not like we will -- I think we'll there. 21 use it, but it's not like it's going to be, you 22 know, disassociated from anything else. This is 23 based on actual bill rates. So, you know, it's a 24 little bit more to get started with them, but I don't think it's substantial. 25

```
1
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            So you're --
 2
          MS. LIOTTA: That's -- those are my comments
 3
     on the first firm.
 4
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay. So you don't have --
 5
     you're not saying a number one yet?
          MS. LIOTTA:
 6
                       No.
 7
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay. Mr. Tucker?
          MR. TUCKER: Yeah, I -- I like the firm.
 8
                                                     It.
 9
     certainly has a lot of --
10
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Which one?
11
          MR. TUCKER: Well, we're discussing
12
     Lippes Mathis -- Mathias or whatever.
13
          I like the firm. It has a lot of nice things.
14
     I think Jennifer's point about the fee structure
15
     was good.
                I really sort of equate that more to
     like a deposit that's on with them which they then
16
     take their draw out of, and that I think benefits
17
18
     the airport in many ways.
19
          Again, I don't have any problem at all with
20
     them being our legal counsel, I think they would do
21
     excellent work, but I am not prepared to rank them
22
     at this point in time.
23
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay. So -- so we have a
24
     zero for you.
25
          So, for Ludlow, I enjoyed meeting all of them,
```

```
and -- and it was really tough. I have to tell
 1
 2
     you, though, I -- the thing I liked most about
 3
     Lippes Mathias was that it could be that we could
 4
     end up using them for both, and that's very very
 5
     appealing to me.
          And -- and he is the only one that has showed
 6
 7
     up at any of our meetings, so he cared about us
     before he put in his RFQ. So that's good.
 8
                                                  And I
 9
     do like it that they are aviation-related.
10
     can tell you right now, that, you know, I would
11
     vote for -- for Lippes. So I guess, Michelle?
12
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Are you asking me to start
13
     a discussion on --
14
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: You -- you had your
15
     discussion, right, or do you want to discuss
16
     anymore?
17
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Well, our motion --
18
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Are you satisfied with the
19
     discussion?
20
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Our motion was to discuss
21
     each firm as a whole, like we just did with one
22
            Now do we do that with other two --
23
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: -- and that is what our
24
25
     motion was, and then we rank them.
                                         That's what we
```

```
voted on just --
 1
 2
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okav.
 3
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: -- five minutes ago, I'm
 4
     pretty sure.
 5
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay.
                                   So -- so I -- I will,
     what do I say? I will forego discussing the other
 6
     firms to vote for one. I -- I don't have to
 7
     discuss the other firms.
 8
 9
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             Sure.
10
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            I don't.
11
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: You can make a motion all
12
     day.
13
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Right.
14
          MS. LAQUIDARA: Mad- -- Madam Chair, so that
15
     we have a procedural record when we're awarding a
     contract -- and, I'm sorry, I know this is
16
17
     exhausting --
18
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: I know.
                                     And I'm just --
19
          MS. LAOUIDARA: -- and tedious, but it's
20
     all -- it's all -- now that I get into the -- the
21
     details of it.
22
          So if the easiest thing is, because there is
23
     an existing motion, if you have no comments on the
24
     other two, just to state that, that you don't have
25
     any comments at this time; you'd first like to see
```

```
if the motion for the Lippes firm --
 1
 2
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            So --
 3
          MS. LAQUIDARA: -- survives, having heard
 4
     comments about that. And -- and then there's a
 5
     compliance or the motion can be withdrawn if it
 6
     appears there's a consensus.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
 7
                            Okay.
                                    So me saying that I
     appreciated all of them and I liked every one of
 8
     them and I would like for them to be my friends,
 9
10
     we're good, however, you know, I --
11
          MS. LAOUIDARA:
                          That can be your answer.
                                                     Ι
     mean, you don't have to discuss the other two.
12
     There was a motion for it, but what comes out of
13
14
     each of your mouths is whatever you want on any
15
     motion.
              There is one pending, so sometimes you
     want to persuade other people --
16
17
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            So --
18
          MS. LAQUIDARA: -- but no one can make you --
19
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: -- Mr. Clarke, you have to
20
     clarify yours, that you -- you have to say
21
     something about the others before you can say
22
     something about one.
23
          MR. CLARKE:
                       I'm prepared to talk about
24
     Smith Gambrell.
25
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Oh, okay.
```

```
Do you have to go first?
 1
          MR. CLARKE:
                       Yeah.
 2
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             I thought so, yeah, thanks.
 3
          MR. CLARKE: Go ahead.
 4
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             Thanks, Dennis.
 5
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            I thought you already had.
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: So I do like that there is
 6
     an international presence. I like that they have
 7
     worked with some of the same companies that we've
 8
 9
     worked with. I like that there's obviously a lot
10
     of --
11
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            This is Smith.
12
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: -- litigation -- yeah,
13
     that's who we're talking about now. Government
14
     law.
          If we're being honest, I did not like that
15
     they addressed the question that wasn't asked of
16
17
     them regarding our previous law firm, and so
18
     there's a -- you know, a way to leave and do things
19
     like that, because again there wasn't enough
20
     information, and I just think that pulling in
21
     outside things like that speaks volumes and I did
22
     not love that, so...
23
                            Okay.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                                    I quess --
24
          MR. CLARKE: Are you ready?
25
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: -- you're next.
```

```
Smith Gambrell, what -- what I
 1
          MR. CLARKE:
 2
     like about them is the fact that we're -- we have
 3
     a -- sometimes we forget we are administering an
 4
     authority, which is a creature of the state.
                                                    It's
 5
     a -- we're a state tax -- taxing authority.
     that's one thing.
 6
          It just so happens that that authority owns an
 7
     airport and owns a whole lot of real estate.
                                                   And T
 8
 9
     think they're -- Smith Gambrell's strength is -- is
10
     just that, in -- in their local government
11
     experience, their proximity to us even though
12
     they're in Jacksonville, but I'm very, you know,
13
     favorably impressed about, you know, that aspect of
14
     their offering.
                      That's my comment.
15
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: So you have to say you're
16
     not going to talk about the others.
17
          MR. CLARKE: No, I'll give my comments on
18
     Trask Daigneault.
19
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: You're going to wait on that
20
     one?
21
                       I'll wait on that, yeah.
          MR. CLARKE:
22
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay.
                                   So I've already said
23
     my comments, so Ms. Liotta?
24
          MS. LIOTTA: As to Smith Gambrell, I think
25
     some of -- in comparing with the -- in talking
```

```
about the Lippes firm, I think I already mentioned
 1
 2
     some of the others on as far as how they bill, I
 3
     was a little perplexed on the Smith Gambrell
 4
     billing.
 5
          It mentioned -- let me see if I can flip
     through and find it where it is. How they proposed
 6
 7
     the billing was a flat fee of up to X hours at X
            And if -- my apologies, I'm having trouble
 8
     rate.
 9
     finding the exact page that's on.
10
          And the way I -- when I did the math, that
11
     broked out -- that broke out to $395 an hour, which
12
     is their partner and counsel rate. So I quess --
13
     and I --
14
                             Page 16.
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
15
          MS. LIOTTA: Okay. Thanks.
                                       Yeah, I'm right
16
     there.
17
          And so, I guess that to me leaves open the
18
     idea that you're -- for those first hours, you're
19
     just billed at that rate, which is the highest
20
     rate. Well, what happens if some of that work was
21
     done by a paralegal or an associate? Are we
22
     getting billed the partner rate for the first X
23
     hours just across the board? It's kind of what it
24
     implied, which I didn't love.
25
          So, I think as far as their breadth of
```

```
services, they're fairly competitive with
 1
 2
     Lippes Mathias -- I don't know if I'm saying that
 3
            But I -- I've got to agree with -- with
 4
     Michelle on the presentation and how some of the
 5
     answers went. I don't think you win business by
     saying other people look bad. I think you should
 6
     arque for your own merits.
 7
                            That's your opinion about --
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
 8
 9
          MR. TUCKER:
                       Yeah.
                              Smith Gambrell, I -- I
10
     like that firm. I've -- I've seen them in the area
11
     for a number of years. In fact, I think I even had
12
     a friend years ago that used to work for them as a
13
     lawyer, so I'm familiar with their name.
14
          I do like the fact that they have aviation
15
     authority experience, so I think they would also
     qualify possibly as doing both the general counsel
16
17
     and the aviation counsel without too much at risk
18
     there because they certainly have some people
19
     within their firm that can answer the aviation
20
     questions that we might have. I like them very
21
            I'm not prepared to establish a ranking for
     much.
22
     the firms today.
23
          MS. LIOTTA: Oh, apologies.
                                       I've got one
24
     follow-up comment, if you don't mind.
25
          To agree with Mr. Tucker, I do like both for
```

```
Lippes and I think also Smith that we could have
 1
 2
     one outside counsel on a standing basis.
 3
          I -- I haven't been completely happy with
 4
     having a separate aviation counsel, frankly,
 5
     because I think I've seen some, in my opinion,
     duplicative work potentially where it wasn't clear
 6
     where things were going, and that may have -- I
 7
     don't know, but I -- it's at best inefficient, at
 8
 9
     worst creates extra billings for the firm, and I
10
     think it would be -- while that was a great
11
     experiment, I think on -- we -- the board should --
12
     would be better served having an outside -- a
13
     general counsel that also can handle aviation
14
     matters.
15
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Michelle? Do you have
16
     another discussion?
17
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: We do for the -- for the
18
     third --
19
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Go ahead.
20
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: -- the third firm.
21
          I do really -- obviously having so many years
22
     in local government is huge for us. I didn't see
23
     too many things that were cause for alarm for me,
24
     but again, because I'm not -- I don't have a hard
25
     one, two, and three right now, that's why it's
```

important for us to have these discussions, I think 1 2 that we're hearing a lot of good information from 3 each person, so I'd like to hear what the others 4 have to say about this last one. I like Trask. I think Ms. Bach 5 MR. CLARKE: would -- with her recent experience at FHB, 6 would -- would fit right in kind of with the staff. 7 She's very hands-on. She doesn't get an 8 9 opportunity to delegate much of -- much of her 10 work, which I could see us keeping her very busy. 11 That's a -- that's a very positive part of her 12 offering. 13 Being an hour and a half or so away is not --14 you know, not so troubling, but I think she would be in for -- at least initially for the first year 15 or so, she would be putting more time in here. 16 17 very impressive and I like that hands-on frontline 18 experience. That's very positive to me. 19 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay. Any other? 20 MS. LIOTTA: I guess my comment to Trask is 21 just a repeat of what I mentioned before. They're 22 the lowest billing. They're also the furthest 23 away. 24 Maybe not quite as strong on the super deep 25 aviation, there's -- but there is a lot of good

25

practical work with an airport. And I'm not trying 1 2 to discount that, so I don't think that they're out 3 of the running on that point. But they are -- they 4 don't like, per se, have somebody in Washington, if that's a critical factor for us for FAA work. 5 So, you know, I -- I think -- I do like the 6 fact that the other firms are, like, right here. 7 Ι don't know how much emergency legal work we're 8 9 going to need, but an hour and a half is different 10 than, you know, having someone who's in 11 St. Augustine, so that to me is a factor. 12 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: You -- you've done all three 13 of them. Yeah. Yes, I certainly like 14 MR. TUCKER: 15 Trask. I think they would be a good quality firm to do work for us. They do have experience with 16 17 the Fernandina Airport, which was good, although 18 probably not quite as deep as -- as maybe we had anticipated, but I don't think that would be a 19 20 stumbling block for them. 21 I'm not so concerned about only being an hour 22 and a half away, because I know attorneys. 23 Attorneys are locked up in meetings most of the 24 time, anyway. So the fact that you need to call

one and get ahold of them, to get ahold of them

```
within an hour is I think pretty doggone good.
 1
                                                      But
 2
     anyway, I don't -- I don't think that's a
 3
     discounted type thing, anyway, because so much of
 4
     it's going to happen over the phone. She seemed to
 5
     be perfectly willing to be here at any point in
     time that we requested her to be so, so I -- I
 6
     don't feel that drive to Fernandina is a -- is a
 7
     disqualifying factor at all.
 8
 9
          But, again, I like all three of them, I
10
     couldn't have a problem with any of them working
11
     for us, but I'm not prepared to rank them today.
12
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Any other comments? You've
13
     done -- you've done your three, you've done your
14
     three, I've done my three, so we've had all the
15
     discussion you wanted on your motion.
16
                             Just like we voted, yep.
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
17
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Yeah.
18
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             But I do have one quick
19
     question, if I could have a follow-up question with
20
     Mr. Tucker.
21
          Is there something -- is there a particular
22
     reason -- I'm just curious because I am pretty
23
     confident there's going to be a motion made in a
24
     moment to vote and I don't feel comfortable moving
25
     forward with that if you have, you know, some
```

```
adamant, deep in your sole reason that you're not
 1
 2
     prepared to do that.
                           So if you would prefer to
 3
     clarify that for us.
 4
          MR. TUCKER:
                       I feel they're too close in
 5
     expertise and I really would like to go through
     their proposals a little more thoroughly again and
 6
     think about them a little bit before I'm prepared
 7
     to rank them.
 8
 9
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                                    Thank you.
                             Okay.
                                                 Ι
10
     appreciate that.
11
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            So, then we -- can we get it
12
     down to at least two?
13
          MS. LAOUIDARA:
                          It's -- it's the board's
14
     pleasure.
15
          If someone has a motion to select counsel,
     they can make that motion and see if it carries.
16
17
     And then if that motion fails, then perhaps you're
18
     ranking them or bringing, you know, two back.
19
     it's the board's pleasure at this point if -- if
20
     you have a preference or make the motion.
21
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: And can the -- can the
22
     chairman make that motion?
23
          MS. LAOUIDARA: Yes. Under Robert's Rules,
24
     you're small with only five people, the chairman
25
     can make the motion.
```

