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SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY

AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

KC WRIGHT ADMINISTRATION CENTER
BOARD ROOM
600 SE 3RD AVENUE
FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA

THURSDAY, MARCH 14TH, 2024 9:40 A.M. - 12:42 P.M.

Court Reporter:
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Page 2 COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: 2 MS. RUTH CARTER-LYNCH MR. ANTHONY DE MEO 3 MS. MARY FERTIG DR. NATHALIE LYNCH-WALSH 4 MR. ROBERT MAYERSOHN MR. ANDREW MEDVIN 5 MR. PAVEL MENZUL MS. PHYLLIS SHAW 6 MS. JACLYN STRAUSS MR. PETER TURSO 7 OFFICE OF THE CHIEF AUDITOR STAFF: 8 MS. ALI ARCESE, Audit Director MR. DAVE RHODES, Audit Director MS. JENNIFER HARPALANI, Assistant Director IT Audits 10 MS. ELENA PRITYKINA, Task-Assigned Manager, Operations MS. NAKIA GOULDBOURNE, Acting Manager, Internal Accounts MR. BRYAN ERHARD, System Support Specialist II MS. LAURA WRIGHT, Clerk Spec C 12 MS. WANDA RADCLIFF, Clerk Spec B 13 DISTRICT STAFF: 14 DR. PETER LICATA, Superintendent of Schools DR. VALERIE WANZA, Deputy Superintendent, Chief of Staff 15 MR. JOHN SULLIVAN, Chief Communications/Legislative Affairs Officer 16 MS. JENNIFER ANDREU, Executive Director, Operations MR. ANDRAE HILL, Assistant Director, Chief of Staff 17 MR. ERIC SEIFER, Process Analyst, Procurement & Warehousing Services 18 INVITED GUESTS: 19 MR. TIM BASS, Court Reporter, United Reporting 20 BECON Broadcasting 21 22 23 24 25

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DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Here.

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don't believe there are any changes.

All right. So motion to approve the agenda?

MS. CARTER-LYNCH: So moved.

MS. SHAW: So moved.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Moved by Carter-Lynch, seconded by Phyllis Shaw.

All in favor?

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MR. MEDVIN: Madam Chair, I have an objection to number 5. We just received the minutes in the last hour, I don't think anybody has had a chance to read them. How can we vote on them?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. I -- I -- this has never happened before, I rushed out of the house and didn't have my packet. So I thought this was in the packet, my stack I did bring with me. So this is new?

MR. RHODES: We received the minutes late and so we got them out as soon as we were able to.

Wanda, did you print a copy of those and hand those out?

MS. RADCLIFF: Yes, everyone has a copy.

MS. SHAW: I withdraw my second.

MR. MEDVIN: Because we can't vote because we haven't read them yet.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. I appreciate that.

1 MS. CARTER-LYNCH: I'll withdraw my motion.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So we will move -yeah, we're not -- we can't approve these because
no one's seen them. I appreciate that you guys
got them.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Motion to defer the minutes to our next scheduled meeting.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay.

MS. SHAW: Phyllis Shaw, second.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Moved by Mayersohn, seconded by Phyllis Shaw to defer the approval of the minute for February 29th to our next scheduled meeting.

Any further discussion?

(No response.)

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: All in favor?

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Aye.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Any opposed?

(No response.)

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Motion carries unanimously.

21 Thank you.

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Moving on, do we have any members of the public here for general comment?

DR. WANZA: Madam Chair?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Do we have speakers?

1 MS. ARCESE: No.

DR. WANZA: Madam Chair, this is Dr. Wanza. Is it at this time or is there another place in the agenda? I have comments on behalf of the Superintendent who unfortunately got delayed. He's at an event with students and they started late. He's on the program to speak. So I'm asking, is this the time or would you want me to wait until --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: He's on which program to speak? He's not on the agenda.

DR. WANZA: Okay. So can I do it at this time since it's under public comment?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Under public comment, yeah, that would be appropriate.

DR. WANZA: Thank you. So this is the time? So good morning, everyone. As many of you know, most of you, I'm Valerie Wanza, Deputy Superintendent Chief of Staff. Dr. Licata does send his regrets. He was going to be here this morning, at least for as much of the meeting as he could attend. He's not here. He's at an event with students.

But one of the things that he did want expressed, obviously, he thanks you for your

service and the work that you do on behalf of the community and on behalf of the district.

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However, what has been reiterated to him multiple times by many staff members is the tone and tenor and sometimes many of the actions that they have to endure while being here in the meeting. his discretion he will determine when his staff will attend, not only this meeting, but any other advisory meeting. And so, as I said, he will be here, hopefully, when he can before the meeting If not, he will more than likely attend the next meeting at least for the opening. he does thank you for your service, but he does want all committees to know that his staff will attend at his discretion, and he hopes, and we all hope that our meetings are conducted in a very civil manner. While we understand that there are difficult conversations and difficult items, there is still, hopefully, an expectation of professionalism and decorum throughout all of our conversations. Thank you.

MR. MENZUL: Point of information.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Hold on.

Thank you, Dr. Wanza, because I don't -- to that point, Ms. Andreu asked, they asked to be at

the top of the agenda, they sent their information in on time, which I appreciate, and they were here on time. So I don't want to get too far off because we could certainly have a long conversation about what was just said. This is very reminiscent of earlier conversations. It seems every superintendent tends to make a similar speech. Until we get the next one.

So, anyway, I'll defer that to comments at the end of this meeting if --

MR. MENZUL: It's just a comment that you should really say in person. It's not a quote.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Oh, I agree. I do not disagree. And I was hoping to perhaps avoid having a full-blown three-ring circus related to that. But, you know, nobody -- and just to be clear, nobody has come to me to speak to me before doing that. And then sending Dr. Wanza as the messenger instead of coming in person.

Yes, ma'am, but, again, I want to get to the first item.

MS. SHAW: Thank you. Could we close -first of all, because this was done in public
comments, it is -- we should not be responding,
number one. Number two, could we close public

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DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yeah. Okay. So we're going to move on.

MR. MENZUL: It's public comment but we're saying it's the Superintendent.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right. Well, we can discuss it during audit committee member comments.

Yes, ma'am.

MS. CARTER-LYNCH: Madam Chair, so that the tenor of this meeting doesn't get out of hand today, because a lot of us have places to go --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yes.

MS. CARTER-LYNCH: -- please let's just move on with the meeting.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: That's what I'm trying to do.

MS. CARTER-LYNCH: Thank you.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. All right. So, to that end, we are on Item Number 6, Proposed Policy Revision -- Revisions to the Purchasing Policy. Staff added, under bulk rule development there are -- there's a summary of the proposed changes.

Ms. Andreu, do you want to start from that

end with a summary so that -- I think that might be easier to maneuver through.

MS. ANDREU: Thank you. Good morning.

Jennifer Andreu, Executive Director Operations.

It's a pleasure to be here to share with you our amended purchasing policy, which the number of the policy is now going to be 3800. That is also changing to ensure alignment with and compliance across the district with the new policy numbers.

We worked on this policy closely with General Counsel and benchmarked the policy with Palm Beach, Miami-Dade and Orange County, and also looked at FAU and North Florida, as well. Procedures will be developed as a result of this policy. And so some of those items that you may not see in the policy, know that they will be included in a procedures manual to accompany the policy.

So, with that being said, we are here to capture your feedback and that is the purpose of today's presentation. We revised the policy to better organize it and provide clarity to the stakeholder groups, particularly user departments who will implement and utilize this. So we began with an introduction.

I'm pausing so I know that they're supposed to bring it up, I believe.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yeah, I'm trying to get another screen going so I can flip between the summary and the redline version.

MS. ANDREU: Bud does everybody have a copy?

MS. FERTIG: I have a copy of the policy, but are you saying that there was a summary?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yeah, the summary was emailed to -- I sent it to you guys yesterday. So if you have a laptop you can pull it up. I'm pulling it up on --

MS. FERTIG: I'm asking if staff provided us with that?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: They did, electronically. Well, I did, electronically.

So just so you know, we're in a transition period, Mary. Michele Marquardt has left, is leaving. And so she would normally make sure all of the things that staff had sent got attached the first time. That fell through the cracks.

MS. FERTIG: Just to expedite this, if it -if it came to us electronically, somebody has it
electronically, if we could make copies and
distribute it to the group, I think it would save

us a lot of time. I'm not trying to slow you down, I'm sorry for that.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: I will pull it up on the screen though.

MS. FERTIG: I probably should have brought my laptop, I guess, but I checked and printed everything that I saw. Thank you. I just would request that somebody print this off and provide it. Thank you, guys.

I'll share with Ruth, but still my point is, if it came to us electronically, we're talking nine copies, so --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: 10 pages; yes.

All right.

MS. ANDREU: My apologies.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Ms. Andreu, which way do you want to go?

MS. ANDREU: So if we can begin at slide 6, because --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: That's what I'm on.

MS. ANDREU: Okay. I'm sorry, I couldn't see.

So starting at, and I apologize in advance if my page numbers don't correlate to yours exactly. It could be, depending on when you printed it,

one number off. So if I say a page number that is a little different from yours, my apologies in advance. And I'll try to correlate and crosswalk the page number so that you can see.

So beginning on page 1 of the redline policy, we started off with an introduction. The previous policy did not have that. So, again, that was a recommendation just with General Counsel.

Moving on to page 4 of the redline version, we revised definitions and provided a definition for lobbying, lobbyists and principal. Those definitions were added.

Going to page 5, pages 5 through 10, delegation of authority. In terms of delegation of authority, we wanted to listen to the board's requests to operate their board meetings more efficiently, and so we, again, worked with General Counsel. And so on procurement items that have a three-year term and two one-year renewal options, we would like the ability to be able to renew that contract if the user department and procurement have evaluated those goods or services and it is economically advantageous for us to do so. It would never be

automatic, but in the event that we have looked at pricing, evaluated the firm's ability to provide those goods or services, we would like the ability to do that without having to go back to the board for approval. That will reduce the number of 00 items that we take to the board. And so we would still, of course, communicate with them. And we plan on doing that, through the Superintendent, the board would receive one item with all of those renewals for the month instead of, you know, maybe 10 items, individually. And they would have the ability to bifurcate that if there was something on there that they don't want to approve.

Would we like to stop? I'm fine with stopping as we go.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Mr. Menzul.

MR. MENZUL: Well --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: And then Ms. Shaw.

MR. MENZUL: Well, reading this section I have several -- there are several issues with this section just when evaluating it. But just, you know, just a quick general statement about the entire agreement that applies to this section as well, just from reading this thing, this seems

like overall this is a purchasing agreement that, in effect, if you were to summarize all this it's just giving more authority being delegated from the board to the district. And I looked at -now, one district that I did look at that I think would be the best comp and the best practice is the St. John's School District. And on theirs there is a -- well, one, it's much more stringent. And ours, this one has definitely some contradictions; right? So, for example, just start reading, and I'm not saying it's necessarily a contradiction, but I know the district and how it's going to apply it effectively. The way the contradiction is written it's cancelling out the very thing that comes before it. So --

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DR. LYNCH-WALSH: What page are you on?

MR. MENZUL: Page 5 on -- in Section 2. The school board has delegated limited authority to the Superintendent or his or her designee including without limitation -- so that -- you know, just linguistically, right, so what does that mean? Because you're saying there's limited authority, well, there's no limitation, and also when we look at the definition of what a

superintendent is, it includes designee to begin with. So if we go by the definition, you have Superintendent, which includes designees and his or her designees. And then you have director of procurement and then if we keep reading, one, there's no limit, so I think 25 to 50k, right, I think generally those in -- for example, I would recommend having that as requiring approval. I -- I -- this -- having -- this current agreement as it's presented here states that anything over one year doesn't require board approval and it appears that purchasing is asking for additional, you know, we're asking for it to go to three years and I'm a no on that.

But there's a couple of other things just from looking at this. Some of the things that I mentioned, and, again, it says in compliance with applicable federal and state laws. One of my big issues with this agreement as well as -- it keeps citing regulations, right, from the administrative code and statutes without necessarily citing which part of the statute it's referencing. So it would be good to see that in the document, at the very least. Because if you just read what this says, right, it's not clear

where, you know, where this authority comes from. And the way I read this is, this entire agreement, this basically makes it easier for the Superintendent or the designee to buy goods, commodities in this case, without going to the board. And I think when you look at some other sections -- and I'm not going to get to the -- we'll get to those other sections later, there is already, as we keep dealing with, it's already too easy to do that.

So if we compare this section and we look at requisitions; right?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: What page is that?

MR. MENZUL: That's on page 17. So I'm just going to -- page 17 Purchase Requisitions, the way this is written I don't understand how you can operate purchasing this way. Because, one, we are taking out the language that's already in there, which is, except in extreme emergencies, right, you can -- you can purchase, you know, purchasing card transactions from work location. I think that should specify who -- you know, that's way too broad. So it needs to say either like department head or school principal, not work location; right? Because this is the issue

that we keep having. I think one of the meetings we were discussing there was a bookkeeper just placing purchase orders; right? So each requisition, transaction or contract shall be causally found -- okay. A requisition, okay, I'm fine with the wording, but I think it's -- it's a little messy. But when we go back, in no case shall the procurement precede the date of requisition except as provided here for emergency. Well, what constitutes an emergency that we're just not following process; right? I think processes are made so that if there is an emergency you have something to follow.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So you're saying there should be an operational definition of emergency somewhere in here?

MR. MENZUL: Well --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: That would cure the problem.

MR. MENZUL: Well, I think extreme emergency is there just to say, there really -- there should almost be very few good -- this is basically like maybe force majeure, if you read it that way, very difficult.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So, but your recommendation

is that there should be -- maybe Ms. Shaw is going to assist here.

MS. SHAW: Yeah, so there should be an emergency section in here and that emergency section then would be -- that emergency activity would then --

MR. MENZUL: There is no -- what emergency could there be that requires placing a purchase order before a requisition?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So that could happen.

MR. MENZUL: But not really.

MS. SHAW: A lot. There's a lot.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Did you have a comment?

SUPERINTENDENT LICATA: Thank you, sir. For those that have been around a little bit, trust me, as Superintendent, I don't want to spend any money, and I'm certainly not going to do it on my own. But if you remember four years and one day ago the world shut down. And in order to buy masks, sanitizer, and fuel, everything, every district around the country immediately gave the Superintendent the authority to purchase these things without going through the normal procedures. That's the emergencies we're talking

about. Usually, natural disasters and such.

It's hard to define it. I think you can define most of that with natural disasters and pandemic, but we don't know what else will happen. You know, we don't know what else will happen. So it's got to have sort of a window, but I think defining it in that sense and something of that sort. Now, what happens if there's a takeover of our technology and everything, we lose every bit of technology --

MR. MENZUL: Point of order. This is incorrect information.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Pavel, he has the floor.

MS. FERTIG: Can I ask a point of order? Are we on page 14 Emergency Purchases in the purchasing policy; is that what we're on?

MS. SHAW: I think we were on page 5. Could we go back to page 5?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So the thing is, Pavel was going through his issues and the last number he gave me was 17. To your point about page 14, that is where emergency purchases are, on page 14.

So, do you or do you not, Pavel, since you

started this, and then we can get done and if Phyllis has some additional comments and then we'll move around the room, do you have -- emergency purchases is addressed on page 14 and it says when the Superintendent determines, in writing, safety or -- public health, comma, safety, comma, or welfare, or other substantial loss to the school district requires emergency action. Do you have an issue with that being the definition of emergency, because that's in here? I think it was in here before, it just moved.

MR. MENZUL: My issue is not with the definition, it's with the example. And I can state that with absolute certainty hand sanitizer purchases during COVID, this exact four years ago time, did not require, and this is from personal experience speaking, I don't want to get too into it, but did not require going around this process; right? So purchases were made.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So you don't agree with the idea of --

MR. MENZUL: So things were shut down. The sanitizer came later.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So you may have to agree to disagree because you're not going to -- they're

1 not going to not have emergency purchases.

MR. MENZUL: That's not what I'm saying. I'm saying the procedures are for emergencies.

That's the whole point.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Well, procedure is not policy, so that's a separate conversation. I know here we tend to commingle, not in this -- not the audit committee, but the district, confuses policy and procedure. They are not the same thing. The policy is the rule, the procedure is the way you go about implementing the rule.

