

SCHOOL BOARD OF BROWARD COUNTY

SPECIAL AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING

MICROSOFT TEAMS

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2023

9:44 A.M. - 10:55 A.M.

Court Reporter:  
Timothy R. Bass, Stenographic Reporter  
Bass Reporting Service, Inc.  
633 SE 3rd Avenue, Suite 200

United Reporting, Inc.  
(954) 525-2221

1 COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

2 MS. RUTH CARTER-LYNCH  
MR. ANTHONY DE MEO  
3 MS. MARY FERTIG  
MS. ITOHAN IGHODARO  
4 DR. NATHALIE LYNCH-WALSH  
MR. ROBERT MAYERSOHN  
5 MR. ANDREW MEDVIN  
MR. PETER TURSO

6  
7 OFFICE OF THE CHIEF AUDITOR STAFF:

8 MR. JORIS JABOUIN, Chief Auditor  
MS. ALI ARCESE, Audit Director  
9 MR. DAVID RHODES, Audit Director  
MS. JENNIFER DAILEY, Clerk Spec C  
10 MS. JENNIFER HARPALANI, Manager, Information &  
Technology Audits  
11 MS. NAKIA GOULDBOURNE, Acting Manager, Internal Funds  
MS. ELENA PRITYKINA, Task-Assigned Manager, Operations  
12 MS. MICHELE MARQUARDT, Executive Secretary

13 INVITED GUESTS:

14 MR. TIM BASS, Court Reporter, United Reporting  
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1 Thereupon, the following proceedings were had:

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3 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: All right, everybody.  
4 First order of business is the Pledge of -- where  
5 is my flag? I didn't put my flag in. It's in  
6 the garage today. The Pledge of Allegiance.  
7 There it is.

8 (Pledge of Allegiance was recited.)

9 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Thank you.

10 Okay. Next up we have roll call.

11 MR. JABOUIN: Thank you. We have Ms. Ruth  
12 Carter-Lynch.

13 MS. CARTER-LYNCH: Here.

14 MR. JABOUIN: Ms. Rebecca Dahl indicated she  
15 would not be able to attend, so she is excused.

16 Mr. Anthony De Meo?

17 MR. DE MEO: Here.

18 MR. JABOUIN: Ms. Mary Fertig?

19 MS. FERTIG: Here.

20 MR. JABOUIN: Ms. Itohan Ighodaro?

21 MS. IGHODARO: Here.

22 MR. JABOUIN: Dr. Nathalie Lynch-Walsh?

23 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Here.

24 MR. JABOUIN: Mr. Robert Mayersohn?

25 MR. MAYERSOHN: I'm here.

1 MR. JABOUIN: Mr. Andrew Medvin?

2 MR. MEDVIN: I'm here.

3 MR. JABOUIN: Ms. Phyllis Shaw?

4 (No response.)

5 MR. JABOUIN: Ms. Jaclyn Strauss?

6 No response.

7 MR. JABOUIN: Mr. Peter Turso?

8 MR. TURSO: Here.

9 MR. JABOUIN: I'm Joris Jabouin, the Chief  
10 Auditor. On my team we have Ali Arcese,  
11 Director, David Rhodes, Director, Michele  
12 Marquardt, Jennifer Daily, Jennifer Harpalani,  
13 Assistant Director, Nakia Gouldbourne and Elena  
14 Pritykina.

15 Chair?

16 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: All right. So the purpose  
17 of today's special meeting, because we have such  
18 packed agendas at our regular meetings, is to  
19 start the process of developing a policy for the  
20 audit committee per Policy 1070 which governs all  
21 advisory committees. Board established  
22 committees are either by resolution or by policy.  
23 And we have neither. So we need one or the  
24 other.

25 So 1070, which I think I have up here, and

1 we're not going to go re-reading 1070, but,  
2 basically, this was redone last year, and so the  
3 bylaws haven't been done for anybody for years,  
4 but we've never had a policy. So we came fairly  
5 close to a policy back in, I think I found -- we  
6 found it in 2015 and '16, and it was going to be  
7 Policy 1.8. I don't think that numbering  
8 convention would still hold. But when you look  
9 at -- this was when Pat Riley was here. And when  
10 you look at what's written here, it is pulling  
11 from the bylaws. It's, actually, the purpose and  
12 responsibilities, up until there, basically.  
13 That's what was being proposed as a policy.

14 So if you look at the bylaws, it talks about  
15 the appointees, who they are, not receiving any  
16 compensation, and then the duties and  
17 responsibilities. This is straight out of the  
18 bylaws. I would split the screen, but if you  
19 read both of them -- the only thing that isn't in  
20 here is the superintendent or his and her staff  
21 will arrange for clerical services to assist the  
22 audit committee. That is in the bylaws and not  
23 in what was proposed here, which is probably  
24 fine.

25 So the bylaws are supposed to be,

1 essentially, the procedures, the policy are the  
2 rules, the purpose, at least the way they have  
3 them set up in the district.

4 So pulling from the bylaws, it talked about  
5 the independent audit committee is advisory in  
6 nature. Its recommendations will be provided in  
7 writing to the school board and the  
8 superintendent.

9 Now, I think at the time this was written,  
10 and it never made it past a workshop, I can't  
11 find any rationale for why it stopped. It was  
12 supposed to go to a workshop and it got yanked  
13 and it, apparently, never got put back on. And I  
14 just don't remember, I don't know if anyone was  
15 on here, because I don't think I was on audit  
16 when this happened. I think it was just before I  
17 got on. Anyway, it never got approved, clearly.

18 So I don't know if keeping the word  
19 superintendent, because they used -- at the time  
20 the chief auditor reported to the superintendent.  
21 So it would have made sense to have that there.  
22 The superintendent will arrange for clerical --  
23 so, oh, I take that back, it is there. It just  
24 moved. The superintendent or his or her staff  
25 will arrange for clerical services. All books,

1 records, reports, documents, tapes, minutes and  
2 other information including special analysis  
3 requested by the committee will be promptly  
4 provided by the superintendent or his or her  
5 staff.

6 The audit committee is empowered to  
7 investigate any financial matters which are of  
8 concern to the committee. Additionally, the  
9 committee may be requested by the school board or  
10 the superintendent to investigate and report on  
11 other financial matters.

12 This is sort of the first stopping point  
13 where I wanted to point out, it says investigate  
14 any financial matters. We clearly look at other  
15 matters because there are audits that cover  
16 things that are not strictly financial. I mean,  
17 you could tie everything back to being financial,  
18 but some things are operational. And so there  
19 are other -- in other districts they have  
20 expanded upon this. But it's making it sound  
21 limited to financial matters. We look at the  
22 effectiveness of the audit plan. And so if we're  
23 reviewing the audit plan, which has other things  
24 other than financial, it makes sense that we  
25 would want to look at the word "financial". So

1 that's one of the things I wanted to point out,  
2 to highlight, to think about what type of matters  
3 we are empowered to investigate. Because it  
4 should all -- it should be consistent with the  
5 function of the Office of the Chief Auditor, it  
6 should be consistent with the Audit Plan, it  
7 should be consistent with all the audits that go  
8 through, not just limited, because it gets a  
9 little misleading. And I looked up Palm Beach  
10 and Miami-Dade and they have different verbiage.

11 So, again, the second sentence says,  
12 additionally, the committee may be requested by  
13 the school board or superintendent to investigate  
14 and report on other financial matters.