Can I have one more 1 MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: 2 follow-up question? Thanks. 3 If we decide that we are not going to move 4 forward today making a vote, nothing is saying that we have to wait another month for our next meeting. 5 Could we hold a special meeting to have this vote 6 if Mr. Tucker feels maybe in week or two weeks, 7 that would give him an adequate amount of time to 8 process all of the information he's taken in? 9 10 maybe it's not today or next month, but we could 11 meet somewhere in that middle, if that would be 12 something comfortable for Mr. Tucker? 13 MR. TUCKER: Well, I can tell you that I feel 14 that they're close enough that I'm not sure I'm 15 ever going to be able to come up with one and say I 16 absolutely don't like these firms. I don't --17 MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: That was not helpful. 18 MR. TUCKER: I mean, I'm --19 I'm trying to work with you MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: 20 here. 21 I -- I just feel like I can deal MR. TUCKER: 22 with any one -- I think they're all three very 23 qualified to do the job for us. I would be happy 24 with any one of them. But if you want me to rank 25 them, I'm going to need more time to go through all

the presentations again, all these documents again. 1 2 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: We don't want you to rank 3 them; we want you to vote on them. 4 MR. TUCKER: I understand. That's the same 5 thing. MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Would a week be an adequate 6 7 amount of time for you to look at those? MR. TUCKER: I probably can. 8 9 That's good to MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Thank you. 10 know. 11 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: We can't do that in a week. 12 MR. TUCKER: You have to --13 MS. LIOTTA: You have to have ten-day notice. 14 MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Have 10 days. Could you do 15 it in 12 days? MR. TUCKER: Well, if I can do it in a week, I 16 17 can do it in 12 days. Thank you for 18 MS. CASH-CHAPMAN: Fantastic. 19 clarifying. 20 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay. Well --21 MS. LIOTTA: May I? 22 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Yes. 23 MS. LIOTTA: I think while I appreciate 24 Mr. Tucker may not be comfortable doing a ranking, 25 it sounds like he'd be happy with any decision the

rest of the board makes -- makes. 1 2 So if the rest of the board is comfortable 3 doing a ranking, making a selection and an 4 alternative, we are moving forward and doing I 5 think what's in the best interest of the Authority. So I would prefer we try to make a decision tonight 6 7 and move this forward. CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okay. Discussion? 8 9 Discussion? I -- I agree. I mean, we've got them 10 here, we've used all -- everybody's time for this, 11 and I -- I think that, you know -- see, I don't even want to make a motion for two. I mean, I 12 13 think I would just make a motion for one. 14 MR. CLARKE: Make it for one. 15 MS. LAOUIDARA: Yes. I think --16 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Can I do that? Okav. 17 MS. LAOUIDARA: -- if a board member's comfortable making a motion to award the contract 18 to one of the firms, then they'd make a motion and 19 20 then a second and a vote. 21 Okay. So I would like to CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: 22 make a motion to employ the Lippes Mathias firm. 23 And that is based on our future, that I feel like 24 we can have -- have all of our work under one roof, 25 and that just would be a miracle. So I would like

```
1
     to make a motion to vote for the Lippes Mathias
 2
     firm as our number one firm.
 3
          MS. LIOTTA:
                       Second.
 4
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: We have a first and a
 5
     second.
              Is there any discussion?
                         (None.)
 6
 7
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Do I have to do public?
          MS. LAOUIDARA: You should.
 8
 9
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Public comment?
10
                         (None.)
11
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay. No public comment.
     Back to the board. So we need to vote.
12
13
     Ms. Cash-Chapman?
14
          MS. CASH-CHAPMAN:
                             Aye.
15
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Mr. Clarke?
16
          MR. CLARKE:
                       Aye.
17
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Ms. Liotta?
18
          MS. LIOTTA:
                       Yes.
19
                            Mr. Tucker?
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
20
          MR. TUCKER: In the interest of making it
21
     unanimous, aye.
22
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Ms. Ludlow?
                                          Aye.
23
          Thank you. We have selected a firm.
                                                 Now
24
     we're adjourned.
25
          MR. WALKER:
                       No, no, not adjourned.
```

```
1
         CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            I know.
 2
         MR. CLARKE: Oh, my God.
 3
         MS. LAQUIDARA: You have a few more things.
 4
         CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            That was a joke. Well, I am
 5
    telling you we were not prepared -- prepared for
           Thank you, Tammi.
                               Thank you.
 6
    this.
                                           And thank
 7
          Bye, Dan. I -- thank goodness I did my
    homework.
 8
 9
         MR. JENNISON: May I make a comment before I
10
    depart?
11
         CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Yeah, Pete.
12
         MR. JENNISON: Is that permitted?
13
         CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Yes, please. Of course.
14
    appreciate you coming and spending --
15
         MR. JENNISON: Sure, sure.
16
         CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: -- time and meeting us.
17
    please come to meetings more often, and who knows?
18
         MR. JENNISON: Oh, no, it was wonderful, and I
19
    appreciate the opportunity. If you guys had
20
    clarified that it -- that you were looking for a
21
    firm, I probably wouldn't have applied.
22
         CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Yeah.
23
         MR. JENNISON: So I think that would maybe
24
    help in the future.
25
         And I just want to clarify something.
                                                 The
```

```
question that was asked of me earlier was would I
 1
 2
     do something different by Mr. Clarke. I -- I don't
 3
     think the question was do I think outgoing counsel
 4
     made a mistake and I was asked would I do something
 5
     different.
          I just want to clarify that I probably would
 6
     have, but it's -- you know, I just didn't want
 7
     anyone to think that I was throwing anyone else
 8
 9
     under the bus because that was not my intent.
10
     Thank you, guys.
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: And thank you.
11
12
          MR. CLARKE: You interpreted my question
13
     correctly.
                 Thank you.
14
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Thank you. And bye, Jack.
15
     Okay. I --
16
          MS. LIOTTA: Madam Chair --
17
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            It's 6:22.
          MS. LIOTTA: -- can I suggest a five-minute
18
19
     recess or possibly we talk about adjourning the
20
     rest of it for next month?
21
                            I would prefer to adjourn it
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
22
     till next month.
23
          MR. CLARKE: I have a question before we do
24
     that.
25
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Okay.
```

Is the -- for our -- Mr. Pittman, 1 MR. CLARKE: 2 is -- are the vehicles, you know, the replacement 3 of them, is that due to safety reasons? Is this 4 imminent? Are they going to fail or can it wait 5 another month? MR. PITTMAN: It's in reference to the 6 7 procurement process, that the vehicles -- we won't have access to those vehicles if we wait another 8 9 month. 10 MS. LAQUIDARA: May I? Madam Chair, I had a 11 few points of procedure on this. The -- because 12 the board can discuss that issue and make whatever 13 decision you want. 14 Under your charter, you have to amend your 15 budget -- if you're over budget on something, then you have to amend it because, otherwise, the danger 16 17 is that you're deficit spending and then the state 18 comes and takes you over. That's -- nobody wants 19 that, right? 20 So -- so, on these items -- and I don't know, 21 I'm not the budget person; it doesn't mean you 22 can't transfer money if you have transfer, but you 23 have to have enough money if you're over budget on an item to approve something. And that's in your 24 25 charter, as it is for other special districts and

local entities. 1 2 The other thing is no one apparently has 3 previously advised contracts come in front of the 4 board and employees salaries come in front of the board for formal action. 5 So I want those three things to kind of let --6 I wanted to flag those for the board members as we 7 get procedures down and as there's a turnover. Τf 8 9 you have an item, a budget item that has a hundred 10 dollars and you want to spend two, you need to move 11 money in that budget item and then approve it. 12 So if you are going to approve the vehicles, 13 you have to move money into the account if there 14 isn't money in it and then approve it. 15 MR. CLARKE: Can that -- excuse me. Through the Chair. May -- can that be done at 16 17 September 30th or does it have to be done 18 concurrent with the --19 MS. LAOUIDARA: No, it has to be done before, 20 because otherwise you're at the end of the year and 21 you're like, huh-oh, I don't have any money. 22 MR. CLARKE: But, I mean, can the accounts be 23 adjusted --24 MS. LAQUIDARA: No, it -- the adjust --25 MR. CLARKE: -- based on what --

You've got to -- you've got to 1 MR. TUCKER: 2 amend the budget, I think is what she's saying. 3 MR. CLARKE: Right. 4 MS. LAQUIDARA: If you make a motion -- and it sounds formal you're amending the budget which is 5 adopted formally. You're transferring funds into 6 an account so that they still balance. Otherwise, 7 if you have a savings account of a million and 8 9 you're running over budget on -- over a million, 10 you don't have enough money. 11 So your charter requires you -- it's really 12 moving money from -- from one account to another. 13 Oh, look, we have a greater need in vehicles we 14 didn't think we need, so we're taking some money 15 from savings and we're putting it into vehicles. 16 That's all. 17 MR. CLARKE: I got you. 18 MS. LAOUIDARA: It's an amendment, so that 19 when finance goes to pay, there's enough money in 20 the proper account. And that's -- and that's, you 21 know, in your charter like it is other people. And 22 other agencies sometimes forget, to, okay? 23 MR. CLARKE: Okay. 24 MR. TUCKER: Well, not having the budget here 25 in front of us, I couldn't tell you whether we had

contingency items in the budget or vehicles in the 1 2 budget or just general equipment in the budget. 3 That would be something somebody would have to go 4 back to the budget and --5 MR. PITTMAN: Right. MR. TUCKER: -- determine. 6 MS. LAQUIDARA: Typically in a briefing, and 7 Mr. -- Mr. Pittman and I are working on, typically 8 9 would -- I'd like to see your briefing statements 10 to have a motion for a request, a second, you know, 11 why, an explanation, and a discussion: Oh, you 12 know, this is within the budget. It's not, but we 13 have the funds to transfer. 14 Those are things typically that -- that would 15 be helpful to the board to come up ahead of time. So, I just -- it's a matter of getting everything 16 in the right order so that at the end of the year, 17 18 your audit's nice and clean. 19 MR. TUCKER: So if I understand what you're 20 saying, I mean, I think it would be premature for 21 us to even say that we need to amend the budget at 22 this point in time because it couldn't possibly be 23 in the budget if we don't know the --24 MS. LAQUIDARA: Well, it would be appropriate, 25 if you wanted to address it, to ask if it was

21

22

23

24

25

within the terms of the budget, and if not, where 1 2 are the funds being transferred from? And then you 3 would agree or not to transfer the funds on the 4 item. So that's -- I wanted to give you a chance to 5 think about those three issues in your -- in your 6 charter on contracts or employee salaries and on 7 amending the budget to -- to suit. 8 9 MS. LIOTTA: Yeah, I -- I would think that 10 this is a -- typical of a larger iceberg that's 11 really important, it sounds. Like, if this is 12 something in our charter, this is not negotiable, 13 we can kind of play fast and loose with it, we have 14 to do this right. And I have other greater 15 concerns about other items that are already over 16 budget and items that there was even no budget for 17 that are now over six figures. 18 So maybe it's more appropriate to set an 19 approp- -- you know, a good amount of time on -- in 20 fixing all of these issues, because it sounds like

if we can't keep our house in order, the Governor might come in and do it for us.

MS. LAOUIDARA: Well, it -- it -- and it may be that your house is in order. On larger budgets that I've dealt with, the directors have certain

budget authority to move line items from one to 1 2 another, right? I'm not familiar with and haven't 3 seen that type of authority in management. 4 So it's not required -- this might be to 5 Mr. Tucker's concern, you know, why don't we always see all these amendments on the budget? 6 7 there -- there may well be some -- some areas in which the executive director has the authority to 8 9 transfer funds. 10 I'm not familiar enough with your process. 11 Your finance may have that information or that may be questions you ask. So I'm not saying you don't 12 13 have the money; I'm just saying that if it isn't in the budget in the proper place, then it has to be 14 15 moved. 16 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: So we have to talk to Connie 17 about that or -- or Courtney? MS. LAQUIDARA: I don't know if they're ready. 18 19 MR. PITTMAN: Do you want to discuss that now, 20 Madam Chair? 21 MS. LAOUIDARA: I'd hate to blindside them 22 with it. I just saw --23 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: So something has to -- we 24 have to -- you need to talk to one of the finance people right now to get some --25

```
If they have the information.
 1
          MS. LAOUIDARA:
 2
     I'm kind of blindsiding --
 3
          MS. WORLEY:
                       You are.
 4
          MS. LAQUIDARA: -- poor Connie here on
     where -- you know, if the issue's funded. And it
 5
     came up from some of the discussion about a
 6
     shortage of revenues, and in looking at -- at the
 7
     budget, you just want to make sure you actually
 8
 9
     have money in that --
10
          MS. LIOTTA:
                       I -- sorry.
                                    I really think that
11
     this would be better done next month. It would
12
     give staff more time to prepare. It would give
13
     the -- a chance for the public to be properly
14
     notified that we're going to have a budget
     amendment discussion and maybe there'll be -- it
15
16
     will be more than just this one line item.
17
          I think if like you mentioned the employee
     salaries, if you've already -- our general
18
     counsel's already flagged other budgetary issues
19
20
     that we need to take up, it sounds like it's better
21
     to do it in a subsequent meeting where everybody's
22
     prepared and properly noticed.
23
          Also, you know, it sounds like the big risk is
24
     the dealership has trucks it will sell to someone
     else. I think we'll have other trucks available in
25
```

```
1
                  I don't mean to be -- you know, sound
     the future.
 2
     a little snarky, but I think it's better for us to
 3
     focus on doing things in the correct process and
 4
     not being reactionary on our decisions.
 5
          MS. LAOUIDARA:
                          And the -- to that end, on
     like contracts like Wings n' Wheels, next month I'd
 6
     ask you to ratify it because I didn't see any board
 7
     resolution approving the contract for them.
 8
 9
     staff properly brought it to legal, we went and we
10
     ensured that your insurance consultants are hired
11
     and we got it done. But contracts either need to
12
     come to you or there needs to be an express
13
     delegation.
14
          It may just be recordkeeping that's not there,
     it may be that the formal motion wasn't brought,
15
     but I think it will help all of the board meetings
16
17
     if we get these in order with new counsel coming in
18
     and all.
19
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            So we should not have
20
     approved our financial statement. Okay. So we are
21
     tabling that until next meeting?
22
          MS. LIOTTA: Can I -- just to -- okay.
23
     Should -- can I make a formal motion that we table
24
     it? Do we need to do that to change the agenda
25
     or --
```

```
I think a motion -- you can
 1
          MS. LAOUIDARA:
 2
     make a motion to carry over the remainder of the
 3
     agenda till the next meeting, if that's -- if I
 4
     heard that properly.
          MS. LIOTTA: We didn't talk about the
 5
     executive director, so maybe a motion to table the
 6
 7
     procurement, agenda item number two.
          MS. LAQUIDARA: But you didn't approve it,
 8
 9
     right?
10
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            I -- I think we should just
11
     stop where we are and move all of it to the 21st.
12
                       Well, we're going to have staff
          MS. LIOTTA:
13
     report. Can we at least have staff reports?
14
          I personally don't want -- don't think for the
15
     executive director the -- I want an update on why
16
     it hasn't moved forward, even though there was a
     board vote in December.
17
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: That's why it needs to be at
18
19
     a meeting --
20
          MS. LIOTTA: I'm not asking for there to be a
21
     substantive decision made by the board, and so I
22
     think we -- we can do that.
                                  It shouldn't -- you
23
     know, we just haven't heard anything about it and
24
     there was -- there was supposed to be action done
     in the first quarter.
25
```

```
1
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
                            Right.
 2
          MS. LIOTTA: So --
 3
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: And I -- I agree, and I
 4
     think that that should be discussed at the next
 5
     meeting.
              It wouldn't do anything at all today
     because we all need to review it, and -- and it's
 6
     already 6:30.
 7
                       Okay. Can I ask then that staff
          MS. LIOTTA:
 8
 9
     prepare an e-mail just updating the board on the --
10
     where that is and the response to, like -- I mean,
11
     it's just gone into a well and not to be seen or
12
     heard from again since the end of last year and
13
     that's very concerning. And I know we had a change
14
     in general counsel --
15
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: But --
          MS. LIOTTA: -- and I would like an update as
16
17
     to what's going on, what is staff doing, what --
18
     you know, why -- we were supposed to have an RFQ
19
     and we didn't.
20
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: And he could tell us that at
21
     the next meeting, also. Do you want to say
22
     something, Courtney?
23
          MR. PITTMAN: Madam Chair, if I may.
24
          The last, it was -- it wasn't in staff's hands
25
     at the last. It was coming up with a process and
```

25

MR. CLARKE:

1 it was in the board's hand and the board was going 2 to give us direction. And then subsequently, with everything that's happened, it fell off. So staff 3 4 did not have this one. 5 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: I see. So that brings us back, do we --6 MS. LIOTTA: 7 Thank you. CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: -- need to discuss it at the 8 9 January -- July 21 board meeting? So it will stay 10 in its place. Okay. Well, that's the -- that's 11 MS. LIOTTA: 12 the update I was looking for: What has staff been 13 doing? And if the response is: That's actually 14 purely a board matter and because we lost our 15 general counsel that we had tasked to do things, then maybe that's the -- you know, it's on us that 16 17 we need to move it forward. 18 CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Okav. Then I'd like to make 19 a motion we adjourn. 20 MR. CLARKE: One more thing. We have a -- we 21 have an invoice from Akerman that has to be dealt 22 with. 23 MS. LAOUIDARA: We can wait till the next 24 board meeting.

