



Deposition of:  
**Talbot County Council Meeting**

*January 25, 2022*

In the Matter of:  
**Talbot County Council Meeting**

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COUNTY COUNCIL OF TALBOT COUNTY, MARYLAND

Council Meeting

January 25, 2022; 6:00 p.m.

Via Webex Events

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Chuck F. Callahan

Pete Leshner

Frank Divilio

Corey W. Pack

Laura E. Price

Reported by

Diane Houlihan

Page 2

1 TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

2

3 MR. CALLAHAN: So let's go ahead and get

4 started, Council. I want to welcome everybody

5 to our virtual meeting tonight.

6 I am going to do two little things this

7 evening before we start. I want everybody to

8 stand, and I want to give a moment of silence

9 that we've had a tragedy in Baltimore City with

10 these three firefighters, and it just almost

11 makes me cry to even talk about it. The one

12 gentleman from Truck 23 and then we had two

13 firefighters from Engine 14, and one of them

14 was a young lady with 16 years experience.

15 These three firefighters were dedicated, very,

16 very experienced. And it's a tragedy.

17 And I want to say my condolences to the

18 family, the fire department, the city. City

19 lost a lot and their presence is known all over

20 the United States of the hurt that has happened

21 here. And we all pray as much as we can that

Page 3

1 they're in a better place and we are all there

2 for them. I hope for the best for them and

3 we're there.

4 So I want to follow that with a moment of

5 silence for a few minutes for these brave

6 firefighters that will never be, never be

7 forgotten.

8 (Moment of silence.)

9 MR. CALLAHAN: Mr. Leshner, could you say

10 the opening prayer, please.

11 (Prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.)

12 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Mr. Leshner. And

13 thank you, Council. Okay.

14 So let's get started with tonight's

15 agenda. Let's get started with tonight's

16 agenda. Council has an agenda in front of them

17 for January 25th before us. Are there any

18 additions, deletions, or corrections to the

19 agenda? Hearing none, the chair moves that the

20 agenda be accepted as unanimous consent. Okay.

21 On disbursements of January 18th and the

Page 4

1 25th, and Council also has had a chance to take

2 a look at this. And are there any additions,

3 deletions, or corrections to the disbursements?

4 Hearing none, the chair moves that the

5 disbursements be accepted as unanimous consent.

6 Okay.

7 So we're going to start off tonight, and I

8 was happy to sponsor this Proclamation,

9 National Human Trafficking Month, which you

10 know we support.

11 MR. PACK: Prevention, Mr. Callahan,

12 prevention.

13 MR. CALLAHAN: Prevention, I'm sorry.

14 MR. PACK: That's an important word.

15 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah, it is. Thank you.

16 So Madam Secretary, could you read the

17 proclamation into the record, please.

18 SECRETARY: Yes. A proclamation in honor

19 of National Human Trafficking Prevention Month,

20 January 2022.

21 Whereas, human trafficking is a serious

Page 5

1 problem on the Eastern Shore, whereby

2 traffickers use violence, threats, deception,

3 and other manipulative tactics to force and

4 coerce both young people and adults to engage

5 in commercial sex acts or to provide labor or

6 services against their will.

7 And whereas, human trafficking is the

8 second highest criminal enterprise in the

9 United States, grossing \$9.5 billion a year,

10 with the increased use of drugs, the focus on

11 social media, and changes brought on by

12 COVID-19, increasing the level of human

13 trafficking.

14 And whereas, the Eastern Shore Human

15 Trafficking Task Force is engaged in anti-human

16 trafficking actions by encouraging and

17 promoting awareness and prevention of human

18 trafficking.

19 And whereas, between June 2013 and

20 May 2020, there were reports of child sex

21 trafficking in every county on the Eastern

Page 6	Page 8
<p>1 Shore. And since 2017, 127 human trafficking                  2 victims have been rescued throughout Maryland.                  3 And whereas, across the nation, Human                  4 Trafficking Prevention Month, acknowledged in                  5 January each year, formally recognizes that                  6 human trafficking consistently occurs in the                  7 United States and emphasizes the need for the                  8 public and private sectors to partner together                  9 and focus on prevention, prosecution of                  10 traffickers, and support of survivors.                  11 Now, therefore, we, the County Council of                  12 Talbot County, do hereby declare the month of                  13 January 2022 as Human Trafficking Prevention                  14 Month in Talbot County and urge all citizens to                  15 actively work toward the prevention of human                  16 trafficking, prosecution of its perpetrators,                  17 and support of the survivors of this horrendous                  18 crime.                  19 Given under our hands in the great seal of                  20 Talbot County this 25th day of January in the                  21 year of our Lord, 2022.</p>	<p>1 they're being put in just some horrendous                  2 conditions.                  3 And yes, as the proclamation stated,                  4 oftentimes illegal drugs and alcohol are a                  5 manner of de-humane actions are being committed                  6 against them.                  7 So I'm sorry that the person could not be                  8 on with us. But at the same time, it's very                  9 important that this Council takes time to                  10 acknowledge this and our efforts to support the                  11 prevention of human trafficking.                  12 So I will support. I will make a motion                  13 that we support it.                  14 MS. PRICE: I'll second that and agree                  15 with everything that was said.                  16 MR. LESHAR: And it is appalling that this                  17 is a problem, not only across the United                  18 States, but right here in our community. And                  19 we do need the organizations who look out, look                  20 out for these child victims. It's a tragedy                  21 when anything like this is perpetrated against</p>
Page 7	Page 9
<p>1 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Madam Secretary.                  2 Okay. We're honored here to have Mr. Edwin                  3 Thomas, the cochair of the Eastern Shore Human                  4 Trafficking Task Force, here.                  5 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan, I don't see that                  6 Mr. Thomas has joined us this evening. And I                  7 don't see anybody on the presentation possibly                  8 to represent this organization.                  9 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay, okay. So okay.                  10 That's fine. If somebody pops on, that's fine.                  11 Does Council have any words? Anybody want                  12 to comment on this?                  13 MR. PACK: I'll just make a motion that we                  14 do approve this resolution. Let me -- this                  15 proclamation. I'm sorry.                  16 Let me just say that it's very befitting                  17 that we take the time to recognize this                  18 heinous, heinous criminal act that's taking                  19 place all over this nation.                  20 Young girls and young boys are being                  21 placed into harm's way by adults for money, and</p>	<p>1 a child because the repercussions throughout                  2 the child's life are so deep.                  3 And we need -- and I'm grateful. We need                  4 to acknowledge the work of those who are                  5 working to ameliorate these, to take care of                  6 those victims, and to prevent these crimes.                  7 MR. DIVILIO: And I will just step in and                  8 say that I fully agree with all of it.                  9 I remember as a child it was stranger                  10 danger. Now it's not. You have to keep an eye                  11 out even for family members.                  12 So it does take a village. Please keep an                  13 eye out for those who are around you. If you                  14 see something, say something.                  15 But I greatly appreciate all of the                  16 resources in the community that are there for                  17 these children when they're found and                  18 recovered. So all those individuals who treat                  19 them and go through that with them, I can't                  20 imagine how difficult of a career that is. And                  21 I appreciate all those who step up to help</p>

Page 10

1 solve these crimes, to connect the families  
 2 back together, and then be there for the  
 3 support for the children after the fact. So  
 4 thank you very much.  
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Mr. Divilio.  
 6 And yes, Council is right. This stuff is  
 7 a tragedy, and thank God we've got people out  
 8 there that are working to stop all that. And  
 9 we're there to support them and acknowledge  
 10 them doing good work.  
 11 So Madam Secretary, we have a motion and a  
 12 second it. Could you please call the roll.  
 13 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.  
 14 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.  
 15 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.  
 16 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.  
 17 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.  
 18 MR. LESHER: Aye.  
 19 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.  
 20 MS. PRICE: Aye.  
 21 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack. Mr. Pack.

Page 11

1 MR. PACK: Aye. I'm sorry. Still muted.  
 2 SECRETARY: Great. And we will make sure  
 3 that Mr. Thomas receives the proclamation.  
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: Good. All right. Well,  
 5 thank you. Thank you, Council. Okay.  
 6 So next up, we have a presentation of the  
 7 FY2021 audit. I think Joye is going to take  
 8 the lead. And we got the partners here from  
 9 Chris Lehman and partners of SB & Company, LLC.  
 10 So welcome. Welcome, everybody. And how  
 11 you guys doing? Who are we talking -- can you  
 12 unmute yourself? Can you hear us?  
 13 MR. LEHMAN: Yes. Hi. I'm Chris Lehman  
 14 with SB & Company. Can you hear me?  
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Hey, Chris.  
 16 MR. LEHMAN: Can you hear me and see me  
 17 okay?  
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah. Perfect, perfect.  
 19 Yeah, yup.  
 20 Thank you, Chris. We want to welcome you.  
 21 So tell us how good we are.

Page 12

1 MR. LEHMAN: And Joye, I don't know if you  
 2 want to start and then I can segue in and  
 3 then --  
 4 MS. NAGLE: Yes.  
 5 MR. LEHMAN: I have a presentation. I  
 6 don't know if I can share my screen or not.  
 7 MS. NAGLE: So I actually would like to  
 8 start us off.  
 9 And I'm hoping that my Internet connection  
 10 remains stable. I've been having some trouble  
 11 this evening.  
 12 So Chris Lehman is the audit partner for  
 13 SB & Company.  
 14 And William is not here I assume? Chris,  
 15 it's just you?  
 16 MR. LEHMAN: Bill is here as well, yes.  
 17 MS. NAGLE: Okay. Well, welcome, Bill.  
 18 So this is the first year that Ken Davis  
 19 and I worked through the audit of the county's  
 20 financials. And we both have deep knowledge in  
 21 accounting and finance. Neither one of us have

Page 13

1 real experience working in local governments.  
 2 So this was our first go-round.  
 3 Ken and I learned quite a bit and made a  
 4 few discoveries. And now we feel well prepared  
 5 to implement some positive change.  
 6 We so much appreciated being able to work  
 7 through the audit with Chris and his  
 8 colleagues. They were very willing to answer  
 9 all our questions, and we had plenty of them.  
 10 And also willing to tolerate some delays as we  
 11 came up to speed.  
 12 Again, I just wanted to thank you, Chris,  
 13 and your team for helping us through this  
 14 audit.  
 15 MR. LEHMAN: I appreciate that.  
 16 So when it's my time, I will share my  
 17 presentation that I have here.  
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup. Chris, go ahead, go  
 19 ahead. That's fine.  
 20 MR. LEHMAN: Let's see if I can share.  
 21 Give me a second here.

Page 14

1 MR. CALLAHAN: No problem.  
 2 And Joye, I'm assuming that was okay with  
 3 you?  
 4 MS. NAGLE: Oh, yes. So I should have  
 5 given --  
 6 MR. LEHMAN: So let's see.  
 7 MS. NAGLE: That was your lead in.  
 8 I did want to, though, Chris, I wanted to  
 9 give Ken Davis a chance to speak, if he had  
 10 anything.  
 11 MR. DAVIS: Sure. Thank you, Joye. And  
 12 really, thank you, Chris, and to your team.  
 13 As Joye mentioned, it was a year of  
 14 transition for both Joye and I. And we got the  
 15 audit cycle started late by necessity just  
 16 because of that year of transition.  
 17 We appreciate your team and the  
 18 flexibility you provided to us working within a  
 19 condensed time frame in order for us to meet  
 20 our statutory deadline of December 31st. And  
 21 just the body of work that we were sending your

Page 15

1 way in a very condensed time frame, the extra  
 2 effort over the holiday season. It wasn't what  
 3 we'd hoped to be, but we look forward to not  
 4 being in a similar situation in the upcoming  
 5 audit cycle. We appreciate the extra effort  
 6 and the flexibility in order to ensure that we  
 7 met our deadline.  
 8 And thank you very much.  
 9 MR. LEHMAN: Well, thank you, Ken.  
 10 Can everyone see my screen? There should  
 11 be a presentation. They're all able to see.  
 12 My screen might look a little different from  
 13 yours. I just want to make sure you see our  
 14 presentation.  
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: I think we're good. Does  
 16 it start with people sitting around?  
 17 MR. LEHMAN: Yeah. It starts with people  
 18 sitting around. So yup.  
 19 MR. CALLAHAN: That's good.  
 20 MR. LEHMAN: I'll go through this at a  
 21 fairly high level. What I'll do is talk about

Page 16

1 the audit results. And if there's any  
 2 questions, people can chime in or add comments  
 3 at the end.  
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. That sounds good.  
 5 MR. LEHMAN: As Joye mentioned, I was the  
 6 audit partner and then we had Bill Seymour, who  
 7 is also on the call with me, who was the  
 8 engagement partner, again, for this year's  
 9 financial statement audit.  
 10 On this slide here, you'll see our scope  
 11 of services. So we were engaged to complete  
 12 the June 30, 2021, financial statement audit  
 13 for the county. In addition, we're also  
 14 working through the uniform guidance single  
 15 audit. We're still going through the single  
 16 audit process, as the feds have delayed the  
 17 issuance of the guidance. So that's kind of  
 18 put a little bit of a hold on the single audit,  
 19 but we are working through that.  
 20 We also completed the 911 trust fund  
 21 audit, as well as the landfill assurance audit,

Page 17

1 which is a State-mandated audit.  
 2 As far as completing the financial  
 3 statement audit, there's a uniform financial  
 4 report that we have to complete. As well as  
 5 part of the single audit, there's a federal  
 6 data collection form that we'll complete at the  
 7 conclusion of the single audit.  
 8 At a high level, we've issued a clean or  
 9 unmodified opinion on the financial statements.  
 10 That's the best opinion we can give under  
 11 financial -- that's the best opinion we can  
 12 give under, under our standards. And that says  
 13 that the financial statements are reasonably  
 14 free of material misstatement.  
 15 We did not discover any instances of  
 16 fraud. A financial statement audit is not a  
 17 fraud audit, but we are required to have  
 18 healthy skepticism (sic.) that fraud could be  
 19 perpetrated by anyone at any time.  
 20 We did not discover any material  
 21 weaknesses in any of the controls.

Page 18

1 We also received the full cooperation of  
 2 management. So any records that we requested  
 3 support for, questions that we had, we obtained  
 4 timely and adequate responses for those.  
 5 We also did not note any journal entries  
 6 through the audit process. That just speaks to  
 7 the quality of the financial statements and the  
 8 ledger.  
 9 During the audit, and like I said, the  
 10 single audit is still in process. To date we  
 11 have no findings or anything of a negative  
 12 nature to report. But the feds did just come  
 13 out with the final guidance about a week ago.  
 14 So we are in the process of completing that  
 15 process now.  
 16 This slide here just is a picture of our  
 17 (inaudible) space audit approach. I'm not  
 18 going to bore you all with the gory details of  
 19 an audit. But really, this just goes through  
 20 and explains each of our major segments for the  
 21 financial statement audit, which in the next

Page 19

1 few slides I'm going to speak to the assessment  
 2 of the design and operation of the controls,  
 3 which is a key part of the audit, making sure  
 4 that there's adequate processes in place from  
 5 management's perspective to have, you know,  
 6 good controls in place and from that  
 7 perspective.  
 8 So before we get into the specific  
 9 internal controls, we look at the control  
 10 environment. And there's five interrelated  
 11 components that we look at for the control  
 12 environment, which I've highlighted here. So  
 13 control environment, risk assessment,  
 14 information communication, control activities,  
 15 and monitoring are the five interrelated  
 16 components that we look at.  
 17 And we've concluded that there's been an  
 18 adequate environment, there's been an adequate  
 19 environment during the audit, during the audit  
 20 process.  
 21 And then looking at the key processes,

Page 20

1 kind of taking a step further, we look at  
 2 treasury, we look at estimates within the  
 3 financial statements, we look at financial  
 4 reporting, disbursements and expenditure cycle,  
 5 as well as payroll, revenue, and fixed assets.  
 6 In each one of these areas, we've concluded  
 7 that there's an adequate, there's an adequate  
 8 environment for the year.  
 9 And if you look -- I'm not going to read  
 10 each one of these last sections here. But if  
 11 we had difficulties getting through the audit  
 12 or if we had barely acceptable accounting  
 13 processes or really anything of a negative  
 14 nature, I'd be required to bring that to the  
 15 governance's attention. But I really have  
 16 nothing of a negative nature I would need to  
 17 bring to your attention through the audit  
 18 process.  
 19 Like I said, it's been a clean audit,  
 20 unmodified opinion, no material weaknesses that  
 21 we've identified.

Page 21

1 And as well, I've included Bill and my  
 2 contact information here so that if there's any  
 3 questions or concerns during the year, you have  
 4 our contact information, you're available to  
 5 access us.  
 6 So with that, I'll open it up for any  
 7 questions or comments.  
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: Chris. Council, I'll open  
 9 the floor to the Council.  
 10 MS. PRICE: I will start. It's nice to  
 11 see that we have continued great marks for our  
 12 audit. Our previous finance manager was  
 13 amazing. Our new finance manager is amazing,  
 14 along with all of the staff. So I think that  
 15 just goes to show that we have the right people  
 16 in place and we take care and manage our money  
 17 very well and have all the processes to ensure  
 18 good use of our taxpayer dollars and going  
 19 through this audit process.  
 20 And I thank you and your firm for working  
 21 with us through this process, and hope that you

Page 22

1 have enjoyed Joye this year.  
 2 MR. LEHMAN: Yes, definitely.  
 3 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Ms. Price.  
 4 Any other Council member want to speak, go  
 5 ahead.  
 6 MR. LESHER: Mr. Callahan, no questions  
 7 from my side. Just congratulations to  
 8 Ms. Nagle and her team with new leadership in  
 9 place pulling the county through with a clean  
 10 opinion on this audit in their first year on  
 11 the job. So that, indeed, as Ms. Price said,  
 12 says something about the people that we have in  
 13 place and the systems that we have in place.  
 14 So thank you, thank you very much for your  
 15 leadership on that.  
 16 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Mr. Leshner.  
 17 Mr. Divilio.  
 18 MR. DIVILIO: No questions. And just  
 19 appreciate everyone's hard work. Thank you.  
 20 MR. CALLAHAN: -- Pack.  
 21 MR. PACK: I have no questions. Just

Page 23

1 again, congratulations and great job.  
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: No questions, either.  
 3 Other than, Chris, I really appreciate you  
 4 being on the team. And it seems like Joye and  
 5 Ken were very happy.  
 6 And we're building a team. It started  
 7 last year. And we're very blessed to have both  
 8 of them and you on board. So we can't thank  
 9 you enough for doing a good job and helping us.  
 10 MR. LEHMAN: Well, thank you. Thank you  
 11 to everyone.  
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Still on?  
 13 MR. LEHMAN: Say it again.  
 14 MR. CALLAHAN: I didn't know if Joye was  
 15 still on or not.  
 16 MS. NAGLE: I'm still here. I am.  
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: So you or Ken want to say  
 18 anything on closing here?  
 19 MS. NAGLE: Just again, it was a good  
 20 learning experience for both Ken and I. And...  
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: Great.

Page 24

1 MS. NAGLE: We appreciate having solid  
 2 auditors to work with through the audit  
 3 process. So I can't say enough, can't send  
 4 enough thank yous to Chris and his team.  
 5 MR. DAVIS: And I'll second that. Thank  
 6 you, SB & Company, for the professionalism, the  
 7 flexibility.  
 8 And as we get into the FY22 audit, we'll  
 9 have even more efficient and effective  
 10 processes and an effective and efficient audit  
 11 cycle that we expect to have another great year  
 12 in FY22.  
 13 So thank you very much.  
 14 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, again, Ken.  
 15 Both of you, thank you. And Council is here if  
 16 you need anything. So appreciate you being  
 17 with us tonight. Okay.  
 18 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan, can I interrupt  
 19 for just a moment?  
 20 MR. CALLAHAN: Sure.  
 21 SECRETARY: I do see that Ed Thomas from

Page 25

1 the Eastern Shore Human Trafficking Task Force  
 2 has now joined.  
 3 MR. CALLAHAN: Oh, okay.  
 4 SECRETARY: -- if he wanted to make any  
 5 comments.  
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. So Mr. Thomas, can  
 7 you hear me? Mr. Thomas, can you hear me?  
 8 MR. EDWIN THOMAS: How about now?  
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah. I can hear you.  
 10 MR. EDWIN THOMAS: And I can hear you very  
 11 nicely.  
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Welcome, welcome.  
 13 MR. EDWIN THOMAS: No. I was on and was  
 14 listening and watching when the Council, you  
 15 and the other members, made some very nice and  
 16 thoughtful comments about human trafficking.  
 17 So and I did hear the proclamation being read.  
 18 I would just like to take a minute. The  
 19 Eastern Shore Human Trafficking Task Force  
 20 actually got its start right there in Easton as  
 21 there was a human trafficking arrest back in

Page 26

1 2013. And based on that surprise, because as  
 2 we find out most places we travel, everyone  
 3 thinks that human trafficking is national or  
 4 international and it's not here at home. And  
 5 this was the case where there was an arrest  
 6 right there in Easton of a person who was  
 7 trafficking several ladies in the upstairs of  
 8 their house.  
 9 And a number of Easton and nearby  
 10 residents became very concerned about this,  
 11 created this task force, and we have been  
 12 moving on therefor.  
 13 Public awareness is our focus. We feel  
 14 that the more the public is aware, the more  
 15 traffickers will be caught and the more  
 16 children will be prevented from becoming  
 17 victims of trafficking.  
 18 So very pleased with what you were able to  
 19 do tonight and taking the proclamation  
 20 seriously and thank you for enabling us to be  
 21 there.

Page 27

1 And we've had a number of our meetings  
 2 right there in the library in Easton and  
 3 actually got started in the restaurant across  
 4 the street, the Scossa.  
 5 So we have a lot of beginning in Easton.  
 6 We're pleased about that. It's still going on  
 7 throughout the other counties as well.  
 8 So thank you very much.  
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Mr. Thomas. And  
 10 like we said a little bit ago, we can't thank  
 11 you and your team for all that you're doing for  
 12 the safety of people that are in trouble and  
 13 kids and stuff like that.  
 14 And there's just so much bad things and  
 15 bad people out there prying on people. And  
 16 it's good to know that people like you are  
 17 around to help.  
 18 And if it's anything that the Council can  
 19 do, please always feel free to reach out to the  
 20 Council, reach out. Obviously you're in touch  
 21 with Sheriff Gamble. And there's anything we

Page 28

1 can do to --  
 2 MR. EDWIN THOMAS: Yes, right.  
 3 MR. CALLAHAN: -- stop any of this stuff,  
 4 you just please contact us and let us know.  
 5 We're there for you.  
 6 MR. EDWIN THOMAS: Thank you for that.  
 7 We'll look forward to that.  
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you.  
 9 MR. PACK: Mr. Thomas, since you were able  
 10 to join us, I just want to thank you for all  
 11 the work that you and your task force is doing.  
 12 And that case that you just mentioned, I  
 13 do remember that. When you started talking  
 14 about it, I do remember there was over top of a  
 15 restaurant here in Easton, if I remember  
 16 correctly, a massage parlor or something of  
 17 that nature. It was a business on the bottom  
 18 and some rooms on the top.  
 19 And I know also, Kenneth Morris, who, of  
 20 course, has connection here to Talbot County  
 21 being the great-great-great-great-grandson of

Page 29

1 Frederick Douglass, has done a lot of work on  
 2 human trafficking and he has promoted several  
 3 events around the country.  
 4 He was here in Talbot County two years ago  
 5 before the pandemic hit during Frederick  
 6 Douglass Day and spoke to a group of us quite  
 7 extensively about his efforts on human  
 8 trafficking.  
 9 So again, just want to tip my hat to you  
 10 and your team for what you're doing here  
 11 locally. And I know there's an effort  
 12 nationally also to address this scourge on  
 13 humanity. Thank you.  
 14 MR. EDWIN THOMAS: Yeah. There was a very  
 15 nice Frederick Douglass event in your library a  
 16 couple of years ago. We were part of that.  
 17 So one of the things you might think about  
 18 is that everybody, every child virtually has a  
 19 telephone, a cell phone. And cell phones are  
 20 the way that pimps and predators reach out and  
 21 begin trolling and begin with young people. So

Page 30

1 the more parents can pay attention to how their  
 2 children use their cell phones, the more likely  
 3 their children are unlikely to become victims  
 4 of human trafficking. So keep that in mind.  
 5 And thank you for allowing me to have  
 6 another word.  
 7 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you. Any other  
 8 Council member would like to say something?  
 9 Okay.  
 10 Sounds good. Thanks a lot, Mr. Thomas.  
 11 And we're there for you.  
 12 MR. EDWIN THOMAS: Thank you.  
 13 MR. CALLAHAN: Next up, we're getting  
 14 ready to get an update with the Talbot County  
 15 Department of Social Services on Children's  
 16 Advocacy Center with Empower Me programs.  
 17 And I want to welcome Ms. Linda Webb. Is  
 18 she on here?  
 19 MS. WEBB: I am.  
 20 MR. CALLAHAN: Linda, how are you?  
 21 MS. WEBB: I'm doing well. How are you,

Page 31

1 Mr. Callahan?  
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: I'm doing great. Thank  
 3 you. I'm doing great.  
 4 So you want to go ahead and get us -- is  
 5 Paris, is she on here, too?  
 6 MS. WEBB: She should be.  
 7 MS. QUILLET: Yes, I am.  
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: Is she? Okay. We don't  
 9 want to forget you. That's for sure.  
 10 MS. WEBB: And I've got a presentation. I  
 11 don't know. Jessica, will you be showing it or  
 12 should I be prepared to share my screen?  
 13 What's --  
 14 SECRETARY: Yeah. I can share my screen,  
 15 Linda. And you can just let me know when  
 16 you're ready to go to the next slide.  
 17 MS. WEBB: Okay. Perfect. Thank you so  
 18 much.  
 19 So thank you so much, President Callahan  
 20 and Members of the Council, for having me back.  
 21 We wanted to come back and do an update on

Page 32

1 the Talbot County Children's Advocacy Center  
 2 and spend a little time talking about a  
 3 prevention program that we coordinate called  
 4 Empower Me.  
 5 I want to start off with a little bit of  
 6 good news. You'll see at the bottom corners of  
 7 the introductory slide here two logos.  
 8 The logo on the left is the one from the  
 9 Council on Accreditation, which indicates that  
 10 we are an accredited agency.  
 11 You may recall that you helped us out this  
 12 year with the cost of our site visit, which  
 13 took place the week before Thanksgiving in  
 14 November of 2021.  
 15 We successfully reaccredited the Talbot  
 16 County Department of Social Services and, in  
 17 fact, for the second cycle in a row achieved  
 18 what they call expedited accreditation, which  
 19 means that we met every standard, there was no  
 20 corrective action required, and we are now  
 21 reaccredited for another four-year cycle with

Page 33

1 the Council on Accreditation.  
 2 The logo on the right is the logo of the  
 3 National Children's Alliance. This is an  
 4 organization that supports children's advocacy  
 5 centers across the country and also accredits  
 6 those organizations.  
 7 We are in the midst of our reaccreditation  
 8 work with the National Children's Alliance now.  
 9 And we will be visited on May the 10th, 2022,  
 10 for our site visit to complete that  
 11 reaccreditation process.  
 12 So we can move on to the next slide.  
 13 So I just want to -- you know I always try  
 14 to share a little bit of personalized  
 15 information when I'm here to talk with you  
 16 about the programs that the Department of  
 17 Social Services runs. The hands that you see  
 18 on the left of your screen are the hands of  
 19 some young women who participated in an art  
 20 therapy group maybe the first year of the  
 21 pandemic. And they're showing you the jewelry,

Page 34

1 the rings that they made as a part of that art  
 2 therapy group.  
 3 You may recall from when I was with you  
 4 last time that we talk about not only do we  
 5 provide mental health therapy, but we provide  
 6 alternative therapies because different  
 7 individuals heal in different ways. And art  
 8 therapy is one of those services that we  
 9 provide.  
 10 And this is a group of young ladies that  
 11 participated and are proudly showing the  
 12 results of their work there.  
 13 Next slide, please.  
 14 So in case you didn't hear my presentation  
 15 last time, I just want to very briefly go over  
 16 what the Talbot County Children's Advocacy  
 17 Center is and does.  
 18 So a CAC provides services and support to  
 19 child victims of sex abuse, severe physical  
 20 abuse, and extreme neglect. We also serve the  
 21 non-offending caregivers.

Page 35

1 A little while ago, we heard Council  
 2 Member Divilio talk about stranger danger. And  
 3 you're absolutely correct. We rarely see child  
 4 abuse, especially sexual abuse, taking place at  
 5 the hands of someone that the child and the  
 6 family does not know. So often, the male  
 7 treater is a member of the family or someone  
 8 who is close to the family who has to be  
 9 removed from the household. And they receive  
 10 services elsewhere. We serve the child and the  
 11 non-offending caregiver.  
 12 The services are provided through a  
 13 multidisciplinary team of professionals. That  
 14 includes our Child Protective Services workers,  
 15 our family advocate, our legal, law  
 16 enforcement, medical, and mental health  
 17 partners.  
 18 The Children's Advocacy is a location.  
 19 It's a place where we do specialized forensic  
 20 interviews, as well as medical examinations and  
 21 provide services. But it's also a best

Page 36

1 practice model of care for children who have  
 2 been sexually abused.  
 3 Prior to the implementation of children's  
 4 advocacy centers, let's say a child discloses  
 5 to a teacher at school that something has  
 6 happened at home. Next, a Child Protective  
 7 Services investigator asks the child questions.  
 8 Then the State's Attorney may ask the child  
 9 asks and a doctor may ask the child questions.  
 10 And each time that child is questioned about  
 11 their experience, they are re-traumatized from  
 12 the sex abuse incidents.  
 13 The implementation of children's advocacy  
 14 centers created a multidisciplinary team of  
 15 professionals that would observe a  
 16 specially-trained forensic interviewer  
 17 interview the child remotely and could  
 18 communicate with the investigator to make sure  
 19 that all of the questions that were needed in  
 20 order to try to elicit information from the  
 21 child to support an investigation and whatever

Page 37

1 else needed to be done by that team, happened  
 2 just once.  
 3 And those interviews are recorded so that  
 4 they can be used as evidence and we don't even  
 5 have to always have the child speak with the  
 6 State's Attorney's Office, perhaps not testify  
 7 in court, and protect the child from  
 8 re-traumatization in that way.  
 9 Next slide, please.  
 10 So as I explained last time, we are so  
 11 fortunate in Talbot County to have the  
 12 partnerships that we do in the operation of the  
 13 Children's Advocacy Center. And all of these  
 14 partnerships are critical in sustaining the  
 15 services that we provide.  
 16 We have been working with the hospital,  
 17 currently University of Maryland Shore Regional  
 18 Health, for the last 18 years in the operation  
 19 of the Children's Advocacy Center.  
 20 The Talbot County Department of Social  
 21 Services provides a family advocate. That's an

Page 38

1 individual that supports the child and the  
 2 family in the CPS investigation, through the  
 3 medical examination, and through any other  
 4 legal or systems that they need to participate  
 5 in as a result of the incident of sex abuse.  
 6 We employ a Child Advocacy Center  
 7 coordinator, who coordinates all of the  
 8 activities of the CAC. We also have a  
 9 supervisor, a program manager, and we provide  
 10 all of the administrative functions of the  
 11 Children's Advocacy Center, like grant writing,  
 12 tracking for the grants, reporting for the  
 13 grants.  
 14 The University of Maryland Shore Regional  
 15 Health provides us with a physical location for  
 16 the Children's Advocacy Center. They also  
 17 provide specially-trained sex abuse nurse  
 18 examiners, as well as medical equipment and  
 19 laboratory services.  
 20 Now, the healthiest children's advocacy  
 21 centers all make sure that their funds come

Page 39

1 from a blend of different sources. That's just  
 2 good business. And we don't want to be too  
 3 reliant on any one funding source in case  
 4 something changes. We really need to make sure  
 5 that we are able to respond quickly.  
 6 And as you know, we had such a change in  
 7 the last year when the changes in the health  
 8 delivery system of University of Maryland Shore  
 9 Regional Health System in the region changed  
 10 and we had to move out of the hospital and into  
 11 a separate location, again, provided by  
 12 University of Maryland Shore Regional Health.  
 13 But I do want to take a moment to mention  
 14 the many organizations that provide the  
 15 Children's Advocacy Center with support. They  
 16 include the Governor's Office of Crime  
 17 Prevention Youth and Victim Services. We get a  
 18 lot of grant funding from that office that  
 19 really sustains the CAC.  
 20 You, County Council, provided us with some  
 21 very generous support this year, which we

Page 40

1 appreciate.  
 2 Talbot Community Connections is a  
 3 nonprofit that raises funds for Department of  
 4 Social Services that are not funded by other  
 5 government entities. They provide us with  
 6 funding through fundraising, as well as grants  
 7 that they secure from organizations such as  
 8 Mid-Shore Community Foundation, the St. John  
 9 Foundation, Women and Girls Fund, and Christmas  
 10 in St. Michael's.  
 11 We've even gotten some funding from the  
 12 Caroline Foundation through the Caroline County  
 13 Department of Social Services. And you might  
 14 ask why. And that's because this Children's  
 15 Advocacy Center provides the medical services  
 16 for the region. So our medical program  
 17 provides medical services to child victims of  
 18 sex abuse from Kent, Caroline, Talbot,  
 19 Dorchester, and Queen Anne's Counties.  
 20 And then we can't forget Easton Utilities.  
 21 They provide us with Internet service at the

Page 41

1 Children's Advocacy Center.  
 2 Next slide, please.  
 3 So probably what people are most  
 4 interested in is the impact that the CAC has in  
 5 the community. You can see here that the  
 6 number of children and adults served have grown  
 7 steadily through 2020.  
 8 We did a couple of things that year that  
 9 helped us increase our penetration into the  
 10 community, reaching families and children who  
 11 are in need of these services.  
 12 One, we increased our family advocate from  
 13 part time to full time. We knew that that was  
 14 a service that was needed more in the  
 15 community.  
 16 We went to each of the five jurisdictions  
 17 that the Children's Advocacy Center served and  
 18 worked with their multidisciplinary teams to  
 19 increase their referrals to the CAC so that we  
 20 can support child victims of sex abuse.  
 21 And we have gotten better at our data

Page 42

1 collection over the last couple of years.  
 2 Now, you can see that some of the  
 3 challenges that we went through in 2020 early  
 4 in the pandemic, for example, some of our  
 5 numbers dropped. But this year, from July  
 6 through the end of December, we've already  
 7 served families with 253 sessions with the  
 8 family advocate, we've served 94 children and  
 9 adults, we've conducted 38 forensic interviews,  
 10 and we've conducted nine medical examinations.  
 11 This fiscal year to date we've also  
 12 provided financial assistance for emergency  
 13 stabilization to nine families with 22 children  
 14 and child care assistance to 15 children from  
 15 five families.  
 16 So we provide these resources to meet  
 17 immediate needs, which help families focus on  
 18 healing from the trauma that they've  
 19 experienced.  
 20 Now, I guess it's fortuitous that we're  
 21 here this evening and on the same evening that

Page 43

1 human trafficking has been discussed as a part  
 2 of the National Human Trafficking Prevention  
 3 Month. We, too, work with child victims of  
 4 human trafficking. We're currently working on  
 5 one case and completing interviews right now.  
 6 At this point, we have one offender and three  
 7 to four victims.  
 8 We had two cases last year, and we  
 9 frequently provide support for forensic  
 10 interviews to happen by Homeland Security and  
 11 the FBI in the Children's Advocacy Center.  
 12 Those two federal agencies used the CAC six  
 13 times last year for cases that crossed State  
 14 lines and involved multiple law enforcement  
 15 jurisdictions.  
 16 And we did just have our CAC coordinator  
 17 complete a 24-hour training on forensic  
 18 interviews of child sex trafficking victims.  
 19 So those forensic interviews are highly  
 20 specialized. And young children and young  
 21 adults who have been victims of human

Page 44

1 trafficking require special interview skills.  
 2 Okay.  
 3 Next slide, please.  
 4 So what's new at the Talbot County  
 5 Children's Advocacy Center? We have hired a  
 6 new medical director. We're thrilled. It's a  
 7 local nurse practitioner, and she is highly  
 8 enthusiastic about joining our team and helping  
 9 us not only by conducting medical examinations,  
 10 working with the medical team from the  
 11 hospital, but also helping us do community  
 12 outreach about all the wonderful things that  
 13 the Children's Advocacy Center does.  
 14 We held our first in-person open house on  
 15 October 18th of last year. And I want to thank  
 16 Council Members Pack and Leshner for attending.  
 17 We really appreciated having you there.  
 18 Senator Eckardt and Delegate Mautz attended,  
 19 Dr. Griffith. And we had representatives from  
 20 all of the regional multidisciplinary teams and  
 21 other community partners. So it was very

Page 45

1 successful, and we were proud to show off our  
 2 new space provided by University of Maryland  
 3 Shore Regional Health.  
 4 We've offered 53 training opportunities  
 5 this fiscal year to date to members of our  
 6 multidisciplinary team. It is incredibly  
 7 important to keep those MDT members up to date  
 8 on changes in areas like investigation,  
 9 interview, medical trauma, mental health and  
 10 forensic sciences, and techniques. So we  
 11 continue to provide expert care to the children  
 12 that we serve.  
 13 We implemented a youth feedback survey.  
 14 We've just begun implementing that survey  
 15 trying to get feedback from the young people  
 16 that are served there around our services and  
 17 making sure that in addition to all of these  
 18 technical services, we are providing them with  
 19 the environment and the support that is helpful  
 20 in their healing and in the healing of their  
 21 families.