MR. MENZUL: Right.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So, to your point, there may need to be procedures, but that's not what this is.

So Ms. Shaw and let me just -- do you want me to finish over here and then we'll go in order?

Do you guys have anything after Ms. Shaw?

MS. FERTIG: Can we do a section at a time or something? Can we stay somewhat in the same realm?

MS. SHAW: I'm still on page 5. That's where she was.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Page 5? Okay. We don't

normally do policy, so this is a little different.

MS. CARTER-LYNCH: Madam Chair?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yes, ma'am.

MS. CARTER-LYNCH: If we can just complete one thing and not jump all over?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: One page?

MS. CARTER-LYNCH: One page.

MR. DE MEO: Madam Chair, one other thing along those lines.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yes.

MR. DE MEO: Do we know the environment in which these policies were -- can I just ask two minutes of questions to find out the background on -- I want to know how this -- what the environment was. Who -- first of all --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So, Mr. De Meo, Ms. Shaw had the floor. She did. She has.

MR. DE MEO: But I think before we get into the minutia, we need to have a broader understanding of how these documents were, how they came about? Because this is minutia. This belongs in a workshop. This belongs with the staff reviewing it first. I think this is an immense, possibly an immense waste of time.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Well, I don't want to spend 10 years on it either.

MS. FERTIG: I think his point is, and I think she was actually started in that direction, giving us background and then we kind of got into other stuff.

MS. SHAW: Madam Chair, control, please.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yes, Ms. Shaw has the floor though. And then when she's done we can -- we can reconfigure.

MS. SHAW: Thank you very much. I guess this is not working.

SUPERINTENDENT LICATA: Oh, turn it on. I turned it off.

MS. SHAW: No, this one. Thank you very much. A lot of work went into this, so I appreciate it. And for someone who has to manage aspects of procurement, I know it's a lot of work and everyone needs to understand that this is justa a policy, the procedure itself of how to carry out the policy will be in a separate document. But my question is, and he did have a point, which is what I was going to make, that we do need to, in terms of we have pursuant to section such-and-such with the Florida Statute,

the school board or some other, so we need to kind of list that and make sure it's clear. But what is the Superintendent's limit? And I'm asking that to, when you're talking about the Superintendent can approve over any additional one-year contract and so on and so forth, which, yes, it does make the process a lot easier. I just had to go to the board, my board, for an emergency purchase because we do have emergencies which have to be ratified by the city manager and then it will be ratified by the board later on. So emergencies do happen and I don't think we should dictate how those emergencies -- well, that's not on page 5. What is the Superintendent' limit?

MS. ANDREU: The Superintendent has a \$500,000 limit. And on page 5, I think going back to some of the original conversation, it was recommended by one of the audits to fully detail and describe who the designees are. So it can't just be the Superintendent has designees. That's why we listed who they are in that.

MS. SHAW: I have no issues with the designees. I just want to know, what's his limit? So if his limit is 500,000, we have a

contract renewal for a million dollars, will that contract renewal then go to the board? Because after let' say it's a three years done, and to make life easy he approves it, would it go to the board for ratification?

MS. ANDREU: Yes, ma'am.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So -- give me one second.

To Mr. De Meo's point, we're trying to focus on, because I was picturing people had specific sort of things, but not, you know, whether a comma is here or the minutia of this. Because we won't ever get out of this policy.

So the -- I think we know the environment that they're bringing it forward. I don't think there's currently a Director of Procurement right now. We and the board also approved evaluating the internal controls over Procurement. So, remember, that was last year. That hasn't happened yet. And yet this policy is coming forward before the internal control environment over Procurement has been evaluated. So the timing is a bit off. Did this go to, refresh my memory, workshop? This went to workshop already?

MS. ANDREU: No, ma'am.

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DR. LYNCH-WALSH: No board workshop.

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Do you want to let Mr. De Meo go and then you

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have specifics? Okay.

questions of Ms. Andreu.

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Okay. So this is the board's MR. DE MEO:

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responsibility through its executive officer and staff. It is ours to comment on. We are not

part of operations. And I'd like to ask some

responsibility. The board discharges that

What is your background in 30 years?

MS. ANDREU: This is my 30th year in education, from classroom teacher, to director, to assistant superintendent.

MR. DE MEO: How about in procurement; what's your experience there?

MS. ANDREU: I have worked in economic development and procurement for six years now.

MR. DE MEO: And what did you use to -- tell me what the environment was. What comparable polices did you review and who was involved in this process?

MS. ANDREU: I mentioned in the opening how we benchmarked it against my previous employer, Miami-Dade County Public Schools as well as Palm Beach. So I mentioned some of that. We have, of course, worked internally. And this is being brought at the request of the audit committee and it's part of the looping procedure that we do before we take it to the board so that we can get feedback from stakeholders. The board will review it at a workshop on March 20th. It was reviewed with the technology advisory committee, this committee. Whoever would like to have input we will come and do a presentation similar to this one to get all stakeholder feedback.

MR. DE MEO: I'm not going to make a motion but this belongs in a workshop, in my opinion, to do it justice. And before the board's looked at it -- I mean, it doesn't matter what the order is, we probably should look at it first, but this is not -- I just don't think this is our charge and I think this is beyond the scope of what we can reasonably accomplish with so many other items that present risk to the, in terms of finances, controls and operations, to this district.

So I'm not going to make a motion that it should go to a workshop, it would probably be voted down anyways, but --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: A workshop of whom; the

1 board?

MR. DE MEO: Us. Whomever.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Well, actually, this is a special meeting where were just doing policies and then we have one audit today. But, no, the idea was not to go through the comments and --

MR. DE MEO: Yeah, this is operational. I just don't think it's within our purview.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Well, it is a policy. So, Mr. Mayersohn? And I'll circle back.

MR. MAYERSOHN: I mean, look, we could spend all day just on this policy alone, but I agree with Mr. De Meo, this may not be within our scope except for some of the items regarding purchasing.

But two things I just want to bring up in general. Number one, the definition for lobbying and lobbyist, where did you get that definition from?

MS. ANDREU: Again, this goes with our policy that we have in place for those and we looked at the other districts that I mentioned earlier.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Did you look at Broward County, their municipal code of ethics?

MS. ANDREU: I did not.

MR. MAYERSOHN: I would take a look at it.

Because not only do they define lobbying and
lobbyist, but they also define what is not
lobbying or what is not a lobbyist.

So, for example, if somebody comes to the school board meeting and speaks or whatever, they might not be considered lobbying for whatever reason it might be. So I would take a look at that and possibly include that.

The other -- the other suggestion that I would strongly recommend is that P-cards be a separate policy.

MS. ANDREU: Thank you for that feedback. So there currently is a lobbyist policy that is separate and apart. These are just the definitions here. And we will come back with a P-card policy. That was a recommendation of General Counsel.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Right. And I'll just read this briefly, for example, lobbying, this is from the county code of ethics, means communication by any means from a lobbyist to a covered individual regarding any item that will unforeseeably be decided by a final decision making authority which communication seeks to influence, convince,

or persuade the covered individual in the support or oppose the item. Lobbying does not include communications made on the record at a duly noticed public meeting or hearing or from attorney to attorney representing Broward County or any municipality within Broward County regarding a pending or imminent judicial or adversarial administrative proceeding against Broward County or against any municipality within Broward County.

So it just, as I said, defines it a little broader. It to pertain to the purchasing policy, but just as a definition somewhere along the line it might be useful.

MS. ANDREU: And it is defined in the policy and examples are given of what it is and is not in the policy.

MR. MAYERSOHN: So in the lobbyist policy?
MS. ANDREU: Correct.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Okay. Because that's kind of -- that's kind of, I think we've all had the same situation is, you have one policy that defines it here, another policy that defines it here, a third policy that defines it somewhere else, and you may go to look at the purchasing policy and

say, well, that's what defines a lobbyist without saying it's referred to the lobbyist policy. So it may just be some connectivity within a policy to alert what it might be.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Ms. Strauss, are you good?

MS. STRAUSS: I'm good.

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DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So along the lines of something specific because we will not --

MS. FERTIG: I'm just trying to get my question out, which will probably be shorter than your admonition to not belabor this. I am in agreement with bog. One of the tasks I had, I think this needs a review, and after listening to you, you probably want to review your entire lobbying policy because it's been a very long So I'm just going to thank you for raising time. I'm going to go to page 9, top of page 9, that. crossed out is report any valid bid protest to the school board at least quarterly. Where have you incorporated that or what is your reporting mechanism to the school board in this policy?

MS. ANDREU: I'm sorry, can you repeat the question?

MS. FERTIG: Page 9. Page 9.

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MS. ANDREU: Mm-hmm.

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MS. FERTIG: Very top of the page you have crossed out the words, report any valid bid

protest to the school board at least quarterly.

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MS. ANDREU: That was eliminated because the

school board is notified as a bid protest comes

7 before it.

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MS. FERTIG: I was trying to glance through

9 here and see, make sure that we did not lose the

thought, because for a lot of us, that's where we

find out about it. So, okay. And my others were

just reminders of things that were covered in

13 here that we didn't necessarily see in the same

14 section. So thank you.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Ms. Carter-Lynch.

MS. CARTER-LYNCH: You know what, I'm good.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay.

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I'm good. Bob took care MS. CARTER-LYNCH:

of it. Mr. De Meo took care of it. 19 So I'm on

the same page as those gentlemen.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. And I'm going to my

22 Cone of Silence, just to reiterate because I was

23 on the TAC meeting, but just to clarify so we're

24 all clear on that.

Hang on one second because you went.

1 Turso; Medvin; no?

Okay. Mr. Menzul and then Ms. Shaw again.

MR. MENZUL: I'm saying this for the record because this is important. This is very much within the purview of audit; right? And this is -- purchasing, when you really look at it report by report, including all of the procurement reports that we do here is at the heart of pretty much every major money-related issue in tis district over the last decade. So -- including what's in here.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Yeah, I don't think Mr. Medvin -- I don't think he was disagreeing, but we're here in person as opposed to on a Teams meeting which is where we generally have our more minutia-ish --

MR. MENZUL: Well, some of the things in here would be under procedures. Just because we call it policy and it does not maybe include procedures in it does not all of a sudden change the meaning of it.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: And if you have suggestions for things that look procedural as opposed to policy you can, I'm sure, contact Ms. Andreu with that observation. Or if you have something very

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MR. MENZUL: Well, I would also say the statutes, also, there is a lot of stuff in the statutes, themselves, which they have policy --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: And when we scroll to the end we're going to see if all those statutes are listed.

Ms. Shaw?

MS. SHAW: I was just -- you know, I have to agree with Mr. Anthony about sending it back to -- back to you guys and let you guys -- one of the things I don't think we should do is sit here and dissect everything that is being done. ask, it's being done, and we should never ever, because procurement and internal control are not in the same bucket. Procurement is on the one side, internal control is under -- either it should be a separate division or under accounting. And if we're going to mix the two then it's going to create an issue. But I agree with him to send it back to you, to let you take care of it, run it. I -- I mean I -- when I read through a lot of this I thought, wow, there's a lot of details that should be really in procedure, not in here. But I appreciate it

because I won't have to go try and find procedure and figure out how to do it.

So, I mean, the timing of how this is being done, I don't care. The mere fact that it's being done -- we had a new procurement director a few years ago and he overhauled the entire procurement policy. Was that the best timing? Who knows. But it was overhauled and changes were made and it was better. And we still have work to do. We still have changes that we need to make right now even though it was done three years ago.

So I don't want to spend the time dissecting this. I think if we have comments we can send it through the chair to the audit committee and say these are some of the recommended changes, such as including sections that belongs where the Florida Statute, et cetera, et cetera, and if it's in the page, include the page number in the back where it is and let us see what it is when it goes through the looping process, which is what I love.

- DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay.
- MS. FERTIG: I think I'm up.
- DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yes, you are. And then I

want to wrap this up because it's 10:20.

MS. FERTIG: Yeah, I'm trying to wrap this up; okay?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: That's not to you, that's to everybody.

MS. FERTIG: So let me just say, I would like to make a motion to transmit this with Mr.

Mayersohn's --

MR. MAYERSOHN: Second.

MS. SHAW: Second.

MS. FERTIG: -- comments about lobbying.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Then I'm going to make my comments during discussion because I haven't spoken yet.

Cone of Silence we discussed the other day about making very clear. The Cone of Silence has language that is unclear, because what it did is it said you can't talk to anybody and didn't create an exception that says you can talk to this specific person in procurement. So as long as that sticks, but I'm just letting everybody know that was one thing.

I'm not sure how to clarify this in policy, but, historically, in my experience in the district, whenever you try to talk about a

problem with a solicitation somebody starts saying Cone of Silence. I go, but I'm not a vendor. I'm at a public meeting. Theres no Cone of Silence violation. So I don't know if there's a way to clarify who it does not pertain to, but it's -- and except for the language where the exception, as Linda pointed out at TAC needs to be clarified, then we're good on that.

And then I was looking for the authority statutes. I don't know if there's more here than what's on this list. Because these are the general -- this is the ones governing the board, I believe the Superintendent, and I'm not familiar with the last two.

But as long as they're in there, to everyone's point earlier, then we're good.

That's my -- and I'm done.

Anybody -- any further discussion before we move to transmit? Do we have to transmit this?

MR. DE MEO: No.

MR. MENZUL: So what's the next step for this?

MS. FERTIG: But I was saying that we do, with Bob's comments about the lobbying, so that gets picked up in the conversation that the board

has. So I just specifically would -- that -- I just to -- I've heard several of us pick out the same things.

MR. DE MEO: You know, I think you should reference the Florida Administrative Code with regard to the definition of lobbyist in addition to whatever you include in that document because that is what we're bound to.

MS. SHAW: I agree. And I think that's cleaner than using Broward County's because Broward County is over the district, the Florida Stature is much cleaner.

MR. DE MEO: I don't have anything else.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. All right. Any further discussion?

(No response.)

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Hearing none, all in favor?

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Aye.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Any opposed?

(No response.)

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Motion caries unanimously. Thank you very much.

And we are on to -- where are we? Oh, Board Governance Policy, so that is Dr. Wanza and Mr. Hill. Cowart & Cowart don't join you for these?

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DR. WANZA: They're not required to. Because at the end of the day it's staff that actually puts on the agenda item. But they try to come to as many as they can. They're actually working on policies right now. So we'd prefer that they continue to work on policies and we can capture the feedback.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay.

DR. WANZA: Thank you. Good morning everyone again. We are here at the request of the chair, because as many of you may have seen at the January 30th workshop these policies did go to the board and the board did ask for us to receive feedback from interested advisory groups. So we met Monday with the Diversity Committee, we met last night with the District Advisory Counsel and we hare honoring the request to have these policies looped here.

These are the six policies that are scheduled to go to the board for final rulemaking on April 20th -- April 16th. Which date is it? April 16th, 2024. But we do want to capture feedback. We did receive feedback, as I said, from the District Advisory Council last night, from the Diversity Committee on Monday night, and we are

1 here today.

We're not certain which of the six policies, if any, you would like to go through, but those are the six board governance policies that will go before the board for final rulemaking on April 16th.

So we are here to capture feedback and we will anxiously -- well, we will gladly present the feedback to the board. And I just want to reiterate, as I said to both committees, we are here to capture feedback. At the end of the day the board determines what will be the final language in their policy.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Thank you.

Remember, we passed a motion to have this come back. All right. I'll start at this end this time. Hold on, we're going to start at the other end. I like to mix it up.

MS. CARTER-LYNCH: I'm good.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: You're good? Anybody have any feedback on any of these -- I know I have some for school board meetings that I shared last night.

MS. FERTIG: I want to question with Dr. Wanza, which of these policies specifically

impact the work that we do as an audit committee? If you can answer that. I know that we've got a lot of different policies, but I'm not sure that -- let me pick the one I was wondering, student advice to the school board wouldn't necessarily impact us so --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: They're all under an umbrella.

MS. FERTIG: I understand they're all coming from the board. I'm just -- kind of when I was -- in my mind when I was talking about having input into policies it was the polices that impact the work that we do, because then we're critical of them when they go wrong, but I don't know that I really was envisioning looking at every policy in the district, but that's just one person.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Do you have any feedback on any of them?

