

December 18, 2018

Good Morning, Everyone. Thank You Very Much For Coming Here And Joining Us This Morning As This Board Of Commissioners Conduct The Business For Lee County. Today Is December 18, 2018, And The Time Is 9:30. I Would Like To Invite Pastor Ryan Deaton To Read Us An Invocation From The Life Church, And Then Stand For The Pledge Of Allegiance. Pastor?

God, Thank You, We Thank You For This Amazing County That We Have The Opportunity To Live In. We Ask That You Give The Commissioners Wisdom, That You Direct Them, Give Them Wisdom From Heaven Today As They Make Decisions. God, We Ask You To Be Able To Pray Today, God Bless Your County Today, Thy Will Be Done, On Earth As It Is In Heaven Are. We Ask This In Your Name. Amen.
[Pledge Of Allegiance.]

I Just Want To Say I Think We're The Only Two People That Aren't Sick Up Here. We Don't Have Any Presentations -- Could You See What's Going On Back There?
There's Something Going On Back There.

Ho, Ho, Ho, Merry Christmas. I've Come To Make Sure You All Get A Little Something Here.

Thank You, Santa. Thank You So Very Much.

Thank You, Santa.

Thank You, Santa.

Thank You, Santa.

Just The Lump Of Coal That I Asked For.

Commissioner, I Got A \$100 Bill. What Did You Get?

I Got A Lump Of Coal And A Mask.

Thank You, Santa.

You Know, Commissioner Kiker, If I May Say This While Passing This Out, I Want To Give A Big Shout Out To Santa, And His Helper, Deborah And Everybody In Mother Myers. They Went Out And Had An Amazing Presentation In Ft. Myers On Saturday. What A Great Effort By The Whole Team. Thank You, Santa, And All Your Helpers.

Thank You.

We'd Love To Hear From You This Morning.

I Don't Know What Other To Say Other Than It's Been Pretty Prosperous For Us Here. Other Than That, Have A Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays.

You're Involved In A Lot Of Charity Events This Year?

Well, I'm A Member Of The North Ft. Myers Group. I Want To Come Down Here In The Summer And Help Everybody Out. We Give Tons Of Stuff Away, And As You Know, I've Got To Get Back To The North Pole. I Ain't Got But A Few Days Left. You All Have A Merry Christmas.

Thank You, Santa, Very Much. Ho, Ho, Ho.

Chairman, If I Could, I Just Want To Say Thank You To Commissioner Ballard. I Was There When He Read The Proclamation. Such A Great Event At Ft. Myers For The New Community Center. It Was A Great Night In North Ft. Myers.

Very Good. Yeah, I Think We All Like Listening To The Events That Are Going Around Our County, And We Really Thank You, Santa, And We Absolutely Represent A Lot Of Hard Work From A Lot Of Volunteers Around Lee County, And We Thank You For That. I'm Going To Lead The Meeting, And It's Going To Be A Busy Morning, I Guess. With That, I'd Like To Point Out A Couple Of Rules Of The Road. One Is We're Going To Keep Everything At A Pretty Strict Three-Minute Time Limit For Anybody That Wants To Address The Board. I Will See To It, And I Know There's A Lot Of Interest In Terms Of You Being Up Here. With That, We'll Begin The Meeting, If That's All Right. The First Order Of Business Is A Recap, And We Have One On Item A-4.

Thank You, Mr. Chair. This Is A Correct To The Original Blue Sheet, Which Has Information That Says The Tourist Development Council Will Review This Item On December 13. In Fact, They Have Reviewed The Item And Unanimously Recommended Approval.

Thank You Very Much, And At This Point In Time, That's Going To Be All The Business That Goes On For The Recap, And The Chair Will Accept A Motion.

I Will Motion The Revision And Correction Suggested By Our County Manager.

Second.

Okay. I've Got A Motion By Commissioner Hammond And Seconded By Mr. Pendergrass. With That, Is There Any Further Discussion?

Any Further Objections?

The Motion Passes. Next Item On The Agenda, Is Consent Agenda. With That, I'll Ask All The Commissioners If They Have A Matter That They Would Like To Pull From The Consent Agenda. Commissioner Manning?

Mr. Chairman, I Have A Question. It's Normally, We Adopt The Minutes Of The Previous Meeting, But On Occasion, We Seem To Package Them. I Was Looking For The Minutes Today For Last Meeting, Frankly, Because I Was Going To Be Discussing -- I've Got It As A Commissioner Item, The Estero Bridge Issue. And I Want -- I Saw Them Before Me, But I Don't -- I'm Trying To Understand, When Does It Work, How Does It Work?

When Is It That We Have The Minutes -- At Most Organizations, They Have The Minutes Of The Previous Meeting The Time They're At Their Next Meeting. But We Don't Have The Minutes From The Last Meeting Before Us Today To Adopt Or Correct, And That's What I Was Hoping To Be Able To Suggest A Correction To.

Mr. Weisch.

Mr. Chair, I Would Have To Check With The Clerk's Office Or Administration. I Did Not See The Minutes From The Last Meeting On The Agenda.

And That's What I Was Asking. How --

I Think There's A Question To Have The Minutes From The Previous Meeting Available At The Next Meeting.

Mr. Chair, I'm Not A Requirement That They're Available For The Next Meeting. For Some Reason, I Can Only Surmise That They Were Not Prepared Or Be Ready To Be Placed On This Agenda.

Mr. Chair, Those Minutes Were Always Placed On The Agenda By The Clerk's Office And, You Know, They'll Put Two Or Three Meeting Together If They Get A Little Hyped, But It Doesn't Happen Every Board Meeting.

Mr. Mann?

I've Seen Meetings Where They've Been Prepared, But They're Just Not Prepared And Ready To Be Approved Today. My Question Was In The Minutes, It Made Reference To, On The Commissioner Item That Commissioner Pendergrass Had Brought Up, It Made Reference To A Don Eslick Bridge. The Name "Don Eslick" Was Never Mentioned At Our Previous Meeting. And I Pulled The Video And The Transcripts To Be Absolutely Sure Of That, And That's The Point That Troubled Me The Most. I Don't Think I'm Bringing Up Anything That's News To Anybody, But The Point Of The Motion Seems To Be Not So Much The Naming Of A Bridge As The Un-Naming Of A Bridge, And Since The Name Don Eslick Was Not Mentioned At The Previous Meeting, I Was Going To Ask To Correct The Minutes That We Show That Fact, That There's Language Saying A.K.A., Also Known As The Don Eslick Bridge. But How Do I Correct Minutes When They're Not Before Me?

When They're Made Available -- When Those Minutes Are On Your Agenda For Approval, Then Your Objection Would Be Well Placed To Be Voiced And Aired At That Time, But You Do Not Have Them Before You Today For Consideration, So Your Concern Is --

My Concern -- And This'll Be A Generic Concern Is That Sometimes, The Correctness Or The Incorrectness Of The Minutes Does Impact The Final Understanding Fortunate Business That Was Under Taken, And I'm -- I'm Not Sure What My -- I Don't Think -- From What You're Saying, I Don't Believe I Have Any Options As It -- In Regards To The Minutes, But Sometimes, I Think It May Be -- And What I Need To Understand When This Part Of The Discussion Is Through, Long-Term, I Need To Understand What It Is That Drags These Minutes Out To Beyond The Very Next Meeting. Now, I Think It Should Be A Goal To Try To Have The Minutes Available Immediately Following The Meeting When They Were Acted On.

Okay. So On That Note If I May, Two Points Of Interest. One, Is That That Is -- That's Going To Be Your Commissioner Item That You Want To Talk About?

Yes, Sir.

Perhaps We Could Talk About It At That Point In Time. Secondly, If You Would Be Kind Of To Remind The Board What The Rules Are In Terms Of How The Minutes Are Supposed To Be Handled, And At This Point In Time, Our Order Of Business Is To Look At The Existing Consent Agenda, And Are There Any Items That You Would Like To Pull, Sir?

That Was The One, The Minutes.

Okay. And We Don't Have It In There.

Again, I Don't Think There's Anything That You Can Talk To Me About That. That Said, I Don't Think There's Anything I Can't Talk About Later On.

Are You Comfortable You Need To Talk About It -- You Can Talk About It Later If You Need To.

I'm Okay With The Minutes For Now, But I Would Hope There Would Be Support There For My Suggestion Is We Ought To Make Every Effort To Have The Minutes Available To Us The Very Next Meeting, And Can We Inquire What That's Going To Take.

Okay. It's So Noted --

Commissioner Pendergrass, Just A Final Note. The Minutes Are Prepared By The Clerk's Office, In Her Discretion To The Board. So That Discussion Would Properly Take Place Between Myself, Mr. Desjarlais, And The Clerk. But The Preparation Of The Minutes Is Prepared Beyond My Authority Or Mr. Desjarlais' Authority.

Okay.

But That Suggestion Seems Appropriate, And I Don't -- Was That An Offer To Have That Conversation With The Clerk, That's What I'm Hoping We Can Do.

Okay. Point Taken. Thank You Very Much. Do You Have Any Item In The Consent Agenda, That You Would Like To Pull?

No, Sir.

Okay. I Have None.

I Have None.

I Have None.

I Have None.

Okay. Just For The Folks Out There, The Motion Is The Consent Agenda, To Approve All Of It, If There's Anyone That Would Like To Make Public Comment On The Consent Agenda, Is There Anyone?

I'll Make A Motion To Approve.

Second.

Is There Anyone That Would Like To Address The Board?

Seeing None, Is There Any Further Discussion?

Is There Any Objection?

Seeing None, Motion Passes. Thank You, Gentlemen. We're Going To Go To The Administrative Agenda, Item One, And I Believe There One Goes To Mr. Lesch.

Thank You. Commissioners, Pursuant To Your Direction, I Am Here By Requesting An Attorney-Client Session Be Scheduled For March 5, 2019, As 8:30 A.M., To Be Held In The Courthouse For The Purposes Of Discussing Kirby Rambo Collections, Incorporated, Versus Lee County. Those Present Will Be Commissioners Manning, Pendergrass, Kiker, Commissioners Hammond And Mann, Myself, Mark Frazier, Richard Fink, And Mr. Desjarlais. We Expect The Meeting To Take 30 Minutes, In Keep With Your Procedure, We Will Open The Meeting In These Chambers And Then Adjourn To The East Room. Upon Conclusion Of That Session, We'll Come Back Into These Chambers And Close In Open Session. That Is My Request, Sir.

All Right. Thank You Very Much. Is There Any Discussion By The Board?

This Is -- This Is A Reaction To The Request From Commissioner Mann And Myself To Have This Meeting.

I Have A Question.

Yes, Sir.

County Attorney, Can You Tell Us The Approximate Cost It's Going To Cost Us To Conduct This Meeting With The Staff Coming Into Town?

I Can Tell You We Took A Look At The Hard Cost, The Actual Cost Of The Court Reporter, The Outside Counsel Coming Into Town, And That Dollar Amount Is Somewhere In The Amount Of Approximately \$1600.

And Also, If Something Else Conspired Before This Date, Would You Keep Us Updated If We Get Contact From The Other Side, The Party Suing The County, Would You Tell Us Before This Date?

Absolutely.

Update Us On That?

As Well As If We Receive Anything Else Further From The Court.

And Then, If Anything Happens Positive Side Of This Case, This Meeting Could Be Cancelled Based On The Positive Response Of The Plaintiffs Who's Suing The County.

That's Correct.

Thank You.

Thank You. All Right. Is There Any Further Discussion?

Is That Require A Motion At This Point?

It Certainly Will. First Of All, I Would Like To Ask -- I Don't Have Any Cards On This. Is There Anybody That Would Like To Address The Board On This Subject, Seeing None, Yes, Sir, Mr. Mann.

Well, I Would Make The Motion That We Do Approve These Folks?

All Right. There's A Motion From Commissioner Mann. Do We Have A Second?

We Do Not Have A Second. The Motion Dies Because We Do Not Have A Second. Okay. Next Item?

I Will Make A Motion.

I Will Second His Motion.

Okay, So That's Mr. Manning And Mr. Hammond. Yes, Sir.

Thank You, Mr. Chair. There Are Several Sections To This Requested Motion. I'm Going To Ask Mr. Salyer To Review Them With Us.

Good Morning, Commissioners. The Item Before You Is A Consideration For Proposition 2020, Commonly Known As The Gs-20 Parcel. This Is The Former Borrow Pit That Is Southeast Of Greenbrier, Brier Swamp And Fronts On Joel Boulevard And Lehigh Acres. You Know It Well For The Proposed Water Quality Project That We're Looking To Do This. This Was Recommended Unanimously By Class Act.

Thank You, Mr. Salyer. Is There Anybody Here That Has Any Questions For Staff?
We Have A Motion On The Table On That. Did You Have Something You Want To Say?

I Just Want To Say This Is Another Great Addition. I've Actually Toured This Property Several Times This Year. It's Going To Be A Great Addition To Our 2020 Conservation. Very Excited About This. Thank You.

Anybody Else?

I'll Just Echo -- I Apologize, Commissioner Mann. I'll Echo What Commissioner Pendergrass, 620 Acres Up For Preserve Land, And Tremendous Water Quality Benefits For This One. I'm Looking To The Future For This One.

Commissioner Mann?