Page 46

1 So that -- oh, and we're preparing for our  
 2 reaccreditation site visit in May, currently  
 3 scheduled for May the 10th.  
 4 So that's all that I have on the  
 5 Children's Advocacy Center. But as President  
 6 Callahan mentioned, I have with me today Paris  
 7 Quillet, who is the department's special  
 8 projects coordinator.  
 9 You heard Mr. Thomas of the task force  
 10 talk about child and family education and how  
 11 important that is in preventing human  
 12 trafficking. It's also important in the  
 13 prevention of child abuse. We see the impact  
 14 of child sex abuse in that Children's Advocacy  
 15 Center every day.  
 16 And so a number of years ago, the  
 17 Department of Social Services started  
 18 implementing what's called Empower Me. It's a  
 19 child safety and child abuse prevention  
 20 program. And Paris is here to talk about that.  
 21 So Paris, are you on?

Page 47

1 MS. QUILLET: Yes, I am.  
 2 Good evening. How is everyone? Thank you  
 3 for the opportunity to come and share about  
 4 Empower Me. Linda couldn't have set the stage  
 5 better. And how timely to have this  
 6 presentation tonight as we're honoring the  
 7 National Prevention Month of Human Trafficking.  
 8 And as Linda opened, Empower Me is a child  
 9 sex abuse prevention program. So looking at  
 10 all of the victims, both in human trafficking  
 11 and child sex abuse in our community.  
 12 First slide you'll see here, pictured on  
 13 the right is Allison Fay. She is the founder  
 14 of the program Empower Me, which was developed  
 15 by the Jacob Wetterling Resource Center and the  
 16 Zero Abuse Project in Minnesota.  
 17 Next slide, please.  
 18 So just a brief overview of Empower Me.  
 19 It's a child sex abuse prevention program, as  
 20 we said. Teaches children and adults about  
 21 personal safety. So that's one of the beauties

Page 48

1 of the program is that not only are we  
 2 providing this program directly to children to  
 3 help build their skill set, we're also teaching  
 4 adults and community members.  
 5 The goal is to reduce the incidence of  
 6 child sex abuse by providing the education to  
 7 adults and raising community awareness,  
 8 providing child -- children and caregivers with  
 9 the language and the tools to help themselves  
 10 and to keep others safe.  
 11 Extremely important. I always say I love  
 12 presenting to the children, but what is more  
 13 powerful is presenting to the adults because  
 14 it's our responsibility as adults to help keep  
 15 kids safe.  
 16 Next slide, please.  
 17 So we're focusing with Empower Me on  
 18 teaching children about gut instinct. Believe  
 19 it or not, we're teaching adults about that  
 20 too, right? As adults, we know what gut  
 21 instinct is. But did you know and if you

Page 49

1 reflect in your childhood, did anybody ever  
 2 teach you about that, how to listen to your  
 3 gut, what that gut feeling feels like?  
 4 We equate that with children to animals  
 5 and the gut instinct that animals have to keep  
 6 them safe. And they get it every time. They  
 7 understand it. We call it the uh-oh feeling.  
 8 And helping them focus on how to develop  
 9 an adult safety net and implementing four  
 10 safety rules. We use our hand as an  
 11 interactive way to teach children their net.  
 12 Their hand is their net, and each one of our  
 13 fingers representing an adult that we can go to  
 14 that's a trusted person.  
 15 We have our four safety rules that we go  
 16 through. And we're using interactive  
 17 activities when working with the children to  
 18 apply the rules and helping them develop their  
 19 safety net.  
 20 When we're doing presentations with  
 21 children in classrooms, we're also teaching

Page 50

1 their educators and leaders of their groups to  
 2 reinforce those skills, help them continue to  
 3 develop those safety nets.  
 4 Next slide, please.  
 5 So the four safety rules are check first.  
 6 And check first teaches children to check in  
 7 with the person that's taking care of them.  
 8 And we focus on that. Before you're getting  
 9 into a car, before you accept a gift, before  
 10 you let someone take your photo or when there's  
 11 adults seeking help.  
 12 And we do a lot of this education with all  
 13 four of the rules by doing a lot of what ifs.  
 14 So we do questions well, what if, and we play  
 15 out different scenarios for children and how  
 16 these rules apply.  
 17 I always say check first is my favorite  
 18 because it kind of trumps everything else.  
 19 Right? If you're checking in first with the  
 20 adult that's taking care of you, all of these  
 21 other things start to fall into place.

Page 51

1 We teach children that we talk about all  
 2 touches. So children are asked often to think  
 3 of touch as in the context of is this a clean  
 4 and healthy touch.  
 5 Years ago as I heard you all reference  
 6 earlier stranger danger. So just as we're kind  
 7 of abandoning the language of stranger danger,  
 8 we're also abandoning the language of good  
 9 touch, bad touch for a number of reasons. And  
 10 we really help children understand is this a  
 11 clean and healthy touch.  
 12 So all touches is the focus with children  
 13 because there are times to keep the children  
 14 clean and healthy and safe that adults and  
 15 people that they trust may have to look and  
 16 touch their private parts. And so helping them  
 17 understand that we can talk about all of those  
 18 touches.  
 19 I get lots of laughter when I'm talking to  
 20 kids about changing diapers and doesn't  
 21 somebody need to change the diaper to keep the

Page 52

1 kids healthy and safe? And they're like oh,  
 2 yeah. I'm like it's not a secret, right? We  
 3 can talk about the poopy diaper. And the light  
 4 bulbs start to go off. They start to  
 5 understand. As opposed to the nobody ever  
 6 touches you, when we know that that's not  
 7 reality.  
 8 Next rule is we tell to get help. So we  
 9 teach children the difference between tattling  
 10 versus telling, which is really important  
 11 because especially for young people, they've  
 12 been taught by everyone around them I don't  
 13 want to hear a tattletale, I don't want to hear  
 14 tattletaling. And so we teach them the  
 15 difference between tattling to get someone in  
 16 trouble and telling to get help is to get  
 17 someone out of trouble.  
 18 And the last rule that we focus on is no  
 19 secrets. So we educate the children about the  
 20 difference between secrets versus surprises.  
 21 So we're not out here to ruin anybody's 50th

Page 53

1 wedding anniversary or surprise birthday party  
 2 on Friday night.  
 3 We talk about the fact that there's a huge  
 4 difference between keeping secrets from the  
 5 adults that take care of us or a surprise that  
 6 something is healthy, safe, exciting, and we  
 7 all know when we're going to share that.  
 8 Next slide, please.  
 9 As I mentioned earlier, there's two  
 10 presentation versions, one for children, and  
 11 that's preschool through sixth grade, and the  
 12 other is for adults. And it's caretakers and  
 13 really anyone in the community that interacts  
 14 or works with children.  
 15 You know, I may be biased. But I say that  
 16 anyone really as an adult should have this  
 17 knowledge and experience this presentation,  
 18 even if you're a neighbor in a community. We  
 19 all have a role in child protection.  
 20 Next slide, please.  
 21 So locally in our county, we've done a ton

Page 54

1 of presentations in a variety of settings.  
 2 When Empower Me first started, it was  
 3 identified through staff at our CAC at a  
 4 national conference as a resource to bring  
 5 locally. And we really developed that as a  
 6 grassroots community initiative.  
 7 So the SS has maintained the lead, but it  
 8 is very much a community-supported program.  
 9 And so we deliver that at no cost to the  
 10 schools and churches.  
 11 We've held open community sessions,  
 12 recreational organizations, many nonprofits.  
 13 We've delivered it within the Detention Center  
 14 directly with our clients, our parenting  
 15 groups, child care programs.  
 16 I've been in backyards of local  
 17 neighborhoods. So really the populations are  
 18 endless.  
 19 And we've also done a lot of consulting in  
 20 other counties and helping them develop their  
 21 programs and bring Empower Me to their schools

Page 55

1 and their community as well.  
 2 Next slide, please.  
 3 So impact. That's what we're all  
 4 interested, right, in. Anyone that knows any  
 5 work in prevention knows that measuring impact  
 6 of prevention programs is especially  
 7 challenging. And one of the ways to measure  
 8 impact certainly for our program, we look a lot  
 9 at our delivery and how many people we're able  
 10 to reach.  
 11 And I think as you saw just in our CAC  
 12 stats, that as we continue to educate the  
 13 community, both adults and children, reporting  
 14 will rise. And so numbers rising when you're  
 15 thinking of prevention, you know, sometimes  
 16 it's hard to wrap our minds around, but that is  
 17 indeed what we're looking for, is more  
 18 reporting and more opportunities to keep  
 19 children safe and help families heal.  
 20 So we began presenting, doing  
 21 presentations in the county in 2015. We've

Page 56

1 delivered it to approximately 600 adults and  
 2 1,200 children.  
 3 During the height of the pandemic, virtual  
 4 presentations were conducted. We actually had  
 5 the founder of the program record a  
 6 child-specific presentation just for our county  
 7 entering in some county specific information  
 8 and resources into that presentation as well.  
 9 We do maintain, with the financial support of  
 10 both the county and the local department, a  
 11 license to have that county-specific  
 12 presentation as a virtual resource.  
 13 And there's also a virtual resource for  
 14 adult education as well.  
 15 We have resumed in-person presentations  
 16 and live virtuals. So just recently, we did a  
 17 live virtual training with the staff at Chapel  
 18 District Elementary School.  
 19 And this year, I got really lucky to get  
 20 right in that window of we think we were  
 21 getting out of the pandemic. So I was able to

Page 57

1 do in-person presentations to all of the first  
 2 graders in the county through our partnership  
 3 with Talbot County Public Schools.  
 4 This has been a wonderful partnership.  
 5 It's in an effort to be in compliance with  
 6 Erin's Law. MDSE incorporated several  
 7 requirements into their health curriculum. And  
 8 our partnership with TCPS has been from the  
 9 very beginning of the program. And the  
 10 implementation of the mandate of Erin's Law has  
 11 helped -- bringing Empower Me has helped the  
 12 school meet those standards.  
 13 So the school welcomes us in. We've been  
 14 presenting to all first grade classes. And it  
 15 will continue.  
 16 We've also done at St. Peter and Paul.  
 17 We've had an opportunity pre-pandemic to do the  
 18 entire elementary school, both pre-k all the  
 19 way through sixth grade. They delivered the  
 20 presentation virtually last year, with hopes to  
 21 do in-person again perhaps in the spring this

Page 58

1 year.

2 We continue to do outreach in the

3 community to offer these sessions both virtual,

4 in person in any setting, and prerecorded

5 that's safe for the community and that

6 organization. We have several scheduled for

7 next month as well. So fingers crossed, we'll

8 be live and in person in a safe setting.

9 Just kind of close here. This is our

10 recent photo of Bill Keswick, myself,

11 Ms. DeShields, and a student intern in one of

12 the first grade classrooms and holding up our

13 CAC fans.

14 And we actually use those in the classroom

15 as an interact activity. Turn them around and

16 have each child write a name on each of the

17 fingers. And the teachers can reinforce that.

18 We provide books and coloring books, as

19 you see photo?d. So all of the support that

20 we've gotten from the County Council and the

21 local department is what makes this possible.

Page 59

1 It makes us be able to deliver this

2 presentation at no cost and provide all the

3 additional resources and supports to really

4 help continue the education and prevention

5 efforts in our county.

6 And I feel honored to be a part of this

7 project, and really appreciate the opportunity

8 to share this with all of you.

9 I know I've spoke with some of you in

10 other areas before about Empower Me. And would

11 just offer today to all of the Council members

12 and anyone else observing, if anyone is

13 interested, next slide please, in having a

14 presentation in its entirety, we are happy to

15 do that, virtually, recorded, and in person.

16 Thank you.

17 MS. WEBB: Thanks, Paris. You can also

18 use this information to get in touch with us.

19 If any member of the Council would be

20 interested in coming to the Children's Advocacy

21 Center and having a tour of the facility and

Page 60

1 learning more about what we do there, I would

2 absolutely welcome hearing from any one of you

3 at any time and we would make that happen.

4 So thanks, again, for the opportunity this

5 evening.

6 MR. CALLAHAN: Once again, Linda, thank

7 you. And thank you, Paris. That was a great

8 presentation, a lot of information.

9 And we're so blessed to have people like

10 you working really hard to make a difference in

11 kids' lives and people's lives.

12 So Council? Corey?

13 MR. PACK: Thanks, Mr. Callahan.

14 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup.

15 MR. PACK: Linda, always a pleasure to

16 hear from you. And Paris, good seeing you

17 again.

18 Paris and I were together about two months

19 ago handing out holiday food baskets for the

20 foster parents at the parking lot of the

21 Department of Social Services. It was my

Page 61

1 pleasure to be out there with her and some of

2 her foster parent staff to do that.

3 But the CAC, one of the best run programs

4 we have in the county. Probably not widely

5 known. But it serves a very important part of

6 the whole criminal justice process when it

7 comes to this most valuable, vulnerable I

8 should say, vulnerable population. And when

9 they are taken advantage of, the CAC is here to

10 provide a service, not only to those victims,

11 but also to the families of those victims as

12 well.

13 So I've always been a big supporter of the

14 CAC. I was glad to see that it landed back on

15 its feet after being removed from Shore Health

16 building last year.

17 The current location is wonderful. It is

18 a perfect location I believe for it to continue

19 on its work. And so I wish them well in all

20 that they do.

21 It's very unfortunate, it's very

Page 62

1     unfortunate that we have to have a CAC. It  
 2     really is. We wish that we did not have to  
 3     have this type of operation, but unfortunately  
 4     we do.  
 5             And I'm just so happy that we have good  
 6     people working there who are very compassionate  
 7     and very knowledgeable about their job and do  
 8     it in a way, as Linda pointed out, that these  
 9     very small and vulnerable individuals won't  
 10    feel that they're being stigmatized and put  
 11    under too much of a microscope.  
 12            So again, thank you very much for the  
 13    presentation, Linda. Very well done.  
 14            MS. WEBB: Thank you, Mr. Pack.  
 15            MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Mr. Pack.  
 16            Mr. Divilio.  
 17            MR. DIVILIO: So this is one of those  
 18    things that you wish you never even knew about.  
 19    You know, unfortunate that it exists.  
 20            I remember the first time meeting a nurse  
 21    who just handles these kind of cases and

Page 63

1     thinking how difficult and challenging her life  
 2     must be.  
 3            I just, I can't thank the people who step  
 4     into these roles enough that you are providing  
 5     just an amazing service.  
 6            But I also feel that during this COVID  
 7     time, from what I've been reading, it's become  
 8     much worse. You're having children watching  
 9     other children because parents have to go to  
 10    work. And they're not old enough to be doing  
 11    it, but you got to pay the electric bill and  
 12    then pay rent. Just a lot of terrible things  
 13    have been happening.  
 14            Mental health is always on the forefront  
 15    of my mind. And I greatly appreciate all of  
 16    these types of facilities and workers around.  
 17            I would love to have a tour of it.  
 18    Hopefully maybe just a virtual one. If you  
 19    want to walk through with a phone, I'm more  
 20    than happy to watch that.  
 21            And I'm going to shoot you an e-mail

Page 64

1     afterwards with maybe a couple of other  
 2     organizations I think we might be able to  
 3     connect with to get in front of some more kids.  
 4            So thank you very much, and I really  
 5     appreciate it.  
 6            MS. WEBB: Thank you, Mr. Divilio. We  
 7     welcome speaking with any organization that's  
 8     interested and giving you a virtual tour.  
 9            MR. DIVILIO: Thanks.  
 10           MR. LESHER: I'll chime in here and  
 11    express my appreciation for the tour that I did  
 12    receive during your open house last October and  
 13    learning more about this program, which I  
 14    guess, as you explained, is necessarily behind  
 15    the scenes or low visibility. Not the sort of  
 16    thing that you can hang a big sign out for,  
 17    given the confidentiality that is needed for  
 18    those who are needing the services.  
 19            But this, for the presentation, is helpful  
 20    on top of that night. I thank you very much  
 21    for doing this.

Page 65

1            MS. WEBB: Thank you, Mr. Leshner.  
 2            MS. PRICE: And I'll say thank you, like  
 3     all of my colleagues.  
 4            And it's always amazing to me the talent  
 5     that is behind services like yours and the  
 6     compassion that you have for children or if  
 7     it's hospice for seniors or people that are  
 8     going through those types of things. You have  
 9     to have a special heart to do this kind of  
 10    work.  
 11            And I just want to thank you for having  
 12    that heart and the staff and the people that  
 13    are working on that, being able to share that  
 14    and have so much compassion, it is a gift. So  
 15    thank you.  
 16            MS. WEBB: Thank you, Ms. Price. You're  
 17    right. It's almost a calling. And we have a  
 18    wonderful team that puts their heart and soul  
 19    into the work serving these children and their  
 20    families and helping them heal.  
 21            So thank you for recognizing that.

Page 66

1 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Thank you, Linda.  
 2 Like you said, everybody can't say enough how  
 3 blessed we are to have you guys and your team  
 4 and your services and stuff and helping Talbot  
 5 County.  
 6 And you know, you and Paris have really  
 7 done a great job tonight. We really thank you.  
 8 And Council is always here to help you, always  
 9 there willing and to watch your back and we're  
 10 there for you.  
 11 MS. WEBB: Great. Thank you, President  
 12 Callahan. We've appreciated the opportunity,  
 13 and certainly appreciate the kind words that  
 14 you've all provided this evening.  
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you. Appreciate it.  
 16 MS. WEBB: And congratulations on the  
 17 awesome audit.  
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Exactly. We needed it, we  
 19 needed it. All right, guys. Thanks a lot.  
 20 Okay.  
 21 Council, let's move on to eligible votes.

Page 67

1 Council has two resolutions eligible for votes.  
 2 Madam Secretary, could you read the first  
 3 resolution into the record, please.  
 4 SECRETARY: Resolution Number 308, a  
 5 resolution to rescind adoption of Resolution  
 6 281, a resolution to amend the Talbot County  
 7 comprehensive water and sewer plan, the plan,  
 8 to reclassify and remap portions of certain  
 9 real property located in the Town of Trappe,  
 10 Maryland, associated with the Lakeside planned  
 11 unit development, the Lakeside project,  
 12 formerly known as Trappe East. Further  
 13 described as tax map 54, parcel 304, tax map  
 14 55, parcels 14, 15, 17, 19, 44, 65, 83, and 85,  
 15 and tax map 59, parcel four, the total area  
 16 consisting of 865 acres, more or less, the  
 17 property, from S-2 and W-2, areas where  
 18 improvements or extensions to existing or  
 19 construction of new community, multi-use, or  
 20 shared sanitary facilities are programmed for  
 21 progress within three to five years, to S-1 and

Page 68

1 W-1, areas served or to be served by community  
 2 multi-use, or shared sanitary facilities, which  
 3 are existing, under construction, or have  
 4 immediate priority status. To amend the plan  
 5 to add certain water and sewer capital projects  
 6 related to the Lakeside project and existing  
 7 systems for the fiscal years 2020 through 2030.  
 8 And to amend the plan to update the narrative  
 9 description in the plan relative to the  
 10 Lakeside project and existing systems, as  
 11 amended, without prejudice.  
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Madam Secretary.  
 13 Good job.  
 14 Vice President Leshner, discussion.  
 15 MR. LESHNER: Thank you. And I know that  
 16 we do not yet have in our packet an opinion on  
 17 Resolution 308 from the Planning Commission.  
 18 And there's an opportunity for that to happen  
 19 at the Planning Commission's meeting in  
 20 February.  
 21 And I think that it's important that we

Page 69

1 have that information before us before  
 2 proceeding on this.  
 3 And so I would propose that we defer  
 4 voting on this until that opportunity has  
 5 passed.  
 6 MR. DIVILIO: So I've got a question.  
 7 MR. PACK: So do I.  
 8 MR. DIVILIO: What are we looking to  
 9 accomplish with this?  
 10 So if we send it back to the Planning  
 11 Commission, we're asking the Planning  
 12 Commission to see if rescinding 281 fits into  
 13 the Comp Plan?  
 14 MR. LESHNER: We are asking them for  
 15 their -- given the revised information and the  
 16 new information that has come to light, does  
 17 this, is this supported by the Comprehensive  
 18 Plan, yes, absolutely.  
 19 MR. DIVILIO: So I'm confused. What are  
 20 we asking them to fit that we would want to  
 21 reverse the action? To see if the reversed

Page 70

1 action that would have already been in the  
 2 Comprehensive Plan?  
 3 MR. LESHAR: Does this change to the  
 4 comprehensive water and sewer plan comport with  
 5 the county's Comprehensive Plan, its plan for  
 6 development and its impact on this part of the  
 7 county.  
 8 MR. DIVILIO: I'm confused. But what  
 9 specifically in this do they need to address?  
 10 MS. PRICE: So this is --  
 11 MR. DIVILIO: This is rescinding 281.  
 12 Why would we ask the Planning Commission  
 13 to rescind 281 when we could, we could put  
 14 something better together and ask them, opposed  
 15 to what -- because let's remember the issues  
 16 with this, right.  
 17 Our Office of Law said that rescinding 281  
 18 wouldn't do anything. And that's going to be  
 19 the same legal recommendation that's provided  
 20 to the Planning Commission.  
 21 And it seems to me we're just following

Page 71

1 along with confusing the general public and not  
 2 addressing any issues.  
 3 I want to know what would the Planning  
 4 Commission, on this document, what would they  
 5 be reviewing that involves the Comprehensive  
 6 Plan?  
 7 To me, I don't see why we would be asking  
 8 their opinion if we should be rescinding this.  
 9 MS. PRICE: So there is --  
 10 MR. LESHAR: Are there issues in here,  
 11 right in the title, for example, we've heard  
 12 evidence that perhaps the title of 281 was  
 13 erroneous. Was, in fact, this property indeed  
 14 S-2 and W-2 when --  
 15 MR. DIVILIO: That's not a Planning  
 16 Commission question.  
 17 MR. LESHAR: -- the maps in the  
 18 comprehensive water and sewer plan don't  
 19 represent it that way?  
 20 MR. DIVILIO: Why would the Planning  
 21 Commission be reviewing that?

Page 72

1 MS. PRICE: Let me take a shot at that.  
 2 Okay.  
 3 So in November, the Planning Commission  
 4 gave an opinion on Resolution 281 itself. And  
 5 before the adoption of 281 in August 2020, when  
 6 it passed by the County Council, was there the  
 7 authority to have new development connected to  
 8 the plant and did -- the question is whether  
 9 MDE issued those permits properly.  
 10 We do have new information that needs to  
 11 be considered. And there are a few steps to  
 12 take. One -- and the Planning Commission does  
 13 have the authority. We can't pass something  
 14 that they don't approve.  
 15 Now, I understand your question. You're  
 16 saying well, this is a negative, this is  
 17 rescission. Okay. But they -- there's another  
 18 resolution obviously that three of us  
 19 introduced last month that will have an  
 20 amendment on it when we get to it this evening  
 21 that it would make sense if they were to review

Page 73

1 both of them together at that same meeting.  
 2 So to have them comment on 308. Because,  
 3 again, maybe just rescinding 281 may or may not  
 4 do something.  
 5 However, I have had extensive  
 6 conversations with MDE. And just the fact that  
 7 they have overturned 281 in November, that is a  
 8 huge statement to MDE that may affect the  
 9 permit procedure for the spray irrigation  
 10 permit, that the discharge permit that they're  
 11 going for.  
 12 Us, needing to follow what the Planning  
 13 Commission's recommendations are, we are not  
 14 allowed, again, not allowed to pass something  
 15 without an affirmative vote of three members of  
 16 the Planning Commission.  
 17 So I think that this puts some clarity on  
 18 it if they take an official position on it.  
 19 And then along with, like you said, doing  
 20 something else, which again is Resolution 313,  
 21 to take a proactive step on it.

Page 74

1 So while we may not officially need it, it  
 2 does make sense, at least in my mind, to, if  
 3 we're going to be sending 313 to them, which I  
 4 assume we're going to be doing in a little  
 5 while, to go ahead and let them officially make  
 6 a statement on Resolution 308, which makes more  
 7 sense than what they did on 281.  
 8 But I think all three of them kind of go  
 9 together hand in hand to figure out what is,  
 10 what it is the County Council, along with the  
 11 Planning Commission, need to do to meet water  
 12 quality and whether or not things were --  
 13 whether or not they had that ability.  
 14 And there are some questions about how it  
 15 was classified and whether that permit  
 16 discharge was properly issued and what will  
 17 happen, this is more what will happen with the  
 18 MDE.  
 19 And again, I've had extensive  
 20 conversations with them. Mr. Leshner joined me  
 21 on one last week. And they are right now

Page 75

1 reviewing all of the -- I believe they got  
 2 3,700 comments back in this October meeting and  
 3 as long as the public comment was open.  
 4 So they are looking to the Council. So I  
 5 think that we need to give them every piece  
 6 that they need to help them make this decision  
 7 on this permit, new permit, or whether it's a  
 8 new permit or whether it is -- not a  
 9 reissuance. Doesn't matter.  
 10 The decision that MDE is going to be  
 11 making, they need to have all these pieces in  
 12 place. And it certainly doesn't hurt  
 13 anything --  
 14 MR. DIVILIO: -- absolutely confuses  
 15 because they gave us all the information,  
 16 Planning Commission gave us all the information  
 17 to vote on 281.  
 18 I have not received anything from the  
 19 Planning Commission saying I'm sorry, we made  
 20 mistakes, all of this information was wrong. I  
 21 haven't seen --

Page 76

1 MS. PRICE: Because I don't think they  
 2 think the information is wrong. I mean they've  
 3 got -- they did. They changed their mind in  
 4 November on 281. They absolutely --  
 5 MR. DIVILIO: Let's address that. I'll be  
 6 happy to address that as well.  
 7 I've spoken with two of them who have told  
 8 me that the plant is failing.  
 9 Can anybody tell me what the pass fail  
 10 test is called?  
 11 MS. PRICE: So let's talk about the plant  
 12 and --  
 13 MR. DIVILIO: I want to know what's  
 14 passing and failing, if there's a test,  
 15 because --  
 16 MS. PRICE: -- violation. MDE will tell  
 17 you there have been violations in the past.  
 18 And part of the thing that you need to  
 19 understand is there are three levels -- I  
 20 thought there was just BNR and ENR. But  
 21 apparently there is something called BIOLAC.

Page 77

1 And BIOLAC is not even up to the same standard  
 2 as a BNR.  
 3 So let's call it maybe good, better, best.  
 4 And we have standards that we have to meet with  
 5 TMDLs. And then the best way to do that is to  
 6 treat it with ENR technology. We have the  
 7 ability. The technology exists to have  
 8 connections to an ENR, whether it's through  
 9 spray irrigation, whether it's through an  
 10 upgraded Trappe wastewater treatment plant, or  
 11 through some temporary modular type of  
 12 component.  
 13 Repeat your question. Sorry. Oh.  
 14 MR. DIVILIO: What's the name of the test  
 15 that passes or fails?  
 16 MS. PRICE: I don't know what the name of  
 17 the test is. Who cares what the name of the  
 18 test is --  
 19 MR. DIVILIO: I do because they made that  
 20 their decision based off of it failing.  
 21 MS. PRICE: Okay. There were violations.

Page 78

1 MDE is going to tell you there were violations.  
 2 Okay. So the reason I was telling you  
 3 about the three different types of wastewater  
 4 treatment plants is because a BIOLAC has a much  
 5 lower standard. It doesn't have as high a bar  
 6 to reach. That doesn't mean that a too high a  
 7 level of nutrient, phosphorus, nitrogen, is  
 8 going out and being -- going out into La Trappe  
 9 Creek or any other impaired waterway.  
 10 And we want to treat it to ENR standards.  
 11 We have the ability to do that immediately.  
 12 And so just because it's not, quote,  
 13 unquote, if it's not in violation today, that  
 14 doesn't mean that it meets a standard that it  
 15 should.  
 16 It's not even BNR technology, let alone  
 17 ENR technology.  
 18 So when people talk about the fact it's  
 19 not, is or is not in violation, you're  
 20 comparing it against a much lower standard than  
 21 an ENR plant.

Page 79

1 MR. DIVILIO: Well, you're also -- well,  
 2 in that regard, should we sell all the dump  
 3 trucks and just push snow with Priuses?  
 4 There's a facility there. And it is in  
 5 compliance. I have the report right here from  
 6 the Maryland Department of the Environment  
 7 showing it's been in compliance.  
 8 November, in compliance. October, shows  
 9 compliance. September, shows compliance.  
 10 August, shows compliance. July, shows  
 11 compliance --  
 12 MS. PRICE: With below the standard and we  
 13 have to --  
 14 MR. DIVILIO: They were there. MDE was  
 15 there today and --  
 16 MS. PRICE: We have to clean up TMDLs and  
 17 we have to pay per pound for nitrogen,  
 18 phosphorus, nutrients, all of those things.  
 19 And there are too high a level going out into  
 20 the impaired waterways of which --  
 21 MR. DIVILIO: -- out of compliant if it

Page 80

1 was too high coming out of the facility, right?  
 2 MS. PRICE: If you have 100 milligrams of  
 3 nitrogen coming out that that is what comes --  
 4 and I'm making up a number. Okay. I'm just  
 5 trying to talk in round numbers. Coming out of  
 6 a BIOLAC plant, but a ENR plant would be  
 7 ten milligrams, okay, technically it's in  
 8 compliance. But it's still discharging 100  
 9 milligrams as opposed to ten milligrams.  
 10 So it's in compliance, but it's still a  
 11 lousy standard.  
 12 MR. DIVILIO: And I'm not saying --  
 13 MR. PACK: Let me --  
 14 MR. DIVILIO: -- forever. But it's in  
 15 compliance. And we keep -- I keep hearing  
 16 people saying that it's failing and that it's  
 17 not doing what it should be doing. And it is  
 18 doing what it should be doing.  
 19 MS. PRICE: If you read the developer's  
 20 documents, it says they have every intention of  
 21 connecting things to ENR technology. You can

Page 81

1 go back 15 years, and that is what the document  
 2 says, to ENR technology.  
 3 And they're not. They're not connecting  
 4 to ENR. They're going to be connecting to a  
 5 substandard type plant.  
 6 And we have the ability to fix that, and  
 7 we'll talk about that later --  
 8 MR. PACK: Point of order, Mr. Callahan,  
 9 if I may.  
 10 MR. CALLAHAN: No problem, Mr. Pack.  
 11 Let's go ahead and --  
 12 MR. PACK: Point of order. The question  
 13 before -- and I will call that -- I will ask  
 14 the chair to call the vote on 308 this evening.  
 15 And let me say this before I ask the chair  
 16 to take that action. It's to say this, but  
 17 it's not about the type of system that Trappe  
 18 has and whether it's in compliance or not.  
 19 Whether or not the system is in  
 20 compliance, and it's a system that is an  
 21 approved system, is a State regulatory action.

Page 82

1 That's the State of Maryland, not Talbot  
 2 County, first of all.  
 3 So whether it's an ENR, BNR, MBR, lagoon  
 4 system, BIOLAC system really is not in our  
 5 purview. It's not really worth us going  
 6 through those discussions this evening.  
 7 But to Mr. Divilio's earlier point, let me  
 8 say this. 308 is a County Council legislative  
 9 action either to rescind a previous resolution.  
 10 It does not have any purview before the  
 11 Planning Commission at all, at all. There's no  
 12 reason that it should have been even remotely  
 13 suggested that it go to the Planning  
 14 Commission, much less that they have any  
 15 purview over a Council decision.  
 16 They do not, they do not rule on whether  
 17 or not the Council will rescind a resolution.  
 18 They do not.  
 19 So this is just a political ploy, in my  
 20 opinion. It's kicking the can. It's trying to  
 21 use a invalid action of the Planning Commission

Page 83

1 because members of this Council know it's  
 2 loaded in their favor, to stand behind and say  
 3 oh, the Planning Commission voted that we  
 4 should go with 308, and then say we can't do  
 5 anything, we got to rescind.  
 6 No. It's a political ploy. That's all it  
 7 is.  
 8 308 has nothing to do with the Planning  
 9 Commission, period. It is the decision -- as  
 10 you have said many, many times, Mr. Callahan,  
 11 we were elected to do a job. This is your job  
 12 this evening. Your job is to decide whether or  
 13 not to pass 308, this resolution, based on as  
 14 it's written or not, period. That's the job  
 15 you were elected to do.  
 16 Now, you've been told by your county  
 17 attorney, whom you've hired, who has a law  
 18 degree, who has stated multiple times in  
 19 public, that you cannot rescind 281. You  
 20 cannot unring a bell. Once the sound has  
 21 emitted from the bell, it's gone.

