

SURTAX APPOINTING AUTHORITY MEETING

MINUTES

PENNY SURTAX OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

APPOINTING AUTHORITY MEETING

January 10, 2019

1:00 p.m.

- MEMBERS** Mr. Randall Vitale, designee of the Broward Workshop, Chair
PRESENT: Dr. Colin Polsky, FAU Center for Environmental Studies
Mr. Dan Lindblade, designee of the Broward County Council of Chambers
Ms. Bertha Henry, County Administrator
Mr. Arnold Nazur, designee of Hispanic Unity
Mr. Sidney Calloway, designee of the Urban League of Broward County
The Honorable Jack Seiler, designee of the Broward League of Cities
- Also Present:** Gretchen Cassini, Assistant County Administrator
Angela Wallace, County Attorney's Office
Nancy Cavender, The Laws Group

A meeting of the Penny Surtax Oversight Committee Appointing Authority was held in the Room 430, Governmental Center, 115 S. Andrews Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, Florida at 1:00 p.m. Thursday, January 10, 2019.

(The following is a near-verbatim transcript of the meeting.)

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AGENDA ITEM 1 - WELCOME/CALL TO ORDER - RANDALL VITALE, CHAIR

CHAIR VITALE: So ten minutes after, approximately, we'll call the meeting to order on Thursday, January 10th.

Happy New Year, everybody.

Thank you to staff who had a lot of work to do between our last meeting and today. I, personally, and I know the group also appreciates all the work you all did.

There was a lot to do, and you all did a great job in getting it done, so thank you.

Hopefully everyone --

MR. LINDBLADE: That deserves a round of applause.

(Applause.)

CHAIR VITALE: A difficult time of year to get it done with tight deadlines. And it was all done, so thank you.

Okay. We'll move on to the agenda. Hopefully, everyone has had a chance to review it. I think it's in front of everybody, as well.

AGENDA ITEM 2 - INTRODUCTIONS

CHAIR VITALE: So, introductions. I guess for the benefit of the new members in the audience, we'll do just quick brief introductions.

Dan, I'll wait for you to take another bite before I go to you.

So, Sidney, just maybe your name and who you're representing and professionally, as well.

MR. CALLOWAY: Good afternoon. My name is Sidney Calloway. I'm an attorney here in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

I am here representing the Urban League of Broward County.

MR. NAZUR: Arnold Nazur. I'm here representing Hispanic Unity of Florida.

MS. HENRY: Bertha Henry. I'm the County Administrator for Broward.

DR. POLSKY: Colin Polsky, Professor of Geosciences, Florida Atlantic University.

MR. SEILER: Jack Seiler representing -- Jack Seiler representing the Broward League of Cities.

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MR. LINDBLADE: And I'm Dan Lindblade representing the Broward County Council of Chambers.

CHAIR VITALE: Thank you all.

And I'm Randall Vitale representing the Broward Workshop, and was fortunate enough to be asked and selected chair at our last meeting.

So thank you all again for that.

AGENDA ITEM 3 - APPROVAL OF MINUTES

CHAIR VITALE: The next item on the agenda is the approval of the minutes.

Hopefully, everyone's had a chance to review the minutes that were provided.

I have one item that I'd like to bring up, but I'll wait in case anyone else has items.

MR. SEILER: I don't have a printout of the minutes. Do we have one printed out that's on the table somewhere?

MR. LINDBLADE: I just happen to have one here.

MR. SEILER: I thought there was one thing, but go ahead and make the change you were going to recommend.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay.

MR. SEILER: Maybe it's the same one.

CHAIR VITALE: So it's more of a clarification, and I've asked staff to just get this here on the record.

On page 3, at the last paragraph, we had had a conversation about volunteer board members from non-profit organizations not being disqualified with that one issue. So compensation would -- is the disqualifier. So if somebody receives compensation.

However, that was answering, I think, a specific question.

And there are a couple of individuals who have applied who are technical dual office holders, and so that is why they have agreed to resign their positions from -- I think, really, it's just two, and I think it's the TMA, if I remember correctly, or -

MS. WALLACE: And the --

CHAIR VITALE: -- and one more.

MS. WALLACE: -- and the LCB, the local coordinating board --

CHAIR VITALE: Okay.

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MS. WALLACE: -- for the Commission for Transportation Disadvantaged.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. So just for all of our collective understanding, it is the fact that they are dual office holders, not that they are a board member of a non-profit.

Everyone good with that? Okay.

MR. SEILER: Let me, if I can, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR VITALE: Sure.

MR. SEILER: The issue I have in that same area. We're talking about disqualification would result from receiving compensation.

I think that -- wasn't that only from receiving compensation? It's the -- remember on that, because that's what I thought you were going to touch on.

CHAIR VITALE: That was, but I think that was answering a specific question about --

MS. WALLACE: The ordinance and the --

CHAIR VITALE: -- qualifications.

MS. WALLACE: -- and the qualifications under the ordinance.

The dual office holding provision is statutory. And so when our office conducted the review, the ethics section conducted a review of all of the applicants and their appointed positions, they had to look at the type of position, what -- the type of board that they sit on. If there's a government -- if they're appointed by -- to a board -- a board by a government body, the state, a city, or the County, and whether their functions or the functions of that board have certain decision-making authority delegated by that body.

Then that would disqualify them under the dual office holding requirements of the statute, or prohibition under the statute.

That's the issue.

CHAIR VITALE: I think in most cases, everyone who this affects has agreed that if they are selected, they would resign that position.

MS. WALLACE: Yes.

CHAIR VITALE: But I just wanted to clarify it since we're -- first time we're doing this, obviously, that we want to make sure there's a record of it.

MS. WALLACE: Yes.

MR. SEILER: Okay. I'll **move** the minutes.

MR. LINDBLADE: Second.

CHAIR VITALE: Moved and seconded.

Any further discussion on the minutes as presented?

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All those in favor of accepting the minutes, please signify by saying aye.

Any opposed?

Okay. So minutes are accepted.

VOTE PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

AGENDA ITEM 4 - REVIEW OF APPLICATIONS

A. APPOINTING AUTHORITY MEMBERS BRING FORTH NOMINATIONS

B. RANKING

C. DISCUSSION

CHAIR VITALE: Next is the review of applications. And, as a reminder, I think first, before we roll into the applications, I want to do a couple of things.

The first is to discuss what we discussed last time, to make sure we all still feel the same way.

And the second is to introduce a couple of other ideas that we have the opportunity to use today.

And I didn't feel comfortable categorically making those decisions, and so I wanted to bring it to this group to decide.

So assuming we have consensus, what I'd like to do is go category by category.

We have a group of applicants from each of the respective disciplines, and anyone here will have the opportunity to nominate for that role anyone that has been qualified.

So we've all seen those names and their statement of interest and their resumes and CVs.

Then we'll spend -- and I've allocated on this little agenda that I made -- 15 minutes for each of the disciplines for us to discuss and then rank the top candidate for that discipline.

Then, at the end, in the spirit of making sure we've looked at the most comprehensive and diverse potential pool, we'll spend some time talking about do we have the right mix in all of the disciplines.

So I'm paraphrasing here what we talked about last time. Is that more or less how everyone remembers it, and are we okay with that?

MR. CALLOWAY: Yes. Mr. Chair, my only other comment would be I

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don't know if it would benefit us to talk about, given the applicant pool that we have in front of us, what the diversity mix looks like at the outset, so as we begin to get into the discussions around the positions, at least we have that as a context.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. I -- I think it's a good suggestion, for as much as we have, anyway; right?

MR. CALLOWAY: Sure.

CHAIR VITALE: And I agree.

Dan?

MR. LINDBLADE: I just want to make sure I'm -- because you lost me when you got into that second part a little bit.

So I'm getting go individually by category, open nominations, multiple nominations can be made in each category, close it out, then rank them?

CHAIR VITALE: So that's what we're going to discuss, but previously, my understanding of our discussions was we would select who we thought was the best candidate but not lock that in.

So our final -- our final item will be to make a -- to recommend a slate, basically, to select a body.

But we would rank -- so let's take accounting, which I think is the first one. So Person A, Person B, Person C.

Person A and Person C are nominated by somebody here. We discuss Person A and Person C, and then we vote and decide Person A is the person we think fits, is the most qualified, based on the criteria that we've established.

Then we would go through each of the seats, and then at the end, we would have a discussion as a body, how does this group look from a representation of the entire County standpoint.

And then have at least a discussion, and it may not change anything at all, or we may decide there's not enough of men, women, age, you know, any other diversity category. East side of town, west County, north, south.

So anything that this group wants to discuss.

So that's where we had been, and I just wanted to make sure before we moved forward doing that, down that path, that is still where the group wants to be.

MR. LINDBLADE: See how it goes.

MS. HENRY: That's what we talked about.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay.

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DR. POLSKY: Mr. Chair, just one comment. One complicating factor may be that some individuals appear in multiple categories. So it would be -- it was hard for me to keep track of that.

And so it would be helpful, perhaps, if someone could help us when there's a candidate we're discussing who appears in a later category.

CHAIR VITALE: Noted. And this is one of the items -- actually, perfect segue, so thank you.