MS. FERTIG: I really would just like to hear if she feels there's one that in particular you need our advice on.

DR. WANZA: So through the Superintendent, in my professional opinion, definitely 1020, because it talks about the public and the public's

ability to engage and participate in board meetings. That one definitely. And I believe 1080 may have some interest of the -- those two definitely. The other four are -- you know, their governing powers and duties and authority as outlined in statute and the work that they have to do. But I think 1020 and 1080 would e the two that this committee and really all committees, if they have any interest, it would be in those two.

MS. FERTIG: And so then I would tell you, the one question I had, just curiosity, of course, in looking through the form that the school board members fill out there was one for charitable --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: This is for 1080?

MS. FERTIG: Yeah, thank you. And I'm on 42, Quarterly Charitable Fundraising Reports and those are available for us to -- that's just a question.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Wait, I'm sorry. What page are you on?

MS. FERTIG: I'm looking at the actual disclosure forms and I was just -- I knew the lobbying and so forth, I just was interested to

1 see this

see this Quarterly Charitable Fundraising Report.

DR. WANZA: They are -- as the board members complete them they are submitted to the Office of Official School Board Records and that's who archives them.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Are they posted?

DR. WANZA: So they should be, but we will double-check so that they are available for public review.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: The -- sorry, I'm trying to scroll through the actual document. Which one; ethics; or lobbying?

MS. FERTIG: 42. It's right at the end, second to last page.

MR. MAYERSOHN: So, Dr. Wanza --

DR. WANZA: Yea.

MR. MAYERSOHN: -- so just to reiterate my comments from last night, so, again, on the 1080, obviously, again, going back and looking at, I guess, redefining the lobbyist, I just don't -- I just see this as not, I dont' want to say adequate, but it just doesn't reflect what I believe the language should be.

And the other thing is the acceptance of gifts. I think the -- again, Broward County Code

of Ethics is \$5. If the school board is going to go with the OIG, I think that needs to kind of mirror the Broward County Code of Ethics, so it's a \$5 limitation.

The other -- the other part is, do school board members get P-cards?

DR. WANZA: Yes, they do have P-cards.

MR. MAYERSOHN: What is the limitation?

MR. HILL: Through the Chair, the limitation for board members isn't necessarily a dollar amount but it's basically, what the can spend it on. So they can only, basically, spend it on travel and memberships, dues.

DR. WANZA: Their travel requests are actual board items.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Right, it's an authorization.

I get it. But there's -- so they have to be
authorized prior to spending it; correct?

MR. HILL: That is correct.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Okay. The only reason why that may -- and, again, this is just a recommendation from an internal control standpoint, the district to the south of us had an incident where speculative there was a board member who used their P-card for other expenses.

So I don't know -- and I get the authorization and I certainly understand it, but it may -- may be something to review the internal controls so that we can be assured that, especially after somebody leaving, that it doesn't happen.

DR. WANZA: So I don't want to speak for the Superintendent because he's here, but I know that he has a process that their statement -- do you want to speak? I don't want to speak for you.

SUPERINTENDENT LICATA: Absolutely.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Dr. Licata?

SUPERINTENDENT LICATA: Thank you.

Absolutely. And I do want this on record. Prior to -- prior to what you were talking about, the Honorable Mr. Mayersohn over there, I have every board member's P-card go through purchasing for verification of accurate and appropriate use and it goes to Ms. Marte to sign off, as well, and then I finally sign off, instead of me just being the final sign off on it. That was before this happened. I just feel that it's our responsibility to the public. And it does give our board members a lot more comfort knowing that if they do something wrong we're able to check on it right away. But that's something that we

control, but I've instituted internal processes that triple check before we finally sign off on it. And this was before the --

MR. MAYERSOHN: Before --

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SUPERINTENDENT LICATA: Before that issue.

MR. MAYERSOHN: The alleged incident. Yes.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Mr. Menzul?

MR. MENZUL: Yeah, so, is it all right to go over page --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: What page are you?

MR. MENZUL: Is it okay to go -- are we going -- is there a certain order?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So since we're on 1080, let's wrap up 1080.

MR. MENZUL: Okay.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Is that -- is that the one you were talking about?

MR. MENZUL: I had notes for that one. Let me take a quick look and see.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Do you need a minute?

MR. MENZUL: Somebody else can go.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. All right. Were you up before?

MS. SHAW: No.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Mr. De Meo, and then

Ms. Shaw.

MR. DE MEO: Okay. I have a question, Dr. Wanza. Policy 1020, section Roman 8, page 12 of 15.

MR. MENZUL: I thought we were on 1080.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right. We're on -- we were just trying to -- I was trying to stick to one.

MR. DE MEO: Oh, okay. All right.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So 1080 is the one we're trying to wrap up since we kind of started there. So Phyllis would be next.

MS. FERTIG: I kind of was asking a question and Bob got off -- and then Bob followed up with a logical question to it. So can I just go back to what he said about lobbyists? I was in the middle of doing this.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Sure.

MS. FERTIG: Okay. Maybe you want to compare the lobbyist definition here with the lobbyist definition in your -- in our -- who am I looking at here? The lobbyist definition in the policy that we just finished, you might just want to check those two out and see if they --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Agree.

1 MS. FERTIG: Yeah.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So consistency between the two different policies.

MS. FERTIG: Well, I thought it was stated that the reason that definition was in there, which some of us had concerns about, is because it was consistent with what was -- but I'm not seeing that consistency, so --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right. So just check.

All right. Ms. Shaw?

MS. SHAW: Thank you. I wanted to ask -number one, I disagree, I don't think we should
follow Broward County's \$5 policy because that is
so restrictive, but that's just me.

Number two, have we tied the ethics to -- so there's some new rules coming through the ethics department in Tallahassee about the forms that's changing. Have we taken a look at it to make sure we're tying in any changes that we're making to those new changes that's coming through?

DR. WANZA: So when -- I believe it's at next week's workshop, Mr. Sullivan, who just left, is going to provide a list of updates. And then as soon as we get all of those final, then, of course, the district policies will be in alliance

with whatever the new staple is.

MS. SHAW: Thank you.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: All right. If everyone else is good on 1080, since we're on lobbying, in 1080, does anyone check -- like is this audited in terms of making sure board members are disclosing lobbying activity?

Because I have heard -- last year there were more than one board member that said from the dais that they had spoken to a vendor and there was no lobbying activity logged having to do with that vendor. So how do we know that everything is being reported that's actually happening? Or do we not?

Are there internal controls over lobbying activity?

MR. HILL: Right now there are no checks in place.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay.

MR. HILL: We do professional development with board members as well as with their office, their support staff, to make sure they're aware of the activities, what needs to be done regarding the action, that action of the board member, but at this time there is no checks as to

1 those things.

MS. FERTIG: But there are some -- I mean, I know you know this, Nathalie, but just for the benefit of everybody else, you can make that public records request, we can. And so I guess what you're suggesting is the district should be too, every --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: On a quarterly report?

MS. FERTIG: Well, to see what lobbyists the

-- the board members are supposed to report that

contact.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: And that's on the website. But what I'm saying is --

MS. FERTIG: Yeah, I know. So I'm just saying, yeah, I don't know that they're monitoring it. I know some of us might have monitored it on occasion. I'm not saying we have. But -- so what the question is, what are they doing to monitor it on a quarterly basis or on --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: On any basis. And he just said that they're not really monitoring.

MS. FERTIG: Well, they're not. So I'm wondering if you want to include something.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. I'll let Mr. De Meo

go and then we'll come back.

MR. DE MEO: So on 1080; right?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: 1080.

MR. DE MEO: The monitoring. If there is not, I recommend, this would be a comment for the board, that there be a monthly, a quarterly attestation whereby they swear that the had not had any contact that would require the reporting of lobbyist activity.

DR. WANZA: Okay.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Can you restate that; because I smell a motion.

DR. WANZA: I think I have it. You want a monthly attestation -- or basically that they affirm --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Quarterly.

MR. DE MEO: They're busy. Quarterly.

DR. WANZA: Quarterly, their lobbyist activity?

MR. DE MEO: Yeah, that they attest that they had no activity that would require the disclosure under the current rules.

MR. HILL: So is it your recommendation that we -- right now the requirement is that you submit it if you do have lobbying activity.

MR. DE MEO: No, this is an attestation, an attestation on a periodic basis which says, I have had not contacts that are required to be disclosed.

MS. FERTIG: And maybe you can make it broad enough under the three or four categories.

MR. DE MEO: Yeah.

MS. STRAUSS: Nathalie?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Ms. Strauss.

MS. STRAUSS: Yeah, so in the spirit of that, there's actually a company that I have to attest every single month to, and it get's recorded.

It's called Politicom Law, LLP, called Empowered Compliance. Every single month I'm sent a link.

I have to go in there and attest if I've had activities related to lobbying or not. It's recorded. It's tracked. And I can't not fill it out because if I don't fill it out they keep emailing and then they email my supervisor to let them know I have not done it.

So you may just want to utilize a service like this. I'm sure that there's many. But I have experience with this one and I have to click the buttons and attest and sign my name on it every single month.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: 1

Okay. That sounds good.

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MS. FERTIG: And you know what, this actually protects board members. Because I've seen times

over the years where someone's said they had 4

5 contact and they didn't or they did and they had

actually filled out the forms and specified what

So it's really -- it does protect the it was.

elected official.

MR. DE MEO: Then we can audit those.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Stop. Mr. Mayersohn is

trying to take the floor.

Mr. Mayersohn?

MR. MAYERSOHN: So -- so, and, again, I go back to if the board is going to go with the OIG, I would think they would be better off adopting the Broward County municipal code for elected officials. The reason why I say that is that this puts the onus, the lobbying, on the lobbyist to sit and register, to provide the contact, the time, the date, information. It provides the lobbyist. Which, again, there's a punitive action if the lobbyist doesn't file within X amount of days. So it doesn't put the onus on the school board member to file where the

lobbyists can do whatever they want, this puts

the onus on the lobbyists. So it may be worthwhile to look at that policy or present it to the board. Because, again, if you're adopting an OIG as an oversight you want to make sure everything is in alignment.

MS. FERTIG: Can I just say I know we've had this conversation before? Because I sent -- the city, which, of course, si in alliance with -- the City of Fort Lauderdale.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Right, city and an elected official.

MS. FERTIG: Right. And I had sent that -Joris and I had -- we discussed this maybe a year
or so ago, so I had sent him all of the stuff
that we as the city do which is reflecting what
you're saying as far --

MR. MAYERSOHN: Right. Right. So if I'm -- as an elected official, if I'm meeting with a lobbyist, they have to register and then they have to provide documentation that they met with me to discuss X, Y and Z, whether -- again, now, if it's quasi-judicial information then I have to declare it at the meeting to say, here, I met with lobbyists and here's the information.

MS. FERTIG: And so really we had two

different forms. And so maybe what we want to do is have the district look at both ways, both what Ms. Strauss suggested and what Mr. Mayersohn suggested, but come up with something more definitive for the board.

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DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So I pulled up on screen, I would say a sample, but it's an actual lobbyist contact report, which is on the district website, this is 2024. It's under the school board. There's a list of BCPS lobbyists. If you keep scrolling -- I can't say that it's the most obvious thing to find because you have to scroll down, but then once -- I pulled it up for this year for all board members. So these are, you know, all the documents. But this is the document as it stands. It's not electronic. certainly wouldn't -- doesn't put them through what Ms. Strauss is describing, which I think would make their lives easier. So you can sort of, you know, see -- but it's -- I don't know if this is comprehensive enough, but it's there.

MR. DE MEO: I think what Mr. Mayersohn said and the idea that they would have to self attest, I think it should be both ways. I think that really works well. And, you know, our lawyers

will come up with the proper language that says under penalties of perjury, you know, so on and so forth, I hereby attest that --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So I was looking fro the list of lobbyists. The lobbyists, list of lobbyists, but -- oh, lobbyists database, return to search. Because I believe there is a list of registered lobbyists.

DR. WANZA: If you click on lobbyists, does it come up?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Sort of.

MS. FERTIG: I think Ruth has a comment.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Pardon? Oh, sorry, I looked away and nobody's hand was up.

Yes, ma'am.

MS. CARTER-LYNCH: You talk so long that we have to put it down. But anyway --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yes, ma'am.

MS. CARTER-LYNCH: I agree with Mrs. Strauss' suggestion. Because the simple reason, it makes it cleaner. It's cleaner and the responsibility is there and it's independent than the school board website.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right.

MS. CARTER-LYNCH: The independence is the

piece that I really like. So I'm just agreeing with Ms. Strauss.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay.

MS. FERTIG: What seems to be coming out of all of this is, it looks to me, I know it's not in front of us, but it's the lobbyists, it's the policy impacting lobbyists that really we're having so much conversation about. You might want to put that on your list.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right. Okay. So I did write down the quarterly attestation. But then, Mr. Mayersohn, do you have a companion motion at this time that you could write? Because what I wrote down is quarterly attestation that they attest they have --

MR. MAYERSOHN: They, being the school board.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yeah, I know, I need to put a noun in here. Quarterly attestation that -- by the school board members -- by each school board member that they attest they've had no activity that would require reporting lobbyist activity.

MR. DE MEO: Disclosure under the rules, whatever they are.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Required reporting lobbyist disclosure under the rules, if somebody wants to

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MR. MAYERSOHN: And I would just add and concurrently the lobbyist also is responsible within three days after a meeting to --

MR. DE MEO: But how do we enforce that against the lobbyist?

MR. MAYERSOHN: Because they're registered.

MR. DE MEO: No, but --

MR. MENZUL: Point of information. This is not in --

MR. MAYERSOHN: Not that they have -- they have to fill out a log that they -- because, again, they're registered, they pay to register and they have a meeting.

MR. DE MEO: But we would have them attest that they had no contact.

MR. MENZUL: Point of order, Madam Chair, this is just two guys like discussing lobbying now. This is not in the purview of audit.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So we're trying to hash out the motion. I'm not sure we've hashed it out. Because I'm not sure --

MS. SHAW: There is a motion.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Well, there is. There was about the quarterly attestation of school board

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MS. FERTIG: And the -- if you look at the page, again, you'll see --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: We haven't gotten there yet.

MS. FERTIG: -- that there are quarterly requirements on here.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Which? In where?

MS. FERTIG: If you look at the attachments, they have attached forms, A, B, C, D.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yeah, I'm on form B.

MS. FERTIG: Okay. Some of these are quarterly, the charitable thing that I initially spoke about. There are several of them that talk about timing.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: All right. So we may have to settle, if we can't get the motion formalized, the quarterly attestation and doing it per Mrs. Strauss and Mr. Mayersohn's comments.

DR. WANZA: I have that feedback noted.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Because I'm not sure we can pull a motion out.

Ms. Strauss?

MS. STRAUSS: Yeah, so look, at the end of the day, if you want to use that outside company,

mazel tov. If you don't, I mean, make a form, an Office 365 form, they can submit it, it's documented. It's not that difficult. Okay?

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Now, to rely on a lobbyist to report, let me tell you, okay, I'm supposed to, when I go into Jackson Memorial Hospital, you know, be a registered lobbyist and wear a badge and pay \$5,000 a year, I sneak right in because I know the doctors. So that happens. Okay? And I don't follow the rules. So I'm not going to count on lobbyists, okay, to follow the rules, necessarily. I mean, give me a break. Let's be honest. That's where things happen. I'm not doing fraud with Jackson, I just want to see a doctor and talk to him. But that's it. comes to this we know things can go, you know, sidebar and we don't need to do that.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay.

MS. FERTIG: And just to support Mr.

Mayersohn, it worked really well in the City of

Fort Lauderdale, and I on several occasions on

major issues that have come forward might have

found something that wasn't logged, just because

of the way the registration is done. I like your

idea of the --

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MS. FERTIG: Yeah, I like the way that you're suggesting it. Also I'm saying it doesn't hurt to have a log of when lobbyists are visiting our buildings or having lunch with our members.

MS. STRAUSS: All right. Let's move on.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So we're done with 1080. Now, 1020. And before someone moves to transmit that, I do have some comments that I wanted to share with you. But Mr. De Meo was the first person to bring up 1020.