Page 84

1 So to try to say that now you can go back  
 2 and redo this, you can't. 281 has already been  
 3 enacted, it's already been sent to MDE, MDE has  
 4 already accepted it, and it already have been  
 5 incorporated into the county's Comprehensive  
 6 Plan, which, which MDE has the authority over.  
 7 They accept the plan and they have approved  
 8 that change.  
 9 So this is just a maneuver, a ploy.  
 10 The County Council has got in trouble with  
 11 this before back in 2005 when they tried to  
 12 impede its power on the Town of Trappe and try  
 13 to rescind a previous plan in 2002. And MDE  
 14 slapped our, slapped the Council's hand then  
 15 and said no, we won't accept your amendment of  
 16 that plan.  
 17 So we're going back full circle 20 years  
 18 ago and trying to impose onto a sovereign  
 19 entity its right to govern its wastewater.  
 20 And so 281 has been approved. The  
 21 property is split zoned based on 281. It was

Page 85

1 S-2, W-2.  
 2 Look, when I came onto this Council, I was  
 3 told the property was all in S-2 and W-2. Your  
 4 county engineer, whom you pay, whom you pay,  
 5 who has several degrees, have told you the  
 6 property was S-2, W-2. And still because some  
 7 other guy down the street said no, it wasn't,  
 8 it was unprogrammed, you believe him.  
 9 Why you paying Ray Clarke? You might as  
 10 well let him go. Why are you paying him?  
 11 He's told you multiple times it was S-2,  
 12 W-2. But you want to listen to the guy down  
 13 the street that says unprogrammed. I don't get  
 14 it. I don't get it. So to try -- this is a  
 15 ploy.  
 16 Mr. Chair, I would ask that you call the  
 17 vote on 308 this evening.  
 18 It has no reason to go before the Planning  
 19 Commission. They do not rule on rescission,  
 20 period. They do not. They have no authority  
 21 to tell this Council to rescind a previous

Page 86

1 approved resolution, period.  
 2 This is just a ploy.  
 3 MS. PRICE: It is not --  
 4 MR. PACK: You were hired to do a job.  
 5 The job was to make these tough decisions.  
 6 MS. PRICE: Okay. I'm going to jump in  
 7 and correct a couple of things that were said.  
 8 Number one, if people don't, aren't ready  
 9 to vote and they want to wait, it had always  
 10 been a "gentleman's agreement," even though I'm  
 11 not a gentleman. But --  
 12 MR. PACK: We're not going to play this  
 13 game tonight.  
 14 MS. PRICE: -- to respect that.  
 15 It's not a game because when you --  
 16 MR. CALLAHAN: Let her talk.  
 17 MS. PRICE: When you want to hold a vote,  
 18 when you want to hold off on a vote, we respect  
 19 that. And someone else wants to, it doesn't  
 20 always work that way, but that --  
 21 MR. PACK: Where there's justifiable

Page 87

1 reasons.  
 2 MS. PRICE: That's not --  
 3 MR. PACK: Not a ploy tactic to try to  
 4 hide behind the Planning Commission, who has no  
 5 authority over this.  
 6 MS. PRICE: -- hiding behind the Planning  
 7 Commission.  
 8 MR. PACK: It's a ploy.  
 9 MS. PRICE: I know how I'm going to vote.  
 10 Okay. But let me correct something.  
 11 Trappe or the developer does not have the  
 12 authority to connect or do this without our  
 13 blessing. And they had -- that's why 281  
 14 exists.  
 15 You can sit there and you can chuckle, but  
 16 that is the truth.  
 17 They had to come to us in December, I  
 18 believe December of 2019, to ask for permission  
 19 to get this wastewater discharge permit. That  
 20 is a fact. And if we didn't do that, then they  
 21 weren't going to be allowed to continue with

Page 88

1 this project.  
 2 MR. PACK: That is not a fact. That is  
 3 not a fact. That is not a fact.  
 4 MS. PRICE: You don't have to argue with  
 5 me on point.  
 6 Now, let me finish.  
 7 281, if the Planning Commission has gone  
 8 against that, then we didn't have the authority  
 9 to approve 281. And because they have turned  
 10 it over, we do have to pay attention to that.  
 11 I have talked to people at MDE. And it  
 12 does mean something. What the Planning  
 13 Commission did in November does mean something.  
 14 I talk to MDE every week, and I know what  
 15 they're reviewing. I know what the people are  
 16 thinking.  
 17 And it does mean something. Our county  
 18 attorney is not completely correct on this  
 19 matter.  
 20 So if the Planning Commission -- and maybe  
 21 we don't need to send it to them. Maybe them

Page 89

1 simply making their statement, their decision  
 2 on 281 in November is enough information that  
 3 we really -- our hands pretty much are tied  
 4 because, for example, on 313, which is  
 5 upcoming, as written they didn't approve --  
 6 MR. PACK: What decision on 281 in  
 7 December? What decision are you talking about?  
 8 MS. PRICE: In November. And it's in your  
 9 packet.  
 10 MR. PACK: 281 was approved two years ago.  
 11 What are you talking about?  
 12 MS. PRICE: They rescinded that.  
 13 MR. PACK: They don't have the power to  
 14 rescind. That should have never even been on  
 15 their agenda. They do not have the power to  
 16 rescind 281, period.  
 17 MS. PRICE: May I finish my point on 281?  
 18 Mr. Pack, you're incorrect.  
 19 And I would like to bring up another  
 20 point, if you will let me finish. We have had  
 21 certainly a lot of comments from the public and

Page 90	Page 92
<p>1 also from the attorney representing the                  2 developer. And he has his case to state and                  3 other people have their case to state.                  4 And you cannot reply all to your Council                  5 members and violate the Open Meetings Act. And                  6 what you said, you repeated again for the third                  7 time tonight about the municipality having                  8 their autonomy. Not on the comprehensive water                  9 and sewer plan.                  10 They had to come to the County Council                  11 100 percent to ask for permission and the                  12 blessing. The comprehensive water and sewer                  13 plan -- you can sit there and shake your                  14 head --                  15 MR. PACK: They are not asking for the                  16 Council's permission. We are not their big                  17 brother. They come to --                  18 MS. PRICE: I'm going to finish my point                  19 and then I will be done with this, if you will                  20 stop interrupting me because I'm tired of this                  21 being an argument.</p>	<p>1 General, we lose. They are going to side with                  2 the Planning Commission. We cannot do it                  3 without them.                  4 We have to pay attention to what happened                  5 and what the rules are with if something is                  6 found in line with our Comprehensive Plan or                  7 not. If they don't, we're not allowed to pass                  8 it. So we have to take some form of action.                  9 And if we do something that is contrary to                  10 what the Planning Commission recommendation is                  11 and you have a dispute between the County                  12 Council and the Planning Commission in a                  13 situation like this on whether something is in                  14 line with the Comprehensive Plan, the Attorney                  15 General is going to side with the Planning                  16 Commission.                  17 So this isn't about some dude down the                  18 street and his opinion.                  19 You got to do all of the research to the                  20 facts of this. And we have to take this very                  21 seriously.</p>
Page 91	Page 93
<p>1 MR. PACK: Stop telling these mistruths.                  2 They don't come to us for permission for their                  3 comprehensive water and sewer plan. They do                  4 not.                  5 MS. PRICE: -- MDE. Go ahead. Go talk to                  6 secretary and the people working for MDE. They                  7 absolutely do.                  8 We have complete authority over our                  9 comprehensive water and sewer plan. It doesn't                  10 matter what Trappe or the developer want.                  11 I'm not saying that I'm not in favor of                  12 having some development out there. That is not                  13 what this is about. But they can't do it                  14 without us.                  15 So when 281 got passed with quite probably                  16 some inaccurate information that deserves to be                  17 looked at again, which is what happened, and                  18 the Planning Commission then changes it to                  19 another vote, we do have to take action.                  20 And I have been told that if this goes --                  21 the Planning Commission goes to the Attorney</p>	<p>1 And out of everything that we have ever                  2 voted on in Talbot County, this is the single                  3 largest issue that we have to take very                  4 seriously. You have to take personalities out                  5 of it.                  6 And what I was going to say was it was                  7 completely inappropriate for you to reply to                  8 Mr. Showalter and, in my opinion, violate the                  9 Open Meetings Act and --                  10 MR. PACK: Let me -- instead of making                  11 false -- let's stick to the facts we're talking                  12 about here tonight --                  13 MS. PRICE: I'm going -- no, no, no, no.                  14 MR. PACK: -- if we may. I'm going to                  15 read from the document, since you bought it up.                  16 MS. PRICE: -- 30 more seconds --                  17 MR. PACK: I'm going to read from the                  18 document since you bought it up several times.                  19 Now, the County Council --                  20 MS. PRICE: (Inaudible.)                  21 MR. CALLAHAN: Mr. Pack.</p>

Page 94

1 MR. PACK: -- exact same thing that you're  
 2 talking about. Under the guise that they could  
 3 control, they have the power to tell Trappe  
 4 what to do and that Trappe had to come to the  
 5 County for permission dealing with its own  
 6 wastewater and sewer plan. They are a  
 7 sovereign municipality.  
 8 So the Council introduced Resolution 126  
 9 in an effort to amend a 2002 plan to undo the  
 10 process made with respect to a discharge  
 11 permit, delay the timeline and capital  
 12 improvements, and to establish policy changes  
 13 between the county and the town to further  
 14 impede upon the town's progress.  
 15 Resolution 126, which was ultimately  
 16 adopted by the Council in November 9, 2005.  
 17 However, however, MDE rejected the  
 18 county's attempt to delist the Lakeside  
 19 wastewater treatment from the 2002 plan.  
 20 MDE stated MDE believes that the desires  
 21 and the intentions of the municipality within

Page 95

1 which the waste, the water and sewer  
 2 improvements will occur has significant weight.  
 3 It is MDE's interpretation that Resolution 126  
 4 would adversely affect the Town of Trappe and  
 5 impede the ongoing public process within the  
 6 town. Therefore, it disapproves the amendment  
 7 known as Resolution 162.  
 8 Tried to do exactly what you were saying.  
 9 So it's been -- we have been down this road  
 10 before, and MDE has said no, you do not have  
 11 the authority.  
 12 MS. PRICE: And they are looking at that  
 13 and they think that they may have erred in that  
 14 judgment --  
 15 MR. PACK: Well, until we see something  
 16 different, Ms. Price, we are going to go with  
 17 what's on record.  
 18 MS. PRICE: No, no. There's also  
 19 documents that I read that also in our packet.  
 20 And there are a ton of documents in our packet.  
 21 So let's go ahead and let someone else go

Page 96

1 now.  
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. All right.  
 3 MR. DIVILIO: -- documents from MDE saying  
 4 we've made all these mistakes? Did I not get  
 5 the letter from the MDE apologizing for all  
 6 their mistakes and lies and illegal actions?  
 7 Did anybody else get that?  
 8 MR. PACK: It don't exist, Mr. Divilio.  
 9 It don't exist.  
 10 MR. DIVILIO: Okay. So MDE did not  
 11 apologize and admit that they acted illegally.  
 12 I take -- I reach out to information. And  
 13 you're not the only one who can call MDE. I  
 14 have. I've got a good relationship with an  
 15 individual up there who is on this and has been  
 16 handling it ever since he started working for  
 17 MDE 20 something years ago.  
 18 I take all the information I can and I  
 19 make a vote on that.  
 20 And if there was illegal information,  
 21 somebody lied and it's false, I've been asking

Page 97

1 for that. And nobody has been able to supply  
 2 me a document that they gave me when I voted on  
 3 281 that was unethical, illegal, or incorrect  
 4 factually. I have yet to receive that  
 5 document.  
 6 So I'm going to stand by my vote. And I'm  
 7 going to continue working with all of these  
 8 groups to actually make a difference and clean  
 9 up the water.  
 10 I'm not going to rescind this, send it  
 11 back to the Planning Commission for what, to  
 12 hope that they can invent some kind of better  
 13 wastewater treatment plant facility? Is that  
 14 what we're looking for here?  
 15 No. We're not sending this back to them  
 16 over that. We're not trying to get them to  
 17 invent anything.  
 18 There's a plant coming and there's a  
 19 development that's coming. And we need to  
 20 recognize that, accept it, and make it the best  
 21 that it possibly can. That's our job.

Page 98

1 MS. PRICE: That's great because there's  
 2 ENR technology that exists today that they  
 3 could hook up. They don't need to hock up  
 4 to --  
 5 MR. DIVILIO: And rescinding this is not  
 6 going to fix that, right? It's not going to  
 7 immediately put an ENR plant there.  
 8 So listen, I have voted down things before  
 9 that was just bad legislation and come back  
 10 with the correct, proper way to do it. And  
 11 that's where I am right now.  
 12 Not this. I'm voting this one down. I'm  
 13 a hard no here.  
 14 MR. LESHER: Mr. Callahan.  
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Yes, Mr. Leshner.  
 16 MR. LESHER: If I may.  
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah.  
 18 MR. LESHER: A year and a half ago, the  
 19 Planning Commission was asked and did provide  
 20 an opinion on Resolution 281.  
 21 Based on (inaudible) information, MDE

Page 99

1 acted preliminarily. Given new information  
 2 that came across, the courts ordered MDE to  
 3 start over as new.  
 4 We have not been so ordered, but this is  
 5 our opportunity to do precisely that in light  
 6 of the same new information.  
 7 Resolution 308 is based on the same  
 8 material as resolution, or the same subject  
 9 matter, new information, as Resolution 281.  
 10 It is, therefore, entirely appropriate,  
 11 since the Planning Commission gave us their  
 12 opinion on the initial Resolution 281, that the  
 13 Planning Commission should, in light of this  
 14 new information, render an opinion on  
 15 Resolution 308.  
 16 And so we have that opportunity to do  
 17 that. They will be able to act on that, review  
 18 that in their meeting the first Wednesday in  
 19 February, which will be prior to this Council's  
 20 next meeting.  
 21 A short delay in the vote on this to

Page 100

1 garner that information, which is simply  
 2 parallel to what we've asked for before on this  
 3 same subject matter, is entirely reasonable.  
 4 MR. DIVILIO: I would completely disagree.  
 5 I believe that MDE was told to open up  
 6 public comment again and they did.  
 7 And you went along with this. You  
 8 followed the petitioner. You allowed him to  
 9 add additional comment. You allowed the public  
 10 to make additional comment. And they have.  
 11 And that's all that was needed. The lawsuit  
 12 went away.  
 13 It's time to close this, and it's time to  
 14 move forward with the project and actually make  
 15 a difference.  
 16 Sending this back to the Planning  
 17 Commission does not do it. I don't see  
 18 anything in here that justifies that.  
 19 If you want to send something else to  
 20 them, I would be willing to listen to that.  
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. So I've been sitting

Page 101

1 here listening.  
 2 So I look at this both ways. I've talked  
 3 to a lot of people. I've also talked to MDE.  
 4 I've talked to Trappe. I've talked to all the  
 5 players involved. I talked to the Planning  
 6 Commission.  
 7 My thought was, Mr. Pack and Mr. Divilio,  
 8 I fully understand where you're headed, I  
 9 really do. I don't know if this makes a  
 10 difference one way or the other.  
 11 I think you're right. I think you're  
 12 right, Frank. There's a lot in here in  
 13 rescinding this that we feel like is it going  
 14 to make a difference or not.  
 15 Hearing you guys tonight back and forth,  
 16 everybody's got their really good points.  
 17 Everybody wants to be heard. So when you look,  
 18 when you look down at us, there's confusion.  
 19 We've been the last couple of months with  
 20 people in front of us claiming stuff was done  
 21 unlawful. And I listened. I listened and gave

Page 102

1 the people the respect to understand where  
 2 we're coming from.  
 3 And there's some serious allegations that  
 4 come out of this that the MDE was accused of  
 5 doing something.  
 6 And you're right. I haven't seen  
 7 anything. Mr. Divilio, you're right. I  
 8 haven't seen anything. I don't think you have,  
 9 either.  
 10 This is, all this back and forth, my  
 11 thoughts, and I know you don't agree with this,  
 12 my thoughts were why not give an opportunity to  
 13 the players; Trappe, MDE, the Planning  
 14 Commission, the developers. Why don't we give  
 15 them a seat at the table in a week, two weeks.  
 16 I don't see where that harms anything. I  
 17 think it might clear things up a little bit for  
 18 the public and us.  
 19 I know, Mr. Pack, you're passionate about  
 20 what you've said. The lawyer has told us that  
 21 he agrees with this doesn't do anything.

Page 103

1 It's not like I really want to vote on  
 2 something and you're saying that I've always  
 3 said hey, you got to step up to the plate and  
 4 vote. In this particular situation, I'd like  
 5 to just like to see the players at the table so  
 6 we can kind of build off the discussion in the  
 7 last half hour that we've talked about.  
 8 So why don't we have players at the table.  
 9 Maybe that can clear some of this up. Maybe it  
 10 doesn't. Maybe it doesn't. You know, we got  
 11 to vote on it and vote it up or down.  
 12 But it just makes sense to me that at this  
 13 stage, with everything that's been said and all  
 14 the social media and all the meetings we were  
 15 at, I don't really see harm in having a meeting  
 16 and get together. I really don't.  
 17 Maybe that's not what everybody wants to  
 18 do here, but communication means everything. I  
 19 think each one of us are right. Each one of us  
 20 are right. I want you to understand that, each  
 21 one of us are right.

Page 104

1 We're fighting amongst ourself, and we  
 2 shouldn't be doing that. What we should be  
 3 doing is keeping a balanced and open mind of  
 4 we're making decisions for a municipality in a  
 5 sense that doesn't even have a seat at the  
 6 table right at this second to talk about it.  
 7 So did somebody want to say something?  
 8 So I just think it's a little premature.  
 9 I don't see where it would hurt a week.  
 10 I've talked to a lot of people. One way  
 11 or the other, everybody is so passionate about  
 12 it. Mr. Divilio, Mr. Pack, hey, I'd rather not  
 13 vote on it right now. I'd rather -- and it's  
 14 not, understand this, it's not about the vote.  
 15 It's about hearing the people, and it is a big  
 16 deal to people.  
 17 It's been shifted in a sense. And this is  
 18 my opinion. It's been shifted into a direction  
 19 where it's the plant, then it's the building.  
 20 Do we really want the building? Now, the plant  
 21 is it legal or not legal?

Page 105

1 There's not one person listening that  
 2 doesn't want that plant up and running and safe  
 3 for the environment. There's not one of us,  
 4 not one of us.  
 5 And look, let's face it. That's going to  
 6 happen. That's going to happen. It's just a  
 7 matter of moving forward, making sure, and this  
 8 is how I feel. And I'm trying to get it out.  
 9 When people are sitting in front of us for  
 10 four hours making statements and saying that we  
 11 have things that are a problem, I kind of feel  
 12 like it's not fair for the other side to defend  
 13 that. That's my opinion.  
 14 And once I got my head clear of what's in  
 15 front of us and what somebody is telling us, I  
 16 think in a court of law, both sides should be  
 17 heard and they are heard.  
 18 Throw some of the Planning Commission to  
 19 the side. It's on the Council's shoulders.  
 20 Mr. Pack, you're 100 percent right. At  
 21 the end of the day, the Council makes the

Page 106

1 decision. You're right. I'm going to agree  
 2 with you. The Planning Commission is a -- they  
 3 tell us what they think it should be. They do.  
 4 They advise us. That's what they do.  
 5 And I've talked to Mr. Councill and  
 6 Mr. Councill has been great with me the last  
 7 couple of weeks just bringing him up to speed.  
 8 And look, all the Planning Commissions are  
 9 very good people. Everybody is passionate.  
 10 There's five of them, five of us. There's ten  
 11 people here, and we really got to get on the  
 12 same train on this because it's coming.  
 13 And we want what's is best for Trappe.  
 14 That's what needs to be said. We want what's  
 15 best for Trappe. We want a healthy  
 16 environment. And we can all work together on  
 17 this.  
 18 It's amazing, it's amazing that we don't  
 19 want to try to shift things and get together  
 20 and get at the table, work this stuff out. All  
 21 the amendments, all the resolutions, all the

Page 107

1 bills, all of that stuff there, why aren't we  
 2 at the table?  
 3 It's fascinating to me that we're all  
 4 leaders here and we want to do a quick vote.  
 5 It's just to me it's a little bit bigger than  
 6 that. It's a little bit more of trying to get  
 7 together.  
 8 I don't have the golden egg here and I  
 9 don't have the solution. But I know one thing,  
 10 my gut is telling me to get people at the table  
 11 and make sure that what everybody has said  
 12 tonight has some truth to it. Everything does.  
 13 Everybody that's here has a well-groomed point.  
 14 Mr. Pack, I applaud you were prepared for  
 15 all your information. And I understand that.  
 16 And you think you're right, and you are right  
 17 on a lot of things. Okay. You are. Okay.  
 18 And Frank, same with you, same with you.  
 19 And look, and I don't mean this in a bad  
 20 way, but we really need to all be on the same  
 21 wavelength on this. We really do.

Page 108

1 And I would really, really like for you  
 2 guys to consider, because you're probably not  
 3 going to change your mind on your vote. But I  
 4 would ask you, I would ask you to slow it down  
 5 for a week or two to get people to the table.  
 6 You might end up at the same thing. You really  
 7 might.  
 8 MR. PACK: Mr. Callahan, with all due  
 9 respect, with all due respect, Resolution 308  
 10 is before the Council tonight for vote.  
 11 I would ask you as the chair to call the  
 12 vote.  
 13 If you want to sit down with whomever you  
 14 want to sit down with tomorrow, next week,  
 15 you're well welcome to do that.  
 16 We had a public hearing on this. You had  
 17 Mr. Watson go on for hours at length on this.  
 18 So you have heard. You do have the  
 19 opportunity, even after this evening, if you so  
 20 choose.  
 21 I was down at Trappe just the other day

Page 109

1 meeting with Nick and some representative from  
 2 Trappe. You're well welcome -- and you were  
 3 invited to that meeting as well. You were  
 4 invited, but you didn't show up.  
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: -- work now. Some of us  
 6 have to work.  
 7 MR. PACK: I'm just saying --  
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: Don't need to pull that.  
 9 You're retired. But I'm working. So I don't  
 10 appreciate you saying that. I don't appreciate  
 11 you saying that.  
 12 MR. PACK: Well, I'm just saying there was  
 13 a meeting --  
 14 MR. CALLAHAN: I know it was meeting.  
 15 Everybody could have --  
 16 MR. PACK: -- saying. So it's not like --  
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Don't say I wasn't there.  
 18 Don't act like I didn't want to be there. That  
 19 was --  
 20 MR. PACK: I didn't say you did.  
 21 Okay. I apologize. I take that back.

Page 110	Page 112
<p>1 You weren't there, you weren't there.</p> <p>2 MR. CALLAHAN: -- get upset.</p> <p>3 MR. PACK: You weren't there. I just said</p> <p>4 you weren't there, but there was a meeting and</p> <p>5 you weren't there.</p> <p>6 MS. PRICE: And guess what? You know</p> <p>7 what? Nobody ever told me about a meeting. I</p> <p>8 had no idea. So why --</p> <p>9 MR. PACK: So the thing about it is that</p> <p>10 there is opportunity --</p> <p>11 MS. PRICE: -- people are invited to that</p> <p>12 meeting. I knew nothing about it. And right</p> <p>13 now there are three people who want to delay a</p> <p>14 vote; myself, Pete, and Mr. Callahan --</p> <p>15 MR. PACK: The question is before Council,</p> <p>16 I'm asking the chair to call for the vote as a</p> <p>17 point of order.</p> <p>18 MR. LESHER: Mr. Callahan, I've asked this</p> <p>19 simply, I started simply as a courtesy. But I</p> <p>20 will put it in the form of a motion.</p> <p>21 I move that we defer voting on Resolution</p>	<p>1 before, before we took that vote, and it's</p> <p>2 probably mute at this point, but I did ask the</p> <p>3 chair as a point of order to call this matter</p> <p>4 to vote and you did not do so, Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>5 MR. LESHER: A four-fifths vote can</p> <p>6 overrule the chair. It would take a</p> <p>7 four-fifths vote to overrule the chair's</p> <p>8 decision.</p> <p>9 MR. PACK: Well, he didn't call the matter</p> <p>10 to vote.</p> <p>11 MR. LESHER: And if you wanted to overrule</p> <p>12 him on that, it takes a four-fifths vote.</p> <p>13 Calling the question is also requires a</p> <p>14 super majority. Calling the question, asking</p> <p>15 him to call the vote, that requires a super</p> <p>16 majority for a vote.</p> <p>17 MR. DIVILIO: What is the next action by</p> <p>18 this Council on this?</p> <p>19 MR. CALLAHAN: The next action --</p> <p>20 MR. PACK: To hide behind the Planning</p> <p>21 Commission's unauthorized vote on 308.</p>
<p>Page 111</p> <p>1 308.</p> <p>2 MR. CALLAHAN: Do I have a second?</p> <p>3 MS. PRICE: Sorry. I was muted. I</p> <p>4 seconded it.</p> <p>5 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. I have a motion and</p> <p>6 a second to defer the motion. Madam Secretary,</p> <p>7 could you call the vote.</p> <p>8 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>9 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.</p> <p>10 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.</p> <p>11 MR. DIVILIO: No.</p> <p>12 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.</p> <p>13 MR. LESHER: Aye.</p> <p>14 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.</p> <p>15 MS. PRICE: Aye.</p> <p>16 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.</p> <p>17 MR. PACK: No.</p> <p>18 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. So what we're going</p> <p>19 to do, we're going to put this on hold --</p> <p>20 MR. PACK: Let me just say, and I know I</p> <p>21 don't have and I didn't think about this</p>	<p>Page 113</p> <p>1 MR. DIVILIO: Are we sending this to the</p> <p>2 Planning Commission? Are we making --</p> <p>3 MR. PACK: There's nothing to send to the</p> <p>4 Planning Commission.</p> <p>5 MR. LESHER: We have --</p> <p>6 MR. PACK: The Planning Commission has no</p> <p>7 authority over Resolution 308, none.</p> <p>8 MR. LESHER: We have asked for their</p> <p>9 opinion now.</p> <p>10 MR. DIVILIO: When?</p> <p>11 MR. LESHER: I just did and actually in</p> <p>12 December.</p> <p>13 MR. CALLAHAN: I would really love to go</p> <p>14 back to what I asked, and I'd like to put</p> <p>15 everybody at the table. That's what I'd like</p> <p>16 to do.</p> <p>17 MR. PACK: Well, call it. I mean you</p> <p>18 could have done that months ago.</p> <p>19 MR. DIVILIO: Mr. Leshner --</p> <p>20 MR. PACK: Same way with the statue. You</p> <p>21 could have done that months ago, the same way.</p>

Page 114

1 Don't keep on saying you want to do it,  
 2 you want to do it, you want to do it. Do it.  
 3 MR. CALLAHAN: Why would you bring that  
 4 into it?  
 5 MR. PACK: I'm just saying do it. If you  
 6 want to do it, do it. Stop saying I want to do  
 7 it, and do it.  
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: I will, I will. I will  
 9 within the next couple of weeks get with staff,  
 10 put something together so we all can listen to  
 11 some information. And then we'll move forward.  
 12 We're going to move forward and then we'll  
 13 vote on this. But we're going to vote it where  
 14 I feel like the majority of us -- what's going  
 15 to wait a couple of weeks?  
 16 It might end up same result, Mr. Pack.  
 17 You know what I mean. But don't bully me  
 18 through something. Okay. Don't bully me.  
 19 MR. PACK: Nobody is bullying you,  
 20 Mr. Callahan.  
 21 You're saying you want to bring people to

Page 115

1 the table.  
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Don't --  
 3 MR. PACK: This has been on our agenda for  
 4 over a month. This project has been in the  
 5 works for 20 years.  
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: I understand, I understand.  
 7 MR. PACK: So to say that now tonight, now  
 8 tonight as a ploy I want to bring people  
 9 together, could have been done that.  
 10 MR. CALLAHAN: Not necessarily. We just  
 11 got all the information. We just --  
 12 MR. PACK: What information? You've had  
 13 volumes of information on this for years. What  
 14 information?  
 15 MS. PRICE: We got --  
 16 MR. CALLAHAN: Years. It's not been  
 17 years. We just had new stuff, allegations.  
 18 That's what you're not understanding.  
 19 MR. PACK: Allegations. Okay, okay.  
 20 MS. PRICE: No --  
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: We've had allegations.

Page 116

1 MS. PRICE: They are not just allegations.  
 2 There are some things true, some things not  
 3 true.  
 4 We're trying to get through and get to the  
 5 truth so that we do the right thing. But to  
 6 discredit somebody just because you don't like  
 7 him is wrong.  
 8 MR. PACK: And even if you do, as your  
 9 county attorney has said, you cannot rescind  
 10 281.  
 11 MR. CALLAHAN: That might be true. That  
 12 might be true.  
 13 MR. PACK: So all of this is for what?  
 14 MR. CALLAHAN: It might be true and --  
 15 MR. PACK: So all of this is for what?  
 16 All the waiting and going through all these...  
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: You know what it's for.  
 18 MR. PACK: For what?  
 19 MR. CALLAHAN: It's for the safety and  
 20 health of this community is what it's for.  
 21 MR. PACK: Oh, okay.

Page 117

1 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.  
 2 MR. PACK: Okay.  
 3 MS. PRICE: With all due respect to our  
 4 county attorney, he is one attorney's opinion.  
 5 And I have talked to the attorney at MDE,  
 6 and that is not necessarily true.  
 7 So let's let everybody get all that  
 8 information. I know that they are reviewing  
 9 all of the background information.  
 10 Different people at MDE were in charge  
 11 back then, different administration. And  
 12 they're sorting through all of the comments and  
 13 data and information that has been presented to  
 14 them at the public hearing back in October.  
 15 Again, 3,700 comments, 2,800 unique comments.  
 16 It is taking time for them to sort through it.  
 17 There's -- yes, there is dirt moving out  
 18 there at Lakeside. But there's no actual  
 19 houses or connections happening right now. So  
 20 to take a few more weeks and also to consider  
 21 what is coming up with Resolution 313 and take

Page 118

1 it as an all-encompassing unit, hopefully is  
 2 going to solve the problem.  
 3 And it makes sense for it to all go  
 4 together and let them look at it all  
 5 encompassing rather just piecemeal. Because if  
 6 we vote tonight, it might or might not change  
 7 what we're going to do with 313.  
 8 And I think it makes sense to do them  
 9 together so that they are -- so that they make  
 10 sense. You don't want to do something that  
 11 would be opposite to the other resolution since  
 12 there are two of them before us right now.  
 13 So we have called the vote. We're going  
 14 to hold off.  
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Well --  
 16 MR. DIVILIO: Why don't we just follow the  
 17 petitioner's request?  
 18 I don't know if everybody remembers or  
 19 not, but when he came in, he said just rescind  
 20 it without prejudice and let the attorneys  
 21 figure it all out.

Page 119

1 Is that what we're doing here? Is that --  
 2 MS. PRICE: I don't really care what the  
 3 petitioner wanted. I'm trying to do --  
 4 MR. DIVILIO: No. That's the action that  
 5 we have been led to do now.  
 6 So yes, it does matter because that's what  
 7 we're doing.  
 8 MS. PRICE: I'll go ahead and call the  
 9 point of order. Mr. President, we've already  
 10 voted to hold off on this.  
 11 MR. CALLAHAN: So, so --  
 12 MS. PRICE: -- to the next item.  
 13 MR. CALLAHAN: So Mr. Stamp, could you and  
 14 Ms. Morris, could you put on our agenda next  
 15 week to get all the parties together so we can  
 16 have a meeting.  
 17 And then hopefully by next meeting, we can  
 18 take this and put this thing to bed, but I'd  
 19 like to be able to get in a meeting with  
 20 everybody on board next week.  
 21 MS. PRICE: I'm not sure that that can

Page 120

1 happen that quick --  
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Don't let --  
 3 MR. PACK: If you want to meet with them,  
 4 go ahead and meet with them. You don't have to  
 5 include everybody in that. If you want to meet  
 6 with them, meet with them.  
 7 MR. STAMP: So just to clarify your  
 8 question, are you asking staff to set up a work  
 9 session with Council?  
 10 MR. CALLAHAN: That's what I'd like --  
 11 MR. PACK: We don't need a work session.  
 12 If he wants to meet with them, he can meet with  
 13 them.  
 14 MS. PRICE: And I --  
 15 MR. DIVILIO: -- Maryland Department of  
 16 the Environment, right? We want MDE there.  
 17 Should we go ahead and list off all the  
 18 players that we want?  
 19 MR. CALLAHAN: That's what I was getting  
 20 at. I want all the players there. That's what  
 21 I wanted.

Page 121

1 Mr. Pack, you don't have to be there.  
 2 That's fine.  
 3 MR. DIVILIO: We're going to have a  
 4 meeting with them but we're going to have the  
 5 Planning Commission review this and give us a  
 6 vote on this after we already meet with them?  
 7 MR. STAMP: So Council, I think your vote  
 8 on this was to defer.  
 9 MS. PRICE: Yup. So let's --  
 10 MR. STAMP: -- defer.  
 11 MR. DIVILIO: To send it to the Planning  
 12 Commission. So the Planning Commission was  
 13 (inaudible) here.  
 14 MR. STAMP: I don't think that was part of  
 15 the vote.  
 16 MR. DIVILIO: So the Planning Commission  
 17 has to have time to review this.  
 18 MR. STAMP: I don't think that was part of  
 19 the vote; was it? Just to defer.  
 20 MR. DIVILIO: I believe Mr. Leshner did ask  
 21 for that last -- he just mentioned that.

Page 122

1 MR. LESHER: I did not define the purpose.  
 2 MR. DIVILIO: No, no. That you sent this  
 3 to the Planning Commission for a decision.  
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: I don't think he said that.  
 5 MR. PACK: Mr. Divilio, December the 14th,  
 6 Ms. Price made a statement about sending these  
 7 matters back to the Planning Commission and to  
 8 the Public Works Advisory Board.  
 9 So it wasn't Mr. Leshner. It was back on  
 10 December 14th, if you go back and read that  
 11 transcript, the transcript. She said something  
 12 very loosely about --  
 13 MR. DIVILIO: (Inaudible.)  
 14 MR. PACK: Yeah, you remember. And I  
 15 think that was the same night that Mr. Anderson  
 16 came and spoke and said that the Public Works  
 17 Advisory Board is here to help. And she said  
 18 yeah, we want your, we want -- and then she  
 19 called to Miguel and said Miguel, put that on  
 20 the agenda.  
 21 So that's -- it was very loosely done. It

Page 123

1 was very loosely done --  
 2 MR. DIVILIO: Mr. Leshner said tonight on  
 3 the record that he has said this, right?  
 4 MS. PRICE: And we do have, we do have in  
 5 our packets a recommendation from the Public  
 6 Works Advisory Board.  
 7 So we did let them give us an opinion.  
 8 They got it done in January. I'm not sure why  
 9 the Planning Commission didn't get it done at  
 10 their January meeting, but we do have in our  
 11 packet a recommendation on 308 from the Public  
 12 Works Advisory Board.  
 13 Normally we would ask for opinions from  
 14 both bodies. And we have already gotten one  
 15 from the PWAB.  
 16 MR. DIVILIO: So Mr. Leshner, can you  
 17 please let me know what has been done and what  
 18 the timeline of this will be?  
 19 MR. LESHER: Well, the Planning Commission  
 20 I believe is going to be meeting the first  
 21 Wednesday in February, at which point they can

Page 124

1 render an opinion on this.  
 2 And Mr. Callahan has separately asked for  
 3 a Council workshop on this. And that will be  
 4 scheduled as soon as possible I presume and  
 5 that will allow us to move forward.  
 6 MR. DIVILIO: Wouldn't it make sense that  
 7 the Planning Commission has all the information  
 8 before they render a decision, if they were  
 9 part of that work session?  
 10 MR. CALLAHAN: I agree with that. I agree  
 11 with that. That's my whole point, to flush all  
 12 this stuff out. I think you're right,  
 13 Mr. Divilio. That was my point, to flush all  
 14 this stuff out because we have so much in front  
 15 of us, all I want is clarification on this  
 16 stuff. That's really it, you know.  
 17 MR. DIVILIO: And I would like it right  
 18 from the horse's mouth.  
 19 MR. CALLAHAN: That's my whole point.  
 20 That's my whole point. You know what I mean?  
 21 I don't -- I've rather hear from the

Page 125

1 horse's mouth on some of this stuff. And  
 2 that's all.  
 3 MR. STAMP: Council President, staff will  
 4 be happy obviously to schedule a work session.  
 5 We just need clarity on who you'd like to  
 6 invite.  
 7 And you can either share that with us  
 8 tonight or let us know. We'll work to set that  
 9 work session up.  
 10 MR. CALLAHAN: Well, I --  
 11 MR. DIVILIO: -- give direction to staff  
 12 to hold off on the Planning Commission review  
 13 of this document until we have the work  
 14 session?  
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Fine with me.  
 16 MS. PRICE: But.  
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Why not? Why not?  
 18 MS. PRICE: Because you got to figure out  
 19 whether you can get it done that fast and they  
 20 only meet once a month.  
 21 And so you want to defer this now until

Page 126	Page 128
<p>1 March if we can't get a workshop set up before 2 the Planning Commission can get together. And 3 I'm not so sure I'm in favor of a workshop. 4 I think all the information is out there. 5 It's a matter of going through it and everybody 6 reviewing it, all the players reviewing it. 7 MR. CALLAHAN: There needs to be voices at 8 the table. That's what it needs to be. 9 MS. PRICE: You know what, it is the 10 Talbot County Council who holds the 11 decision-making purview of the comprehensive 12 water and sewer plan. It is our plan all by 13 ourselves. 14 And we know what Trappe thinks. We know 15 what the developer thinks. We know what 16 they've written. For goodness sakes, Ryan 17 Showalter sent us 150-page document. 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah. But what he hasn't 19 said, what he hasn't said is what Frank has 20 said. Okay. 21 There's nothing there with all this new</p>	<p>1 Madam Secretary, could you read Resolution 2 311 into the record, please. 3 SECRETARY: Resolution Number 311, a 4 resolution to amend the Talbot County Council 5 rules of procedure to clarify certain 6 procedures regarding the adoption of numbered 7 and administrative resolutions, the filing of 8 petitions, the drafting of legislation, and the 9 conduct of public hearings, and to correct 10 outdated and inconsistent language. 11 MR. CALLAHAN: Council, any comments? 12 MS. PRICE: There was a couple of things 13 that I had some issues with before and we got 14 some comments. 15 I'm not sure if this is maybe a little too 16 restrictive on the petition process. Not 17 thrilled about that. 18 And the other one was the part where it 19 says, it's on page six, that every time you 20 want to -- except for requests made in open 21 session, any request by any member of the</p>
<p>Page 127</p> <p>1 information that we got. Okay. Is that true 2 or not? 3 MS. PRICE: He chose -- actually I'm going 4 to let Mr. Leshner pick up on this because I 5 believe he had a little better insight into the 6 things that Mr. Showalter -- 7 MR. CALLAHAN: Well, you know -- 8 MR. PACK: Mr. Callahan, I'm going to go 9 to Ms. Price's earlier point. If we can please 10 get through this agenda. 11 We have another matter for vote tonight, 12 which is 113. 13 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah. 14 MR. PACK: You can contact Mr. Stamp 15 offline and give him the people you want to 16 give him. 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. 18 MR. PACK: Thank you. 19 MR. CALLAHAN: I got you. All right. No 20 problem. Okay. 21 Let's move on, Council.</p>	<p>Page 129</p> <p>1 Council to the county attorney to draft 2 proposed legislation shall be in writing and 3 shall set forth the substance of the proposal. 4 It says all other members of the Council 5 and the county manager have to be copied on 6 that request. 7 We've never done that before. And we've 8 always been -- again, in the 11 years I've been 9 here, I don't think anybody has abused that. 10 And I don't think that I need to or Chuck needs 11 to or Frank or any of us or a future Council 12 needs to notify every single member of the 13 Council when you're working on trying to draft 14 some legislation and you're working through it, 15 because then you got to get through the bumps, 16 you've got to get through the drafts and things 17 like that. And then maybe you don't think that 18 the Council is going to agree on it. 19 So I really don't like that paragraph. I 20 think that, again, in the 11 years I've been 21 here, nobody has abused the county attorney --</p>

Page 130

1 hopefully Patrick will agree, he hasn't been  
 2 with us that long -- in drafting proposed  
 3 legislation.  
 4 And then that legislation does get  
 5 circulated seven days in advance. And I think  
 6 that is certainly good enough. It is how we've  
 7 done things in the entire time I've been here.  
 8 It gives all the other Council members seven  
 9 days to review it. And then it goes public on  
 10 the Friday before it gets introduced.  
 11 So generally, I think most of these  
 12 changes are certainly fine. Some are just  
 13 cleanup language. But on that one, I really  
 14 don't think that every time a Council member  
 15 wants to propose legislation, that we have to  
 16 notify every single other Council member. I  
 17 think it's unnecessary.  
 18 MR. PACK: This change, if you remember  
 19 the way it was worded before is in red with the  
 20 strikeouts, was that you had to notify at least  
 21 two Council members.