We -- staff has taken the opportunity to put together a score sheet that is broken out by discipline.

MR. SEILER: Okay.

CHAIR VITALE: And we've put together a -- and so we're going to discuss the score sheet concept, but what's on here is by discipline.

And then Gretchen and I worked together on points associated with each of the areas. And so, for example, experience in the field, their personal statement of interest, transportation and infrastructure experience, community involvement, understanding of the issues, and then other considerations.

So we have the opportunity to use this sheet if we like.

The only thing you need to be aware of, which is normal for something like this, is if we do use it, it becomes part of the public record.

And so we can go through and use this form however we want, or just have it in front of us so that, as you were just saying, having something to eyeball, okay, there's three candidates in the field of urban planning. I can see their names right here, and then I can make, you know, notice that maybe one of them is also in architecture or in finance.

So I'd like to have just a couple minutes of discussion on the idea of a score sheet as a tool. Not all at once, though, please.

MR. CALLOWAY: I'll chime in.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay.

MR. CALLOWAY: I don't think we need a score sheet, given the -- and I regard the number of applicants here to be within our framework to kind of get it done today with some robust discussion.

So on those grounds, I would suggest that we just look at the applicants and talk about them and figure it out as we go.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. Anyone else?

MR. SEILER: The only thing I would ask is are they able to put all the applicants up so that -- because I'm -- on this SharePoint, and I've got to flip

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through.

Is there a way, as each category comes up, we could list who's -- all of them like on that big screen?

MS. CASSINI: Well, I just want to make -- what I can do is bring up exactly what you see on your SharePoint on that big screen. Is that what you're asking for?

MR. SEILER: In each category.

MS. CASSINI: Yes.

MR. SEILER: Yeah.

MS. CASSINI: Yes. Exactly what you see on the --

MR. SEILER: Because as I flip back and forth, it's not moving as quickly. That's what I was --

MS. CASSINI: Oh, no. I mean, I don't know that I can do it much more quickly, but I can certainly get the applications and all of the information that's in your SharePoint up on that screen. That's why that's there.

MR. SEILER: Well, I have all the applications and everything. What I'm just saying is like a master list categories.

CHAIR VITALE: Maybe you can put --

MS. CASSINI: (Inaudible.)

CHAIR VITALE: -- this --

MS. CASSINI: (Inaudible) this.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah.

CHAIR VITALE: Yeah. Maybe you could put --

MR. SEILER: Yeah.

CHAIR VITALE: -- that on the screen.

MR. SEILER: Exactly.

MS. CASSINI: Okay.

CHAIR VITALE: And then we can at least visually see, okay, there's three people. It's Person A, Person B, Person C.

MR. SEILER: Exactly.

CHAIR VITALE: And then we can flip back and forth, as needed for -- within our notes. Is that right?

MR. SEILER: Yes, that's what I was --

CHAIR VITALE: Okay.

MR. CALLOWAY: Mr. Chair?

CHAIR VITALE: Yes?

MR. CALLOWAY: The document that you have, I don't believe I have

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a copy of it.

CHAIR VITALE: No, we -- no, nobody does.

MR. CALLOWAY: Okay. So my --

CHAIR VITALE: This is a draft that Gretchen and I --

MR. CALLOWAY: Okay.

CHAIR VITALE: -- were working on. And this is one of the things I don't want to make a unilateral decision on --

MR. CALLOWAY: Okay.

CHAIR VITALE: -- without the group.

MR. CALLOWAY: So my question would be does that document, does it have scores already, or does it just have --

CHAIR VITALE: It's a blank tablet.

MR. CALLOWAY: -- names of the applicants?

CHAIR VITALE: It has the name and then the categories that I gave.

So we could use this as a tool or not, but that was -- that was --

MR. SEILER: I'm happy to use it, or at least use it in that fashion --

CHAIR VITALE: Yeah.

MR. SEILER: -- on the big screen is what -- that would be fine.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay.

MR. SEILER: Because that doesn't have any pre-entered information; it's just a template.

CHAIR VITALE: Correct.

MR. SEILER: Right.

CHAIR VITALE: Yeah. It's just an easy way to look at all the names --

MR. SEILER: That's -- yeah, that's fine.

CHAIR VITALE: -- within the categories.

MR. SEILER: Because as I was flipping --

CHAIR VITALE: Yeah.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That works.

CHAIR VITALE: Any other discussion around that? It seems like there's consensus on that.

Sidney?

MR. CALLOWAY: Yeah. Mr. Chair, one other comment, and that is from my review of all of the documents that we've received from staff, it appears that staff has recommended or has at least done their initial assessment that all of these applicants meet the qualifications that we've established.

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So I want to hear that from them, but --

CHAIR VITALE: That's my --

MR. CALLOWAY: -- that's my assumption.

CHAIR VITALE: -- that is my understanding, as well, that they've all been vetted and have filled in their forms properly in time as to how we prescribed.

MS. HENRY: If I might, if you -- preceding each candidate, there is a cover letter by --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Right.

MS. HENRY: -- Deputy County Attorney Angela Wallace that represents that. So --

MR. SEILER: Yeah.

MS. HENRY: -- that was the purpose of that, so that we have a record that the person has been vetted and meets the qualifications.

MR. CALLOWAY: And the reason why I'm raising some of these questions is for the public to understand -

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Okay, sure.

MR. CALLOWAY: -- what the process is.

CHAIR VITALE: Yeah. Exactly.

MR. LINDBLADE: Mr. Chairman?

CHAIR VITALE: Yes?

MR. NAZUR: Mr. --

MR. LINDBLADE: Oh, go ahead.

MR. NAZUR: -- Mr. Chair, can I get clarification then on the person that's named Consuelo Kelley?

It says here does not qualify?

CHAIR VITALE: So what I would ask is that, as opposed to going through individuals right now, we go through them within their discipline --

MR. NAZUR: Okay.

CHAIR VITALE: -- because I think there might be more individual information shared, if that's okay with you.

MR. NAZUR: Yeah.

CHAIR VITALE: I'd rather just stick with the process for right now, and then we'll go through each single -- each single discipline.

So is everyone comfortable moving forward with the process that I just described?

MR. SEILER: Yes.

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MR. LINDBLADE: I just have one further clarification.

In the proceedings, there are several people who are applicants who are in the audience. Are you going to let people speak?

CHAIR VITALE: I -- my recommendation to this group, and I'm certainly open to discussion, is since we did not advertise that we would be asking questions -- we did formally say we would not be interviewing people, but we did not advertise or share that we would be allowing individuals from the audience to speak.

But I'm open to discussion on it from the group.

MR. SEILER: Mr. Chair, I think we need to be fair. If we were going to hear -- we talked about not hearing from everybody. I think if we were to open it up to allow some people to speak and others not to, those that didn't have notice or thought that we were going to stick with our original discussion, I would recommend that we not open it up to input beyond the resume.

CHAIR VITALE: I'm in agreement with that, for the same reason.

MR. LINDBLADE: I'm in agreement. I just, for the benefit of the folks who --

CHAIR VITALE: Sure.

MR. LINDBLADE: -- have taken their valuable time to be here, I wanted to make sure that they were clear in our process.

And the last thing is is there any obligation on the part of any of the Appointing Authority members to have to disclose any communication that they've had with candidates?

CHAIR VITALE: I don't believe so. And I'm -- the answer's no.

MR. LINDBLADE: Thank you.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. So unless there are any other questions about process, we'll --

MS. HENRY: Just one.

CHAIR VITALE: Please.

MS. HENRY: It's really not process. That would be helpful to have that in front of me, even though I know that it's on the screen, because my eyesight's sometimes challenged.

So I understand how we're going to use it, so if -- if it's okay to just have that --

CHAIR VITALE: Yeah.

MS. HENRY: -- in front of us to kind of --

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CHAIR VITALE: So I think --

MS. HENRY: -- help with it.

CHAIR VITALE: -- it's a great -- it's a great recommendation.

So we'll pass these out in front, yeah, of everyone.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible.)

CHAIR VITALE: Yeah. So as was just mentioned, if you -- if you write on this document -- it is a blank template right now -- it will need to be picked up and retained as part of the record.

MR. SEILER: What if I get chocolate on it, Mr. Chair?

(Laughter.)

CHAIR VITALE: You will be forced to lick the chocolate off.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Thank you.

CHAIR VITALE: All right. Gretchen, let me have that one, because it's probably an older draft.

Okay. Any other -- these are all really good questions. Any other questions around the process?

So I will be -- and the way they're discussed in the ordinance is the way they're here, so we -- it's not alphabetical. It will be going down this list that we have on the screen and in front of us.

So accounting first, finance, architecture, et cetera.

So we are now moving to the review of the applications on the agenda.

And at this time, what I'd ask is for anyone who has an interest in nominating any of the three candidates to do so.

MR. SEILER: I can -- I'll nominate Shea Smith.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. Jack Seiler, thank you, has nominated Shea Smith for discussion.

MS. HENRY: And I'd like to nominate Allyson Love.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. Allyson Love for discussion.

Anyone else?

MR. SEILER: Can I ask -- I'm sorry. Only because this --

CHAIR VITALE: Please, Jack. The first one that we go through I think is going to be a learning, and the others will go quicker.