Colleagues, This Is One Of The Most Significance Purchases That We've Made In Terms Of Our Water Future, But It Has A Recreational Future To It. What I've Mentioned At Previous Meetings, And I Hope You Guys Are Okay With This. I Can't Imagine That Anybody Would Not Be. If We Do The Purpose Today, I Would On Hope That Our Staff Could Begin A Series Of Conversations With Lmcid, And Park And Recs Out There. Rather Than Just Packing It Away And Saying Okay, It's 2020, We're Going To Use It Only For Water Purposes -- Which Is Critically Important, This Lends Itself For So Many Other Opportunities, And I'm Just Hoping That's Consistent With You All's Think.

Thank You Very Much, Commissioner Mann. Obviously One Of The Attractions For This Property Is The Public Access.

I Do Want To Say Thank You To The County Lands, And Glenn, They Did A Great Job In Negotiating The Price Of This Report. It Took A While, But It Paid Off, And It's A Great Parcel, Glenn, Please.

Commissioner Mann, To Your Point, Absolutely, Staff Is Doing Those Things. In Fact, The County Manager And I Will Be Discussing Some Terms. In Terms Of Recreation, We Certainly Heard The Board Loudly And Clearly. There Are Going To Be Some Good Opportunities On This Board, For Sure.

Beautiful. Thank You. You Good With That.

Great. Great.

All Right. Is There Any Other Questions Or Discussion With Staff?

At This Point In Time, I'd Like To Invite Anybody In The Public That Would Like To Address The Board On This Subject. Yes, Sir. You're Going To Have To Introduce Yourself.

Gladly, Commissioner. Mack Caldwell. It Doesn't Seem Like I Need To Convince This Board. You All Are Invested In The Project. It's A Fantastic Addition To The 2020 Program. I Want To Thank The County Staff For The Time They've Invested In This, All The Departments That Have Put Their Time Into It. It's A Great Addition For Lehigh Acres. Just The Addition Of The County Makes It Difficult For Us To Make Additions In That Community. Immediately, This Puts Them On The Map. I Think For All The Ben Fits You've Already Discussed, Water Quality, Recreation, The Myriad, Couldn't Be Happier That You're Moving Forward With This Acquisition And I Would Certainly Encourage That. Thank You.

Thank You Very Much, Meredith Rudd.

Good Morning, Meredith.

Good Morning, Commissioners. Thank You. Meredith Rudd. I Am Simply Here To -- [Inaudible]

-- And This Will Undoubtedly Help Diminish The Pollution That Has Been Causing This Most Recent Algae Bloom, So I Do Want To Say Thank You And I Staff's Recommendation. Thank You So Much.

Thank You So Much. Is There Anyone Else That Would Like To Address The Board?

Seeing None, I Have A Motion And A Second. Is There Any Further Discussion?

Are There Any Objections?

Motion Passes. Mr. Desjarlais -- Are You Going To Adjust The Microphone?

[Inaudible]

We Have A New Microphone System. It Kind Of Lays Back. The First Thing You Want To Do Is Kind Of Grab It And Then, It Doesn't Work So Well Anymore. So If You Could Leave It Back, It'll Work Better. Thank You, We'll Go To The Next Item.

We'll Ask You To Adopt The 2020 Legislative Agenda, And If You Like, I'll Ask Mr. Salyer To Highlight The Item For You.

Move The Item.

Second.

So We've Got A Motion And A Second.

We Are Heavy On Water Quality Issues As The Board Always Is. You've Also Got Some Flood Priorities On Your List And Public Safety Projects, As Well, Sort Of The Analog To Digital Radio Conversion, Happy To Go Through Any Of The Items That You Have A Question About.

Yes, Sir.

On Here, Item Number B, Commissioners, Says That Under Our Harmful Algal Blooms, We Will Support Research Monitoring And Mitigation Efforts Pertaining To Red Tide And Blue-Green Algae. I Would Like To Strengthen That, Too. I'll Tell You What I Would Like To Accomplish And Maybe Staff Can Help Me Out With The Wordsmithing Of It. Last Year, We Got Reports On The News Every Night And Several Agencies That There Was A Blue-Green Algae Bloom In Lake Okechobee, And Then, The Lake Would Release That With The Bloom Down The Colusahachee River. My Request Is To Look At Ways To Eliminate Or Mitigate The Algae Bloom While It's In The Lake, Thinking That If You Kill The Bloom While It's In The Lake Before You Send That Water To Us, Obviously, We'll Be On Better Footing. So If The Staff Could Craft An Amendment That This Board Would Support Any Effort To Eliminate Any Harmful Algae Blooms Before The Water Is Discharged To Us, I'd Like To See That Put In There.

I'll Turn To The Board. Is Everybody Okay With That In There?

Okay. Mr. Desjarlais.

It's A Very Simple Amendment. It Would Probably Sound Like The Board Supports An Amendment To Kill The Algae Bloom In Lake Okeechobee Before Release.

Okay. Is There Any Public Comment On This?

I Don't See Any. Is There Any Further Comment?

Okay. Seeing None, Motion Passes. Mr. Desjarlais?

This Is The Item That Was On Your Recap Sheet. It Has Been Reviewed And Recommended For Approval.

Motion.

Second.

I Have A Motion By Mr. Manning And Seconded By Mr. Hammond. Is There Any Discussion With Staff? Not Seeing Any, I Would Like To Invite The Public. If There's Anyone That Would Like To Address The Board At This Time, Please Do So. Not Seeing Any, I'm Going To Go Back To The Board. Any Further Discussion?

Motion Passes. Thank You Very Much. Item Number Five.

Thank You, Mr. Chair. Item Number Five Is We're Requesting The Approval Of \$39,000 Economic Development Incentive For Atos Resources Development, And We Can Discuss The Item If You So Choose.

I Move.

Second.

Okay. We Have A Motion By Mr. Manning, A Second By Mr. Hammond. I'll Look To Staff For Any Questions Or Comments, Seeing None, I'll Move To The Public. Is There Any Member Of The Public That Would Like To Address The Board?

Seeing None, I'll Go Back To The Board. Any Further Questions Or Comments?

Seeing None, Motion Passes. Thank You. Item Number Six.

Item Section, We're Seeking Approval Of The Construction And Design For Hertz Arena. As You Know, We Have A Long-Term Agreement With That Corporation For -- To Use The Facility As A Hurricane Shelter During Season.

This Has Nothing To Do With Purchase Of Hertz Or Anything Like That, This Was Specifically Storm Related Management.

So Moved, Mr. Chair.

Second.

We Have A Motion By Mr. Hammond And Second By Mr. Manning. I Would Like To Turn To The Board, Is There Any Further Comment?

Seeing None, I'll Turn To The Public. Is There Anyone That Would Like To Address The Board On This Item?

Seeing None, I'll Move Back To The Board. Is There Any Further Comment Or Discussion?

Motion Passes. Item Seven.

I Have A Motion By Mr. Hammond And Second By Mr. Manning. I'll Go Back To The Board. Do You Have Any Further Discussion?

Do You Have Any Objections?

Motion Passes. Item Number Eight, This Is The Big Carlos Pass Bridge Replacement.

Thank You, Mr. Chair. We, Today, Are Asking You To Approve The Big Carlos Pass Replacement Alternative, Which Is The 60-Foot-High Span. I'll Go Through A Quick Recap Of This Issue As It Was Presented To You During Your Last Workshop. What We're Going To Show You Is The Quick Summary Of The Pd&E Summary. I Want To Remind Everyone That This Project Actually Started In 2012. It Was The First Time That The Board Got A Look At It. For Those Who May Not Be Familiar With Our Process, We Budget For Capital Projects On A Five-Year Cycle, Common Referred To As A Five-Year C.I.P., So This Project Was First Introduced In 2012, And During That C.I.P. Process, So It Would Be 2012 Through

2017. The First Workshop That Occurred On This Item Was February 2, 2016, Followed By An April 5 Followed By An Approve For The Draft Construction Project To Be Constructed In 2021. The Final Approval Was In September 2016, So The Construction Of This Replacement Bridge Was Included In That Five-Year Cycle. The Pd&E, Which Is The -- Thank You, An Environmental Study, Is Required In Order -- And You'll See A Slide In Just A Second. And I'll Explain The Pd&E And Why It's So Necessary, But That Was Approved In September 2016 And Followed By A Board Workshop Presentation On It December 20 In That Same Year. So The Pd&E, Which Is The Project Development And Environmental Study, We're Required To Do That In Order To Remain In Compliance With National And Environmental Policy Act, You Know, Known As Nepa Process. We Have To Do That In Order To Be Eligible For Any Federal Funding. And As You Know, We're Anticipating Ultimately Federal Dollars Will Be Allocated To The State And Then Funneled To Lee County To Help With The Construction. All Of The Data Collection And Public Involvement Task And The Preliminary Portion Of This Process Have Been Accomplished. We're At The Stage Now Where It's Time For Us To Recommend The Preferred Alternative. That Preferred Alternative Recommendation Is Also Required By The Pd&E And The Nepa Process. There's Been Some Conversation About The Lack Of Public Presentations Or That There May Be Some Governing Boards Locally That Have Not Seen These Presentations Or They Don't Have, You Know, Complete Knowledge Of The Process And What We're Attempting To Accomplish. As You Can See, There's About 18 Different Presentations That Have Been Made Along With The Mayor's Different Organizations And A Multitude Of Homeowner Associations, So This Is Not A New Project. We've Gone To An Awful Lot Of Effort To -- To Do This Presentation In Public, And We've Taken Public Input. There Is More Public Input Yet To Be Taken, And I'll Talk About That In Just A Second. There Are Three Alternatives That Were(B)Ed To Us By Consultant And -- Presented To Us By Consultant And We'll Present That In A Moment. Option Number Two Is A 24-Foot Vertical Clearance Draw Best Of My Knowledge, Which Is Similar To The Existing Bridge Today, And Again, We'll Get To The -- To The Recommendation And Show You The Cost In Just A Moment. And The 60-Foot Vertical Clearance Fixed-Span Bridge With The Up Graded And Yesterday's Safety Features To Be Built On The Golf-Side Alignment. So In Its Simplest Terms, You Can See The Construction Cost. The No Build Cost, Which Would Be Rehabbing The Construction Bridge Would Be \$20 Million, With A 20-Year Life Cycle. The 24-Foot Draw Bridge Versus A 60-Foot Fixed Span Bridge, You Can See The Difference In Construction Cost. The 24-Foot Draw Bridge Is A Little Bit More Than 20% Expensive During The Construction. During The Last Work Session, Commissioner Kiker Raised Some Issues With Us Regarding The Long-Term Maintenance Costs. I Think There Were Several People That Had Contacted The Commissioner's Office And Suggested That Our Numbers Might Not Be Accurate, And So I Want To Tell You Two Things. We Can Put Whatever Inflationary Formula To The Annual Cost, And No Matter What We Use, The 60-Foot Bridge Is Less Expensive Over The Life Cycle Of This Bridge. The Second Thing I Want To Tell You And What You'll Make A Decision On Is The Staff Recommendation. Between Consultants And Our Professional Staff Of Engineers, Randy And His Crew, We Will Never, Under Any Circumstance, Bring You A Product That, With A Recommendation To Spend More Money Than Is Necessary. Spending This Kind Of Money Is -- And Finding This Kind Of Money Is Difficult To Begin With. Our Revenues, Our Revenue Sources Become More And More Limited Over Time. We Have, You Know, Probably Over \$1 Billion Of Infrastructure Needs That You're Going To Have To Deliberate Over Over

The Next Several Years. We'll Be Having A Conversation With You Pretty Soon About What Does Lee County Look Like When We Reach A Full-Time Population Of 1 Million And How That Affects Infrastructure Needs And The Kinds Of Dollars That You're Going To Have To Allocate, And What Kind Of Revenue Sources That We Have Today, And We May Have To Make Decisions On Tomorrow? So As You Can See, Based On That Philosophy, My Recommendation To You, Staff's Recommendation To You, Is That You Support The 60-Foot Bridge, Which You Discussed During The Work Session Two Weeks Ago, And There Was Consensus Around The 60-Foot Fixed Span, But Commissioner Kiker, We Heard You Loudly And Clearly. You Know, The Concerns That You Raised On Behalf Of Constituents In -- Down In That Part Of Lee County On -- So This Hopefully Answers Any Questions On What It Would Cost To Maintain Over The 75-Year Period. The Preference Is The 60-Foot Span Bridge With The Gulf Of Mexico Alignment. That Graphic Clearly Shows The Rendering Of That Alignment. We Urge You To Approve This. We'll Then Go On And Complete The Pd&E Study, Which Has To Be Completed Before We Go Any Further. Interesting To Note There'll Be Plenty Of Time For People To Review The Pd&E Study, We Have To Take That Entire Thank You Study And Put It On -- Take That Entire Study And Put It On Paper And Allow The Public To Read It. We Will Then Be Holding A Series Of Public Hearings In 2019 And 2020, Likely Towards The End Of 2019 And Into 2020. I Believe At Least One Or Two Of Those Public Hearings Or Public Presentations Will Be Held During The Tourist Season And Month Of March, April, Sort Of. We're Not Sure Yet. We -- Once The Pd&E Report Is Completed, We Have To Send Those To Fdot, And We Won't Do Anything Else Until We Heard From Fdot On The Study. We'll Wait For Florida Department Of Transportation Approval, Which Will Then Make The Project Eligible For Matching Funds From The Federal Government Through The State, And We Intend To Go To Construction In Year 2021. Thank You, Mr. Chair. That Concludes The Presentation.

Okay. One More Time To The Board, Do You Have Any Questions Or Concerns? Commissioner Hammond?