Are you sure?

```
1
          MS. LAQUIDARA:
                           Yes.
 2
          MR. CLARKE:
                        Okay.
 3
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: I make a motion to -- to
 4
     adjourn and carry everything over to the next
 5
     meeting.
 6
          MS. LIOTTA: Second.
 7
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW: Second.
                                      Meeting is
     adjourned.
 8
 9
          MR. CLARKE: We didn't vote.
                                         Aye.
                             Oh, we didn't vote.
10
          CHAIRMAN LUDLOW:
11
     We all voted. Adjourned.
12
            (Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.)
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
2.2
23
24
25
```

1	REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
2	
3	STATE OF FLORIDA )
4	COUNTY OF ST. JOHNS )
5	
6	I, JANET M. BEASON, RPR-CP, RMR, CRR, certify that I
7	was authorized to and did stenographically report the
8	foregoing proceedings and that the transcript is a true
9	record of my stenographic notes.
10	Dated this 23rd day of June, 2025.
11	
12	Gaust M. Beason
13	JANET M. BEASON, RPR-CP, RMR, CRR
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1			ERRATA SHEET
2	RE:	Airport	Regular Board Meeting 6-15-25
3	PAGE	LINE	CORRECTIONS AND REASONS THEREFORE
4			
5			
б			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			
21			
22			
23			
24			
25			

	<b>2006</b> 86:24 87:3		adding 11:17
<b>\$</b>	<b>2025</b> 3:4 5:9	6	addition 62:23 67:3
<b>\$14,000</b> 20:14	<b>206</b> 61:13	<b>6:22</b> 132:17	89:13 113:9
<b>\$3,000</b> 20:17	<b>20th</b> 51:10	<b>6:30</b> 142:7	<b>additional</b> 20:18 70:11
<b>\$3.4</b> 16:25	<b>21</b> 103:1 143:9	<b>6:35</b> 144:12	additions 8:23
<b>\$395</b> 120:11	<b>21st</b> 102:23 141:11		additions/corrections 5:10
<b>\$4</b> 90:14	<b>22</b> 14:14,17 62:13,19 87:22	9	address 12:16 83:12 136:25
<b>\$4.95</b> 19:11	<b>232</b> 59:22	<b>90s</b> 47:18	addressed 118:16
<b>\$5,000</b> 20:11,12	<b>25</b> 71:11	<b>99</b> 87:1	adequate 127:8 128:6
1	<b>25-year-old</b> 50:12		adequately 54:6
	<b>250</b> 56:2		adjourn 132:21 143:19
<b>1</b> 61:22	<b>26</b> 87:1	<b>AAAE</b> 21:22	144:4
<b>1.139</b> 25:2	<b>29</b> 88:10	ability 60:23	adjourned 130:24,25
<b>1.140</b> 25:8		absolutely 127:16	144:8,11,12
<b>1.141</b> 25:15	3	accept 23:11,19,21 27:16 58:24 59:1 71:22	adjourning 132:19
<b>1.143</b> 27:6	<b>3,000</b> 14:17		adjust 6:9 134:24
<b>1.144</b> 27:12	<b>30</b> 54:13 58:22 59:5	acceptance 27:15	adjusted 134:23
<b>10</b> 128:14	81:21	accepted 25:12	administering 119:3
<b>10:00</b> 50:2	<b>30-year</b> 47:19	access 133:8	<b>admission</b> 56:14,18,24
<b>11</b> 16:3	<b>300</b> 14:15	accident 50:13	admitted 56:12
<b>12</b> 128:15,17	<b>30th</b> 134:17	accomplish 69:17	Admittedly 61:15
<b>13</b> 87:19 90:22,25	<b>35</b> 17:9 59:5 77:22	accordance 28:22	adopted 135:6
<b>133</b> 12:17	<b>350</b> 77:22 80:12	<b>account</b> 134:13 135:7, 8,12,20	advance 22:3,6
<b>139</b> 18:22		accountability 70:16	advertised 25:11
<b>15</b> 89:12,21	4	accounts 134:22	advertisement 25:2,3
<b>150</b> 14:13	<b>4</b> 18:5	accurate 14:12,13	advise 62:3
<b>16</b> 90:22,23,25 120:14	<b>40</b> 54:13	accustomed 73:21	<b>advised</b> 52:3,18 134:3
<b>16,300</b> 20:16	<b>45</b> 59:6	<b>Act</b> 79:4	advising 48:5,9 52:12
<b>16th</b> 3:4	<b>49</b> 62:17	<b>action</b> 32:20 97:8 98:10	<b>advisor</b> 48:2,9
<b>17</b> 59:23 79:10,12 83:24 84:4 86:8 87:9,18	<b>4:00</b> 3:2	134:5 141:24	affairs 79:9
<b>19</b> 79:16	<b>4th</b> 13:24	<b>active</b> 50:14 53:7	affected 18:15
<b>19</b> 79.16 <b>19th</b> 5:9		activity 95:17	affixed 25:9
	5	actual 69:13 72:1 75:13	afford 78:18
2	<b>50</b> 50:7 79:13	113:2,23	Afghanistan 47:22
20. 50.000.45.55.5	<b>500</b> 14:16	adamant 103:24 126:1	afraid 35:17
<ul><li>20 59:6 86:18 88:5</li><li>2000 67:6</li></ul>	<b>55</b> 56:4	<b>add</b> 9:3 10:7,18 11:1 15:1 27:19 33:4 54:25 61:11 77:5 89:8	afternoon 59:18

Index: \$14,000..afternoon

<b>age</b> 73:20	allegations 51:21	apples 112:17,18	assurance 87:22
agencies 79:19 135:22	Allegiance 3:7	applicable 40:23	Atlanta 80:19 87:21
agency 74:25	allot 92:4	application 47:16	Atlantic 64:3
agenda 5:8,16 8:19,21,	<b>Alpha</b> 50:23	applied 131:21	attend 81:19
22,24 9:3,8 10:7,18 11:2,8,13,17 12:1,3	alphabet 104:18	appoint 35:25	attended 61:23
15:18 27:12,13 140:24	alphabetical 45:23	appreciated 117:8	attesting 25:10
141:3,7	51:1 64:22 106:17 107:1,20,23 108:19	Appreciating 65:5	attorney 60:14 68:6,18
<b>agendas</b> 10:3 <b>agree</b> 30:10 37:21	<b>alphabetically</b> 46:24 104:21 110:2	<b>approach</b> 32:11 36:25 60:20 93:22	74:18 82:3 84:2,13 86:9, 17 87:5,6 88:6 89:9
44:15,16,17 65:1 95:24 96:9 121:3,25 129:9	alternative 129:4	<b>approp-</b> 137:19	Attorney's 60:16
137:3 142:3	ambitious 95:18	<b>approval</b> 5:6,8 8:19,21, 22 103:4 106:23	<b>attorneys</b> 28:1 49:22 72:14 80:18 86:4 96:10
agreeable 107:19	amend 7:1 93:6,14 98:1	approve 6:11,12,13,14	124:22,23
agreed 110:23	133:14,16 135:2 136:21	7:13 8:9,11 11:11,12,17	attorneys' 59:4
agreement 36:15	amended 7:17 8:11	27:21 92:2 133:24 134:11,12,14 141:8	attributed 19:24
<b>AH-64</b> 50:23	amending 135:5 137:8	approved 24:11 109:24	audience 92:4
<b>ahead</b> 41:8 118:3 122:19 136:15	<b>amendment</b> 135:18 139:15	140:20	audit's 136:18
ahold 124:25	amendments 138:6	approving 140:8	<b>Augustine</b> 5:2 18:16 50:12 60:1 61:5,11,14,
airfield 95:19	amount 16:22 20:10	approximately 15:23	20 74:14,16 124:11
airframes 47:25	30:3 92:5 113:19 127:8	62:13	authorities 63:12 80:3
Airlines 80:15	128:7 137:19	arbitrary 97:25	authority 13:1 25:10
airport 5:22,24 13:1	amounts 59:24	arbitration 88:10	26:1 27:10,16,21 49:10 51:15,20 61:8 66:23
17:17 18:16,22,23,24	Anastasia 81:4	architects 30:22	67:1 78:25 79:20,21,22
19:1 20:7,25 22:3,5,10 27:10,16,21 33:25 47:25	<b>Ann</b> 12:7	<b>area</b> 9:12 78:13 87:15 121:10	82:18 89:11,19 94:15 98:25 119:4,5,7 121:15
51:15 58:17 61:8 63:12	answers 121:5	<b>areas</b> 13:13 62:4 79:5	129:5 138:1,3,8
67:1 69:13 70:19 71:1 72:11,12,23 73:2 78:25	anticipated 15:19 26:7 98:19 111:15 124:19	87:14 89:18 93:7 138:7	automatically 38:16
79:21 86:10,19 87:18,	anybody's 32:5	<b>argue</b> 121:7	Auxiliary 13:22
19,25 88:3,4,22,24,25 89:1,3 90:13 96:11	anymore 115:16	<b>Army</b> 47:20 48:18,21	availing 111:17
113:2 114:18 119:8	anyone's 112:23	50:14 55:3,23 61:4	average 111:24
124:1,17	<b>AOPA</b> 15:11	aspect 119:13	<b>avgas</b> 19:25
<b>airports</b> 71:2 75:8	Apache 50:23	assessment 112:2,3	<b>avia-</b> 80:18
<b>Airprop</b> 88:22 <b>Akerman</b> 143:21	apologies 53:13 120:8	asset 69:11	aviation 5:21,23 12:22
	121:23	assigned 29:10	30:8 47:23,24 48:1 49:17 63:6,9,14,23,25
<b>Alabama</b> 71:16 72:2,5, 16 75:12,22	apologize 92:3	assistance 70:11	64:3,14 67:4 73:4 74:16,
Alabama's 70:19	apparently 134:2	<b>associate</b> 70:11 112:19 120:21	18,22 79:22 80:13,18 86:10 88:6,9,24 109:10
<b>alarm</b> 122:23	appealing 115:5	associates 111:22	111:19 113:4,9 121:14, 17,19 122:4,13 123:25
alcohol 14:5	appeared 16:5	112:16	aviation-related 115:9
			aviation-i ciateu 113.9

Index: age..aviation-related

**appears** 113:8 117:6

**assumed** 16:19

71:10		<b>block</b> 124:20	<b>break</b> 19:23
	basically 12:21 13:22	<b>blow</b> 20:8	<b>Brent</b> 12:14,18
<b>aviator</b> 47:23 49:16 50:22	53:23 58:25 81:15	blueprint 48:15	bridge 61:13
avoid 14:4 52:14	<b>basis</b> 22:2,7 63:11 89:1 113:7 122:2	<b>board</b> 5:9,16,19 6:3,8 7:4 9:16,24 10:4 11:5	briefing 136:7,9
award 34:6 36:6 129:18	basket 63:24	21:5 25:4,17,25 28:11	<b>bring</b> 26:4 34:19 39:5 46:11 58:17 60:19,22
awarding 116:15 aware 13:25 57:12	<b>Beach</b> 60:1 62:25 63:1 86:8 87:4,17 89:5	29:2,3,9,19,22 32:12,20, 24 34:8 37:25 38:13,20 39:2,3,4,6,12,16 42:20,	62:23 68:13 69:24 90:24 93:7 105:6
82:22	<b>Bean</b> 76:17,25 77:3,8,24	24 43:5,16 44:17 45:17,	bringing 126:18
awkward 33:1	80:4,6 82:8,12,17,21 84:16,20 85:2,11,20	21 46:1,11 47:15 49:7, 10 51:10,13 52:4,9,19	brings 49:6 60:4 62:17
<b>aye</b> 6:15 7:17,25 8:12, 13,14,15,16,17 10:19,	Bean's 77:17	53:5,12,22,25 54:2 56:20,21,25 57:13 59:19	94:14 143:5 <b>broad</b> 73:7
20,21,22,23,24 11:18,	bears 32:7	60:5,19 62:6 66:17	<b>broke</b> 120:11
19,20,21,22,23 24:3,4,5, 6,7,8 46:15,16,17,18,19,	<b>beat</b> 19:2	68:22 69:15,16 73:10 76:22 78:7 81:10,16	<b>broked</b> 120:11
20 99:23,25 100:2,5	beautiful 86:12,14	82:18 83:21 86:21,24	brought 9:12,15 92:22
108:3,4,5,6,7,8 130:14, 16,21,22 144:9,10	beginning 98:20	87:2 91:17 96:8 99:11 100:15 101:17 102:12	140:9,15
ayes 10:25 11:1	<b>behalf</b> 12:15,20 60:15	103:12,24 104:8 105:19,	buckets 93:24
	believed 5:15	20,23 110:19 120:23 122:11 129:1,2,17	<b>bud-</b> 21:14
B	benefit 66:23	130:12 133:12 134:4,5,7 136:15 140:7,16 141:17,	budding 75:10
<b>Bach</b> 4:24 86:1,13,16	benefits 114:17	21 142:9 143:1,9,14,24	<b>budget</b> 16:17,25 20:8, 19,23 21:1,5 89:12
89:21 90:4,14,23 91:5 96:24 123:5	Beyers 12:11,12	<b>board's</b> 28:1 60:22 91:22 126:13,19 143:1	109:9 133:15,21,23
back 28:8 29:5 33:17	bidding 79:2	boards 32:11 63:4	134:9,11 135:2,5,9,24 136:1,2,4,12,21,23
34:19 35:7,19 38:2 39:4 40:4,5,19 41:17,20 44:3	<b>big</b> 49:16 56:1 58:20 86:10 96:6 139:23	boat 14:5	137:1,8,16 138:1,6,14 139:8,14
46:11 54:8 57:18 58:10	bigger 14:20	<b>boaters</b> 13:24 14:1	budgetary 139:19
59:3 62:1 68:12 99:11 100:17 102:5 103:8	<b>bill</b> 112:13,15,19,21,24	boating 14:2,4	budgeted 20:10
126:18 130:12 136:4	113:23 120:2	boats 14:6	budgets 137:24
143:6 <b>bad</b> 121:6	billed 120:19,22	<b>body</b> 49:11 98:9	build 61:7
badged 69:14,21	<b>billing</b> 112:14 120:4,7 123:22	<b>bond</b> 88:17 96:2 111:17	<b>building</b> 17:1 18:8 23:1
balance 57:23 72:22	billings 122:9	Booth 88:6	67:10 71:25 72:1 88:12 89:7 90:12
135:7	<b>bird</b> 78:7	<b>bore</b> 88:20	bunch 68:13
balanced 112:14	birthday 56:1	<b>born</b> 90:9	bus 132:9
balances 67:24	<b>bit</b> 33:17 37:4,10 52:5	<b>boss</b> 48:9	business 10:1 12:2,4,6
<b>Bar</b> 53:12 65:7 67:5	54:21 57:20,22 88:7 91:10 92:15 93:1 104:16	bothers 66:7	15:12 49:8 68:15 121:5
78:10 84:12 86:25	111:21 113:24 126:7	<b>bought</b> 50:1 71:24	<b>busy</b> 123:10
barred 67:5	Black 50:24	<b>Boy</b> 4:1	<b>bye</b> 131:7 132:14
		brand 88:3	bylaw 60:9
<b>based</b> 18:25 21:5 31:12	blindside 138:21	<b>D.G.1.G.</b> 00.0	bylaw 00.9
<b>based</b> 18:25 21:5 31:12 33:25 35:5 36:9 43:19 54:13 58:21 68:4 80:18	blindside 138:21 blindsiding 139:2	branding 21:7	bylaws 9:15