MR. SEILER: I'm only asking why are we getting this table of contents with certain names highlighted? Is that because they're in multiple categories?

MS. HENRY: Correct.

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MR. SEILER: Is that what --

MS. WALLACE: That document reflects --

MR. SEILER: -- this is --

MS. WALLACE: -- which ones are in multiple categories.

So the yellow highlighted is the same person --

MR. SEILER: Right.

MS. WALLACE: -- in three categories, and the blue highlight is the same person in two categories. And they're listed on that.

So that's the way my book is made up.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah.

MR. SEILER: I got you. I just wanted to make sure, because something was being passed out while we were on another topic, and I --

CHAIR VITALE: Great.

MR. SEILER: -- wanted the record --

CHAIR VITALE: No, it's a good question.

MR. SEILER: -- clear.

CHAIR VITALE: Just so we have -- this is a good, easy document as well for us to view, so --

MR. SEILER: Thank you.

CHAIR VITALE: -- thank you.

MR. LINDBLADE: **Move** to close.

CHAIR VITALE: Move to close nominations.

Prior to that, I will also nominate Joey Epstein for discussion.

MR. LINDBLADE: **Move** to close nominations.

MR. SEILER: Second.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. Nominations are closed.

So, again, this first one, we'll just kind of work through it, and I think the ones after will be quicker.

So for the individuals who -- what I think we'll do is we'll start with if you -- and we'll go in order, so Mayor Seiler, or Jack, excuse me, since you nominated Shea first, we'll kind of let you give the opening on that as an entree, and then, Bertha, I'll have you do the same.

MR. SEILER: All right. You know what? Let Bertha go first. I'm actually -- my screen's --

CHAIR VITALE: Okay.

MR. SEILER: -- acting up again.

MS. HENRY: Again, I nominated Allyson Love for the position of

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accounting. As you note that she also -- her application shows up in finance and as a former city manager.

Basically, what it says to me is this is a person that's well-rounded, that's been involved in the public sector, understands the challenges, if you will, on the financial end of how these funds must be accounted for, and the transparency needed to the public.

Notwithstanding, as we've talked about before, and I don't know -- and I apologize. I didn't mention it earlier. We were asked to just confirm with the Board of County Commissioners that what -- if there were any concerns or any particular definitions that they would like to have with these positions.

And, as you can see, the Board really wanted this Appointing Authority have -- to have great latitude in making whatever determination that you deem appropriate.

So, again, Ms. Love in accounting, finance, and those two are pretty comparable in terms of you could -- you could fit just about anywhere.

But because Ms. Love sort of has the background in both of these areas and also in auditing and a city manager, I just felt like she was well-rounded.

And if we wanted to consider her for any one of these categories, she would be a good candidate.

CHAIR VITALE: Thank you.

And I actually -- Jack, if you'll just give me one second.

I should have mentioned there was a clarifying memo that staff sent out on Tuesday regarding some of those items. So hopefully everyone had a chance to review them.

But it did provide the clarity to the answers we had at our last meeting as far as professional in the field of, resident consumer of public transportation, former city and County manager, and a couple of other incidentals.

MR. CALLOWAY: Mr. Chair, are we focusing on one -- on one applicant, at this point, or are we looking --

CHAIR VITALE: Well --

MR. CALLOWAY: -- through all of them?

CHAIR VITALE: -- what I -- what I'd like to do is -- we'll try it this round, see how it goes -- is have everyone who nominated from the floor or from the category kind of just give an opening, I guess, for lack of a better word, and then we can just have a -- I'll just call on an open discussion and

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you can speak about any of the individuals we have.

MR. CALLOWAY: Very good.

MR. SEILER: You know, I had -- I nominated Shea Smith. I had a chance -- he obviously is an accomplished accountant, but when you look at what he has done through Leadership Broward, what he has done in the City of Fort Lauderdale in terms of Laudertrail -- Laudertrail, Bike Walk Fort Lauderdale, the Mockingbird Trail, he's someone that's not just about the mass transportation, but about how that's going to mix with the transit as it gets to each one of our cities in Broward County.

And I think it's important that we're not just focused on moving people throughout Broward, but what do we do for that last mile? How do we make it pedestrian friendly? How do we make it bicycle friendly? How do we combine that last mile with what we're trying to accomplish for our County?

And when I looked at Shea's application and then went back, I remembered I had worked with him back years ago -- I think it was Leadership Broward Class 30 -- on the Sun Trolley app. I remember when we kicked off that thing in Galleria Mall, and he was passionate about it then, and I think he's even more passionate about transportation and how it interacts and mixes with quality of life.

I think he'd be a good applicant. It's nice to have an accountant with his background who I think sees a bigger picture of transit in Broward County, the future transit.

So that's why I moved his name forward.

CHAIR VITALE: Great. Thank you.

And as far as Joey Epstein is an individual I've known for many years in the community and has been very active in many statewide accounting organizations. Also has some business experience as COO of a few different organizations here. And also has some transportation experience with the TMA.

So that's my opening.

And now I will open it up to any of the members of the Appointing Authority for discussion on any of those three. And we'll spend about ten minutes on that, and then we'll take a vote.

Sidney, go ahead.

MR. CALLOWAY: All right. I'm sorry. As to Ms. Love, I also would like to highlight the fact that she also has credentials for accounting. She has a Bachelor's of Science from Florida Atlantic University -- and, actually, an

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MBA in international business, but she has a Bachelor's of Science in accounting at Bethune-Cookman College, and an Executive Certificate in Public Administration.

What I like about the expertise of Ms. Love, again, is that her management experience is -- deals a lot with budgeting and the financial controls that are pretty important for large, complex government-related projects and organizations.

So I believe, again, that she would be an excellent -- excellent addition to the Oversight Board for those reasons.

CHAIR VITALE: Thank you.

Other comments?

MR. SEILER: Want to just go down the line, or are we going to --

CHAIR VITALE: Well, I --

MR. SEILER: -- want me to comment?

CHAIR VITALE: Yeah, I mean, I think -- I don't want to force everyone to comment on everyone, so if you have anyone you want to comment on, please make that known, and you have the opportunity to do so.

MR. SEILER: Well, I'll -- let me comment next, then, Chair.

You know, I look at this category, and this is exactly what I was hoping for when we discussed this in December about what we'd like to see when we came back.

This is a good example. You have a category with three qualified applicants, three outstanding applicants. I mean, I've worked with Allyson Love. She actually worked for me at the City of Fort Lauderdale. She's highly qualified, and she's a professional.

As I've already commented on Shea Smith, outstanding, you know, I think private citizen who wants to make a difference publicly.

And as others know, Joey Epstein's probably worked with us on a number of different issues, and serves on our TMA in Fort Lauderdale.

So you've got -- this is a nice category of three very qualified, and I'm comfortable with all three.

I just -- I'm just favoring Shea Smith on this because of the passion he brings to this subject matter. But I will tell you and publicly state that any one of these three is more than qualified to serve in this role.

MS. HENRY: I agree.

CHAIR VITALE: Thank you. Agreed on that.

MS. HENRY: I agree.

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CHAIR VITALE: Any other discussion?

So I'll add for Shea Smith. Prior to you nominating him, Jack, I would have as well. He's somebody who I've known for a long time and have a lot of respect for as a professional. But I think that's a requirement, right, in this category. Everyone has to be an excellent accountant. So that's the minimum.

Shea is very passionate about the community, and very passionate about transportation.

And I've known the work that he's done. Sometimes we've been involved together. Other times we have not been involved together. But anything that he is interested and passionate about, he invests the time with.

And I know he has the full support of his firm in investing the time that will be necessary for this important role.

And his audit experience, I think, is also very valuable as well.

So I want to also have -- to echo Jack's point, support Shea as the applicant here for this specific role.

DR. POLSKY: Mr. Chair, unlike those who've spoken already, I know none of these individuals, but they all seem immensely qualified.

One thing I do that's similar is evaluate applications for graduate school, and it's the same type of thing, where you have very qualified people and the statement of interest, and that's all you have to go by.

And it's not fair, maybe, but when you can't interview, that's what you have.

And so in that regard, the letter by Shea Smith kind of sets him apart among these three candidates, and I think that's one of the few criteria that we have to go by.

And so I would highlight that as supporting his candidacy.

CHAIR VITALE: Thank you.

Any other discussion?

MR. CALLOWAY: Just one last comment on Ms. Love, too. And I think this is probably a consideration across the board.

Ms. Love is a resident of the City of Pembroke Pines. As we talk about the Oversight Board, I think one of the considerations that we should be mindful of is having members that represent the entire County. And the extent to which we have one applicant here, at least in this body, for accounting, the fact that she's out in Pembroke Pines, as a resident, I think, again, is something that we should also consider.

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CHAIR VITALE: I agree. And if I recall our conversation at the initial meeting when we were talking about diversity was in every possible category, including where they work, where they live, et cetera, et cetera.

But the point is right on.

MR. LINDBLADE: Mr. Chair, I know Allyson very well. I know Joey very well.

One of the -- where I'm struggling is Allyson's in multiple areas, and I would have liked to have seen her in just one area as opposed to going into multiple areas.