Page 131

1 MS. PRICE: Yes.  
 2 MR. PACK: And that's so the county  
 3 attorney wouldn't be overburdened by Council  
 4 members running to him with legislation that  
 5 was not going to be supported by two other  
 6 Council members and he go through the process  
 7 of drafting it and then it goes absolutely  
 8 nowhere --  
 9 MS. PRICE: So it doesn't mean that two  
 10 other Council members had to support it. It  
 11 just mean they had to --  
 12 MR. PACK: No. Had to have knowledge of  
 13 it --  
 14 MS. PRICE: (Inaudible.)  
 15 MR. PACK: You're right. Not to say that  
 16 they were supporting it, but have knowledge of  
 17 it. So --  
 18 MS. PRICE: And until Mr. Thomas came on  
 19 board, we never did that. We never did that.  
 20 MR. PACK: I wouldn't say we never did  
 21 that. Previous Councils have done that because

Page 132

1 I know specifically a Council member who rose  
 2 this issue. So I know it has been done in the  
 3 past.  
 4 But I was okay with the wording the way it  
 5 was before, to have at least two members be  
 6 notified. Notifying the full Council may be a  
 7 bit too much and notifying the county manager.  
 8 Again, the way it was worded previously,  
 9 the strikeout there, shall include an  
 10 acknowledgment by at least two other members of  
 11 Council that they are aware of the request. I  
 12 could live with that. I could live with that.  
 13 MS. PRICE: Mr. Pack, I mean you just  
 14 mentioned about being overburdened. And you've  
 15 been here a couple of years longer than I have.  
 16 And I do think I know to whom you refer, and it  
 17 was before my time. I think it was -- and I  
 18 think that there was a Council member 12 or 13  
 19 or 14 years ago who maybe did that.  
 20 But in 11 years, I don't think anybody has  
 21 ever overburdened the county attorney, whether

Page 133

1 it was Tony Kupersmith or Mike Pullen.  
 2 So I don't feel the need for either of  
 3 them. But I certainly think this is overkill.  
 4 And there have been occasions when at the  
 5 last minute on a Tuesday at five minutes to  
 6 five, all of a sudden something needs to be  
 7 drafted and you can't get a hold of two other  
 8 Council members. That happened on at least two  
 9 occasions that I can recall just in the past  
 10 six months.  
 11 And I think we're trying to solve a  
 12 problem that doesn't exist as far as having to  
 13 notify.  
 14 And again, until Mr. Thomas came on, not  
 15 with Mike Pullen, not with Tony Kupersmith, did  
 16 we ever notify two other Council members before  
 17 asking the Council attorney to draft some type  
 18 of request. It hasn't been done. I don't  
 19 think it's been abusive. So I just don't feel  
 20 the need there.  
 21 Most of the other changes, I'm perfectly

Page 134

1 fine with, though.

2 MR. THOMAS: If I may, to Council Member

3 Price's point, the language as it's written

4 does say it shall include, if it's in writing,

5 it shall include an acknowledgement by at least

6 two other members of the Council that they are

7 aware.

8 So that states if a Council member is

9 asking the county attorney to draft something,

10 two other Council members under this rule, have

11 to say yes, I'm aware of the request.

12 And I do think it's a bit cumbersome when

13 it has to be submitted a week in advance. If

14 the request is coming in, as Council Member

15 Price said, at five o'clock Tuesday afternoon,

16 to have to scramble to get two other Council

17 members to say yes, I'm aware of it, I think

18 by -- you can even simplify this to just say

19 two other Council members shall be copied on

20 the request so that they are aware of it.

21 That I think serves the same purpose

Page 135

1 without having this need to have two say yes,

2 they told me, I'm aware of it. And I think

3 that would simplify it somewhat.

4 MR. LESHER: I agree with that change.

5 This, the proposed language is actually

6 both more transparent, because it gets

7 everybody in the loop, and less burdensome,

8 because it does not require that affirmative

9 response from the two other Council members. I

10 thought this was a step forward actually.

11 But if we want to make it just two other

12 Council members, the point in the revised

13 language, which I support, is simply that...

14 MR. PACK: Copied on it.

15 MR. LESHER: That others be notified, not

16 that you have an affirmative acknowledgment.

17 MR. PACK: I can go with that. I can go

18 with that.

19 MR. DIVILIO: And this would not preclude

20 any Council member from reaching out to

21 Patrick, or Mr. Thomas, and asking him to

Page 136

1 research legislation and have an idea of what

2 could be done. Is that...

3 MR. THOMAS: No. It just -- so if one of

4 you asks me to draft a bill or a resolution, it

5 has to be in writing. It doesn't preclude you

6 from saying hey, can we do this, how would we

7 do something like this, could we do it by bill,

8 resolution, how would it need to be done. It

9 doesn't affect that. That just falls under

10 legal research.

11 MR. CALLAHAN: And Mr. Divilio, I think,

12 too, to add to what you were saying, I mean if

13 we're going to ask, if we're going to ask

14 Mr. Thomas to do something, it would really be

15 nice if we did have, we call each other, so to

16 speak, and had two people aware of it.

17 And so it needs to almost be discussed

18 because in a sense, and maybe you can help me

19 with this, not waste your time if something is

20 not going to pass.

21 MS. PRICE: No, no, no. We have to go

Page 137

1 through a whole process. So no. That's wrong.

2 You shouldn't try -- I mean it's all nice if

3 you've got five Council members who are on

4 board before drafting legislation --

5 MR. CALLAHAN: I don't mean five. I mean

6 three. You know, sometimes, though, Laura --

7 MS. PRICE: I think you're --

8 MR. CALLAHAN: -- common sense. That's

9 all I'm saying. Just a little bit of common

10 sense.

11 MS. PRICE: That's a predetermined

12 outcome, and I don't agree with that.

13 Sometimes somebody, one person has an idea

14 and you go through a process and you draft it.

15 Single members start the process --

16 MR. CALLAHAN: But why not share it? Why

17 not share that?

18 MS. PRICE: We're going to copy them. But

19 we don't need to get some type of pre-approval

20 that people are all on board and everything is

21 always hunky-dory. Sometimes --

Page 138

1 MR. CALLAHAN: -- pre-approval. Nobody  
 2 said pre-approval.  
 3 I'm just saying, all I'm saying, Laura, is  
 4 it could be cost effective. That's all I'm  
 5 saying.  
 6 MS. PRICE: And nobody has abused it in  
 7 the 11 years I've been here and -- okay.  
 8 So I think we just came up with two other  
 9 members shall be copied. You don't have to do  
 10 the county manager, and I don't know that we  
 11 have to copy the secretary at that point,  
 12 either.  
 13 So just copy two other members of Council  
 14 at the time the actual draft of the legislation  
 15 is done. I think that's probably a decent  
 16 compromise.  
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Any other --  
 18 MR. PACK: This would be an amendment,  
 19 then. So let me get the wording to this  
 20 amendment correct, then.  
 21 So it says, if you go back to your

Page 139

1 strikeout on page six, second paragraph, it  
 2 shall include a copy to at least two other  
 3 members. Is that what we're saying? It should  
 4 include a copy.  
 5 MR. THOMAS: I think you could just change  
 6 it. The language stay stricken through. But  
 7 then the next sentence would read two other  
 8 members of Council shall be copied on the  
 9 request.  
 10 MR. PACK: So you're saying keep the  
 11 strikeouts in place, Patrick?  
 12 MR. THOMAS: Yes.  
 13 MR. PACK: Give me the amendment again.  
 14 MR. THOMAS: So in the added sentence that  
 15 reads all other members of the Council and the  
 16 county manager shall be copied on the request,  
 17 that would be amended to read two other members  
 18 of the Council shall be copied on the request.  
 19 MR. DIVILIO: What about adding the county  
 20 manager as well in case a department head needs  
 21 to be contacted or just for better

Page 140

1 communication amongst staff?  
 2 MS. PRICE: I was going to say this is all  
 3 new. We've never done it. It's never been a  
 4 problem before.  
 5 I think most of us probably would, but I  
 6 just don't like it being a requirement or a  
 7 mandate that we have to. I'm sure most Council  
 8 members are going to have that respect to talk  
 9 to the county manager about it.  
 10 MR. PACK: Remove and county manager?  
 11 MR. DIVILIO: You can remove that.  
 12 MR. PACK: Okay. So the amendment is  
 13 this, to the bill, to the resolution, two other  
 14 members of Council shall be copied on the  
 15 request is the amendment.  
 16 Is there a second?  
 17 MS. PRICE: Second.  
 18 MR. PACK: Second by Ms. Price.  
 19 MS. PRICE: Do you -- second question.  
 20 Next sentence. A copy of the request  
 21 shall also be filed with the secretary. Is

Page 141

1 that necessary at the time of the request?  
 2 MR. PACK: I think you want the secretary  
 3 to be copied just for recordkeeping purposes,  
 4 yes. She's not going to do anything with it,  
 5 just to record it.  
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: Council.  
 7 MR. PACK: Any other changes?  
 8 MS. PRICE: I mean there was a request on  
 9 petitions, whether or not -- it says something  
 10 now -- county -- instead of adopting -- saying  
 11 that you have to cite applicable law with the  
 12 petition, I think somebody is proposing that  
 13 you change it to filing a petition on a matter  
 14 that's within the Council's jurisdiction or  
 15 authority and not necessarily having to cite an  
 16 applicable law on a petition.  
 17 Might be a little difficult to try to find  
 18 a law that they're citing if they want to  
 19 petition on an issue.  
 20 MR. LESHAR: Ms. Price, just should we ask  
 21 our Council president to call a vote on that

Page 142

1 first amendment before we move on to another  
 2 amendment?  
 3 MS. PRICE: Sounds like a good idea.  
 4 MR. THOMAS: Yes.  
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Madam Secretary, could you  
 6 please call a vote on the amendment that we  
 7 just discussed, please.  
 8 SECRETARY: Yes. I'm sorry. Just I'm not  
 9 sure I followed that. The motion was made by  
 10 Mr. Pack and seconded by Ms. Price. Is that  
 11 correct?  
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Yes, yes.  
 13 SECRETARY: Okay. Thank you.  
 14 Mr. Callahan.  
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.  
 16 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.  
 17 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.  
 18 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.  
 19 MR. LESHNER: Aye.  
 20 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.  
 21 MS. PRICE: Aye.

Page 143

1 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.  
 2 MR. PACK: Aye.  
 3 SECRETARY: Thank you.  
 4 MR. PACK: Okay. We're back on petitions.  
 5 MS. PRICE: Right. The petitioner has to  
 6 cite applicable law. It might not be a law or  
 7 maybe the law doesn't exist yet.  
 8 So I'm -- can we just say when you're  
 9 talking about petitions, that as long as it's a  
 10 matter that's within our Council jurisdiction  
 11 and authority, rather than having to cite  
 12 applicable law?  
 13 MR. THOMAS: Well --  
 14 MS. PRICE: -- Mr. Thomas?  
 15 MR. THOMAS: My thinking was that the  
 16 petition should be for something which can  
 17 actually be petitioned, that there's some  
 18 authority to petition to the Council.  
 19 So this would avoid frivolous petitions on  
 20 matters that like let's say somebody wants to  
 21 paint the courthouse purple, which clearly is a

Page 144

1 frivolous petition that would just waste the  
 2 Council's time, that there would be some  
 3 underlying authority for petitioning a matter  
 4 to the Council.  
 5 So for example, there's a process in the  
 6 code for petitioning the Council on creating a  
 7 streetlight district. So that was my thinking  
 8 there.  
 9 But you can certainly expand it, expand  
 10 the authority if you so choose.  
 11 MS. PRICE: Is there a way to say shall  
 12 cite the applicable law or something that gives  
 13 a little bit more broadness without getting  
 14 into the frivolous stuff? Can you think of  
 15 another petition there?  
 16 MR. THOMAS: To cite the authority or  
 17 other grounds for the petition, something to  
 18 that effect that just may bring some clarity to  
 19 the ground under which it's brought.  
 20 I don't know that it necessarily resolves  
 21 the underlying concern, though.

Page 145

1 MR. PACK: I think as worded, Ms. Price,  
 2 it's not going to be unduly burdensome on a  
 3 petitioner. If they're requesting something  
 4 that's within the purview or scope of the  
 5 Council, either by resolution or by county  
 6 bill, certainly that's going to fall within our  
 7 purview to act upon.  
 8 So I don't know whether watering this down  
 9 would be necessary.  
 10 MR. LESHNER: I agree with Mr. Pack on that  
 11 point. I'm not sure that this creates an undue  
 12 burden or barrier.  
 13 MR. PACK: Anything else we see?  
 14 MS. PRICE: I mean there are some things  
 15 that say you can't do anything else for 18  
 16 months. It says nobody can be added, it says  
 17 nobody can be added to the petition. I mean  
 18 once it's filed, what difference does it make  
 19 if there's additional names?  
 20 Now, do we need to be updated on the  
 21 additional names every three days or every

Page 146

1 three minutes, no, we don't.  
 2 But why would you prevent somebody from  
 3 being able to sign on and show their support if  
 4 another petition -- now, grant it. We've never  
 5 had petitions until this year. Okay. So  
 6 again, are we building a clock when someone is  
 7 asking us what time it is?  
 8 But why would you prevent somebody from  
 9 being able to add their name so that when, if  
 10 and when we consider it, it might have started  
 11 with 50 people and now there's 200? I mean why  
 12 would we prevent people from being able to do  
 13 that?  
 14 So I mean everybody has probably read the  
 15 memo from the one citizen. And I think some of  
 16 those suggestions are fine.  
 17 If you're going to say applicable law, but  
 18 why would you put a time limitation on it and  
 19 why would you prevent other citizens from being  
 20 able to join in on that petition?  
 21 MR. THOMAS: Typically with petitions, for

Page 147

1 example, petitions for referendum, petitions  
 2 for charter amendments, they typically require  
 3 a certain number of, those cases, qualified  
 4 voters that sign the petition at the time it's  
 5 filed. You don't have people that come on  
 6 after the fact.  
 7 I mean certainly people can support a  
 8 petition or say I would hope you would act on  
 9 this, I support it. It doesn't prevent that.  
 10 But typically once a petition is filed,  
 11 you don't have people jumping on the petition  
 12 after the fact.  
 13 MS. PRICE: And I understand that for  
 14 voting for a referendum. I mean obviously that  
 15 makes sense. There's a time limitation,  
 16 there's a date that a vote is going to be  
 17 taking place.  
 18 The petition may not get reviewed right  
 19 away. There's no time limitation. So this is  
 20 kind of a different incidence of a petition.  
 21 MR. PACK: And again, Ms. Price, to

Page 148

1 Mr. Thomas' point, this doesn't preclude  
 2 someone from supporting the petition.  
 3 But let's say a petition is filed. Your  
 4 secretary has to go through the recording  
 5 process. Then every day of the next two weeks,  
 6 she gets four or five more add-ons to that  
 7 petition, which means now she has to go ahead  
 8 and record those as well.  
 9 So the fact that once a petition is filed  
 10 by the secretary, doesn't preclude anybody from  
 11 supporting it, either in public session or in  
 12 writing to Council members.  
 13 So again, this is not burdensome. It  
 14 doesn't restrict anybody's right to support a  
 15 petition and doesn't restrict their right for  
 16 their voice to be heard. It just doesn't  
 17 burden our secretary down with having to record  
 18 every add-on once a particular petition is  
 19 filed.  
 20 MS. PRICE: And I don't disagree with --  
 21 MR. DIVILIO: -- designed really to make

Page 149

1 the petitioner be as complete as possible --  
 2 MR. PACK: That, too. Yeah.  
 3 MR. DIVILIO: It's not -- yeah. I agree  
 4 with this. Submit everything at one time.  
 5 Don't keep coming back.  
 6 MS. PRICE: And that's why I said you  
 7 don't want to have to update this every three  
 8 minutes.  
 9 But again, I'm trying to go through what  
 10 the citizen wrote and at least have a little  
 11 bit of discussion on these points.  
 12 And that's fine. We're having, we're  
 13 actually having good discussion now.  
 14 I don't know about the time limitation,  
 15 though, of 18 months. That's arbitrary. I  
 16 mean if there's -- and the way it was written  
 17 was if there's a material change in the facts  
 18 or circumstances, then a new petition may be  
 19 filed concerning that.  
 20 And I mean, again, we just finished  
 21 discussing something that we were presented a

Page 150

1 whole lot of new information that we need to  
 2 reconsider that resolution that we just spent  
 3 so much time on.  
 4 I don't know about putting an 18-month  
 5 limitation on something. If you get new  
 6 information to light, it's important to  
 7 consider it. So that seems a little arbitrary.  
 8 MR. LESHER: Usually this is not your --  
 9 MR. PACK: (Inaudible.)  
 10 MR. LESHER: -- government to have such a  
 11 prohibition that you can't file exactly the  
 12 same action within a certain period of time and  
 13 for the same motivations if it is merely  
 14 duplicative.  
 15 When there's new information, when there's  
 16 a new twist, yes, absolutely. But that changes  
 17 the substance and it's not the same petition.  
 18 MS. PRICE: Right. So this point number  
 19 four that's on this comment says if there's a  
 20 material change in facts or circumstances, then  
 21 a new petition may be filed concerning the

Page 151

1 matter.  
 2 So I would love -- I think we should adopt  
 3 that at least.  
 4 MR. THOMAS: Another way perhaps to say  
 5 this would say no petition should be filed with  
 6 the county concerning a matter for which  
 7 another petition was filed with the county at  
 8 any time in the previous 18 months, except upon  
 9 presentation of new evidence. Something to the  
 10 effect that it would allow for somebody to  
 11 present new evidence that might, that would  
 12 change the substance of the petition.  
 13 MS. PRICE: Yeah. Can we use our change  
 14 or mistake rule?  
 15 MR. THOMAS: So that would allow an  
 16 opportunity.  
 17 But the idea is to prevent -- you don't  
 18 want to have people, if they keep filing  
 19 petitions again for frivolous purposes or to  
 20 clog up the Council agenda on a particular  
 21 matter. But again, if somebody -- if there

Page 152

1 really is new evidence to support the position,  
 2 whatever they're advocating for in their  
 3 petition, that then could be an exception.  
 4 MS. PRICE: Can you put that back in  
 5 language again that we can make that an  
 6 amendment?  
 7 MR. THOMAS: Sure. Let me see what was  
 8 submitted.  
 9 MS. PRICE: Point number four. Unless  
 10 there is a material change or --  
 11 MR. PACK: I don't, I don't think you  
 12 really need any new language.  
 13 MS. PRICE: Yeah, you do. Because this is  
 14 basically saying it's the same topic, even  
 15 though something has changed, they're not going  
 16 to allow it.  
 17 So if you let him add about six words,  
 18 something like unless there is a material  
 19 change in facts or circumstances.  
 20 MR. DIVILIO: So you put a petition  
 21 together, you get in front of the Council, you

Page 153

1 have your public hearings, and then you, I  
 2 don't know, you lose.  
 3 And so you turn right around and you say  
 4 oh, there was additional information that just  
 5 came out and you resubmit it again. You're  
 6 essentially filibustering the Council, right?  
 7 Opposed to waiting 18 months to rethink the  
 8 entire process and put together your thoughts,  
 9 gather the names, gather the research --  
 10 MS. PRICE: The word is if there's a  
 11 material change in fact or circumstance. It  
 12 has to be --  
 13 MR. DIVILIO: Who defines that?  
 14 MR. PACK: What this is saying as it's  
 15 written is that no petition shall be filed with  
 16 the county concerning a matter for which  
 17 another petition was filed with the Council at  
 18 the time of the -- so of 18 months.  
 19 So it's like I can't file a petition to  
 20 cancel out Frank's petition.  
 21 So Frank puts in a petition that says that

Page 154	Page 156
<p>1 he wants peas and carrots on Monday. I can't 2 come back and say a petition saying, within 18 3 months, that no, I want peas and carrots on 4 Tuesday. 5 That's what this is saying. This is 6 saying -- this is not to say that if there's a 7 material change to something that we had, maybe 8 we're out of peas and carrots and maybe we have 9 to go to something else. 10 So what this is saying is that I can't now 11 try to counterbalance Frank's petition with my 12 own petition within 18 months. 13 MS. PRICE: Okay. I think you're trying 14 to prevent the public. And things do change, 15 as evidence -- 16 MR. PACK: I'm not trying to prevent the 17 public. I'm just reading the way this is 18 written. 19 This is not saying that -- 20 MS. PRICE: It's preventing somebody from 21 doing that, unless --</p>	<p>1 members. You can't get one of them to agree, 2 then you got -- 3 MS. PRICE: (Inaudible). 4 MR. DIVILIO: -- public. 5 MR. PACK: Or to file a petition just 6 because you don't like the other person's 7 petition. So you're trying to cancel them out. 8 This is not saying what you think it's 9 saying, Ms. Price. I know what the writer 10 wrote, but you don't have to go down here and 11 submit every single thing she wrote. That's 12 not what this is saying. 13 MR. CALLAHAN: Mr. Thomas, can you clear 14 this up a little bit for us? 15 MR. THOMAS: You could, I think maybe to 16 bring some clarity to it, you could add the 17 words -- 18 MR. DIVILIO: Please do. 19 MR. THOMAS: So no petition shall be filed 20 with the county concerning a matter for which 21 another petition was filed with the county at</p>
<p>Page 155</p> <p>1 MR. PACK: No. 2 MS. PRICE: -- we just spent the last hour 3 doing. We've had some significant changes in 4 facts, and we should be able to consider it. 5 And I think the public, if there is a 6 significant change in material facts, they 7 ought to have the right. It might be the same 8 topic. 9 MR. PACK: That's not saying you can't. 10 This is not saying that you can't. 11 MS. PRICE: Let's ask Mr. Thomas. 12 MR. PACK: That is not saying that you 13 can't. 14 MR. DIVILIO: I am trying to prevent the 15 public because if you can't get one of the five 16 of us to put it on the agenda and you have to 17 petition the public to put it on the agenda, 18 yeah, you got to wait 18 months to do it again. 19 You shouldn't be able to turn right around and 20 do it the next day. 21 There's five totally different Council</p>	<p>Page 157</p> <p>1 any time in the previous 18 months, except upon 2 demonstration of a material change in facts or 3 circumstances as determined by the Council in 4 its sole discretion. 5 So that they would have to present a 6 material change in circumstances. Then you 7 would have to agree that that constitutes a 8 material change in circumstances to allow the 9 petition to go forward. 10 MS. PRICE: (Inaudible.) 11 MR. PACK: No more peas and carrots. 12 MS. PRICE: I would be okay with that 13 language, what he said. I'll make a motion. 14 MR. CALLAHAN: Second? 15 MR. LESHAR: I'll second. 16 Mr. Thomas, could you possibly read that 17 back into the record for clarity? 18 MR. THOMAS: Yes. I'm just writing it 19 down. 20 So to add to the sentence, so the sentence 21 would read no petition shall be filed with the</p>

Page 158

1 county concerning a matter for which another  
 2 petition was filed with the county at any time  
 3 in the previous 18 months, except upon  
 4 demonstration of a material change in facts or  
 5 circumstances as determined by the Council in  
 6 its sole discretion.  
 7 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. I've got a motion  
 8 and a second. Madam Secretary, could you call  
 9 the vote.  
 10 SECRETARY: Yes. Mr. Callahan.  
 11 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.  
 12 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.  
 13 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.  
 14 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.  
 15 MR. LESHER: Aye.  
 16 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.  
 17 MS. PRICE: Aye.  
 18 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack. Mr. Pack.  
 19 MR. PACK: Am I muted? Aye. I'm sorry.  
 20 SECRETARY: Thank you.  
 21 MS. PRICE: Now, do you --

Page 159

1 MR. PACK: Anything else?  
 2 MS. PRICE: -- to take this to a vote  
 3 incorporating the two amendments?  
 4 MR. THOMAS: Yes.  
 5 MS. PRICE: Okay. I'll make that motion.  
 6 MR. PACK: Second.  
 7 MR. CALLAHAN: So Council, we got a motion  
 8 and a second to go ahead and put both -- well,  
 9 to go ahead and vote on 311.  
 10 MR. PACK: As amended.  
 11 MR. CALLAHAN: As amended. I'm sorry. As  
 12 amended.  
 13 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.  
 14 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.  
 15 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.  
 16 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.  
 17 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.  
 18 MR. LESHER: Aye.  
 19 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.  
 20 MS. PRICE: Aye.  
 21 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.

Page 160

1 MR. PACK: Aye.  
 2 Thank you. Long time in the making.  
 3 MR. CALLAHAN: Long time in the making  
 4 now.  
 5 Right on time with the public hearing,  
 6 right on time.  
 7 MS. PRICE: Mr. Callahan, can we take two  
 8 minutes, please?  
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Sure. All right. Let's  
 10 everybody come back in two minutes or so.  
 11 Thank you.  
 12 MS. PRICE: Thank you.  
 13 MR. CALLAHAN: No problem.  
 14 (Recess taken.)  
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We're going to go  
 16 ahead and get started on the public hearing.  
 17 Ain't too bad. It's 8:30. We're only two  
 18 hours behind. That ain't bad, right, Mr. Pack?  
 19 Council.  
 20 MR. PACK: You told me not to be negative.  
 21 So...

Page 161

1 MR. CALLAHAN: I wasn't. All right.  
 2 Madam Secretary, could you read the  
 3 Resolution Number 313 into the record, please.  
 4 SECRETARY: Yes. Resolution Number 313, a  
 5 resolution to amend the Talbot County  
 6 comprehensive water and sewer plan regarding  
 7 the connection of phase one, section one of the  
 8 Lakeside project to the existing Trappe  
 9 wastewater -- sorry. This cut off. System,  
 10 wastewater system. Sorry.  
 11 MR. CALLAHAN: All right. Good.  
 12 Mr. Thomas, do you have any comments or  
 13 wishes on this resolution? Want to get ready  
 14 to start off here?  
 15 MR. THOMAS: I do not, no.  
 16 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. I got you.  
 17 So I'm going to open this --  
 18 MS. PRICE: Mr. Callahan.  
 19 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah. Go ahead.  
 20 MS. PRICE: Go ahead, Mr. Leshner.  
 21 MR. LESHER: Mr. Callahan, before we move

Page 162

1 to the public hearing, I would like to, I would  
 2 like to offer and move the amendment that was  
 3 prepared. It's the blue amendment, amendment  
 4 number one in our package, to Resolution 313.  
 5 I'd like to move that before we proceed to the  
 6 public hearing.  
 7 MR. CALLAHAN: You want to move it?  
 8 MR. LESHER: I'm making, I'm offering that  
 9 motion for that amendment.  
 10 MS. PRICE: So can -- I will second that.  
 11 Can Mr. Thomas please -- because it is  
 12 definitely different and it may -- it's not  
 13 material or whatever you call that,  
 14 substantive, but it may change what people are  
 15 going to say in the public hearing.  
 16 So Mr. Thomas, could you explain it to us?  
 17 MR. THOMAS: Yes. So this amendment is  
 18 intended to add a requirement that any new  
 19 connections from the Lakeside startup phase to  
 20 the existing Trappe wastewater system are also  
 21 subject to the existing wastewater treatment

Page 163

1 plant being upgraded to ENR standards, with the  
 2 treated effluent also meeting ENR standards as  
 3 set forth in the Trappe area sewerage system  
 4 section of the comprehensive water and sewer  
 5 plan.  
 6 And it would delete the proposed  
 7 amendments that are inconsistent therewith.  
 8 So the language about no portion of the  
 9 startup phase may be connected to the existing  
 10 system more than 18 months after final approval  
 11 of this resolution and then within 18 months  
 12 for final issuance of all required permits and  
 13 approvals for the new Lakeside facility. All  
 14 hookups from the startup phase would have to be  
 15 redirected there. That language is being  
 16 proposed to be deleted under this amendment.  
 17 MR. LESHER: Thank you. And essentially  
 18 what this amendment does is it reflects  
 19 language that was offered by our own Planning  
 20 Commission back in November in their discussion  
 21 on Resolution 281. So that essentially the

Page 164

1 portion of the phase of Lakeside, the initial  
 2 phase of Lakeside that would rely on the  
 3 existing Trappe plant would, connection would  
 4 first require the upgrade of the Trappe plant  
 5 to the ENR standards to better take care of  
 6 that discharge in La Trappe Creek.  
 7 After that, any of the new, any of the new  
 8 discharge, of course, is covered by the plant,  
 9 the ENR plant that is designed into the  
 10 Lakeside project itself.  
 11 MS. PRICE: So let me back up two  
 12 sentences and read it in its entirety because  
 13 to where it says startup.  
 14 Startup -- so this is how it would read  
 15 now. Startup wastewater treatment for the  
 16 Lakeside project may be provided by. And it's  
 17 a one or a two.  
 18 So what people may think is that, well,  
 19 there is no upgrade to the wastewater treatment  
 20 plant yet and it might take a couple of years,  
 21 but they have an option.

Page 165

1 So startup wastewater may be provided by,  
 2 one, a modular ENR MBR wastewater treatment  
 3 plant capable of operating at the initial  
 4 development flow rates --  
 5 MR. PACK: I'm sorry. Are you guys  
 6 reading from the blue? I think you said blue.  
 7 MS. PRICE: Yup. And it's page two, the  
 8 middle of page two, that second paragraph,  
 9 about halfway through that paragraph.  
 10 MR. PACK: In green?  
 11 MS. PRICE: Yeah. So do you see where it  
 12 says one and two, Mr. Pack, right in the  
 13 middle?  
 14 MR. PACK: Okay. Yes, I do. Okay.  
 15 MS. PRICE: So go up one line from there.  
 16 Startup wastewater treatment for the  
 17 Lakeside project may be provided by.  
 18 And this is old language. This has always  
 19 been there.  
 20 By, one, a modular ENR MBR wastewater  
 21 treatment plant for the Lakeside project -- I'm

Page 166

1 sorry. Capable of operating at the initial  
 2 development flow rates. So that's an ENR. Or  
 3 by direct connection to the existing Trappe  
 4 wastewater system. Any new connections to the  
 5 Town of Trappe are subject to the existing  
 6 wastewater treatment plant not having any  
 7 outstanding MDE enforcement actions, consent  
 8 orders, or violations, and being upgraded to  
 9 E -- sorry. Yes. And being upgraded to ENR  
 10 standards with the treated effluent also  
 11 meeting ENR standards as set forth.  
 12 So whatever they connect to, whether it's  
 13 a temporary modular wastewater treatment plant,  
 14 or whether when they get the spray irrigation  
 15 one done, if MDE issues that permit, or the  
 16 existing wastewater treatment plant that we  
 17 talked about is BIOLAC now, getting it to ENR.  
 18 That is what this amendment says.  
 19 It gets rid of all of the timeline and the  
 20 temporary connection the way it is now. And  
 21 that is in line with what the Planning

Page 167

1 Commission said was if we're sending -- as long  
 2 as we're sending things to them, and we will be  
 3 sending this to, 313, to the Planning  
 4 Commission, it will now have language that says  
 5 it has to be connected to an ENR plant because  
 6 they just -- and we'll hear this in the public  
 7 hearing.  
 8 So I'll let the public hearing go first,  
 9 go forth because Miguel will probably give us  
 10 the information that I'm asking for.  
 11 MR. PACK: I don't know if I can support  
 12 this language because what you're basically,  
 13 again, trying to do is impede a sovereign  
 14 municipality from connecting the first 100 --  
 15 MS. PRICE: No, no --  
 16 MR. PACK: Let me finish.  
 17 MS. PRICE: We're not voting on the  
 18 amendment tonight.  
 19 MR. PACK: What you're trying to do is  
 20 impede a sovereign municipality, which you can  
 21 do, from connecting the first 120 homes to the

Page 168

1 existing wastewater treatment plant, which does  
 2 meet MDE standards, and saying that you can't  
 3 even connect the first 120 homes until you get  
 4 your current plant or your new plant into  
 5 ENR --  
 6 MS. PRICE: So --  
 7 MR. PACK: This doesn't work -- let me  
 8 finish.  
 9 MS. PRICE: We're not voting on this  
 10 tonight. We're just sending it --  
 11 MR. PACK: This doesn't -- well, even the  
 12 amendment, even the amendment smacks of  
 13 government overreach.  
 14 So you can't do this, even under the guise  
 15 that you're trying to make -- again, you are  
 16 reaching way beyond your scope yet again --  
 17 MS. PRICE: Absolutely not. This is the  
 18 amendment that --  
 19 MR. PACK: Yet again and trying to tell  
 20 them that they cannot connect the first 120  
 21 homes until it's at ENR levels. Come on, come

Page 169

1 on.  
 2 MS. PRICE: They don't have --  
 3 MR. DIVILIO: -- real question on that  
 4 sentence just before it where it says any new  
 5 connections to the existing Town of Trappe  
 6 wastewater system are subject to the existing  
 7 wastewater treatment plant, not -- so any new  
 8 connections to the existing Town of Trappe  
 9 plant.  
 10 Does that mean that if there was a  
 11 restaurant there whose septic failed, they  
 12 wouldn't be able to hook up to the current  
 13 plant?  
 14 MS. PRICE: It would be up to MDE. MDE is  
 15 the one who controls whether they are going to  
 16 allow new connections or not.  
 17 So if they had a violation, it is not our  
 18 purview, but it is actually up to MDE whether  
 19 or not they would allow this connection.  
 20 So we are not controlling connections if  
 21 there's a violation.