Index: aviation-specific..bylaws

Index: call..Clay

C

**call** 3:3,10,12 4:9 13:12 44:6 45:21,25 50:2 79:19 81:3 107:4 124:24

**called** 89:23

calling 3:4

calls 71:3 101:25

candidate 96:20

**candidates** 29:16 30:11,13 35:5 92:2 94:13 108:23 109:5

capacity 70:1

capture 20:24

captured 21:3

car 50:13

care 13:19 14:1

**cared** 115:7

career 47:23 50:22

**carries** 126:16

**carry** 5:7 22:20 141:2 144:4

cars 14:13,17

cart 37:4

**case** 19:16 36:19 56:15 88:18 111:18

Cash-chapman 3:14, 15 8:8.15 10:10.14.16. 20 11:12,21 23:21 24:6 33:9,11,21 34:21,24 35:2,11,13,18 39:23 44:8,11 46:8,18 51:1,3 57:7,10 58:4 59:2 64:17, 18 66:5 71:14,15,20 73:12,16 74:6,11 83:8 85:13,14 90:16,17 92:9, 12 94:6,21 95:6 97:1 99:22,23 100:11,18,25 103:16,18 104:7,22 105:16,21 106:1,4 107:3,12,17,18,21 108:6,12,15,18,22 109:22 110:5,8,13,15, 18,22 111:4,7,10 115:12,17,20,24 116:3,

9,11 118:2,4,6,12 120:14 122:17,20 125:16,18 126:9 127:1, 17,19 128:6,9,14,18 130:13.14

cat 50:17

caught 8:2

caution 102:14 103:8

**CCNA** 79:3

celebrating 56:1

**cell** 3:8 73:22

Central 56:18

**certification** 56:21 57:1 78:9

**certified** 49:4 78:7 86:21,24 87:2

cetera 26:11 63:15

**chair** 4:6 24:18,21 28:6, 10 82:17 83:13 93:3 101:15 116:14 132:16 133:10 134:16 138:20 142:23

chairman 3:2,8,11,16, 19,21 4:9,13,15,18,20, 23,25 5:3,7,13 6:9,12, 14,18,23 7:16,20,24 8:3, 5,10,17,20 9:1,5,22 10:6,11,15,17,23,25 11:10,14,16,23,25 12:3, 10,13,16 13:9,16 14:10, 18 15:2,5,8,11,16 19:8, 18 22:17,20,24 23:6,12, 16,23,25 24:3,8,10,13, 19,22 25:20 26:3,5,8,13, 17,19,22 28:9,25 30:10, 16 31:11,14,19,23,25 32:4,16,22 33:2,5,8,10 35:1,9,12,14,21 37:2,21 38:5,8,24 39:9 41:8,11, 13,21,25 42:14,16 43:7, 11,14,17,23,25 44:5,10, 13,16,19,22 45:8,11,16, 22 46:9,14,20,23 47:2,5 50:9,18,25 51:4 52:21, 23 55:6,9,12,14,18,22, 25 56:3,5 57:2,4,8 59:3, 11,14 62:1,7,8,12,15,18 63:5,16,19,21 64:4,8,10, 21 65:15,21 66:1,8,11 70:3,6,18,23 71:11,13

72:7 74:7,9,12 75:16,20, 23 76:3,7,12,14,16,20, 24 77:1 81:6,8,23 82:2, 5,9,13,19,22 83:5,9,11, 14 84:7,19,25 85:4,10, 12,16,22 86:12,15 89:20,25 90:8,15,18,20 91:1,4,6,25 92:3,11,18 93:4,20 94:8,19 95:5,11, 23 96:12,16 97:2,6,9,19 98:5 99:1,6,8,13,17,21, 24 100:1,3,5,14,23 101:11,13 102:11,19,21 103:11,17 104:5,17 105:2,9,12,15,22 106:3, 9,14 107:6,10,12,15 108:2,8,10,14,16 109:21 110:2,7,14,17,19 111:3, 5,11 112:5,7 113:17 114:1,4,7,10,23 115:14, 18,23 116:2,5,10,13,18 117:2,7,17,19,25 118:5, 11,23,25 119:15,19,22 121:8 122:15,19 123:19 124:12 125:12,17 126:11,21,22,24 128:2, 11,20,22 129:8,16,21 130:4,7,9,11,15,17,19, 22 131:1,4,11,13,16,22 132:11,14,17,21,25 138:16,23 140:19 141:10,18 142:1,3,15,20 143:5,8,18 144:3,7,10

**chairwoman** 59:19 77:7

challenge 49:16

chance 137:5 139:13

**change** 8:23 9:8 11:17 16:7 20:16 34:10 40:11 45:2 67:12,16,25 68:23 93:14 105:7 140:24 142:13

Chapman 39:13

**chart** 28:3

**charter** 133:14,25 135:11,21 137:7,12

check 72:21

checked 26:15

**checks** 67:24

Cherokee 64:11

**Cheyenne** 64:9,12

**chief** 67:1

**child** 71:6

**choice** 30:7 44:7 100:22 103:13 104:20

**choices** 104:19

choose 91:20 103:15

**Chris** 66:12

**Christopher** 4:21 59:20

Cindy 41:16 87:12

circumstance 66:19

circumstances 67:17 75:6

cities 86:6

**city** 77:19 78:5,8,13,16 79:10,12,23 83:4,5 84:4 86:7,8,17,22 87:4,16

claim 88:18

clapping 14:19

**clarification** 7:2,7 9:23 23:17 29:13

clarified 131:20

**clarify** 9:6 35:23 71:21 92:15 98:23 117:20 126:3 131:25 132:6

**clarifying** 4:12 128:19

**Clarke** 3:16 6:20 7:19 8:13 10:24 11:19 15:10 23:14,24 24:4 35:20,22 36:2,8,11,21,24 41:12 44:15 46:16 47:1,4 51:4, 6 52:20,22 64:21,23,24 65:14 74:7,8 83:9,10,17 84:6 90:18,19 94:10 95:15 97:11 99:24,25 105:14 107:8,14 108:1,4 110:11 111:9,11,12 112:6,11 117:19,23 118:1,3,24 119:1,17,21 123:5 129:14 130:15,16 131:2 132:2,12,23 133:1 134:15,22,25 135:3,17, 23 143:20,25 144:2,9

Clarke's 83:15

Clay 77:25

<b>clean</b> 96:18 136:18	commit 59:1	101:7,8,10 103:23 105:8	17 102:9 140:3
clear 31:21 38:17,18	commitment 12:9 58:8	107:25 117:6	<b>corrected</b> 7:11 13:10
41:5 43:19 102:7 122:6	committee 25:16,23,24	consent 15:18	correcting 6:21
<b>Clearwater</b> 86:3 89:6 90:1	26:10 28:4,17 42:6,13 44:24	considered 70:16	correction 5:12 7:7
<b>clerks</b> 112:15	companies 118:8	<b>consolidated</b> 79:11,15 80:2	correctly 6:25 19:11 27:4 52:19 132:13
client 68:9,10,14 83:25	Company 45:4	constitutional 79:18	cost 90:12 111:24
84:3 89:10	comparing 119:25	constructed 16:20	costs 22:11
<b>clients</b> 50:7 64:6 65:8 79:23	competing 34:14	88:12	council 48:3,8
<b>close</b> 41:18,19 81:20	competitive 79:3 121:1	construction 88:13,14	counsel 4:8,17 11:5
126:4 127:14	complaint 87:20	consultancy 71:8,9	23:7 24:12,14 25:1
closed 93:13 97:23	<b>complaints</b> 17:16 18:3	consultant 74:19 98:24	26:21 28:5,11,19 29:21 30:8 34:13 35:22 51:11,
closely 48:22	87:23	consultants 89:1 140:10	14,25 52:1 54:13 63:6,7,
closer 14:15	complement 62:16	Consultants' 79:4	9 64:15 67:2 69:12 70:19 72:11,19,20 73:1
closings 89:16	<b>completed</b> 12:24 103:6	consulting 95:8	79:25 87:7,8 95:10 96:3
Coast 13:21	completely 122:3	J	98:17 111:17 114:20 120:12 121:16,17 122:2,
<b>code</b> 26:9	compliance 117:5	consuming 20:1	4,13 126:15 132:3
cogitate 93:12	compliant 26:16	contact 60:21	140:17 142:14 143:15
cognizant 109:8	compliment 65:22	contingency 136:1	<b>counsel's</b> 139:19
<b>COLL</b> 14:16	comptroller 16:13	continue 13:5	county 76:23 77:19,25
colleague 59:20 61:10,	<b>concern</b> 20:6 112:1	continues 20:8	78:6,8,13,16 80:7 81:7 86:22 90:7
20 63:10 77:8 80:4	138:5	<b>contract</b> 27:22 88:13 116:16 129:18 140:8	<b>couple</b> 12:25 29:9 43:4
<b>colleagues</b> 62:24 63:1	concerned 124:21	contracted 70:1 98:23	78:23 93:23
combat 47:21	<b>concerns</b> 17:22 19:22 106:18 137:15	contractor 5:22,24	<b>court</b> 7:9 8:4,6 56:9,11, 13,14,16
comfortable 36:4,24 37:17 43:18 65:2 94:21	concurrent 134:18	contracts 53:21 79:5	Courtney 138:17
101:5 103:25 106:1,8,22	conditions 34:15	134:3 137:7 140:6,11	142:22
125:24 127:12 128:24 129:2,18	conference 18:7	contribute 70:2	cousin 81:4
commanding 48:20	confident 125:23	<b>control</b> 55:21 81:4,24 83:1	<b>cover</b> 89:18
comment 12:12,14	conflict 49:20	convene 13:2	<b>coverage</b> 62:22 89:19
35:21 37:2 41:10 53:2,4,	confused 29:14	conventions 21:13	covered 66:2
6 97:8,10,18,21 98:13 99:9,10 119:14 121:24	connect 98:8	conversation 40:8	<b>COVID</b> 48:4,14,15
123:20 130:9,11 131:9	connected 17:25 69:22	copartner 76:21	create 13:6
comments 11:5 53:11	connection 74:14,15	core 6:3	creates 122:9
107:2 114:2 116:23,25 117:4 119:17,23 125:12	85:9	corporate 62:21 67:2	creature 119:4
commercial 67:1 72:23	<b>Connie</b> 16:12 138:16 139:4	•	credits 61:4
73:3 75:8,9		Corps 61:4	criminal 53:7
Commission 49:18	cons 107:24	<b>correct</b> 6:2,15 14:14 20:3 21:8 26:18,20	crisis 48:5,7,9,25
90.7	consensus 37:7,14	05:44 40:40 00:4 04 45	

Index: clean..crisis

35:11 49:13 82:4 84:15,

45:13,15 67:10 94:2

80:7

criteria 27:1 28:17.23 detail 49:5 decision 33:14 34:9.20 138:19 143:8 36:7 37:19 40:3 65:12 critical 124:5 detailed 31:24 65:17 discussed 37:5 142:4 93:19 94:16 98:10 **curious** 125:22 100:19 109:19 128:25 **details** 52:7 116:21 **discussing** 43:2 44:25 129:6 133:13 141:21 114:11 116:6 current 48:19 66:18 determine 28:2 136:6 decisions 64:19 100:16 discussion 24:1 37:10 customer 21:23 Detroit 71:3 140:4 38:13 39:18 41:4 45:5, customers 58:18 developed 27:7 48:18 11 91:16 92:7 97:4 **decline** 15:24 17:9 88:1 101:20 103:21,22 104:1, cut 99:19 100:6 declined 17:19 4,5,7,11,14 105:5,10,17, developing 75:11 20 106:10,12,22,24 dedicated 49:23.24 D 109:2,25 110:1,3 111:1, development 20:9 deemed 27:8 6,10 112:8 115:13,15,19 21:9,11,25 22:11 60:12 122:16 125:15 129:8,9 **D.C.** 60:24 63:10,20 deep 123:24 124:18 development's 21:21 130:5 136:11 139:6,15 126:1 **Daigneault** 4:24 85:24 difference 94:11 discussions 123:1 86:2 96:24,25 119:18 **deeper** 60:23 differences 69:15 disposal 63:25 daily 63:11 88:25 defense 87:7 differently 65:10 disqualifying 125:8 **Dan** 76:17 77:8,16,24 defer 93:1 103:12,13 difficult 38:7 94:16 80:4,6 82:5 131:7 disrespect 96:9 deferred 103:5 direct 36:14 53:11 dancing 32:7 distant 81:4 deferring 103:25 63:14 danger 133:16 distributed 29:3 deficit 133:17 direction 143:2 **Darn** 66:1 **District** 56:12.13 81:5 **degree** 67:9,10 73:10 **directly** 5:25 26:15 date 25:9,12 97:23 98:2, districts 77:20 78:17 28:21 52:16 Deland 90:9 9.11 79:20 86:6 133:25 director 9:4 10:8 13:2 delegate 123:9 day 9:17 56:4 89:4 documents 128:1 27:11,13 29:3,5,15 116:12 delegation 140:13 48:17 78:23 138:8 Dodson 60:17 141:6,15 day-to-day 86:19 **delete** 27:19 doggone 125:1 director's 27:17,20 days 60:2 80:5 88:10 deletions 8:23 dollar 15:24 128:14,15,17 directors 79:18 137:25 delivered 25:11 dollars 134:10 deadline 102:18 dis 108:11 **demure** 61:10 domestic 48:7,9 **deal** 37:16 56:9 61:2 disabled 47:21 50:19 **Dennis** 7:18 35:21 68:10,11 75:8 127:21 domino 18:10 41:11 94:9 95:12 105:13 disagree 110:14 dealership 139:24 donate 80:25 118:4 disassociated 113:22 dealing 67:3 80:9 **Dothan** 75:21 76:2 Denver 71:4 discount 124:2 dealings 63:13 depart 131:10 **Douglas** 51:11,13 discounted 125:3 deals 75:10 downside 111:20 departments 79:18 discretion 27:15 28:2, dealt 22:1 61:3 137:25 downtown 61:22 77:23 depending 70:15 12 143:21 78:1 deposit 113:18 114:16 discuss 13:3 14:8 debrief 13:10,11,13 drafted 30:20 19:12 38:22 39:12,16 **deputy** 15:8 79:25 43:1,21 44:18 45:10 **December** 9:25 141:17 drama 68:13 **Desantis** 48:22 80:8 57:20 92:15 94:24 **decide** 6:7 29:7 30:15 104:2,9,23 105:4 106:6, draw 114:17 **design** 18:25 33:17 36:3 37:10,15 16 107:20,22,23 109:23 drawn 113:19 38:2 40:2 100:9 127:3 110:9,25 111:1 115:15,