She's qualified. She's a great individual. Love her dearly. I've helped her over the years. She's helped me over the years.

But that's the only area I'm struggling with. So if we didn't select her for this, we have the opportunity to select her for finance or for former city manager categories, as well.

So for that reason, I'll be throwing my name behind Mr. Smith.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. And I think, Dan, you bring up a great point. And I'll just remind the group here that that's why we're going to do a look-back at the end and make sure that we have the best possible representation, the most talented people that are on the Oversight Board.

MR. NAZUR: Mr. Chair, if we do go with Ms. Love, I would suggest that we also go with the second person in this category. In case she falls into a different category, we've already picked that category as a backup.

CHAIR VITALE: So your recommendation would be to prioritize one, two, three within the category?

MR. NAZUR: No. The way I did it is I just put an A and a B, and if someone else fits in another category, i.e., Allyson Love would fit in another category, then the alternate would be in the accounting.

That way, we still get the same person, and we can manipulate it.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. I think I'll leave that up to each of the individuals to figure out, based on your own criteria, and we'll look at the whole of the body once we get to that point.

It's a good recommendation.

So now I think we have -- I've heard from most of the -- most of the individuals.

Process question, because we haven't discussed this, do we want to vote on an individual, or do we want to just, at this point, have consensus, which I believe I have and then come back?

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MR. CALLOWAY: I think working along consensus lines at this point would be fine.

MR. SEILER: As a consensus, I would -- I guess we need to vote, though, because we are a body that needs to vote.

So it sounds to me like the consensus we have is that we put Shea one and Allyson two for purposes of this. And then if we have to revisit, we're not finalizing any category because we're going to look at the other factors.

But I -- from what I've heard, it sounds to me like that's where -- I heard four people say they would put Shea first, then -- but I think Allyson -- look, I think we all agree this is a good problem to have we have right now.

CHAIR VITALE: Yeah.

MR. SEILER: But I think the consensus that I hear is Shea one, Allyson two, with very close with Allyson being one with several -- you know, the other three, it sounds like, if I'm hearing this right.

MR. CALLOWAY: I don't know if I heard four people but --

MR. SEILER: Well, I think I heard Dan, Dr. Polsky, and myself, and Randall.

MR. CALLOWAY: Yeah, okay. Okay.

MR. SEILER: If that's mistaken --

CHAIR VITALE: That is --

MR. SEILER: -- correct me.

CHAIR VITALE: -- no, that is correct.

MR. SEILER: Okay.

CHAIR VITALE: I believe that for now, so we don't get into the -- too far down on, well, is it consensus on this person or this person for second, I think what I'd prefer is let's have consensus on the top choice, based on the discipline, compared to everyone else in their category, and then we can come back, if that's okay with the group.

MR. SEILER: Okay.

CHAIR VITALE: So it sounds like Shea has the consensus of the group.

Is -- would anyone else care to weigh in or speak on this category before we move on to finance?

Okay. Great. Arnold?

MR. NAZUR: Instead of finance, can we skip finance and go to the former manager? There is a method to my madness.

CHAIR VITALE: What is the method?

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(Laughter.)

MR. NAZUR: So I did this sheet by myself, but then I saw the different categories, and I went individual by individual. And then I started seeing who was in multiple categories to see what fit they would have in case there were strong candidates, just like there was in accounting.

So the other category that she is involved in is either going to be the former manager or the finance.

So maybe we can go to either the former manager and discuss that, and then after that, go to the finance, because then she's out of the category.

CHAIR VITALE: That makes some assumptions, though. And I believe -- and I'm open to the group's will here -- but I believe what we said is we wanted to put forth the best candidate for the discipline, and then we would come back and review the whole body. Is that --

MR. LINDBLADE: That's what I heard.

MR. SEILER: Yeah, that's what I heard, too.

CHAIR VITALE: So I think we'll get to the same spot, but I'd prefer to do it that way. That way, we're comparing the applicants to the discipline and ranking them that way. Because they were -- the discipline is the critical point.

You know, obviously, we have a lot of individuals who are very talented and could be in multiple categories, but when the County Commission drew up the disciplines, it was because they wanted people to be the strongest in the area, I'm presuming.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible.)

MS. HENRY: Again, they wanted to make sure that this -- this body had the -- has the -- as much flexibility as it wishes.

CHAIR VITALE: Yes.

MS. HENRY: So when we talk about going -- whatever process you use, as long as the person we deem qualified in the category, they're fine.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay.

MS. HENRY: It's not an issue for the Board.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. Thank you.

Okay. So we'll just continue down the sheet that's in front of us, the professional in the field of finance.

And I will open up nominations.

MS. HENRY: So I'd like to nominate Mr. Allen, Phil Allen, for the position of finance.

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Mr. Allen previously served as the CFO for Broward County, ultimately went on to be the director for a major economic engine, Port Everglades.

So with Phil, you have the -- you have the financial background, obviously, because he's done that for many years, both in Broward County, Cleveland, Ohio, and other places, but you also have that ability to understand the connectivity with major transportation activities.

So when you have a port, and the importance of making sure that the rest of the community, the connectivity between the airport and how others traverse throughout our County to be a major player now internationally, I sought out Mr. Allen to be -- as a good candidate for it.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. Great. Thank you.

Any other nominations?

MR. CALLOWAY: Mr. Chair, I also nominate Ms. Love in the field of finance for the reasons that we've already expressed, in addition to her actually having years of experience with budgeting and financing city infrastructure or public infrastructure projects as well.

CHAIR VITALE: Thank you, Sidney.

So we have both of the qualified candidates that are up for discussion, and we'll open up the floor for discussion.

MR. SEILER: Mr. Chair?

CHAIR VITALE: Yes, Jack.

MR. SEILER: I will say this, I have -- I spent 25 years in public office, and I don't know if I met a guy more talented than Mr. Allen, when I think about the interaction over the years when it came to Port Everglades and issues.

And one of the things that concerns me about what we're attempting to do is it is a huge large budget item, it is a huge undertaking. And I think one thing about Phil that I saw, and I can't say we -- you know, we have agreed on every issue, because we had a lot of interaction between the city and the port and when I was in the House of Representatives working with the port, or even in the private sector working on the port, he understands large undertakings. He understands complicated issues and complicated tasks.

He had a unique way of disagreeing with you without being disagreeable, a unique way of getting you to come around on an issue without being disruptive or in any way even unpleasant.

And so I think that, you know, when Phil was nominated -- I'm glad to

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see Bertha nominate him -- he's just a tremendously talented individual that would, I think, be an incredible resource to this surtax board because of the fact that he probably won't see a project come before him that he hasn't dealt with or at least tackled at some point in the past.

So I could not speak higher of a gentleman than Phil Allen on this -- in this category.

CHAIR VITALE: Thank you, Jack.

Other comments? Discussion?

DR. POLSKY: Yes, Mr. Chair, just briefly.

Again, I don't know either of these candidates, but one thing I like about this process is the public nature of it. It's designed to instill confidence in the public that we're kind of doing the best that we can to do the right thing.

And looking at Mr. Allen's qualifications, it just kind of hits you in the face right away this is the type of person, in terms of their background, that you want in order to have confidence.

So, again, not knowing the individuals, I would support that person's application based on the experience he has.

CHAIR VITALE: Thank you.

Dan?

MR. LINDBLADE: A question. Did the applicants receive clear delineation of the job responsibilities and the expectations of meetings?

CHAIR VITALE: I don't believe any of that's been formalized. I think the expectation is what -- they're all -- they all received the same letter that we received and then we all forwarded out, which was the ordinance, I believe, and the information around what the responsibility is.

But I think it's going to be up to this group to decide how they want to manage the oversight process; is that right?

MS. WALLACE: That's correct.

CHAIR VITALE: Including staff, meetings, budgeting, et cetera. So you definitely want to keep that in mind when you are appointing people to that body so that they have the experience in doing that.

And one other thing that I'll mention, I don't -- and I actually -- I know Allyson a little bit, and I know Mr. Allen a little bit, but one thing we talked about as a group, which I agree with conceptually, is that you need people -- qualifications, obviously, minimum requirement; right? They have to be qualified or else non-starter.

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But we need individuals on this body that have time and are willing to invest the time, because it is -- to be done right, it will take a lot of time.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Uh-huh.

CHAIR VITALE: And so when you have somebody who has had a very successful career and is retired and is willing to say I am now willing to invest time, I think that -- that speaks volumes.

Dan?

MR. LINDBLADE: No.

CHAIR VITALE: Oh.

MR. CALLOWAY: Mr. Chair?

CHAIR VITALE: Yes, Sidney.

MR. CALLOWAY: Yeah, just a last comment.

I served under Governor Jeb Bush for almost nine years on the Florida Transportation Commission. And I'm saying that to say that under -- for those years, this was in the early 2000 to roughly 2009, I also witnessed Broward County's development of Port Everglades. And a lot of that was through the leadership of Mr. Allen.

So I certainly sit here recognizing what I regard, again, as one of the consummate professionals in the area of public infrastructure, and a organization such as Port Everglades.

And so I don't disagree with his qualifications at all.

CHAIR VITALE: Anyone else like to weigh in here?