MR. DE MEO: Just briefly, 1020 Roman 8, page 13 of 15.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Oh, wait, now you're getting too specific.

MR. DE MEO: It referred to --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Oh, wait, wait, wait. I wasn't kidding. Where are you?

MS. CARTER-LYNCH: 13.

MS. STRAUSS: Just do control find, Nathalie, control F.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: No, I know, but it could -- page 13 of?

MR. DE MEO: 13 of 15.

MR. TURSO: There's numbers on the bottom.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yeah, there's numbers on the bottom, there's numbers on the left. I'm not sure what I'm looking for.

MS. STRAUSS: Well, what's the one you want to look at?

MR. DE MEO: Roman 8, 1020.

MS. STRAUSS: Roman 8, 1020, boom, put it in control find.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Hold on.

MS. FERTIG: Are we talking about Decorum?

MR. DE MEO: So decorum seems to apply, they're speaking about the public as they address the board. Is the board and are the committees subject to any similar decorum rules?

In other words, the board -- is the board subject to their own decorum rules that they impose on the public and are we subject to any decorum rules? And, if so, where are they?

MS. FERTIG: I'm totally out of order, but I love that question. Thank you.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Sorry. I had too many people yelling page numbers at me, which -- and you said little page number?

MR. HILL: Little page 25.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: 25. Okay. Andrae knows

why I'm having page number issues. I'm looking for small number now 25.

MS. FERTIG: Nathalie, I'm going to give you this.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: What? I left my packet at home. No, I just need to not have five people telling me which page number we're looking at.

MR. DE MEO: 13. Keep going. There you go.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: We're here. We're here. No, I'll take it.

MR. DE MEO: There it is.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Sure. Thank you.

MR. DE MEO: Notice they took out loud talking -- what did they take out? Outbursts or any other disruptive behavior. They took that out. You can be disruptive.

But if we're going to impose that on the public, shouldn't we have that for the board and should we, the advisory committees, also be subject to those rules, some kind of rules?

MR. MENZUL: We are already. It's Robert's Rules of Order.

DR. WANZA: Thank you, sir, I was about to say, I know the board in it's policy has an expectation that they will operate the meeting

and govern itself in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order for, obviously, conducting the meetings. That's the first thing. The board chair does have in her opening remarks comments around how the meeting will be conducted and the behavior and expectations. And those characteristics and those expectations are really expectations for everyone, all participants, the board members, staff, the public. They're for everyone.

MR. DE MEO: No, I was just wondering if they should be codified or if that's not necessary.

MS. FERTIG: Second.

MR. DE MEO: It's not a motion.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: But they are in -- because this is the board meeting policy. I think to Mr. De Meo's point, I'm not sure if the eight character traits are ever turned towards the board, like honesty, or staff. That's one of them. But we only focus on kindness, oh, self control, tolerance, all those good things, but they're usually directed at the public, to your point. So they are codified.

MS. FERTIG: Where? I mean, his point is they're codifying what the expect of the people

who are in the audience. And, quite frankly, I couldn't quote you verbatim, but I think you've raised this point in public, in these meetings before that maybe you should set some rules here.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right. So --

DR. WANZA: I have his feedback that in the policy is there -- where is there an expressed expectation of the board's decorum; yes.

MR. DE MEO: And if it's not there, they should have it.

DR. WANZA: I have it.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So I believe he moved. Did you second?

MS. FERTIG: Sure.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. And we're having discussion.

Mr. Menzul?

MR. MENZUL: I believe, I'm going to double-check on this, but because I believe it's in the Florida Statutes that assign Robert's Rules of Order to, you know, the elected officials, which includes the school board. So I think they have to pick just an edition of the book to stick with and pick options from there.

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DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right. It's just that

they're mentioning this in a policy and it's directed only at the public.

MR. MENZUL: I mean, there's already a statute that covers the school board; right? So

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: But then you can then make a policy that flows from a statute.

MR MENZUL: Right. You could.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Which they are. But to Mr. De meo's point, it doesn't specifically say that the decorum is also expected of the board. It's saying in advance of receiving comments from public speakers. So this is a motion to have decorum clearly applied also to the board.

MR. MENZUL: And that's within our purview?

So we're now telling the board which rules of

decorum --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: We're making a recommendation about a policy.

We are members of the public. When I go to the board to do a committee report I'm subjected to those rules. So -- but the rules should also apply to the board is all this -- is all that motion is about.

MR. MENZUL: No, I understand that. What I'm

saying is, to me, right, when we look at this discussion, what -- to me, this is something that's the responsibility of the board. So if we're -- there are certain policies, like purchasing, we -- it seems any time I bring up purchasing, nobody wants to discuss it.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. I know why you're saying what you're saying, and I don't think the significance is lost on the rest of the group.

Do you agree or disagree so that we can take a vote?

MR. MENZUL: I'm going to be a no.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. All right. So any further discussion?

(No response.)

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: All right. All in favor?

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Aye.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Opposed?

MR. MENZUL: Nay.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. One opposed on decorum for the board.

DR. WANZA: Expressed in the policy.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right. Included in Policy 1020.

All right. And if nobody -- I just want to

share what was discussed, if everybody else is good so we can move on because Phyllis keeps reminding me about noon.

All right. So --

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MR. MAYERSOHN: One quick thing. So in Policy 1110 --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Aye yai yai, which one is that? You know we're on 1020; right?

DR. WANZA: It's the general powers of the -- general powers --

MR. MAYERSOHN: General powers, duties and responsibilities.

MR. MENZUL: What page?

MR. DE MEO: What page?

MR. TURSO: Page 7, lower left.

MR. MENZUL: 7.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Starting on page 7.

So the question that has always -- I guess I need some clarification on, does the school board take minutes during workshops?

DR. WANZA: We -- so, yes, there are summaries -- there are summary minutes. But are they -- so if your question is, to the same fashion that the minutes are taken during a school board meeting, the answer is, it's not to

that same level of detail and that same -because they're not making motions, they're not, you know, passing items. It is a summary of their discussion and any type of direction or quidance provided to the Superintendent. are on-line. What I did notice probably a couple weeks ago was in a couple of -- one or two years past there was a lag, but they have been directed to the months or whatever that were missing from years past that they have to go back. So, thank goodness, the meetings are recorded. livestreamed. So they are catching up, if you will, for the months -- it's about 118 months, maybe, that there was a gap. But you will see -and so what we will start to do is bring those minutes on a regular school board meeting to be approved as well.

MR. MAYERSOHN: That's -- that's --

DR. WANZA: Yes.

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MR. MAYERSOHN: Because I've always, under Sunshine Law is that it's always been that part of the process of getting there is part of the workshop and the same -- again, I understand that there's no motions or whatever it is, but whatever is captured, if, for example, a school

board member says, well, here's what's captured, but I didn't say that, or that's not what I -- you know, what I said, well, let's go back to the tape, you know the GEICO thing, let's go back to the tape and see what you said.

DR. WANZA: I can't speak to why they were never brought for decades. I can't speak to that. But I can tell you that when we start, as of the April meeting --

MR. MAYERSOHN: So -- so I guess my question is, in this policy can that reflect that information, that minutes not only will be taken at school board workshops in the same fashion as whatever is required?

DR. WANZA: I have that feedback noted; yes.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Okay. Thank you.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: And it would capture what they come to consensus on?

DR. WANZA: Yes.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Because they don't vote, but there's a lot of direction.

MR. MAYERSOHN: I understand. Well, whatever the minutes are, I'm not prescribing how they take minutes, but whatever is there.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: I pulled up the minutes

from the workshop from February 27th. By the way, it does say "minutes". It's five pages, which is longer than --

MS. FERTIG: You're right, anything the come to consensus should certainly be in there.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yeah.

Mr. Menzul? We jumped to this one and I'm going to go back to 11020.

MR. MENZUL: I have several on this one.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Which one?

MR. MENZUL: In 110 or 1110. On page -- the first one is going to be -- hopefully, it doesn't go long. On page 8 or page 2 of 6 on 110 --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Mm-hmm.

MR. MENZUL: So requests form a School Board member on status updates on topics other than School Board agenda items which requires a -- whatever this means, significant staff work to fully comply with -- or I don't know why we're putting an adjective in front of it, should be requested -- or we're taking that out, submitted through the appropriate executive leader with a copy to the Superintendent. This is not intended -- and it crosses out his is not intended to -- DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So what's the issue?

MR. MENZUL: I mean, we shouldn't do this -I mean, I wouldn't -- this is bad. That's my
issue. Why are we adding another bureaucratic
hurdle for school board members?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So this was already there, though, they're just --

MR. MENZUL: Well, but it's being changed; right? So it's taking out -- initially -- because, look, requests from a School Board member for status updates, data or other information --

MS. STRAUS: Pavel, Pavel, hold on. I think Dr. Wanza, did you want to clarify something for him before we go on?

DR. WANZA: As the Chair said, this was language that was already there.

MR. MENZUL: But why is it crossed out?

DR. WANZA: We're not taking out a board member's ability. We're just really trying to clarify the language and make it a little cleaner. We're not taking out their ability to request anything.

MR. MENZUL: I know. No, I didn't say that it's taking it out, but when I'm looking at it is -- well, it is, if you look at it. This is not

intended to preclude School Board members from requesting the status of existing items from the appropriate staff, but then it says -- when we go there, right, you're adding, -- you're not preventing them from requesting it, but it's also giving the district more power to take their time and, you know --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Hold on. So, to his point, isn't there a timeframe for responses?

DR. WANZA: There is.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. But is it in here?

DR. WANZA: No, because, depending on what the request is, it could be one day; it could be 20 minutes; it could be 10 days. So we didn't necessarily put a timeframe. The only thing that's here is, we recognize that board members will have requests or needs for information. Submit it. And we're not trying to dissuade or take away their ability. And there's a process to do it and staff will -- staff will respond to the request of board members.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So, and then getting back to Mr. De Meo's original thing, this, the board -- this goes to the board. This they have to live with. If they don't like it, they could

strike it. This doesn't -- like I am trying to get to the things that actually impact what we do.

MR. MENZUL: Okay. Fair enough. We can skip this.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Is it on this particular item or can I finish?

MS. STRAUSS: Yeah. So, Dr. Wanza, would it be so far-fetched to just add in there in a reasonable timeframe, that is, not to exceed 30 days?

DR. WANZA: Okay.

MS. STRAUSS: I mean, is that fair? I mean, I think we need to define it.

DR. WANZA: Okay.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: But, again, the board has to --

MS. STRAUSS: If they don't like that, again, mazel tov, but up to 30 days.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: This is something the board -- and I'm trying to think if 30 days is enough for some things.

MS. STRAUSS: They can figure it out.

MS. FERTIG: Even if you leave it as a reasonable time, just something.

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DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Something that suggests that it's not forever.

Pavel was going through --

MR. MENZUL: Okay. That one was just one. I didn't want to spend too much time on this. This next one is the one, but you can go first.

MS. SHAW: Thank you. So back to H, where you were --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yes.

MS. SHAW: -- so I think we need to take out number of days, reasonable period. But the one thing that I would want to add is to designate which staff. Because I don't think board members should have to go to her staff, her admin to request information. It needs to be at the highest level and then it goes down to the next level. Maybe it's in there somewhere and I just missed it.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: No, it says appropriate executive leader. But then we get into procedural as opposed to policy.

MS. SHAW: Right. But once it's in there you can write procedure that --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: It says appropriate executive leader with a copy to the

1 Superintendent.

MS. SHAW: Who can -- who are -- I could be an executive leader and running my own --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Well, they need an operational definition of that, because there's executive cabinet, there's cabinet cabinet, there's executive director, there's -- yeah, I guess we're not clear -- as long as they're clear what does executive leader mean, as long as they're clear.

DR. WANZA: The board receives that. Because each superintendent designates how he or she will have his or her cabinet. And so what we do is we give the board these are the seven executive leaders. Under another superintendent it was four executive leaders. And this is what's under their purview so that they have that understanding.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Thank you.

Mr. Menzul, back to you.

MR. MENZUL: So on page 4 of 6 -- rather page 10; right; in the main packet.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Mm-hmm.

MR. MENZUL: Number 11, I'm going to read this, just let me finish on this one. Prohibit

educational support employees, instructional 1 2 personnel and administrative personnel as defined 3 in Section 1001.01 Florida Statutes, from employment in any position which requires direct 4 5 contact with students if the employees or 6 personnel are ineligible for such employment 7 under Section 1012.315, Florida Statutes, or have 8 been terminated or have resigned in lieu of 9 termination. So this is getting at the 10 disqualification rules, which, you know, the 11 statute went into effect in 2022. And this is a 12 little vague, for my taste. And as I'm reading 13 it, there's an entire -- there's several PowerPoints on the Florida Department of 14 15 Education's website in complying with this. And 16 I'm just going to point out that in those 17 PowerPoints, in those PDF presentations, you 18 know, and in the statutes, right, direct contact with students is kind of defined and this is not 19 20 -- it's not clear what this is talking about. 21 And as it is written it makes it sound like the district is kind of lenient on convicted felons 22 23 and hiring. In regard to section -- in regard to 24 the statute cited, which is, you know, 1012.315. 25 So I -- and that's another one where I'd like to see all the felonies listed. And not only that, but in the Department of Education's website, right, it makes it pretty clear that if you're convicted, if you're convicted for one of these felonies, right, you really can't work at the school district. Direct contact, it has a -- it has a very -- from what I can tell, this is maybe where we should get the lawyers in, is a very specific definition that, you know, as you read it in the Florida Statutes, for example, direct contact, it starts --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. I've been sitting here trying to link it to audit and I came up with a link, but I need to clarify with Dr. Wanza.

This item, if -- would -- is this new language, because it's red?

DR. WANZA: This is all new language and it is taken straight from the state statute. But we have in another policy a whole list based on the statute of disqualifying offenses that would prevent people from being gainfully employed by the school district. There is -- and I believe SIU, through Chief Alberti's office, they maintain that based on statute. This whole

language comes out of the Florida Statutes that are listed and it's verbatim based on the statutory language of the powers and duties of the school district.

MR. MENZUL: Right. I didn't claim that, that it wasn't. But I'm also saying that there is -- there are also, you know, administrative code regulations in regard to this and there's an entire database that the Florida Department of Education maintains of disqualified employees.

And I don't see -- or disqualified people, and I don't see anything about it.

DR. WANZA: But is your request to just have the administrative code referenced here as well?

I'm just trying to make sure I understand.

MR. MENZUL: I can send you the -- I mean, I'll send everybody the statute.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: But have you sent this to the school board?

MR. MENZUL: As of yet, no.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Because we can't do anything about it. The only connection I can make is that this may become relevant, not as written, but may need to be strengthened when we -- when all of the details surrounding the

Western debate coach come to fruition. Because
-- because that person was convicted of a crime
but probably not one that falls under this.

MR. MENZUL: What's the crime?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: It was like a misdemeanor back -- and lost his license in New Jersey, but ended up here, ultimately.

So that's the only thing I can connect to help you out. Because, otherwise, this is for the board and if you want -- and you are free to take everything you have and send it to the board so they have it for consideration. But that is the only connection I can make to number 11 and what we do in here. Because I'm trying, it's 11:08, to move along. And there is language in 1020 that directly impacts us and what we do and our ability to further advocate with the board on board items that are related to this committee.

MS. FERTIG: I can say that if we had in the audit and somebody was hired that shouldn't have been hired, and we have had that, that this could pertain. I'm wondering if the simple solution is just to put the name of the statute in. It' unclear. I agree with him.

MR. MENZUL: Well, the Department of

Education kind of breaks this all down; right?

So why don't you just include all of that text?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Well, you need to let -- letting us know is not going to accomplish your mission.

DR. WANZA: I got it. I got it.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: You got it? Okay.

All right. Do you have another?

MR. MENZUL: Well, we're actually going right back into the RFP because this language is going to --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Well, we're not there and we gotta get there. And to get there we've got to finish this discussion.

So do you have another item on this one or can I go back to 1020?

MR. MENZUL: So for the same -- same page, when we're looking at procurement we're looking at -- when we're -- actually, I forget. I looked at the statute, but I forget. Number 2, except as required but not limited, you know, selection of auditor, maybe just put the statute in the section.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: But the statute's there.