I'll Start It By -- If That's Okay. Thanks, Mr. Chairman. I Just Wanted To Say -- 'Cause I See We Have Some Folks From Our Municipalities In The Audience Today. One Of The Things That I've Seen Said At Many Of The Council Meetings Before Is The County Just Listen To Us When We Don't Take One Of Their Recommendations, And I Just Want To Say To The Folks From The Municipalities, We Absolutely Do Listen To You, On This One, I've Read Your Letters, Your Comments, And Concerns. I Disagree With What You've Sent Us, But That Doesn't Mean I Didn't Listen To You. In Fact, I Posed A Lot Of Questions That Were Brought Up In The Communications That You All Have Sent Us To Our Staff And Have Hashed That Out In Various Briefings With Our Staff To Dry And Understand The Best Way To Go About This. For Me, What It Comes Down To On This, No Matter What You Use, It Is Three Times To Maintain The Draw Bridge Than It Is A Fixed-Span Bridge. And The Construction Costs Are Initially About \$12 Million More Expensive To Do A Draw Bridge Over The Fixed 60-Foot Bridge. So When We Look At The County As A Whole, And That's What People Elect, Is To Be A County-Wide Commissioner. I Think 120,000 People Voted -- Actually, More Than That, 200,000 People Voted In The Election That I Ran In.

All Of Those Folks Expect Me Not Just To Vote What Would Be Best For The Community, But For The County As A Whole. I Look At All The Staff Needs That We Have, And, Just Like The Staff Has Said, I Can't Justify Spending This Money Unnecessarily Up Front, And Then, The Maintenance Costs Over The Next 75 Years. It's Hard To Justify That To Folks When You've Got So Many Needs That Need To Be Met. So With That, Mr. Chairman, I'll Make A Motion That We Approve Staff's Recommendation For The Approval Of The 60-Foot Bridge.

Second.

We Have A Motion On The Floor From Commissioner Hammond And A Second By Mr. Manning. Further Discussion?

I Have A Question.

Yes, Sir.

Thank You. And Thank You For Commissioner -- Commissioner Mann, For Bringing It Up. Roger, On The Construction For 2021, As We Get Closer, Will We Have Some Involvement With Starting Dates? We Know Now That Traffic Picks Up On The Islands During The Season. Will We Be Able To Work With The Contractors To Make Sure That Construction Maybe Starts Offseason And Then Make Use Some Night Time Construction, Too, If It's Not Disturbing To The Community?

Yeah. Doug?

Commissioners, The Construction Would Be Staged To Minimize The Construction During Season. This Is Going To Be Built In A Way That It's Offset. Real Critical Point Will Be When We Make The Ex-Cans, So Yeah, We Would Make Sure That We Minimize Disruption.

Okay. Thank You.

Thank You. Is There Any Other Discussion?

If I May, I'd Like To Make A Few Comments On This One. Like Mr. Hammond, I Think All Of Us Took The Time To Read The E-Mails, What Have You. There's A Couple Of Folks That I Would Like To Thank. If Anybody Had A Chance To Look At The Work Session That We Had, Because Of The Information That We Received From The Public, I Issued A Challenge To The Staff Because I Really Did, And I Still Do, Feel That The Numbers Are A Little Bit Confusing. When You Start A Net Present Formula And Then Your Future Value. The Difference At That Time Was \$80 Million, Which In My Book, Was Obscene. I Do Like The Evaluation Metrics That You Use Now Have Separated That, And So To Me, Even Though The Life Cycle Continues, And It's Expensive, I Think If You Break It Down, It's Not All That Much. I Think My Biggest Concern Is The Construction Cost Up Front. I Have Heard That -- And I Think You Said 22%, Over 20% Was The Difference Between The Two Construction Costs.

Yes, Sir.

And I Think That Everyone Here Knows That 20% Is A Huge Number, And It Is Our Responsibility To Make Sure That We Keep Our Investments In Place. I Also Heard That This Could Be Detrimental To Other Projects In Other Municipalities And Other Projects That We Have In Unincorporated Lee County. \$12 Million Goes A Long Way, So I Heard All That. But There's One Missing Ingredient In That, And That's Called Quality Of Life. If You Want To Just Look At The Numbers And Make A Decision Strictly Off Of That, Then I'm Not Sure What We Do Up Here. I Think That Quality Of Life Means A Lot More To Some Than Others, And More Specifically To The People That Live And Reside In That Immediate Area. We Got Two Proclamations, I Think That's What They Were, From Bonita Springs And Ft. Myers, Asking For Another Bridge. You Guys, I Want To Make Sure That You've Heard That. As Far As This Nobody Told Us, It's Been Number One On The C.I.P. At M.P.O., Which All Elected Officials Are Invited To. I'd Be Very Surprised If Someone Did Say That. So To Me, This Really Does Breakdown To How Much Does It Cost For Quality Of Life, And In This Case, Over A 75-Year Period, That Is My Concern With You Folks. And Again, I Thank You Very Much For Redoing The Dollar Amounts For Us So That Everyone Can See What They Are. Okay. So Is There Any Further Discussion Or Questions With The Staff?

Okay. So At This Time, We're Going To Open The Floor For Public Comment. I Do Have Some Folks To Speak With Us. I'd First Like To Invite Steven Labelle, If You Would Like To Join Us. Steve Was Actually One Of The Ones That I Was Referring To That Went Above And Beyond As Far As The Input That You Gave The Board, So I Do Appreciate That, Mr. Labelle. He'll Be Followed By Henry Bickle, So You'll Have Three Minutes To Address The Board. Good Morning.

My Name Is Steve Labelle, And I Live At 85071. -- Walking And Biking Over The Proposed Site Bridge Alternative. However, Today, I Have A Different Question For You, Do You Really Know How Much Of Your Constituents Are Opposed To The High Bridge Alternative. It Appeared From Your Work Session Last Week With The Lee County Engineering Staff That This Issue Was Not Adequately Discussed. Some Things To Get Considered, First, North Of The Bridge Or The Pass, The Town Of Ft. Myers Beach Town Council Sent Commissioner Kiker A Letter On December 3, Which States In Party, This Council Adds To The Many Town Residents Being Negatively Affected By The 60-Foot Span Bridge Does Not Take This Into Consideration. Another Letter, While We Do Not Dispute There's A Cost Difference, The Decision Question Becomes One, Whether The Cost Is Worth Considering In Order To Reflect Compatibility With The Visiting Neighborhood. The Lower Pan Bridge Satisfied The Compatibility While The Height Span Alternative Would Not. Last January , At Least 600 People Attended An Open House For The Bridge At The Bay Oaks Rec Center On Ft. Myers Beach. And By The Way, I Think It Was A Miracle That So Many People Would Endure The Traffic During Season To Attend That. At A Later Ft. Myers Meeting, Doug Mauer Attended And Said That Almost 90% Of The Written Comments At The Meeting Favored The Draw Bridge And Commented That There Were No Question That The Majority Of Residents At Ft. Myers Beach Favored The Draw Bridge Concept Over The Fixed Bridge Alternative. We Have A Consortium That Want No Part Of A 60-Foot Bridge. In The Handout That You've Seen Here For The December 4 Workshop, Engineering Staff Held Numerous Presentations To Affected Groups But Did Not Report On Attendee Feedback. But If The Others Were Anything Like Ours At Island Beach Club,

The Sentiment Was Against Any Type Of A High Fixed-Span Bridge. And Then Finally, Earlier In The Process, There Was A Request From Seward Muller To --

Your Time Is Up.

Okay. One Concluding Paragraph. Again, We Have No Nature Of The Comments That Were Received, But You Can Probably Guess What They Were Like. As You Can See, There Are A Lot Of Folks Opposed To The High Bridge, Most In Fact. As A Property Owner In Lee County, I Expect My Representatives To Listen To Their Constituents, Especially Those Movie Affected By The Projector Action Before Proceeding.

Mr. Labelle, I Apologize.

Okay. I Will -- I Ask That You Delay Your Decision On This Until We Can Get Questions Answered. Thank You.

Thank You Very Much. There Was A Comment That Was Made About Substandard Size Of 60 Foot, And I Looked Into That A Little Bit. Can Somebody Explain Why That Would Be Considered Substandard Or Not, And How That Plays?

I Believe The Assumption Was This Bridge Should Match The Heights Of Intracoastal Water Way Bridges Which Typically Are Somewhat Higher. In This Particular Case, There Was A Review Of All Traffic Through That Pass, And The U.S. Court Guard, The Regulatory Agency, Indicated A 60-Foot Clearance Was Adequate For This Bridge, And That's How It Was Established.

Okay. I'd Like To Invite Henry Bickle, Followed By Ray Murphy.

Good Morning, Commissioners. Question The Pd&E, If You Can Please Post That Schematic, The Off Ramp, The North Side Of Estero Boulevard. Namely, The Environmental Impact, You Can See Into My Neighborhood, That Off Ramp And On Ramp Runs Through An Environmentally Sensitive Area. And How Do I Know That?

Because There Are Signs Posted All Over That Area Which State That It's Environmentally Sensitive. Nesting Birds, Crab Colonies, So On And So Forth, So I'm Questioning That Study.

And We Don't Respond To Public Comment.

Yes. Three Words, We, The People. And We, The People, 60% Of Us Do Not Want The 60-Foot Bridge.

Thank You For Taking The Time To Come Down Here. Ray Murphy, If You Could Address The Board, Please. Amy, You'll Be Next.

Good Morning, Commissioners. Ray Murray, For The Record. Merry Christmas. I Want To Implore You This Morning To Retain One Of The Last Vestiges Of Old Florida. Mr. Manning, I'm Sure You Can Remember That Draw Bridge Is Old Florida, And Fishing Off Of A Draw Bridge Is Old Florida. By

Eliminating This Bridge And Constructing A 60-Foot Bridge, You Are Not Only Eliminating That Draw Bridge, You're Eliminating Part Of Florida's History, And That's What We're Talking About Here Today. I'll Tell You About My Own Personal Experience With This Bridge And History. In 1973, My Parents Came Up From Naples And Bought Five Acres On The Beach, The Southernmost Tip Of The Island On Big Carlos Pass. I've Been There Ever Since. I've Fished The Heck Out Of That Pass For However Many Years That Is, And So Have Hundreds Of Thousands Of Other People Over The Years. My Parents Held Onto That Property All Those Years -- Struggled To Hold Onto It While Putting Ten Of Us Through School, And Finally, In The 1980's, We Developed It. One Day I Was Down There In 1984 In April, And There Was A Commotion Up On The Bridge. That's The Day The State Record Fish Was Caught On Big Carlos Pass Bridge. 42 Pounds. It Was A Monster. I Guarantee You, Bob Cosmo, Our Bridge Tender, Would Not Have Been Able To Bring It Off That Bridge If It Wouldn't Have Been 60 Feet Up In The Air. We Wouldn't Hold Claim To That Sort Of Bridge. I've Seen Countless Number Of Kids Catch Their First Fish Off That Bridge. I've Seen Families Enjoy It. That Will Be Gone. That Will Be Gone, I Can Guarantee You, As I Stand Here Today. That Will Be Gone. I'll Also Tell You Another Subset Of Fishermen That You Will Take Out Of The Equation, That's The Shore Fisherman, The Shoreline Fisherman. That's A Category Of Fisherman That Many Of You May Not Know About. That's Someone Who Can Fish As Long As They're A Resident Of The Great State Of Florida. They Can Fish From The Shoreline Or From Any Structure Without A Fishing License As Long As They Go Down To The F.W.C. And Obtain That. May I Finish?

Can You Wrap It Up?

I Can Wrap It Up.

Okay. I Enjoy Your Story, So --

Okay. Those People, Those Are Not -- Those Are Not Well-To-Do People Who Have Hunting And Fishing Licenses, Those Are People Who May Just Want To Go Up And Get A Fish And Maybe Bring It Home To Their Family For Dinner. They Won't Be Able To Do That Anymore, Off Of One Of The Most Fishing-Est Bridges In Not Only The State Of Florida But The Entire Country. You Can Save The Bridge On Big Carlos Pass Today. Pleds, I Implore You, Do The Right Thing. Table It Today, Reconsider It. I've Been In Your Position. I Know Where You're At.

Were You On The First Commission For Carlos Beach?

I Was.

We Thank You For Coming This Morning.

Roger Will Remember. We Both Had Hair Back Then, And It Was Darker.

Okay. Thank You Very Much.

Thank You Very Much, Gentlemen.

Amy, We Have An Elected Official From Bonita Springs. Thank You Very Much, And Following Her Will Be Charles Johnson.