I will move forward with the assumption that there is consensus on Mr. Allen, since everyone who spoke spoke, I think, in his favor, acknowledging the strengths of Allyson Love's application, as well, but moving forward with consensus that Mr. Allen, Phil Allen, is the -- at this point, the individual for the field of finance, unless there's any objections and more discussion.

Seeing none, okay.

So next we will have a professional in the field of architecture.

Do you need something? Question?

MS. WALLACE: No.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. Sorry.

So as a reminder, we need applications from -- I mean nominations from the body.

MR. LINDBLADE: Yeah, I'd like to nominate Doug Coolman.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay.

MR. SEILER: And I'll nominate Cynthia Chambers. Is that what we

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are on?

CHAIR VITALE: We are on architecture. So the two -- it is Douglas Coolman and Michael Shiff.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Shill.

MR. SEILER: Yeah, I -- I would -- I'm sorry. What -- (inaudible).

CHAIR VITALE: Yeah, you moved on to urban --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yeah.

CHAIR VITALE: -- urban planning.

MR. SEILER: I would -- I would --

CHAIR VITALE: Oh, it's different on the sheet.

It is, right?

MS. WALLACE: I did the sheet in the order that it was in the ordinance. Sorry.

MR. SEILER: I was looking at the sheet, so.

CHAIR VITALE: Miscommunication on my part. I apologize.

So let's -- let's stick with this one-pager.

MR. SEILER: I would **move** to close the nominations.

MR. LINDBLADE: Second.

CHAIR VITALE: So just to clarify, are we going to stick with architecture or land use and urban planning?

MR. SEILER: If Mr. Coolman is the nomination for architecture, then I am going to **move** to close the nominations.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay.

MR. CALLOWAY: Is this for architecture?

MS. HENRY: Yeah, they're going to do architecture now.

MR. SEILER: Yeah, that's why.

CHAIR VITALE: The next sketch is the architect sketch.

Okay. So, again, just to clarify, because I created a little bit of confusion there, which I apologize about, we are looking at professional in the field of architecture.

Douglas Coolman has been nominated.

The only other potential candidate is Michael Shiff.

MR. CALLOWAY: Mr. Chair, I'd like to nominate Michael Shiff for the field of architecture.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay.

MR. CALLOWAY: Again, one of the questions I have is what is an architect? I understand Mr. Coolman is a landscape architect.

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I'm not quite sure, and, again, perhaps staff can help me with this, but I'm not sure if a landscape architect is the same field of expertise as an architect under Chapter 41 that I understand it to be.

But, again, that's a question.

But, again, I am nominating Michael Shill who is a Florida licensed architect, and, again, his resume I believe speaks to the qualifications to fit the description that we're looking for for the Oversight Board.

CHAIR VITALE: So I believe -- and, Angela, please correct me if I'm wrong here -- I believe we should be operating under the assumption that if they've been qualified by the County under these categories, that we are okay to move forward with them under these categories.

MS. WALLACE: That's correct.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. Does that answer your question, Sidney?

MR. CALLOWAY: No, it doesn't.

CHAIR VITALE: Then it's up to us to have the subjective conversation, but as far as qualifications go, the County has qualified them under the respective categories.

We can disagree or vote on it based on a difference --

MR. CALLOWAY: Absolutely. And I understand the comment from -- from -- relating to the qualification as it relates to the description of the position that is -- we're seeking to fill here in the field of architecture.

My question was what constitutes architecture. And I understand that's sort of regulated by statutory definitions for an architect.

I don't know that Mr. Coolman actually meets that, but, again, I could be totally wrong, so I'm raising the question.

So that's my question as to whether or not Mr. Coolman is an architect under the description that has been provided here under the ordinance for this particular category.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. I'll let staff handle that one.

MS. WALLACE: Okay. The Board of County Commissioners has given this body wide latitude to determine which applicants best fit.

So we've -- the -- they did not limit the field of architecture, and it's left up to this body to evaluate the applications and the credentials as submitted by the applicants, and determine which applicant this body wishes to select.

MR. SEILER: Can I?

CHAIR VITALE: Please.

MR. SEILER: You know, I think I understand the issue that Sidney's

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raised. And I think if we were just talking about your average landscape architect, I think that may be a -- not necessarily a disqualifying factor, but a non-qualifying factor.

But when you look at Mr. Coolman's interaction -- and I, you know -- you know, the whole revitalization of A-1-A for miles, the Riverwalk project in Fort Lauderdale, the Blockbuster Park project in Miramar, the airport project, you know, and then you get into the Florida Panthers' arena and the 17th Street Causeway Bridge, and not just that, but even Save Our Rivers projects and FAU Stadium and Tri-Rail, and you -- I think he has certainly been involved in master planning as an architect in all those different locations, all those different projects.

And I think perhaps he has a greener eye than most architects, might be a way to describe this. And I think I'm a -- I'm also a fan of his work and his work ethic.

And Michael Shiff's very talented. I mean, he's done a lot of projects in Fort Lauderdale.

I just -- I think, again, because we're dealing with something that involves so much public/private interaction, I like the background Mr. Coolman brings working both public sector and private sector.

And that's -- I think Michael Shiff did the Aventura thing, if I remember correctly. I know he's done some.

But to the extent of the resume that Mr. Coolman's built is -- is awful impressive.

So I think it does fall under the broader category of architecture.

CHAIR VITALE: Thank you.

Any other discussion?

MR. LINDBLADE: Sidney, if I can ask you a question, because I want to just probe a little bit on that, because I'm curious.

Do you feel that a traditional architect would be more practical for this position? If so, why? Why do you think that would be better to have a traditional building architect as opposed to a land use architect?

I just want to hear what your thoughts are with regard to that, if you wouldn't mind, Mr. Chair.

MR. CALLOWAY: I'm here trying to understand what the County's mandate has been for this Appointing Authority, and the basis for my question is not because I feel Mr. Coolman is not qualified. I've done work with Mr. Coolman at my law firm over the years. And so I understand the

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intricate work that he has done in the city that has been very valuable, and in Broward County collectively.

My question had to do with the field of expertise that apparently the ordinance has set out, and it said an architect -- or architecture is probably the more accurate description.

So given the discussion around architecture, I can understand the comments.

What I was seeking to clarify was whether or not the architecture that is required under the ordinance is the same requirement for an architect under Chapter 481 that has a pretty specific definition as to what an architect is as opposed to a landscape architect.

But I certainly understand the qualifications of Mr. Coolman. I've worked with he and his firm over the years and on more projects than one. So I get it.

MR. LINDBLADE: Okay. Mr. Chair, if I might just ask one follow up on that, Sidney.

Do you believe that this position, though, is better suited to someone from a purely building architectural design element background as opposed to a landscape architect background, or do you not see any big difference?

MR. CALLOWAY: If we talk about what the board overall is likely to see, I think they would probably benefit from both. But I certainly cannot object or disagree that Mr. Coolman's experience would not be helpful to the Oversight Board.

I also am saying that I think the board would benefit from someone with the expertise such as Mr. Shiff, as well, but, again, I don't disagree with the qualification or the expertise of Mr. Coolman.

CHAIR VITALE: Thank you both. Good conversation.

Any other questions or comments?

Okay. I'll add, for Mr. Coolman, that I've known him for several years as a member of the Broward Workshop and somebody who has invested a lot of time in trying to make a difference.

And I think he's another candidate that we have that is immensely qualified from a professional background, and also has the time, willingness, and interest in investing to make sure that this important oversight responsibility is done correctly.

So he has my full support.

Any other discussion before we move on? It seems that all that have

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spoken have spoken in favor of Mr. Coolman for this round.

MR. LINDBLADE: Well, that's not quite accurate. Mr. Calloway did speak in favor of --

CHAIR VITALE: I stand corrected. You're right. Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: No.

MR. LINDBLADE: -- Mr. Shiff.

CHAIR VITALE: Yes. Well, Sidney, would -- I interpreted Sidney's comments more about the definition, not necessarily the individual, but I'll let him speak for himself on that.

MR. CALLOWAY: Well, I mean, I think the process that we're in now is developing consensus around a particular candidate.

CHAIR VITALE: Yes.

MR. CALLOWAY: And to that end, from what I've heard, again, I would join with the consensus on -- with Mr. Coolman.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. And, again, we'll have a chance -- thank you for the clarification -- we'll have a chance to discuss the group as a whole at the end of this individual discipline portion.

So next up is a professional in the field of land use or urban planning.

MR. SEILER: I would nominate Cynthia Chambers.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. Cynthia Chambers has been nominated.

MS. HENRY: I certainly support that nomination.

MR. NAZUR: I do, too.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay.

MR. SEILER: I'm sorry, who said I do, too?

MR. NAZUR: (Raises hand.)

MR. SEILER: All right.

MR. LINDBLADE: I **move** we close nominations.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. So we'll give everyone a chance here. It's been moved to close nominations, so I will allow -- I think, Bertha, was it your -- was Cynthia your -- or, no, it was Jack.

MR. SEILER: No, it was mine, my nomination.

CHAIR VITALE: Just since -- even though she's the only individual, just so we follow the same process, just an opening on Cynthia, if you don't mind.