Index: criteria..drive

20 116:8 117:12 133:12

drive 75:18 76:6 125:7

desired 48:12

deciding 36:4 41:4

driving 14:2 99:2	89:18	139:21	<b>extra</b> 122:9
<b>drone</b> 51:16	employment-related	Everyone's 19:18	
<b>Dry</b> 13:23	60:11	<b>exact</b> 120:9	F
<b>dual</b> 5:19,20	<b>end</b> 13:14 64:16 91:7 115:4 134:20 136:17	examination 78:11	<b>FAA</b> 5:24 60:25 63:15
due 17:22 133:3	140:5 142:12	excellent 108:23	69:7 87:20,22,24 113:7 124:5
duplicative 122:6	<b>ended</b> 18:13 88:15	114:21	face 15:6
duties 65:7	enforcing 14:6	<b>excuse</b> 20:12 25:20 28:9 134:15	faced 51:22 80:11
<b>duty</b> 50:14	engineers 30:22	<b>exec-</b> 9:3	faces 5:5
dynamics 69:20	enjoyed 114:25	<b>executive</b> 9:3 10:8,18	facilitation 54:1
	ensure 26:16	13:2 27:11,12,17,20	fact 80:14 119:2 121:11,
<b>E</b>	ensured 140:10	29:3,5,15 48:10,11,13 52:10 78:23 138:8	14 124:7,24
<b>e-mail</b> 142:9	enter 75:5	141:6,15	factor 124:5,11 125:8
<b>e-mails</b> 102:1	enters 6:20	exhausting 116:17	factors 20:5
earlier 83:15 132:1	entire 20:10 80:1	exhibited 68:22	facts 83:22
earmarked 66:3	entities 134:1	<b>existing</b> 56:17 95:19 116:23	<b>fail</b> 133:4
<b>easier</b> 104:24	entity 31:8 43:1 83:24		<b>fails</b> 126:17
easiest 116:22	<b>environmental</b> 60:11 61:3 69:8	<b>expect</b> 58:23 73:13,15 111:16	fair 40:17 53:9
Eastern 80:15		expected 55:3	fairly 30:18 56:6 121:1
<b>Ed</b> 88:6	equate 114:15 equipment 136:2	expecting 32:6	familiar 49:18,19 51:23,
<b>edge</b> 112:23	equipped 101:2	<b>experience</b> 48:12 63:2,	24,25 88:23 121:13 138:2,10
educated 109:16	equipped 101.2 error 28:20	22 64:14,15 67:3 78:3,4, 5 79:10 82:20 90:22	family 50:10 71:6
educating 52:13	<b>Esquire</b> 4:19	109:11 111:19 119:11	Fantastic 128:18
effect 18:10 27:2	essentially 10:2 94:1	121:15 123:6,18 124:16	<b>fast</b> 97:25 137:13
<b>effectuate</b> 67:11 68:23	establish 121:21	experienced 79:6	<b>favor</b> 6:15 7:17,25 8:12
efficient 40:18 81:17	established 96:3	<b>experiences</b> 66:22 88:19	10:19 11:18 24:3 46:15
<b>elected</b> 79:16 80:9	estate 60:12 62:20	experiment 122:11	99:12,13 108:3 <b>favorably</b> 119:13
eloquently 83:22	89:15,16 119:8	expert 97:16	FBI 69:5,6
<b>else's</b> 34:12 110:1	<b>Ethan</b> 14:14	expertise 60:8 73:11	FBO 64:7 88:4,8
embarrassing 35:17	ethics 49:18 52:12	87:15,16 111:18 113:6	February 51:10
emergency 58:11	78:19 80:10 84:12 87:11	126:5	federal 15:25 48:13
124:8 employ 129:22	evaluate 28:22	<b>explanation</b> 20:19 136:11	56:8,11
employed 73:2	evaluated 78:9 101:23	exploration 94:18	fee 22:8 53:16 54:13
employee 69:14,21	evaluation 25:24 27:1	<b>exposure</b> 113:4,5	113:14 114:14 120:7
72:24 137:7 139:17	evening 66:16	express 140:12	<b>feel</b> 43:2,18 52:2 54:4 63:23 65:1,2,4 69:10
<b>employees</b> 62:17 134:4	event 13:7	extensive 33:18	81:11 125:7,24 126:4
<b>employment</b> 5:19,20 60:25 61:2 62:21 80:20	eventually 105:7 everybody's 129:10	<b>extent</b> 5:23 40:15 69:2 70:10 74:2	127:13,21 129:23 <b>feels</b> 127:7

Index: driving..feels

96:21 97:3 98:7 99:20

124:7 127:16 129:19

100:6 106:16,17 107:2, 20,22 116:7,8 121:22

Index: fees..gotcha fees 21:10 22:3.6 **fiscal** 20:10 forward 10:5 28:3.7.8 67:25 68:1 69:25 95:17 fell 71:25 143:3 fit 49:14 123:7 101:10 104:14 109:25 **fellow** 53:12 five-minute 46:1,6 125:25 127:4 129:4,7 gain 56:18 132:18 141:16 143:17 Fernandina 86:8 87:4, Gambrell 4:17 76:10,25 five-year 58:8 found 65:16 17,25 89:3,5,10 90:1 79:9 96:22 112:18 124:17 125:7 117:24 119:1.24 120:3 fourth 77:11 fixable 68:5 121:9 **fewer** 27:8 fixed 68:17 frame 42:25 106:21 Gambrell's 119:9 FHB 87:25 123:6 frankly 33:19 54:11 fixing 68:15 137:20 games 66:14 60:7 89:7 122:4 field 38:21 flag 134:7 garrison-type 53:22 free 34:15 68:9 81:11 **figures** 137:17 **flagged** 139:19 gave 25:17 30:1 fresh 13:15 file 36:19,23 95:8 flat 120:7 **GC** 96:8 friend 121:12 **final** 97:8 flew 50:22 general 4:17 23:7 finance 19:17 135:19 **friends** 117:9 flip 120:5 24:12,14 26:21 28:5 138:11,24 front 30:5 32:19 44:1 29:21 30:8 35:22 38:13 Florida 18:13 19:5 20:1 financial 15:15,17,20 56:16 58:9 60:25 63:14 48:19,20 51:11 53:21 47:17,18,19 48:18,20 23:3 24:10 95:21 140:20 134:3.4 135:25 54:12 60:14 61:9 63:6, 49:1.19 56:13 59:25 25 64:15 67:2 75:9 76:5 front-loaded 58:12 financials 20:7.15 67:5 72:14 74:16 76:5 77:17 79:25 86:10 87:14 23:11,15,20,22 112:23 78:5,10 79:2 80:16 front-runner 38:17 88:24 91:16,18 95:10 84:12 89:8 90:5 98:4 find 37:6,19 49:22 72:15 41:5 98:17 105:20 121:16 113:9 77:16 104:11 120:6 122:13 136:2 139:18 front-runners 38:18 flow 17:22 142:14 143:15 **finding** 120:9 frontline 123:17 flown 47:24 generally 38:15 55:4 fine 19:15 105:14 fuel 16:2,6,9 17:4,25 86:21 105:4 Floyd 48:6 108:22 18:18 19:8,10,22,24 George 48:6 fingertips 77:22 fly 40:12 64:5 20:2 gig 58:24 finish 88:11 Flyers 18:13 19:5 20:1 fueling 18:14 give 31:9 34:2 41:16 finishing 88:10 focus 140:3 full 7:20 14:1 25:16 59:8 42:17 54:24 95:1 109:15 62:16 63:24 95:9 104:4 follow 75:14 92:23 **firm** 5:2 40:25 51:11,13 110:11 119:17 127:8 full-service 60:6 80:12 59:22 60:6 62:2,24 137:5 139:12 143:2 follow-up 121:24 69:18 76:24 77:10,11,17 125:19 127:2 full-stop 17:19 glad 92:6 80:12 86:2,3 94:1,3,11, follow-ups 34:16 91:19 full-time 48:16 58:24 24.25 95:16.22 96:17 global 53:4 62:17 97:13,15 103:4 104:22, foot 67:25 God 108:15 131:2 23 106:6,23 109:23,25 **fully** 74:4 110:1,4,9,10 113:11 force 14:1 **good** 4:3 13:11,13 114:3,8,13 115:21,22 fun 12:4,5 66:14 22:24,25 23:18 43:10 forego 116:6 117:1 118:17 120:1 45:7 49:13 52:9,21,25 funded 139:5 121:10,19 122:9,20 forewarning 51:17 59:18 62:3 65:21 66:16 124:15 129:22 130:2,23 funds 135:6 136:13 74:11 94:6 97:19 100:23 forget 119:3 135:22 137:2,3 138:9 131:21 105:3 114:15 115:8 **form** 27:22 38:11 117:10 123:2,25 124:15, **firms** 27:8,14,17,19,22 **furthest** 123:22 17 125:1 128:9 137:19 29:24 70:13 77:12 formal 32:6 40:5 90:23 future 27:22 33:25 83:20,21 94:2 95:14 goodness 14:18 131:7 134:5 135:5 140:15,23 129:23 131:24 140:1

G

Gosh 90:1

gotcha 54:19

formally 135:6

forms 28:13 73:22

governance 64:15		heart 61:22 90:5	hosting 66:17
government 57:1	Н	<b>heavy</b> 58:19	hour 89:21 111:24
60:13 78:8,14,16 79:11, 15 80:1,2 83:24 86:22,	<b>Haas</b> 48:19	heightened 65:7	120:11 123:13 124:9,21 125:1
23 87:2,14 89:14 113:10 118:13 119:10 122:22	<b>hair</b> 20:14	helped 48:13,14	<b>hourly</b> 53:16
governmental 62:21	<b>half</b> 11:7 15:24 76:1 123:13 124:9,22	<b>helpful</b> 34:4 127:17 136:15	<b>hours</b> 54:13,14 58:22 59:4 76:1 89:12 120:7,
79:9	halfway 49:13	helping 76:22	18,23
governments 77:20 78:6	halls 90:10	hey 93:23 104:12	house 7:21 48:4 50:1
governor 48:22 49:2	hand 111:21 143:1	<b>HH-60</b> 50:24	137:21,24
80:8 137:21	handle 51:21 70:14	hiccups 12:25 13:6	Housing 79:21
grade 29:4 37:24	122:13	high 57:13 70:16 71:6	huge 122:22
grading 27:1	<b>handled</b> 87:20,23 88:13,16	111:21	huh-oh 134:21
grammar 90:10	hands 59:8 142:24	higher 112:13	<b>hundred</b> 17:18 47:20 109:14 134:9
grant 15:24 16:16,23,25		highest 113:15 120:19	Huntsville 75:12
17:1 87:22	<b>hands-on</b> 71:18 72:9 123:8,17	Highway 89:10	husband 75:21
grants 63:15 78:22	happen 125:4	hire 35:20	
<b>great</b> 14:11,19 62:25 63:21 91:7 103:7 122:10	happened 18:2 80:23	hired 40:25 140:10	1
greater 135:13 137:14	143:3	historic 71:25	In., 00.40
ground 49:3 54:5 57:17	<b>happy</b> 5:4 15:5,13 19:19	history 29:15	lan 63:10
58:2 89:4	62:5 85:18 89:22 122:3 127:23 128:25	hit 89:4 109:18	iceberg 137:10
<b>group</b> 37:10 40:9 69:20	hard 6:7 97:24 108:24	<b>hits</b> 109:9	idea 91:18 120:18
113:16	122:24	hitting 102:1	identify 106:17
<b>grows</b> 13:7 64:11	<b>hat</b> 13:21	Hodges 4:14,16 76:11,	imagining 96:1
<b>growth</b> 111:15	hate 66:5 138:21	13,15,17,21 77:4,8 81:7, 9 82:1,4,15 83:3,12,15,	immediately 67:21
Grumman 14:23	<b>Hawk</b> 50:24	18 84:17	imminent 133:4
guarantee 38:22	<b>he'll</b> 50:14,15	hogwash 13:3,12	immunity 87:12
<b>Guard</b> 13:21 47:20	head 10:13 14:11 84:23	hold 82:13,15 92:13	implicate 9:19
48:18,21,24 49:1	92:14	127:6	implied 120:24
<b>guess</b> 7:6 11:2 15:16 29:5 47:14 53:2 62:8	headed 28:4 88:2	holistic 60:20	importance 67:22
84:9 90:21 96:19 101:3	headquarters 72:1	home 50:14 89:7	important 13:17 33:13
115:11 118:23 120:12, 17 123:20	hear 23:8 36:16,17 37:9 38:25 40:1 41:14 42:25 44:8,13,14 45:2,18 46:1,	homework 66:4 131:8	36:18 43:2 56:22 65:6 78:4,15 109:1 123:1
guests 3:13,25 4:4,9		<b>honest</b> 21:3 108:24 118:15	137:11
15:14	10,21 51:18 109:19	honestly 75:9 95:6	importantly 69:12 78:2
guidance 6:4	111:7 123:3	109:12	impress 112:9
guide 6:4	<b>heard</b> 18:17 39:20 85:14 91:7,8 98:8 101:24 102:5 106:11	<b>hope</b> 31:25 52:25 58:22 89:8 111:18	<b>impressed</b> 64:13 91:9 94:13 119:13
<b>guys</b> 4:1 39:1 47:8 66:1 68:7 69:25 72:9 73:24	117:3 141:4,23 142:12	horse 37:4	impression 99:2
92:14 131:19 132:10	hearing 36:12 38:12	host 64:3	impressions 112:10

Index: governance..impressions

impressive 123:17 in-house 66:25 83:24 84:5 87:6 incidents 12:24 included 16:18 including 48:24 59:24, 25 60:12 113:6 incorrect 5:23 7:9 independent 79:19 80:2 individual 29:7,16,19 39:3 43:15 45:4 individually 41:24 42:7 individuals 25:13 100:7 industry 71:1,10 74:17, 18 75:14 inefficient 122:8 influence 14:2,3 **inform** 51:13 informal 90:25 informally 87:24 information 21:18 37:15,20 40:24 65:8,11 68:25 73:20 92:23 93:7, 11,13 102:4,17 103:9 109:15 118:20 123:2 127:9 138:11 139:1 informed 30:11,14 ingrained 84:1 initial 37:5 40:8 initially 123:15 initiative 49:2 initiatives 48:23 input 32:25 inside 52:7 72:12 **insight** 54:15 67:23 instruction 25:4 insurance 87:7 140:10

intellectual 80:21

82:10 **invoice** 143:21 **Iraq** 47:21 issue 35:24 72:16 133:12 issue's 139:5 **issues** 13:18 48:10

139:19

139:16 141:7

intent 34:5 35:20.25 36:1.2.6 132:9 interact 113:7 interest 49:20 73:10 129:5 130:20 interesting 60:5 98:2 interests 69:19 interim 78:22 international 60:7 118:7 internationally 80:17 interpreted 132:12 interview 18:6 29:8 33:22 40:22 interviewed 29:18 interviews 29:7,9 38:2, 22 41:17 **introduce** 3:12 16:12 24:16 32:9 38:25 40:17 46:7 61:17 76:18 introductions 33:13 34:25 40:1,20 investigation 53:7 investigations 60:13 69:5,7,8,9 investigative 80:10 invite 29:8 33:16 35:7, 16,18 40:4 invited 27:25 41:16