Chairman Kiker And Fellow Commissioners, The Bonita Springs Council Has Recently Taken A Position On The Proposed Big Carlos Bridge Replacement Choice. A Letter Was Sent To You, And We Asked For A Delay Or Postponement Of The Final Decision. At The December Bocc Workshop, County Recommended A High-Span Fixed Bridge Alternate Tiff. It Appeared The Primary Decision For The Choice Criteria Was One Of Long-Term Cost Differentials. The Magnitudes Of These Cost Differentials Would Be Significantly Diminished If A Process Of Present Value Analysis Was Employed. In Fact, When I Listened To The Workshop, I Thought Commissioner Kiker Had Called For That. And I See That New Numbers Were Presented Today, But That Is Not Present Value, That Is Future Value. And I Suggest That That Is The Correct Analysis. I Know A Little Bit About This. I Have Two Advanced Degrees, And I Was A Financial Adviser. It Took Me Three Days To Figure Out What You Did, You, The Staff, And It Wasn't A Pleasant Way To Spend My Weekend, But These Are The Numbers. If You Use The Discount Rates And Inflation Rates That You've Presented, The Difference Between The 60-Foot Alternative And 40-Foot Alternatives, That's The Delta. And You Can Manipulate Them All You Want, And Then, If You Decide To Divide That 20-Million Difference By 75 Years, We're Talking About In The Order Of 250 To \$260,000 A Year Is The Differentials That Would Have To Be Carried. So I Submit That When You Look At It This Way, Which I Think It's A Proper Way Of Doing It, That Differential Becomes A Little Bit Easier To Handle. And If That's The Case, You Should Consider Other Criteria -- Choice Criteria, And The Point That Chairman Kiker Pointed Out, A Quality Of Life Is One Of Them. There Are Lots Of Issues, But I'll Tell You, Bonita Springs Is Working Hard To Maintain Our Vision. Every Infrastructure Decision We Make, We Consider The Compatibility With The Area. You Cannot Look At The Landing Pad Along Lover's Key And Say That's Not Going To Change The Nature There. Everybody Along The Bonita Beach Corridor Wants Us To Maintain Human Scale Development. That's What We're Working For Day After Day, And I Think That When Lee County Makes A Decision In Regard To Putting Infrastructure In An Area That Affects Two Communities, Ft. Myers Beach And Bonita Springs, I Think It's Worth \$250,000 A Year To Have The Kind Of Community That Our People Have Time And Time Again Said They Wanted. We Just Finished Our Ear Project. They Didn't Change Their Mind, They Didn't Say Do Something Different, They Said Continue The Vision That We Have Asked For. So I'm Asking You To Please Defer This Decision So We Can Start A Dialogue. I'm Done. Confer The Decision. Let's Have A Dialogue. Let's Consider These Things That People Have Written To You About, And What The Bonita Council Have Asked You To Engage In. We Want The Lower Bridge.

Thank You Very Much. Thank You For Being Here Today. Charles Johnson. That's All The Cards I Have On This Subject. You'll Be Able To Address The Board, However, We'll Ask You To Fill Out A Card Before You Leave If That Happens.

Thank You.

Thank You Very Much For Coming.

I Wanted To Thank You For Being So Attuned To Our Concerns. And I Want To Thank Commissioner Pendergrass For Responding To My E-Mail. I Appreciate That Courtesy And Your Willingness To Listen. Commissioners, I, Too, Am Here To Say What's The Hurry?

We Can't Say That We Were Not Informed That This Was Going To Happen Or Was Being Planned. Consulted May Not Be A Word That Could Be Used With That. Being Informed But Not Really Consulted, And We Haven't Had A Chance To Talk With You, The Decision Makers, About Our Concerns. Three Minutes Is Certainly Not Enough. I Know You Have A Staff That You Rely On, But The Staff, Certainly Everyone Has An Agenda, And Ours May Be Different. You Heard About The Impact That It Has On Items Other Than Financial. My Understanding Is The Economic Impact On The Area Is Not Considered As Part Of The Plan, Meaning, What Are The Value Of The Properties. I Was Encouraged When I Heard You With Your Commitment To The Environment And The Piece Of Property You Bought. I'll Just Tell A Quick Story That I Was Driving Back Into Island Beach Club, Black Island There, Where The Resort Is And Our Condo Building Is. And I Notice A Lot Of Cars Park Along The Road. I Stopped To See What They Were Doing There. It Turns Out That There Is A Wet Land Right There That Will Be Destroyed By This Bridge, And A Rare Bird Had Showed Up, Along With Other Birds There. And Some Bird Watcher Had Seen It, Sent Out A Text To Other Bird Watchers, And Within An Hour To Two Hours, People From All Over Lee County Were There To See This Bird. That Area, As Was Mentioned Earlier, Was Very Environmentally Sensitive, And That Will Be Under The Footprint Of This Bridge. So While I Really Appreciate The Opportunity To Be Here, We Do Ask -- And We Know How This Works. Once You Make This A Vote, And If You Approve, The Clock Starts, The Ball Starts Rolling, And The Expenses Start. A Year From Now, We Are Allowed A Public Hearing Where We Can Really Address These Concerns We Have, Thank You, It'll Be Too Late And It'll Be Too Expensive To Make Any Other Decision. Please, I Ask You To Reconsider Your Ruling And Wait Until We Can Get A More Input.

Thank You.

Thank You For Being Here This Morning. Is There Anyone Else Here That Would Like To Address The Board On This Subject?

I See None, So We're Going To Close Public Comment. So Does Anybody Have Any Public Comments Or Questions For The Board?

. Yes, Sir.

Just Real Quickly, Mr. Chairman, For Our County Manager, The Quality Of Life Is Important For Me. One Of The Things That I Wanted To Ask, Could We Add, As Part Of The Design, A Fisher Pier? Is That Something We Could Look At As We Finish This Study?

Yes, Sir.

Yes, Sir. Doug?

Yes, Sir. I Don't Think We're Looking At Ways That We Can Maintain Part Of The Existing Bridge But Somehow To Create A Fishing Bridge Or Something That Would Facilitate Fishing.

Excellent. But Just Remind Me, We're Going To Have Pedestrian Facilities, Bike And Walk Paths On Both Sides Of The Bridge?

Yes.

One Of The Things I Think Was Interesting. Commissioner Mann, You'll Know, The Original Edison Bridge --

I Was There.

Okay. It's Now A Six Lane Fixed High Bridge, But It Was Originally -- Thomas Edison, It Was Actually A Draw Bridge, And Thomas Edison Was There To Cut The Ribbon. It Was Replaced With A High Span. I Drive That Bridge Every Day From Down To Cape Coral. You Should See The Number Of People Exercising On That Bridge. It's Incredible To See The Number Of People, Exercises, Walking, There Are Some People That Fish Off Of It. I Think Once It Actually Becomes Built, If We Can Add Something Like A Fishing Pier To It, And The Pedestrian Amenities, I Think You'll Find It's A Neat Amenity.

Yes, Sir.

The Night Coming Home From The Tree Lighting Ceremony, Half The Bridge Was Shutdown. They Were Having A Christmas Run, Where Half The Bridge Was Closed Down.

We Hear You. Thank You For Coming Down Today To Lee County And Speaking. I Went Out This Weekend To View The Site From The Different Condos And Stuff. I've Been Out There To See How It's Going To Impact Your Homes, But Have You Some Neighbors That E-Mailed Us And Contacted Us, And Say I Live Here And I Actually Like The Bigger Bridge. So I Think Probably More Of The People Closer To The Bridge Is Affected, The View, How They're -- They're Concerned How It's Going To Affect The Sound. But Some Of People That We're Here -- That We Hear From, They Want The Bridge. They Don't Come Here Because They're Afraid Of Being Drowned Out. I Asked About The Amenities On The Green Bridge, So Once It's Done, As It Continues To Go Through The Process, I Think It Will Be -- It Actually Will Enhance The Area Hopefully. Again, This Whole Thing Is About Transportation, Getting Cars From Point A To Point B, And That's What The Bridge Is For, And That's What We Need To Stay Focused On.

Just To Follow Up And Maybe Understand Better Commissioner Hammond's Thoughts About A Fishing Bridge Or Pier Out There, The Big Picture Would Require Parking And Probably Rest Rooms. Are You -- Are You Attempting To Amend This Motion To Direct Staff To Include A Study Of That At Least And Bring It Back Or Where Do You Want To Go With This?

Well, It's Clear That Folks Are Fishing Off Of The Bridge Today. I Wouldn't Presume That We Would Create Anything Different Than What Exists Today. Just -- Just Simply With A New Design, Take Into Account That Maybe We Could -- Maybe We Could Build A Little Bit Of A Fishing Opportunity For Folks Underneath The First Couple Spans Of The New Bridge. Clearly, Folks Are Fishing Off That. I've Seen It On The News. Clearly, Folks Are Fishing Off The Bridge. I Wouldn't Think We Need To Create Any Kind Of Fishing Or Pardon Ming Facilities, They're Doing It Today As It Already Is.

Okay. So The Motion Would Go As Structured, And We Hope Staff Would Follow Up.

You Know, And If I May, I Kind Of -- I Very Much Agree With Commissioner Mann, If This Is Where You Were Going -- I Know In St. Pete, They Have The Old Bridge. They Left That, Part Of It Intact, So I Don't Know That There's A Huge Additional Cost At That Point In Time, And I Think -- And I Think The Reason There Is No Facility, There Is No Place For A Facility, And I Think This Might Allow For It To Happen. I Don't Know That It Would Be Appropriate That We Change Our Motion To Include That, But I Think Certainly Going Forward -- I Know We Have A Public Hearing Where We're Bringing Information In, And I'd Certainly Like That To Be A Part Of The Conversation, If That's All Right. I Don't Think That Requires A Motion.

Mr. Chair, That's An Easy Commitment To Make. You Know, We've Heard Your People And Residents Talk About The Fishing And Those Kinds Of Amenities. We Will Absolutely Take That Into Consideration.

Okay. Anything Else You Would Like To Add To This?

I Have One Question, And It's Probably The Hard Question, And That Is Real Simple. What If We Were To Delay Today's Decision To January Or February ?

Mr. Chair, I Think I Will Just Tell You That, You Know, This Process Began In 2012. This Bridge, The Existing Bridge Is Rapidly Reaching Its End-Of-Life Cycle. We Have, You Know, Concrete That Falls Off The Bridge Periodically. We're Always Out There Repairing It. I Think There Are Actually Holes In The Walkway Sometimes That Go Straight To The Water. It Will Eventually Be A Publicity Safety Hazard. Nobody Ever Expects These Bridges To Fail, But They Do, And They Fail Unexpectedly, And It Puts Life At Risk. We Began This Process In 2012. We Are In A Cycle That We Believe Is Necessary To Maintain -- Maintain The Timing So That We Can Get To Construction In 2021. As You Know, These -- Between The Pd&E And The Fdot Review, All Of The Environmental Permits That Are Going To Have To Be Applied For And Received Take A Lot Of Time. This -- This Is A Process That We Just Simply Need To Keep Moving At Its Current Pace So We Don't Get Behind.

Okay. I Would Echo The Safety Issue. That Bridge, The One That's There Today Is Dangerous. It Just Is, And I Can Recall Back, Had To Be Eight Or Nine Years Ago When I Was Mayor Down There, That It Was Not Unusual That We Had Two Or Three Fatalities A Year. And We Haven't Had Any In The Last Couple Years, But I've Seen Gone Over The Bridge, But There Is No Place For The Bicycle, And They're Out Right In The Middle Of That. If There's A Fog Or Something Like That, It's A Situation That Nobody Wants To Get Into. I Appreciate The 2021 Date Probably More Than Anybody From A Safety Aspect. Is

There Any Other Questions Or Any Other Comments That This Board Has With Staff Or Legal?
Okay. With That, I'm Going To -- If There's No Discussion, Are There Any Objections To The Motion?
I See None. The Motion Passes, And It's Going To Be 4-1, And I Am Dissenting. All Right. Thank You Very Much, And That Is That Subject.

Thank You, Commissioners.

Okay. Moving Onto Other Business, We Have Public Hearing.

Good Morning, Commissioners. Assistant County Attorney. This Is Your 9:30 A.M. Public Hearing Agenda. I Think It's The Only One On The Agenda. I Have A Group Of Publication For This Hearing. I'm Going To Provide That To The Board's Clerk. It's Asking You To Adopt A Resolution Of Intent To Elect To Use The Uniform Method Of Collection For Five Capital Msbu Projects Pursuant To Florida Statute 197.3632. The 5 Msbu Projects Are Cherry Estates Side Streets Road Paving Oak Creek Road Pavings, And The Sunset Cove Channel Dredging And Finally Telegraph Creek Bridge Repair. Those Prosecute What's Being Asked For. This Will Allow The Annual Assessment To Be Placed On The Property Tax Bill And It's Collected In That Manner.

Okay. Thank You Very Much. Does Anyone Have Any Questions?

Okay. None?

Move The Item, Mr. Chairman.

Second.

I Have A Motion By Mr. Manning And A Second By Mr. Hammond. Is There Anyone That Would Like To Address The Board?

Seeing None, We're Going To Close That, And Is There Any Objections?

Motion Passes. Thank You Very Much.

Thank You.

Thank You, Sir. Okay. We Don't Have -- That's All The Public Hearings, Is That Correct?

Okay. Commissioner Items, And We Will Begin With Mr. Mann.

Thank You, Mr. Chairman. I've Notified Everybody Of The Subject I Want To Speak To Today, We Have People Here That Wish To Speak On The Same Subject That Have Come To Address The Board At The End Of The Meeting. It Would Make Sense To Me For Me To Defer My Commissioner Item Until We've -- Just Wrap Them All Together, If That Would Be All Right, Hear From Them First And Let Me Do My Commissioner Items.

I'm Going To Look To Legal For This. Generally Speaking, On An Item Like This, The Commissioner Would Normally Speak To The Item, And Then, It Would Either Require A Motion Or Not. And

Depending On If The Motion Carries With The Second, Then, We Would Have Public Input. If Not, Then, We Could Defer That To The End Of The Meeting, Is That How That Works?

Yes, Sir. That Is Your Standard Rule Of Procedure, That In Order For The Public To Speak At This Point In Time, There Would Have To Be A Motion Made And Second So That The Matter Is Properly Before You

All Right. So Is It Appropriate For Me To Honor His Request To The Rest Of The Board To See If We Have Consensus To See If They Would Like To Hear Presentations By Citizens, Or We Need To Go Ahead And Follow Procedure?

Mr. Chairman, That's Within The Power Of The Board, And It's Entirely If You Would Like To Present That Question To The Board And Waive Procedure Or Hear The Item Now And Have The Public -- Depending On Whether A Motion Is Made And Seconded, The Public Would Speak At That Point. If There Is Not A Motion Made Or Not A Motion Seconded, Then, The Public Would Speak At The End.