15 Miami-Dade has a budget and audit committee,  
16 Palm Beach is the audit committee.

17 All right. The following listing of duties  
18 is not intended to be all inclusive and other  
19 duties may be subsequently added by the school  
20 board. Review in depth -- can everybody, is this  
21 big enough or should I make this bigger? I can  
22 make it a little bigger. Okay. Review in depth  
23 the financial reports prepared by the staff of  
24 the Office of the Chief Financial Officer and  
25 prepare appropriate commentary to assist the



1 board in interpreting these reports.

2 I think a few years ago I mentioned that we  
3 weren't doing that, unless -- let's see, in  
4 interpreting these reports. So that's in there.

5 Review and evaluate the format of financial  
6 reports and make recommendations for changes that  
7 will enhance the effectiveness of financial  
8 reporting. We just had, essentially, this  
9 discussion but about behavioral threat assessment  
10 audits and reporting. Strictly speaking, I  
11 wouldn't think BTAs are financial, so that's why  
12 I think we need to look at the word "financial".

13 MS. FERTIG: I'm just wondering, Nathalie, do  
14 you want to just see how this reads if you add  
15 operational into each sentence, whether, so we  
16 don't have to come back and do every single  
17 sentence.

18 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Well, whatever we figure  
19 out. So I want to show everybody Miami-Dade and  
20 Palm Beach. But we can either go through this  
21 whole thing. I'm highlighting as I go through  
22 the document for future -- you know, to make a  
23 note. But I can stop right here and we can look  
24 at, you know, the beginning of those two.

25 So, for instance, Miami-Dade has an Audit &

1 Budget Advisory Committee. The Audit & Budget --  
2 the general purpose of the Audit & Budget  
3 Advisory Committee is to review and make  
4 recommendations to the school board and  
5 superintendent on fiscal management matters  
6 presented to the committee by either the board or  
7 superintendent. I'm guessing perhaps the chief  
8 auditor doesn't report directly to the board --  
9 well, I guess their superintendent can bring  
10 stuff in.

11 All right. The Audit & Budget Advisory  
12 Committee shall serve as the principal advisory  
13 committee to assist the board in fulfilling its  
14 fiduciary responsibilities on budgeting,  
15 financial reporting and accounting and business  
16 policies and practices and is the board's  
17 principal agent in ensuring the independence of  
18 the district's external and internal auditors.  
19 The Audit & Budget Advisory Committee's goals are  
20 to assist in, A, strengthening accountability for  
21 the stewardship and efficient and effective use  
22 of district -- school district funds; B,  
23 maintaining transparency of the district's  
24 financial and business operations; and, C,  
25 promoting an adequate system of internal control.

1 So that's purpose and goals from Miami-Dade.  
2 Palm Beach, their audit committee hereby  
3 establishes and the authority -- now their --  
4 they have an inspector -- Internal Inspector  
5 General. So this wouldn't apply, the first  
6 sentence here, couple sentences. The audit  
7 committee shall serve on behalf of the school  
8 board as its oversight of the school boards  
9 Inspector General internal audit and  
10 investigation functions. Hmm, I wonder what they  
11 mean by investigation. Is it something like SIU?  
12 I'll have to get clarity. Its members rely on  
13 the representations of management, the Inspector  
14 General, the General Counsel and other  
15 professional consultants. The audit committee  
16 shall review and make recommendations to the  
17 school board on matters affecting the adequacy of  
18 internal controls, accounting procedures, systems  
19 and controls and financial reporting in  
20 accordance with laws and regulations. Primary  
21 responsibility for the district's financial  
22 reporting and internal operating controls is  
23 vested in senior operating management as overseen  
24 by the superintendent. District staff shall  
25 provide assurance of the district's compliance

1 with pertinent laws and regulations, the  
2 management of the district's operations in  
3 accordance with sound business practices and  
4 accurate and complete financial disclosure. The  
5 committee shall ensure the Inspector General's  
6 Office obtains all the needed information the  
7 committee requires from district employees or  
8 vendors for investigations or audits, reviews,  
9 and inspections. Not applicable. Whenever a  
10 recommendation of the committee on a substantive  
11 issue is reported to the school board and the  
12 recommendation is not unanimous the basis for the  
13 majority and minority positions should be brought  
14 to the attention of the school board, basically,  
15 the rationale and context.

16 All right. And then they get into their  
17 general responsibilities similar to Dade. Then  
18 it gets -- well, actually, let's see. They have  
19 membership meeting, authority, duties and  
20 responsibilities.

21 So they are fairly similar but both of them  
22 expand on and don't limit their audit committee  
23 to how ours is written. Hold on. So -- in terms  
24 of the goal of the committee.

25 So, yeah, we could put operations, but I

1 think once we review Palm Beach and Miami-Dade  
2 and come to the next discussion of this with some  
3 recommendations that we can then pass a motion  
4 on.

5 So today I just wanted to do an overview of  
6 where we were with Pat Riley, which, as it turns  
7 out, is already in the bylaws and would just have  
8 to be plucked out of the bylaws.

9 MS. FERTIG: So I notice that the other two,  
10 and if you could just scroll down a little  
11 further so you get all of it on the screen, do we  
12 mention internal controls anywhere in this  
13 section? Because we've had so many conversations  
14 on it and both other districts seem to call it  
15 out.

16 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Oh, because -- I don't  
17 think -- well, this goes on. But, to your point,  
18 I don't think internal controls -- even though  
19 it's in the job description of the Chief Auditor,  
20 in the contract of the Chief Auditor, in the  
21 policy of the Chief Auditor, I don't believe it's  
22 in our bylaws since we don't have a policy.

23 And, remember, we are referred to in the  
24 Chief Auditor's policy, so we'd also have to pull  
25 stuff from there out and put it into policy sort

1 of disaggregate. But let's see what it says. I  
2 do not see the word -- oh, wait, I take it back.  
3 Review the -- well, only from this standpoint.  
4 Review the independent accountant's annual  
5 management letter recommendations on internal  
6 control and accounting procedures and hold timely  
7 meetings with the superintendent's staff as  
8 needed.

9 So that annual management letter, I believe  
10 that's all over the financial reports. There  
11 were something like 20 recommendations from Carr  
12 Riggs Ingram on internal controls over what  
13 happened with PCG and that whole history. Those  
14 were not financial statement internal controls,  
15 those were internal controls over procurement and  
16 related functions.

17 So this is limited -- Mr. Jabouin, can you  
18 confirm that number 5, review the independent  
19 accountant's annual management letter of  
20 recommendation on internal control and accounting  
21 procedures?

22 MR. JABOUIN: Yeah, so this is the -- this is  
23 the -- in February of every year we have MSL  
24 present the financial statements and then they  
25 have the management letter. In the past couple

1 of years there have not been any findings in  
2 that, but that's what the management letter is  
3 with the external financial statements.

4 All of the other findings, they surface in  
5 the course of the regular reports that come in  
6 front of you.

7 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So to Mary's point,  
8 the internal controls referred to here are not  
9 all inclusive. They, certainly, wouldn't include  
10 Procurement or HR. Because they're not -- not  
11 directly anyway.

12 MR. JABOUIN: Well, not necessarily. So the  
13 external auditors have a different angle. It's  
14 definitely financially focused, whereas, the rest  
15 of our work is financially operational,  
16 compliance, and other things that the external  
17 auditors would not necessarily find significant  
18 for their opinion.

19 So when they provide the management letter  
20 it's usually things that involve the financial  
21 statements. There have been procurement issues  
22 in the past, there have been other issues, as  
23 well, but that's when they're trying to create  
24 their opinion.

25 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right. Okay. So you

1 just -- so Mary mentioned operations, you  
2 mentioned compliance. So in addition to  
3 financial we also look at operations and  
4 compliance and yet the operations, compliance and  
5 internal controls, expanded version, need to work  
6 their way into this list.