Jennifer's 114:14 **joined** 87:3 60:9,10 74:24 80:10 88:25 109:14 137:6,20 item 5:17 9:3 16:2 23:6 24:13 27:12,13 32:20 133:24 134:9,11 137:4

items 16:10 53:20 92:22 133:20 136:1 137:15.16 138:1

J

Jack 132:14

jackets 14:4 Jacksonville 59:25 60:17 61:1 62:10,14,22 77:23 79:11,13,22,24 80:21 82:17 83:4,5 84:4 88:7 119:12

Janet 46:21 **January** 16:7 17:5,7,8, 14 143:9 **Jax** 18:5

**Jeffrey** 4:22,23 59:21 61:19 62:20 66:13 **Jen-** 47:5

Jenni- 66:4 Jennifer 23:17 84:25 85:1 99:14

**Jennison** 5:1 46:25 47:6,11,13,16 50:11,21 51:6,23 53:19 54:9,11, 17,20,23 55:2,24 56:2,4, 12,20 58:3,6 59:9,13,16 64:25 97:11,12,13 131:9,12,15,18,23

jet 19:24 20:1

**job** 6:6,19 48:8 52:19 88:15 127:23

Johns 76:23 77:25 80:7 81:7

join 71:2 88:4

**joke** 131:4

**Jose** 12:17 14:22

joy 81:9

juggling 50:7

July 13:25 102:23 103:1 143:9

jumped 112:24 June 3:4

**juries** 44:2

Κ

keeping 55:6 123:10

**Kem** 4:19

Kemberli 46:25 47:6 59:15 66:15 70:6 75:17

**Kempf** 4:22 59:21 60:22 61:14,17,19 62:2 66:10

**key** 43:4

kind 29:17 34:3 35:17 57:17 61:22 64:2,8 74:23 75:11,25 84:1 89:17 95:3,8 104:12 109:18 112:13,17,22 120:23 123:7 134:6 137:13 139:2

King 61:21 knew 85:18 knowing 68:25 knowledge 7:3,11 49:21 53:11 Kuwait 47:22

L

labor 80:20 89:17

lack 68:24,25

lady 72:16

lamplight 69:3

language 54:10

LAQUIDARA 4:6,11 6:17,21,24 7:15,22 8:1

9:11 25:19,22 26:4,6,9, 14 28:6,10 29:12 30:13, 17 31:12,16,20,24 32:3, 5,17,23 33:3,6,20 34:4, 23 36:1,3,9,12,22 38:4, 6,9 39:6,10 41:18,22 42:1,15,19 43:10,12,15, 18,24 44:2,18,20,23 45:10,12,17,24 46:12,22 91:13 92:1 93:3,5,17

97:7,22 98:6 99:4,7,10, 15,19 100:12 101:12,15 102:14,20 103:2 105:19 106:12,15 107:4,9,11, 16,18 108:21 116:14,19 117:3,11,18 126:13,23 129:15,17 130:8 131:3 133:10 134:19,24 135:4, 18 136:7,24 137:23 138:18,21 139:1,4 140:5 141:1,8 143:23 144:1

large 111:13

larger 13:7 137:10,24

largest 70:19 71:1

late 3:17 7:19

launch 48:23

launched 49:2 71:7

law 33:4 39:8 40:25 49:19,20 51:11,13 59:22 60:6 63:2,14 78:8,14,16, 19 86:3 87:2,11,14 90:6 98:4 99:20 118:14,17

laws 49:21 97:25

**Lawsikia** 4:16 76:12,13 77:7 86:23 87:13

lawyer 21:10 57:1 68:14 77:6 84:22 86:22 89:14, 15,18 121:13

lawyers 30:25 59:23 61:1 62:13,19 77:22 78:12 80:13,20,22 86:5 87:13

laying 5:15

**Layout** 88:22

lead 37:13 79:8 95:25

lease 88:5

leave 31:8 90:4 118:18

leaves 120:17

left 86:7 107:22

leg 50:13

**legal** 4:8 25:1 51:14 67:1 71:8 95:21 114:20 124:8 140:9

legislative 9:14 60:9

**Len** 41:9 105:9

lend 67:23

lessen 58:9

letter 51:10,12,23

level 48:16 112:15

lie 94:25

life 14:4 57:25

lift 50:24 58:19

Lima 50:23

limit 55:16

limitation 31:17

**limited** 17:22 73:9 89:11 98:16,17

**Liotta** 3:17,18 5:11,12, 14 7:6 8:14,25 9:2,23 10:13,22 11:15,20 19:20 20:4 21:8,17 22:1,7,9, 13,16 24:5 29:13 37:1,3 39:13,22,23 40:6 42:19 46:5,17 52:23,24 54:7, 10,16,18,21,24 55:13,20 65:1,15,16 74:9,10 75:1 84:8,9,18,23 85:6 90:20, 21 93:20,21 95:23,24 96:18,25 99:17 100:1,2 101:3,17 105:3 108:5 112:7,9 113:18 114:2,6 119:23,24 120:15 121:23 123:20 128:13, 21,23 130:3,17,18 132:16,18 137:9 139:10 140:22 141:5,12,20 142:2,8,16 143:7,11 144:6

**Liotta's** 41:22 43:13 94:23 99:12,15

**Lippes** 4:22 47:2,6 59:16,21 60:4 96:22 107:7,13 110:4 111:9,12 112:10 114:12 115:3,11 117:1 120:1 121:2 122:1 129:22 130:1

**list** 27:6 33:15 34:1,8 35:5,7,15,24 88:20 99:19 101:9 106:2

**listen** 31:3 34:11 35:9, 14 68:12

listening 34:12,24

listing 27:13,18,20

**litigation** 88:8,11 118:12

live 50:11 61:12,20 89:5

lived 61:21

living 50:15

**LLP** 4:17 76:10

lobbying 60:24

local 70:13 72:19 76:16 77:19 78:6,8,14,16 80:9 86:21,22 87:2,14 88:24 89:14 97:16 109:4 111:13 113:1 119:10 122:22 134:1

locked 124:23

**long** 19:4 30:17 33:22 69:12 75:18,19 111:16

longer 104:16

**looked** 38:15 56:23 105:17

loose 137:13

lost 50:13 143:14

lot 13:18 21:4 48:12 52:6 54:4,5 55:4 57:17 58:6,12,23 67:11 68:23 90:7 92:9,14 95:20 114:9,13 118:9 119:8 123:2,25

lots 87:21

**love** 71:25 77:18,19 109:4 118:22 120:24

lower 112:14,20,21

lower-level 111:22

lowest 123:22

loyal 52:5

lucky 64:4

**Ludlow** 3:2,8,11,16,19, 21 4:9,13,15,18,20,23, 25 5:3,7,13 6:9,12,14, 18,23 7:16,20,24 8:3,5, 10,17,20 9:1,5,22 10:6, 11,15,17,23,25 11:10, 14,16,23,25 12:3,10,13,

16 13:9.16 14:10.18 15:2,5,8,11,16 19:8,18 22:17,20,24 23:6,12,16, 23,25 24:3,8,10,13,19, 22 25:20 26:3,5,8,13,17, 19,22 28:9,25 30:10,16 31:11,14,19,23,25 32:4, 16,22 33:2,5,8,10 35:1, 9,12,14,21 37:2,21 38:5, 8,24 39:9 41:8,11,13,21, 25 42:14,16 43:7,11,14, 17,23,25 44:5,10,13,16, 19,22 45:8,11,16,22 46:9,14,20,23 47:2,5 50:9,18,25 51:4 52:21, 23 55:6,9,12,14,18,22, 25 56:3,5 57:2,4,8 59:3, 11,14 62:1,7,12,15,18 63:5,16,19,21 64:4,8,10, 21 65:15,21 66:1,8,11 70:3,6,18,23 71:11,13 72:7 74:7,9,12 75:16,20, 23 76:3,7,12,14,16,20, 24 77:1 81:6,8,23 82:2, 5,9,13,19,22 83:5,9,11, 14 84:7,19,25 85:4,10, 12,16,22 86:12,15 89:20,25 90:8,15,18,20 91:1,4,6,25 92:3,11,18 93:4,20 94:8,19 95:5,11, 23 96:12,16 97:2,6,9,19 98:5 99:1,6,8,13,17,21, 24 100:1,3,5,14,23 101:11,13 102:11,19,21 103:11,17 104:5,17 105:2,9,12,15,22 106:3, 9,14 107:6,10,12,15 108:2,8,10,14,16 109:21 110:2,7,14,17,19 111:3, 5,11 112:5,7 113:17 114:1,4,7,10,23,25 115:14,18,23 116:2,5, 10,13,18 117:2,7,17,19, 25 118:5,11,23,25 119:15,19,22 121:8 122:15,19 123:19 124:12 125:12,17 126:11,21 128:2,11,20, 22 129:8,16,21 130:4,7, 9,11,15,17,19,22 131:1, 4,11,13,16,22 132:11, 14,17,21,25 138:16,23 140:19 141:10,18 142:1, 3,15,20 143:5,8,18 144:3,7,10

## М

Mad- 116:14

**Madam** 4:6 24:18,21 28:6,10 59:19 116:14 132:16 133:10 138:20 142:23

**made** 5:14 9:24 10:12 11:13 27:10 30:7 36:7 45:6 68:24 91:10 93:5 98:15 99:1 109:24 125:23 132:4 141:21

main 14:7 86:3

maintaining 58:16 68:21

**maintenance** 57:14 58:10,11

major 49:11

**majority** 45:20 101:4, 10,16

**make** 7:7 9:2,7 11:12 12:19 23:21 33:14,15 34:1,22 35:1,4,7,15,24 37:18 38:19 39:17.21.25 40:16 41:6 44:20 53:11 64:19 65:12 78:18 81:1, 17 85:6 88:17 91:14 92:1 93:10,18 96:19 100:16,19 101:19 102:7, 8,9 106:16 107:19,21 109:19 111:2 116:11 117:18 126:16,20,22,25 129:6,12,13,14,19,22 130:1 131:9 133:12 135:4 139:8 140:23 141:2 143:18 144:3

**makes** 39:24 40:1 100:20 129:1

**making** 40:3 65:18 76:7 107:25 127:4 129:3,18 130:20

management 49:6 57:21 95:21 138:3

**manager** 49:4 86:19 88:25

managers 87:19

mandate 69:17

**manner** 30:19

March 20:13

Marks 4:19 47:1 59:15 66:15,16 70:4,9,20,25 71:12,19,23 72:8 73:15, 18 74:15 75:19,21,24 76:4 98:13

**master** 78:21

materials 67:7.19 103:7

math 20:17 120:10

**Mathias** 4:22 47:1,6 59:16,21 96:22 111:12 112:10 114:12 115:3 121:2 129:22 130:1

Mathis 110:4 114:12

matrix 25:24

matter 37:16 67:24 84:21 96:10 103:5 136:16 143:14

**matters** 60:8,11,12 61:2,3 80:7,9,10 122:14

mayor's 79:16

**Mccammon** 12:14,18

Mcgill 88:8

**Mckendrick** 14:23,25 15:3,7

meaning 67:15

meant 76:15

MEDEVAC 50:24

meet 33:23 73:12 127:11

meeting 3:3,4 5:9,14
7:4,5 9:10,16,25 13:2,8
14:9 29:25 35:8 36:4
38:1 41:1,7 42:6 43:3
73:23 78:24 82:7 85:3
100:17 102:12,20,23
103:1 104:3 114:25
127:5,6 131:16 139:21
140:21 141:3,19 142:5,

meetings 30:21 61:24 66:13 81:20 103:2 115:7 124:23 131:17 140:16

21 143:9,24 144:5,7,12

member 11:5 29:10

39:3 41:22 47:19 48:4,5 56:17 69:15,16 75:7 86:25 101:17 105:23

member's 129:17

members 7:21 29:19 32:13,24 38:13 42:1,2 43:5,15 46:1,3 47:15 48:11 53:12 65:7 66:16 81:11,17 83:21 91:17 102:8 134:7

mention 7:4 57:16 90:8

mentioned 53:16 57:11,18 61:23 90:22 92:25 120:1,5 123:21 139:17

merits 121:7

Miami 80:19

**Michelle** 33:10 66:4 92:7 99:18 104:18,25 115:11 121:4 122:15

**mid** 47:18

**middle** 49:11 56:13 59:5 127:11

midnight 110:21

Mike 50:23

miles 17:18 50:1

military 49:15,24

**million** 15:24 16:25 90:14 135:8,9

**mind** 45:2 91:9 101:18 105:10,12 121:24

minds 13:15

mine 57:4

minimum 88:1

**minute** 61:10 64:19 92:13

**minutes** 5:6,9,10 6:10, 15,22 7:5,14,23 8:9,11, 21 30:3 32:12 55:14 77:5 80:25 81:21 89:22 116:3

**minutes'** 31:9

miracle 129:25

mirror 6:7

mistake 132:4

mistakes 68:24 78:18

Index: Mad-..movie

misunderstanding

7:11

mitigate 111:23

model 50:23

**moment** 13:1 52:14 65:13 125:24

**money** 133:22,23 134:11,13,14,21 135:10, 12,14,19 138:13 139:9

**month** 13:14 18:4 20:14,18 54:14 73:13,17 89:12 127:5,10 132:20, 22 133:5,9 139:11 140:6

monthly 22:8 109:5,6 113:12,14

months 78:23 81:12

morning 50:3

Mosquito 81:4,24 83:1

motion 5:16 8:8 9:2,7, 17,18 10:6,12,14 11:12 23:21 34:18.22 35:4 38:19 39:17,21,25 44:21 45:3,6,9 46:3 91:14 92:2 96:19 99:4.12.16 100:20 101:16,19 102:8,10 103:3 106:16 107:4,19, 22,25 109:24 110:5,15, 22 115:17,20,25 116:11, 23 117:1,5,13,15 125:15,23 126:15,16,17, 20,22,25 129:12,13,18, 19,22 130:1 135:4 136:10 140:15.23 141:1. 2,6 143:19 144:3

**mouths** 117:14

**move** 6:11,13,14 7:13 10:5 28:7,8 41:6 46:5 96:20 101:10 104:14,24 106:23 110:9 127:3 129:7 134:10,13 138:1 141:11 143:17