MR. MENZUL: No, not just -- what I mean by

put the statute in, the text, not just -- you know, you should have to Google Section 218.391.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: It's a whole statute. It's a whole statute.

MR. MENZUL: But that statute should be.

MS. FERTIG: I think he means the title or something.

MR. MENZUL: Or the paragraph at least, a word.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: The statute is literally called the selections of independent auditors, I think.

MR. MENZUL: Well, it's auditor selection committee; right? So right away we have a -- so this is less -- you know, this is selection of auditors.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So to his point, Florida -maybe putting the name of the statute, because
the statute number is 218. -- it's Mayersohn's,
one of his favorites. And it is the entire
reason you have an audit committee, because you
need to have people that are not employees
selecting that external auditor, but they are not
going to put the whole statute in there.

MR. MENZUL: I didn't say the whole statute.

At the very least, the text; right? So concerning the selection -- you could just say concerning the auditor. But if you're citing the section, you're citing 2B, right, that's not an entire statute, that's one part; right?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right. It's fine. I don't think you're going to talk them into adding more verbiage in a policy that -- because they can Google it.

Okay. Anything else?

(No response.)

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. I'm going to go, because we're at 11:11 --

DR. WANZA: We're going back to 1020?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: We're going back to 1020.

You probably know the page better than I do.

DR. WANZA: Okay. Is this one about the public engagement or the committee's report piece?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Both. Both.

MS. CARTER-LYNCH: What page, Dr. Walsh?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So starting on page 13 of 44 and let me go -- that's where that policy starts, but hold on.

MR. HILL: Public Participation is on 19.

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DR. LYNCH-WALSH: 19? Thank you.

All right. Quick recess.

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(A brief recess was taken.)

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: All right. We're all back. We're all ready.

Action. And we're back.

Okay. So last night I attended the District Advisory Council Meeting, there was some feedback. Dr. Wanza and Andrae were there, too, 12 hours.

So a couple of things. The -- there were motions -- the motion was passed for them to take all the -- everybody supported the feedback. The feedback centered around a couple of things. One was disaggregating advisory chairs and any designees from the general public rules. Most people were fine with going to 12 minutes so long as that didn't apply to advisory chairs or designees. Because there are times when I've been there with information from the group, thoughts from the group, whether it be this one or FTF, but I've run out of time because we're limited to 15 minutes and there could be several And then, God help you, if motions ensue. Just the other day on the job description -- just so you know, the job description for the chief auditor got kicked back here, but after 45 minutes of back and forth over the CPA requirement. I think I used up my 15 minutes on that item. And I -- so I left. Because that's my rule. So everybody was in favor of separating the two and leaving the 12 minutes for the general public. So that was that.

They're not on board with providing a written report two days in advance. Sorry, I'll get the committee report.

So that's the first thing, was the 12 minutes not applying.

MS. CARTER-LYNCH: What page are you on?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Sorry. I am on page 7 of
15 or page 19 of 44, Public Participation, in
Policy 1020.

MS. FERTIG: You know, I would just tell you, I'm going to interrupt you and just say, this was brought up and it was put in place, I believe, by a previous board not too long ago to address certain people. And I don't believe you should write our policies to address certain people.

Well, whatever.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: It was me.

MS. FERTIG: I'm sure it wasn't about me,
Nathalie. So --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: It was me and one other person.

MS. FERTIG: And I feel that it is absolutely inappropriate to even have that. How -- you know, so you have one person that stands up and speaks for three minutes on an item. Like who cares? Give it a break. And then you want to limit them to four items. I don't think that's right. So I'm just going to say that.

I think this whole section is ridiculous. Just be glad you have a public participation.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So the motion last night, they supported 12 minutes just in case, you know, just again, to separate advisory chairs. It started out with Linda wanting to strike the whole thing, but then not everybody was on board with that.

So do you -- do you guys prefer to strike the entire thing at the risk of having somebody show up to randomly speak; or do we want to make sure that whatever time limits, advisor chairs or designees are not subject to the time limitation?

MS. FERTIG: I think they are two different

things and you shouldn't even combine them.

Advisory chair reports should be handled -
DR. LYNCH-WALSH: They are. This is not

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: They are. This is not about the report.

MS. FERTIG: I know. I know. And this -and this -- it's a ridiculous rule. Just be glad
if you have the public show up. And I go to a
lot of public meetings, not just here, but
different government things. This is not my
life, I want you to know that, but I'm just
saying, I've always thought that the public does
not take up that much of a meeting. If you time
how much some board members speak during that
meeting, you know, this just goes back to what we
talked about, different rules for different
people. I would say strike this section and it's
ridiculous.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So strike the -- so is that a motion, to strike --

MS. FERTIG: I'll make a motion.

MR. MENZUL: Just one piece of -- I believe in Robert's Rules they effectively give a lot of discretion to the chair. And also on page --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: But this is going into policy and the discretion isn't happening. So if

we don't make the motion -- DAC already passed a motion.

MR. MENZUL: Right.

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DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So are you saying you're thinking about it or --

MS. FERTIG: I'm happy -- let's make a motion and then we can see where it goes and move to the next thing.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Second?

MS. SHAW: Second it.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So moved by Mary Fertig, seconded by Phyllis Shaw to strike Roman numeral 7, Public Participation, Section A, Number 1, regarding the public speaking limitation of 12 minutes.

MR. DE MEO: A. It's not A(1).

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: What did I -- A(1). But there is a number 1 there. The thing I have up on the screen. Roman --

MR. DE MEO: 2(a).

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: No, it's A(1).

Now, you got me.

Mary, what are you referring to?

MS. FERTIG: Oh, I'm talking about just what you said, Nathalie.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. I thought so.

Article 7, A(1). That's it. Because then -then the rest of it speaks to the chair's
discretion. If there's 100 people you get 30
seconds and so on and so forth. Nobody's arguing
with that. Okay.

DR. WANZA: That passed; right?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Not yet.

DR. WANZA: Okay.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Any further discussion?

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(No response.)

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: All in favor?

Oh, sorry. Yes?

MR. DE MEO: Just real quick, you know, it should be based on the public interest. If there's two people, give them five minutes; if there's 20 people, cut it down. Is that the discretion your talking about?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Well, no, what happens is, let's say -- well, sort of.

But Mary is proposing to not have a time limit. However, the chair can then limit individual speakers. Let's say there's a controversial topic, 100 people show up.

Obviously, you have to have some kind of time limit or else the meeting would go on in perpetuity. That's not what this motion is about.

This motion is about, on the average day when yours truly is probably the only person sitting there and there are five audit committee items that you guys felt strong and had strong opinions about, I can't always share them if I also then have to speak to a Facilities related item or two because three times five is 15 and this would cut another three minutes off.

MR. DE MEO: But that's for committee members. Just for the public for now, let's stick to that.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: We are the public. We are considered the public.

MR. DE MEO: Well, you're going to segregate that; right?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: That's the next motion.

MR. DE MEO: So I think there should be -look, I think there should be some discretion,
but what if it took a half hour or 45 minutes, if
it's an important matter, maybe it should be two
hours.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: And they have done that.

MR. DE MEO: Okay. So is there discretion to do that?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yeah, that doesn't take that away.

MR. DE MEO: Okay.

MS. FERTIG: But I'm specifically talking about number 1, which limits an individual. Mary Fertig, I go to the meeting, I've got five things on an agenda that goes on from 9 in the morning until 9 at night, there's five things in that period that I want to comment on, this would prevent me from doing that. So it was a rule that was never there forever.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Created in 2020.

MS. FERTIG: And then they added it and then they made it even tighter. And I, personally, believe it just inhibits the ability of the public to participate in a meaningful manner.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So motion number 1 is what you moved and Phyllis seconded.

Do you have another comment or can we vote?

MS. SHAW: I just want to say, and I think

Mary made a point to say that or someone else, if

we have public coming out to speak, let the

public speak. I think -- and I may make a motion
as it relates to committee, that committee
reports should be separate and succinct in a
different --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: They are. They are.

MS. SHAW: -- in a different meeting altogether. I know most other entities within Broward County, they keep those separate because every city in Broward County has committees and those committees, they don't get to come and sit there for 12 hours if it's a long meeting to present their committee reports. And we are working on behalf and we are volunteering on behalf of the district. So if I have to come and present a committee report, I can't sit here until 9:00 when it's my time to do that.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. That will be the second thing. Okay.

MR. MAYERSOHN: And I certainly understand
Mary's response to this and I agree 100 percent.

I mean, I was up in Tallahassee during session,
they have committee speakers where people travel,
you know, 600 miles or whatever it is to get to
Tallahassee, four days, but the chair of that
committee turns around, if it's something that 20

people want to speak, they give them each a minute and say, look, we're on a time deadline or we're going to extend the meeting, you know. But you have that discretion. So it's not prohibiting somebody from speaking. You know, well, not to say, well you've been in this committee and you're only allowed to speak 12 minutes.

MS. FERTIG: And the next one I'm going to be addressing, too, which I think is right on point on that.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Right. I mean, you give someone an opportunity, and depending upon your meeting, it should be at the discretion of the chair to say, okay, look, we've amended this 28 times, you know, you should allow somebody that wants to speak on an amendment as opposed to going, no, your time is up.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yeah, that's even like a third issue.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Right.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So on motion number 1, to strike Article 7 Public Participation A(1), the 12-minute time restriction, all in favor -- we're good; right? All in favor?

	Page 9
1	COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Aye.
2	DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Any opposed?
3	(No response.)
4	DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Hearing none, motion
5	passes.
6	MR. MENZUL: Nay.
7	DR. LYNCH-WALSH: What are you voting no on?
8	MR. MENZUL: The 12-minute time, taking it
9	off.
10	DR. LYNCH-WALSH: You want a 12-minute time
11	limit?
12	MR. MENZUL: You're talking about per person?
13	Because that's how I read it; right?
14	MS. FERTIG: It would mean for the entire
15	meeting, which could last 12 or 14 hours. A
16	member of the public, an individual, could be
17	limited to 12 minutes.
18	DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. You can vote, no.
19	Okay. So opposed so one opposed to
20	striking the time limit.
21	Okay. So the next issue is just to be
22	clear, committee reports are five minutes?

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the time limit. That's five minutes that's free

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: And they are not subject to

DR. WANZA: Five minutes.

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and clear. That isn't the issue. The issue is you're coming to speak on behalf -- in your role as a committee chair or designee and there are a ton of items related to your committee on the agenda, this would limit you to four, including amendments, currently. And what they did last night is they said, advisory chairs and designees not subjected to the time limitation.

MR. MENZUL: Right. So then why strike it?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: No, no, no, no. Two

different things. Mary addressed the public, now

we're saying -- because you've got to cover your

bases, that advisory chairs and designees would

not be subjected to any time restriction when

they are speaking on behalf --

DR. WANZA: During the meeting.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: During the meeting.

DR. WANZA: During the meeting.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: During the meeting.

Because you're not there for your amusement. I assure you I don't go down there because I'm bored. I go down there because I feel responsible as the chair to share with the board the -- especially when we pass a motion, that'll be in the committee report, but then there are

items that impact what we do, and everybody had opinions that I'm trying to convey to the board.

Yes, Mr. De Meo?

MR. DE MEO: So are you -- is the committee chair or designee addressing the board, are they required to submit something summarizing what they are going to discuss?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: No.

MR. DE MEO: Okay. That should be rule one.

DR. WANZA: It's actually in there.

MR. DE MEO: And two --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: On an item?

MR. DE MEO: Well, I don't think it's fair -I've served on a lot of boards and you don't want
to charge a board member with something they
don't know about or don't have the ability to
address. So --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Nobody's --

MR. DE MEO: No, what I'm saying is it's good to have a summary, a white paper, something about what you're going to discuss.

Second, I do think it's in the interest of the district to have some kind of limitation, maybe a half hour, which upon -- upon -- you could request a longer time if you have a big

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committee report in advance and it probably --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: It's not the committee So let me -- so the thing with the CPA designation, we passed a motion on the job description and in the end at the end of that 45 minutes, which I was so addled I walked out to the parking lot because I forgot that I parked in the garage because of how back and forth it got with people picking at the job description, none of which was in support of the recommendations this committee made. Only at the end to have them say, take it back to the audit committee, which I sent everybody the board item and pointed out what recommendations had not been taken. So I had to -- every time they made a motion trying to change the job description I would get up and say the audit committee recommended blah, blah, The audit committee very strongly said, blah. keep the CPA. We gave up the Florida. Fam actually was the biggest supporter of our recommendations and she was crystal clear, believe it or not for some of you, that she agreed with the audit committee about requiring a CPA, yes, but not Florida and giving them two years to obtain the Florida license if they came

from a different state. They took -- it was like 45 minutes batting that around. So I was up and down and up and down.

MR. DE MEO: I agree with you, but I think it should be discretion and there should be some guidelines. For example, submit some information, let us know what you're talking about, generally keep it to a half hour, and if you need more we'll grant it within a reasonable time period.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: But you're still commingling two things. The audit committee report is separate from board items related to the committee's purview. So that was a -- we had the H -- I think HH?

DR. WANZA: It was HH-1.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: HH-1 was te job description. And then there was DD-5, which was the task assignment, which we don't even want to get into what happened with that.

DR. WANZA: BB.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: BB; sorry.

MS. FERTIG: Can I use another example?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yes, Mary.

MS. FERTIG: Okay. I'm going to need to go

back to when we as an audit committee, I was the chair, we as an audit committee recommended the CMAR contract.

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DR. LYNCH-WALSH: To be against it. Against it.

MS. FERTIG: Yes, we went to the original I have a rule that I don't speak on thing. something unless I have -- and I think this is what I think the rule should be, unless I have a motion or consensus from the group I represent. So we had taken a very strong stand on this. There were a couple of controversial contracts. I would stand up and say, a reminder, the audit committee on such and such a date recommended against this. That happened -- you could pull all kinds of things out that that happens to. So, you know, you don't have time to submit it ahead of time. You just have to know that you're only going to speak on what you have a motion on. And I think, generally, that's what Nathalie does.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: That's in a report.

MS. FERTIG: Right. Well, and -- but, you know, when it comes to -- there are all kinds of times where things will come before the thing

that we've taken a position on in another way, that you'll stand up and remind them of what our motion was and what the topic was.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right. And all that this was about -- and then there are times when the advisory chair has information that hasn't been shared with the board by starr. This is more of an FTF issue than Audit. However, I have had times where I've had to say, that is not what happened, here is the document. So all this is about is about the chair -- if you go to a meeting not being subjected to the time restriction as an advisory chair or designee. That's all that was about.

So the first -- the first one -- the motion Mary passed solved that problem, too, but this specifically distinguishes advisory committee members and chairs, designees from general public. Somebody that accidently wandered into KCW and got in front of a microphone and opined for three minutes because they're allowed to on any given topic is treated the same, currently, as an advisory chair. So last night they were adamant about advisory chairs not being treated the same and not being subject to the time

1 restriction. So that would be the motion.

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So to move things along, I'm making a motion

MS. FERTIG: Do you want that motion?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yeah, to move it along.

MS. FERTIG: So I'm just going to say an advisory chair or designee will not be subject to cumulative time restrictions. Is that okay?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Cumulative? Yes.

MS. FERTIG: Because that's really what it's in reference to.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yeah, second.

MS. SHAW: You can't second it. I'll second it.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Moved by Mary Fertig, seconded by Ms. Shaw.

Any further discussion?

(No response.)

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: No? We're good?

Okay. So motion that advisory chairs not be subject to cumulative time restrictions; all in favor?

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Aye.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Any opposed? Chairs and designees, actually.

MR. MENZUL: If we're making it -- this committee's chair and, you know, whatever else is

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: It's all -- it's about all chairs. DAC was not specific to DAC, it was advisory chairs.

DR. WANZA: Or designees.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Or designees.

MR. MENZUL: Well, I would amend it to -- I would amend it to --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: We already voted.

MR. MENZUL: Okay. Fair enough.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. You're with -- and you voted with us or --

MR. MENZUL: Yeah, I guess.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. I'm just trying so they know how to report it. Passed unanimously; yes?

Okay. All right. Then there was the timing of committee reports, because, just so you know, as -- you can provide a nominal fee to volunteers without them losing their volunteer status.