7 MR. JABOUIN: And those are the three things,  
8 as I'm trying to take my inventory of comments  
9 that I'm picking up, is including an operational  
10 aspect, including an internal control aspect, and  
11 then what we mentioned here, the third, is a  
12 compliance aspect of this. Those are the three  
13 I've picked up so far.

14 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Uh-huh. Right. Because  
15 they're not in here. Will timely review all  
16 reports. These are things we've seen.  
17 Periodically evaluate the effectiveness of the  
18 internal audit plan from the standpoint of how  
19 effectively the Office of the Chief Auditor's  
20 available time is being utilized and make  
21 appropriate recommendations to the superintendent  
22 and board. Monitor corrective action agreed to  
23 be taken on internal/external audit  
24 recommendations. We talked about the policy that  
25 actually applies to follow-up. So maybe we



1 mention that here. So -- follow-up -- follow-up  
2 policy. So it would say something like, in  
3 accordance with the follow-up policy or something  
4 so that we have cross-reference.

5 Review policies and procedures affecting the  
6 financial areas, again, our favorite word, and  
7 make recommendations to the superintendent and  
8 the board as deemed appropriate. So the board  
9 governance policies that they have taken to the  
10 board would fall sort of under compliance  
11 governance, because that's all part of internal  
12 controls.

13 Provide an effective communications link  
14 between the external/internal auditors and the  
15 school board. So that was where that ended and  
16 these are plucked directly from the bylaws under  
17 section -- so it was section 1, section 2,  
18 section 3 of the bylaws as they are currently  
19 approved. That was what was discussed in the  
20 policy in 2015.

21 They do talk about meetings. They kind of  
22 compressed that section. So must conduct  
23 meetings in accordance with Florida Sunshine Law.  
24 Meetings will be scheduled at times and locations  
25 convenient for all stakeholders. Meetings and

1 other business will be conducted according to  
2 School Board of Broward County, Florida Audit  
3 Committee Bylaws and the current edition of  
4 Robert's Rules. Minutes will be recorded,  
5 maintained and available for public view. And  
6 that's as far as that got when it was originally  
7 proposed. And it's straight out of the bylaws.

8 So then the bylaws, themselves, get into the  
9 nitty-gritty of committee membership. I remember  
10 when this was added, that you have to be  
11 independent. So this is all sort of the minutia.

12 The staff liaison is referred to in Policy  
13 1070. Each new member shall receive training on  
14 the audit committee's history, mission, purpose.  
15 I believe that's in Policy 1070 also.

16 So there may be additional things in the  
17 bylaws that need to appear in policy.

18 Michele provided a policy template but there  
19 wasn't a lot in it and I thought that the  
20 district had a more robust looking template.

21 MR. JABOUIN: Chair, Mr. De Meo has a  
22 question.

23 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yes, Mr. De Meo?

24 MR. DE MEO: Madam Chair, I think we need to  
25 be mindful that the audit committee charter or

1 policy --

2 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: We don't have a policy.  
3 That's the thing.

4 MR. DE MEO: Well, the document that we're  
5 reviewing, we should not be responsible for  
6 anything, in other words, other than oversight.  
7 In other words, we're not responsible for  
8 internal controls. That is way beyond the scope  
9 of the audit committee. However, the internal  
10 auditors guiding document or governing document,  
11 what do we call that; policy?

12 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yeah, Policy 1700.

13 MR. DE MEO: Yeah, that should carefully, and  
14 it does, provide for compliance, operational  
15 audits and review of internal control. We're  
16 just oversight and advising, you know, the school  
17 board.

18 So I think our policy can be relatively  
19 simple and what the proposed and what we have  
20 with some minor changes, I think, are fine. I  
21 mean, there are some changes, you know, that I  
22 think should be made, but, again, we're not  
23 responsible for internal controls. That is not  
24 our job. Way beyond.

25 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Oh, no, that's not what any

1 of this was saying. But it's limited -- so the  
2 Office of the Chief Auditor is responsible for  
3 internal controls, compliance, operational --

4 MR. DE MEO: Well, I think we have to be  
5 careful that they're responsible for assessing  
6 the risk, providing an audit plan that includes  
7 analyses and audits of those areas.

8 So, internal control is just one of the areas  
9 that they're responsible for testing. And the  
10 areas they test on an operational audit include  
11 internal controls. So it's kind of a package  
12 deal.

13 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yeah, I get all that, but  
14 what we currently have in the bylaws is, the  
15 audit committee is empowered to investigate any  
16 financial matters which are of concern to the  
17 committee. Additionally, the committee may be  
18 requested by the school board or the  
19 superintendent to investigate and report on other  
20 financial matters.

21 We already have an audit plan and an Office  
22 of the Chief Auditor that does more than just  
23 financial audits. So what do we do, not do BTAs?  
24 Because those are not financial.

25 So I'm just saying, the language that we

1 currently have does not reflect the function of  
2 the audit committee. I don't -- and I guess  
3 nobody ever questioned it because it was in the  
4 bylaws and we've always been under the umbrella  
5 of this Office of the Chief Auditor. So it says,  
6 the audit committee shall provide guidance to the  
7 OCA. Reports completed by the OCA and external  
8 firms, this is imprecise language, shall  
9 generally be first presented to the audit  
10 committee, that needs to be cleaned up, for its  
11 review and recommendations prior to the  
12 transmittal to the school board. However, the  
13 Chief Auditor may transmit any audit first to the  
14 school board if the Chief Auditor determines that  
15 it's exceptional. This is when we got bypassed  
16 and something got taken and Donna Korn got  
17 involved.

18 So there are elements in here that refer to  
19 the audit committee that would then need to be  
20 either duplicated or pulled out because it  
21 pertains to the audit committee. Like the audit  
22 committee shall provide guidance to the OCA would  
23 be in both places.

24 Let's see, what else do we have that refers  
25 to audit? District chiefs -- why is this all in

1 caps? District chiefs, executive directors,  
2 directors and appropriate district staff must  
3 attend audit committee and school board meetings  
4 whenever their duties and responsibilities or an  
5 OCA document concerning their duties and  
6 responsibilities will be discussed. Let's see.  
7 Individual carrying out OCA objectives. Nothing  
8 specific.

9 I mean, yes, they are responsible for it, but  
10 we're providing oversight and guidance, like you  
11 said. But it only mentions financial. And I'm  
12 looking for -- scrolling through here for any  
13 mention of the audit committee.

14 MS. FERTIG: So if you look at what  
15 Miami-Dade had, I think their -- if you can go  
16 back to that, there were some, I think, some  
17 statements that covered this. But where, if you  
18 were to put it in, I would be looking at that  
19 section review and you could just expand that  
20 section review, financial, operational, internal  
21 controls, whatever else, because that actually  
22 reflects what we've been actually doing, as  
23 opposed to the paragraph above it. I'm sorry,  
24 I'm going between Miami and us, but --

25 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Do you mean this sentence,

1 the Audit & Budget Advisory Committee shall serve  
2 as the principal advisory to assist the board in  
3 fulfilling its fiduciary responsibilities on  
4 budgeting, financial reporting and accounting and  
5 business policies and practices? Let's see.  
6 Because that's Miami-Dade.

7 MS. FERTIG: Well, if you look down the audit  
8 committee -- Audit & Budget Advisory, and, of  
9 course, we're not a budget advisory, are to  
10 assist in strengthening accountability and then  
11 you go to the, C, promoting an adequate system of  
12 internal control.