Page 170

1 MR. DIVILIO: No, no. I mean like if  
 2 there's a current restaurant and that's on a  
 3 septic and the Town of Trappe, the septic  
 4 fails, they decide to connect, would they not  
 5 be able to? Because this says any new  
 6 connection to the existing plant.  
 7 MS. PRICE: That would be an MDE decision  
 8 if there was a violation. As long as there's  
 9 not an existing violation, of course, they  
 10 would be able to connect.  
 11 MR. THOMAS: No. I think it's intended  
 12 for any new connections from the phase one,  
 13 section one of Lakeside as referenced in this.  
 14 MR. DIVILIO: I'm reading any new  
 15 connections.  
 16 MR. PACK: Just the first 120 homes,  
 17 Mr. Divilio.  
 18 It's trying to -- this is an attempt to  
 19 try to impede on the Town of Trappe that they  
 20 cannot make the first 100 homes connect to  
 21 their existing plant, which MDE said, which MDE

Page 171

1 has already said, as you know, Mr. Divilio, is  
 2 working within its regulatory permit and until  
 3 the plant is upgraded to ENR. That's what this  
 4 is trying to do.  
 5 MR. DIVILIO: It just seems like --  
 6 MR. PACK: -- trying to do.  
 7 MR. DIVILIO: Moratorium until it's  
 8 created, both --  
 9 MS. PRICE: It's not.  
 10 MR. DIVILIO: -- it's upgraded to ENR.  
 11 Because this says any new connection to that  
 12 existing plant.  
 13 MS. PRICE: No. And it's within that.  
 14 Mr. Thomas just said that.  
 15 And you and I had this conversation. It's  
 16 not a moratorium because there is technology.  
 17 There is a temporary modular technology that  
 18 they can bring in tomorrow that can have them  
 19 connect these new homes to ENR technology.  
 20 It does not require the spray irrigation  
 21 to be done. It doesn't require the \$7 million

Page 172

1 grant, which has been approved for the  
 2 wastewater treatment plant.  
 3 They can bring in temporary modular  
 4 technology that exists today, that Ryan  
 5 Showalter has even said exists today, and they  
 6 can hook them up tomorrow with the temporary  
 7 modular --  
 8 MR. DIVILIO: I'm concerned about the  
 9 current --  
 10 MS. PRICE: -- I want to be clear --  
 11 MR. DIVILIO: I'm not talking about  
 12 Lakeside. I'm talking about the Town of  
 13 Trappe, because it appears that any new  
 14 connection.  
 15 If you had put in here that any  
 16 connections from the new development, that --  
 17 MS. PRICE: We're talking about Lakeside.  
 18 MR. DIVILIO: I know we're talking  
 19 about --  
 20 MR. LESHER: The context of the paragraph.  
 21 MR. PACK: You got to read up --

Page 173

1 MR. LESHER: -- earlier is --  
 2 MR. PACK: You got to go up two lines,  
 3 Mr. Divilio. This is phase one, section one of  
 4 proposed -- if you go up two lines, you'll see  
 5 this is flowing down from two lines up.  
 6 So it is targeting those new connections  
 7 to those first phase one connections saying  
 8 basically that they can't connect to the  
 9 existing Trappe plant unless it's ENR.  
 10 This is a blatant attempt to impede --  
 11 MS. PRICE: No, it's not. It is not a  
 12 moratorium --  
 13 MR. PACK: It most certainly is. It most  
 14 certainly is.  
 15 MS. PRICE: It is not.  
 16 MR. PACK: -- to impede the Town of Trappe  
 17 from moving forward with this development.  
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: One at a time, one at a  
 19 time. If you're going to talk, if you're going  
 20 to talk, one at a time.  
 21 MR. PACK: Thanks, Mr. Callahan.

Page 174

1 So as I was saying to Mr. Divilio in  
 2 answering, if you go up two lines to phase one  
 3 where it says phase one, section one and come  
 4 down, this is speaking about those connections,  
 5 those new connections in the Lakeside project,  
 6 not what you're referring to.  
 7 You're referring to if someone is on  
 8 septic, a commercial property owner, and he  
 9 wanted to connect, would he be allowed to.  
 10 That's not dealing with this. That's a whole  
 11 separate matter.  
 12 MS. PRICE: And I want to be clear, this  
 13 is not a moratorium. They can bring in the  
 14 technology today. The developer has told us  
 15 this in the past. It is even in one of the  
 16 documents that exists in our packet tonight  
 17 that this technology exists.  
 18 And I discussed that with you earlier,  
 19 Mr. Divilio, that this is not a moratorium.  
 20 We will have a public hearing.  
 21 We are not voting on this amendment

Page 175

1 tonight. This -- it only takes one person to  
 2 send this over.  
 3 So the 313 has already -- and this is  
 4 where we just need to go ahead and go to Miguel  
 5 and what --  
 6 MR. PACK: The amendment has been  
 7 introduced and seconded. It's open for vote.  
 8 MS. PRICE: -- again.  
 9 MR. PACK: It's been introduced and  
 10 seconded. This is not being passed over this  
 11 evening. This amendment has been introduced  
 12 and seconded.  
 13 MS. PRICE: I'm trying to tell you that  
 14 313 right now has already been -- has a  
 15 decision by the Planning Commission.  
 16 So right now, unless we amend it, then we  
 17 can't do anything with it.  
 18 So I guess I just wanted to get the  
 19 amendment on the record. I wanted to make sure  
 20 people knew that this was not a moratorium,  
 21 that this is requiring the connection to some

Page 176

1 type of ENR technology that exists today that  
 2 does not put a moratorium on it. And then we  
 3 can continue with the public hearing.  
 4 But the public needed to know what the  
 5 amendment was before they comment.  
 6 MR. PACK: Mr. Callahan, a point of order.  
 7 You have an amendment that has been  
 8 introduced and seconded. It has to be voted  
 9 upon.  
 10 If the amendment fails, there's nothing  
 11 for the public to consider for public hearing.  
 12 You have an amendment --  
 13 MS. PRICE: Okay. Wait a minute --  
 14 MR. PACK: -- introduced. It has been  
 15 seconded.  
 16 MS. PRICE: And it can be --  
 17 MR. PACK: Unless it is supported by a  
 18 majority --  
 19 MS. PRICE: -- whoever --  
 20 MR. PACK: -- there's nothing to be heard.  
 21 MS. PRICE: Whoever seconded it can

Page 177

1 rescind the second and then I can rescind the  
 2 motion because this amendment needs to go to  
 3 the Planning Commission.  
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: Who seconded it?  
 5 SECRETARY: I believe this was introduced  
 6 by Mr. Leshner and seconded by Ms. Price.  
 7 MS. PRICE: Fine. So then I will rescind  
 8 my second.  
 9 MR. PACK: We have a motion on the floor  
 10 and second it. We have an amendment,  
 11 Mr. Callahan.  
 12 MR. LESHNER: We --  
 13 MR. PACK: If it's not seconded, this  
 14 dies.  
 15 MS. PRICE: Wait --  
 16 MR. LESHNER: -- amendment. That is all.  
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: I will -- hold up for a  
 18 second.  
 19 MS. PRICE: We have to have a public  
 20 hearing.  
 21 We don't vote on things before a public

Page 178

1 hearing before sending --

2 MR. PACK: If you're offering an

3 amendment, the amendment must be carried.

4 MS. PRICE: We have a public hearing. We

5 have a public hearing first --

6 MR. PACK: On 313, on 313 as drafted.

7 You guys are offering an amendment.

8 MS. PRICE: All right.

9 MR. CALLAHAN: I agree with that.

10 MS. PRICE: -- listen to me. I'm resining

11 my second.

12 MR. CALLAHAN: Hold on now. Hold on.

13 Let's all slow down.

14 MS. PRICE: God.

15 MR. CALLAHAN: Let's all slow down. Okay.

16 So the way I look at this is the public

17 hearing is on 313 as is at this --

18 MR. PACK: As is.

19 MR. CALLAHAN: As is.

20 MR. PACK: As is.

21 MR. CALLAHAN: So you've done -- so we

Page 179

1 can -- help me, Mr. Thomas. We can handle this

2 a couple of different ways.

3 Can we vote on this and vote it down and

4 do a new one or, you know...

5 MR. THOMAS: I think you can vote on the

6 amendment, and then it's 313 as amended. And

7 then you still go forward with the public

8 hearing.

9 And then it would go on. You have an

10 amended resolution. It can go back to the

11 Planning Commission and Public Works Advisory

12 Board for comment on the resolution as amended.

13 But you still have the public hearing tonight.

14 MR. CALLAHAN: What you're saying is the

15 new amendment to the amended 313, we can attach

16 that to that for the public hearing?

17 MR. THOMAS: You're not voting to approve

18 Resolution 313 as amended. You're voting to

19 approve the amendment to the resolution, not

20 voting on the resolution itself as amended.

21 Just as we just did with the last

Page 180

1 resolution where we voted on these individual

2 amendments to the resolution itself and then

3 voted on the entire resolution as amended.

4 MR. CALLAHAN: But how can we -- I'm just

5 curious. How can we -- so as written now,

6 okay, we're having the public hearing as is.

7 How can we, how can we put this on top of

8 that and the public hasn't seen it yet?

9 MR. THOMAS: You could have another public

10 hearing. You could defer the public hearing

11 tonight to occur after the Public Works

12 Advisory Board.

13 If you were to adopt -- vote on this

14 amendment and it passes, then you could defer

15 the public hearing tonight until after the

16 Public Works Advisory Board and Planning

17 Commission has held their hearings and given

18 their opinions and then have the hearing on

19 this as amended. That would be one way to

20 address it.

21 You've scheduled the public hearing. You

Page 181

1 have people here who want to speak it seems.

2 You may want to hear from them tonight while

3 they're here, if it's -- even if you do end up

4 deciding to hold another hearing later to

5 address the amendments after everybody has had

6 a chance to digest the amendments and what the

7 other bodies may say about them.

8 MR. CALLAHAN: I agree with you.

9 Not only that. We're going to have a work

10 session hopefully, too, and clear some of this

11 up, too.

12 MR. THOMAS: Right. So this would be

13 appropriate for discussion in that form as

14 well.

15 MR. CALLAHAN: Correct, correct.

16 MS. PRICE: It is completely inappropriate

17 to take a vote on this amendment of which

18 nobody has really heard and we haven't had

19 public comment on tonight.

20 I have rescinded my second so that we can

21 go through the public hearing and then we can

Page 182	Page 184
<p>1 talk about the amendment and when we're going</p> <p>2 to introduce it later.</p> <p>3 MR. CALLAHAN: Fine. Yeah.</p> <p>4 MR. PACK: Let me make sure that --</p> <p>5 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.</p> <p>6 MS. PRICE: If you're going to do this on</p> <p>7 a --</p> <p>8 MR. PACK: Mr. Leshner, are you not</p> <p>9 introducing an amendment tonight? Is that what</p> <p>10 I'm understanding? You're pulling your</p> <p>11 amendment tonight? Is that what I'm hearing?</p> <p>12 MS. PRICE: Right now for this moment I</p> <p>13 am --</p> <p>14 MR. PACK: Well, he offered the amendment.</p> <p>15 You just seconded.</p> <p>16 I'm asking Mr. Leshner. Are you pulling</p> <p>17 your amendment tonight?</p> <p>18 MR. LESHER: I have not done so.</p> <p>19 MR. PACK: Okay. So you have the</p> <p>20 amendment still before us. It has to be</p> <p>21 seconded.</p>	<p>1 MR. PACK: It has to carry.</p> <p>2 MR. CALLAHAN: One at a time.</p> <p>3 Here is what we need to do. Okay. So the</p> <p>4 public hearing right now is on 311 as is right</p> <p>5 now. That's the public hearing right now.</p> <p>6 MR. PACK: Well, Mr. Callahan, with all</p> <p>7 due respect.</p> <p>8 MR. CALLAHAN: Yes.</p> <p>9 MR. PACK: You have a Council member who</p> <p>10 has proposed an amendment on the floor.</p> <p>11 You have to deal with that. You can't</p> <p>12 ignore it. It may be uncomfortable, but you</p> <p>13 can't ignore it.</p> <p>14 MR. CALLAHAN: I'm --</p> <p>15 MR. PACK: If the Council member is not</p> <p>16 going to withdraw his amendment, it has to be</p> <p>17 dealt with.</p> <p>18 He offered an amendment. Someone needs to</p> <p>19 second it. And we have discussion, which we're</p> <p>20 having right now, and then the amendment is</p> <p>21 called to a vote. If the amendment carries, we</p>
Page 183	Page 185
<p>1 MR. LESHER: I think that we need to hear</p> <p>2 from the Planning Commission before we do so.</p> <p>3 MS. PRICE: Right. And --</p> <p>4 MR. PACK: Are you offering the amendment</p> <p>5 or not, Mr. Leshner?</p> <p>6 MR. LESHER: I have offered the amendment.</p> <p>7 MR. PACK: It has to be seconded. It has</p> <p>8 to be seconded and carried.</p> <p>9 MS. PRICE: I'm tired of the</p> <p>10 technicalities --</p> <p>11 MR. LESHER: -- former president, you</p> <p>12 surely know the procedure around here. We've</p> <p>13 been through this before.</p> <p>14 MS. PRICE: We do not vote on an amendment</p> <p>15 the moment it's been introduced before we've</p> <p>16 even had a public hearing on the resolution at</p> <p>17 all. We don't do that.</p> <p>18 MR. PACK: The amendment has --</p> <p>19 MS. PRICE: -- amendment.</p> <p>20 MR. PACK: It has to carry.</p> <p>21 MR. CALLAHAN: Hey, hey --</p>	<p>1 have 313 now amended.</p> <p>2 MS. PRICE: That is not --</p> <p>3 MR. PACK: You can't just ignore it.</p> <p>4 MR. CALLAHAN: Wait a minute now.</p> <p>5 What you mean, Mr. Pack, carried on top of</p> <p>6 311 (sic.).</p> <p>7 MR. PACK: It would alter 311. The</p> <p>8 amendment would alter 311 as drafted. It would</p> <p>9 alter it. It would amend it.</p> <p>10 MR. CALLAHAN: I'm just trying to</p> <p>11 understand you. I'm just trying to understand</p> <p>12 what you're saying.</p> <p>13 MR. PACK: It would change it. It would</p> <p>14 change 311 as drafted.</p> <p>15 MS. PRICE: -- county (inaudible) right</p> <p>16 now.</p> <p>17 MR. PACK: It would change it.</p> <p>18 MS. PRICE: We do not always vote on the</p> <p>19 amendment immediately when we have a public</p> <p>20 hearing at hand. We have offered amendments in</p> <p>21 the past to let the public know what the</p>

Page 186	Page 188
<p>1 amendment is going to be, but we do not 2 necessarily vote on them before we've had a 3 public hearing.</p> <p>4 MR. PACK: You don't have an amendment 5 until it's carried. You have an idea, but you 6 don't have an amendment until it's carried. 7 You have an idea.</p> <p>8 MR. LESHER: Mr. Callahan is correct. 9 313 has not been amended. It is simply 10 out there in the public. The amendment is in 11 the public record, but it is not, 313 is not 12 amended.</p> <p>13 That now allows the public hearing to go 14 forward with this further knowledge.</p> <p>15 When we get the amendment, we can get a 16 second, we can vote on that at a later point. 17 But all that we have now is that on the public 18 record and the hearing can proceed on 313.</p> <p>19 MR. PACK: We're not going with an 20 amendment tonight. Okay.</p> <p>21 MR. LESHER: Correct.</p>	<p>1 anybody on the phone who wants to talk about 2 313?</p> <p>3 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Willey had 4 to leave.</p> <p>5 MR. CALLAHAN: Oh, he did. I'm sorry.</p> <p>6 SECRETARY: That's no worries. 7 So we do have several people who are 8 joining us this evening.</p> <p>9 MR. CALLAHAN: Great.</p> <p>10 SECRETARY: If you wish to speak, please 11 raise your hand.</p> <p>12 Mr. Schmidt, one of the commissioners from 13 the Town of Trappe, had written in earlier and 14 asked to speak.</p> <p>15 So Mr. Schmidt, I'm going to unmute you 16 and you have the floor.</p> <p>17 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup. And let me throw the 18 ground rules. We need, so tell us who you are 19 and where you're from.</p> <p>20 And Mr. Pack, I'm going to give you a job. 21 You're going to keep time for us.</p>
Page 187	Page 189
<p>1 MR. PACK: Okay. All right. So there's 2 no amendment being offered to 313 this evening? 3 I'm sorry, Mr. Callahan.</p> <p>4 MR. LESHER: -- deduced surely. It wasn't 5 that long ago that you were president of this 6 Council. You must remember how this was done.</p> <p>7 MR. PACK: Mr. Leshner, with all due 8 respect, you can't issue an amendment, throw it 9 out there to a resolution that's already 10 drafted, and not have it seconded and not have 11 it addressed.</p> <p>12 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Let's move on.</p> <p>13 MR. PACK: -- out there to see if people 14 like it or not.</p> <p>15 MR. CALLAHAN: Let's move on, Council. 16 Okay. So right now, so right now I'm 17 going to open the public hearing on 313. If 18 you have -- you'll have three minutes to speak 19 individually. If you're representing an 20 organization, you'll have five minutes.</p> <p>21 Mr. Willey, do we have any callers or</p>	<p>1 MS. PRICE: Mr. Callahan, one moment. We 2 normally do hear from the Planning and Zoning 3 officer before we start the regular public. 4 So can we hear from Miguel?</p> <p>5 MR. CALLAHAN: What, first?</p> <p>6 MS. PRICE: With his report from the 7 Planning Commission and the Public Works 8 Advisory -- and Ray from the Public Works 9 Advisory Board.</p> <p>10 We always hear from those two typically 11 first before we go through the rest of the 12 public hearing.</p> <p>13 MR. CALLAHAN: That's fine, that's fine. 14 Is Miguel on here?</p> <p>15 MR. SALINAS: I am, I am on here.</p> <p>16 MR. CALLAHAN: Miguel, you're up, bud.</p> <p>17 MR. SALINAS: All right.</p> <p>18 MR. CALLAHAN: It's go time.</p> <p>19 MR. SALINAS: I did prepare a memorandum 20 to the Council laying the vote of the Planning 21 Commission and certification of Resolution 313</p>

Page 190

1 that was sent to them at a public hearing at  
 2 their January meeting where they certified that  
 3 Resolution 313 was inconsistent with the  
 4 Comprehensive Plan. That motion passed three  
 5 to two.  
 6 And I also indicated in there some of the  
 7 concerns they expressed related to that vote.  
 8 Their concerns about level of nitrogen release  
 9 into La Trappe Creek, the lack of a nitrogen  
 10 cap imposed on the existing plant, and the  
 11 overall existing conditions of La Trappe Creek.  
 12 They noted that the existing plant is a  
 13 BIOLAC plant, and they expressed concern that  
 14 any connection of additional homes from  
 15 Lakeside in Trappe to the existing plant will  
 16 continue to harm surface waters, watermen, and  
 17 recreationists.  
 18 (Inaudible) Callahan, may have use this  
 19 moment (inaudible) 313 just to, now that I have  
 20 the floor for a couple of minutes, to just ask,  
 21 make sure that I understand the direction from

Page 191

1 the Council related to 308 and what will be  
 2 313.  
 3 I understand that the Council is setting  
 4 up, proposing to set up a work session.  
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Which you're going to be  
 6 there.  
 7 MR. SALINAS: Okay. And in addition to  
 8 that, the direction of the Council is, I  
 9 understand I think from Council Member Leshner,  
 10 is that the commission at their meeting next  
 11 week will provide an opinion on Resolution 308  
 12 in addition to the work session, or they will  
 13 not and they will attend the work session, the  
 14 joint work session and then go from there.  
 15 So I just want to make sure I have that  
 16 clear.  
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Right. You're headed in  
 18 the right direction. But I'd rather see them  
 19 not discuss it until after the work session.  
 20 MR. SALINAS: Okay. That's what I needed  
 21 to know. Okay. Thank you. And thank you for

Page 192

1 allowing me to speak for a second. Thank you.  
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: No problem, no problem.  
 3 Is Ray here?  
 4 MR. CLARKE: Yes, sir, I am.  
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Hey, Ray. How you  
 6 doing, man?  
 7 MR. CLARKE: I'm doing very well.  
 8 Yourself?  
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Good, good. Appreciate you  
 10 sticking around.  
 11 MR. CLARKE: No problem, no problem.  
 12 I think as you just heard, the Planning  
 13 Commission did find Resolution 313 inconsistent  
 14 with the Comp Plan.  
 15 We actually had 313, Resolution 313 on the  
 16 Public Works Advisory Board. I removed it  
 17 after the Planning Commission basically found  
 18 that it was inconsistent with the Comp Plan.  
 19 At that point, the Public Works Advisory  
 20 Board did go and provide I guess a listing of  
 21 what they believe is new information collected

Page 193

1 I think from the public hearings and whatnot  
 2 for Resolution 308, as well as the possibility  
 3 of the discharge permits. So that information  
 4 was forwarded to you by Bill Anderson through I  
 5 think it was Susan Moran.  
 6 The only one point I would make is that if  
 7 you do amend Resolution 313, if you do that and  
 8 it goes back to the Planning Commission, I  
 9 don't believe we're going to be able to make  
 10 the advertising date. So that would probably  
 11 have to wait for any action until March.  
 12 MR. SALINAS: Thank you, Ray. I was going  
 13 to say that. Thank you for reminding.  
 14 March 2nd would be the actual date if  
 15 there is an amendment that is proposed and  
 16 approved by the Council. It would have to go  
 17 back to public hearing.  
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Well, you know, that was my  
 19 whole point. It would have been really nice if  
 20 we would have had this meeting. There was no  
 21 Planning Commission vote at that time because

Page 194

1 we're getting ready to hear some more  
 2 information.  
 3 So they've taken, in my opinion, they've  
 4 really taken a little bit premature vote at the  
 5 time because not all the information is out  
 6 there yet.  
 7 But hey, it is what it is at this point.  
 8 But we're going to come up with different  
 9 information hopefully in the next couple of  
 10 weeks to keep on moving forward.  
 11 So at this time, anybody else want to say  
 12 anything with staff, because I want to go ahead  
 13 and open it to the public for this gentleman  
 14 that's waiting?  
 15 MR. DIVILIO: I would just like to say  
 16 that there are, there's a member of the  
 17 Planning Commission and the Public Works  
 18 Advisory Board are both on the line as well for  
 19 comment.  
 20 MR. CALLAHAN: Oh, they are? Okay.  
 21 MR. DIVILIO: Mr. Anderson and Ms. Ghezzi

Page 195

1 are both on there.  
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. So let's ask  
 3 Ms. Ghezzi to go ahead and come on and talk to  
 4 us for a minute.  
 5 MR. PACK: Mr. Callahan, why don't you go  
 6 through your public?  
 7 You already got the opinion of the  
 8 Planning Commission and the Public Works  
 9 Advisory Board as noted by your planning  
 10 officer and your Public Works Advisory --  
 11 Public Works engineer.  
 12 Can we just hear from the public now?  
 13 MS. PRICE: We do typically hear from the  
 14 chair or whatever of each of those  
 15 committees --  
 16 MR. PACK: No, we do not. We hear from,  
 17 we hear from the boards, the board.  
 18 And we heard the board report. Three to  
 19 two the Planning Commission and three to -- and  
 20 the Public Works Advisory Board. We heard from  
 21 both of them.

Page 196

1 Can we hear from the public now?  
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: All right. I'll grant  
 3 that, Mr. Pack.  
 4 I'll tell you what we'll do. That way  
 5 that might have a little bit more information  
 6 once they hear from the public. The public  
 7 could clean something up. So I'll grant that.  
 8 So okay. Madam Secretary, could we go  
 9 ahead and start with the public.  
 10 SECRETARY: Yes. Mr. Schmidt, your line  
 11 is unmuted, if you'd like to go ahead and  
 12 speak.  
 13 MR. CALLAHAN: Go ahead, Mr. Schmidt.  
 14 Appreciate you hanging in there tonight with  
 15 us.  
 16 MR. SCHMIDT: No worries. Thanks for  
 17 having me.  
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: No problem.  
 19 MR. SCHMIDT: Again, as the last meeting I  
 20 was at, this is something that I'm coming to  
 21 you guys somewhat on a personal level, even

Page 197

1 though I am on the Trappe Town Council and the  
 2 Trappe Town Planning Commission. But I did  
 3 want to say a few things about all of this.  
 4 So let's be clear about Trappe's  
 5 wastewater treatment plant. It is not a  
 6 failing plant. It may be an older plant, but  
 7 it is not a failing plant.  
 8 This is a BIOLAC plant that has been  
 9 maximized to almost BNR standards and is  
 10 working and is being operated to its peak  
 11 ability.  
 12 The plant that seems to have the ire of so  
 13 many people in recent months was built in 2003  
 14 with no grant money or help from MDE, the State  
 15 of Maryland, or the residents of Talbot County.  
 16 The residents of Trappe, all 513 households,  
 17 took on this \$3.1 million project all by  
 18 themselves to better what we were doing.  
 19 Since that time, the plant has been  
 20 upgraded twice to something just short of a BNR  
 21 plant. Mind you, we are processing the

Page 198

1 phosphorus to ENR standards at present.

2 These upgrades have taken the plant as far

3 as it can go. And with the help of our town

4 water superintendent, it is operating to the

5 standards to which it was intended to operate.

6 Bill 313 has the language to take the

7 authority of Trappe's wastewater treatment

8 plant away from Trappe itself. Trappe is an

9 incorporated municipality. We have our own

10 rules, our own regulations. We need to have

11 the authority to determine how our wastewater

12 treatment plant is run and how many houses to

13 connect to that wastewater treatment plant.

14 We do not want the Talbot County Council

15 to be our big brother when we have a single

16 home to be connected to the wastewater

17 treatment plant.

18 If anyone has been paying attention to the

19 Trappe's meetings, they will know that we are

20 presently and have been for a couple of years

21 researching a new ENR plant. A couple of

Page 199

1 options have been looked at and deemed not

2 feasible.

3 We are making progress forward, talking

4 with MDE and USDA concerning funding.

5 We know -- you know as well as I do to

6 point Ferry Point and Wye Preserve that putting

7 a new wastewater treatment plant in place takes

8 years of planning. We are nearing a

9 preliminary decision.

10 Taking away these hookups, the 120 hookups

11 for Lakeside to the Town of Trappe, is taking

12 away a lot of connection fees that would

13 greatly impact Trappe's ability to pay for a

14 new wastewater treatment plant.

15 In all reality, the development, Lakeside,

16 will be building the wastewater treatment plant

17 well before we will be able to because a

18 private business has different rules and

19 regulations than municipalities do.

20 Again, that is something you know very

21 well.

Page 200

1 So this bill will only hurt the Town of

2 Trappe as it is written.

3 The point in all of this, the Town of

4 Trappe is working diligently to build a new ENR

5 wastewater treatment plant. Having the Talbot

6 County Council on our backs telling us how to

7 run our wastewater treatment plant is

8 unnecessary. Again, we are moving forward.

9 And that's all. Thank you.

10 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Mr. Schmidt.

11 And I can't thank you enough.

12 And I would want to make sure that your

13 Council and you are -- I will be, as you

14 listened, we will be setting up a workshop. I

15 definitely want you guys there because that's

16 the whole reason I want the communication and

17 for people to understand what you guys are

18 trying to do.

19 MR. SCHMIDT: Sounds perfect.

20 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you.

21 MR. SCHMIDT: Thank you.

Page 201

1 MR. CALLAHAN: Madam Secretary, next

2 caller.

3 SECRETARY: Yes. The next caller is Alan

4 Gerard.

5 You're unmuted Mr. Gerard.

6 MR. GERARD: Thanks, Jessica. Alan Gerard

7 representing the Chesapeake Bay Foundation.

8 I did share an amendment with the members

9 of Council that introduced Resolution 313.

10 Very similar in nature to the one that was just

11 discussed prior to the public hearing.

12 There's no disagreement that the upgrades

13 are needed at this plant. Under current

14 condition, the plant has violated its permit

15 last year exceeding ammonium nitrogen limits by

16 249 percent.

17 Even when performing without violations,

18 the plant discharges an average of nearly

19 24 milligrams per liter of nitrogen. ENR

20 treatment can bring that figure down to three.

21 Now, the County's own Comp Plan recognizes

Page 202

1 the compelling need to minimize impacts from  
 2 discharges, designating La Trappe Creek and  
 3 other local waterways in the county as  
 4 "unsuitable receiving waters for treated  
 5 waste".  
 6 The Town of Trappe agrees by its own  
 7 actions, as we just heard, that the plant needs  
 8 to be upgraded. It submitted or plans to  
 9 submit preliminary engineering reports to  
 10 upgrade the plant with ENR. That action  
 11 enables Trappe to move forward with its  
 12 permitting for the full design and construction  
 13 of the upgrade.  
 14 And all this is in line with the County's  
 15 expectations and its Comp Plan, which assumes  
 16 ENR treatment technology will be in place at  
 17 Trappe by the end of the decade.  
 18 For these reasons, I hope you'll consider  
 19 amending the county water and sewer plan to  
 20 require ENR treatment at Trappe before any new  
 21 homes are connected to that facility.

Page 203

1 Thank you.  
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Mr. Gerard.  
 3 Appreciate your input tonight, and thanks for  
 4 hanging in there with us tonight, too.  
 5 MR. GERARD: Thank you, sir.  
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: Madam Secretary, next  
 7 caller.  
 8 SECRETARY: Nobody else has raised their  
 9 hand to speak.  
 10 If you would like to speak, if you could  
 11 raise your hand so we can call on you.  
 12 That appears to be the end of the speakers  
 13 for this evening, Mr. Callahan.  
 14 MR. PACK: Okay. That's fine. Okay. So  
 15 at this time, Madam Secretary --  
 16 SECRETARY: Sorry, Mr. Callahan. I  
 17 apologize. Somebody did just raise their hand.  
 18 Ryan Showalter would like to speak.  
 19 MR. CALLAHAN: Absolutely.  
 20 SECRETARY: Go ahead, Mr. Showalter.  
 21 MR. SHOWALTER: Thank you, President

Page 204

1 Callahan, Members of the Council. Ryan  
 2 Showalter appearing on behalf of Trappe East  
 3 Holdings Business Trust in connection to  
 4 Resolution 313.  
 5 And I have comments both on the present  
 6 version, and I'll just share a couple of brief  
 7 thoughts on your amendment.  
 8 There is no doubt that there's a  
 9 commitment by Trappe East to have the Lakeside  
 10 project long term served by an ENR quality  
 11 wastewater treatment plant.  
 12 The Town of Trappe has existing capacity  
 13 within its plant within the permit limits  
 14 authorized by the State within the TMDL limits  
 15 established for La Trappe Creek. And providing  
 16 utilization of some of that existing capacity  
 17 for Lakeside on an interim basis allows the  
 18 town to connect in the near term capital  
 19 connection fees in excess of \$600,000, which  
 20 helps the town either reduce its existing debt  
 21 or pay for a new treatment plant.

Page 205

1 So based on this Council's approval of  
 2 Resolution 281, the Town of Trappe and Trappe  
 3 East entered into a wastewater allocation  
 4 agreement in January of 2021 that provides for  
 5 that interim allocation. And again, it is an  
 6 interim or temporary allocation, for which the  
 7 town has paid those funds.  
 8 The connection, as you know, occurs when a  
 9 house is constructed. It takes time to build  
 10 infrastructure. It takes time to construct  
 11 houses. And you don't actually have any flow  
 12 until the house is occupied.  
 13 So I understand a desire to see those  
 14 connections occur over a short period of time.  
 15 If we had a construction permit and  
 16 discharge permit for the new Trappe Lakeside  
 17 plant today, it would be under construction  
 18 next month. Contrary to suggestions by the  
 19 public, the wastewater treatment plant for  
 20 Lakeside will be constructed as soon as it is  
 21 permitted. It's not something we intend to

Page 206

1 delay for months or years planning to build  
 2 only 120 homes. It's something we intend to  
 3 construct as soon as we're able to construct  
 4 it.  
 5 So the reality and the practicality of  
 6 limiting these connections I think is likely to  
 7 be of little significance from an actual  
 8 discharge perspective. The town has capacity  
 9 to utilize.  
 10 It takes months to construct homes. Then  
 11 they have to be sold before they're occupied  
 12 before they actually generate flow.  
 13 So the first sentence in this proposed  
 14 amendment as is, without the Council's blue  
 15 amendment number one, I would submit to you is  
 16 vague. The determination of whether an  
 17 enforcement action or consent order is  
 18 outstanding I think is clear. But the  
 19 determination of whether there's a violation  
 20 outstanding, just defers to another day a  
 21 question and a dispute.

Page 207

1 There were three months of violations back  
 2 in the beginning of 2021. The Town of Trappe  
 3 has operated its plant in compliance with its  
 4 permit since that time.  
 5 The suggestions by the public that the  
 6 State hasn't taken an enforcement action are  
 7 true. To my knowledge, no enforcement action  
 8 has been taken.  
 9 That begs the question. Does that mean a  
 10 violation is outstanding? Who gets to be the  
 11 arbiter of that? I think that language invites  
 12 a future and ongoing debate.  
 13 The second sentence of your proposed  
 14 amendment, the sentence that says no portion of  
 15 the startup phase may be constructed -- I'm  
 16 sorry. May be connected more than 18 months  
 17 after final approval of Resolution 313, I think  
 18 that has the opposite effect of what this  
 19 Council desires.  
 20 If the Council members who introduced this  
 21 amendment desire to limit the utilization of

Page 208

1 the town's treatment plant, that sentence  
 2 actually incentives or encourages or requires a  
 3 race, if you will, for connections.  
 4 If the right to connect expires after 18  
 5 months, it incentivizes those connections to  
 6 occur sooner so that they can be utilized. If  
 7 that sentence is deleted, it doesn't change the  
 8 impact of the third sentence, which is the  
 9 provision that says within 18 months after  
 10 receipt of the discharge permits and  
 11 construction permits, the flow has to go to the  
 12 new plant.  
 13 So if you delete what I'll call the second  
 14 insert, the second sentence in its entirety,  
 15 you still have the 18-month time frame for  
 16 transmission of the flow from the existing  
 17 plant to the new Lakeside plant. And I think,  
 18 frankly, that's more consistent with your  
 19 intent.  
 20 And the last thing that I'll note, 18  
 21 months generally I expect to be enough time to

Page 209

1 construct and commission a wastewater treatment  
 2 plant, absent procurement or COVID business  
 3 impacts and delays. So I'm not going to tell  
 4 you that that's not sufficient time, but I want  
 5 to just caution you that there are procurement  
 6 challenges in the construction world that might  
 7 complicate that.  
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: Five minutes,  
 9 Mr. Showalter.  
 10 MR. SHOWALTER: I'm sorry. How many  
 11 minutes?  
 12 MR. PACK: That was your five minutes.  
 13 MR. SHOWALTER: Okay. Well, I guess I'll  
 14 reserve my comments on the amendment for your  
 15 next hearing.  
 16 MR. PACK: Thank you, sir.  
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Mr. Showalter.  
 18 And I really appreciate that very valuable  
 19 information.  
 20 And I want to make sure, if you didn't  
 21 listen tonight, which I'm sure you have, we're

Page 210

1 putting a workshop together. And I would like  
 2 for you to be there and follow up with  
 3 additional information on what you've -- what's  
 4 happened here in the last four weeks or so, if  
 5 you would, please.  
 6 MS. PRICE: Mr. Callahan, may I ask  
 7 Mr. Showalter two questions, please?  
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: Sure.  
 9 MS. PRICE: You just said interim basis  
 10 and that the intent is to connect to ENR.  
 11 And when I put this initial 313 together,  
 12 it was a compromise and it was basically trying  
 13 to put words to what you have been saying to us  
 14 for over a year.  
 15 Can I ask you why you didn't go ahead and  
 16 put that language in the agreement, because as  
 17 written, it doesn't limit you? It doesn't  
 18 limit you to 120 homes, and you keep talking  
 19 about intent.  
 20 But the problem with intent is if you  
 21 don't have it in writing, you don't have it.