Committee chairs having to provide a written report, and this is not required, this is if you submit something in writing ahead of time, I have

written beautifully laid out committee reports to no avail over the years. So I suggested if someone wanted to provide a template, you know, that we could easily fill out, I'm not opposed, but nobody else was going for that.

So some of the other comments were about having to provide it in writing a couple days ahead, that wasn't happening and it's not required. It's only doing it in writing.

Usually we're lucky to just get down there on three wheels in time for the meeting, battle our way through, you know, people happy to get promotions and try to give a report. We are not kept waiting on committee reports until the end of the night. That's just a general agenda item.

Usually, they almost happen too early, you've got to like make sure you're there at 9:30.

9:30-ish? Yeah.

Okay. So the other -- the only other thing on this was G -- was striking G. And this may be more of a DAC thing. It's -- so advisory committee groups are intended to provide proposals. I don't think the group -- the group was not in favor of keeping that. Because it's -- this was -- at the end of the day this was

actually the policy for board meetings and this isn't relevant to a board meeting, and it's already captured. Policy 1070 governs committees. So that was the other thing.

MS. FERTIG: So I'm going to move that in the interest of time, move that we -- whatever, just put in all the numbers, okay, and add G to it.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: What?

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MS. FERTIG: I'm making a motion to support what you just said.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: To strike G.

MS. FERTIG: This is G. Thank you.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Striking G? That's the only thing I was saying. Oh, and the written reports ahead of time?

Okay. What is your motion?

MS. FERTIG: My motion right now is specifically on G so we can dispense of it and move on.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. To strike it?

MS. FERTIG: To strike -- yeah, to strike that.

MS. CARTER-LYNCH: I'll second it.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Moved by Ms. Fertig, seconded by Ms. Carter-Lynch to strike G under --

DR. WANZA: I got it. I got it.

2 MS. FERTIG: You have it already?

DR. WANZA: Rule 7 3(g).

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Rule 7 3(g) to strike.

Any further discussion?

(No response.)

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Hearing none, all in favor?

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Aye.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Any opposed?

(No response.)

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DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Nope? Okay.

MS. FERTIG: Can I -- can I just say one thing? The RSBM, please, do we have to use acronyms for everything? Because the average person has no clue what that is. Our research on the Parent/Community Involvement Task Force, which Peter also sits on, part of our research has been how much people hate acronyms because they don't know what they mean. So could we just spell things out instead of putting acronyms for these things?

DR. WANZA: So in the types of meetings it defines what RSBM. It is actually spelled out. But you just don't want us to use acronyms throughout?

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MS. FERTIG: I just -- I just think it gets -- I think it's crazy.

MR. DE MEO: It should -- it should be minimized. We're -- you know, if it represents a concept with a lot of words, but Regular School Board Meeting, do we really need an acronym for that?

DR. WANZA: So we use RSM for Regular School Board Meeting, Special School Board Meeting, and then we have workshops, closed-door sessions, but -- we have it -- we have it noted.

MS. FERTIG: The public's not going to be speaking at closed-door.

I also have -- I'm just putting this on the record, I don't care if you do anything with it, but I have a real objection, and I didn't like it when they did it, to the school board determining that you can only have 30 minutes of public input on a topic. 90 percent of the time you're going to have no public input. 90 -- so the other 10 percent of that, maybe one or two percent you're going to have a topic so important to the public as a whole that it's going to go over 30 minutes. So to make a rule to keep it at 30 minutes for the times when the most meaningful things come

before that board is just wrong. When it's something really important I believe anybody that wants to speak on it should be able to speak.

And I tell you, I've been doing this for longer than those people who have been involved, and those times are so rare that I just -- I just have a real objection to it.

MR. TURSO: Do you want to make a motion?

MS. FERTIG: Sure. Or do you want to make a motion?

MR. TURSO: No, you should make the motion.

I'll second it.

MS. FERTIG: So not limiting it to 30 minutes. But the section, it looks like its 2(a).

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yes, Article 7 again, A(2)(a), take out a total of 30 minutes?

MS. FERTIG: Yeah.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Moved by -- which way did it go? Moved by Fertig, seconded by Turso?

MR. TURSO: Yes, ma'am.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Further discussion?

MR. MAYERSOHN: Yes, just, Dr. Wanza, on some of these items that we're discussing, as opposed

to just the motion or the information, are you -how do we transmit some of the narrative behind
it? So, like, for example, Mary's talking about
an item and she says in the last 30 years maybe
there's been 12 times that -- or 30 times, let's
say once a year, that an item is so important
that 30 minutes is not enough to have the voice
of the community be heard, so, therefore, that's
why we're making this motion, because you don't
have the narrative behind the motion. So are you
capturing that in some way?

DR. WANZA: Uh-huh.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Okay.

DR. WANZA: And, thankfully, I've been here for the last 30 years.

MS. FERTIG: She knows which of us --

MR. MAYERSOHN: So you can count them all, all those times; right?

DR. WANZA: Actually, 32, but --

MR. MAYERSOHN: Because I think that's an important piece, just -- we're not just saying, here, we don't want this or we don't like that or we think this is great, but the narrative behind it I think is more important so that there's an explanation.

MS. FERTIG: I mean, truthfully, all of these were put in, not by -- not by a lot of the people sitting up here, but they were put in -- okay.

Never mind. I'll stop. Thank you.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: In the past few years.

MR. DE MEO: So did we move this --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Moved, seconded,

discussion. Are we good?

(No response.)

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DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So all in favor?

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Aye.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Opposed?

(No response.)

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: None. Motion passes unanimously to strike the 30 minutes and you're going to add content?

DR. WANZA: Mm-hmm.

MR. DE MEO: Madam Chair, I want to raise something that Mary brought up a couple minutes ago. And that is, if I were a board member, I would want the person presenting as a committee member to bifurcate their personal views from the committee's views. In other words, if you have an issue, you're the public, but if you're representing the committee, you should represent

1 the committee's consensus and --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: I try really hard to do that.

MR. DE MEO: I'm not making it personal. I'm just saying, if I were a board member, I would demand that. I'm not going to make a motion, but just a thought.

MS. FERTIG: And I really believe most people do. I think it's rare that someone comes up and usurps the --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: I've been signing up to speak as a regular speaker where I try to -- okay, I did the committee report.

MR. DE MEO: It's not about you, Dr. Lynch-Walsh.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: No, I know. But I'm just throwing it out there. Because sometimes people -- because sometimes people say I'm like --

MR. DE MEO: You're a good example.

MS. FERTIG: And, you know, I want to say, and I -- because I don't want anyone on the board to think any of this is personal towards them, because it's not. Because these aren't rules that they made. I believe most of our board does want to listen to the public. And so, you know,

all we're doing is putting the rules in place or proposing things that will help them do that. So

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. I've got you now. I think we're done with all the governing policies feedback. Are you guys good?

DR. WANZA: Good.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: All right. Because now we've got to talk about what to do with the rest of the agenda for today.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Thank you, Dr. Wanza.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Thank you.

DR. WANZA: My pleasure.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Let's close this out and go back.

So there are some things we do have to talk about today. A lot of this is follow-up from prior meetings. And then I'll confess that this Behavorial Threat Assessment I thought was a discussion of training. I didn't realize it was supposed to be an audit until yesterday. So that's why it was on today, because today is kind of more workshoppy. That's why we were talking policies. This is not a regular audit committee meeting, it's a special one. But I put it on

there and then realized that it was --

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MR. MAYERSOHN: Can I make a motion to defer until next time?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Well, let's look at what we have for April is one thing I want to say real quick. Let me pull it up.

MS. FERTIG: Can we just see how far we can get?

I've got to put it in the DR. LYNCH-WALSH: context, because we have -- Phyllis is leaving in 15 minutes, you've got somewhere to go. just -- there is -- the RFP I do need to talk about, but -- and I'm following what Mr. Mayersohn is saying. So understand that on April 11th the HCT Intercom Enhancement and Maintenance Audit, which, when I did a report a couple meetings ago, I looked everybody on the dais in the eye, and the chief auditor was in front and I said, someone please tell me offline if this is time sensitive. I got no response. So it didn't go on the last one. We were here for three and a half hours. So that we would do April 11th. board is being -- is aware that it's on there. PCG is only time sensitive from the standpoint of the EdPlan contract will be up in June and that's

the ESE case management. And so I believe I'm hearing they're going to extend ti, but beyond that it may very well be able to go until May. So we could defer that until May. I have no idea what the Discipline, I haven't looked at the audit plan to see how big or how long or involved the Discipline audit could be; if someone could explain that. We know Internal Funds, RSM, big 3 -- Healthy Vending, I'm not sure that's time sensitive. We could kick that to May and that would allow us to do the Behavioral Threat Assessment. I did ask and staff provided where we left of with RSM's last regular BTA audit. This one is the first in-house one and covers the time period -- I think it's July through December of '23. And the training gearing up for the changes, I think. So that would give us time to digest that and compare it to what the audit was before so that as we move forward we're getting the same types of auditing. So deferring that. So are you guys good with moving PCG -- and

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So are you guys good with moving PCG -- and is Healthy Vending, anyone know if that's time sensitive?

MS. ARCESE: It is not.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. And PCG, they could

go to May? Or June? Well, no, but PCG, like I said, the EdPlan contract is ending. Okay. So as long as we move some things around -- are we good with moving PCG?

MS. ARCESE: We may need to go back and see what the board requested because I know they're the ones that requested --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: I know, but we can't have a seven-hour meeting.

MS. FERTIG: Is that going to be caps and gowns?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: No, I don't think this is caps and gowns.

MS. FERTIG: I'm sorry, PCG is --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Is PCG EdPlan; that whole thing? Right.

MS. ARCESE: So we'll have to get back to you.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Because if we can move that, then we have to do BTA in April. Then we will have room to do our follow-up. The only follow-up thing that is critical for today, because there was a misunderstanding, this group, as long as I've been on here, I don't think has ever been on a selection committee for anything

other than the external auditor for the financial statement. I'm looking at you.

MR. MEDVIN: I've done that.

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DR. LYNCH-WALSH: You've done that. T think I've done that. But I don't believe we've ever been asked to select anything else other than So when that was discussed, when I heard the word selection committee a couple months ago and Ruth and some other people had expressed interest, I assumed it was that committee. don't know where we are in that process. then I realized, oh, no, this is for the professional auditing services, which includes RSM, Carr Riggs Ingram, CRI and all of that. three years ago that was done without us having any input into the scope, the evaluation process. We were not asked to be on the committee or anything like that. And I remember being concerned about that. So I pulled the RFP off of DemandStar and the evaluation process, to me, is not designed in such a way that you might get what you're aiming for. So my concern is that this selection committee -- and, usually, so on the Facilities side, FTF has a seat on QSEC, which is the Qualifications and Selection

Evaluation Committee. The chair either sits on QSEC or we have a designee because you have to rotate people. There's a rule that you can't serve on more than two or three, three in a row. So that's a process that works.

With this I was surprised, because what are most of the services? A lot of them are facilities related and operational. So it -- it seemed a little weird that the person that knows the most about facilities was not asked to be on it.

But from a timeline perspective, I believe the evaluation is coming up. And I have concerns about how this -- how this is being done. If it's -- the contracts are up June 30th with all of these external firms that currently have spend authority -- let me see, calendar. So the question is, so I believe -- proposals are due on the 21st and then the evaluation would take place on April 2nd, using the same evaluation process.

MS. FERTIG: What agenda item are we on?
MS. SHAW: We're not.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: We're on 8(b)(i) follow-up. It's time sensitive. That's the only reason I'm doing this. Because we will not meet again when

this happens. So this is either happening or it's not happening. We're either participating or we're not. So I'm not comfortable participating in the process because I'm not comfortable with the -- there's a scope here with the evaluation process. So unless we can revise the evaluation process, which I'm getting to it, in three minutes.

MR. MAYERSOHN: In three minutes.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: No, we're not going to do it in three minutes. That's my whole point. Can we extend or through addendum someone revise the evaluation criteria, because it largely consists of can perform, can't perform.

This is how we got into trouble with caps and gowns. It was too subjective. It says proposers experience and qualifications, scope of work and all of that, but when you get into how they're evaluated, it's a little less clear as far as that goes. Hold on.

MS. FERTIG: And you're saying this is something we have not done before?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: We have not done this before; no. We have not participated in this before.

MR. DE MEO: We haven't participated but the district apparently --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Does it; yes. I'm saying we should leave ourselves out of it if we're going to move forward.

MS. FERTIG: I agree.

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DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Because I'm not comfortable -- I'm sorry, my brain is like fried from last night.

MR. DE MEO: But aren't we supposed to be involved in the hiring of the external auditors?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: That's not this.

MR. DE MEO: That's not this?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: That's why I was confused, too.

MR. DE MEO: I thought it was in there.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: No.

MR. DE MEO: No? Okay.

MS. ARCESE: We have two RFPs. We have one for the financial and then this is for all other -- all other services.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: All the other ones. So my preference would be to pump the brakes on this and go through the scope of work and the evaluation criteria, which we obviously cannot do

1 in seven minutes.

MS. FERTIG: Well, I think that there's another reason for us not to be involved in selecting them. I agree with what we're doing so far as the external auditors, but I think we have people bringing audits and I think there's something to be said for us not having picked somebody --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: That's doing the audit.

MS. FERTIG: That we want. So I would just say, if you want a motion that we not be involved in this or what do you want so we can just move on? Because I wanted to get to a couple things.

MR. MENZUL: Well, why wouldn't we want to be involved in --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Not be on the selection committee. Right now, because I asked who's on the selection committee, and sure enough Ruth is on there, but even -- but we were all under the impression that this was the external auditor for the -- the independent external auditor for the financial statements that's required by State Stature 218 point whatever, that we've all sat on at one point or another throughout the years. That is not this.

MS. CARTER-LYNCH: And, I agree with Mary and I don't -- I don't think we should be involved either. Not -- not with this in this current state.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right. Not participate in the selecting.

MR. DE MEO: I don't think we should be involved in the selection. I agree with that.

But I do think we should have some input into the scope and the -- well, the RFP.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right.

MR. DE MEO: Because that is very broad.
We're just hiring people with three year
contracts? Couldn't we be more specific about
what we're hiring?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So there's a scope in the beginning.

MR. DE MEO: But it covers everything. Shouldn't we let out contracts on a job-by-job basis or is that too much work? I don't know.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Ms. Shaw?

MS. SHAW: We don't want --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: We don't want what?

MS. SHAW: We don't want to very time you have to go back and hire an audit firm or any

firm that now you're going to have to -- it's easier to do it and then break it up piece by piece. If you're going to go back and do it, do you know how much time it will take her and Procurement and all of the office to put that together? A lot of time.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So, no, and I'm not disagreeing with you. But my concern the last time is that this was put out before some of the issues that came up and the audits were given to firms that hadn't specifically responded to the issue that they were auditing because it wasn't a thought at the time.

So did this change at all? Do you guys know whether it changed from last time? Because I'm thinking it didn't.

MR. RHODES: I -- I did a comparison to the prior and to some older ones, even going back to the first period of time that I was here. And I didn't see very many changes and I respectfully disagree that it's overly broad, because at the end of the day it's broadcast for the massive number of services, whether it's operations, whether it's IT, whether it's construction. It's all of those areas that are captured at which

point, if they qualify to get in, then it's an engagement letter, also known as an SOW around here, where the terms and the costs and all those things are hashed out. But as long as we have qualified folks that are in these different areas that we're seeking, if the advertisement reaches all the public that it should, and there's a lot of people who follow DemandStar this way, then I would say that we're doing okay with this. I would be glad to hear any input form the committee on the broadness or any other aspect.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So Strauss?

MS. SHAW: I was first.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Oh, you are? Okay. And I know you both have to go.

MS. SHAW: So I think -- I think the issue is not because it's broad and -- I think the issue is, I think the last time was the scope of work.