13 I think if you look back at the policy we  
14 have, it would be very simple to just amend that  
15 one paragraph by adding in what we actually talk  
16 about in our meetings. If you go to review  
17 duties and responsibilities. Number one, review  
18 in depth the financial reports prepared by the  
19 staff and prepare appropriate --

20 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yeah. I mean, these are --  
21 the laundry list. Where Miami-Dade put that in  
22 is sort of as an overview. Let's see. Let's  
23 see. The audit committee is empowered to  
24 investigate any financial matters which are of  
25 concern to the committee. That's sort of the

1 general statement. Because then they get into  
2 the nuts and bolts of what we would be reviewing.  
3 Palm Beach says it a little differently, as well.

4 MS. FERTIG: I don't think there's was as --  
5 Miami's seems pretty straightforward.

6 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Well, how about audit  
7 committee shall review and make recommendations  
8 to the school board on matters affecting the  
9 adequacy of internal controls, accounting  
10 procedure systems and controls on financial  
11 reporting in accordance with laws and  
12 regulations?

13 MS. FERTIG: Okay.

14 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: And then, actually, if you  
15 read, and this is why I said this could be a  
16 fairly short meeting, because if everybody goes  
17 back and reads these, Palm Beach says, the  
18 responsibility for the district's, you know,  
19 whatever it is, A, B and C lies with this person  
20 or this department, and then it says, you know,  
21 the audit committee will do this. So they're  
22 very -- they're clear to point out what  
23 management is responsible for and -- versus the  
24 audit committee. So theirs is actually longer.

25 So I think there are things -- there are



1 aspects of both of these, both Miami-Dade and  
2 Palm Beach, that we could pluck and, you know,  
3 borrow from. Internal control, the  
4 responsibility of developing and implementing  
5 adequate control rests with the management of the  
6 district. The audit committee must fulfill it's  
7 internal control oversight responsibilities, now,  
8 again, we don't have an Inspector General,  
9 through the Inspector General without unnecessary  
10 or inappropriate intervention in the prerogative  
11 of district management. Nevertheless, to carry  
12 out its responsibility, the audit committee must,  
13 among other actions, assist in determining if any  
14 restrictions have been placed by management on  
15 the scope of independent investigations, audits,  
16 inspections and reviews. The committee should  
17 review the results of each peer review of the  
18 Office of Inspector General, I guess we could  
19 just substitute Office of the Chief Auditor, and  
20 discuss the nature of any corrective measures.  
21 That puts some teeth into the audit committee.  
22 That's just one example.

23 Let me bounce back to Miami-Dade and see what  
24 they say. Let's see. Yes? I can't see. If  
25 people have their hands up when I'm sharing a

1 screen I can't see, so --

2 MR. MAYERSOHN: All right. Well, I  
3 apologize, I didn't put my hand up. The only  
4 thing that I think that we need to add into the  
5 policy, because I'm just looking here, audit  
6 selection committee, is that -- that you have on  
7 the screen, is that Miami-Dade's or Palm Beach?

8 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yes, Miami-Dade's.

9 MR. MAYERSOHN: Then we have to have that in  
10 there, because that statute is now -- we did it  
11 last time. I'm not sure if we amended that in on  
12 the bylaws, but that's part of Florida statutes  
13 that we are the selection committee.

14 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: I think it's in -- let me  
15 check the bylaws. The bylaws were done in 2019.  
16 Wait. Hold on. I'm looking. I thought I -- did  
17 it not exist in 20 -- well, either way, we know  
18 it's a thing now and would need to go in.  
19 Absolutely.

20 MR. MAYERSOHN: Is it a policy as opposed to  
21 bylaws?

22 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yes.

23 MS. FERTIG: There is a broad statement,  
24 responsibilities and duties of the audit  
25 committee shall be in accordance with Florida

1 state statutes. That's in ours. That's in our  
2 thing right below duties and responsibilities,  
3 just a blanket statement, so you don't have to  
4 probably -- so you don't have to change the  
5 policy every time a statute is changed.

6 MR. MAYERSOHN: Right.

7 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: But that was --

8 MR. MAYERSOHN: But I would put that in  
9 there, so that, again, the process that we have  
10 where, again, whether or not, you know, who acts  
11 as chair of that committee, who's appointed, I  
12 mean, we don't get into the specifics of it, but  
13 just as long as it just, in my opinion, is  
14 documented, because it's kind of contrarian to  
15 what you would think the audit committee would be  
16 selecting. And especially the fact that it's got  
17 to have a school board member on it.

18 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. A policy for auditor  
19 selection; okay.

20 All right. So hold on. So -- yeah, so our  
21 bylaws, we, like I said, the purpose and the  
22 general responsibilities are already in there.  
23 We would add the auditor selection and then this  
24 is sort of the minutia. I think the statement  
25 about being independent, that's already in the

1        overarching rule, but voting, terms of  
2        membership, length of membership, you might have  
3        a generic statement in the policy, I've seen it  
4        in others. But we wouldn't get into the sausage  
5        making aspect of all of this stuff. That's  
6        what's in the rest of the bylaws.

7                So -- okay. So we -- So far everybody's good  
8        with the policy having the rules that it  
9        currently has, these are from bylaws. We would  
10       expand financial, because we do look to reflect  
11       -- we would expand to reflect what we actually  
12       look at and look at Palm Beach and Miami-Dade for  
13       sort of inspiration. These are all from the  
14       bylaws already. And then there's just this on  
15       meetings.

16                So I think we need sort of terms, you know,  
17       whatever all the other policies touch on so that  
18       you have an overall idea of what the committee  
19       is. And then there's stuff in Miami-Dade and  
20       Palm Beach that add to and clarify what we  
21       currently do.

22                The Chief Auditor Policy, Office of the Chief  
23       Auditor policy I did find another mention of --  
24       hold on. Let me make sure I'm in the right one.  
25       Oh, wrong one.

1 Chief Auditor Policy, where are you?

2 Okay. So, yeah, this is the Office of the  
3 Chief Auditor's policy. Functions, authority,  
4 powers, I was looking for mentions of the audit  
5 committee. So our bylaws -- this says the audit  
6 requests of the school board and/or of those of  
7 the audit committee which have been approved by  
8 the school board. The bylaws which were being  
9 proposed to be policy, one of the first things in  
10 here is the audit committee is empowered to  
11 investigate any financial matters which are of  
12 concern to the committee. Additionally, the  
13 committee may be requested by the school board or  
14 superintendent to investigate and report on other  
15 matters.

16 So this has always been a point of  
17 contention. The audit committee can request  
18 something that's of concern to be investigated  
19 with or without the board approval. So this  
20 worked its way into this document, because this  
21 is policy, which would then trump the audit  
22 committee bylaws. Sorry, I lost where this was.  
23 Yep, saying that it's already -- it's been  
24 approved by the school board. So that would need  
25 some clarity. Because, let's say we found out

1 that a school board member was doing something,  
2 do we get school board approval? Let's say the  
3 majority of the school board was potentially  
4 involved in something, they're never going to  
5 approve investigating something. I'm not saying  
6 this board wouldn't, I'm just sort of suggesting  
7 a scenario. So this was -- this got put in and  
8 we need clarity on which one is going to prevail.  
9 Either the audit committee can request something  
10 or it can request something and then the school  
11 board has to approve it. The way that the bylaws  
12 were written suggests that the audit committee is  
13 empowered to investigate any financial matters,  
14 and then, additionally, beyond something we might  
15 be concerned about, the school board can turn to  
16 the audit committee and say, please, investigate  
17 A, B and C. That's how I've always read this. I  
18 have never read this first sentence to say, upon,  
19 you know, approval by the school board. But I  
20 know how it worked its way into this policy  
21 because of where we were as a district. So  
22 that's another mention of the audit committee.