**moved** 22:25 138:15 141:16

movie 68:8,9

moving 125:24 129:4 officials 79:17 80:9 nomination 56:16 Ρ 135:12 nonconflict 49:20 offline 16:10 **multi** 34:7 nondelegable 70:17 one's 67:25 68:18 **p.m.** 144:12 multiple 20:4 47:25 North 47:17,18 89:8 open 70:4 103:2,20,21 pages 66:2 48:23 90:5 120:17 painful 31:2 multistep 34:7 Northrop 14:23 opening 60:2 **paint** 88:15 note 65:6 70:24 112:12 Operation 13:23 Ν Palatka 18:13,18 113:12 operations 58:17 80:1 Palm 60:1 62:25 63:1 noted 6:25 n' 12:22 14:7,10 140:6 operator 5:21 paper 101:24 notes 14:25 86:20 narrative 21:14 **opinion** 93:2 96:12 paralegal 87:9 120:21 **notice** 34:5 36:1,2,6,17 110:11 121:8 122:5 narrow 33:15 94:20 128:13 95:13 96:20 97:3 paralegals 111:23 opportunity 54:25 61:7 **noticed** 15:23 32:18,19 77:10 100:19 123:9 narrowed 94:4 Paranza 12:17 139:22 131:19 narrower 38:20 pardon 24:14 notified 25:8,13 139:14 opposed 9:18 10:23,24 narrowing 94:22 97:10 Park 82:3 83:1 11:23 24:8 31:6 42:12 **NSC** 48:4.5 99:20 108:8 Nate 14:22,23 parliamentary 81:14 nuances 69:14 ops 17:24 nation 80:17 part 5:18 12:4,5,6 17:12 **number** 11:2,6,7 21:15 36:16 87:19 90:22.23.25 **optics** 67:20 72:13 national 47:20 48:3.18. 24:13 36:14 43:20 60:15 98:19 123:11 21,24 59:22 60:7 67:4 62:8 77:15 114:5 121:11 option 98:21 100:20 71:1 **parties** 102:16 130:2 141:7 oral 27:18 nature 17:20 63:4 partner 12:2,4,6 15:12 numbers 17:6 **Orange** 82:3 83:1 69:10 70:13 72:18,19 nautical 17:18 numerous 109:3 97:15 112:19 120:12,22 order 3:3,5 13:3 27:7, navigated 69:5,6 14,21 45:23 67:11 68:1 **partnered** 98:18,24 0 76:15 106:17 107:10,20, necessarily 9:19 41:19 partners 112:13,20 23 136:17 137:21,24 45:14 140:17 **objectivity** 67:9 72:21 passed 37:22 38:20 needed 56:18 88:15 39:19 57:8 organization 53:25 109:18 occur 16:19 66:20 67:14 68:2 Passero 89:2 negotiable 137:12 occurred 16:22 organizational 49:8,17 passes 11:25 101:20 Ocean 89:10 negotiate 30:23 69:22 81:14 **passion** 49:8 77:18 negotiated 88:5 **odd** 32:18 organizations 75:8 **past** 61:24 109:13 Negotiation 79:4 offer 62:2 69:25 72:24, oriented 49:5 25 111:14 path 28:3 69:25 negotiations 27:22 outgoing 51:25 52:1 offered 68:3 pay 135:19 132:3 **news** 18:5 49:12 68:3 75:1,3 offering 119:14 123:12 paycheck 69:21 over-budget 20:18 **nice** 5:4 12:5 33:23 office 4:16 60:16,18 paying 22:3,6 oversaw 79:25 50:10 64:10 77:11 85:4 62:10,14,22 70:8 79:16 peers 78:10 oversight 6:5 99:1 114:13 136:18 80:21 86:4 87:21 89:7, penalties 14:3 14 overview 16:1 night 50:2 officer 49:24 55:3 67:2 pending 50:8 117:15 owns 119:7,8 nobodv's 39:7.8 offices 59:23,25 78:1 people 14:17 18:1 nods 10:13 84:23 79:18 80:16 28:13,23 29:6,9,23,25

Index: moving..people

30:3.5 31:21 33:6 34:10 38:21 40:16.19 42:21 44:12 45:18 53:6 58:15 62:9 69:20 72:20 78:24 81:19 91:23 92:24 93:6. 9 98:1 104:25 109:17 113:6 117:16 121:6,18 126:24 135:21 138:25 percent 16:3 17:9 47:20 86:18 109:14 perfectly 108:24 125:5 perform 27:9 period 45:18 58:20 permitted 131:12 perplexed 120:3 perplexing 52:1 person 17:21 29:11 36:7 37:12 45:6 49:3 68:1 72:15 89:23 90:24 96:15 104:9 123:3 133:21 personal 85:7 personalities 57:24 personally 87:21 141:14 72:24 84:4

personnel 18:9 **perspective** 67:4 69:24 persuade 117:16 Pete 131:11 **Peter** 5:1 47:6,11,16 50:9 97:12

philosophy 32:10 phone 3:9 73:22 101:25 125:4 **pick** 28:18 33:25 42:3

pictures 25:13 **pike** 61:5

**pilot** 50:20 61:15,23

**pilots** 61:14 pinch 20:25 Pinellas 90:7 **Piper** 64:9,11

**Pittman** 5:17 9:20 16:8, 12 17:12 18:20 19:7,10, 16 20:3,22 21:16,20 22:5,8,12,15 23:10 24:17,20,23 25:21 26:18,21,23 28:7 133:1, 6 136:5,8 138:19 142:23

place 12:18 52:11 58:15 81:16 138:14 143:10

places 90:1

**plan** 19:7 48:19 71:17 78:21 88:22

plane 61:16 64:1,5,8 planes 14:14,17 plans 41:6 48:17 95:18 play 96:5 137:13

pleasure 126:14,19 **pledge** 3:6,7

**PMP** 49:5

**point** 4:10 27:1 28:14,22 29:13 41:2 43:13 52:15 67:8,13 77:15 81:1 92:21 94:23 95:13,22 100:12.24 105:11 108:25 109:4 113:13 114:14,22 124:3 125:5 126:19 136:22

points 45:7 60:21 79:8 133:11

**policies** 48:12 52:12 policy 6:4 48:2,17 **polled** 101:7

**ponder** 103:7

poor 139:4

Port 79:20 82:18 89:10, 11

position 71:22 positions 74:22

positive 17:7 68:23 123:11,18

possibly 111:22 121:16 132:19 136:22

postpone 104:3

potential 25:7

potentially 52:2 96:11 122:6

**power** 41:2

Powerpoints 32:6

practical 124:1

**practice** 53:8 56:8 60:16 62:4 75:10 78:13 79:9 80:14 113:10

practiced 73:3

practicing 56:10

practitioner 47:17 50:5 57:19 70:7,9 93:25 94:11,24 95:7 97:13

practitioners 29:24 99:20

prefer 44:8 94:3,24 96:16 112:5 126:2 129:6 132:21

preferable 95:22

preference 27:8 91:22 101:18 126:20

preferences 40:9 premature 136:20

preparation 85:2

prepare 27:13 34:2 139:12 142:9

prepared 31:25 92:20 93:18 94:17 96:14 100:14 109:22.23 110:24.25 114:21 117:23 121:21 125:11 126:2,7 131:5 139:22

prepares 50:16

presence 118:7

present 3:15 77:10,12

presentation 27:18 30:12 32:2,6 33:18 35:8, 10,15 40:5 42:23 45:8 46:6 47:12 55:17 59:12 66:12 121:4

presentations 36:13 38:25 41:14 42:18 43:22

46:2.10.21 91:8.11 92:21 102:6 128:1

presented 15:20 16:18 20:15 24:11 102:18

Index: percent..processes

President 48:2,6

President's 48:7,11

**pretty** 53:15,20 56:14 57:11 112:11 116:4 125:1.22

prevail 45:4

preventive 58:10 68:19

prevents 58:11

previous 16:4 51:11 59:4 118:17

previously 134:3

**price** 18:18 19:2,8,10

**prior** 12:8 29:14 34:22 107:25

priority 50:6 58:25

**prison** 48:25

privately 84:22

privy 65:9,11

**problem** 13:4 34:14 114:19 125:10

problems 68:16,17 88:14

procedural 116:15

procedurally 25:22 39:20 102:9

procedure 32:18 133:11

procedures 52:13 53:22 58:14 60:10 63:3 134:8

proceed 38:14 45:19 91:22 106:19

process 24:24,25 27:25 31:22,24 32:25 34:6,17, 18 39:13,14,17,22 40:6 53:5 57:10 58:14 63:3 91:16 127:9 133:7 138:10 140:3 142:25

processes 39:19 60:10

81:16 publicly 84:21 125:18 126:1 processing 64:18 publish 35:24 quickly 37:14 64:20 reasons 133:3 102:4 79:7 **pulling** 118:20 **Reba** 108:15 procurement 26:9 quorum 3:23 pullout 52:15 recall 27:4 30:4 42:6,13 78:20 133:7 **quote** 51:12 purely 42:24 69:17 receipt 25:10 141:7 143:14 procurement-related receipts 22:10 R 60:9 purposes 95:9 106:12, received 23:20,22 25:3, 24 profession 56:22 ran 18:5,7 90:9 6,9,14 51:10 71:3 put 10:3 13:20 25:2,3 professional 20:8 21:6, recent 10:3 109:8 123:6 range 62:3 73:7 27:24 30:24 31:17 45:22 9,11,21,24 22:11 75:14 59:14,15 67:14 81:15 recently 18:2 86:7 rank 25:24 26:1 27:14, profile 93:24 85:8 109:12 115:8 21 29:4 34:19 36:5,13, recess 132:19 18 37:24 39:2,3 41:15, **project** 16:24 49:4,6,25 **Putnam** 18:12 recognize 77:2 24 42:2,7,10 44:19,24 58:16 96:6 putting 37:3 67:25 105:8.23.24 109:21 recognized 43:8 85:18 projects 16:19 123:16 135:15 114:21 115:25 125:11 recollection 9:16 29:20 126:8 127:24 128:2 proper 35:7 135:20 Q 138:14 recommend 94:17 ranked 28:14 properly 139:13,22 recommendation ranking 36:18 42:12 qualification 27:14 140:9 141:4 44:11 104:25 121:21 91:14 qualifications 56:23 126:18 128:24 129:3 property 80:22 recommendations 78:12 **qualified** 27:9 56:8 rapport 52:9 proposal 53:16 60:5 65:12 67:23 127:23 recommended 27:7,17 rarely 87:8 proposals 4:7 25:6,9, 28:15 qualify 121:16 11,17 30:14 126:6 rate 112:14,15,19,20,21 record 27:24 85:7 qualifying 63:2 104:9 120:8,12,19,20,22 proposed 53:16 120:6 108:19 116:15 quality 124:15 rates 112:13,24 113:23 proposers 51:9 recordkeeping 140:14 **ratify** 140:7 **quarter** 141:25 pros 107:24 records 78:20 reach 34:8 36:14 98:9 question 16:16 17:3 prosecutor 60:15 recovery 53:1 20:6 23:17 32:9 33:9 reactionary 140:4 protect 58:15 51:8 52:16 53:3,14,15 recruited 71:2 reactions 37:6 56:7 64:25 65:3,5 66:6 protected 52:3 Reddit 102:1 73:6 83:15 84:10 101:3 read 43:16 52:7 protest 36:20 48:6 103:11,14,19 118:16 **redone** 88:16 125:19 127:2 132:1,3, readily 72:25 **provide** 6:4 18:24 19:3 reference 133:6 12,23 72:21 73:7,8 reading 9:7 102:5 referenced 79:8 questions 15:19,20,22 provided 18:12 29:23 ready 35:1 39:1,2 41:24 16:11 19:17,19,20 referred 5:21 42:2,3 71:15 83:8 90:17 providing 22:9 22:18,22 30:18,23 31:10 91:23 93:12 97:21 32:14,15 33:24 34:1 **referring** 4:6 54:8 proximity 119:11 101:9.18 102:8 118:24 37:11 40:4,10,16,19 refine 32:14 138:18 **pub** 68:9 42:18,21 43:4 50:8 51:2, 5 57:5,6 59:8 61:9 62:5 real 33:23 60:12 62:20 reflect 6:22 **public** 42:11 52:8 58:15 64:16 65:19,24 70:5 89:15,16 119:8 69:17 74:25 78:20 79:1 reflecting 11:13 74:8,9,10 81:2 82:24 97:6,7,9,18,20 98:13 realtime 52:12 79:14 83:11 84:24 91:3,8,24 regular 113:7 99:8,10 103:3 130:7,9, 106:18 121:20 138:12 reappear 102:23 11 139:13 regulations 48:13,14 quick 33:23 40:8 81:1 reason 103:20 125:22 88:3

Index: processing..regulations

**Reid** 15:8 reimbursement 22:2.7 reimbursements 17:2 rein 34:15 reissue 28:16 reject 28:15,16 98:3 relationship 78:25 96:4 relationships 70:10 85:7 remain 52:3 remainder 141:2 remaining 106:16 remember 19:11 20:23 100:18 remotely 86:5 repainted 88:16 repeat 123:21 replacement 133:2 report 15:2,15,17,20 17:24 19:14,15 20:13 23:4 24:10 141:13 reporter 7:9 8:4,6 reporting 44:25 reports 11:3,4,5 141:13 represent 63:11 81:3 86:6 representation 73:9 77:16,17 98:16 representative 15:12 63:22 represented 80:6,8 81:24 representing 58:1 63:4 78:5 79:16,17 80:15 81:10,13 request 4:7 12:25 13:8, 9 17:1 136:10 requested 6:10 13:10

125:6

requests 56:24

require 27:18 57:16

67:18 95:2 required 54:1 56:10 84:14 101:23 138:4 requirements 19:1 33:4 34:10 69:1 79:2 requires 56:15 67:9,11 135:11 rescue 66:21 research 54:5 74:24 102:1 researched 18:20 resident 47:18 67:21 76:23 77:24,25 residents 61:12 resolution 140:8 resources 60:23 77:21 95:3,20 respect 63:14 75:1 respondent 46:6 respondent's 55:21 respondents 4:7 25:7 26:2 30:1 46:2 53:10 54:19 85:8 101:23 responding 35:6 response 48:15 65:16 142:10 143:13 responses 23:7 24:12, 15 28:15,16 29:23 37:13 40:23 43:16,19 93:24 96:20 responsibilities 98:18 rest 110:19 129:1,2 132:20 restate 39:22 42:16 resumes 29:2 retainer 109:6 113:15 retainer's 111:20 retainers 109:7 retired 47:20 49:15.23

revenue 15:24 16:3,23,

25 17:4

revenues 139:7 review 22:14 23:6 24:12,14 25:15,18,23,24 **SAAPA** 12:20 26:10 66:19 98:14 142:6 safely 14:5 reviewed 91:23 **safety** 17:22 133:3 reviewing 53:21 **salaries** 134:4 137:7 revisit 19:23 139:18 **RF-** 24:25 sales 19:24 **RFP** 24:25 25:7 66:19 **SANTIAGO** 12:8 55:8, 67:14 79:8 85:9 96:2 112:18 sat 72:22,23 **RFPS** 74:20 satisfied 115:18 **RFQ** 23:7 24:12,14 25:22 27:1,25 30:19,24 **savings** 135:8,15 31:18 34:10 35:6 40:11, **scale** 27:2 12,23 54:8 63:8 65:16 75:6 93:15 98:10 115:8 scenes 74:3 142:18 schedule 91:19 **RFQ/RFP** 112:10 school 71:6 90:6,11 **RFQS** 26:14 28:10 **scope** 53:17,18,19,23 37:22 54:7,22 Riera 12:15,17 13:12,17 scroll 25:4,5 27:5 rigorous 78:10 search 9:4,18,20 10:7, risk 121:17 139:23 18 29:15,21 Robert's 126:23 seat 72:23,24 **Robinson** 5:21,22,23 secondary 112:1 roles 69:23 seconded 8:6 roll 3:10,12 44:6 secret 15:4 roof 129:24 secretary 67:2 room 6:20 31:7 34:13 Section 25:15 27:6 rotary 50:20,21,22 Security 48:3 routinely 64:6 74:20 seek 88:6 75:24 seeking 56:25 rules 9:14 14:6 69:1 sees 34:6 81:14 84:12 88:2 93:8 126:23 select 28:11 36:14,17 running 89:4 124:3 135:9 selected 45:12 130:23 Russell 4:17 76:10 selection 103:25 129:3 96:22 sell 139:24 sense 12:23 39:24 40:1 111:2