Page 211

1 And so everybody might have the best of  
 2 intentions, but there's nothing in writing that  
 3 says that you have to do it, which was the idea  
 4 behind this particular resolution.  
 5 Are you guys willing to on your own put  
 6 something in writing that would require you to  
 7 go ahead and start building the spray  
 8 irrigation plant once you get some type of  
 9 permit from MDE, rather than us having to write  
 10 something to basically force you to do it? And  
 11 have you connect within -- you've been saying  
 12 12 to 18 months you guys can build this thing.  
 13 MR. SHOWALTER: So Ms. Pack (sic.), the  
 14 answer is yes. And if you have lines of  
 15 communication at MDE that can facilitate or  
 16 expedite the issuance of a discharge permit and  
 17 a construction permit, we'll begin construction  
 18 of the treatment plant in three weeks.  
 19 I mean we intend to construct the Lakeside  
 20 ENR plant when permits are available for it.  
 21 MS. PRICE: Okay. I would like you to put

Page 212

1 that in writing because it's not in the  
 2 agreement. It's not in writing now.  
 3 So I would like you to consider doing so,  
 4 which I think might make our job a little bit  
 5 easier.  
 6 And the second question is if you go back  
 7 to the original agreement with the town and  
 8 everything, hookup to the old plant was never  
 9 part of the original deal. That changed  
 10 somewhere along the way.  
 11 Could you clarify that, because it was not  
 12 in the original documents? There was never any  
 13 intent to hook up to this old plant. Why now?  
 14 Why not go ahead and build this thing before  
 15 hooking up anything and make sure that any new  
 16 connections are to ENR technology, which  
 17 everybody agrees is the best solution?  
 18 MR. SHOWALTER: Well, so I don't want to  
 19 belabor too many points, but there's been lots  
 20 of allegations and suggestions that there's new  
 21 information and facts and history going back 20

Page 213

1 years that I strongly disagree with.  
 2 So let me just --  
 3 MS. PRICE: I went back to one of the old  
 4 agreements. I did read it. It is in writing.  
 5 MR. SHOWALTER: So technology changes.  
 6 And as you well know, politics change over  
 7 time.  
 8 At the beginning of this project, the  
 9 desire and intent of the Town of Trappe was to  
 10 see a standalone sewer service district called  
 11 Trappe East to be served by a 540,000-gallon  
 12 BNR BIOLAC wastewater treatment plant with  
 13 spray irrigation. That's what the 2002  
 14 comprehensive water and sewer plan specifically  
 15 describes and that was the plan.  
 16 This question of whether the plant was in  
 17 the water and sewer plan was debated back in  
 18 2003, 2004, 2005. MDE evaluated that and  
 19 determined that the proposed infrastructure  
 20 was, in fact, in the county's water and sewer  
 21 plan. And the State issued permits for both

Page 214

1 discharge and construction of the Trappe East  
 2 ENR plant.  
 3 Those permits were not utilized due to the  
 4 economic conditions that occurred in 2007 and  
 5 2008 and beyond.  
 6 In the 2010 time frame, the politics in  
 7 the Town of Trappe were different. A gentleman  
 8 named Rob Crosswell, who is the former Trappe  
 9 wastewater system operator, was president of  
 10 the Town Council. And the Town of Trappe  
 11 actually had a different conclusion.  
 12 So the Town of Trappe in -- and I don't  
 13 have the dates in front of me. So I'm going to  
 14 say in the 2010 time frame, but I can confirm  
 15 those dates separately. It's not a  
 16 misrepresentation. In that time frame, the  
 17 Town of Trappe decided that it wanted to  
 18 evaluate not having a separate Lakeside plant  
 19 but having a single plant.  
 20 So some evaluation of connecting all of  
 21 the Lakeside flow to the existing town plant

Page 215

1 was undertaken. The Town Council at that time  
 2 had a preference actually to see the approach  
 3 to upgrade the town plan and have all flow go  
 4 to the town's existing footprint, the site of  
 5 the existing town plant with an upgrade on that  
 6 site utilizing both spray irrigation and the  
 7 point discharge.  
 8 There were discussions with MDE about the  
 9 possibility of essentially a pivot on where the  
 10 plant would occur, and the town -- MDE would  
 11 not entertain multiple permits for  
 12 construction. So the town notified the State  
 13 in writing that it did not intend to proceed  
 14 with a separate Lakeside, or then Trappe East,  
 15 wastewater treatment plant.  
 16 That wasn't an expression by the town it  
 17 was abandoning the project. It was an  
 18 expression by the town of its intent at that  
 19 time to see a single plant on the west side of  
 20 Route 50.  
 21 Evaluation of the technology to do that,

Page 216

1 the cost of construction, and opportunities for  
 2 discharge then changed. And the current plans  
 3 are to go back to what essentially was the  
 4 original plan, which is have a ENR plant that  
 5 uses spray irrigation on the east side of  
 6 Route 50.  
 7 There's no misrepresentations. There's no  
 8 fraud. There's no lies. It's just the reality  
 9 that over the course of 18 years, technology  
 10 and politics have changed and those  
 11 circumstances have vacillated. So the --  
 12 MS. PRICE: That doesn't make it incumbent  
 13 upon the County Council because politics have  
 14 changed to grant that request, when back in  
 15 2002 or four, whatever the date it was.  
 16 So I was just asking for you all to put it  
 17 in writing that you will not connect anything  
 18 unless it's to ENR technology that can exist.  
 19 But I thank you for answering those two  
 20 questions. I'm sure this conversation will be  
 21 continued.

Page 217

1 MR. SHOWALTER: Thank you.  
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Mr. Showalter.  
 3 Appreciate it. And I hope you can make  
 4 arrangements to be at our work session. Thank  
 5 you.  
 6 Madam Secretary -- did you say something,  
 7 Mr. Pack?  
 8 MR. PACK: If the public hearing was over,  
 9 I was going to ask would you entertain a motion  
 10 to move this to vote this evening?  
 11 It is a numbered resolution. It has been  
 12 read a second time and is eligible for vote.  
 13 MR. CALLAHAN: Do I have a second?  
 14 MR. LESHER: I would ask that we defer  
 15 action on this resolution, ask that we can  
 16 handle this the same way that we're handling  
 17 308 --  
 18 MR. PACK: You have a motion on the floor.  
 19 You have a motion on the floor. Let's see if  
 20 you get a second.  
 21 MS. PRICE: Okay. Also, we're going to

Page 218

1 have this gentleman's agreement, nobody is  
 2 ready to -- well, maybe you're ready to vote  
 3 because you've already made up your mind and  
 4 you're not listening to some of the information  
 5 that's coming out --  
 6 MR. PACK: -- not listening.  
 7 MS. PRICE: There is an amendment that we  
 8 need to discuss and take this information from  
 9 the public hearing.  
 10 We don't typically vote this quickly. And  
 11 I would like to see this amendment go back to  
 12 the Planning Commission because right now our  
 13 hands are kind of tied --  
 14 MR. PACK: You don't have an amendment.  
 15 Mr. Leshar withdrew. You don't have an  
 16 amendment.  
 17 MS. PRICE: I'm not ready to vote on this  
 18 tonight. We already decided we were going to  
 19 defer the vote on 308.  
 20 MR. PACK: No one has to act on my motion.  
 21 It's the rule of procedure. I can make a

Page 219

1 motion. If no one seconds it, it fails. I  
 2 mean --  
 3 MS. PRICE: -- so good at those, Mr. Pack,  
 4 trying to make a motion before anybody else --  
 5 MR. PACK: -- Mr. Price. I can make the  
 6 motion. If nobody seconds the motion, it  
 7 fails. That's how things go.  
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: Exactly, exactly. So let's  
 9 all just be respectful of everybody. That's  
 10 all Mr. Pack did. He just called for a vote.  
 11 And at this time, he didn't have a second.  
 12 MR. PACK: So.  
 13 MR. CALLAHAN: So that's failed.  
 14 So now let's go back to Mr. Leshar. And  
 15 Mr. Leshar, you've made a motion to defer it,  
 16 correct?  
 17 MR. LESHER: I will offer that as a  
 18 motion.  
 19 MR. CALLAHAN: Do we have a second?  
 20 MS. PRICE: To defer the vote, yes.  
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: Yes.

Page 220

1 MR. PACK: You don't have to defer the  
 2 vote. If there's not a motion to vote tonight,  
 3 it doesn't get voted on tonight. You don't  
 4 have to defer anything.  
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. That's fine. No  
 6 problem.  
 7 MR. PACK: The motion failed.  
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Let's move on.  
 9 Madam Secretary, at this time, I know it's  
 10 failed, but I need to close the public hearing,  
 11 correct?  
 12 SECRETARY: That is correct.  
 13 MR. CALLAHAN: So at this time, public  
 14 hearing will be closed on 313. Okay? Okay.  
 15 So are we moving on?  
 16 MR. PACK: Sure.  
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay.  
 18 MS. PRICE: Well, a lot of times we leave  
 19 it open based on what people hear. Is there  
 20 any reason not to leave it, written public  
 21 comment open until we meet again or until

Page 221

1 Friday or the Friday before we meet again?  
 2 We leave public comment open all the time.  
 3 People listen to our meeting and discussion --  
 4 MR. PACK: We move matters to vote all the  
 5 time.  
 6 MS. PRICE: Okay. So I would then guess I  
 7 could make --  
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: So bear with me on this.  
 9 So let's look at it like this.  
 10 Right now, you don't like Number 313. You  
 11 don't like it. You want to change it. So it  
 12 doesn't mean anything for you. You want to go  
 13 ahead and amend 313.  
 14 Let's get through the work session and  
 15 come back with the new resolution.  
 16 MS. PRICE: Right. And so while all this  
 17 is going on, is there any reason why we can't  
 18 leave public comment open, because there's  
 19 going to be a public work session? They may  
 20 have --  
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: They're welcome to e-mail

Page 222

1 us anytime.

2 MS. PRICE: Okay. But we don't have to

3 close, officially close public comment.

4 MR. PACK: Well, he did, Laura. Let's

5 move on. He did. He closed it. He's the

6 chair. He closed it. Let's move on.

7 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. So let's move on to

8 discussion of pending General Assembly

9 legislation. Okay.

10 Madam Secretary, do we have any

11 legislation before us?

12 SECRETARY: Yes. Mr. Callahan, we have

13 one bill, House Bill 51, Talbot County deer and

14 turkey hunting Sundays.

15 And Delegate Mautz is with us this

16 evening.

17 MR. CALLAHAN: That sounds great.

18 Mr. Mautz, are you with us?

19 DELEGATE MAUTZ: I am with you this

20 evening. It's great to see everyone.

21 Can you hear me okay?

Page 223

1 MR. CALLAHAN: Oh, yeah. We can see you.

2 We can see you and hear you. I can't see you,

3 but I can hear you.

4 DELEGATE MAUTZ: Okay. Well, just imagine

5 a big smiling delegate looking right at you.

6 MR. CALLAHAN: Oh, it's no doubt in my

7 mind. You know what I mean? No doubt.

8 DELEGATE MAUTZ: So would you like me to

9 present the bill?

10 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah, yeah. Exactly,

11 please. And explain to us where you stand with

12 this.

13 DELEGATE MAUTZ: Okay. So we have, last

14 year, we brought a bill to Council. It's

15 almost identical to this bill, that allows for

16 Sunday hunting and during the deer season for

17 deer with the weapon that's approved for that

18 season for Sundays that were not currently

19 available. And it basically will put Talbot

20 County on the same Sunday hunting regiment as

21 neighboring counties.

Page 224

1 It also includes a short turkey season in

2 the spring.

3 I believe, I should know this, I don't

4 offhand, I wasn't totally prepared to be with

5 you tonight, but it was three or four Sundays

6 in total.

7 And in the bill that we brought last year,

8 it included public and private land. And in

9 Talbot County, we have one area of public land

10 set demonstration forest. That was a problem.

11 We discussed it up in Annapolis in the

12 environment and transportation committee. So

13 we amended the bill last year and took out the

14 public portion.

15 So the legislation before you today would

16 only allow for the Sunday hunting, the Sundays

17 that are not already permitted during deer

18 season on private land only and would also

19 allow a Sunday during the turkey season on

20 private land only.

21 In the past, the Council has supported the

Page 225

1 legislation, and I believe there was we had

2 dissenting vote last year.

3 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. All right. Council,

4 for discussion.

5 MS. PRICE: I'll move to support Delegate

6 Mautz's House Bill 51. We did so last year,

7 and it's even a little bit more narrow, as he

8 described, without the public land.

9 MR. DIVILIO: And I'll make the second or

10 give the second on that.

11 There's 52 Sundays out of the year. We're

12 giving five to allow the opportunity for

13 individuals to hunt and procure their own meat

14 for their families. I think that that's a

15 descent tradeoff to those individuals who would

16 like to be hiking those days. Hopefully they

17 can find another place out of those five

18 Sundays that they'll miss.

19 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Madam Secretary, I

20 got a motion and second it. Should we read the

21 bill into the record?

Page 226

1 SECRETARY: Yes. It's House Bill 51,  
 2 Talbot County deer and turkey hunting on  
 3 Sundays.  
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. All right. So we  
 5 got a motion and a second. Madam Secretary,  
 6 could you call the vote.  
 7 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.  
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.  
 9 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.  
 10 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.  
 11 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.  
 12 MR. LESHER: Nay.  
 13 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.  
 14 MS. PRICE: Aye.  
 15 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.  
 16 MR. PACK: Aye.  
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Johnny, for  
 18 spending some time with us tonight and working  
 19 hard on trying to manage, trying to manage the  
 20 deer for the farmers and everything. So that's  
 21 kind of what it's all about. We've got herds

Page 227

1 of deer and they need to be managed.  
 2 So I really appreciate you working hard on  
 3 trying to get this passed.  
 4 DELEGATE MAUTZ: Thank you for the  
 5 opportunity. And I appreciate all of you.  
 6 I know it's a tough time right now. I've  
 7 been on the meeting here tonight.  
 8 And Annapolis is going to be tough this  
 9 year doing things remotely. We're remote right  
 10 now, the House of Delegates. That was a last  
 11 minute change with omicron and that sort of  
 12 thing.  
 13 I want to make sure everyone on the  
 14 Council knows that I will be home quite a bit,  
 15 even when we are meeting in person. I think  
 16 one of the hardest things we're dealing with  
 17 right now is the ability to communicate because  
 18 of the separation.  
 19 And if I can do anything to bridge or  
 20 facilitate communication, you'd like me to come  
 21 in and meet with one, two, or however, I'm

Page 228

1 close to home, I'm your guy. So please don't  
 2 hesitate to let me know because I'll be there  
 3 for you.  
 4 So thank you guys very much. And have a  
 5 great rest of the night.  
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: And one last thing, Johnny,  
 7 if you would. We're going to be doing a work  
 8 session within the next week. And I really  
 9 would like to invite you. And it's very, very  
 10 important about Trappe and all the discussions.  
 11 And I would like for you to have a seat at the  
 12 table.  
 13 DELEGATE MAUTZ: Yeah, sure. Absolutely.  
 14 I appreciate that. And I get it, I get it.  
 15 Absolutely. Thank you for the invitation.  
 16 MR. CALLAHAN: All right.  
 17 MS. PRICE: Johnny, I want you to know  
 18 that I helped you a little bit with the deer  
 19 population I believe. And I can call myself a  
 20 true Eastern Shore woman because I hit my first  
 21 deer two months ago. And I know you hit at

Page 229

1 least two or three a year. But I just wanted  
 2 to make sure that you know that. There's  
 3 probably one less deer because of me.  
 4 DELEGATE MAUTZ: Oh, dear, I'm sorry to  
 5 hear that. I hit five in five years.  
 6 MS. PRICE: Yeah, you do it a lot.  
 7 DELEGATE MAUTZ: I've invested in deer  
 8 whistles.  
 9 And I don't want to belabor, I know you  
 10 guys had a long night, but I will be coming  
 11 back to you to discuss setting up a deer  
 12 donation program.  
 13 Montgomery County has one. DNR said it's  
 14 the best in the State of Maryland.  
 15 And so I'm going to try to do what I can  
 16 to bring some resources to Talbot so that we  
 17 can get some of that flowing.  
 18 I know there's a church in Trappe that  
 19 relies heavily on that protein.  
 20 But I'm sorry to hear about your vehicle.  
 21 But you're safe, that's the important thing.

Page 230

1 MS. PRICE: It's all better now. And I  
 2 kept the tuft of deer fur that landed in my  
 3 grill. And I'm going to do something with it,  
 4 hang it from my rearview mirror or something.  
 5 DELEGATE MAUTZ: Okay, okay. Well, be  
 6 safe out there.  
 7 Thank you all very much.  
 8 MS. PRICE: Thanks, Johnny.  
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Johnny.  
 10 So Madam Secretary, was that the only  
 11 thing as of right now?  
 12 SECRETARY: Yes. That was the only bill  
 13 this evening.  
 14 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. So let's get -- we  
 15 got through that. We got our county manager.  
 16 Hopefully he can put -- he hasn't said much  
 17 tonight. You know what I mean? You're very  
 18 quiet, you know.  
 19 MR. STAMP: Thank you. I have about four  
 20 items for the county manager report that I'll  
 21 run through for Council's consideration.

Page 231

1 The first one under board and committee  
 2 appointments, this is for the Adult Public  
 3 Guardianship Review Board. Requesting the  
 4 reappointment of Wendy Young Dyott, Laura  
 5 Higgins, Glenn Klakring, and Kerri Engels  
 6 Roberts to that board.  
 7 MR. DIVILIO: Frank Divilio. I'll make  
 8 the motion that we approve.  
 9 MR. PACK: Second.  
 10 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and  
 11 a second to approve these very needed people.  
 12 I know several of them, and we're really  
 13 happy to have people like that on these boards.  
 14 So Madam Secretary, could you call the  
 15 vote, please.  
 16 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.  
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.  
 18 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.  
 19 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.  
 20 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.  
 21 MR. LESHNER: Aye.

Page 232

1 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.  
 2 MS. PRICE: Aye.  
 3 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.  
 4 MR. PACK: Aye.  
 5 MR. STAMP: Okay. The next item I have,  
 6 Miguel is with us this evening. He is here to  
 7 request a letter in support of the 2022  
 8 Mid-Shore Rural Legacy Grant process.  
 9 Miguel, I'm going to hand it off to you at  
 10 this point to present the request. You are  
 11 here; aren't you?  
 12 MR. SALINAS: I am here, yes.  
 13 SECRETARY: Mr. Satterfield is with us as  
 14 well.  
 15 MR. SALINAS: So Mr. Satterfield, if you  
 16 have any questions, he's with the Eastern Shore  
 17 Land Conservancy. He is part of the management  
 18 of this program.  
 19 This comes to the County Council every  
 20 year where Eastern Shore Land Conservancy  
 21 requests to the Council a letter of support

Page 233

1 regarding the two legacy areas that impact  
 2 Talbot County, the Tuckahoe Rural Legacy area  
 3 and the Eastern Shore Heartland Rural Legacy  
 4 area. You have in Granicus a map of both of  
 5 those areas.  
 6 And so this letter just states that the  
 7 legacy area remains consistent with our  
 8 Comprehensive Plan, which is all about  
 9 preservation related to agriculture, forestry,  
 10 and other environmental sensitive areas that  
 11 Eastern Shore Land Conservancy does such a well  
 12 job managing in terms of those easement  
 13 acquisition programs in partnership with the  
 14 State of Maryland.  
 15 So if you have any questions specifically  
 16 on the program, David is here to answer any of  
 17 those.  
 18 MR. CALLAHAN: Does anybody have any  
 19 questions?  
 20 MR. STAMP: David, do you have anything  
 21 you'd like to add?

Page 234

1 MR. SATTERFIELD: No. I think Miguel has  
 2 done a pretty good job of discussing this.  
 3 I mean these rural legacy areas have been  
 4 in existence for almost 20 years. We did  
 5 expand them a few years ago. The Council was  
 6 part of that decision.  
 7 We appreciate the Council's consideration  
 8 here and continuing to work with us on this  
 9 annual application because the funding has been  
 10 key to protection of 63 properties on the shore  
 11 so far, and we have seven projects currently  
 12 going on, one of which is in Talbot County. So  
 13 the continued support is excellent for  
 14 continuing that program and getting us more and  
 15 more funding so that we get more work done here  
 16 on the shore.  
 17 MR. STAMP: Thank you, Mr. Council  
 18 President. We look forward to --  
 19 MR. PACK: You need a motion?  
 20 MR. CALLAHAN: Yeah. I was going to say  
 21 do we have a motion?

Page 235

1 MR. PACK: I make a motion for approval of  
 2 the Rural Legacy.  
 3 MS. PRICE: Second.  
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: We got a motion and a  
 5 second. Madam Secretary, could you call the  
 6 vote, please.  
 7 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.  
 8 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.  
 9 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.  
 10 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.  
 11 SECRETARY: Mr. Lesher.  
 12 MR. LESHHER: Aye.  
 13 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.  
 14 MS. PRICE: Aye.  
 15 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.  
 16 MR. PACK: Aye.  
 17 MR. STAMP: Thank you, Miguel and  
 18 Mr. Satterfield. Appreciate that.  
 19 Preston, we have Preston here. He has two  
 20 requests for you this evening.  
 21 The first one is to award Bid Number

Page 236

1 21-08, Community Center athletic field  
 2 irrigation. He has a single bid for \$85,000.  
 3 If it's approved, he can get a grant.  
 4 He'll be here to talk -- he can add detail  
 5 to his request at this point.  
 6 Preston.  
 7 MR. PEPER: So this was part of the  
 8 changing over the turf in the back of the  
 9 Community Center to Bermuda to be more play  
 10 ready and safer for athletes.  
 11 Like Mr. Stamp said, this is something  
 12 that if approved, would have a 90 percent  
 13 reimbursement from the State Program Open Space  
 14 funding.  
 15 MR. STAMP: And we have confirmed that his  
 16 budget is suitable enough to handle the  
 17 difference and make up the ten percent.  
 18 MR. PACK: So moved.  
 19 MR. DIVILIO: Second.  
 20 MR. CALLAHAN: Madam Secretary, could you  
 21 call the vote.

Page 237

1 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.  
 2 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.  
 3 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.  
 4 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.  
 5 SECRETARY: Mr. Lesher.  
 6 MR. LESHHER: Aye.  
 7 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.  
 8 MS. PRICE: Aye.  
 9 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.  
 10 MR. PACK: Aye.  
 11 MR. STAMP: Okay. The second request is  
 12 to award Bid Number 21-11, Community Center ice  
 13 plant replacement.  
 14 As you read in your packet, Preston is  
 15 requesting Council approval to award Bid 21-11  
 16 to American Arena, the sole bidder in the  
 17 amount of \$1,089,000 plus an additional fixed  
 18 cost of 25,000 for the removal of the old ice  
 19 plant, including draining and disposing of all  
 20 toxic chemicals, for a total of 1,114,000.  
 21 Upon completion of the project,

Page 238

1 reimbursement of \$1 million will be requested  
 2 from the Maryland Department of Natural  
 3 Resources local parks and programs  
 4 infrastructure funding to be used in FY22.  
 5 Preston and I are requesting Council's  
 6 approval for \$114,000 in contingency funds to  
 7 the cover the cost not reimbursed by DNR. We  
 8 have certified that contingency is available  
 9 for this purchase to cover the cost.  
 10 MR. PACK: So moved.  
 11 MR. DIVILIO: Second.  
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. We got a motion and  
 13 a second to put a new ice plant up to the  
 14 skating rink. Madam Secretary, could you call  
 15 the roll, please.  
 16 MS. PRICE: Got a question.  
 17 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup.  
 18 MS. PRICE: So is the million dollars  
 19 going to be reimbursed?  
 20 MR. PEPER: Yes, it is.  
 21 MS. PRICE: Okay. So it is. We just have

Page 239

1 to submit it when it's done.  
 2 MR. PEPER: Correct. It's part of the  
 3 LPPI plan, the one that it was the extension  
 4 that all the counties got a fixed amount extra  
 5 this year as far as part of the Program Open  
 6 Space.  
 7 So yes. That's already a fixed amount.  
 8 It's already been approved also.  
 9 MS. PRICE: I just wanted to make sure  
 10 that was definitely in the bank, so to speak.  
 11 All right. Thank you.  
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Madam Secretary, could you  
 13 call the vote.  
 14 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.  
 15 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.  
 16 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.  
 17 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.  
 18 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.  
 19 MR. LESHNER: Aye.  
 20 SECRETARY: Ms. Price.  
 21 MS. PRICE: Aye.

Page 240

1 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack. Mr. Pack.  
 2 MR. PACK: I said aye. You didn't hear  
 3 me. Aye.  
 4 MR. CALLAHAN: There you go, there you go.  
 5 MR. STAMP: Thank you. That's --  
 6 MR. CALLAHAN: I just want to say one  
 7 thing with Preston.  
 8 Preston, are you still here?  
 9 MR. PEPER: Yeah.  
 10 MR. CALLAHAN: I'm really proud of you.  
 11 I'm looking at ways to be able to pay for this  
 12 because it's a lot of money. And you do such a  
 13 good job. And really, that's -- you're really  
 14 replacing the heart of that building. And I  
 15 really appreciate it. It means a lot to a lot  
 16 of people, especially Mr. Divilio. You know  
 17 what I mean.  
 18 MR. PEPER: Now if I can just get the  
 19 sewer finished, then I'd be --  
 20 MR. CALLAHAN: I know it. Don't, please  
 21 don't get him worked up.

Page 241

1 MR. PACK: That's right. Don't get me  
 2 started.  
 3 MR. PEPER: I don't think Mr. Pack is any  
 4 more worked up about this than I am.  
 5 MR. CALLAHAN: That's all right. It's  
 6 coming. We're moving forward.  
 7 But all kidding aside, thanks a lot for  
 8 your hard work.  
 9 MR. PACK: I think Ray been ducking me.  
 10 MR. CALLAHAN: We'll get 'er done. We'll  
 11 get 'er done.  
 12 MR. STAMP: So Council, and I join you,  
 13 Mr. Callahan. I would like to recognize  
 14 Preston for his hard work out there.  
 15 The two items we talked about tonight that  
 16 you approved, they're not unfamiliar to you.  
 17 They're been part of his long-range plan. It's  
 18 exciting some of the things happening out there  
 19 that Preston and his team are doing.  
 20 We're going to be moving forward with the  
 21 new gymnasium, replacing the ice plant, doing a

Page 242	Page 244
<p>1 lot of work out there.</p> <p>2 So Preston, good job.</p> <p>3 And Council, thank you for approving those</p> <p>4 items.</p> <p>5 The only other thing I have under</p> <p>6 announcements is Council has decided that</p> <p>7 Council meetings will remain virtual through</p> <p>8 February.</p> <p>9 And with that, I'll turn it back to you,</p> <p>10 Mr. Council President. Thank you for your</p> <p>11 help.</p> <p>12 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Mr. County</p> <p>13 Manager. And you do such a great job.</p> <p>14 Appreciate you preparing Council for all this</p> <p>15 stuff.</p> <p>16 So Madam Secretary, you're up next. Do we</p> <p>17 have public comment?</p> <p>18 SECRETARY: Yes. If anybody would like to</p> <p>19 speak this evening, if you could please raise</p> <p>20 your hand or send a note in the chat feature.</p> <p>21 MR. CALLAHAN: What we'll do, if you're</p>	<p>1 moved on in the agenda, I don't think we should</p> <p>2 go backwards because Council should always have</p> <p>3 the last word in our meetings. And that didn't</p> <p>4 happen last time.</p> <p>5 Just my two cents.</p> <p>6 MR. PACK: I agree with that.</p> <p>7 MR. CALLAHAN: While you're doing the</p> <p>8 talking, Ms. Price, go ahead.</p> <p>9 MS. PRICE: I don't actually have any</p> <p>10 additional comments. How about that?</p> <p>11 It's been a long night. Thank you,</p> <p>12 everybody.</p> <p>13 MR. CALLAHAN: You're welcome.</p> <p>14 Mr. Vice President.</p> <p>15 MR. LESHAR: Thank you. During the battle</p> <p>16 of Britain in 1940, the British government</p> <p>17 ordered a blackout so as not to aid Luftwaffe</p> <p>18 bombers that would confirm information about</p> <p>19 the location of London homes and businesses.</p> <p>20 The government did not leave it up to the</p> <p>21 personal decision of each individual as to</p>
Page 243	Page 245
<p>1 not getting anything right now, if something</p> <p>2 pops up, you have anything right yet?</p> <p>3 SECRETARY: Nobody has indicated they wish</p> <p>4 to speak.</p> <p>5 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay. Well, if something</p> <p>6 pops up during Council comments, just let me</p> <p>7 know. Okay?</p> <p>8 SECRETARY: Sure.</p> <p>9 MS. PRICE: President Callahan?</p> <p>10 MR. CALLAHAN: Yes, Ms. Price.</p> <p>11 MS. PRICE: I would like to address that</p> <p>12 because once Council has started making their</p> <p>13 comments, I don't really feel it's appropriate</p> <p>14 for the public to comment after us because</p> <p>15 sometimes they might say something that we want</p> <p>16 to address.</p> <p>17 So this is their time. If nobody is on at</p> <p>18 this point, once Council has moved on to the</p> <p>19 next agenda item, we should probably still</p> <p>20 stick with that. And there's an opportunity</p> <p>21 right now for them to comment. But once we've</p>	<p>1 whether or not to use blackout curtains. And</p> <p>2 yet Londoners did not whine about this loss of</p> <p>3 their personal liberty. They were saving</p> <p>4 lives, their own and those of their neighbors.</p> <p>5 After a compelling presentation by our</p> <p>6 county health officer at this Council's last</p> <p>7 meeting concerning a dire situation of our</p> <p>8 local hospital and medical providers, the COVID</p> <p>9 caseload in this county and the strong</p> <p>10 recommendation to return to indoor masking to</p> <p>11 abate this crisis, all this Council could do is</p> <p>12 to make a statement about how it was up to each</p> <p>13 individual.</p> <p>14 Our weak response showed a real disregard</p> <p>15 for the health of our constituents and for life</p> <p>16 itself.</p> <p>17 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Mr. Leshar.</p> <p>18 Mr. Pack.</p> <p>19 MR. PACK: -- Callahan.</p> <p>20 MR. CALLAHAN: Yup.</p> <p>21 MR. PACK: The pandemic has certainly</p>

Page 246

1 impacted each of us in different ways, as  
 2 evident even here tonight.  
 3 Mental health is a stress. Sometimes can  
 4 get to -- can be overwhelming.  
 5 I have asked the COVID response team to  
 6 take a look at working with some of our  
 7 community partners and trying to just see how  
 8 we could mitigate some of the mental health  
 9 issues, especially those young people, those  
 10 students in our schools.  
 11 I think you turn on the TV at any point of  
 12 the day, and before the telecast is over,  
 13 you'll hear a story regarding mental illness.  
 14 And it is very apparent that the pandemic,  
 15 the isolation is being felt by our young  
 16 people. They are feeling it, just like we do.  
 17 They feel the stress and the anxiety just like  
 18 we do.  
 19 And I think that having a small group that  
 20 can work with the schools and For All Seasons  
 21 and some other partners in the community could

Page 247

1 maybe help stem some of the deep emotional  
 2 feelings that some of our young people have.  
 3 I was even happy to hear that there's a  
 4 House bill that has been introduced, House Bill  
 5 118, that would allow, if passed, that would  
 6 allow students to even take a mental health day  
 7 in school and not have that day counted against  
 8 them.  
 9 So even some persons in our legislature in  
 10 Annapolis, and I certainly hope our local  
 11 delegation takes a look at that House Bill 118  
 12 and hopefully see that hopefully they can  
 13 support it, because I know I certainly will  
 14 support it.  
 15 And I think that allowing students to take  
 16 care of their mental health is just as  
 17 important as students staying home to take care  
 18 of their physical health when it comes to being  
 19 sick with COVID and other disease and injuries.  
 20 So with that, I just wanted to highlight  
 21 the crucial importance of good mental health.

Page 248

1 I know we've heard from our mental health  
 2 providers throughout this term. And I know  
 3 that they have been working right along with  
 4 Dr. Maguire.  
 5 I'm not saying we aren't looking at mental  
 6 health. I'm not saying that at all.  
 7 I just would like to see if we can work  
 8 even closer as the days go on.  
 9 Look, COVID is going to be with us. Let's  
 10 face it. There are two points in time. There  
 11 was a point in time before COVID. Now there's  
 12 a point in time with COVID. I really don't  
 13 think there's going to be a point in time when  
 14 we're not going to have COVID somewhere within  
 15 the four corners of this country.  
 16 Even Dr. Maguire mentioned before where  
 17 we're approaching an endemic, which means that  
 18 the presence of that is with you in your  
 19 day-to-day society.  
 20 So we're going to have this with us. I  
 21 think trying to work together to address the

Page 249

1 mental health of our young people is equally as  
 2 importation.  
 3 We heard about the CAC today and what  
 4 they're doing. We heard about the Drug  
 5 Trafficking Prevention Task Force and what  
 6 they're doing. Let's get a big shout out to  
 7 those providers in the community that works  
 8 also dealing with mental health, and especially  
 9 that of our young people.  
 10 So that's all I have to say. Thanks.  
 11 MR. CALLAHAN: Thank you, Mr. Pack. Well  
 12 said, well said.  
 13 So Mr. Divilio.  
 14 MR. DIVILIO: Well, I got a lot. So I'll  
 15 start with I don't think a week has gone by  
 16 since I've been elected that I haven't received  
 17 a phone call about a Planning and Zoning issue.  
 18 And boy, if they all seemed to revolve around  
 19 septic systems. Somebody wants to build  
 20 something, and there's a septic issue.  
 21 And what do I do? I call over to Planning

Page 250

1 and Zoning or I call over to Environmental  
 2 Health and I get the answers and I help explain  
 3 it to the customer. I give them the  
 4 recommendations of the individuals in this  
 5 community who can solve that problem, they get  
 6 it fixed, and they move on.  
 7 I don't quite see a big difference between  
 8 that phone call that we regularly all get and  
 9 what is going on in Lakeside, other than it's  
 10 some people who are pretty upset that there  
 11 might be more people moving over here.  
 12 And I'm not one of those. I don't think  
 13 that that's quite our decision to make, to be  
 14 honest.  
 15 I think it's our decision to make sure  
 16 that this is a safe and healthy environment for  
 17 people to live. And I'll make sure that they  
 18 have the best technology in there for those  
 19 families when they move in.  
 20 On a second note, regarding Mr. Leshner's  
 21 comments about us doing nothing last month or

Page 251

1 at the last meeting as far as public safety and  
 2 COVID, that disappoints me because I think we  
 3 are. And I think all of us have a different  
 4 role to play in that.  
 5 My father taught us many times to think  
 6 outside the box to make sure you're solving the  
 7 problem by looking at all the different angles  
 8 and perspectives that are out there.  
 9 And there's a lot of different people in  
 10 this community. And a mask is not going to  
 11 keep them all safe. You can wear a mask all  
 12 day long and still get it. And that's why  
 13 there's a vaccine that's out there.  
 14 I wish to God there was a vaccine for  
 15 Lymes (sic.) disease and I'd get that right now  
 16 because I live back in the woods. And I'm very  
 17 proud of vaccines. I think medicine works.  
 18 So when I see a sign that goes up in a  
 19 neighboring county that says masks required  
 20 regardless of vaccine status, that's one less  
 21 person who is going to get vaccinated because

Page 252

1 they've got to wear the mask. They don't care.  
 2 That's a roadblock. That's a mental stop for  
 3 individuals when they see that and they think  
 4 I'll just wait. And then it gets put off. And  
 5 I don't like that.  
 6 I like to approach this project, problem  
 7 from all the different perspectives. And I  
 8 think that there is public choice. I think  
 9 when you go into government buildings right now  
 10 in Talbot County, you have to have a mask on.  
 11 When you go into schools, you have to have a  
 12 mask on. When you're going into places of  
 13 health where people congregate, you have to  
 14 have a mask on.  
 15 For the rest of us, it's our decision  
 16 whether or not to go into Acme or go into  
 17 Lowe's with a mask on and how far away to stay  
 18 from people. And we can do that. And we're  
 19 doing everything in our power and spending a  
 20 ton of money giving vaccines out and giving  
 21 masks out to anyone who wants one.

Page 253

1 And I think that if we are going to solve  
 2 any kinds of problems, it's going to take all  
 3 five of us working together to make our own  
 4 constituents happy, and then all of Talbot  
 5 County will be a happy, safe place to live,  
 6 because we are five very different people from  
 7 very different backgrounds who all chose this  
 8 place to live and this Council to run for.  
 9 And I'm very proud of that. And I like  
 10 each and every single one of you. And I  
 11 appreciate each and every one of you.  
 12 I recently read an article in a business  
 13 magazine about a board and how important it is  
 14 for the president of that company to be able to  
 15 call any member of that board to get an answer  
 16 and that they all be resources to their both  
 17 the CEO, CFO, COO. And that's what it takes  
 18 when you have a diversified board.  
 19 I recognize politics is not like that.  
 20 And we all have something that we want and that  
 21 we're going to try to step over somebody else

Page 254

1 to get it if they're not in our favor.  
 2 I don't see that with us. I think we've  
 3 all worked really well together, and I've  
 4 enjoyed it. And I have enjoyed this time, as  
 5 difficult as it's been, including this meeting.  
 6 And I think the public does know we care  
 7 for the vast majority. There will always be a  
 8 few who don't and who disagree with us. And I  
 9 don't really mind that because I got you guys  
 10 and you got me.  
 11 Thank you.  
 12 MR. CALLAHAN: Well said.  
 13 Very -- just a comment on some of the  
 14 comments here with Council.  
 15 I'm proud, too, of all five of us. What a  
 16 tough night on all of us. But we're leaders.  
 17 That's what we are. We're here to lead this  
 18 community and this county. And a lot of people  
 19 rely on us.  
 20 And we are, we are very different, all of  
 21 us. And that's why we're in these seats.