23 Let's see. So we would have to pull that out  
24 or reiterate and in this case get clarity. Chief  
25 Auditor -- all right. Upon approval -- this was

1 another thing where we passed some motions to  
2 change this language. So, basically, this is the  
3 audit plan. It isn't clear that, in this policy,  
4 that the audit committee reviews the audit plan,  
5 it just says, upon approval by the audit  
6 committee the proposed audit plan will be  
7 transmitted to the school board for approval.  
8 The initial proposed audit plan will be provided  
9 for the school board's consideration at a  
10 workshop conducted by May of each year and for  
11 potential approval at a meeting conducted during  
12 the following July of each year.

13 What was being proposed and is current -- has  
14 been in our bylaws since the year time began are  
15 things like periodically evaluate the  
16 effectiveness of the internal audit plan from a  
17 standpoint of how effectively the Office of the  
18 Chief Auditor's available time is being utilized  
19 and make appropriate recommendations. I believe  
20 further up, let's see, financial reports --  
21 review the Office of the Chief Auditor's audit  
22 plan for the annual audits and make  
23 recommendations concerning areas to be  
24 emphasized.

25 So it's clear that we review it, we don't

1 just approve it. This is in the bylaws, which  
2 would become policy, but is not quite reflected  
3 in the Office of the Chief Auditor's policy. I'd  
4 have to go back through my records to find when  
5 we passed motions that changed the language. It  
6 just somehow did not make it into this policy.

7 Let's see. So then after that, audit plan  
8 considerations. Based on the Chief Auditor's  
9 professional judgment after the audit plan is  
10 approved by the school board an audit  
11 investigation, review, examination or analysis of  
12 a subject that the Chief Auditor identifies as  
13 requiring audit coverage can be added by the  
14 Chief Auditor in addition to those specified in  
15 the approved audit plan.

16 This is where we did get that -- oh, wait a  
17 minute. The chief -- upon consult -- the Chief  
18 Auditor may perform this work upon consultation  
19 with the school board chair unless the audit  
20 involves law enforcement or regulatory, which  
21 would require the assignment to be conducted in a  
22 confidential manner. The consultation with the  
23 school board chair would serve as a check and  
24 balance.

25 I'm hoping I have not the final version of



1 this policy. I'm going to have to pull it up  
2 directly. Because I pulled up a copy I had. I  
3 thought that we fixed that so that the board  
4 chair cannot have an audit happen without the  
5 rest of the board agreeing. Will be presented to  
6 the audit committee. We had issues about work  
7 papers and confidentiality and follow-up.  
8 There's a whole policy that hasn't been followed.  
9 So we need to make sure we mention School Board  
10 Policy 1003. We looked at that a couple meetings  
11 ago and what our role is on that.

12 So in terms of our responsibilities, monitor  
13 corrective action agreed to be taken on  
14 internal/external audit recommendations and  
15 advise the board of any deviations, reasons  
16 therefore and possible consequences.

17 So the other -- so in addition to expanding  
18 financial to include what we actually look like  
19 and include the statutory requirements as far as  
20 auditor's selection, we have to have -- we have  
21 to have consistency between the Chief Auditor  
22 policy and our proposed policy. We can't have  
23 one policy saying this is done this way and the  
24 other policy saying this is -- no, this is done  
25 this way. They both have to agree so that we

1 don't have a conflict between the two different  
2 policies that end up getting approved.

3 So those -- that's what we had as a working  
4 document. I can -- I put links in the chat to  
5 these to both Miami-Dade. I don't know if anyone  
6 tried them to see if they worked. But I also  
7 saved them so I can forward them. Because I  
8 think these are worth combing through.

9 The one for Palm Beach is more extensive  
10 because it specifies who's responsible for what.  
11 District governance, for example, district staff  
12 shall provide assurance that the district is in  
13 compliance with pertinent laws and regulations  
14 relating to accounting and financial matters, is  
15 operating in accordance with sound business  
16 practices, is conducting its affairs ethically,  
17 is maintaining effective controls against  
18 employee conflict of interest, errors and fraud,  
19 financial mismanagement, waste, and is providing  
20 accurate and complete financial disclosure.

21 Among other responsibilities the audit  
22 committee shall provide input to the board in the  
23 board's evaluations of the Office of the Chief  
24 Auditor's performance, whose written evaluations  
25 will be kept on file pursuant to yada-yada.

1           The audit committee may review and make  
2 recommendations on any proposed disciplinary  
3 action upon or termination of the employment of  
4 the Office of the Chief Auditor, since we don't  
5 have an Inspector General.

6           In the event of a vacancy in the position of  
7 Chief Auditor, the audit committee may review the  
8 applicants and provide its recommendations to the  
9 school board regarding selection.

10          So these are all things that are not  
11 addressed in what we currently have. But they're  
12 pretty clear on, I think, segregating the  
13 responsibility of the audit committee from those  
14 of management and the Chief Auditor in this  
15 policy. They just get more specific. Then they  
16 have membership meetings, access to personnel  
17 documents. I read internal controls. They did a  
18 charter, we do policies. So that's Palm Beach.  
19 And then back to Miami-Dade, Dade, I think, uses  
20 Neola. They both house their documents in board  
21 docs. So Miami-Dade will probably look more like  
22 other districts. Palm Beach does not use Neola.  
23 So the Miami-Dade one might look more like ours  
24 except that they do get more specific.

25          MS. FERTIG: Just, Nathalie, I was able to

1 download the Palm Beach one but not the  
2 Miami-Dade; if you could just make sure we have  
3 that?

4 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Share it again? Yeah. I  
5 downloaded them, but let me see.

6 MS. FERTIG: Yeah, no, that's fine. If you  
7 can just send them out that would be great.

8 I'm wondering if it would be beneficial to  
9 have a subcommittee on this to go through all of  
10 these and bring back -- bring something back to  
11 us in a regular meeting?

12 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yeah.

13 MR. JABOUIN: I have a process comment that I  
14 wanted to mention, though, to the committee.  
15 Ultimately, I have a meeting with the  
16 superintendent on Monday, he's the person that is  
17 responsible for the policies. I think that I  
18 should ask him to designate me as the appointee  
19 for this policy. Because he can, actually, write  
20 policies outside of me or the committee  
21 altogether. What I --

22 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Hold on. Hold that  
23 thought. Hold on. Hold that thought.

24 So understand that Policy 1070 was done by a  
25 work group and the committee comprised of all the

1 advisory chairs, basically. Staff did not run  
2 the process. It was run by all the advisories.  
3 Because anybody -- per the rule making policy,  
4 anyone can suggest a policy change. So I'm --  
5 I'm -- I'm not in favor of your suggestion,  
6 respectfully. You can certainly participate.

7 MR. JABOUIN: Certainly. I will say, though,  
8 we do need to check with him because the statute  
9 does indicate that the superintendent is the one  
10 that writes policy.

11 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: But it is not -- okay. I'm  
12 going to stop you again.

13 MR. JABOUIN: Sure.

14 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So let me pull up rule  
15 making. Yes, the superintendent makes  
16 recommendations for policies. What I am telling  
17 you is that it is not just up -- and I don't know  
18 why this new system -- hold on. School board  
19 policies --

20 MR. MAYERSOHN: Dr. Lynch-Walsh?

21 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yes, sir.

22 MR. MAYERSOHN: Just a point of order, I have  
23 to jump up off. I'm up in D.C. so I've got some  
24 meetings I've got to attend. But whatever you  
25 need, I'm available.

1 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Thank you. Rule  
2 adoption, rule making. Hold on.