Okay. So With That In Mind, I Know That Mr. Mann, That Would Be His Wish. And You?

I'm Fine.

You're Fine For What?

For What He Wants To Do.

Okay. And You?

Yeah, That Doesn't Bother Me.

Okay. Yes, Sir?

I Would Suggest That We Follow The Administration Code Of The County That We Govern Under, As Far As We Go To The Commissioner Items And Then Take Public Comment Based Upon That.

Okay. And As Chair, I See That We Have Consensus To Honor Mr. Mann's Request. So Do You Have Any Other Items That You Would Like To Discuss?

No.

None.

I Have None -- Actually, I Do. Mr. Chairman, I Just Want To Put That Out There, Although I Think I Know The Answer Already. You All Have Bestowed Upon Me To Serve On The N.P.O. Committee? I'd Just Like To Put Out The Motion, Would Anybody Else Like To Serve With Me? If Not, I'll Serve Again.

I'll Make The Motion And Congratulations.

Thank You, Mr. Chair. It's An Honor.

I Just Want To Wish Everybody A Great Christmas And Happy New Year Coming Up. I'd Like To Invite People Tonight In Lehigh Acres, I'm Hosting The Community Christmas Light Night. So Thank You.

Thank You. I Have Two Items, And The First Was A Value Adjustment Board Liaison. This Board, Traditionally, We Have Liaison Assignments That Are Given To The Board Members At The Beginning Of The Year, So I Think It Would Include The V.A.B. Do We Need Any Kind Of Vote Or Consensus That Everyone Accepts Those Assignments Or -- I Mean, We've Never Had To Do This Before. This Is Actually A Request From Them, So In Respect To Them.

Mr. Chairman, I Can't Help If This Wonder If This Matter Is Made Pursuant To Commissioner Hammond's, About His Willingness To Serve.

We're Past That One.

This Board's Past Practice Is The Chair Nominates, So Those Individuals Serve Unless They Object And Are Relieved, So At This Point In Time, I Would Suggest Your Appointments Are Valid And Binding.

All Right. And So We're Going To Go With That And That's Okay.

I Wasn't One Of Them, Was I?

You Know, I Don't Think I Asked You?

I Don't, Either, So I Think I'm Strongly Behind Your Chairman.

No, I Think I Asked You, But You Weren't There. But Your Boss --

This Is Not One That We Volunteer For, But I Think We Suffer Through It, And When It Comes Our Time -- I've Done It Two Or Three Times, And I'm Glad Someone Else Is Going To Do It This Time.

And In That Respect, I Appreciate You All Signing Up For The Assignment. It Does Matter, Because It's A Lot Of Meetings And A Lot Of Extra Effort. I Think We All Appreciate That. And Then, Secondly, I Would Like To Now Bring The Board -- I Would Like To Recommence This Board As A Port Authority For A Minute. So That Is Done. And With That, They Have -- The Port Authority Has Asked For Us To Have A Work Session With Them To Talk About This Coming Year In The Next Four Or Five Years Down The Road

In Terms Of Where We Might Be Going With The Airports, Both Of Them, Including Page Field, And I'm Looking For Date Certain. Somebody Help Me.

Mr. Chairman, What Date Are You Looking For?

That's What I'm Looking For. I Think The Date Is January 17. It's A Thursday, And It Would Be Held Out At The Port Authority.

That After Our January Port That Is Right Meetings?

Yeah. I Don't Think That'll Be A Problem. We're All Scheduled To Be Down There, Any Way.

This Is Something That I'm Really Glad They're Reaching Out To The Board For This. So Does Anybody Have Any Issues With That?

No.

No. I'm Curious Why The Chair Had Brought It Up, But That Said, I'm Okay With It.

We Just Need A Consensus?

No, We Need A Motion And A Vote, Just To Confirm, That Would Be January 17, 2019, Immediately Following Your Regular Board Meeting Or Do You Want To Set A Time Certain?

Yes, Sir.

Immediately Following.

I Will Make That Motion As Outlined By Our County Attorney. I'd Like To Be On A Winning Side.

Okay. So A Motion By Commissioner Mann And A Second By Mr. Manning. Is There Any Commissioner Comment On That?

Is There Anybody Wish To Address The Board On That?

I See None. Okay. Thank You Very Much. We'll Now Reconvene As The Board Of County Commissioners. Where Are We?

This Is A Busy, Busy Morning. So With That, I Would Like To Turn To Mr. Desjarlais.

Okay. Nothing.

Okay. So With That, I Need To Do Committee Appointments, Mr. Manning.

I Do Have A Couple Mr. Chairman. James Fowler To Russell Parks Street Lighting And James Shields To Pedestrian Lighting Committee.

Second.

We Have A Motion And A Second. Any Discussion?

Any Objections?

Mr. Manning?

I Have A Reappointment To The Partnering For Results Review Panel, Rav Curry, And Two New Appointments, Henry Zuba To The L.P.A. And Don Shotenberg To The L.P.A.

Second.

Okay. We Have A Motion By Commissioner Hammond And A Second By Mr. Manning. So Is There Any Further Discussion?

Any Objection?

Motion Passes. I Have One New Appointment. Kirk Fromm On The Housing Authority?

Motion.

Second.

We Have A Motion And A Second. Any Discussions?

Mr. Hammond?

I Have None Today.

I Have Three.

Yes, Sir.

New Appointment, Kenneth General Kin, Rhonda Brewer To L.P.A.

Second.

Okay. We Have A Motion By Mr. Pendergrass, A Second By Mr. Manning. Do We Have Further Discussion?

Okay. Motion Passes. I Believe That Takes Care Of That Business, And We'd Now Like To Hear From Mr. Desjarlais.

Thank You, Mr. Chair. On The Recap Sheet, You Can See That I Was To Have Provided You With An Update On The Fact-Finding With Regard To Potential Purchase Of The Hertz Arena. I Forwarded To You This Morning An E-Mail From One Of The Principles Of The Company That Owns The Arena, And They Have Withdrawn Their Offer To Sell So I Don't Believe An Update Would Be Required, All Things Considered.

Okay, So Understood The Conversation For Any Interest From The County To Purchase Hertz Is Done.

Yes, Sir.

We're Finished.

Yes, Sir.

Okay.

We Won't Be Talking About It Again.

All Right. Good Enough. Do You Have Anything Else That You Would Like To Discuss?

Thank You, Mr. Chair. Just Simply Thank You To The Commission For A Great 2018. I'm Not Going To See You Until After The First Of The Year, But Thank You To The Staff Of The County. We're Beginning To Be The Employer Of Choice In The Region, And We Can't Do That Without Your Support And Help. We've Got The Best Group Of County Employees Here That We've Ever Had In Any Time That I Can Remember, So Thank You To The Board And To All The County Employees For The Great Work This Past Year.

Thank You Very Much. And We Appreciate All The Work And For All Your Efforts. Next Year's Going To Be Even More Busy, I'm Pretty Sure. Mr. Lesch.

Thank You, Mr. Chairman. It Wouldn't Be A Meeting Without States Of Local Emergencies, So We're Respectfully Requesting The 20th Extension Regarding Algae Blooms And The 19 --

Move Both.

Second.

Okay. We Have A Motion By Mr. Manning And A Second By Mr. Hammond. Do We Have Any Discussion?

Do We Think This Is Going To Be The Last Round?

Do We Think This Is Going To Continue?

We're Going To Put In Place To Continue To Your January Meeting, And We'll Provide You An Update At That Time.

A Very Quick Explanation Why We Do This So Often?

Yes, Sir. State Law Requires The Renewal Schedule That We Bring To You So That They Are Of Limited Duration, And We Have To Seek These Reapprovals On A Biweekly Basic From The Board.

Okay. So Any Other Discussion?

I Have A Motion On The Table. Is There Anybody That Would Like To Address The Board On This Subject?

Seeing None, Other Discussion, Objections?

Motion Passes. Thank You Very Much. What Else Do You Have Sir?

Just So Wish The Board Members, My Co-Workers And All The Residents And Co-Workers Of Lee County A Very Merry Christmas.

Merry Christmas.

And You Went With The Santa Claus Tie Today.

Yes, Sir. Merry Christmas.

Okay. I Want To Identify There Is No Work Session Update Because There Is No Work Session Meeting This Afternoon. Probably Our Next Meeting We Will Or Will Not Have One. Do You Know Yet?

Oh.

I Don't Know.

Phone A Friend.

I Don't Know. Good Answer

I Don't Know Yet.

Okay.

Thank You, Mr. Chair. I Just Got Lost In My Head For A Moment, But I'll Be Back.

Okay. We Will Welcome You When We Get There.

Okay. Thank You.

Thank You. We're Not Going To Have A Work Session Update, And I Know Mr. Mann Has An Issue That He Wants To Bring Forward, And The Board Was Kind Enough To Allow Him To Do That. Before We Get There -- And I Apologize. When Folks Write Down Their Public Comment Card, It's Not Always Obvious What Subject They Want To Speak To, So If You All Will Bear With Me, I Have First Would Be Stephanie Ella, And Just For Give Me If There's Another Subject That You Want To Talk On That We Covered.

Second Is Going To Be Rachel Singletary, So If You Could Join Us Up Front, We'd Appreciate It. And Thank You For Coming This Morning. Happy Holidays. You Have Three Minutes.

And I -- Good Morning. I'm Stephanie Ella. I Live In North Ft. Myers, And I Have Two Things I Want To Talk About. First -- [Inaudible]

-- Some Might Say It Appears They Have And Others Might Say It's Never Been Proven In Court. In Lee County, If A Citizen Wants To Challenge A Zoning Change, They're Not Allowed To Speak To Their Commissioners. In Fact It's A Crime With A Maximum Criminal Penalty Of A \$500 Fine And 60 Days In Jail. The Citizen Must Be Available On The Specific Day Chosen By The County To Speak To A Hearing Examiner Who First Listens To The Applicant Then Citizens Get To Speak About Their Concerns Such As Flooding, Wells Going Dry, Any Number Of Things. Then, The Applicant And His Experts Get A Rebuttal If Citizens Brought Up Something That's Problematic To The Expert Testimony Such As Photoed Or -- Photos Or Data. Generally, On That Day, The Commissioners Make A Life-Changing Decision For The Residents And From What I've Witnessed, Some Commissioner Seem To Rely Heavily On The Testimony Of Experts Who Have Been Paid To Provide Facts. Why Is It Our State Legislators Want To Hear From Us When They're Going To Be Voting On Something But Our County Threatens To Put Us On Jail. I've Been Told By Old Timers That These Were Meant To Protect Citizens And Stifle The Voices Of Commissioners. Perhaps Both Sides To Speak To The Commissioners Prior To The Meeting. Second Concern, The Don Eslick Bridge. I Find It Hard To Believe With Everything That We're --

We're Going To Save That Subject --

Can I Speak Again?

I Wasn't Sure If I Was Going To Be Allowed To.

Am, But We Don't Want To Mix Them Up Too Much. Thank You For Your Comments Today, And Invite Rachel Singletary To Join Us Up Here, And William Savage.

I, Too, Am Here To Speak About The Zoning Situation. I Live Near Slater Road, And Of Course You Know We Had A Zoning Change There Recently. The System Is Definitely Flawed, There Was No Notice Given To Most Of The Neighbors. The Only Way We Found Out About It Was Through Word Of Mouth. The Footage That Is Determined Of Who Gets Notified Needs To Be Enlarged. Now If We Go To The Hearing Examiner If We Don't Go To Work, And Only If We Go To The Hearing Examiner Do We Get To Speak To You. But After That, The Department Gets Up And Rebuttals What We Have To Say. We Never Go Back To The Hearing Examiner To Give Him Or Her Information That The Developer Provided Her, Inaccurate Or Misleading Information. We Are The Ones Who Live In These Areas. We Know About The Traffic, We Know About The Flooding, We Know About The Lack Of Infrastructure. I Feel We Have Taxation Without Representation At Its Worst. After It Goes To The Hearing Examiner, You Need To Go Physically Examine These Properties, And I Think That Is What's Not Happening. Maybe Some Of You Did, But If You Would Have Gone To Slater Road, You Would Have Known What We Were Jumping Up And Down About Because It Is Truly Dangerous. Two Days After You Said Change It, There Was A Horrible Wreck Yet On A Curve, And Buddy Walker Went Over And Over

Again. And Another Thing, You Need To Do This At Night Because People Work. In North Ft. Myers, They Work Hard, And They Need To Be Able To Come Up Here And Talk To You, But They Can't. Now When We Came To Speak To You All, We Were Told We Had Five Minutes. When We Got Here, It Was Cut Down To Three. And According To What I Found In The Code, You Guys Needed To Change That. It Should Not Have Been Only Cecil Pendergrass Who Said We Could Only Speak Three Minutes. I Hope You Will Consider That We Are The Citizens And You Should Be Following Lee County Development Plan, And I Wish You Would Remember Who's Paying Your Paycheck. It's The Citizens, And I Wish You Would Represent Us, I Wish You Would Listen To Us Because We Know What We're Talking About. We've Been Here A Long Time. We Know About Pine Flat Wood. We Know What Development Does, And Burns That Cutoff Creeks, Especially In Ft. Myers, And We Want To Keep Our Rural Lifestyle. And I Think We Deserve That. We Pay Our Taxes, We Bought Our Land, And I Wish You All Would Listen To Us. I Really Do. And I Wish You All Cared About The Water, The Sewer, Like You Say You Do. If You Would, You Would Listen More Carefully To Your Citizens. And Merry Christmas.