standard 53:17 separate 102:1 122:4 sit 57:24 **space** 74:23 75:10,11 standards 88:2 September 134:17 sitting 44:3 73:13,18 **speak** 17:13 23:8 29:10, 18 46:4 47:23 48:1 September/october **situation** 29:22 30:6 **standing** 90:24 122:2 49:16,17 63:11 83:19,20 56:25 51:24 52:11 53:1 96:1 standpoint 69:18 speaking 31:1 53:6 **serve** 69:3 situations 84:13 staring 105:1 59:17 served 73:1 122:12 **skills** 57:21 speaks 118:21 **start** 9:18 11:4 44:11 service 16:2 21:23 51:7 **sky** 51:16 46:5 48:25 77:13 92:16 **special** 18:5,7 35:8 52:25 68:4 75:5 106:5 111:3 115:12 77:20 78:17 79:20 86:6 slightly 9:21 40:7 services 17:18 18:11. 112:12 87:8,15 127:6 133:25 started 62:7 80:14 23 21:6 25:1 27:9 30:8,9 111:1 113:24 specialist 66:22 67:18 slow 96:6 62:3 73:7 85:17 111:14 78:7 98:24 **starting** 16:7 17:5 121:1 **small** 126:24 104:24 specific 53:20 54:22 serving 87:16 smarter 14:21 61:8,9 63:9 73:10 78:2, **state** 4:4 15:25 32:10 set 12:1 28:7 31:22 Smith 4:17 47:2,7 76:9, 4,13 79:7 86:20 98:19 48:16,24 49:1 60:16 42:25 137:18 67:21 69:5 71:4 72:14 25 79:9 96:22 107:7,13 specifically 20:20 116:24 119:4,5 133:17 112:18 117:24 118:11 shared 27:3 63:13 80:6 93:25 119:1,9,24 120:3 121:9 state-level 69:7 specificity 55:1 sharing 42:12 122:1 **stated** 5:20 26:25 speculate 53:10 **Shavitz** 63:10,18 snapshot 75:3 110:23 ship 82:10 85:20 **snarky** 140:2 **spend** 89:5 134:10 **statement** 5:15.18 6:2 **spending** 20:13,18 85:6 140:20 **sole** 70:7,9 87:6 94:11 **short** 18:1 27:6 30:2 21:18 131:14 133:17 33:15 34:1,8 35:5,7,15, 126:1 **statements** 7:10 136:9 solicited 27:9 spent 86:18 90:7 **States** 59:24 63:13 short-listed 27:19 **spiel** 31:9 **solo** 29:24 47:17 50:4 stating 28:11 **shortage** 17:15 18:3,8, 57:19 93:25 94:24 95:7, **spoke** 106:6 11 139:7 13 96:7 97:13 99:20 statistics 16:6 **spread** 59:23 shortfall 16:25 **solos** 94:1 **status** 10:4 **squad** 66:21 **show** 3:17 12:24 22:10 solutions 72:25 statute 31:20 **SSI** 21:22 showed 20:13 29:24 solve 13:4 72:15 **stay** 19:16 31:7 62:8 115:6 St 5:2 18:16 50:12 60:1 71:4 143:9 **solved** 68:17 61:5,11,14,20 74:14,16 showing 20:15 **stayed** 52:18 **solving** 68:16 76:23 77:25 80:7 81:7 124:11 sic 82:25 step 31:21 54:2 son 50:12 52:25 **staff** 6:5 11:3,4 19:14,15 **side** 12:23 31:1,3 58:10 **steps** 34:7 sort 56:16 114:15 61:12 95:1 20:21 21:24 26:1,15 **Stetson** 90:6,9,10 28:14,22 36:14 52:10 sought 87:8 sign 84:2 60:20 62:16 73:25 76:22 **stiff** 14:3 **sound** 140:1 significant 63:1 123:7 139:12 140:9 stood 42:22 141:12,13 142:8,17 **sounds** 53:1 95:6.7 significantly 18:18 143:3,12 128:25 135:5 137:11,20 stop 141:11 similar 19:21 81:13 139:20,23 staff's 142:24 straightforward 56:15 86:16 112:11 south 50:1 61:12 staffing 17:15 **strategic** 48:17,19 **simple** 53:15 56:7 Southern 56:18 70:10 stakeholders 4:1 **single** 37:12 sovereign 87:11 strength 119:9 stand 3:5 4:4,12 31:15 sir 75:15 40:16 76:18

Index: separate..strength

strengths 111:13 **surprised** 72:4 92:12 telling 49:12 131:5 time 3:2.24 7:10 14:21 17:21 25:12.18 29:10. strong 80:13 96:10 survives 117:3 ten 30:3 60:2 86:5 18,20 30:4 31:2 32:12 112:23 113:6,8,9 123:24 sustainable 67:12,15 ten-day 128:13 34:2,3 36:14 39:11 structure 114:14 42:25 45:18 54:4 55:7, switch 108:19 tenants 3:25 17:16 10,16 57:17,21 58:2,13 student 61:15 term 69:13 71:6 77:6 80:24 81:21 Т 82:6,12 85:21 86:18 stumbling 124:20 terminal 88:12 88:20 89:6,23 90:7 92:5, **style** 77:6 113:15 21 95:2 97:23 98:1,12 terminate 9:17 table 60:4 94:15 113:4 102:4 110:12 114:22 subject 56:10 140:23 141:6 terminating 9:19 116:25 123:16 124:24 **submission** 98:1,2,14, tabling 140:21 125:6 127:8,25 128:7 termination 5:17 15,19 129:10 131:16 136:15, takes 8:18 133:18 terms 28:12 40:11 22 137:19 139:12 submissions 27:5 93:14 98:21 137:1 taking 12:18 14:1,25 31:13 91:24 93:5,10 timely 26:16 135:14 97:23 98:11 that'd 90:2 times 48:1 68:23 76:5 talent 98:8 **submitted** 7:14 25:16 there'll 14:3 139:15 89:2 28:13,24 30:14 33:7 talk 16:15 24:15,17,23 thing 4:3 5:8 8:21 12:3, timestamp 25:10 97:24 98:22 101:24 30:5 31:5 42:8,9,20 43:3 21 14:8 25:1 35:23 41:3 102:17 50:4,5 71:17 80:5 81:22 title 89:16 50:19 51:20 68:5.6 69:6 82:6 102:15,16 117:23 subsequent 7:3,10 70:21,22 73:19 75:13 today 3:13 14:24,25 119:16 132:19 138:16, 139:21 88:21 89:17 93:10 102:6 26:24 30:12,15 32:2,16, 24 141:5 104:13,21 115:2 116:22 subsequently 18:15 18,21 34:9,19 35:12,15 119:6 125:3 128:5 134:2 talked 5:18 29:25 37:8 36:5,13,16 37:19,20 143:2 143:20 39:8 38:24 39:10 41:14 43:3 substantial 16:7,22 72:3 89:22 91:18 93:12, things 13:20 17:20 talking 18:8 21:10 113:25 19 97:21 100:13,19 18:24 21:2,3,4,13,24 77:12 78:19 92:16 101:22,25 103:3,10,15 substantive 141:21 38:23 53:6.10 63:4 65:9 104:12 118:13 119:25 121:22 125:11 127:4,10 68:4,15,19,21 69:4,17 **success** 14:11,19 talks 26:10 142:5 70:14 71:7 74:1,25 successful 12:22,23 75:11 77:13 78:16 87:7. Tammi 4:24 82:25 today's 9:18 11:13 10,12 92:16 96:7 109:3, 85:24 86:1 91:4 131:6 sudden 17:8 told 90:4 18 114:13 118:18,21 **Tampa** 60:3 **suggest** 132:18 122:7,23 131:3 134:6 ton 82:20 136:14 140:3 143:15 tap 60:23 suggested 40:7 tonight 33:16 40:3 **thinking** 104:13 tapes 81:11 129:6 suggesting 52:6 thought 14:13,15 tasked 143:15 top 14:11 15:3 29:17 suggestion 32:13 37:22,23 50:25 58:7 33:16 35:18 41:15 101:6 41:23 105:4 tax 19:11 119:5 77:13 94:10 99:17 104:25 100:15 103:7 105:7,9 suit 137:8 taxi-backs 17:20 topic 10:1 106:9 118:2,5 sunshine 26:11 30:22 taxing 119:5 thoughts 40:9 51:19 tossup 90:2 39:8 42:7,9 45:1 49:19 Taylor 12:7 92:8,10 93:20 94:20,25 52:8 63:2,3 78:19 87:11 touch 29:6 105:2 102:20 teach 47:24 touch-and-goes 17:19 **threats** 87:22 super 123:24 team 48:8,23 60:24 18:14 61:7,8 69:11 throwing 132:8 **support** 5:15 6:3 48:24 touching 53:7 teams 50:6 thwarted 34:12 supposed 27:7 55:10 tough 4:2 53:1 115:1 141:24 142:18 technical 9:12 till 110:21 132:22 141:3 tour 82:10 143:23 **surprise** 57:14 59:6 tedious 116:19

Index: strengths..tour

Index: tours..weeks

tours 47:21

tower 5:21 7:12 17:14,

21 18:9

town 82:2

**TPO** 82:7

**Trace** 12:17

track 55:7

trade 75:7

traffic 17:23

training 21:12 67:11

trainings 21:22

transactional 83:3

transactions 80:1

89:16

transfer 133:22 136:13

137:3 138:9

transferred 137:2

transferring 135:6

transformation 49:9,

12,17

transition 54:2 58:20

translated 79:14

transparency 25:16

27:24

**Trask** 4:24 47:2,7 85:24 86:2 96:23 107:7,8,14, 15 112:18 119:18 123:5,

20 124:15

treat 30:17

tremendous 17:8

tremendously 96:7

trip 76:8

trouble 120:8

troubling 30:20 123:14

trucks 139:24,25

**true** 6:2 77:6 101:11,14 113:19

**Trump** 48:2

trust 58:15

**Tucker** 3:19,20 6:11,13

7:13 8:16 10:21 11:22 14:15 15:22 16:9,14 17:4,12 18:17 19:4,15,

21 24:7 41:10 46:19 55:15,19 56:5,6,19 57:3

65:23,24 74:12,13 75:17 84:24 91:2,3 92:17,18,

19 93:16,18 96:13,14 100:3,4 105:10 108:7

114:7,8,11 121:9,25 124:14 125:20 126:4

127:7,12,13,18,21 128:4,8,12,16,24

130:19,20 135:1,24

136:6,19

**Tucker's** 138:5

**Turn** 3:8

turnover 134:8

two/three 29:17

type 18:22 125:3 138:3

typical 137:10

**typically** 34:6 136:7,8,

U

**U.S.** 56:12 61:22

**UH-60** 50:24

**Uh-huh** 25:21 35:13 43:23 70:18 77:3 95:5 100:23 102:19,21 105:2 106:14 107:3

Ukrainian 51:16

unable 21:2,3

unanimous 46:20

130:21

unaware 5:19

uncomfortable 30:4

understand 33:8 44:6 56:21 58:21 67:20,22 69:14 71:23 72:12 75:16 93:16 96:21 101:8 106:5

128:4 136:19

understanding 21:12 53:24 68:25 72:17

84:11,14

**understood** 29:1 53:19 69:19

unique 57:24 66:22

69:23 78:17 **uniquely** 67:23

**United** 59:24 63:13

unnecessary 43:21

**unusual** 25:23

unwieldy 39:20

**up-** 12:5

**update** 16:4 141:15 142:16 143:12

updated 88:1

updates 12:2,7 15:13

updating 142:9

users 113:2

**usual** 38:10

٧

variety 60:8 111:14

**vehicles** 133:2,7,8 134:12 135:13,15 136:1

vendor 21:1

venture 75:2

**versed** 81:15

**versus** 17:6 19:25 109:6

veteran 47:21 80:5

village 8:18

Vinny 12:11,13 64:2

violated 39:7 87:23

visit 75:25

voice 72:21

volumes 118:21

volunteer 69:16

volunteering 67:15

volunteers 81:18

**vote** 7:22,25 9:13,24 23:10,12,14 32:16 42:11

43:8 45:14,19,21,25 46:12 73:25 91:18 96:19 99:3,11,21 101:22 102:12,25 107:25 115:11 116:7 125:24 127:4,6 128:3 129:20 130:1,12 141:17 144:9, 10

**voted** 9:13 32:21 110:18 116:1 125:16 144:11

voter 49:19

W

**waffle** 91:10

wait 6:16 19:13 70:3 119:19,21 127:5 133:4,8 143:23

walk 52:2

walked 52:18 72:4

**Walker** 4:21 59:18,20 62:5,11,13,16,19 63:8, 18,20 64:2,5,9 65:5,20 66:9 130:25

wanted 14:8 16:4 36:19 42:19 54:24,25 55:22 71:5 77:13 96:1 97:15 98:8,22 102:6 125:15 134:7 136:25 137:5

wanting 15:25

wash 112:22

**Washington** 63:10,17 124:4

watch 81:11

water 13:23,24

ways 114:18

wear 14:4

website 80:23

websites 40:24

**week** 60:2 127:7 128:6, 11.16

weekend 13:25

weeks 13:22 50:15

127:7

## St. Johns County Airport Authority Regular Meeting Regular Meeting, on 06/16/2025

West 60:1 62:25 63:1 workshop 37:25 wetland 61:4 worlds 97:17 Wheels 12:22 14:7,10 Worley 16:13,15 17:11 140:6 22:22 139:3 Whichever 105:1 worst 122:9 White 48:3 worth 104:1 whittle 92:20 96:14 Wow 71:13 whittling 93:1 wrangling 48:10 whomever 72:19 74:4 wrestling 38:9 39:11 98:25 write 48:13,14 wide 62:3 111:14 writing 42:12 70:23 wife 50:11 **written** 31:13 willingness 68:22 wrong 85:25 win 121:5 Υ wing 50:22 Wings 12:22 14:7,10 **year** 9:24 16:4,18 17:6, 140:6 7,10 20:10,23,24 21:5 wired 83:25 84:5 48:8 76:6 123:15 134:20 136:17 142:12 wishes 46:7 year-to-date 17:6 withdraw 83:25 84:5, 14,20 years 58:13,18 61:21 71:11 79:10,12,13 83:24 withdrawing 51:14 84:4 86:8 87:1,9,19 88:5 withdrawn 117:5 121:11,12 122:21 wondered 50:18 90:15 yesterday 56:2 wonderful 78:21 90:1 York 60:14 80:19 131:18 you-all 28:2 word 40:21 work 68:20 70:25 71:8, Ζ 10 74:4,21 75:4,15 83:3 86:4 89:16 91:11 97:15 **Zoom** 73:21 74:1 109:20 112:21 114:21 120:20 121:12 122:6 123:10 124:1,5,8,16 127:19 129:24 worked 48:7,22 66:25 69:12,13 72:11,12 83:23 89:2 118:8,9 working 49:21 69:15,20 73:25 74:3.19 77:19 79:12 81:16 86:18 88:25 89:1 125:10 136:8 works 107:11

Index: West..Zoom