3 MS. FERTIG: I don't -- I don't -- I would  
4 just like to interject here. Yes, he can do it,  
5 but, also, yes, we could have a subcommittee  
6 drafting something. And I don't -- I don't think  
7 that's a problem because he's new to the district  
8 whereas we have a little bit more historical  
9 knowledge of what our audit committee has done.

10 What seems to me -- what I feel like would be  
11 a good process is to have a subcommittee on this  
12 who wants to go through all the policies and pull  
13 out the best language from all of them and bring  
14 it back to us in a meeting. And I think that's  
15 the most efficient way. He's, obviously, going  
16 to have the ability to weigh in and yea or nay  
17 it, eventually. But I just -- I think Nathalie  
18 has done a lot of research. I say take the best  
19 of it all, put it together, and then bring it  
20 forward.

21 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right, in a subcommittee.  
22 So -- so anyone that's currently on this call, I  
23 mean, we're not a huge group, so even if the  
24 subcommittee were everybody --

25 MR. JABOUIN: I have one other thing to

1 mention on that process, though. So, ultimately,  
2 the superintendent will, obviously, take the  
3 advice of the committee and evaluate it and so  
4 forth.

5 Now, what I wanted to mention to the  
6 committee, though, from a process standpoint, it  
7 is best to work on the bylaws first. Because  
8 what I've seen --

9 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: No.

10 MR. JABOUIN: No? I'm saying this only  
11 because I'm seeing that the policy has been a  
12 subset of the -- of the bylaws.

13 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Well, no, no, no. And this  
14 is where I think Mary's point is well made.  
15 There was no policy for this group. Policy 1070,  
16 which was done last year, again, with all of the  
17 advisories represented on it if they wanted to  
18 participate, started with policy and then the  
19 bylaws flow from the policy. They get into the  
20 meat and potatoes of how the advisory group is  
21 run. So we have to have -- we're not even  
22 established through anything other than a mention  
23 in the Office of the Chief Auditor's policy. So  
24 we have a resolution and --

25 MR. JABOUIN: I think you have to work on

1       them both at the same time.

2             DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Mr. Jabouin, I have the  
3 floor. So I am taking Mary up on the suggestion  
4 of a subcommittee because we clearly need more  
5 discussion around this and we don't have time at  
6 regular meetings to spend two hours talking about  
7 it. So a subcommittee would, absolutely, be the  
8 most efficient way. I'm sorry I didn't pull  
9 Miami-Dade and Palm Beach beforehand, but in  
10 order to review those -- and I don't think we  
11 need to look at 50 districts, because a lot of  
12 them are going to be similar, but we could  
13 certainly look at a couple more. So then we need  
14 to figure out, these subcommittee meetings can be  
15 on Teams at a time that's convenient to  
16 everybody. So we can sort that out. We can talk  
17 about it at our November meeting, scheduling, you  
18 know, a series of these. There's no rush to  
19 this. We exist. We're in the Office of the  
20 Chief Auditor's policy. I think everyone knows  
21 we exist. I'd like to see us get it done by  
22 yearend and have a recommendation so that for  
23 next school year it would take effect. But we  
24 start with policy and sort of disaggregate policy  
25 from bylaws. There is a bylaws template. I'll



1 see if I can get some sample policies that are  
2 better developed so we can just sort of plug in  
3 our stuff here, at least following the district  
4 template. Because the one that they seem to have  
5 just has headings, which doesn't help us. I  
6 mean, and not all headings, either.

7 So I will, for our regular meeting, we'll see  
8 who wants to serve on the subcommittee. Mary did  
9 I hear you volunteer?

10 MS. FERTIG: Well, if you tell me to, sure.

11 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Voluntold.

12 MS. FERTIG: I thought I heard Mr. De Meo  
13 volunteer.

14 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: He's like, no, I definitely  
15 did not volunteer.

16 Well, we can figure out who wants to be  
17 voluntold and volunteer on the subcommittee, but  
18 last I checked, you know, we can form a  
19 subcommittee, and so we will, and that's how  
20 we'll proceed. And we'll figure out when we can  
21 schedule some meetings. Because the deadline for  
22 November meetings is Tuesday and I don't know  
23 that we could sort ourselves out by Tuesday. And  
24 meeting in November could be problematic. But if  
25 we could do December -- we can try for November,

1 but today is Thursday, I don't think we could get  
2 ourselves sorted out.

3 MS. FERTIG: I think what would be helpful,  
4 and maybe Phyllis would be on this, too, since  
5 she has a different -- she'll have something from  
6 her city that would be helpful to probably see, I  
7 think what would be helpful, Nathalie, is just to  
8 have those other things and we can pick the best  
9 out. Their format seems to be very different,  
10 so --

11 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yeah, no, I will send --

12 MS. FERTIG: -- that may be a better template  
13 than what we have.

14 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yeah, Miami-Dade, Palm  
15 Beach. I mean, the district has policies that  
16 are fairly well developed for other advisories.  
17 I'll just see what we have that I can send out.  
18 So Palm Beach and a sample policy from BCPS. If  
19 not, then I'll just send -- you'll just get  
20 Miami-Dade and Palm Beach, if I can't get  
21 something more fleshed out, but I'm pretty sure I  
22 can, from some -- I think TAC has had their  
23 policy revised a couple times, so TAC should be  
24 fairly up to date in terms of the required  
25 elements. All right. So that's what I will get

1 to you guys ASAP. And then we'll just sort of  
2 formalize it at our next meeting but not  
3 discuss -- we won't have time, I don't think, to  
4 get into the nitty-gritty on this.

5 All right. So that's the plan moving  
6 forward. Of course, Mr. Jabouin, you can provide  
7 input. Everybody that'll be on it will be  
8 providing input and we'll start putting together  
9 a sample policy.

10 So does anyone else have any other questions?  
11 I think for November we have a fairly packed  
12 meeting.

13 SMART Bond, I did have a question regarding  
14 the SMART Bond audit. Will they -- have they  
15 looked at the 12-month staffing plan as the board  
16 directed last time?

17 MR. JABOUIN: So those are my instructions to  
18 them. So I provided that instruction and they  
19 had in my last meeting indicated that they would  
20 do so.

21 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So at our last  
22 meeting you handed out -- let me stop sharing.  
23 Sorry. Share. Let me go to what we got at the  
24 last meeting.

25 For November has anything changed that's

1 required? Because we did not get to a couple of  
2 things in October. We had to jettison or we  
3 moved around, so we should have --

4 MR. JABOUIN: Why don't you take a look at  
5 what I provided for this meeting, which is item  
6 number 5. That's the best document to look at.

7 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Let's see.

8 Okay. And what, though, was left over from  
9 last time always rolls forward. So we -- did we  
10 get through everything? Because we moved --

11 MR. JABOUIN: Yeah, all those that were  
12 looked at we've gone ahead and we've moved them  
13 from the document that was presented last week.

14 So for November those are the audit reports  
15 that would be there. So you have the Annual  
16 Comprehensive Financial Report, and the timing of  
17 that is very important. And then we've got the  
18 RSM SMART Bond Quarterly Report. That would  
19 include the areas that the board motioned on.  
20 And then we do have caps and gowns. I do have  
21 some meetings related to that. And then -- and  
22 we have a Carr Riggs Ingram report on procurement  
23 and contract management.

24 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Wait, wait, wait. Slow  
25 down. Do you mean the PPO one that's listed

1 here?

2 MR. JABOUIN: Yes, that's the one I'm  
3 referring to; yes.

4 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Because you said  
5 procurement, I just want to make sure we're  
6 talking about the same one. So based on --

7 MR. JABOUIN: Procurement is part of that,  
8 too. So we'll make sure that the title is  
9 reflective of that when the report is there.