Page 255

1 And we are very -- I'm blessed that we are  
 2 here leading.  
 3 You take what's happened in Baltimore this  
 4 week. That puts a lot of things in perspective  
 5 quick. I mean quick, and it can happen quick.  
 6 So I want to make sure that Council  
 7 understands that we're here to be positive role  
 8 models in Talbot County. We're positive  
 9 people. We lead. We don't -- we agree to  
 10 disagree. But at the end of the day, I think  
 11 we do come together. And it's very, very  
 12 important that people see the very positive  
 13 notes of all of us. Okay.  
 14 And this pandemic in the last couple of  
 15 years, people have had some mental problems and  
 16 physical problems and deaths. And it's very  
 17 sad.  
 18 But like Mr. Divilio said, there's a time  
 19 where it's not going anywhere. Common cold has  
 20 been here for many, many years. The flu has  
 21 been here for many years. So we're going to

Page 256

1 have to start dealing with it. And so is  
 2 COVID.  
 3 So all we can do is support each other,  
 4 support the community, look after their safety.  
 5 And at the same time, we've got to be able to  
 6 have people make their own choices, too.  
 7 That's sometimes what we have to do.  
 8 But I'm proud of Council tonight.  
 9 I'm proud of staff. Okay.  
 10 Staff looks up to us. Okay. Council, I  
 11 want you to understand when we get in the heat  
 12 of the moment and we're doing things, keep in  
 13 mind we have Council or staff that sometimes  
 14 might get uncomfortable. Okay. So you take  
 15 that stuff to heart that we're making decisions  
 16 and we're telling this and we're telling that.  
 17 I'm very proud of you tonight because I  
 18 can tell you one thing. When we took a break  
 19 and we all come back and we started toning  
 20 things down and the public started talking,  
 21 that's what it's about. Notice what happened

Page 257

1 towards the end of our meeting. It calmed  
 2 down. People were communicating. And it  
 3 started to take another direction. Keep that  
 4 in mind.  
 5 That's my whole point tonight to try to  
 6 get everybody at the table, get it all, all  
 7 these facts and figures and numbers and all  
 8 this stuff, okay. All we want to do is just  
 9 sit at the table and get it right. That's all  
 10 we want to do. We just want to get it right.  
 11 And I don't see any harm in that.  
 12 And I'm proud of Council because I felt  
 13 that towards the end of this meeting, that we  
 14 all come together. And look, we're going to  
 15 have our moments. We always do. But I just  
 16 want to let you know that I'm proud and I want  
 17 you to look back on this meeting and it come  
 18 around. And it come around because we were  
 19 communicating with the public and communicating  
 20 with other elected officials and people that  
 21 make a difference in this conversation. That's

Page 258

1 what it's about, bringing people together.  
 2 So I'm proud of everybody. I know it's  
 3 been a long night. So Mr. Leshner, can you  
 4 bring us home.  
 5 MR. LESHER: The County Council's next  
 6 meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 8th,  
 7 beginning at six o'clock p.m. The Council will  
 8 be convening in open session at three o'clock  
 9 p.m. for a work session with county staff,  
 10 Sheriff Gamble and staff, representatives from  
 11 Easton, Oxford, and St. Michaels and police  
 12 chiefs on House Bill 670, Maryland Police  
 13 Accountability Act of 2021.  
 14 And then adjourning into closed session to  
 15 discuss real estate, legal, and personnel  
 16 matters, as listed on the statement for closing  
 17 that meeting.  
 18 On Tuesday, February 1st, at five o'clock  
 19 p.m., the County Council will be holding their  
 20 quarterly meeting with elected officials from  
 21 Easton, Oxford, Queen Anne's, St. Michaels,

Page 259

1 and Trappe.  
 2 On Thursday, February 3rd, at 5:30 p.m.,  
 3 the County Council will be meeting with the  
 4 Board of Education. Please check the County  
 5 Council agenda for meeting locations.  
 6 Therefore, is there a motion to adjourn  
 7 the meeting and reconvene as noted?  
 8 MR. DIVILIO: So moved.  
 9 MR. CALLAHAN: Second?  
 10 We got a motion and second. Madam  
 11 Secretary.  
 12 SECRETARY: Mr. Callahan.  
 13 MR. CALLAHAN: Aye.  
 14 SECRETARY: Mr. Divilio.  
 15 MR. DIVILIO: Aye.  
 16 SECRETARY: Mr. Leshner.  
 17 MR. LESHER: Aye.  
 18 SECRETARY: Ms. Price. Ms. Price.  
 19 MS. PRICE: Aye.  
 20 SECRETARY: Mr. Pack.  
 21 MR. CALLAHAN: Okay, Council, thanks a

Page 260

1 lot.  
 2 Thank you, staff.  
 3 (Meeting concluded at: 10:07 p.m.)  
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Page 261

1 STATE OF MARYLAND  
 2 I, Diane Houlihan, a Notary Public in and  
 3 for the State of Maryland, County of Baltimore City,  
 4 do hereby certify that the within named Talbot  
 5 County Council Audio, personally appeared before me  
 6 at the time and place herein set according to law,  
 7 was interrogated by counsel.  
 8  
 9 I further certify that the examination was  
 10 recorded stenographically by me and then transcribed  
 11 from my stenographic notes to the within printed  
 12 matter by means of computer-assisted transcription  
 13 in a true and accurate manner.  
 14  
 15 I further certify that the stipulations  
 16 contained herein were entered into by counsel in my  
 17 presence.  
 18  
 19 I further certify that I am not of counsel  
 20 to any of the parties, not an employee of counsel,  
 21 nor related to any of the parties, nor in any way  
 interested in the outcome of this action.  
 AS WITNESS my hand Notarial Seal this 31st  
 day of January, 2022, via Zoom.  
  
 Diane Houlihan  
 Notary Public  
 My commission expires September 16, 2025

<b>&amp;</b>	211:12 216:9	<b>24</b> 43:17 201:19	192:15 193:7
<b>&amp;</b> 11:9,14 12:13 24:6	<b>18th</b> 3:21 44:15	<b>249</b> 201:16	198:6 201:9 204:4
<b>1</b>	<b>19</b> 5:12 67:14	<b>25</b> 1:7	207:17 210:11
<b>1</b> 67:21 68:1 238:1	<b>1940</b> 244:16	<b>25,000</b> 237:18	220:14 221:10,13
<b>1,089,000</b> 237:17	<b>1st</b> 258:18	<b>253</b> 42:7	<b>31st</b> 14:20 261:13
<b>1,114,000</b> 237:20	<b>2</b>	<b>25th</b> 3:17 4:1 6:20	<b>38</b> 42:9
<b>1,200</b> 56:2	<b>2</b> 67:17,17 71:14	<b>281</b> 67:6 69:12	<b>3rd</b> 259:2
<b>100</b> 80:2,8 90:11	71:14 85:1,1,3,3,6	70:11,13,17 71:12	<b>4</b>
105:20 167:14	85:6,11,12	72:4,5 73:3,7 74:7	<b>44</b> 67:14
170:20	<b>2,800</b> 117:15	75:17 76:4 83:19	<b>5</b>
<b>10:07</b> 260:3	<b>20</b> 84:17 96:17	84:2,20,21 87:13	<b>50</b> 146:11 215:20
<b>10th</b> 33:9 46:3	115:5 212:21	88:7,9 89:2,6,10	216:6
<b>11</b> 129:8,20	234:4	89:16,17 91:15	<b>50th</b> 52:21
132:20 138:7	<b>200</b> 146:11	97:3 98:20 99:9	<b>51</b> 222:13 225:6
<b>113</b> 127:12	<b>2002</b> 84:13 94:9	99:12 116:10	226:1
<b>114,000</b> 238:6	94:19 213:13	163:21 205:2	<b>513</b> 197:16
<b>118</b> 247:5,11	216:15	<b>2nd</b> 193:14	<b>52</b> 225:11
<b>12</b> 132:18 211:12	<b>2003</b> 197:13	<b>3</b>	<b>53</b> 45:4
<b>120</b> 167:21 168:3	213:18	<b>3,700</b> 75:2 117:15	<b>54</b> 67:13
168:20 170:16	<b>2004</b> 213:18	<b>3.1</b> 197:17	<b>540,000</b> 213:11
199:10 206:2	<b>2005</b> 84:11 94:16	<b>30</b> 16:12 93:16	<b>55</b> 67:14
210:18	213:18	<b>304</b> 67:13	<b>59</b> 67:15
<b>126</b> 94:8,15 95:3	<b>2007</b> 214:4	<b>308</b> 67:4 68:17	<b>5:30</b> 259:2
<b>127</b> 6:1	<b>2008</b> 214:5	73:2 74:6 81:14	<b>6</b>
<b>13</b> 132:18	<b>2010</b> 214:6,14	82:8 83:4,8,13	<b>600</b> 56:1
<b>1362</b> 261:15	<b>2013</b> 5:19 26:1	85:17 99:7,15	<b>600,000</b> 204:19
<b>14</b> 2:13 67:14	<b>2015</b> 55:21	108:9 111:1	<b>63</b> 234:10
132:19	<b>2017</b> 6:1	112:21 113:7	<b>65</b> 67:14
<b>14th</b> 122:5,10	<b>2019</b> 87:18	123:11 191:1,11	<b>670</b> 258:12
<b>15</b> 42:14 67:14	<b>2020</b> 5:20 41:7	193:2 217:17	<b>6:00</b> 1:7
81:1	42:3 68:7 72:5	218:19	<b>7</b>
<b>150</b> 126:17	<b>2021</b> 16:12 32:14	<b>311</b> 128:2,3 159:9	<b>7</b> 171:21
<b>16</b> 2:14 261:20	205:4 207:2	184:4 185:6,7,8	<b>8</b>
<b>162</b> 95:7	258:13	185:14	<b>83</b> 67:14
<b>17</b> 67:14	<b>2022</b> 1:7 4:20 6:13	<b>313</b> 73:20 74:3	<b>85</b> 67:14
<b>18</b> 37:18 145:15	6:21 33:9 232:7	89:4 117:21 118:7	<b>85,000</b> 236:2
149:15 150:4	261:13	161:3,4 162:4	<b>865</b> 67:16
151:8 153:7,18	<b>2025</b> 261:20	167:3 175:3,14	<b>8:30</b> 160:17
154:2,12 155:18	<b>2030</b> 68:7	178:6,6,17 179:6	<b>8th</b> 258:6
157:1 158:3	<b>21-08</b> 236:1	179:15,18 185:1	
163:10,11 207:16	<b>21-11</b> 237:12,15	186:9,11,18 187:2	
208:4,9,15,20	<b>22</b> 42:13	187:17 188:2	
	<b>23</b> 2:12	189:21 190:3,19	
		191:2 192:13,15	

<b>9</b>	<b>access</b> 21:5	<b>actual</b> 117:18	231:2
<b>9</b> 94:16	<b>accomplish</b> 69:9	138:14 193:14	<b>adults</b> 5:4 7:21
<b>9.5</b> 5:9	<b>accountability</b>	206:7	41:6 42:9 43:21
<b>90</b> 236:12	258:13	<b>add</b> 16:2 68:5	47:20 48:4,7,13
<b>911</b> 16:20	<b>accounting</b> 12:21	100:9 136:12	48:14,19,20 50:11
<b>94</b> 42:8	20:12	146:9 148:6,18	51:14 53:5,12
<b>a</b>	<b>accreditation</b> 32:9	152:17 156:16	55:13 56:1
<b>abandoning</b> 51:7	32:18 33:1	157:20 162:18	<b>advance</b> 130:5
51:8 215:17	<b>accredited</b> 32:10	233:21 236:4	134:13
<b>abate</b> 245:11	<b>accredits</b> 33:5	<b>added</b> 139:14	<b>advantage</b> 61:9
<b>ability</b> 74:13 77:7	<b>accurate</b> 261:7	145:16,17	<b>adversely</b> 95:4
78:11 81:6 197:11	<b>accused</b> 102:4	<b>adding</b> 139:19	<b>advertising</b>
199:13 227:17	<b>achieved</b> 32:17	<b>addition</b> 16:13	193:10
<b>able</b> 13:6 15:11	<b>acknowledge</b> 8:10	45:17 191:7,12	<b>advise</b> 106:4
26:18 28:9 39:5	9:4 10:9	<b>additional</b> 59:3	<b>advisory</b> 122:8,17
55:9 56:21 59:1	<b>acknowledged</b> 6:4	100:9,10 145:19	123:6,12 179:11
64:2 65:13 97:1	<b>acknowledgement</b>	145:21 153:4	180:12,16 189:8,9
99:17 119:19	134:5	190:14 210:3	192:16,19 194:18
146:3,9,12,20	<b>acknowledgment</b>	237:17 244:10	195:9,10,20
155:4,19 169:12	132:10 135:16	<b>additions</b> 3:18 4:2	<b>advocacy</b> 30:16
170:5,10 193:9	<b>acme</b> 252:16	<b>address</b> 29:12	32:1 33:4 34:16
199:17 206:3	<b>acquisition</b> 233:13	70:9 76:5,6	35:18 36:4,13
240:11 253:14	<b>acres</b> 67:16	180:20 181:5	37:13,19 38:6,11
256:5	<b>act</b> 7:18 90:5 93:9	243:11,16 248:21	38:16,20 39:15
<b>absent</b> 209:2	99:17 109:18	<b>addressed</b> 187:11	40:15 41:1,17
<b>absolutely</b> 35:3	145:7 147:8	<b>addressing</b> 71:2	43:11 44:5,13
60:2 69:18 75:14	218:20 258:13	<b>adequate</b> 18:4	46:5,14 59:20
76:4 91:7 131:7	<b>acted</b> 96:11 99:1	19:4,18,18 20:7,7	<b>advocate</b> 35:15
150:16 168:17	<b>action</b> 32:20 69:21	<b>adjourn</b> 259:6	37:21 41:12 42:8
203:19 228:13,15	70:1 81:16,21	<b>adjourning</b>	<b>advocating</b> 152:2
<b>abuse</b> 34:19,20	82:9,21 91:19	258:14	<b>affect</b> 73:8 95:4
35:4,4 36:12 38:5	92:8 112:17,19	<b>administration</b>	136:9
38:17 40:18 41:20	119:4 150:12	117:11	<b>affirmative</b> 73:15
46:13,14,19 47:9	193:11 202:10	<b>administrative</b>	135:8,16
47:11,16,19 48:6	206:17 207:6,7	38:10 128:7	<b>afternoon</b> 134:15
<b>abused</b> 36:2 129:9	217:15 261:12	<b>admit</b> 96:11	<b>agencies</b> 43:12
129:21 138:6	<b>actions</b> 5:16 8:5	<b>adopt</b> 151:2	<b>agency</b> 32:10
<b>abusive</b> 133:19	96:6 166:7 202:7	180:13	<b>agenda</b> 3:15,16,16
<b>accept</b> 50:9 84:7	<b>actively</b> 6:15	<b>adopted</b> 94:16	3:19,20 89:15
84:15 97:20	<b>activities</b> 19:14	<b>adopting</b> 141:10	115:3 119:14
<b>acceptable</b> 20:12	38:8 49:17	<b>adoption</b> 67:5	122:20 127:10
<b>accepted</b> 3:20 4:5	<b>activity</b> 58:15	72:5 128:6	151:20 155:16,17
84:4	<b>acts</b> 5:5	<b>adult</b> 49:9,13	243:19 244:1
		50:20 53:16 56:14	259:5

<p><b>ago</b> 18:13 27:10 29:4,16 35:1 46:16 51:5 60:19 84:18 89:10 96:17 98:18 113:18,21 132:19 187:5 228:21 234:5</p> <p><b>agree</b> 8:14 9:8 102:11 106:1 124:10,10 129:18 130:1 135:4 137:12 145:10 149:3 156:1 157:7 178:9 181:8 244:6 255:9</p> <p><b>agreement</b> 86:10 205:4 210:16 212:2,7 218:1</p> <p><b>agreements</b> 213:4</p> <p><b>agrees</b> 102:21 202:6 212:17</p> <p><b>agriculture</b> 233:9</p> <p><b>ahead</b> 2:3 13:18 13:19 22:5 31:4 74:5 81:11 91:5 95:21 119:8 120:4 120:17 148:7 159:8,9 160:16 161:19,20 175:4 194:12 195:3 196:9,11,13 203:20 210:15 211:7 212:14 221:13 244:8</p> <p><b>aid</b> 244:17</p> <p><b>ain't</b> 160:17,18</p> <p><b>alan</b> 201:3,6</p> <p><b>alcohol</b> 8:4</p> <p><b>allegations</b> 102:3 115:17,19,21 116:1 212:20</p> <p><b>allegiance</b> 3:11</p> <p><b>alliance</b> 33:3,8</p>	<p><b>allison</b> 47:13</p> <p><b>allocation</b> 205:3,5 205:6</p> <p><b>allow</b> 124:5 151:10,15 152:16 157:8 169:16,19 224:16,19 225:12 247:5,6</p> <p><b>allowed</b> 73:14,14 87:21 92:7 100:8 100:9 174:9</p> <p><b>allowing</b> 30:5 192:1 247:15</p> <p><b>allows</b> 186:13 204:17 223:15</p> <p><b>alter</b> 185:7,8,9</p> <p><b>alternative</b> 34:6</p> <p><b>amazing</b> 21:13,13 63:5 65:4 106:18 106:18</p> <p><b>ameliorate</b> 9:5</p> <p><b>amend</b> 67:6 68:4,8 94:9 128:4 161:5 175:16 185:9 193:7 221:13</p> <p><b>amended</b> 68:11 139:17 159:10,11 159:12 179:6,10 179:12,15,18,20 180:3,19 185:1 186:9,12 224:13</p> <p><b>amending</b> 202:19</p> <p><b>amendment</b> 72:20 84:15 95:6 138:18 138:20 139:13 140:12,15 142:1,2 142:6 152:6 162:2 162:3,3,9,17 163:16,18 166:18 167:18 168:12,12 168:18 174:21 175:6,11,19 176:5 176:7,10,12 177:2 177:10,16 178:3,3</p>	<p>178:7 179:6,15,19 180:14 181:17 182:1,9,11,14,17 182:20 183:4,6,14 183:18,19 184:10 184:16,18,20,21 185:8,19 186:1,4 186:6,10,15,20 187:2,8 193:15 201:8 204:7 206:14,15 207:14 207:21 209:14 218:7,11,14,16</p> <p><b>amendments</b> 106:21 147:2 159:3 163:7 180:2 181:5,6 185:20</p> <p><b>american</b> 237:16</p> <p><b>ammonium</b> 201:15</p> <p><b>amount</b> 237:17 239:4,7</p> <p><b>anderson</b> 122:15 193:4 194:21</p> <p><b>angles</b> 251:7</p> <p><b>animals</b> 49:4,5</p> <p><b>annapolis</b> 224:11 227:8 247:10</p> <p><b>anne's</b> 40:19 258:21</p> <p><b>anniversary</b> 53:1</p> <p><b>announcements</b> 242:6</p> <p><b>annual</b> 234:9</p> <p><b>answer</b> 13:8 211:14 233:16 253:15</p> <p><b>answering</b> 174:2 216:19</p> <p><b>answers</b> 250:2</p> <p><b>anti</b> 5:15</p> <p><b>anxiety</b> 246:17</p> <p><b>anybody</b> 7:7,11 49:1 76:9 96:7</p>	<p>129:9 132:20 148:10 188:1 194:11 219:4 233:18 242:18</p> <p><b>anybody's</b> 52:21 148:14</p> <p><b>anytime</b> 222:1</p> <p><b>apologize</b> 96:11 109:21 203:17</p> <p><b>apologizing</b> 96:5</p> <p><b>appalling</b> 8:16</p> <p><b>apparent</b> 246:14</p> <p><b>apparently</b> 76:21</p> <p><b>appeared</b> 261:3</p> <p><b>appearing</b> 204:2</p> <p><b>appears</b> 172:13 203:12</p> <p><b>applaud</b> 107:14</p> <p><b>applicable</b> 141:11 141:16 143:6,12 144:12 146:17</p> <p><b>application</b> 234:9</p> <p><b>apply</b> 49:18 50:16</p> <p><b>appointments</b> 231:2</p> <p><b>appreciate</b> 9:15 9:21 13:15 14:17 15:5 22:19 23:3 24:1,16 40:1 59:7 63:15 64:5 66:13 66:15 109:10,10 192:9 196:14 203:3 209:18 217:3 227:2,5 228:14 234:7 235:18 240:15 242:14 253:11</p> <p><b>appreciated</b> 13:6 44:17 66:12</p> <p><b>appreciation</b> 64:11</p> <p><b>approach</b> 18:17 215:2 252:6</p>
--	--	--	--

<b>approaching</b> 248:17	<b>asking</b> 69:11,14 69:20 71:7 90:15	14:15 15:5 16:1,6 16:9,12,15,16,18 16:21,21 17:1,3,5 17:7,16,17 18:6,9 18:10,17,19,21 19:3,19,19 20:11 20:17,19 21:12,19 22:10 24:2,8,10 66:17	237:2,4,6,8,10 239:15,17,19,21 240:2,3 259:13,15 259:17,19
<b>appropriate</b> 99:10 181:13 243:13	96:21 110:16 112:14 120:8 133:17 134:9 135:21 146:7 167:10 182:16 216:16	<b>auditors</b> 24:2 <b>august</b> 72:5 79:10 <b>authority</b> 72:7,13 84:6 85:20 87:5 87:12 88:8 91:8 95:11 113:7 141:15 143:11,18 144:3,10,16 198:7 198:11	<b>b</b>
<b>approval</b> 137:19 138:1,2 163:10 205:1 207:17 235:1 237:15 238:6	<b>asks</b> 36:7,9 136:4 <b>assembly</b> 222:8 <b>assessment</b> 19:1 19:13 <b>assets</b> 20:5 <b>assistance</b> 42:12 42:14 <b>assisted</b> 261:7 <b>associated</b> 67:10 <b>assume</b> 12:14 74:4 <b>assumes</b> 202:15 <b>assuming</b> 14:2 <b>assurance</b> 16:21 <b>athletes</b> 236:10 <b>athletic</b> 236:1 <b>attach</b> 179:15 <b>attempt</b> 94:18 170:18 173:10 <b>attend</b> 191:13 <b>attended</b> 44:18 <b>attending</b> 44:16 <b>attention</b> 20:15,17 30:1 88:10 92:4 198:18 <b>attorney</b> 36:8 83:17 88:18 90:1 91:21 92:14 116:9 117:4,5 129:1,21 131:3 132:21 133:17 134:9 <b>attorney's</b> 37:6 117:4 <b>attorneys</b> 118:20 <b>audio</b> 261:3 <b>audit</b> 11:7 12:12 12:19 13:7,14	<b>authorized</b> 204:14 <b>autonomy</b> 90:8 <b>available</b> 21:4 211:20 223:19 238:8 <b>average</b> 201:18 <b>avoid</b> 143:19 <b>award</b> 235:21 237:12,15 <b>aware</b> 26:14 132:11 134:7,11 134:17,20 135:2 136:16 <b>awareness</b> 5:17 26:13 48:7 <b>awesome</b> 66:17 <b>aye</b> 10:14,16,18,20 11:1 111:9,13,15 142:15,17,19,21 143:2 158:11,13 158:15,17,19 159:14,16,18,20 160:1 226:8,10,14 226:16 231:17,19 231:21 232:2,4 235:8,10,12,14,16	<b>back</b> 10:2 25:21 31:20,21 61:14 66:9 69:10 75:2 81:1 84:1,11,17 97:11,15 98:9 100:16 101:15 102:10 109:21 113:14 117:11,14 122:7,9,10 138:21 143:4 149:5 152:4 154:2 157:17 160:10 163:20 164:11 179:10 193:8,17 207:1 212:6,21 213:3,17 216:3,14 218:11 219:14 221:15 229:11 236:8 242:9 251:16 256:19 257:17 <b>background</b> 117:9 <b>backgrounds</b> 253:7 <b>backs</b> 200:6 <b>backwards</b> 244:2 <b>backyards</b> 54:16 <b>bad</b> 27:14,15 51:9 98:9 107:19 160:17,18 <b>balanced</b> 104:3 <b>baltimore</b> 2:9 255:3 261:2 <b>bank</b> 239:10 <b>bar</b> 78:5 <b>barely</b> 20:12 <b>barrier</b> 145:12 <b>based</b> 26:1 77:20 83:13 84:21 98:21 99:7 205:1 220:19
<b>approvals</b> 163:13 <b>approve</b> 7:14 72:14 88:9 89:5 179:17,19 231:8 231:11 <b>approved</b> 81:21 84:7,20 86:1 89:10 172:1 193:16 223:17 236:3,12 239:8 241:16 <b>approving</b> 242:3 <b>approximately</b> 56:1 <b>arbiter</b> 207:11 <b>arbitrary</b> 149:15 150:7 <b>area</b> 67:15 163:3 224:9 233:2,4,7 <b>areas</b> 20:6 45:8 59:10 67:17 68:1 233:1,5,10 234:3 <b>arena</b> 237:16 <b>argue</b> 88:4 <b>argument</b> 90:21 <b>arrangements</b> 217:4 <b>arrest</b> 25:21 26:5 <b>art</b> 33:19 34:1,7 <b>article</b> 253:12 <b>aside</b> 241:7 <b>asked</b> 51:2 98:19 100:2 110:18 113:8,14 124:2 188:14 246:5			

<b>basically</b> 152:14 167:12 173:8 192:17 210:12 211:10 223:19	<b>beyond</b> 168:16 214:5	<b>blue</b> 162:3 165:6,6 206:14	<b>broadness</b> 144:13
<b>basis</b> 204:17 210:9	<b>biased</b> 53:15	<b>bnr</b> 76:20 77:2 78:16 82:3 197:9 197:20 213:12	<b>brother</b> 90:17 198:15
<b>baskets</b> 60:19	<b>bid</b> 235:21 236:2 237:12,15	<b>board</b> 23:8 119:20 122:8,17 123:6,12 131:19 137:4,20 179:12 180:12,16 189:9 192:16,20 194:18 195:9,17 195:18,20 231:1,3 231:6 253:13,15 253:18 259:4	<b>brought</b> 5:11 144:19 223:14 224:7
<b>battle</b> 244:15	<b>bidder</b> 237:16	<b>boards</b> 195:17 231:13	<b>bud</b> 189:16
<b>bay</b> 201:7	<b>big</b> 61:13 64:16 90:16 104:15 198:15 223:5 249:6 250:7	<b>bodies</b> 123:14 181:7	<b>budget</b> 236:16
<b>bear</b> 221:8	<b>bigger</b> 107:5	<b>body</b> 14:21	<b>build</b> 48:3 103:6 200:4 205:9 206:1 211:12 212:14 249:19
<b>beauties</b> 47:21	<b>bill</b> 12:16,17 16:6 21:1 58:10 63:11 136:4,7 140:13 145:6 193:4 198:6 200:1 222:13,13 223:9,14,15 224:7 224:13 225:6,21 226:1 230:12 247:4,4,11 258:12	<b>bottom</b> 28:17 32:6	<b>building</b> 23:6 61:16 104:19,20 146:6 199:16 211:7 240:14
<b>becoming</b> 26:16	<b>billion</b> 5:9	<b>bought</b> 93:15,18	<b>buildings</b> 252:9
<b>bed</b> 119:18	<b>bills</b> 107:1	<b>box</b> 251:6	<b>built</b> 197:13
<b>befitting</b> 7:16	<b>biolac</b> 76:21 77:1 78:4 80:6 82:4 166:17 190:13 197:8 213:12	<b>boy</b> 249:18	<b>bulbs</b> 52:4
<b>began</b> 55:20	<b>birthday</b> 53:1	<b>boys</b> 7:20	<b>bully</b> 114:17,18
<b>beginning</b> 27:5 57:9 207:2 213:8 258:7	<b>bit</b> 13:3 16:18 27:10 32:5 33:14 102:17 107:5,6 132:7 134:12 137:9 144:13 149:11 156:14 194:4 196:5 212:4 225:7 227:14 228:18	<b>break</b> 256:18	<b>bullying</b> 114:19
<b>begs</b> 207:9	<b>blackout</b> 244:17 245:1	<b>bridge</b> 227:19	<b>bumps</b> 129:15
<b>begun</b> 45:14	<b>blatant</b> 173:10	<b>brief</b> 47:18 204:6 <b>briefly</b> 34:15	<b>burden</b> 145:12 148:17
<b>behalf</b> 204:2	<b>blend</b> 39:1	<b>bring</b> 20:14,17 54:4,21 89:19 114:3,21 115:8 144:18 156:16 171:18 172:3 174:13 201:20 229:16 258:4	<b>burdensome</b> 135:7 145:2 148:13
<b>belabor</b> 212:19 229:9	<b>blessed</b> 23:7 60:9 66:3 255:1	<b>bringing</b> 57:11 106:7 258:1	<b>business</b> 28:17 39:2 199:18 204:3 209:2 253:12
<b>believe</b> 48:18 61:18 75:1 85:8 87:18 100:5 121:20 123:20 127:5 177:5 192:21 193:9 224:3 225:1 228:19	<b>blessing</b> 87:13 90:12	<b>britain</b> 244:16	<b>businesses</b> 244:19
<b>believes</b> 94:20		<b>british</b> 244:16	<b>c</b>
<b>bell</b> 83:20,21			<b>cac</b> 34:18 38:8 39:19 41:4,19 43:12,16 54:3 55:11 58:13 61:3 61:9,14 62:1 249:3
<b>bermuda</b> 236:9			<b>call</b> 10:12 16:7 32:18 49:7 77:3 81:13,14 85:16 96:13 108:11 110:16 111:7 112:3,9,15 113:17
<b>best</b> 3:2 17:10,11 35:21 61:3 77:3,5 97:20 106:13,15 211:1 212:17 229:14 250:18			
<b>better</b> 3:1 41:21 47:5 70:14 77:3 97:12 127:5 139:21 164:5 197:18 230:1			

119:8 136:15	142:5,12,14,15	<b>called</b> 32:3 46:18	90:2,3 139:20
141:21 142:6	156:13 157:14	76:10,21 118:13	<b>caseload</b> 245:9
158:8 162:13	158:7,10,11 159:7	122:19 184:21	<b>cases</b> 43:8,13
203:11 208:13	159:11,13,14	213:10 219:10	62:21 147:3
226:6 228:19	160:3,7,9,13,15	<b>caller</b> 201:2,3	<b>caught</b> 26:15
231:14 235:5	161:1,11,16,18,19	203:7	<b>caution</b> 209:5
236:21 238:14	161:21 162:7	<b>callers</b> 187:21	<b>cell</b> 29:19,19 30:2
239:13 249:17,21	173:18,21 176:6	<b>calling</b> 65:17	<b>center</b> 30:16 32:1
250:1,8 253:15	177:4,11,17 178:9	112:13,14	34:17 37:13,19
<b>callahan</b> 1:14 2:3	178:12,15,19,21	<b>calmed</b> 257:1	38:6,11,16 39:15
3:9,12 4:11,13,15	179:14 180:4	<b>cancel</b> 153:20	40:15 41:1,17
7:1,5,9 10:5,13,14	181:8,15 182:3,5	156:7	43:11 44:5,13
11:4,15,18 13:18	183:21 184:2,6,8	<b>cap</b> 190:10	46:5,15 47:15
14:1 15:15,19	184:14 185:4,10	<b>capable</b> 165:3	54:13 59:21 236:1
16:4 21:8 22:3,6	186:8 187:3,12,15	166:1	236:9 237:12
22:16,20 23:2,12	188:3,5,9,17	<b>capacity</b> 204:12	<b>centers</b> 33:5 36:4
23:14,17,21 24:14	189:1,5,13,16,18	204:16 206:8	36:14 38:21
24:18,20 25:3,6,9	190:18 191:5,17	<b>capital</b> 68:5 94:11	<b>cents</b> 244:5
25:12 27:9 28:3,8	192:2,5,9 193:18	204:18	<b>ceo</b> 253:17
30:7,13,20 31:1,2	194:20 195:2,5	<b>car</b> 50:9	<b>certain</b> 67:8 68:5
31:8,19 46:6 60:6	196:2,13,18	<b>care</b> 9:5 21:16	128:5 147:3
60:13,14 62:15	200:10,20 201:1	36:1 42:14 45:11	150:12
66:1,12,15,18	203:2,6,13,16,19	50:7,20 53:5	<b>certainly</b> 55:8
68:12 81:8,10	204:1 209:8,17	54:15 119:2 164:5	66:13 75:12 89:21
83:10 86:16 93:21	210:6,8 217:2,13	247:16,17 252:1	130:6,12 133:3
96:2 98:14,15,17	219:8,13,19,21	254:6	144:9 145:6 147:7
100:21 108:8	220:5,8,13,17	<b>career</b> 9:20	173:13,14 245:21
109:5,8,14,17	221:8,21 222:7,12	<b>caregiver</b> 35:11	247:10,13
110:2,14,18 111:2	222:17 223:1,6,10	<b>caregivers</b> 34:21	<b>certification</b>
111:5,8,9,18	225:3,19 226:4,7	48:8	189:21
112:4,19 113:13	226:8,17 228:6,16	<b>cares</b> 77:17	<b>certified</b> 190:2
114:3,8,20 115:2	230:9,14 231:10	<b>caretakers</b> 53:12	238:8
115:6,10,16,21	231:16,17 233:18	<b>caroline</b> 40:12,12	<b>certify</b> 261:3,5,8
116:11,14,17,19	234:20 235:4,7,8	40:18	261:10
117:1 118:15	236:20 237:1,2	<b>carried</b> 178:3	<b>cfo</b> 253:17
119:11,13 120:2	238:12,17 239:12	183:8 185:5 186:5	<b>chair</b> 3:19 4:4
120:10,19 122:4	239:14,15 240:4,6	186:6	81:14,15 85:16
124:2,10,19	240:10,20 241:5	<b>carries</b> 184:21	108:11 110:16
125:10,15,17	241:10,13 242:12	<b>carrots</b> 154:1,3,8	112:3,6 195:14
126:7,18 127:7,8	242:21 243:5,9,10	157:11	222:6
127:13,17,19	244:7,13 245:17	<b>carry</b> 183:20	<b>chair's</b> 112:7
128:11 136:11	245:19,20 249:11	184:1	<b>challenges</b> 42:3
137:5,8,16 138:1	254:12 259:9,12	<b>case</b> 26:5 28:12	209:6
138:17 141:6	259:13,21	34:14 39:3 43:5	