MR. SEILER: I think -- look, her resume speaks for herself. She's incredibly talented, experienced, and, obviously, when you go through her resume and you realize she's touched on a lot of the issues that this board's

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going to have to touch on as they move forward, and I just think she's immensely qualified.

CHAIR VITALE: Thank you. That's it?

Yeah.

So seeing that there was no other nominations in the category, at this point we will move on and have Cynthia at the top of that list.

In the category of professional in the engineering or construction management, I'll open up nominations.

MR. SEILER: I'll nominate Alan Hooper.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. Alan Hooper's been nominated.

Anyone else have nominations?

MR. NAZUR: I would nominate Peter Partington.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. Peter Partington has also been nominated.

Jack, you want to have an open on Alan, please?

MR. SEILER: You know, I think when you talk about transportation issues, countywide, you talk about the initiatives to try to improve transportation and try to really address the issue of mobility, which I think Alan was one of the first that, you know, ten, 15 years ago started talking about we've got to shift from moving vehicles to moving people.

And that discussion was an important discussion that we needed to have in the cities, we needed to have at the County. And he -- Alan's been a leader on that issue about how do we move people, not just moving vehicles around.

And I think that it's so important as we focus on our transportation problems over the next 20, 30 years that we have somebody that sees the bigger picture of moving people.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay.

MS. HENRY: And if I might add, before we were having discussions about a surtax, frequently Mr. Hooper would come and have a conversation with me about very much the same thing, how do we -- how do we really move people around our County.

Obviously, he has an interest in the downtown area, but, you know, more importantly, really stayed at the forefront of this issue of we -- our mobility needs a lot of work, and often volunteered his time to kind of help with whatever he can do to sort of bring this issue to the forefront.

So he's very much interested and has shown that interest long before we were having our surtax conversation.

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CHAIR VITALE: Thank you.

Arnold, I'll let you take the opening on Peter.

MR. NAZUR: I don't know either one of the two people that are nominated in this category.

My nomination for Peter was based on his information provided.

It appears that he has the time. The thing that stuck out to me was that he was a city traffic engineer for a long period of time, so -- that he's retired. He's a civic -- city traffic engineer for all these years, I thought would better serve the board.

But, again, I don't have any knowledge of either one of these two people personally.

MS. HENRY: And I can also add that, having -- not knowing this individual, Mr. Partington, I know of him, and I sort of worked with my staff to try to, you know, gain more information, how well we work together.

And, clearly, they -- you know, they spoke very highly of him as being very, you know, tops in his field in traffic engineering.

MR. SEILER: If I may comment on that.

CHAIR VITALE: Please.

MR. SEILER: So Peter actually worked for Fort Lauderdale while I was Mayor, and he is very good in his field. He's very talented.

My issue here is just Alan, really, I think -- well, two things.

I think, one, Alan has just distinguished himself on this issue countywide, as Bertha pointed out.

And, two, I think Alan brings a little bit of the private sector approach to this, which I think is going to be needed as we focus on these issues, that somebody who comes from the private sector can give a perspective that maybe is different from somebody that spent all that time in government.

But in no way by -- am I -- by nominating Alan am I saying that Peter Partington's not qualified to serve. He certainly is.

CHAIR VITALE: Thank you.

Other discussion?

DR. POLSKY: Mr. Chair, I would just add briefly that we -- somebody mentioned earlier the various ways in which we might consider diversity, geographic and so on.

I think he mentioned also retired versus not. And my sense of the entire pool is that, not surprisingly, there's more retired folks than non-retired folks.

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But I think this candidate, Mr. Hooper, is not retired, and that might set him apart a bit if there's a need to look for distinguishing among them.

CHAIR VITALE: Thank you.

I'll -- unless anyone else has anything, I'll add my two cents here.

I don't know Mr. Partington, but it sounds, from those who've worked with him, that he's very qualified.

I do know Mr. Hooper and have known him for many years, worked closely with him on several community volunteer projects. And, you know, I think he's about as good of an applicant as we're going to get in every sense of the word.

He cares deeply, and is willing to invest the amount of time, as well.

So he's got my support.

MR. LINDBLADE: Mr. Chair, I noticed that Mr. Hooper did acknowledge that he would vacate the position that he holds that would be in conflict with this position, this appointment.

So I just wanted to note that for the record.

CHAIR VITALE: And you would not know it, just like you wouldn't know it for me, but Mr. Hooper, like I am, are both Hispanic, even though we don't look it, or have the last names of it.

MR. SEILER: Oh, he -- he's Hispanic.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. Closing discussion here and moving on. I have consensus for, I believe, Mr. Hooper.

MR. SEILER: Yeah.

CHAIR VITALE: And moving on to the professional in the field of environmental science -- sciences, excuse me.

MR. SEILER: Can I ask a favor here?

CHAIR VITALE: Please.

MR. SEILER: Would you ask Dr. Polsky to take a lead on this one --

CHAIR VITALE: Yes.

MR. SEILER: -- since he might know all these individuals, and I'm -- actually, this is one of these categories where I don't know any of the three before the applications.

So perhaps you could weight in first?

DR. POLSKY: I'd be glad to, Mr. Mayor.

And here's where Sidney's question of what does the name of the category even mean. And, as an environmental scientist, I can tell you I don't even know. But --

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(Laughter.)

DR. POLSKY: -- it's a very broad category.

And so, in a strict sense, I don't want to get too academic on us, but none of the individuals are environmental scientists. None of the three candidacies that we're considering -- or maybe I should say two, because of them, the person that I reached out to, has decided to withdraw his name from consideration.

MR. SEILER: Who is that?

DR. POLSKY: Barry Heimlich. He's listed as number three on -- at least on this list here.

So he needs to notify -- okay. Well, then, he remains a candidate? Is that -- okay.

CHAIR VITALE: Yeah, I --

DR. POLSKY: So --

CHAIR VITALE: -- I believe that we should leave him as a candidate, and, if needed, we'll take a recess if he's the one that we choose.

DR. POLSKY: Okay.

CHAIR VITALE: Just because don't -- don't you believe he would need to be formally -- we would need to be formally notified?

MS. WALLACE: Right. Correct. I mean, he has not withdrawn his application.

DR. POLSKY: Oh.

CHAIR VITALE: Go ahead.

MS. CASSINI: I would imagine that the easier approach might be that no one nominates him. Then you don't have to take any action.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible.)

MS. CASSINI: He's just an applicant at this point.

CHAIR VITALE: Correct.

MR. SEILER: My concern is if that's Dr. Polsky's highest recommendation, I'd like to know whether or not he is interested, because I would nominate him based upon his recommendation.

So that's why I'm -- because --

CHAIR VITALE: Let's put him on speaker phone.

MR. SEILER: No, but I don't mind, I mean, I think even one of the staff could just reach out to him and say is that -- or email -- did he send you a written?

DR. POLSKY: Uh-huh.

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MR. SEILER: You want to share that with staff? That way --

DR. POLSKY: Sure. Mr. Chair, should I summarize what --

CHAIR VITALE: Please.

DR. POLSKY: -- communications --

CHAIR VITALE: Please.

DR. POLSKY: -- are?

So this individual is very highly qualified and very interested, but it was a matter of the effort involved. And he's a very civic minded person, and he has a long list of city and County boards that he's served on enthusiastically, and actually shown real leadership on.

But I think he has decided that he doesn't want to give a massive -- make a massive commitment now that's uncompensated.

So it was disappointing to me, because I think this person's very qualified, as close to an environmental scientist as we'll get from this set of three, but also has -- anyway, is that helpful, Mr. Chair?

MS. CASSINI: (Inaudible.)

CHAIR VITALE: It is helpful. I'm sorry, Gretchen, say again?

MS. CASSINI: Would you be able to forward the communication from him to me stating that he no longer wants to be considered an applicant?

DR. POLSKY: Sure. I can't remember exactly how it was worded, if he used exactly the -- those words, or rather said I really wish to -- anyway, it may have been more equivocal, but I'm happy to share that.

MR. SEILER: I think what she's saying -- I think what she's saying is if it came in writing, could you forward the email.

DR. POLSKY: Yes.

MR. SEILER: Right? Is that what you meant, Gretchen? Because that's a public record anyway now, as we learned at the last meeting.

CHAIR VITALE: Right.

DR. POLSKY: Okay. So shall we -- shall I discuss him anyway, Mr. Chair?

CHAIR VITALE: I think most of the group here is going to rely on your expertise pretty heavily here, so you have the floor.

DR. POLSKY: I don't want to waste anybody's time, though, if that person -- if we shouldn't --

MR. CALLOWAY: So talk to us about the other two.

MR. SEILER: Yeah.

DR. POLSKY: Okay. The other two, I think it's -- I serve on the

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Broward County Climate Change Task Force and I think they're both on that task force. And actually, Barry Heimlich founded that task force or helped create it with Kristin Jacobs.

So, since I'm on the task force, I've met the other two, as well, but I'm not sure I could pick them out in a room. Maybe one of them.

But I think it's without a doubt Mr. Cavros who stands out in -- among the two, if we're not discussing Mr. Heimlich.

I guess a practicing attorney for a group called the Southern Alliance for Clean Energy, they're very prominent, and do a lot of interesting work, not just in Florida, but across the southern part of this country.