Merry Christmas. Thank You Very Much For Coming Here Today. Mr. Savage?
[Inaudible]

For The -- [Inaudible]

Okay. We're Not To That Yet, But Thank You. Scotty Wood.

Same Thing.

Okay. Same Thing?

Thank You Very Much. I Can't Read This. Catherine Backus. We Need To Talk To Catherine, Who's Behind You First.

Wait A Minute, Jim.

You Have To Wait. You Have To Wait. There's Somebody Else. Catherine Backus, Catherine.

Jim, Time Out.

I'll Wait. Let's Let The Mayor.

No, Go Ahead. This Is The Right Time.

Thank You Very Much.

Uh-Huh.

Commissioners, Thank You For The Time. My Name Is Catherine Backus. I've Developed In Lee County. I'm Now A Resident Of Lee County. I've Moved Into Estero Recently, And The Two Items I Wanted To Talk About Was Don Eslick For His Efforts, And I Know That's Been Tabled To The Next Meeting. The Other Fact I Wanted To Bring Up Was I Think Commissioners Should Take An Active Position In Moving

With The State And Federal Government To Have The Waters From Lake Okeechobee Flow South And To End The Flow Into The Colusahachee. We Will Continue To Experience The Deterioration Of Our County. We Lost A Lot Of Business This Summer, Okay?

Our Beaches To Our Guests That Would Come Here, We Had Businesses In Ft. Myers Beach That Were Basically Almost Going Out Of Business, And Some Of Them Did, People Unemployed Because Of The Disaster Caused By The Green Algae And The Fetid Waters That We Had. When I First Came Down Here In 1992, The Water Was Pristine. I Know We Built A Large Community Here, But We Need To Go Back To The Government And Get The Water Flowing North And South, Not East And West.

Thank You. Other Than The Subject That Mr. Mann Has, Is There Anyone Else That Would Like To Address The Board For Matters Of Private Citizens?

Okay. With That, We're Going To Close That, And The Board Had Decided Through Consent That They Would Like To Have Mr. Mann Take Out His Subject Now, And Just So The Chair Knows How To Conduct These Proceeds, Are We Going To Follow Rules Of Requires A Second In Order To Do Public Input?

If We Don't Have A Motion, Then, We Do Have Anything For Public Input. So --

Mr. Chairman, That Was The Whole Purpose Of My Tieing This Together Because They're Entitled To Speak At The End Of The Meeting On This Subject Or Any Subject. Since That's The Point Of My Issue, It All Comes Out The Same Way, What Harm Is There In Letting Them Speak First So We Have The Benefit Of Their Input Before We Take A Motion On The Item. It Would Just Seem Fair And Doesn't Hurt The Process Or The Out Come.

I Appreciate That.

And I Believe It's Fully In The Hands Of The Chair To Make The Decision.

And If You Will, Please, The Chair Is Asking The Board For Their Consensus On How They Would Like To Proceed. So I'm Not Going To Make That Decision, And I'm Going To Leave This To The Board. And I Believe I Heard From You That You Would Like To Hear All The Public Comment. Yes, Sir?

Mr. Chair, You Should Hear The Item And Then Give The Audience And The Public A Chance To Speak.

Yeah, I Thought That's What We Agreed To.

All Right. That's What We're Going To Do. So You Have It. It's On You. You've Got It.

I Would Like To Discuss The Motion That Commissioner Pendergrass Offered At Our Previous Meeting, Seconded By Commissioner Manning, Where We Renamed, According To The Motion, The Estero Parkway Bridge, According To The Motion, And I'd Be Pleased To Hear From The Public Who Seems Affected By That At This Time. Following That, I'd Be Pleased To Make A Motion.

Everybody All Right With That?

Yep.

Okay. Normally -- And First Of All, Thank Everyone Here For Coming Today. Normally, We Pick Out The Elected Officials And Let Them Go First, But I've Been Asked To Follow Some Sort Of Sequence Here, So I'm Going To Honor That Request And I'm Going To Follow That. After That, Because There's A Group Of Seven, Then, There'll Be Some Other Folks That Want To Speak To The Board. We're Going To Allow That, And Then, Followed By That, Anybody Else That Wants To Address The Board. So Everybody's Going To Get A Chance To Speak, And So With That --

Sir.

Yes, Sir.

Could I Respond To The Initial Request?

Yes, Sir.

Thank You. Thank You, Everybody, For Being Here Today. Thank You, Commissioner Mann. I Just Want To Say My Motion Two Weeks Ago Was No Attempt To Find You Off Guard, Catch You Off Guard. My Intentions Was Crystal Clear. I'm Not Speaking For My Board Members. My Intention Was Working With Staff Issue On That Day Was Not To Bring It Forward On This Agenda Today, Knowing We Had The Other Bridge Issue Today, So We Put It On The Agenda Two Weeks Ago. So I Think You Were Insulted At First Were The Intentions You Didn't Understand What The Motion Was.

Caught Off Guard.

And That Was No Intention. I Was Prepared To Have That Debate With You That Day, And Looking Forward To Having That Debate With You Today. But Just To Be Crystal Clear, The Intentions, That Was Not My Intent.

I Accept That Entirely.

So It's Clear, I Would Not Do That To You Or Any Of My Colleagues, I Look Forward To Working With You On This Today, Look Forward To Working With Estero In The Future. My Intent Was Based On State Statute, And Other Residents In The Community That Have Been Notified By Me. And I Look Forward To Talking About Conversations In The Past. So If We Want To Get That Deep In The Weeds, Looking Forward To It. So Any Ways, Just So You Know Personally Between You And Me, That Was Not Intentional To Not Catch That That Day. Should Have Made It More Clearer. I Understand We All Get Put In Positions Sometimes, Doing Things That We Don't Like To Do, But This Is Our Job. This Is Not Wheel

Of Fortune, We Can't Give Away Cars And Give Away Bridges, I Look Forward To Discussing That In The Future.

I Appreciate Your Explanation.

All Right. Mr. Hammond?

Okay. Good. So We Don't Have Any Further Comments On This, And We'll Get Going To Public Input. Mayor Bosch, Would You Please Join Us -- We Have A Lot Of Folks That Want To Talk, So You Know, If We Can Keep It At Three Minutes, We'd Very Much Appreciate It. I Don't Want To Cut Anybody Else From Saying Anything, But When That Yellow Ones Goes Off And Quits Blinking, That's A Good Signal That It's Time To Wrap It Up. Mayor Bosch, Thank You Very Much For Being Here.

Thank You Very Much, Mr. Chairman, And Fellow Commissioners. I'm Here Today To Deliver A Resolution That Was Passed Unanimously By The Estero Council And To Testify On Behalf Of Don Eslick And Keeping The Name On The Don Eslick Bridge Which Is In The Boundaries Of Estero. We Have Been Besieged With E-Mails, Each Council Person, And I Wouldn't Guess How Many, But Certainly Just Overcomes Our -- Our -- Our Local E-Mail Things. And I Have Got -- All In Favor Of Remaining Don Eslick Bridge. I Haven't Gotten One I'm In Favor Of Changing The Names. I Want To Make That Clear. Don Eslick Has Been Instrumental In Building A Base In The Village Of Estero And Estero Council. I Have At Various Times Served On The Eccl And As A Community Rep And Also On The Board Of Directors. Have I Ever Disagreed With Don?

Of Course. Especially In Letting The County Take Over The Other Half Of Our Border That Goes Out To 82 And Covers A Large Part Of The Drgr And The Contentions That Are Occurring Even Today. As A Matter Of Fact, I Was The Person That First Presented The Idea Of Naming The Bridge For Don. We First Thought Of Naming The Street Entering The Rec Center Don -- For Don. Then I Proposed Naming It The Don Eslick Overpass Until We Greed There Was No Such Entity Names As Overpass, And Agreed On Don Eslick Bridge. We Came To This Same Chamber With Well Over 50 Residents With The Honor Of Naming This Bridge, And I Believe John, You Were The Chairman At That Particular Time. It Was Don Who Almost Single Handedly Fought To Build This Bridge. I Was Fortunate To Sit In The 2008 Committee Which Don Chaired And Was Established By The Board Of County Commissioners At That Time. We Owe A Lot In Estero To Don. His Group Held Design Review Meetings, As Well As Planning Meetings That Set The Patterns For Which We Are Guided Today. Don Led The Effort For Many Years To Have Lee Memorial Build A Hospital In Estero Which Is Paying Fruit With Our New Medical Center. Make No Make About This, Don Eslick Is A Well Respected Citizen By Most All Residents Of Estero As You Can Be Certain By The Petitions That Have Been Sent To You And Also The Resolution That's Been Given To You For Record.

Mr. Mayor, If You Can Wrap It Up, Please.

Taking Don's Name Off The Bridge And Has The Makings Of 1,000 Negatives And Zero Positives. So I Ask You As The Mayor Of Estero, Don't Make The Mistake Of Taking His Name Off The Bridge For No Sensible Reason.

Thank You, Mr. Mayor. Bob Lemisch.

Good Morning. Thank You For Allowing Us To Speak Here Today. For The Record, Bob Lemisch, And Proud Resident Of The Village Of Estero. Also For The Record, I Have Been For A Number Of Years The Director Of The Eccl, An Organization That Has Over 31 Individual Members Representing 18,000 Households In Estero. At Our Last Regularly Scheduled Meeting Last Week, 178th Meeting Of The Eccl. That's, Like, 15 Years, Without Don Present, We Asked Don To Leave The Room. The Independent Directors Led A Discussion About A Resolution, And The Membership Unanimously Adopted A Resolution That I Will Very Quickly Read To Allow Time For Other Comments. Whereas Don Eslick, Chair Emeritus And Chairman Of The Eccl Has Dedicated Over 15 Years To Help Estero And Lee County Grow With His Focus On Environment And Quality Of Life, His Vision And Leadership Has Been Driving Forces In The Estero That We Know Today, And Positioning Estero For The Future. Eslick's Accomplishments Are Many, And I Wouldn't Go Into All Of Them, But They Do Include Some Of Them Already Mentioned By The Mayor. He Played A Role In The Incorporation Of That, He's Worked Diligently For The Design Standards That We Enjoy In Estero. He's Lobbied For Us To Achieve The Lee Health Facility That Is Existing In He Is Tory Today, And He's Worked Diligently Over The Years To Maintain The Quality Of Life But Worked For The Maintenance And Quality Of Life Of The Drgr. Therefore Be It Resolved By Unanimous Vote That The Bridge Continue To Be Named Don Eslick Bridge, And This Was Signed By The Independent Directors Of The Eccl. Commissioners Mann And Manning Were Present When This Commission Named The Bridge The Don Eslick Bridge. His Vision Has Been Incredible, And It's Benefited All Of Us. His Work On The Water Quality And The Drgr Just One Thing Of Great Importance To The Entire County. Don Has Always Demonstrate Today Us As Directors, Do -- Demonstrated To Us As Directors, Do The Right Thing, Regardless Of The Consequences. Well, I'm Asking You To Do The Right Thing. On Behalf Of The Eccl, That We Urge You To Do The Right Thing And Reinstate The Name, Don Eslick Bridge. I Have A Few People Who Have Volunteered To Come Here And Express Their Support. Please, Those Of You Who Support The Name Don Eslick Bridge, Please Stand. Thank You.

Thank You Very Much. Nolan Rollins.

Good Morning, Nolan Rollins. As President Elect Of The Estero Chamber Of Commerce, I Speak On Behalf Of The Entire Board Of Directors In The Chamber Of Estero As Expressed In Our Most Recent Board Meeting Last Week. I'm Also Speaking On Behalf Of Ehow, Which Represents Estero House Of Worship. We Are Shocked And Disappointed To Hear That The Bridge In Estero Has Been Changed From Don Eslick Bridge. No One, And We Mean No One, Has Done More For Estero Than Don Eslick. He Is A Key Leader In Our Becoming One Of The Finest Places To Live In Estero. Estero Is Proud Of Don Eslick, Anything That Deters From His Leadership In The Past, The Present, And The Future Is Unwise. We Ask You To Reconsider This Very Unwise Decision Which Will Ingratiate You With The Entire Business Community Of Estero. On The Other Hand, It Disturbs Me That Thousands And Thousands Of Dollars Of Man Hours Has Been Expended Over Something Like This When There Are So Many Important Needs And Issues To Be Addressed. Thank You For Your Time.

Thank You Very Much. I'm Going To Call Joe Pavich Up, And If I Could Ask You To Watch The Clock, Please. Appreciate It. Yes, Sir.

Good Morning. My Name Is Joe Pavich, Sr., And As President And On Behalf Of The Bonita Springs-He Is Tory Association Of Realtors, And Our 1,000-Plus Membership, We Would Like To Join The Village Of He Is Enter -- Estero Of Keeping The Name Don Eslick Bridge. I'm A 30-Year Resident Of Estero And A 20-Year Business Owner. I Was The First President Of The Eccl And Currently A Member Of The Chamber Of Commerce. Don's Vision And Endless Hours That He Has Devoted To The Village Were Honored By The Dedication Of This Bridge To His Name. Please Reconsider This Hasty Action. Don Deserves The Honor By Keeping His Name On This Bridge. Thank You Very Much.

Thank You Very Much, Joe. Nick Bados, Followed By Robert King. Mr. Bados. I Haven't Seen You For A While. Good Morning.