10 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So looking at this,  
11 depending on how long ACFR and the SMART Bond  
12 goes, business support center both payroll and  
13 internal funds were deferred, so those would take  
14 priority over caps and gowns and this PPO  
15 contract one.

16 MR. JABOUIN: Okay.

17 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Are there any others that  
18 we don't know of that you know about that we  
19 don't?

20 MR. JABOUIN: So, at this time, no; but there  
21 are things that occur regularly. I do want to  
22 mention that we do have external firms involved  
23 with the caps and gowns and the PPO and there is  
24 a cost component if we have to have them come  
25 back.

1 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Well, then I guess we  
2 should endeavor to get through the rest of the  
3 agenda. Who's doing the PPO one?

4 MR. JABOUIN: Car Riggs Ingram.

5 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: They're doing both caps and  
6 gowns and the PPO one?

7 MR. JABOUIN: Yes.

8 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So it's Carr Riggs  
9 Ingram.

10 MR. JABOUIN: It's PPO and Procurement, as  
11 well. I did not label it completely in this  
12 document.

13 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yeah, I know, we just  
14 discussed that.

15 MR. JABOUIN: Sure.

16 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: All right. So then I will  
17 do a draft agenda that should reflect what's on  
18 this list.

19 MR. JABOUIN: And, of course, with the --  
20 with the business support center ones, we do want  
21 to get those done because some of those,  
22 particularly the internal fund one, has been open  
23 since August, August 3rd, actually, for the  
24 internal funds one.

25 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Uh-huh. That's why I'm

1 saying they would take priority over Carr Riggs  
2 Ingram, so --

3 MR. JABOUIN: I would say just due to cost,  
4 we, obviously, need to make sure we get through  
5 all of them, we should get the auditors out the  
6 door so that way the meter is not running for us.  
7 So we do need to get through all of them, but we  
8 do want to get the external people out as Mr. De  
9 Meo remembers from his days, those billable hours  
10 will add up.

11 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Oh, yes, we've spent a lot  
12 of money on RSM over the years. Because I've  
13 encountered them in the pre-function room.

14 Okay. So what you're saying is you've told  
15 them to come at what time? Because the ACFR is  
16 the first thing on the list. Who's doing that?

17 MR. JABOUIN: Since the meeting starts at  
18 9:30 it's probably best to, that's MSL and the  
19 CFO function, the finance function will be there  
20 for that, I would say, if the meeting starts at  
21 9:30 and all the administrative things, it's  
22 probably best to anticipate the other auditors  
23 would be there maybe 20 minutes later. So tell  
24 them to get here around 10.

25 MS. FERTIG: If we could just -- I'm just

1 thinking, if we could cut some of the stuff, we  
2 seem to spend a lot of time at the front end of  
3 our meeting on just administrative stuff that  
4 maybe we could move to the back end and just that  
5 way we would get to some of the audits and not  
6 have to defer them.

7 MR. JABOUIN: You made a good point.

8 MS. FERTIG: Is there a way to do that? I  
9 mean, I don't -- I just -- I feel like sometimes  
10 we really don't get started with the topics  
11 until, you know, 30, 45 minutes into it, whereas  
12 we could probably cut some of that down.

13 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Well, I can cut out the --  
14 well, hold on. The last two agendas, so last  
15 agenda we went over open motions. I don't know  
16 if we have an answer -- that's why we started on  
17 the audits after.

18 MS. FERTIG: No, that's okay. I understand  
19 that part of it.

20 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yeah, I cut out -- we  
21 haven't had public comment. If you look at the  
22 last agenda, I cut out administrative matters  
23 already. And I don't talk about anything except  
24 when we were doing the motions, and I cut out the  
25 Chief Auditor's comments. So -- and, if



1 anything, he can chime in on each of the items as  
2 relevant.

3 But we have Pledge of Allegiance, roll call,  
4 approval of the agenda. We can do public comment  
5 at the end. I know that hasn't been an issue or  
6 as they come up as they pertain to an item, and  
7 then we go to approval of the minutes.

8 MR. JABOUIN: But also -- but let's not  
9 forget I haven't, and only because the last  
10 meeting just kind of ended, but there were other  
11 things the committee wanted a discussion on,  
12 particularly, BTA and certain types of things  
13 that may also take time. I don't have that list  
14 right in front of me from the last meeting, but  
15 there are other -- so this is just the reports  
16 that I've prepared. There are other things that  
17 the committee covers that we should also factor  
18 in. Just keep that in mind.

19 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: I don't have anything -- I  
20 don't have anything. I can put the motion  
21 follow-up at the end, but I wanted to sort of  
22 move us in the right direction and understanding  
23 that from here on out if we pass a motion, the  
24 motion needs to be captured properly and the  
25 response needs to address the motion. I think

1 that came across. So we can do that at the end.  
2 And, also, discuss the policy subcommittee after  
3 we get through the business and then any agenda  
4 planning type discussions.

5 So we should be able to approve -- do the  
6 Pledge of Allegiance, roll call, approve the  
7 minutes, and start with reports pretty much once  
8 the meeting starts. So I would imagine within  
9 probably 10 minutes we -- by 9:40 we should be  
10 dealing with reports. Give or take.

11 MR. JABOUIN: All right. So I'll tell MSL  
12 9:45 for the ACFR and then we'll get the other  
13 auditors in after that. But, yes, I do believe  
14 that all those docs that are there for November  
15 16th need to be covered, and including the  
16 business support center, which, Chair, as you and  
17 I talked, it's probably best to move them to the  
18 end because those are internal people, but we  
19 still need to get them done.

20 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right. No, I'm not  
21 proposing to not get them done. It was moved  
22 from October, if I recall, because Ryan Smith was  
23 not available in October. So, hopefully, he's  
24 available for this meeting.

25 All right. So it sounds like we have an

1 agenda. And then looking forward, January,  
2 again, looks packed and I think you put some  
3 stuff into February and April as far as, I don't  
4 see -- when would the next RSM SMART Bond audit  
5 that needs to get put in somewhere?

6 MR. JABOUIN: Yeah, we'll get some -- we'll  
7 get some feedback from them on the timing of  
8 that. Because they owe us four reports and The  
9 Big 3 is one of the four.

10 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: I'm sorry? What do you  
11 mean about The Big 3?

12 MR. JABOUIN: So they owe us four reports.  
13 The board had asked for The Big 3 to be covered  
14 and they're in the process of doing that.

15 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Uh-huh. And I believe we  
16 discussed the scope and we never got the sense  
17 that anything was moving forward on that.

18 MR. JABOUIN: They are moving forward with it  
19 and they'll be able to talk a little bit more  
20 about that.

21 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: No, no, no. We need the,  
22 whatever they have a statement of work, we need  
23 to see what the scope is then. I'm requesting  
24 that right now so we can have it at the meeting.  
25 Not them telling us what it is, but whatever they

1 are under the impression they are reviewing.  
2 Because we had no idea that this was in play.  
3 It's been asked about. I believe Ms. Ighodaro  
4 asked about it two meetings ago and I don't  
5 remember you telling her that it was already in  
6 process.

7 MR. JABOUIN: It's been in process since we  
8 had the different meetings with the different  
9 stakeholder groups that we were asked to have.  
10 So they've been working on it since then.

11 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: I distinctly remember a  
12 discussion with Mr. De Meo. You know, Mr. De Meo  
13 expressed some concerns, we all concurred, and it  
14 sounded as though it wasn't moving forward, but,  
15 okay.

16 MR. JABOUIN: No, it's been moving.

17 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So, again, I'm going  
18 to say, I'd like the audit committee immediately  
19 to have whatever the scope is, the statement of  
20 work or whatever it is you provide and you and  
21 RSM agreed to so we know exactly what it is that  
22 they're doing. Is that a problem?