And it was an impressive resume, and an enthusiastic letter. So that, to me, kind of sealed the deal on that.

So I'm enthusiastic for Mr. Cavros.

CHAIR VITALE: So are you nominating for the position Mr. Cavros?

DR. POLSKY: Yes, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay.

DR. POLSKY: I nominate Mr. Cavros.

CHAIR VITALE: Would anyone else like to nominate anyone else from the category?

MR. SEILER: I hate to admit I don't have enough knowledge of any of the three, and I would defer to Dr. Polsky.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. Dr. Polsky, do you feel confident enough to at least make us feel confident enough that you don't want to --
(Laughter.)

CHAIR VITALE: -- bring up anyone else? Because that's -- that is the way, I think, to do it, is we all have the opportunity to nominate from the -- from the field of those who have been deemed qualified, but if you feel like the one you've nominated is the only one you want to nominate, then that's where we are.

DR. POLSKY: I'd like to see Mr. Heimlich considered. I'm just hesitant to nominate him, if I just speak candidly, given that he expressed he was not interested anymore.

So, no, I'm not going to nominate anyone else.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. So would anyone else like to nominate anyone else?

MR. SEILER: We can't nominate Dr. Polsky; right?
(Laughter.)

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CHAIR VITALE: You can, Mayor Seiler.

MR. SEILER: I don't know if he wants a pay cut either --

CHAIR VITALE: No, I'm --

MR. SEILER: -- either.

CHAIR VITALE: -- joking.

Okay. So we have one candidate who has been nominated and was introduced, and that is George Cavros.

So we'll close nominations and move on to former city or County manager.

And I'll open up nominations.

MS. HENRY: Again, I'll nominate Allyson Love.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. Allyson Love has been nominated.

MR. SEILER: I'll nominate Lee Feldman.

CHAIR VITALE: Lee Feldman has been nominated.

Any other nominations?

Bertha, do you want to add anything that hasn't already been said for Allyson Love or --

MS. HENRY: No. I think we've --

CHAIR VITALE: -- I think we've --

MS. HENRY: -- said it all.

CHAIR VITALE: Yeah.

MS. HENRY: We have an individual with Allyson who has had an opportunity to sit in that seat as a manager, an assistant manager. She has the financial background, so her skills will be utilized wherever it is best needed with this board.

And I feel comfortable that she would be a good candidate.

CHAIR VITALE: Thank you.

Jack, would you like to introduce Lee?

MR. SEILER: Well, first, I don't disagree with anything Bertha said about Allyson. Again, she'd be a good candidate.

I think Lee would be a good candidate. I think most of us know Lee from his time at the City of Fort Lauderdale. Excellent city manager, got a quick -- quick mind, learn -- you know, learns quickly, adjusts quickly, and I think has the ability to handle large projects also.

So I -- again, I think that between the two, they're both talented. My preference is obviously with Lee, but, you know, I've had the good fortune of working with him for the last eight years, and relied heavily on him and

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depended heavily on him, and have a tremendous amount of trust and confidence in him.

CHAIR VITALE: Thank you.

Other discussion?

MR. LINDBLADE: I've got something I've got to say.

So Lee is currently unemployed, and my only concern with Lee -- and that's the only concern is I don't know where he's going to land.

And so while I think he's the most qualified of the two candidates, I have a concern that we'll be back here reappointing if he has to leave south Florida.

He doesn't want to leave south Florida, I know that, and he's -- he is entertaining some opportunities here locally.

But that would be the only thing I wanted to let the committee know as far as my knowledge of Lee, as a candidate.

And so I would leave it at that, but I don't have any problem with his candidacy other than that.

MS. HENRY: The other thing that I looked at, and I think is -- you know, we'll -- as we -- when we're done with this and we come back and we will take a look at it, but, again, I'm looking at the distribution and the -- well, from a diversity standpoint, not just racial or ethnic, but also geographic, what part of the County, the community these individuals represent.

I was trying to go back to make sure that I -- as I was looking at that, to make sure I was clear where Mr. Cavros --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Right.

MS. HENRY: -- where he -- I didn't get a chance to do that, but anyway -- and I'll do that.

But anyway, that's the other comment that I would add.

MR. SEILER: Can I ask a question of, I guess Gretchen or Angela, on this --

CHAIR VITALE: Please.

MR. SEILER: -- Mr. Chair?

In light of Dan's comments -- and it's a valid comment, because, you know, Lee has been a city manager in three or four different cities, has had long successful tenures in three or four different cities.

If I'm reading correctly, if he were to be appointed a city manager anywhere else in Broward, he would have to resign from this. And if he were to be appointed a city manager outside of the area, he'd probably have to

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resign from this by virtue of geography.

And if he were to take a job with any governmental body that does business with the County, he would have to resign.

So am I correct in that assessment?

CHAIR VITALE: Yes.

MS. WALLACE: Yes, your assessment is correct.

And I would add that Mr. Feldman called me during the process of reviewing the application information, and he inquired.

So there -- and he indicated that one of the positions that he had inquired about was with a hospital district, for instance. And we have contracts with --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Sure.

MS. WALLACE: -- both hospital districts.

So those types of employment, either as a city manager or as an employee of an entity, a governmental entity, or even private sector entity that has a contractual relationship with the County would disqualify him.

MR. SEILER: May I ask another question of --

CHAIR VITALE: Please.

MR. SEILER: -- Bertha?

Bertha, would you -- is Allyson fully retired in terms of what she does, or is she actively seeking any other -- I mean, if you know. I don't know.

MS. HENRY: I don't.

MR. SEILER: Sidney, you'd know. I don't.

MR. CALLOWAY: She's presently employed with the City of Homestead.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Homestead, right.

MR. SEILER: Outside of Broward.

CHAIR VITALE: Outside of Broward County.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible.)

MR. SEILER: I know, in the past, she had applied for a city manager position in Broward --

MR. CALLOWAY: Yes.

MR. SEILER: -- and -- and --

MR. CALLOWAY: She's been with Homestead for a while.

MR. SEILER: -- since she left the City of Fort Lauderdale --

MR. CALLOWAY: Yeah.

MR. SEILER: -- correct?

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MR. CALLOWAY: Yeah. It's been a while.

MR. SEILER: But I know she did put her name up for a city in Broward, and if she were to get something like that, she would also have the same issue.

MR. CALLOWAY: Mr. Chair?

CHAIR VITALE: Yes.

MR. CALLOWAY: Also on the same lines again, Mr. Feldman, in his application, the form the annual certification of no conflict of interest, he actually made it pointedly clear, by writing at the bottom of the page, that I understand that if I do have an employment contractual relationship, I will not be able to continue to serve on the Oversight Board.

That suggested to me he wanted us to be on notice that that possibility does exist.

CHAIR VITALE: Thank you.

MR. SEILER: So I will state that he's, obviously, my first choice, but if that concern is something that's in the minds of everybody here, you know, I would defer to the group on that.

But Lee would be my first choice in this role, but I'm concerned about that future employment element to this mix.

MR. NAZUR: So he is looking for further employment. He's not at December 31st ended his career to start the retirement career? He's looking for another path back into a job career.

MS. WALLACE: That's what he expressed to me during our conversation.

MR. SEILER: He definitely is, and he's actually still being paid by the City of Fort Lauderdale for another -- under his severance, he's paid for another six months.

So I think during that period, he's probably looking. And he's received, I know, numerous offers.

And I -- for the record, I'm -- I'm a reference for some of his applications, and I know there have been cities, both in the State of Florida and outside the State of Florida that have expressed an interest in him.

So -- and, again, he'd be my first choice, but I recognize that if this is going to be a short-term appointment, it might not be the most ideal situation for us as a board.

DR. POLSKY: Mr. Chair --

CHAIR VITALE: Please.

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DR. POLSKY: -- building on that, it raises the general question of what burden is there on the board if somebody has to be replaced? Is it a big burden?

And whatever the burden is, I know the board will have to deal with it, but, in other words, what's the penalty?

CHAIR VITALE: This board?

DR. POLSKY: Well, I guess that's us. That's us. We would have to do that.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes.

DR. POLSKY: Okay.

CHAIR VITALE: Yeah. So --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible.)

CHAIR VITALE: -- they -- they are --

DR. POLSKY: I see where you're coming from.

CHAIR VITALE: -- through their ethics training, they will be reminded of all of this, and know that at any point, if there is a conflict that arises, they must resign.

MS. HENRY: Correct.

CHAIR VITALE: And then it will be back to this body --

MS. HENRY: Correct.

CHAIR VITALE: -- to appoint for the opening.

MR. CALLOWAY: Mr. Chair, I think the overall best case scenario for us relative -- in terms of who we appoint is that we want to give the Oversight Board a body of candidates that we believe are qualified, but, as Dan mentioned earlier, will also be there to do a job.

And we understand the importance of that to the residents of Broward County, as well.

So stability, I think, is part of the consideration.

CHAIR VITALE: Anyone else have comments around this?

I will add that I think, Jack, you and I are probably in the same place on this. I believe Lee is the best applicant within the category.

And as Dan mentioned, I am concerned. Look, at the end of the day, any of these individuals could change careers, could move, could be purchased by a company, could go under the government. So that's a risk in every single one of these.