While. For The Record, Nick Bados, 9168 Hollow Point Drive, Estero, Florida. Good Morning. Unfortunately, I Never Expected I Would Have To Be Here Today, Discussing An Item Such As This, And I'm Really Disappointed I Have To Be, But That Is What It Is, And I'm Here. I Know That Don Eslick Bridge Is In Estero. I Know That You Own The Bridge And You Control The Bridge. I Know You Have The Right To Name The Bridge If -- Whatever You Would Like To, But I Also Know And You Know That Don Eslick Has Been A Major Contributor, If Not The Most Major Contributor To What Estero Has Become. For Estero, Over The Last 15 Years, Don Has Given All Of His Time And All Of His Concern To The Residents Of Estero, And You Have -- Many Of You Have Acknowledged That Over The Years. Today, You Will Hear And Will Continue To Hear From All The Major Community Groups In He Is Toro About Don's Contributions. I Know That The Vast Majority Of People In Estero Feel That Way About Him. Six Years Ago, Some Of You, And Some Of You Were Not Here, Some Of Your Predecessors Were Here, Acknowledged His Contributions And Named The Bridge After Mr. Eslick. Nothing Has Occurred Over Those Six Years To Change The Contributions That Don Has Made. I'm Here To Ask You To Reverse What You Did In Haste And Ask The Name Don Eslick To Remain On The Bridge In Estero. Whether You Like Don Or Not, Whether You Agree With All His Positions Or Not, That's Not The Important Thing. What Is Important Is That He Has Given Of His Time And Vision And Has Helped Make Estero What It Is Today. Let's Keep The Recognition Where It Belongs, On A Sign On The Bridge, And The Bridge Named Don Eslick. Just In Conclusion, I'd Like To Answer Something That Mr. Pendergrass Brought Up, And He Mentioned The Papers In State Statute. The State Statute Mentioned By Commissioner Pendergrass Pertains To State Loads. We Looked It Up, We Had Copies Sent To The Commissioners, And That Had Nothing To Do With This Road. This Road Is A County Road, And You Have The Right To Name It, And You've Done That In The Past For Many Other People On Buildings, Roads, And Parks, And We Hope That You Continue To Do That Tradition And Allow The People Of Estero To Honor The Person That's Helped Their Community. I Thank You For Your Time, Wish All Of You A Very Merry Christmas And A Happy And Healthy New Year.

Thank You. Bob King, Followed By Katie Harrington.

For The Record, My Name Is Robert King, And I Live At 2110 Police Drive In Estero. I Come Before You Today To Present The Petition Of The Lee County Residents To State Their Support For Their Retaining Of The Don Eslick Bridge, And The Petition Read, As A Lee County Resident, I Recognize And Value Don Eslick's 15-Plus Years Of Visionary Leadership And Accomplishments For The Betterment Of Estero. I Believe His Service To Estero Merits That The Estero Parkway Span Over I-75 Not Be Renamed But Continue To Be Known As The Don Eslick Bridge. This Petition Only Was On The Street 144 Hours Because Of The Late Notice Of The Change That Occurred, And We Received 702 Signed Petitions. What I'd Like To Do Now Is Thank You For Taking The Time To Listen To What I Have To Say. The Changing Of The Name Has Occurred, And Our Request Is To Rescind That Action And To Return The Bridge To The Don Eslick Bridge. Thank You.

Thank You, Mr. King. Katie?

Thank You For Coming This Morning, Katie, Followed By Dave Ulrich.

Good Morning, Commissioners. Thank You.

Am.

My Name Is Katie Harrington. I Serve On The Village Of Estero Council, And I Have My Concerns And Thoughts. Commissioner Mann, I Appreciate What You Brought Up This Morning About -- On The Nonconsent Agenda. For Your Information, And If You Are Trying To Show Transparency As A Council, I Drove Across The Bridge This Morning, And It Already Has The New Sign. So It's Already Been Done. So I Don't Know How It Got Signed, But You Have No Consent Agenda, But That Concerned Me When I Saw That. I Want To Say That Don Eslick Has Personified Community Above Self-. Don Eslick Was And Is A Huge Proponent For Protecting The Environment, And Especially And Vitally Important To Us In This Area, The Drgr, And Quality Of Life, I Heard Several Of You Mention That Several Times, Quality Of Life. Don Is One Who Is An Advocate For Us About The Mining, The Blasting And The Corkscrew Road, And That, To Me, Is The Reason That Don Eslick Has Taken -- He's Vitally Important Even Now, With Eccl. Don Has Taken A Position On The We Had Lands -- Wetlands, And He's As Straightforward As The Late President, George H.W. Bush, Says All Existing Wetlands, No Matter How Small, Should Be Preserved. Don Has Fought With Developers Who May Have An -- On Projects Who May Have An Impact On Estero's Quality Of Life. He Has Been A Major Person To Try To Stop The Pollutants That Empty Into The Estero River. The Estero River Has Been Rated As One Of Florida's Guest Rivers, And It's Supposed To -- Best Rivers, And It's Supposed To Be Protected. I Would Suggest If You Haven't Read This Book, Saving Paradise, Every Student At Fgcu Has To Read The Book And Take The Class. With What Happened With Fgcu And Ben Hill Griffin Parkway, Change That Name. Change The Ben Hills River. The Ben Hill Griffin Parkway, According To The Lee County Code, The Campus Site Was Part Of A Large Conservation Zone That Was Supposed To Be Held In Low Density Development. We Know What Has Occurred There, So I Please Ask You, Please Reconsider This. It's Christmas. It's Not Time To Be Here Talking With You About This. This Should Have Never Occurred, And The Lack Of Transparency Befuddles Me. Thank You.

Thank You For Being Here. Good Morning, Dave.

Good Morning. As You Know, I Do Not Live In Estero, I Live In Ft. Myers. In 1988, I Left Nimby, Not In My Back Yard, To Be One Of The Charter Members Of The Responsible Growing Coalition. And Gene Harvard Convinced The County Commission At That Time That That Should Be Established. It Was My Pleasure To Meet Don Eslick. Apparently, 16 Years Ago, I Was Trying To Figure This Out -- This Will Probably Be One Of The Last Times I'm At This Microphone. I'm Now 85, And Myself And My Wife Are Feeling The Passage Of Time. Also, This Will Be The First Time I've Gotten A Parking Ticket While I've Been Waiting To Speak To The Commission, But I Chose To Stay Because I Think It Is Extremely Important. I Think That We Have Made A Terrible Mistake To Take Don Eslick's Name Off This Bridge. My Parents Said Two Wrongs Don't Make A Right. We've Named Bridges Before. And Once We've Done It, I Think Taking That Honor Back Is Beyond Reasonable, And This Man Has Done So Much. He Made My Life Easier As A Member Of Responsible Growth Management Because We Didn't Have To Deal With The Drgr Anymore. It Was Being Taken Care Of By That And His Wonderful Group. I Just Ask You, Take A Look At This. Why Are You Doing It?

Are You Going To Undo Barbara Mann Hall?

Are You Going To Undo The Barbara Manzo Tennis Court?

I Think It's An Honor To Name Things For People While They're Still Alive. After They're Dead, They Can't Make Anymore Damage, That's For Sure. I Think It's Nice To Honor Them While They're Here, And I Just Beg You, Please Rename This For Don Eslick.

Thank You, Dave. Susan Prock, Followed By Jim Fields. Good Morning, Susan.

Good Morning. Thank You, Mr. Mann, For Bringing This To Our Attention, And Thank You For Hearing Me. My Favorite Quarterback, Jim Kelly, Says That We Can All Make A Difference In This Word. We Don't Have To Be Rich Or Famous, We Can Still Make A Difference In This World. So I'm Here Today To Try To Make A Difference For The Good And Fair. I Am A Proud Eccl Volunteer For The Environment And Transportation Committees In Estero Since I Retired From The Public Schools In Lee County, And I Never Thought That Might Be My Niche But I've Found My Niche Because I Want To Do Fair And Right By Everybody. I've Had The Privilege Of Observing The Great Work Don Eslick Has Done For All Estero Residents. He Is One Of The Hardest Working Individuals I Have Ever Encountered. He Is Brilliant And Is A Real Visionary, And That Is A Real Compliment Coming From Me. Do The Right Thing And Restore The Honor Back To The Don Eslick By Name Renaming The Bridge -- By Renaming The Bridge After Him. The Other Day, I Almost Caused A Wreck Because I Was Going West To East, And I Didn't See The Signs, And I Thought Something Was Wrong. I Know What He Has Done For Estero. Merry Christmas, And Happy Holidays, And I Know The Sign Will Be Back There The Next Time I Go Over That Bridge. Thank You.

Thank You. Jim Shils, Followed By Jim Savage.

Thank You. First Of All, I Want To Say Thank You For Giving Us The Opportunity To Come And Speak Before You. I Moved Here 15 Years Ago From A Place That Wouldn't Happen, Moscow, Russia. My Last

Years Were Spent Working Behind The Iron Curtain. For 15 Years, Don Has Brought Together A Network Of Community Leaders. I'm A Volunteer, I'm Not A Member Of Eccl. There Is No Community In Estero That's Been Helped For Than The Community That I Live. 979 Doors. Don Has Led Our Mission, The Community To Help The Estero And Community Be Formed And Involved In County, Regional, State, And Federal Issues That Impact Our Community. It Would Seem To Me, As A Lee County Commissioner, That's Exactly What You Would Want From A Community Leader And The Citizens Of Lee County, To Be Involved And Engaged With The Issues Impacting The Quality Of Life Today And In The Future. It's Always Been Very American To Celebrate And Recognize Those Extraordinary Volunteer Leaders Who Set The Example For The Rest Of Us. They Inspire Us, They Cause Us To Get On The Street And Try And Make The Community The Best It Can Be. The Don Eslick Bridge Was A Fitting Way To Recognize Don's Many Accomplishments In Our Community. I Kindly Ask You, The Board Of County Commissioners, To Rescind The Action Of Renaming That Bridge. The Last Few Assignments, The Last Few Years Of My Career, Were Iron Curtain Countries. This Would Not Happen In Any Of Those Countries. Volunteerism Is An American Tradition. It's Stale, Sterile, And Does Not Exist In Those Countries Where I Spent The Last Decade Of My Career. I Want To Thank You For Listening To Us This Morning. I Live Five Minutes From The Bridge. It Means A Lot To Us. It's The Right Thing To Do To Keep The Name On Don Eslick Because It Will Inspire All Of Us And People In The Future To Step Forward And Continue To Volunteer, Help Lee County, Help Estero Be The Best That It Can Be. Thank You.

Thank You, Jim. Jim Savage, Followed By Kelly Backus.

Good Morning, Commissioners. Willie Savage. I Live In Estero, Lived There Since 2007. It Was A Sad Day For Lee County When You Changed The Don Eslick Bridge To The Community Bridge. Don Eslick Has Done A Fantastic Job For Estero And Lee County. In A Series Of E-Mails To Me, Commissioner Pendergrass Mentioned His Support For Don. Per The News Press In At Least Two Prior Instances In Lee County, Places Were Named After Living -- Living Individuals. One Motion To Name Was Seconded By Commissioner Pendergrass Despite What He Has Said. Please Reinstate Don Eslick's Name On The Bridge. It's Only Fitting. Thank You.

Thank You For Coming Today. Catherine Backus, Followed By Scotty Wood, And After That, I Have No Other Cards Up Here, So You Will Still Have A Chance To Address The Board If You Would Like To.

County Commissioners, We've Heard From Everybody, All The Estero Residents, We All Feel The Same Way About Don Eslick, He's Invaluable To Our Community. He Is One Of The Founding Fathers Of Estero. Estero Is A Wonderful Community. It Actually Rivals Naples. Estero Is Becoming Our Destination. We Love Estero, And I Would Suggest To You, Commissioners, That You Introduce A Motion To Restore The Name And Vote On It In Our Favor. Thank You.

Thank You Very Much For Coming This Morning. Scotty Wood. Mr. Wood, Thank You For Coming This Morning.

Thank You. I'm Scotty Wood, A Resident Of Estero, And I Ask You To Rescind The Vote Taken At Your December 4 Meeting That Removed Don Eslick's Name From The Bridge Over Interstate 75 At The

Estero Parkway. I've Lived And Worked With Don For 15 Years. He's Widely Known As Mr. Estero, And Without His Tireless Efforts, Estero Would Not Be The Strong And United Village As You Saw Today By Those Of Us Who Stood Up. Estero Has Timely Access To Medical Care Thanks In Large Measure To Don Eslick's Unrelenting Efforts Going Back 15-Plus Years. Lives Will Be Saved Because Of His Efforts. I Know This Because I Served Nine Years On The South Lee County Hospital Development Committee With Don, And I Watched Him Do His Magic. Estero's Design Standards Are Widely Respected, Admired, And Rewarded Thanks To His Effort S To Develop And Guide The Development Panel. I Know This Because I Chair The Estero Planning And Zoning Board, And We Follow Much Of The Principles That He Espoused During That Time. He's Been A Leader In Efforts To Develop The Density Groundwater Resource Protection Area In East Lee County. The List Of His Contributions To Estero And Lee County Goes On And On. We All Make Mistakes In Life. It's Human Nature. Those That Own Up To Them And Correct Them Deserve Our Forgiveness And Respect. I Sincerely Hope That You Will Correct This Mistake And Put Don Eslick's Name Back On That Bridge. Thank You.

Thank You, Scotty. Is There Anyone Else Here That Would Like To Address The Board, And If You Would, Come Forward, But We Would Ask You -- You're Right On It, Bill. If You Could Give The Card To Mr. Desjarlais, And Anyone Else, We'll Need One From You, Too. Okay. Bill.