So -- and I think having this discussion, then the office will be mindful that if -- especially, if it's something new that comes up and it's not within the entire RFP or RFQ that was put out, then, of course, an amendment to that would be necessary. But if you haven't brought it up and it covers the entire school board, they should be

able to get -- to provide -- to get a scope of work or provide a scope of work to the firm that's requesting it and get a contract in place very quickly. And if they are not doing the work based on the agreement, the scope of work, then that is when we, as a board, will, also, you know, hold tem to the fire and hold the office to the fire. But I think us in here discussing this and saying to them it's too broad, then two months down the road then we're going to be complaining that, oh, we didn't give them enough information to move forward.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yes.

MS. STRAUSS: So, I'm sorry, this is just diverting a little bit off topic. Unfortunately, I have to leave and my motion that I made last meeting that was pushed to this meeting, we now -- I now will not be able to be present for it.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: The enterprise risk?

MS. STRAUSS: That, yes, and also, you know,
the, just recommendations on the job description
which I've put in writing back to my board member
and I think everybody here.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yeah, I don't think our

recommendations are really changing.

MS. STRAUSS: Being heard; right. Right they're not changing exactly.

So as far as the RFP, I still stand very strong behind that. And, in addition, I was going to make a motion that the hiring of the chief auditor be, if you call it -- if the position he or she be called the chief auditor or director of auditing to serve as a person to act as an intermediary between the district and an outside accounting firm.

Because I would like to make a motion that we open up the job search and put out an RFP to have an external auditing firm be the internal audit function of this district. I stated last time, I stand strongly that I do not believe moving forward and getting to a better place includes having the audit function internally here at Broward County Schools. I believe we need an auditing firm that has public accounting experience, specifically with public schools and troubled districts. There are a number of troubled districts and auditing firms that have worked with Detroit, that have worked with Houston, that have worked with other counties in

the State of Florida. And I think we need to open up the scope for that. And the current RFP opened looking for auditing firms in general, I would like that RFP extended past the 20th or the 21st, whenever that closes, because we were not made aware that that was out and I think as an audit committee member we should know if there ar RFPs out there in regards to sourcing auditing forms just for our background knowledge only, and I just -- I just learned of this, Nathalie, when you sent that RFP or made us aware of that RFP, that that should be extended as well. Because it all ties into the same thing. So thank you ver much and --

- DR. LYNCH-WALSH: We got you.
- MS. STRAUSS: -- have a wonderful day.
- DR. LYNCH-WALSH: All right. Have a safe trip.
- 19 MS. STRAUSS: Thanks.

- DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Are you going?
- Okay. We still have quorum; right? Seven is the magic number, I believe.
 - MS. FERTIG: Well, just as a housekeeping thing, we moved to defer the enterprise risk management to this meeting, specifically, and I

believe that Ms. Strauss has made a motion, she's not going to be here, so I'm going to move to -I'm going to move to defer that to --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: April 11th?

MS. FERTIG: -- April 11th so she can be here

for it. If someone want to second it?

MS. SHAW: Second.

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DR. LYNCH-WALSH: And we don't have anyone from risk management here.

So second? We're going to have to defer.

MS. FERTIG: Well, let's get this one done and we can move to the next thing.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Any further discussion about deferring the enterprise risk management?

(No response.)

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. All in favor?

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Aye.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Any opposed?

MR. MENZUL: Opposed.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: What?

MR. MENZUL: Me, I'm opposed.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay.

MS. SHAW: I have to go see my auditor.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. All right. One

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MR. MENZUL: On principle.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: All right.

MS. FERTIG: I'm sorry, what -- can I just ask, I'm not trying to be difficult, I'm just wondering what --

MR. MENZUL: I just want it on the -- I just want it to be on -- listen, I know it's going to get -- I just want it to be on the record.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: It's going to be deferred anyway.

It's getting deferred. MR. MENZUL: I just want to be on the record, I think we should -- it needs to be discussed and, I guess -- at the very least it should be put on -- this enterprise risk thing should be at the top of the agenda for the next discussion. And it seems like a lot of the important stuff just didn't make it and we spent a lot of time talking about -- everybody keeps saying at some point, actually on that side. I think what we discussed today was mostly minutia; right? And I don't understand why we're telling the board all of the stuff that we are doing, but then we get to the RFP and we get to enterprise risk and it's like, oh, wait, everybody's got to

go, you know, which is --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Well, some people do.

MS. FERTIG: I agree with you, that it should be first. I guess I could have made that part of the motion.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: And I can do that, too, as the person putting the agenda together. Because I was busy gathering -- gathering support and documentation, because, as it tuns out, COSO, which we talked about, the COSO model, the COSO framework is what's used for the financial statement for the district. And we had talked in the past about applying it across the board to all internal controls across departments. Well, they also have an enterprise risk management framework and the two go together.

So I believe if you click on your link -- you know, if you go through your links, which you now have, you know, some of them came yesterday, I gathered the job descriptions for the risk management department, I gathered the organizational chart. We don't have the cost.

But now we have time to go look at those things.

This -- hold on one second. So this is --

basically, this provides the framework for both internal control -- there are links in here related to integrated internal control framework. This is the one we looked at before. They just look at the control environment, it goes through risk assessment, control activities, information communication and monitoring. And then the enterprise risk management framework looks at governance, strategy, performance, review and revision, information, communication, reporting.

So they both work together. And this is effectively what we've all -- you know, I go for root causes. And implementing both of these is what Ms. Strauss has been advocating for this whole time. It's the source of the frustration from both sides of the room, is the absence of these two things in the district.

So I put links to their guidance, you know, basically, their white papers and the website.

And you can read more about these. But this -- a few years ago there was -- the person that was doing safety and security was trying to implement enterprise risk management in the district. So those are the job descriptions that have the word "risk" in them. But they're --

MS. FERTIG: So you can move this to be number one on the agenda?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yea, so we will start where we left off. I just wanted to get through decisions that impacted our next meeting. This will move to the front. We also have the OCA cost, I believe they're revising, because it came ina PDF. I like numbers in Excel format in case I want to add or subtract.

MS. FERTIG: Can I make a request on that, that it be on larger font?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Oh, that, too.

MR. MAYERSOHN: As per Rebecca.

MS. FERTIG: As per Rebecca.

MS. ARCESE: So that sheet was updated, so you should have a hard cop of what was updated on the web page. So we made copies this morning.

But I know you had requested an Excel.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: I did, like wherever it started. And I've got to tell you, nobody can --

MS. CARTER-LYNCH: Nobody can read that.

MS. FERTIG: Nobody can read that.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: I'm even struggling, and from years of staring at six point type I can kind of read it.

MS. FERTIG: I was thinking of bringing magnifying glasses for the whole group here.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: That, too.

MR. DE MEO: Come on, Mary, you're making me feel old.

MS. CARTER-LYNCH: I resemble that remark, Mr. De Meo.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So, yeah, so we tabled enterprise risk management. This is 8(b).

MS. FERTIG: We deferred the motion that Ms. Strauss made at the last meeting for the April 11th meeting.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yes, yes. And the discussion in support.

Okay. So it's 12:07. This is -- these are the costs -- now, when I was going through this, for the salaries, just as an example, the budget versus commitment results in available budget and what I was -- I expected us to know whether we are above or below budget right now for the year. Because this seems to -- this is the whole budget for the year, and, presumably, what people have earned so far, which makes it look like we have 1.1 available, which isn't really available because we're only, you know, three quarters of

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the way through the year.

So, Mr. De Meo, I don't know if there are
things in here. I think we can have further
discussion at the next meeting if we, basically,
take our follow-up and put that at the top of the

6 agenda.

7 Agenda

MR. DE MEO: Yeah, it's a good start. It's broken down. We can change the external. The budget you could extrapolate, try to extrapolate, but has half the year passed? If you use half the year, then it looks like we're over budget.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: That's what I was trying to tease out.

MR. DE MEO: Yeah, but that's what we -that's exactly what we need, I think, and we can
tear that apart.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: The next time; right.

So we have a list of positions. There was follow-up. This has a salary for them. Let' see, external auditor fees.

Were these -- hold on, I'm trying to --

MR. DE MEO: This was confusing, though.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: It's not sorted by -- if memory serves, it's not sorted by vendor.

MR. DE MEO: Yeah, by vendor, by job.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Another reason we need Excel because then we can filter. But if you filter it.

MS. ARCESE: I could present them in different ways. I can --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Well, by vendor.

MS. ARCESE: -- go by vendor. So I was consistent in the year so that way you can see some of our purchase orders lapse from one year to the next. But I can do another sort and provide a different layout where it's by vendor as well.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Well, year and vendor or, you know, vendor and year so that you don't have, you know, RSM, RSM, then this one, then that one. So it's clear, what have we been spending with RSM.

MS. ARCESE: Right.

MR. DE MEO: RSM and then the jobs underneath it.

MS. FERTIG: Alphabetically by vendor.

MS. ARCESE: I'll present it a little differently next time so we have more on how we sorted it out.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: And then, again, because

there's numbers attached, if we can have it in Excel, because where it gets frustrating for me is that I can export it in Adobe, but it doesn't always export in a nice manner, in a clean manner where I can then manipulate it.

MS. ARCESE: Okay.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yes, sir.

MR. DE MEO: This ties into an earlier matter. Do the auditors or the -- these firms, do they provide an engagement letter for each job?

MS. ARCESE: Yes.

MR. DE MEO: Then why wouldn't we budget and contract job by job? I'm not buying that broad thing. I'm not buying it. I don't think that's the way to go.

I think it creates -- and I don't think the accountants would typically take advantage of this, but I've been there, when you have an appropriated amount, you know, it's well, we're going to go ahead and spend that.

So I would rather see it job by job. I know it's a little bit more work. But I'll tell you what, I bet you it would save the district money. Just a comment.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: And you did ask for it that way every time you've asked.

And to that point, bouncing back to the RFP, we all agreed not to be on the evaluation committee for reasons already expressed. Ms. Strauss also talked about us being able to review it. So looming at the feasibility of pumping the brakes to also address Mr. De Meo's concerns. Because my concern three years ago was, to that point, where we're flinging things at the different auditors that they may or may not have — when they responded that they have the skill, the skill needed for the job that they're being handed were not included in that.

MR. RHODES: If I can just respond? If you guys would, between now and when it is that you're asking for us to come back with some additional information regarding the pumping the brakes of this process, just look at Section 4.3, because it goes through it and takes a look at some of the more general and works its way down to specific regarding what types of projects that they've done, what similar projects that they've done for school districts, give them a list of the three audits that they've completed, provide

references for the work that they have completed. It goes down into the scope and performance of -because each of these different categories is a
scoring availability. But wen we look in the
second one, in 4.3.2, Scope of Services and then
Performance Specifications, it's not simply a yes
or no answer. They're identifying in the Scope
of Services and Performance Specifications
column, they're identifying what different things
that they can actually provide in way of
experience. So, for example, the wording has to
identify whether or not they can provide
construction, operational and informational
technology services for this particular work.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right. So here's the thing, on QSEC you score them for the individual -- this is what I was looking for earlier, but I'm not used to this layout -- so give me one second. What?

MR. RHODES: That was precisely what I was just talking about.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right. But it says -- but if they're not scored -- so this is under Scope of Services. The -- how we're arriving at, yes, can fully comply, as opposed to, like, shall

submit a letter of engagement; well, of course they shall be doing that. Shall provide operational auditing services of programs and consultants.

Again, we could have a long discussion about all of these criteria. And that's the point, is that we have not looked at this and yet we are put on an evaluation committee. And the scope -- so there are concerns here.

So my question is, can the brakes be pumped on this? Because I agree with Mr. De Meo's concerns, and I'm trying to take everybody's concerns. There is something to be said for having a pool, but we want to make sure that the pool is both broad enough and specific enough and that they've been pre-qualified on all potential things they could be asked to audit, all potential scopes. Not -- you know, I know there's a level of precision, not the nuts and bolts and minutia of it, but the ability that they bring to the table and the experience attached to those, the scope.

MR. DE MEO: And that's exactly -- oh, were you ahead of me? Go ahead.

MS. FERTIG: Well, actually, Pavel was.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yes, his arm wore out.

MR. MENZUL: No, I just figured you don't want me to keep it up. I don't know how -- I mean, look, we don't have that much time, presumably.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yes.

MR. MENZUL: So what -- so could you clarify before I ask, what are we -- what is it that we should be discussing? Are we discussing the RFP or are we discussing --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: I'm trying to get an answer as to whether or not they can pump the brakes on the solicitation, given that the current contracts -- and we don't know where we are on those. Like we don't -- everybody's contract, they could already have performed the services for this year, in which case they can pump the brakes because there's no contract that's rattling around out there that would be in danger if we pump the brakes on this.

MR. MENZUL: What do you mean by "pump the brakes"?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Meaning not have the evaluation on April 2nd.

MR. RHODES: 2nd or 4th.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Somewhere in there. That's the pumping of the brakes definition.

MR. MENZUL: Well, who authorized this? I'm just curious. How did this happen? Because it needs to be budged for and --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: It's not even -- this is like routine, they're bringing this forward, these are the people that are already in the pool. There hasn't been -- this is just to create a pool of vendors.

MR. MENZUL: Right, but we don't have to select any of them or the board doesn't have to pick any of these people.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Well, they could -- well, generally you're scoring them, so you're going to be selecting a pool.

MS. FERTIG: Yeah, but we don't.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: We're not; no. But the framework by which they are selecting is what we're weighing in on, but we don't have a chance to weigh in because they're going to be doing this process on April 2nd is the point.

Medvin just raised his hand, but I know you and Mr. De Meo.

MS. FERTIG: I think I had my hand up for

1 some time.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yes, I'm trying.

MS. FERTIG: I'm sorry. I'm sorry.

MR. MENZUL: Because there's a lot to change here.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: That's the whole point, but we can't do that today.

MS. FERTIG: Okay. I don't want us to be -I know how we like to get things done in a hurry,
you know, we think of it today and we want it
done yesterday; okay? So I don't want to do
anything that's going to prohibit us from having
that pool of auditors ready for our next
discussion.

I -- I just -- Dave, you're the one working
on this?

MR. RHODES: Well, I've inherited it now.

MS. FERTIG: You've inherited it; okay.

I just would tell you, I'm happy you're here, you've done so many great audits over the years.

I feel he has a really good concept of what needs to be in this RFP to get us the quality of auditors to the pool of auditors that we're going to need.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: But it's already out. So

he can't add anything yet.

MS. FERTIG: Are you comfortable with it is my question?

MR. RHODES: That was the point -- that was the point that I was making earlier. You think, let's just say buckets of potential vendors and they get dumped into a funnel and as they go through the funnel they either get selected through evaluation and recommended for award. But even after they're recommended for award, it does not mean that if they're entitled to award they're entitled to any participation in the contract. It comes down to their ability to perform and how we specify the scope of services and negotiate the cost with them in an engagement letter or SOW for those types of services.

Now, seeing the group that seems to, for lack of a better word, orbit the school board for these types of services, I saw exactly what I expected, which was the same general group of people that came in with interest for this. But it was broadcast, and we should have caught a lot more interest in this, I don't know exactly why that part is.

But if I could take just one second and jump

to go to your question, when you say "pump the brakes" I would need some more information because I would have to talk to, first of all, the folks at Procurement to find out what is the process for doing that? And, secondly, I would have to know, what is the drop-dead end date that we would have to have any input added and revised into this contract so that it could still be done in time? Because, to Mary's point, we do not want to be left without this cadre of outside services that we could grab from.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right. And we don't know if we would because we don't know where everybody who's working within the contract is in their current engagement. So that, you know, it may not be an issue.

So Mr. De Meo.

MR. DE MEO: Was Andrew ahead of me?

MR. MEDVIN: I've been waiting a while.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: I think you guys are punking me over there.

MR. DE MEO: I'll be brief. I'll be brief.

I think the train has left the station. I think
that RFP is pretty -- I've done a lot, I've
responded to a lot of these. I think it's pretty

darn good.

There is one area in your attempt to be thorough, I think, that might even be too specific, disqualifying a lot of qualified firms. When you give a laundry list of all the things they have to have done, for example, construction, well, you don't need construction to do behavioral threat assessment. That's pure auditing.

So that's why I would take a more piecemeal approach on it, maybe qualify. I like the approach, qualify a group of people and then select -- and you said that, select them as their skills point to the best firm to do the job.

But, you know what, if this thing has been out, what are we going to do now? I would wait until next time.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right. We got off the evaluation committee.