It's just in this specific situation, we know it's imminent. And his career has been, obviously, distinguished, but mostly in administrative roles within

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cities.

So whether he moves or not or takes a role or not, some change is probably happening.

So that, coupled with some of the well-placed comments about Ms. Love, I think, lead me to support her at this time.

Anyone else have comments?

So it sounds like Allyson Love has consensus.

Okay. Finally, arguably our most important category, the resident consumer of public transportation.

And I will remind the group -- give me just a moment. Gretchen, do you have the definition that the County -- I printed it. I don't know where it is. Oh, here it is. I have it. Sorry.

Okay. Just for our benefit, again, everyone on this section, and there's three residents who are available for nomination, we, as a body, had asked the County for some clarity on this.

And here's the definition. The resident consumer of public transportation is the only County -- excuse me, the only category requiring Broward County residency and regular use of multimodal public transportation, including but not limited to commuter rail service, fixed route transit, paratransit, or community shuttle service.

So with that and the names that we have in front of us, I will open for nominations.

MR. CALLOWAY: Mr. Chair, I'd like to nominate Danielle McGill, who is also a city -- resident of the City of Pembroke Pines, who has indicated, by virtue of her application, that she's also a paratransit rider with the Broward County TOPS program.

And I believe she qualifies under the criteria that's been established by the ordinance.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. Danielle McGill has been nominated.

This might be the time if you had the question about Consuelo.

MR. SEILER: Yeah, I was going to --

MR. NAZUR: When --

MR. SEILER: -- make that comment earlier.

MR. NAZUR: -- when I went through the qualifications of each of the people, it says here that Consuelo does not qualify for appointment.

Was that a mistake in the letter?

MS. CASSINI: Dr. Kelley has indicated that she would be willing to

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resign from the local coordinating board, which is a part of the Florida Department of Transportation's Commission for the Transportation Disadvantaged.

So as member of that -- of the local coordinating board, or LCB, that's a dual office holding position that would -- and she can't hold both.

But she's indicated that she'd be willing to resign from the other position if selected, because her preference is to serve on the Oversight Board.

CHAIR VITALE: So it sounds like at the time that was correct, but now she is eligible.

So we have -- correct? Or was --

MS. CASSINI: She --

CHAIR VITALE: -- we didn't have an answer at the time, right?

MS. CASSINI: Correct. So I --

CHAIR VITALE: Yes.

MS. CASSINI: -- had not heard from Dr. Kelley.

CHAIR VITALE: We hadn't had an answer. So that --

MS. CASSINI: Correct.

CHAIR VITALE: -- so at the time of writing, it was accurate, because we hadn't gotten an affirmative confirmation to clarify.

Now we have the affirmative confirmation that she would be willing to resign in the -- in order to serve in this capacity.

MS. CASSINI: Uh-huh. That's correct.

CHAIR VITALE: Is that correct? Okay.

Okay. So far, I have just one nomination from -- for Danielle McGill.

Any other nominations?

MR. SEILER: Can I ask, does anybody serve with Consuelo, anybody have knowledge of her on the MPO, the DDLCB (Phonetic) board?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I don't.

MR. SEILER: Anybody up here?

MR. NAZUR: No.

MR. SEILER: No?

MS. HENRY: So I'm aware that she -- again, she -- she's very involved in the transportation and has reached out -- I mean, she's a frequent supporter and/or critic of our Transportation Department, so she's very vocal, and speaks up.

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And I'm sure that's one of the reasons she was encouraged to apply, because she -- it's an important activity for her.

But as far as knowing more specifically, I don't.

MR. SEILER: All right. Then I'd **move** to close the nominations.

CHAIR VITALE: Okay. Seeing no other nominations, consensus is with Danielle McGill.

So at this point in the meeting, what I would like to do is make sure all of our records here are aligned, and open it up for discussion.

And if there's any pieces of information that anyone feels they need as far as, you know, where does a resident live, or do we know, are there geographic diversity issues, age diversity, gender, anything that anyone wants to discuss.

I think the consensus on the group has been this is where we need to make sure we have the best possible representation.

MR. CALLOWAY: Yeah.

CHAIR VITALE: So my notes have, starting back at the accounting, I have consensus with Shea Smith.

Field -- professional in the field of finance, Phil Allen.

Professional in the field of architecture, Douglas Coolman.

Professional in the field of land use or urban planning, Cynthia Chambers.

Professional in engineering or construction management, Alan Hooper.

Professional in the field of environmental science, George Cavros.

Former city or County manager, Allyson Love.

And resident consumer of public transportation, Danielle McGill.

Any -- does anyone have anything different?

MR. CALLOWAY: I'm ready to make a motion, Mr. Chair.

MR. SEILER: I --

CHAIR VITALE: I will --

MR. SEILER: -- I'm comfortable with the diversity, as well as the makeup of this board. And I'll let Sidney make the motion.

AGENDA ITEM 5 – APPOINTMENTS

CHAIR VITALE: I'll entertain a motion from Sidney.

MR. CALLOWAY: Mr. Chair, I'd like to make a **motion** that this

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Appointing Authority approves the slate of applicants that have been represented by you in your last comment relative to accounting, Mr. Shea Smith; Finance, Mr. Phillip C. Allen; Land Use and Urban Planning, Ms. Cynthia Chambers; Engineering and Construction Management, Mr. Alan Hooper; Architecture, Mr. C. Douglas Coolman; Environmental Scientist, Mr. George Cavros; Resident Consumer of Public Transportation, Ms. Danielle McGill; and Former City Manager, Ms. Allyson C. Love.

MR. SEILER: Second.

CHAIR VITALE: There is a motion, and seconded by Jack Seiler.

Would anyone like to have discussion on the motion?

Seeing no discussion, I will entertain -- or, excuse me, I will ask for a vote on the motion.

All those in favor of the slate as presented in the motion by Mr. Calloway, please signify by saying aye.

All those opposed?

Seeing none, please note that it is unanimous.

And that will conclude that portion of the agenda.

VOTE PASSES UNANIMOUSLY.

AGENDA ITEM 6 - OTHER BUSINESS

CHAIR VITALE: I do not believe there is any other business --

MR. SEILER: May I --

CHAIR VITALE: -- before the group.

Mr. Seiler?

MR. SEILER: -- I just want to make a couple quick comments.

One, Randall, I think you did an outstanding job as chair. You were the right guy to do this. And I know you didn't --
(Applause.)

MR. SEILER: -- you didn't lobby for it nor seek it, but I think we all recognize that --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: (Inaudible.)

MR. SEILER: -- that your demeanor was just what we needed.

So I want to commend you on an excellent job as Chair.

CHAIR VITALE: Thank you.

MR. SEILER: Second, I want to thank everybody that came, I mean,

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obviously well prepared from this board. Everybody did their homework.

And staff did an outstanding job getting us up to speed.

And really, the backup, the only problem I had today was not on your staff. It was on the internet here, as I kept trying to get these -- switch between the screens. I finally had to go to the book.

Every time I try to go paperless, I hit that issue.

(Laughter.)

MR. SEILER: But then the last thing I just want to say, you know, I feel better already about the future of transportation in Broward County with the names we just put forward.

And I just hope that as we leave here today, we recognize that we've done our small part, but now we've empowered a group to do a much larger part.

And I think the future of transportation and the future of Fort Lauderdale and the Broward County area could not look brighter with this board, the Surtax Board.

So I just want to thank you all for getting this done and, you know, actually getting it done within a couple hours.

CHAIR VITALE: Thank you. We can hang out here until 5:00 if you want.

(Laughter.)

MR. LINDBLADE: Mr. Chair?

MR. SEILER: Plus a box of chocolates?

CHAIR VITALE: Yeah.

MR. LINDBLADE: Ditto -- ditto the Mayor's comments, but, as just an organizational/procedural comment, I would ask, through you to staff, that all of the candidates receive some notification of thanks of their interest, and letting them know who has been appointed by this body.

And then one other question, further, as it relates to where this travels next and whether or not there's any veto authority.

CHAIR VITALE: It's my understanding that we are the body to approve.

MS. HENRY: Right.

CHAIR VITALE: So this is -- this is now the Appointing Authority.

MR. LINDBLADE: That's nice.

CHAIR VITALE: Other questions or comments?

So before adjourning, I'll just, you know, thank you, Jack, and a very

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quick chairmanship, which I appreciate.

It was very enjoyable, and hopefully, we don't have to meet for many years.

We've, I think, done a great job in selecting a very talented group of individuals.

My only -- for you, Bertha, and for staff, I would encourage, as much as we can, to be proactive in our communication to the community so that everyone has a good understanding of we've done our job. It is January 10th, and we have a great Oversight Board in place to -- as we should -- appropriately manage the huge responsibility that this surtax is.

MS. HENRY: It's taken care of.

CHAIR VITALE: Thank you.

AGENDA ITEM 7 – ADJOURN

CHAIR VITALE: So with that, I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

MR. SEILER: So **moved**.

MR. CALLOWAY: Second.

CHAIR VITALE: Thank you, everybody. We are adjourned.

(The meeting concluded at 2:44 p.m.)