Special Day For Me. 10:00 Today, My Son Got The Bronze Star After An Eight-Month Deployment. I'm Here To Get Don A Bronze Star. He Was My Neighbor When I Moved To Estero. Don Was The President Of The Board. He Made Me Put This Big, Master Degree Swat Analysis Of Why We Should Get This Tv. It Took Me Five Years, But We Finally Got The Tv. Don Encouraged Me To Run For Council. I Think I Have A Great Relationship With At Least Four Of You Guys Because I Ran Fundraisers For All Of You. Not You, Frank, Because You Didn't Need My Money. Let Me Tell You, Don Has Been A Mentor To Many People, And You Woke Up A Hornet's Nest Because I Can't Get On Or Off The Elevator Without Someone Asking Me What's Going On With The Don Eslick Bridge. I'll Tell You A True Story Here, What Happened 'Cause I Know The Achilles Heel Of What Brought This To A Head. Everybody Knows Don's Been Involved In A Whole Lot Of Things. Well, He Stuck His Beak Into Something He Should Have Never Continued, And That Was The Vetting Of Politicians And Candidates. He Started Out With 51 Interviewers And Some Of These Folks Got So Out Of Hand And Some Mad -- [Inaudible]

-- And You Guys Can Figure Out Which One It Was That Was Sitting Up Here. And A State Senator, By The Way, So This Person Wasn't A Lone Ranger, And It Was Very Ugly. I Met With Don A Week After I Heard About This. Don Said This Thing Got Totally Out Of Hand. Is Don Going To Continue That? I Think Not, But I Wish You'd For Give Him For That Especially Said. We've Got A Lot Of Work To Do, And Let's Stay Friends And Get The Bridge Back To Where It Should Be. Thank You.

Thank You. Is There Anyone Else That Would Like To Address The Board?
Did You Get A Card?

I'll Get One.

Okay. Thank You.

Again, I'm Rachel Singletary, And I've Lived In The Community 38 Years. I've Met Don Eslick On Numerous Occasions In His Capacity As An Advocate Not Only For Estero But Lee County. He Is An Amazing Advocate For Lee County In So Many Capacities And So Many Situations. Though I Live In Lee County With My Husband, My Cousins Are The Lees, The Fernandez's. You Need To Return The Name Of The Bridge To The Don Eslick Bridge. He Deserves It, You Did It Years Ago. I Don't Know What Made This Come About, But It Needs To Be Undone. One Question I Do Have Is When This Happened At The Meeting, Why Was Not -- The Change Was Said To Rename The Bridge, But You All Were Not Told That You Were Renaming The Don Eslick Bridge. I Feel There's Got To Be Some Kind Of Political Thing That I'm Not Privy To, And I Think It's Pretty Evident. I Hope You Will Do The Right Thing, Get This Man What He Deserves. I Thank You, And Merry Christmas Again.

Thank You Very Much. Good Morning. Good Morning. If You Don't Mind, Please Do -- [Inaudible]

I And Many Others Are Still In A Quandary About This Motivation Of The Name Change On The Bridge, But Let's Put That Aside. Those Of Us, Particularly People Who Have Spoken Me Before Me, Know The -- Spoken Before Me, Know The Accomplishments That Don Have Accomplished In The Community. I Ask You To Come To Your Senses And Repair The Name Of The Don Eslick Bridge.

Thank You Very Much. My Guess, Miss Ellis, You Want To Join Us Up Front Again?
[Inaudible]

Thank You Very Much, And I'm Sorry I Put You Off Before, But We Wanted To Do This Correctly. Thank You Again For Being Here This Morning.

And Once Again, I'm Stephanie Ella. I Live In Ft. Myers, Also. I've Lived There Since 1975. My Dad Was Army, But I've Lived Here For A While, And I Have Seen All The Accomplishments That Don Eslick Has Brought To Estero, Which Is Why I'm Speaking Out, And I've Met Him Personally. I Find It With All The Things Going On Today, That We're Even Considering Changing The Bridge. I Found The State Statute Where It Says State Roads And Bridges Cannot Be Named For Any Living Person. Somebody's Already Mentioned That, But Estero Parkway Is Not A State Road, So That Statute Does Not Apply. And I Can't Find Where It's A County Road, Either, But It Is Partially County Maintained. I Did A Lot Of Work Trying To Figure This Out. Now The Village Of Estero Is Spending Millions Of Dollars Of That, Also. Now It Also Appears As If -- Looking At The Map On The County Website, That It Falls In The Village Of Estero's Jurisdiction, And I'm Not Sure After Everything Is Said And Done, That They Won't Be Able To Make Some Sort Of A Name Change On Their Own, But Perhaps It's Something We Don't Even Need To Be Troubled With At This Level. The Analytical Part Of My Brain Is Saying, As I've Listened To Everyone. If This Was Not Properly Identified When The Motion Was Made, Was This A Proper, Valid Motion In The First Place?

Any Way, Those Are Just Some Things I Wanted To Say, And I Do Hope You All Choose To Restore The Name Of The Don Eslick Bridge. Thank You.

Thank You Very Much. Is There Anyone Else Here Who Would Like To Address The Board?
Okay. I See None. Since We're Doing This Kind Of Backwards This Morning Before We Talk About A Motion, I Would Encourage Mr. Mann And You All To Have Your Discussion. Yes, Sir?

Thank You. Thank You For All The Speakers Being Here. Thank You For All The Comments, And I'm Not Sure Whatever I Say Here Is Going To Change Anybody's Minds Here At The End Of The Day, And I Think My Colleagues Can Relate To This At A Certain Point. I Know There's Some Allegations Made Here About A Committee. I Think Bill Mentioned That. All This Came About In My Office Years Ago. We Can Go Back To 2012, Or I Can Talk Back To The Last Year That I Was Confronted, Approached By Many Realtors, Which I'm Surprised Joe's Comments Today, Because I Remember He Called Me After That Committee Meeting, And We Had Some Discussions. This Is Not About Don Eslick. Don Has Done Amazing Things Here And In Estero, And We Can All Agree On That. The Question Is Do You Use Public Funds To Name A Bridge For A Reason That's Still Living?

When I Have A State Law Maker Hand Me A Copy Of A Statute, And Say Hey, This Road, Why Did You Guys Name A Road -- Are You Continuing To Name Roads After People?

And This Happened Months Ago. I Know People Have Their Assumptions That Are Political Issues. That's Not The Issue. Don Has Supported Me In The Past, Don Hasn't Supported Me In The Past. It Doesn't Matter. This Is About A State Policy With Public Tax Dollars. And We As A Board -- Some Speakers Brought Up Issues Today, We Need To Have A Policy In Place So When This Comes Up In The Future, This Doesn't Happen. Now, I Can Talk About When I Was A Citizen, Standing In The Office In 2005, Standing, Getting A Picture Taken With The Sign. [Inaudible]

We As A Board, Do We Really Want To Set A Policy Of Providing A Favor Back To Someone For Political Gain?

That's What It Comes Back To, And That's Why I Was Compelled To Bring This Forward Now After The Election So It Wasn't Procedurally Done Before The Election. Everyone Wants To Talk About That. This Happened In 2012, And Most People Probably Weren't Aware Of That Happening, So I Was Obviously -- Had That Conversation With My Future Assistant Sitting There With Me, With My Assistant At The Time. And I Get That. This Conversation That I've Had, Too. I Understand -- I'm Not Going To Throw Anybody Under The Bus Or Off The Bridge, No Pun Intended, But I've Had A Conversation With Many Of The People In This Room About That Issue Beforehand. I Had Meetings With People, Elected Officials, About That Issue. Those Were Records, Lobby Logs, Personal Logs. Lunches, Campaign Reports, That Has Nothing To Do With It. It's Not About Don. It's About Setting Public Policy And Using Tax Dollars. It's An Ugly Thing We Have To Talk About. I Wish We Didn't Have To. Moving Forward, This Is The Best Thing For All Of Us. The New Signs Are Up. We Corrected Something In The Past That Was Misguided, No Matter If It's Good Or Bad. Sir, You Have A Village -- Well, If You Want To Name Something After Someone, Can You Do That. It's Very Decide Heartening That I Have To Do -- It's Very Disheartening That I Have To Do Something Like This. I've Gotten Hundreds Of Cards, Phone Calls, E-Mails, From People In Estero Supporting What We Did. It's Not A Popularity Contest Between Don And Somebody Else. There's No Question About What He Did. To Standup And Say You're Going To

Name A Public Bridge -- Ben Hill Griffin Donated The Land -- Land That The Ben Hill Griffin Park Sits On. I'm Not Going To Comment About That. But To Take Something Like That, Name A Bridge After Somebody Living, They Brought It Up. I Couldn't Make A Motion As Chairman, We All Know That, So I Kept Kicking The Can Down The Road, And Then, I Brought It Up Two Weeks Ago. It's Not A Pretty Thing, Don't Want To Have To Talk About It. That's The Total Truth. People In Here Know The Backgrounds, They Know What Happened, They Know What Was Said In The Last Month On This Whole Issue, And I'm Not Going To Talk About It Anymore As Far As That. I Look Forward To Working With The Village Of Estero. This Was Something That Happened In 2012 That You Guys Weren't Aware Of. Commissioner Manning And Hammond Were On The Board Then. I Was On The Ballot For A Candidate. Commissioner Kiker, You Summoned Me And Commissioner Hammond To Breakfast That Morning, Getting Us Ready For The Job Coming Up. You Guys Weren't Aware Of What Happened Then, What The Motivation Was Then. Now We Are, So I Say We Just Move On. Thank You.

Thank You. Is There Anybody Else That Would Like To Comment?
Mr. Mann?

Thank You, Mr. Chairman, And Thank You, Commissioners, For Modifying The Way We Normally Do Business To Handle This And The Way We Did, And That's -- I Speak -- It Speaks Ultimate Fairness To The Folks That Have Come Up Here This Morning, So I Thank You Very Much For Handling The Way We Have.

Well, It Was A Little Bit Awkward, And I Wanted To Make Sure Everybody Knew Exactly What The Proceedings Would Be, So I Appreciate Doing That For You.

I Pulled Out My Little Copy Of Roberts Rules Of Order To See If I Was Going To Violate Anything. I Was Pretty Sure I Wasn't Asking You To Do Anything That Would Embarrass -- So Thank You Very Much. A Special Thank You To All Of You Estero-ites?

Is That A Word?

Thank You, All Of You From Estero Who Made The Additional Effort To Come Up Here And Be With Us. I Dare Say John Manning And I Were Here When We Were Part Of The Unanimous Vote That Named The Bridge For Don Eslick, But I Dare Say, We've Had More Accolades Expressed Today Than We Did When We Named The Bridge After Him. The Real Estate Groups, Community Groups, Church Groups, It's Virtually Unanimous. I Have Not Received One Letter, Anything, Phone Call, Questioning What I'm Trying To Do Here This Morning Or Say We're Making A Mistake By Revisiting This. There's No Need For Me To Rehash Everything We've Talked About. Cecil, I'm Giving You More Than The Benefit Of The Doubt This Morning When You First Made Your Comments. I Said I'm Accepting That There Was No Deception In Your Heart And Mind When You Made That. But The Point Was That He Was The Immediate Past Chairman Two Weeks Ago, And This Was Our First Full Meeting After We Had Changed Chairs. At The End Of The Meeting, Our Immediate Past Chairman Makes This Very Brief Little Comments. The Total Amount Of Time Devoted To The Matter Was 1:26, So What Happened To Me, I'm Just Giving Everybody The Opportunity To Fess Up Like I've Fessed Up. I Did Not Understand

That We Were Un-Naming A Bridge Because The Motion -- Let Me Just Read It For The Record Here, And I've Pulled It Up, Played The Video Back. Commissioner Pendergrass, I Have One -- I Wish To Make A Motion To Authorize The Chairman To Direct Staff To Draft A Resolution To Change The Name Of Estero Parkway Bridge To The Estero Community Bridge. And Then, Less Than A Minute Later, We Passed That Unanimously. For All I Knew, We Had Some New Bridge In Estero. He's My Immediate Past Chairman. I Said, Is This From Council?

He Said No, Citizens Brought This To Me. I Had No Reason To Think There Was Anything Else Going On Here Except We Were Naming A New Bridge In Estero, And Nobody Seemed To Be Against It. I Was Caught Off Guard, And I Apologize, And I Am Embarrassed That It Passed. In The Chance That Anybody Else Was Caught Off Guard, I Want To Bring Everybody The Opportunity To Make A Motion To See If I Was The Only One. Now John, Since You Were A Part Of The Unanimous Vote Before, And You're Always So Good At Seconding Things, And You're Sitting Right Next To Me, I Know You've Got A Cold, So I'm Not Going To Get That Close To You, But This Would Be A Great Opportunity To Second A Motion Again. So Mr. Chairman, Thank You Again For The Time, Thank You, Guys, Again For The Time, And I Would Offer This Motion, Mr. Chairman, In The Same Light That Commissioner Pendergrass Offered His. As A Commissioner, I Would Move That We Name The Estero -- Rename The Estero Community Bridge The Don Eslick Bridge, And That's My Motion.

We Have A Motion On The Table. Do We Have A Second?

Okay. Motion Dies On The Second.

Thank You, Mr. Chairman. Thank You, Again, Citizens Of Estero. God Bless You For The Way You Take Care Of Your Beautiful Community, And All The Wonderful People You've Got Down There, Especially Don Eslick.

Okay. So There's No Further Business At This Point In Time. Happy Holidays, Everyone, And Thank You For Coming. Meeting Adjourned.