All right. Mr. Medvin.

MR. MEDVIN: I think we're making a lot of noise about a little too much. I mean, the reality is, there's just so many firms out there that, A, would be willing to contract with the Broward County Schools today with the current

situation, and, B, that are qualified to do various types of audits. And I think, historically, the cadre that have come from this RFP is a group of different auditing firms and I think the department has made a decision to engage in particular firms for particular audits based on what they feel is their best capabilities. And then your engagement letter and those procedures come in. So I think the purpose of the RFP, I think, is to extend that. If there's additional firms that are out there, I don't think that's going to really great. happen. We, as a committee, shouldn't be involved with selecting the individual firms and go forward with it. Because there's not going to be any audits unless it's going through your office anyway. And so I don't know what we're worried -- what we're arguing about. I think the RFP is complete. It asks for a lot of stuff and, hopefully, the people that review it know what they're looking at, and then it's clearly up to the office of the chief auditor to engage the appropriate firm from that list when a particular audit comes up. And some might be contractual that we know about, other ones we don't know

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about, and go forward with it. I don't think we have to, you know, beat a dead horse to death.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Thank you. Hold on I think Mr. Rhodes had a comment.

MS. CARTER-LYNCH: That's okay.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: I'll go with Mr. Rhodes and then you and then Menzul.

MR. RHODES: I can make it very quick. It's kind of responding to a lot of different things at once. And that is that I don't have off the top of my head the number of plan holders, and that's what they call the people that actually grab the information on DemandStar where it's advertised, but I do know that it is advertised to a very large community. So whether there's something in the local area that's causing these same firms to come in and not get a lot of new participation, maybe that's something that we need to look at in the future to try to find some way to increase that participation, but I do know that it's not for lack of publishing this to the community.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Ms. Carter-Lynch?

MS. CARTER-LYNCH: Is there anything that we have to vote on? Because I have to leave. I

have another board meeting that I'm chair of and I shouldn't be late.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yes, no voting other than we'll be ending the meeting. Some of this is just like housekeeping where I'm trying to move things along, like those pesky standard practice bulletins and the outcome of that drama.

So -- but let me stay in order here.

Okay. So we're not on the selection committee, so Ruth will not be showing up on the 2nd.

MR. MENZUL: But will be discussing this at some point?

MS. CARTER-LYNCH: But I would have done it.
I would have done it.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: I hear you. But we are agreeing that we should not be selecting that.

MS CARTER-LYNCH: Oh, I'm on board. I'm on board. I'm happy to be free.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: And then as far as us discussing it further, because it's already out, and if they can't do anything with it, we would be discussing it in preparation for the next one, which would be -- I think this is for three years.

MR. RHODES: I think it's three with two one-year extensions. I'll look closer at it.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay.

MR. MENZUL: So then we should be a part of it. The vote should be on we have to be a part of it.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: No. No. The point was made that we review the audits that these people will be auditing. I mean, truth be told, we do that with the financial -- annual financial audit to some extent. I think this is more of a to-be-continued, because there could be, very well, things that they may be able to make some changes via an addendum to the solicitation before it's done, but nothing too substantive or else it throws the whole kit and caboodle off.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Just for clarification purposes --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: On?

MR. MAYERSOHN: The RFP.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yes.

MR. MAYERSOHN: So it was broadcast on February 16th, it's due March 21st, 17 plan holders an six watchers.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Are you in DemandStar?

1 MR. MAYERSOHN: Mm-hmm.

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DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay.

MR. MAYERSOHN: There's also audit management software which is due April 10th, 28 plan holders, there's two watchers.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Wait, what?

MR. MAYERSOHN: Audit management software. There's an RFP out.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Who is that for?

MS. ARCESE: That's an electronic workpaper to make it more efficient instead of doing --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: How much is that? And where is that -- is that in the budget?

MS. ARCESE: It is. There's a line item in the budget for that.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So I guess -- it's in this year's budget?

MS. ARCESE: Yeah. I can show you.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So -- but, roughly, how much is it? And is it something you already have and you're just putting it out again?

MS. ARCESE: It's not something -- this is new. This is electronic workpaper. We don't have electronic workpapers for productivity and efficiency. So this is something that was

budgeted last school year. We did research, collaborated.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Who's the vendor?

MS. ARCESE: I'm sorry?

MR. DE MEO: CCH? Who is it?

MS. ARCESE: What do you mean, CCH?

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DR. LYNCH-WALSH: The solicitation's out?

MS. ARCESE: We're looking now.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: When does it close?

MS. ARCESE: I'm not sure.

MR. MAYERSOHN: When does it close? It closes April 10th.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So another solicitation that went out that wasn't mentioned in this committee that relates to the work product that we review and we have no input, like if there's something we saw repetitively that this software could help, we have no opportunity to provide input.

MS. FERTIG: I don't think we're going to see every single thing that they're putting out.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: I know. I guess the first step is --

MS. FERTIG: It comes to the point where

we're not getting to -- to -- I don't want to
mention --

- DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right. No, I get it.
- MS. FERTIG: Where we're not getting anything done that we're supposed to be doing.
- MR. DE MEO: It's kind of operational.
 - MR. MENZUL: Okay. But who is the evaluation committee?
 - DR. LYNCH-WALSH: What?
 - MR. MENZUL: Who is evaluating this?
- 11 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Staff.

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- MS. ARCESE: We're not there yet. I think it was just released; right?
- MR. DE MEO: Who is staff? That's a good question.
 - DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Well, on -- so on the one for the auditing services it's Dave Rhodes, you, Ali, and a few other people and I think there's an IT person?
- 20 MS. ARCESE: Yes.
 - DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So staff. And then for this I would imagine something similar, but I would think IT people would be involved.
- MS. HARPALANI: Yes, IT is involved.
- DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Mr. Rhodes, did you

have a comment?

MR. RHODES: I can wait until he's done because my item ws going to kind of address a global thing we've been talking about. He might be talking about something more specific.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. And I wanted to know how much this is budgeted for.

MS. ARCESE: 230, I think. There's a line item for it.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: 230?

MS. ARCESE: I believe.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: This would be annually?

MS. ARCESE: That is the startup. I'll defer to --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: I mean, I think these are things that it would be nice to know that they're happening and we are just hearing about it. And while we're not trying to get into operational, it would be nice to know before they become a thing.

MS. HARPALANI: Hi, this is Jennifer Harpalani. Is this on?

MR. RHODES: Is the one on the other side working?

MS. HARPALANI: Yeah, I'll come down.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: The one closer to me was working. The other one, I'm not sure.

MS. HARPALANI: Hello?

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DR. LYNCH-WALSH: There you go.

So let me tell you a little MS. HARPALANI: bit what it is. Electronic workpapers is -- it's an on-line solution and the whole focus was to -especially the internal funds, they have a lot of repetitive work and a lot of paper intensive, so we were trying to go electronically where we could monitor and create templates so that would save time and create efficiency. And for us to be able to monitor and -- and this is very -- you know, my previous job we used TeamMates and there's AuditBoard. I mean, we shouldn't be talking about vendors right now. I'm so sorry. But there are a lot of electronic solutions out there. So our goal with this RFP was to put it out there. We did a lot of research. to a lot of government organizations here in Florida and put together a tabulation of costs and features, et cetera, and how the organizations were using it for, especially, internal funds, et cetera.

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So we -- the cost was based on some

assumptions, you know, in research of various solutions out there. And the goal was to put the RFP out there to see what vendors applied and then look at demos and then look at how the solution would benefit our organization and then come to the audit committee and present and see if, you know, if it creates efficiency, et cetera. I believe this item was -- has been on the audit plan. I think -- I think, Ali, you can speak more to that. But it has been on the audit plan for a while now, and we're just, you know -- that's -- that's about it.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: I feel like we're having, you know, like Pandora's box got opened, and not in a bad way. I mean, all of a sudden we're learning about things. Because you said coming to the audit committee. It would have been helpful -- it may very well, I remember seeing that as a risk area. Mr. De Meo keeps asking about risk and assessing risk, and that's all part of if there's strategy behind -- it shouldn't be behind the scenes because then we only see what we see. We see repeat audit findings. We see heavily -- you know, over reliance on paper with no end in sight. The

standard practice bulletins that I practically gave birth to a third child to get are 9,000 years old, some of them.

MS. HARPALANI: I -- I -- I mean --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: But it would have been good to know what you guys were doing. I don't think we had -- I don't remember hearing that.

MR. DE MEO: How much?

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DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Pardon?

MR. DE MEO: How much?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: How much is it going to be?

MS. HARPALANI: We have a budget and then we have some pricing estimates from various -- it depends on the product, it depends on the licenses.

MR. DE MEO: What's the range?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: 230 startup; right?

MS. HARPALANI: 230 is the budget. It depends how we want to roll it out. I would say, license-wise, anywhere from a thousand to \$1,500 depending --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Per?

MS. HARPALANI: Per user.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: And would that be just in the department per user; just in audit?

MS. HARPALANI: Yeah, just in audit. This is an audit solution. Yeah. And, you know, different vendors have different ways of packaging.

MR. DE MEO: But 230 I though I heard.

MS. HARPALANI: Yeah, 230.

MR. DE MEO: 230,000?

MS. HARPALANI: Well, yeah.

MR. DE MEO: Ufa.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Not in the world of technology.

Yeah, but the -- in theory, and timing -- you know, the problem with timing, a year ago it would have been probably perfect timing, because you're going to save. I got -- because I asked for the last internal funds audit for Western, I just meant the one we'd all seen before, I got like everything, including all the paper that is reviewed. I'm like, oh, well, these would be -- but -- and some of it needed to be redacted, but in any event, the packet, I can appreciate having seen that what you're trying to prevent, it's just that it would have been nice to have known this a while ago.

MS. FERTIG: But I -- just because we're

getting really late and we're going to have to adjourn, I feel like we're spending so much time on -- you know, we've made an ask for things to be more efficient, to reduce the paper, this and that, how they find the solution to do that sounds like a function to me.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: But it's nice to know.

MS. FERTIG: I just don't know that we have to get into everything.

I don't know what we have left on the agenda, but --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: We're pretty much -- we deferred the other things. The other thing is I just want an update on where we are on the standard practice bulletins being put on-line as we tried to do a few meetings ago. Because there isn't -- the resistance is over. Nothing was sensitive.

Do you have a response for where we are?

Because that's really my last question mark for the day.

MR. RHODES: Two things. One, I was just going to go back and just backtrack on this idea of letters of engagement. When the time comes as far as this RFP is concerned we always have our

ears open to the kinds of things that you guys are talking about and the things that you're looking for, and in some cases, specifically, whether it's from you or from the board. That can help us where that control point is to make sure that we're actually getting what it is that the audit plan is calling for. And so we have that audit plan part, we have the ability to listen and to discuss things when we're in this meeting structure where we can come up with those things that will help us with that.

Now, going back to the other part, my current plan is to talk with the folks about what amendments we might be able to do, minor, as we've talked about, and then also to talk to Chief Joe Phillips about the IT part where the standard practice bulletins are concerned to get that link put right up on our website like the business practice bulletins.

But, as you said, because we've run out of that resistance I think being able to get this taken care of will be a much quicker thing and a lighter lift. It's just I have to talk to the right people to get that done.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Just checking this

side of the room. Mr. Mayersohn and then Mary.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Just -- yeah, just two quick things, because I know we're not going to get the meat of it, but I just want to bring up two quick things, if I can, because our next meeting I'd like to see a response, so at least I'm giving you, you know, a heads-up.

So on the BTA training program, there's a response by Chief Alberti, but there's no response by Mr. Lozano.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Which page? Or in general? Which page?

MR. MAYERSOHN: Well, this is page 9 of the response regarding the recommendations of the audit.

MS. ARCESE: So Mr. Lozano reports to him.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Huh?

MS. ARCESE: Mr. Lozano reports to Chief Alberti, that's why it's from Chief Alberti.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Right. But normally in response what we have seen in response is to have whoever -- you know, the principal responds and then an area director says, I agree with the response of the principal.

MS. ARCESE: That's fine. I got it. Okay.

1 We can do that.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Although Chief Alberti is the one that's ultimately responsible, Mr. Lozano is the one that's probably going to be the oversight for implementing it, so --

MS. ARCESE: Yep.

MR. MAYERSOHN: -- at least there's some documentation for that.

MS. ARCESE: Yep.

MR. MAYERSOHN: And then the other issue, which I don't really want to get into the completeness of it, but the booster club guidelines, from -- and, again, there's obviously a lot of different parts moving, but incorrectly a 501(c)(3) can conduct game of chances. There's state statute that explains the specifics of how they need to conduct that. So whether the school board wants to allow that, I find it hard to usurp state statute unless it's more restrictive. So --

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: You're saying an outside, like booster club or --

MR. MAYERSOHN: A 501(c)(3), which is a booster club if they decide to be, because, again, they're not audited by the auditors, they

have their own bylaws and their own informational.

MS. ARCESE: So we'll -- we'll include
Chapter 8, as well, because I think that is what
guides internal funds.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Internal funds is different. It's utilization of internal funds. But if they want to have a -- like, for example, if they want to work with the Florida Panthers and do a raffle thing which they're, you know, through a third party they're connected and they get those funds, if they are a 501(c)(3) they are allowed to do that as longa s there are rules followed by quidelines by state statute.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So I provided these because the Western Debate Club was a booster club and is now --

MR. MAYERSOHN: And it's a 501(c)(3)?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: I can't answer that. Were they? I don't know. One hopes. I'm just saying, they may or may not have been. But now they're using the e-store, which suggests they're going through internal funds, so that's like a whole other discussion. But this was just because it was a booster club.

MS. GOULDBOURNE: I just want to say that you have to separate it. Our policy says that it has to be distinguished from any internal funds. So anything from an outside organization is not custodial funds and so none of that money should go into internal funds. But our policy -- our standard practice bulletin, I will say that our standard practice bulletin does indicate that it has to be separate and distinctive from anything in our internal funds.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Yeah, no, no, I don't disagree with that. I mean, it's utilization for internal funds, but a 501(c)(3) can conduct a raffle as long as they follow specific guidelines of state statutes. And there's a litany of items that they need to follow. Most people don't, you know, but, again, the separation of -- I get it, It can't be utilization.

MS. GOULDBOURNE: And the employees cannot participate.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Correct. So I just wanted -- I just wanted to be clear that there is that distinction.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. All right. I see Mary making a motion to adjourn?

1 MS. FERTIG: No.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: No?

MS. FERTIG: I have three things I want to say before we adjourn.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Yes, ma'am.

MS. FERTIG: First, I want to thank you for what you've done with this screen. I though we've needed this for a long time. And I would ask that when staff comes with something like a policy today, that they plan to have their presentation, I think it would cut through a lot of that. Maybe we could move just a little faster.

Secondly, I want to thank Michele. I came a few minutes late, so I didn't realize she was going to be leaving. But I want to thank her. She has been wonderful about getting our materials to us and just always treated us so kindly and professionally. So if you would convey that.

MS. ARCESE: I still talk to her daily so I'll make sure I relay the message.

MS. FERTIG: Okay.

MR. MAYERSOHN: Can she work remotely?

MS. ARCESE: I wish.

1 MS. FERTIG: And, finally, what is Joris's last day?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Good question.

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MR. RHODES: His last day is the 20th. Yeah, he starts his vacation period on the 21st.

MS. FERTIG: So we won't see him at another meeting?

MR. RHODES: Not that I'm aware of.

MS. FERTIG: Okay. So I just wanted to say the same thing to him. I'm sorry we didn't get a chance at the meeting to thank him for his service. So those are my three things. And thank you -- thank you for another great meeting.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Thank you guys for hanging in there. I'm going to ask Mr. --

MS. FERTIG: Do you want a motion to adjourn?

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yes.

MS. FERTIG: Motion to adjourn.

MR. TURSO: Second.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: All in favor?

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Aye.

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Any opposed? Pavel?

(No response.)

DR. LYNCH-WALSH: All right. Motion carries.

We're out of here. Thank you very much.

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(Meeting was concluded at 12:42 p.m.)
REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE
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COUNTY OF BROWARD
I, Timothy R. Bass, Court Reporter and Notary
Public in and for the State of Florida at Large,
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my stenographic notes thereof.
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