23 MR. JABOUIN: I will look for the scope  
24 letter, but I know that they're working on it.

25 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. Well, that's news to

1 us. Thank you.

2 MS. FERTIG: Can I just jump in and ask  
3 something? I'll ask it at the next audit  
4 committee anyways, but just so that you have an  
5 answer, but I would just like to know, I would  
6 like to have comment from RSM on percentage of  
7 the projects that are finished as opposed to the  
8 projects that are still in the pipeline and where  
9 they were originally -- where they were  
10 originally scheduled to be, whether they were,  
11 you know, one of the first projects to be done  
12 but now they've never been done or whether  
13 they're on track for what was originally planned.

14 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: So what you're looking for,  
15 there are multiple -- remember the timeline has  
16 been reset. We have the original timeline where  
17 things were supposed to be done by already.

18 MS. FERTIG: Right. We know that. Right.

19 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right. So then that's one.  
20 Then in 2018 they reset the timeline. And then  
21 AECOM reset it. So there's a list of what's out  
22 there under the AECOM timeline. But what they  
23 would then have to do is do a chart with the  
24 projects that are open, what was the original  
25 timeline per the bond, per the original process

1 per Heery and now per AECOM and where are they in  
2 terms of completion.

3 MS. FERTIG: Right. And then look at the  
4 ones that are completed and just kind of -- it  
5 just goes to what our priorities have been. I  
6 mean, I know we've been through this ourselves,  
7 but it would have more meaning if they did it.

8 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right. So I don't  
9 necessarily disagree. So we can discuss, please  
10 mention that again -- is that -- no, that's not  
11 me doing that. Mention that again because that  
12 should be fairly straightforward for them to do.  
13 The things that have delayed things is poorly  
14 defined scopes. If you're an architect, you've  
15 gotten five projects, you know, three of them are  
16 simple and two of them happen to be Blanche Ely  
17 and Stranahan, guess which two you don't work on  
18 first because you can't get it through the  
19 building department.

20 MS. FERTIG: And that's kind of, Nathalie,  
21 what brought this up. If you're doing a Big 3  
22 audit, I would just -- and just say that were  
23 they -- they're, obviously, not on the track that  
24 was committed, but a lot of other things that  
25 were -- that were to be done afterwards didn't

1 get done. So that's something I'm going to be  
2 looking for. Or we can do it separately,  
3 whichever way works better.

4 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Well, they can start with  
5 The Big 3 since they're already doing it and look  
6 at original, reset and second reset. I think  
7 there's only been three -- no, I think there may  
8 have been four timelines. The original original,  
9 then the first one and then the 2018 and then  
10 AECOM. And I don't think AECOM has changed their  
11 reset, but that's easy enough to confirm.

12 All right. So, yeah, make sure you bring  
13 that up. I will -- I made a note of -- so  
14 completed, not completed, and I'll put that on  
15 the agenda, completed, not completed, original  
16 2018, re-baseline, and then AECOM. I think there  
17 was an additional one. And then to see plan  
18 versus actual in terms of when they were  
19 completed. And then the ones that are not  
20 completed, when they should have been and where  
21 they are currently.

22 MS. FERTIG: And on completed, I don't want  
23 to just see the date they were completed, but I  
24 want to see what their priority was in the  
25 beginning. In other words, what was the priority

1 and did we follow it?

2 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Yeah, the original plan  
3 completion would have indicated, then what they  
4 got changed to in 2018, did they lose time; gain  
5 time? Because there were some, you know,  
6 projects that were, you know, prioritized, like I  
7 think Markham was one where they pulled it  
8 forward and we're still, you know, back again.

9 MS. FERTIG: Yeah. Okay.

10 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: All right. I made a note.  
11 Anybody have anything else?

12 MR. JABOUIN: Yes. Also, to the committee,  
13 regarding the behavior threat assessment motion,  
14 so I have an agenda item that I'm trying to move  
15 forward with for the board for November 8th to  
16 fund the behavioral threat assessment audit and  
17 add it to the audit plan. So you might recall  
18 the pricing that RSM mentioned at the last  
19 meeting was 258,000, getting funding for that is  
20 going to be part of the discussion and I'll be  
21 presenting the board with different options with  
22 respect to that. So you may remember the audit  
23 committee motion, which is in line with what I  
24 think, should be August going forward. But the  
25 consensus that they provided on October 3rd



1 involved going back to March. So all that I'm  
2 putting in front of them, because the committee's  
3 motion would cost 258, going back to March would  
4 cost another 162,000 on top of that. And so I'm  
5 going to put that in front of them to see if they  
6 want to add that to the audit committee's motion  
7 and what they would prefer. So I'm working on  
8 that right now.

9 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Wait, I'm sorry. Didn't  
10 you present the BTA audit to them at the meeting?

11 MR. JABOUIN: Yes, but now comes the funding  
12 part of it.

13 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Right. So there was no  
14 discussion? Because I presented the motion that  
15 we compromised and went with August. So there  
16 was no discussion about funding or -- because  
17 they had -- they were presented with additional  
18 information that we -- we are compromising and  
19 not doing March through August. So they didn't  
20 have a discussion about that?

21 MR. JABOUIN: Just the -- they received the  
22 report and they accepted it, but that -- that  
23 part of it will occur at the November 8th regular  
24 school board meeting. So that is a -- that is a  
25 bit of a delay and that will be impactful to RSM,

1 as well, as far as the timing of the delivery of  
2 the report because we can't begin to work on the  
3 statement of work until we have the funding and  
4 the board has determined the exact scope. And  
5 then we develop the SOW and then they can  
6 proceed. So -- so that, very likely, RSM might  
7 have -- might need a little bit of time -- well,  
8 they probably will, given the fact that I was  
9 hoping to get that done at Tuesday's meeting but  
10 now we're looking at November 8th.

11 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Well, what would have held  
12 it up at Tuesday's meeting? I mean, so you  
13 didn't ask for funding?

14 MR. JABOUIN: So the -- they received it. So  
15 the asking for the funding and also we need  
16 additional spend authority as well. So, I have a  
17 spend authority increase document at the -- at  
18 the November meeting as well.

19 MS. FERTIG: So you should have it resolved  
20 by the next meeting?

21 MR. JABOUIN: Pardon me?

22 MS. FERTIG: By the November 16th it should  
23 all be resolved; right.

24 MR. JABOUIN: There will be an update on  
25 November 16th; yes. Oh, and this will also

1 impact at the November 16th meeting, not  
2 recalling the exact wording, the committee wanted  
3 to have a discussion on the -- on the -- should I  
4 say the plan for that; so the board's decision is  
5 going to impact that, as well. Just a brief  
6 update since the committee is here.

7 DR. LYNCH-WALSH: Okay. So I'll put BTA  
8 follow -- up on the agenda and see what we get  
9 out of that.

10 All right. If there are no other questions,  
11 comment, concerns, then I'll adjourn the meeting  
12 at 10:55.

13 All right. Thanks, everybody. See you guys  
14 on the 16th. Have a good one. Take care.

15 (Meeting was concluded at 10:55 a.m.)  
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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

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STATE OF FLORIDA  
COUNTY OF BROWARD

I, Timothy R. Bass, Court Reporter and Notary Public in and for the State of Florida at Large, hereby certify that I was authorized to and did stenographically report the foregoing proceedings, and that the transcript is a true and complete record of my stenographic notes thereof.

Dated this 30th day of October, 2023, Fort Lauderdale, Broward County, Florida.



TIMOTHY R. BASS  
Court Reporter

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