<p><b>challenging</b> 55:7 63:1</p> <p><b>chance</b> 4:1 14:9 181:6</p> <p><b>change</b> 13:5 39:6 51:21 70:3 84:8 108:3 118:6 130:18 135:4 139:5 141:13 149:17 150:20 151:12,13 152:10 152:19 153:11 154:7,14 155:6 157:2,6,8 158:4 162:14 185:13,14 185:17 208:7 213:6 221:11 227:11</p> <p><b>changed</b> 39:9 76:3 152:15 212:9 216:2,10,14</p> <p><b>changes</b> 5:11 39:4 39:7 45:8 91:18 94:12 130:12 133:21 141:7 150:16 155:3 213:5</p> <p><b>changing</b> 51:20 236:8</p> <p><b>chapel</b> 56:17</p> <p><b>charge</b> 117:10</p> <p><b>charter</b> 147:2</p> <p><b>chat</b> 242:20</p> <p><b>check</b> 50:5,6,6,17 259:4</p> <p><b>checking</b> 50:19</p> <p><b>chemicals</b> 237:20</p> <p><b>chesapeake</b> 201:7</p> <p><b>chiefs</b> 258:12</p> <p><b>child</b> 5:20 8:20 9:1 9:9 29:18 34:19 35:3,5,10,14 36:4 36:6,7,8,9,10,17 36:21 37:5,7 38:1</p>	<p>38:6 40:17 41:20 42:14 43:3,18 46:10,13,14,19,19 47:8,11,19 48:6,8 53:19 54:15 56:6 58:16</p> <p><b>child's</b> 9:2</p> <p><b>childhood</b> 49:1</p> <p><b>children</b> 9:17 10:3 26:16 30:2,3 36:1 41:6,10 42:8,13 42:14 43:20 45:11 47:20 48:2,8,12 48:18 49:4,11,17 49:21 50:6,15 51:1,2,10,12,13 52:9,19 53:10,14 55:13,19 56:2 63:8,9 65:6,19</p> <p><b>children's</b> 30:15 32:1 33:3,4,8 34:16 35:18 36:3 36:13 37:13,19 38:11,16,20 39:15 40:14 41:1,17 43:11 44:5,13 46:5,14 59:20</p> <p><b>chime</b> 16:2 64:10</p> <p><b>choice</b> 252:8</p> <p><b>choices</b> 256:6</p> <p><b>choose</b> 108:20 144:10</p> <p><b>chose</b> 127:3 253:7</p> <p><b>chris</b> 11:9,13,15 11:20 12:12,14 13:7,12,18 14:8 14:12 21:8 23:3 24:4</p> <p><b>christmas</b> 40:9</p> <p><b>chuck</b> 1:14 129:10</p> <p><b>chuckle</b> 87:15</p> <p><b>church</b> 229:18</p> <p><b>churches</b> 54:10</p>	<p><b>circle</b> 84:17</p> <p><b>circulated</b> 130:5</p> <p><b>circumstance</b> 153:11</p> <p><b>circumstances</b> 149:18 150:20 152:19 157:3,6,8 158:5 216:11</p> <p><b>cite</b> 141:11,15 143:6,11 144:12 144:16</p> <p><b>citing</b> 141:18</p> <p><b>citizen</b> 146:15 149:10</p> <p><b>citizens</b> 6:14 146:19</p> <p><b>city</b> 2:9,18,18 261:2</p> <p><b>claiming</b> 101:20</p> <p><b>clarification</b> 124:15</p> <p><b>clarify</b> 120:7 128:5 212:11</p> <p><b>clarity</b> 73:17 125:5 144:18 156:16 157:17</p> <p><b>clarke</b> 85:9 192:4 192:7,11</p> <p><b>classes</b> 57:14</p> <p><b>classified</b> 74:15</p> <p><b>classroom</b> 58:14</p> <p><b>classrooms</b> 49:21 58:12</p> <p><b>clean</b> 17:8 20:19 22:9 51:3,11,14 79:16 97:8 196:7</p> <p><b>cleanup</b> 130:13</p> <p><b>clear</b> 102:17 103:9 105:14 156:13 172:10 174:12 181:10 191:16 197:4 206:18</p> <p><b>clearly</b> 143:21</p>	<p><b>clients</b> 54:14</p> <p><b>clock</b> 146:6</p> <p><b>clog</b> 151:20</p> <p><b>close</b> 35:8 58:9 100:13 220:10 222:3,3 228:1</p> <p><b>closed</b> 220:14 222:5,6 258:14</p> <p><b>closer</b> 248:8</p> <p><b>closing</b> 23:18 258:16</p> <p><b>cochair</b> 7:3</p> <p><b>code</b> 144:6</p> <p><b>coerce</b> 5:4</p> <p><b>cold</b> 255:19</p> <p><b>colleagues</b> 13:8 65:3</p> <p><b>collected</b> 192:21</p> <p><b>collection</b> 17:6 42:1</p> <p><b>coloring</b> 58:18</p> <p><b>come</b> 18:12 31:21 38:21 47:3 69:16 87:17 90:10,17 91:2 94:4 98:9 102:4 147:5 154:2 160:10 168:21,21 174:3 194:8 195:3 221:15 227:20 255:11 256:19 257:14,17,18</p> <p><b>comes</b> 61:7 80:3 232:19 247:18</p> <p><b>coming</b> 59:20 80:1 80:3,5 97:18,19 102:2 106:12 117:21 134:14 149:5 196:20 218:5 229:10 241:6</p> <p><b>comment</b> 7:12 73:2 75:3 100:6,9 100:10 150:19 176:5 179:12</p>
--	--	---	---

181:19 194:19 220:21 221:2,18 222:3 242:17 243:14,21 254:13 <b>comments</b> 16:2 21:7 25:5,16 75:2 89:21 117:12,15 117:15 128:11,14 161:12 204:5 209:14 243:6,13 244:10 250:21 254:14 <b>commercial</b> 5:5 174:8 <b>commission</b> 68:17 69:11,12 70:12,20 71:4,16,21 72:3 72:12 73:16 74:11 75:16,19 82:11,14 82:21 83:3,9 85:19 87:4,7 88:7 88:13,20 91:18,21 92:2,10,12,16 97:11 98:19 99:11 99:13 100:17 101:6 102:14 105:18 106:2 113:2,4,6 121:5 121:12,12,16 122:3,7 123:9,19 124:7 125:12 126:2 163:20 167:1,4 175:15 177:3 179:11 180:17 183:2 189:7,21 191:10 192:13,17 193:8 193:21 194:17 195:8,19 197:2 209:1 218:12 261:20 <b>commission's</b> 68:19 73:13 112:21	<b>commissioners</b> 188:12 <b>commissions</b> 106:8 <b>commitment</b> 204:9 <b>committed</b> 8:5 <b>committee</b> 224:12 231:1 <b>committees</b> 195:15 <b>common</b> 137:8,9 255:19 <b>communicate</b> 36:18 227:17 <b>communicating</b> 257:2,19,19 <b>communication</b> 19:14 103:18 140:1 200:16 211:15 227:20 <b>community</b> 8:18 9:16 40:2,8 41:5 41:10,15 44:11,21 47:11 48:4,7 53:13,18 54:6,8 54:11 55:1,13 58:3,5 67:19 68:1 116:20 236:1,9 237:12 246:7,21 249:7 250:5 251:10 254:18 256:4 <b>comp</b> 69:13 192:14,18 201:21 202:15 <b>company</b> 11:9,14 12:13 24:6 253:14 <b>comparing</b> 78:20 <b>compassion</b> 65:6 65:14 <b>compassionate</b> 62:6	<b>compelling</b> 202:1 245:5 <b>complete</b> 16:11 17:4,6 33:10 43:17 91:8 149:1 <b>completed</b> 16:20 <b>completely</b> 88:18 93:7 100:4 181:16 <b>completing</b> 17:2 18:14 43:5 <b>completion</b> 237:21 <b>compliance</b> 57:5 79:5,7,8,9,9,10,11 80:8,10,15 81:18 81:20 207:3 <b>compliant</b> 79:21 <b>complicate</b> 209:7 <b>component</b> 77:12 <b>components</b> 19:11 19:16 <b>comport</b> 70:4 <b>comprehensive</b> 67:7 69:17 70:2,4 70:5 71:5,18 84:5 90:8,12 91:3,9 92:6,14 126:11 161:6 163:4 190:4 213:14 233:8 <b>compromise</b> 138:16 210:12 <b>computer</b> 261:7 <b>concern</b> 144:21 190:13 <b>concerned</b> 26:10 172:8 <b>concerning</b> 149:19 150:21 151:6 153:16 156:20 158:1 199:4 245:7 <b>concerns</b> 21:3 190:7,8 <b>concluded</b> 19:17 20:6 260:3	<b>conclusion</b> 17:7 214:11 <b>condensed</b> 14:19 15:1 <b>condition</b> 201:14 <b>conditions</b> 8:2 190:11 214:4 <b>condolences</b> 2:17 <b>conduct</b> 128:9 <b>conducted</b> 42:9,10 56:4 <b>conducting</b> 44:9 <b>conference</b> 54:4 <b>confidentiality</b> 64:17 <b>confirm</b> 214:14 244:18 <b>confirmed</b> 236:15 <b>confused</b> 69:19 70:8 <b>confuses</b> 75:14 <b>confusing</b> 71:1 <b>confusion</b> 101:18 <b>congratulations</b> 22:7 23:1 66:16 <b>congregate</b> 252:13 <b>connect</b> 10:1 64:3 87:12 166:12 168:3,20 170:4,10 170:20 171:19 173:8 174:9 198:13 204:18 208:4 210:10 211:11 216:17 <b>connected</b> 72:7 163:9 167:5 198:16 202:21 207:16 <b>connecting</b> 80:21 81:3,4 167:14,21 214:20 <b>connection</b> 12:9 28:20 161:7 164:3 166:3,20 169:19
---	---	--	--

170:6 171:11 172:14 175:21 190:14 199:12 204:3,19 205:8 <b>connections</b> 40:2 77:8 117:19 162:19 166:4 169:5,8,16,20 170:12,15 172:16 173:6,7 174:4,5 205:14 206:6 208:3,5 212:16 <b>consent</b> 3:20 4:5 166:7 206:17 <b>conservancy</b> 232:17,20 233:11 <b>consider</b> 108:2 117:20 146:10 150:7 155:4 176:11 202:18 212:3 <b>consideration</b> 230:21 234:7 <b>considered</b> 72:11 <b>consistent</b> 208:18 233:7 <b>consistently</b> 6:6 <b>consisting</b> 67:16 <b>constituents</b> 245:15 253:4 <b>constitutes</b> 157:7 <b>construct</b> 205:10 206:3,3,10 209:1 211:19 <b>constructed</b> 205:9 205:20 207:15 <b>construction</b> 67:19 68:3 202:12 205:15,17 208:11 209:6 211:17,17 214:1 215:12 216:1 <b>consulting</b> 54:19	<b>contact</b> 21:2,4 28:4 127:14 <b>contacted</b> 139:21 <b>contained</b> 261:9 <b>context</b> 51:3 172:20 <b>contingency</b> 238:6 238:8 <b>continue</b> 45:11 50:2 55:12 57:15 58:2 59:4 61:18 87:21 97:7 176:3 190:16 <b>continued</b> 21:11 216:21 234:13 <b>continuing</b> 234:8 234:14 <b>contrary</b> 92:9 205:18 <b>control</b> 19:9,11,13 19:14 94:3 <b>controlling</b> 169:20 <b>controls</b> 17:21 19:2,6,9 169:15 <b>convening</b> 258:8 <b>conversation</b> 171:15 216:20 257:21 <b>conversations</b> 73:6 74:20 <b>coo</b> 253:17 <b>cooperation</b> 18:1 <b>coordinate</b> 32:3 <b>coordinates</b> 38:7 <b>coordinator</b> 38:7 43:16 46:8 <b>copied</b> 129:5 134:19 135:14 138:9 139:8,16,18 140:14 141:3 <b>copy</b> 137:18 138:11,13 139:2,4 140:20	<b>corey</b> 1:17 60:12 <b>corners</b> 32:6 248:15 <b>correct</b> 35:3 86:7 87:10 88:18 98:10 128:9 138:20 142:11 181:15,15 186:8,21 219:16 220:11,12 239:2 <b>corrections</b> 3:18 4:3 <b>corrective</b> 32:20 <b>correctly</b> 28:16 <b>cost</b> 32:12 54:9 59:2 138:4 216:1 237:18 238:7,9 <b>council</b> 106:5,6 <b>council</b> 1:1,4,13 2:4 3:13,16 4:1 6:11 7:11 8:9 10:6 11:5 21:8,9 22:4 24:15 25:14 27:18 27:20 30:8 31:20 32:9 33:1 35:1 39:20 44:16 58:20 59:11,19 60:12 66:8,21 67:1 72:6 74:10 75:4 82:8 82:15,17 83:1 84:10 85:2,21 90:4,10 92:12 93:19 94:8,16 105:21 108:10 110:15 112:18 120:9 121:7 124:3 125:3 126:10 127:21 128:4,11 129:1,4,11,13,18 130:8,14,16,21 131:3,6,10 132:1 132:6,11,18 133:8 133:16,17 134:2,6 134:8,10,14,16,19 135:9,12,20 137:3	138:13 139:8,15 139:18 140:7,14 141:6,21 143:10 143:18 144:4,6 145:5 148:12 151:20 152:21 153:6,17 155:21 157:3 158:5 159:7 160:19 184:9,15 187:6,15 189:20 191:1,3,8,9 193:16 197:1 198:14 200:6,13 201:9 204:1 207:19,20 214:10 215:1 216:13 223:14 224:21 225:3 227:14 232:19,21 234:5 234:17 237:15 241:12 242:3,6,7 242:10,14 243:6 243:12,18 244:2 245:11 253:8 254:14 255:6 256:8,10,13 257:12 258:7,19 259:3,5,21 261:3 <b>council's</b> 84:14 90:16 99:19 105:19 141:14 144:2 205:1 206:14 230:21 234:7 238:5 245:6 258:5 <b>councils</b> 131:21 <b>counsel</b> 261:4,9,10 261:11 <b>counted</b> 247:7 <b>counterbalance</b> 154:11 <b>counties</b> 27:7 40:19 54:20 223:21 239:4
--	---	--	---

<p><b>country</b> 29:3 33:5 248:15</p> <p><b>county</b> 1:1,1 5:21 6:11,12,14,20 16:13 22:9 28:20 29:4 30:14 32:1 32:16 34:16 37:11 37:20 39:20 40:12 44:4 53:21 55:21 56:6,7,10,11 57:2 57:3 58:20 59:5 61:4 66:5 67:6 70:7 72:6 74:10 82:2,8 83:16 84:10 85:4 88:17 90:10 92:11 93:2 93:19 94:5,13 116:9 117:4 126:10 128:4 129:1,5,21 131:2 132:7,21 134:9 138:10 139:16,19 140:9,10 141:10 145:5 151:6,7 153:16 156:20,21 158:1,2 161:5 185:15 197:15 198:14 200:6 202:3,19 216:13 222:13 223:20 224:9 226:2 229:13 230:15,20 232:19 233:2 234:12 242:12 245:6,9 251:19 252:10 253:5 254:18 255:8 258:5,9,19 259:3 259:4 261:2,3</p> <p><b>county's</b> 12:19 70:5 84:5 94:18 201:21 202:14 213:20</p>	<p><b>couple</b> 29:16 41:8 42:1 64:1 86:7 101:19 106:7 114:9,15 128:12 132:15 164:20 179:2 190:20 194:9 198:20,21 204:6 255:14</p> <p><b>course</b> 28:20 164:8 170:9 216:9</p> <p><b>court</b> 37:7 105:16</p> <p><b>courtesy</b> 110:19</p> <p><b>courthouse</b> 143:21</p> <p><b>courts</b> 99:2</p> <p><b>cover</b> 238:7,9</p> <p><b>covered</b> 164:8</p> <p><b>covid</b> 5:12 63:6 209:2 245:8 246:5 247:19 248:9,11 248:12,14 251:2 256:2</p> <p><b>cps</b> 38:2</p> <p><b>created</b> 26:11 36:14 171:8</p> <p><b>creates</b> 145:11</p> <p><b>creating</b> 144:6</p> <p><b>creek</b> 78:9 164:6 190:9,11 202:2 204:15</p> <p><b>crime</b> 6:18 39:16</p> <p><b>crimes</b> 9:6 10:1</p> <p><b>criminal</b> 5:8 7:18 61:6</p> <p><b>crisis</b> 245:11</p> <p><b>critical</b> 37:14</p> <p><b>crossed</b> 43:13 58:7</p> <p><b>crosswell</b> 214:8</p> <p><b>crucial</b> 247:21</p> <p><b>cry</b> 2:11</p> <p><b>cumbersome</b> 134:12</p> <p><b>curious</b> 180:5</p>	<p><b>current</b> 61:17 168:4 169:12 170:2 172:9 201:13 216:2</p> <p><b>currently</b> 37:17 43:4 46:2 223:18 234:11</p> <p><b>curriculum</b> 57:7</p> <p><b>curtains</b> 245:1</p> <p><b>customer</b> 250:3</p> <p><b>cut</b> 161:9</p> <p><b>cycle</b> 14:15 15:5 20:4 24:11 32:17 32:21</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>d</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>d</b> 58:19</p> <p><b>danger</b> 9:10 35:2 51:6,7</p> <p><b>data</b> 17:6 41:21 117:13</p> <p><b>date</b> 18:10 42:11 45:5,7 147:16 193:10,14 216:15</p> <p><b>dates</b> 214:13,15</p> <p><b>david</b> 233:16,20</p> <p><b>davis</b> 12:18 14:9 14:11 24:5</p> <p><b>day</b> 6:20 29:6 46:15 105:21 108:21 148:5 155:20 206:20 246:12 247:6,7 248:19,19 251:12 255:10 261:13</p> <p><b>days</b> 130:5,9 145:21 225:16 248:8</p> <p><b>de</b> 8:5</p> <p><b>deadline</b> 14:20 15:7</p> <p><b>deal</b> 104:16 184:11 212:9</p> <p><b>dealing</b> 94:5 174:10 227:16</p>	<p>249:8 256:1</p> <p><b>dealt</b> 184:17</p> <p><b>dear</b> 229:4</p> <p><b>deaths</b> 255:16</p> <p><b>debate</b> 207:12</p> <p><b>debated</b> 213:17</p> <p><b>debt</b> 204:20</p> <p><b>decade</b> 202:17</p> <p><b>december</b> 14:20 42:6 87:17,18 89:7 113:12 122:5 122:10</p> <p><b>decent</b> 138:15</p> <p><b>deception</b> 5:2</p> <p><b>decide</b> 83:12 170:4</p> <p><b>decided</b> 214:17 218:18 242:6</p> <p><b>deciding</b> 181:4</p> <p><b>decision</b> 75:6,10 77:20 82:15 83:9 89:1,6,7 106:1 112:8 122:3 124:8 126:11 170:7 175:15 199:9 234:6 244:21 250:13,15 252:15</p> <p><b>decisions</b> 86:5 104:4 256:15</p> <p><b>declare</b> 6:12</p> <p><b>dedicated</b> 2:15</p> <p><b>deduced</b> 187:4</p> <p><b>deemed</b> 199:1</p> <p><b>deep</b> 9:2 12:20 247:1</p> <p><b>deer</b> 222:13 223:16,17 224:17 226:2,20 227:1 228:18,21 229:3,7 229:11 230:2</p> <p><b>defend</b> 105:12</p> <p><b>defer</b> 69:3 110:21 111:6 121:8,10,19 125:21 180:10,14</p>
--	--	--	--

<p>217:14 218:19 219:15,20 220:1,4 <b>defers</b> 206:20 <b>define</b> 122:1 <b>defines</b> 153:13 <b>definitely</b> 22:2 162:12 200:15 239:10 <b>degree</b> 83:18 <b>degrees</b> 85:5 <b>delay</b> 94:11 99:21 110:13 206:1 <b>delayed</b> 16:16 <b>delays</b> 13:10 209:3 <b>delegate</b> 44:18 222:15,19 223:4,5 223:8,13 225:5 227:4 228:13 229:4,7 230:5 <b>delegates</b> 227:10 <b>delegation</b> 247:11 <b>delete</b> 163:6 208:13 <b>deleted</b> 163:16 208:7 <b>deletions</b> 3:18 4:3 <b>delist</b> 94:18 <b>deliver</b> 54:9 59:1 <b>delivered</b> 54:13 56:1 57:19 <b>delivery</b> 39:8 55:9 <b>demonstration</b> 157:2 158:4 224:10 <b>department</b> 2:18 30:15 32:16 33:16 37:20 40:3,13 46:17 56:10 58:21 60:21 79:6 120:15 139:20 238:2 <b>department's</b> 46:7 <b>descent</b> 225:15 <b>described</b> 67:13 225:8</p>	<p><b>describes</b> 213:15 <b>description</b> 68:9 <b>deserves</b> 91:16 <b>deshields</b> 58:11 <b>design</b> 19:2 202:12 <b>designating</b> 202:2 <b>designed</b> 148:21 164:9 <b>desire</b> 205:13 207:21 213:9 <b>desires</b> 94:20 207:19 <b>detail</b> 236:4 <b>details</b> 18:18 <b>detention</b> 54:13 <b>determination</b> 206:16,19 <b>determine</b> 198:11 <b>determined</b> 157:3 158:5 213:19 <b>develop</b> 49:8,18 50:3 54:20 <b>developed</b> 47:14 54:5 <b>developer</b> 87:11 90:2 91:10 126:15 174:14 <b>developer's</b> 80:19 <b>developers</b> 102:14 <b>development</b> 67:11 70:6 72:7 91:12 97:19 165:4 166:2 172:16 173:17 199:15 <b>diane</b> 1:21 261:2 261:16 <b>diaper</b> 51:21 52:3 <b>diapers</b> 51:20 <b>dies</b> 177:14 <b>difference</b> 52:9,15 52:20 53:4 60:10 97:8 100:15 101:10,14 145:18</p>	<p>236:17 250:7 257:21 <b>different</b> 15:12 34:6,7 39:1 50:15 78:3 95:16 117:10 117:11 147:20 155:21 162:12 179:2 194:8 199:18 214:7,11 246:1 251:3,7,9 252:7 253:6,7 254:20 <b>difficult</b> 9:20 63:1 141:17 254:5 <b>difficulties</b> 20:11 <b>digest</b> 181:6 <b>diligently</b> 200:4 <b>dire</b> 245:7 <b>direct</b> 166:3 <b>direction</b> 104:18 125:11 190:21 191:8,18 257:3 <b>directly</b> 48:2 54:14 <b>director</b> 44:6 <b>dirt</b> 117:17 <b>disagree</b> 100:4 148:20 213:1 254:8 255:10 <b>disagreement</b> 201:12 <b>disappoints</b> 251:2 <b>disapproves</b> 95:6 <b>disbursements</b> 3:21 4:3,5 20:4 <b>discharge</b> 73:10 74:16 87:19 94:10 164:6,8 193:3 205:16 206:8 208:10 211:16 214:1 215:7 216:2 <b>discharges</b> 201:18 202:2</p>	<p><b>discharging</b> 80:8 <b>discloses</b> 36:4 <b>discover</b> 17:15,20 <b>discoveries</b> 13:4 <b>discredit</b> 116:6 <b>discretion</b> 157:4 158:6 <b>discuss</b> 191:19 218:8 229:11 258:15 <b>discussed</b> 43:1 136:17 142:7 174:18 201:11 224:11 <b>discussing</b> 149:21 234:2 <b>discussion</b> 68:14 103:6 149:11,13 163:20 181:13 184:19 221:3 222:8 225:4 <b>discussions</b> 82:6 215:8 228:10 <b>disease</b> 247:19 251:15 <b>disposing</b> 237:19 <b>dispute</b> 92:11 206:21 <b>disregard</b> 245:14 <b>dissenting</b> 225:2 <b>district</b> 56:18 144:7 213:10 <b>diversified</b> 253:18 <b>divilio</b> 1:16 9:7 10:5,15,16 22:17 22:18 35:2 62:16 62:17 64:6,9 69:6 69:8,19 70:8,11 71:15,20 75:14 76:5,13 77:14,19 79:1,14,21 80:12 80:14 96:3,8,10 98:5 100:4 101:7 102:7 104:12</p>
---	---	--	--

111:10,11 112:17 113:1,10,19 118:16 119:4 120:15 121:3,11 121:16,20 122:2,5 122:13 123:2,16 124:6,13,17 125:11 135:19 136:11 139:19 140:11 142:16,17 148:21 149:3 152:20 153:13 155:14 156:4,18 158:12,13 159:15 159:16 169:3 170:1,14,17 171:1 171:5,7,10 172:8 172:11,18 173:3 174:1,19 194:15 194:21 225:9 226:9,10 231:7,7 231:18,19 235:9 235:10 236:19 237:3,4 238:11 239:16,17 240:16 249:13,14 255:18 259:8,14,15 <b>divilio's</b> 82:7 <b>dnr</b> 229:13 238:7 <b>doctor</b> 36:9 <b>document</b> 71:4 81:1 93:15,18 97:2,5 125:13 126:17 <b>documents</b> 80:20 95:19,20 96:3 174:16 212:12 <b>doing</b> 10:10 11:11 23:9 27:11 28:11 29:10 30:21 31:2 31:3 49:20 50:13 55:20 63:10 64:21 73:19 74:4 80:17 80:17,18,18 102:5	104:2,3 119:1,7 154:21 155:3 192:6,7 197:18 212:3 227:9 228:7 241:19,21 244:7 249:4,6 250:21 252:19 256:12 <b>dollars</b> 21:18 238:18 <b>donation</b> 229:12 <b>dorchester</b> 40:19 <b>dory</b> 137:21 <b>doubt</b> 204:8 223:6 223:7 <b>douglass</b> 29:1,6,15 <b>dr</b> 44:19 248:4,16 <b>draft</b> 129:1,13 133:17 134:9 136:4 137:14 138:14 <b>drafted</b> 133:7 178:6 185:8,14 187:10 <b>drafting</b> 128:8 130:2 131:7 137:4 <b>drafts</b> 129:16 <b>draining</b> 237:19 <b>dropped</b> 42:5 <b>drug</b> 249:4 <b>drugs</b> 5:10 8:4 <b>ducking</b> 241:9 <b>dude</b> 92:17 <b>due</b> 108:8,9 117:3 184:7 187:7 214:3 <b>dump</b> 79:2 <b>duplicative</b> 150:14 <b>dyott</b> 231:4	<b>early</b> 42:3 <b>easement</b> 233:12 <b>easier</b> 212:5 <b>east</b> 67:12 204:2,9 205:3 213:11 214:1 215:14 216:5 <b>eastern</b> 5:1,14,21 7:3 25:1,19 228:20 232:16,20 233:3,11 <b>easton</b> 25:20 26:6 26:9 27:2,5 28:15 40:20 258:11,21 <b>eckardt</b> 44:18 <b>economic</b> 214:4 <b>ed</b> 24:21 <b>educate</b> 52:19 55:12 <b>education</b> 46:10 48:6 50:12 56:14 59:4 259:4 <b>educators</b> 50:1 <b>edwin</b> 7:2 25:8,10 25:13 28:2,6 29:14 30:12 <b>effect</b> 144:18 151:10 207:18 <b>effective</b> 24:9,10 138:4 <b>efficient</b> 24:9,10 <b>effluent</b> 163:2 166:10 <b>effort</b> 15:2,5 29:11 57:5 94:9 <b>efforts</b> 8:10 29:7 59:5 <b>egg</b> 107:8 <b>either</b> 23:2 82:9 102:9 125:7 133:2 138:12 145:5 148:11 204:20 <b>elected</b> 83:11,15 249:16 257:20	258:20 <b>electric</b> 63:11 <b>elementary</b> 56:18 57:18 <b>elicit</b> 36:20 <b>eligible</b> 66:21 67:1 217:12 <b>emergency</b> 42:12 <b>emitted</b> 83:21 <b>emotional</b> 247:1 <b>emphasizes</b> 6:7 <b>employ</b> 38:6 <b>employee</b> 261:11 <b>empower</b> 30:16 32:4 46:18 47:4,8 47:14,18 48:17 54:2,21 57:11 59:10 <b>enables</b> 202:11 <b>enabling</b> 26:20 <b>enacted</b> 84:3 <b>encompassing</b> 118:1,5 <b>encourages</b> 208:2 <b>encouraging</b> 5:16 <b>endemic</b> 248:17 <b>endless</b> 54:18 <b>enforcement</b> 35:16 43:14 166:7 206:17 207:6,7 <b>engage</b> 5:4 <b>engaged</b> 5:15 16:11 <b>engagement</b> 16:8 <b>engels</b> 231:5 <b>engine</b> 2:13 <b>engineer</b> 85:4 195:11 <b>engineering</b> 202:9 <b>enjoyed</b> 22:1 254:4,4 <b>enr</b> 76:20 77:6,8 78:10,17,21 80:6 80:21 81:2,4 82:3
	<b>e</b> 1:18 63:21 166:9 221:21 <b>earlier</b> 51:6 53:9 82:7 127:9 173:1 174:18 188:13		

<p>98:2,7 163:1,2 164:5,9 165:2,20 166:2,9,11,17 167:5 168:5,21 171:3,10,19 173:9 176:1 198:1,21 200:4 201:19 202:10,16,20 204:10 210:10 211:20 212:16 214:2 216:4,18 <b>ensure</b> 15:6 21:17 <b>entered</b> 205:3 261:9 <b>entering</b> 56:7 <b>enterprise</b> 5:8 <b>entertain</b> 215:11 217:9 <b>enthusiastic</b> 44:8 <b>entire</b> 57:18 130:7 153:8 180:3 <b>entirely</b> 99:10 100:3 <b>entirety</b> 59:14 164:12 208:14 <b>entities</b> 40:5 <b>entity</b> 84:19 <b>entries</b> 18:5 <b>environment</b> 19:10,12,13,18,19 20:8 45:19 79:6 105:3 106:16 120:16 224:12 250:16 <b>environmental</b> 233:10 250:1 <b>equally</b> 249:1 <b>equate</b> 49:4 <b>equipment</b> 38:18 <b>er</b> 241:10,11 <b>erin's</b> 57:6,10 <b>erred</b> 95:13 <b>erroneous</b> 71:13</p>	<p><b>especially</b> 35:4 52:11 55:6 240:16 246:9 249:8 <b>essentially</b> 153:6 163:17,21 215:9 216:3 <b>establish</b> 94:12 <b>established</b> 204:15 <b>estate</b> 258:15 <b>estimates</b> 20:2 <b>evaluate</b> 214:18 <b>evaluated</b> 213:18 <b>evaluation</b> 214:20 215:21 <b>evening</b> 2:7 7:6 12:11 42:21,21 47:2 60:5 66:14 72:20 81:14 82:6 83:12 85:17 108:19 175:11 187:2 188:8 203:13 217:10 222:16,20 230:13 232:6 235:20 242:19 <b>event</b> 29:15 <b>events</b> 1:10 29:3 <b>everybody</b> 2:4,7 11:10 29:18 66:2 101:17 103:17 104:11 106:9 107:11,13 109:15 113:15 117:7 118:18 119:20 120:5 126:5 135:7 146:14 160:10 181:5 211:1 212:17 219:9 244:12 257:6 258:2 <b>everybody's</b> 101:16</p>	<p><b>everyone's</b> 22:19 <b>evidence</b> 37:4 71:12 151:9,11 152:1 154:15 <b>evident</b> 246:2 <b>exact</b> 94:1 <b>exactly</b> 66:18 95:8 150:11 219:8,8 223:10 <b>examination</b> 38:3 261:5 <b>examinations</b> 35:20 42:10 44:9 <b>examiners</b> 38:18 <b>example</b> 42:4 71:11 89:4 144:5 147:1 <b>exceeding</b> 201:15 <b>excellent</b> 234:13 <b>exception</b> 152:3 <b>excess</b> 204:19 <b>exciting</b> 53:6 241:18 <b>exist</b> 96:8,9 133:12 143:7 216:18 <b>existence</b> 234:4 <b>existing</b> 67:18 68:3,6,10 161:8 162:20,21 163:9 164:3 166:3,5,16 168:1 169:5,6,8 170:6,9,21 171:12 173:9 190:10,11 190:12,15 204:12 204:16,20 208:16 214:21 215:4,5 <b>exists</b> 62:19 77:7 87:14 98:2 172:4 172:5 174:16,17 176:1 <b>expand</b> 144:9,9 234:5</p>	<p><b>expect</b> 24:11 208:21 <b>expectations</b> 202:15 <b>expedite</b> 211:16 <b>expedited</b> 32:18 <b>expenditure</b> 20:4 <b>experience</b> 2:14 13:1 23:20 36:11 53:17 <b>experienced</b> 2:16 42:19 <b>expert</b> 45:11 <b>expires</b> 208:4 261:20 <b>explain</b> 162:16 223:11 250:2 <b>explained</b> 37:10 64:14 <b>explains</b> 18:20 <b>express</b> 64:11 <b>expressed</b> 190:7 190:13 <b>expression</b> 215:16 215:18 <b>extension</b> 239:3 <b>extensions</b> 67:18 <b>extensive</b> 73:5 74:19 <b>extensively</b> 29:7 <b>extra</b> 15:1,5 239:4 <b>extreme</b> 34:20 <b>extremely</b> 48:11 <b>eye</b> 9:10,13</p>
			<b>f</b>
			<p><b>f</b> 1:14 <b>face</b> 105:5 248:10 <b>facilitate</b> 211:15 227:20 <b>facilities</b> 63:16 67:20 68:2 <b>facility</b> 59:21 79:4 80:1 97:13 163:13 202:21</p>

<p><b>fact</b> 10:3 32:17 53:3 71:13 73:6 78:18 87:20 88:2 88:3,3 147:6,12 148:9 153:11 213:20</p> <p><b>facts</b> 92:20 93:11 149:17 150:20 152:19 155:4,6 157:2 158:4 212:21 257:7</p> <p><b>factually</b> 97:4</p> <p><b>fail</b> 76:9</p> <p><b>failed</b> 169:11 219:13 220:7,10</p> <p><b>failing</b> 76:8,14 77:20 80:16 197:6 197:7</p> <p><b>fails</b> 77:15 170:4 176:10 219:1,7</p> <p><b>fair</b> 105:12</p> <p><b>fairly</b> 15:21</p> <p><b>fall</b> 50:21 145:6</p> <p><b>falls</b> 136:9</p> <p><b>false</b> 93:11 96:21</p> <p><b>families</b> 10:1 41:10 42:7,13,15 42:17 45:21 55:19 61:11 65:20 225:14 250:19</p> <p><b>family</b> 2:18 9:11 35:6,7,8,15 37:21 38:2 41:12 42:8 46:10</p> <p><b>fans</b> 58:13</p> <p><b>far</b> 17:2 133:12 198:2 234:11 239:5 251:1 252:17</p> <p><b>farmers</b> 226:20</p> <p><b>fascinating</b> 107:3</p> <p><b>fast</b> 125:19</p> <p><b>father</b> 251:5</p>	<p><b>favor</b> 83:2 91:11 126:3 254:1</p> <p><b>favorite</b> 50:17</p> <p><b>fay</b> 47:13</p> <p><b>fbi</b> 43:11</p> <p><b>feasible</b> 199:2</p> <p><b>feature</b> 242:20</p> <p><b>february</b> 68:20 99:19 123:21 242:8 258:6,18 259:2</p> <p><b>federal</b> 17:5 43:12</p> <p><b>feds</b> 16:16 18:12</p> <p><b>feedback</b> 45:13,15</p> <p><b>feel</b> 13:4 26:13 27:19 59:6 62:10 63:6 101:13 105:8 105:11 114:14 133:2,19 243:13 246:17</p> <p><b>feeling</b> 49:3,7 246:16</p> <p><b>feelings</b> 247:2</p> <p><b>feels</b> 49:3</p> <p><b>fees</b> 199:12 204:19</p> <p><b>feet</b> 61:15</p> <p><b>felt</b> 246:15 257:12</p> <p><b>ferry</b> 199:6</p> <p><b>field</b> 236:1</p> <p><b>fifths</b> 112:5,7,12</p> <p><b>fighting</b> 104:1</p> <p><b>figure</b> 74:9 118:21 125:18 201:20</p> <p><b>figures</b> 257:7</p> <p><b>file</b> 150:11 153:19 156:5</p> <p><b>filed</b> 140:21 145:18 147:5,10 148:3,9,19 149:19 150:21 151:5,7 153:15,17 156:19 156:21 157:21 158:2</p>	<p><b>filibustering</b> 153:6</p> <p><b>filing</b> 128:7 141:13 151:18</p> <p><b>final</b> 18:13 163:10 163:12 207:17</p> <p><b>finance</b> 12:21 21:12,13</p> <p><b>financial</b> 16:9,12 17:2,3,9,11,13,16 18:7,21 20:3,3 42:12 56:9</p> <p><b>financials</b> 12:20</p> <p><b>find</b> 26:2 141:17 192:13 225:17</p> <p><b>findings</b> 18:11</p> <p><b>fine</b> 7:10,10 13:19 121:2 125:15 130:12 134:1 146:16 149:12 177:7 182:3 189:13,13 203:14 220:5</p> <p><b>fingers</b> 49:13 58:7 58:17</p> <p><b>finish</b> 88:6 89:17 89:20 90:18 167:16 168:8</p> <p><b>finished</b> 149:20 240:19</p> <p><b>fire</b> 2:18</p> <p><b>firefighters</b> 2:10 2:13,15 3:6</p> <p><b>firm</b> 21:20</p> <p><b>first</b> 12:18 13:2 22:10 33:20 44:14 47:12 50:5,6,17 50:19 54:2 57:1 57:14 58:12 62:20 67:2 82:2 99:18 123:20 142:1 164:4 167:8,14,21 168:3,20 170:16 170:20 173:7</p>	<p>178:5 189:5,11 206:13 228:20 231:1 235:21</p> <p><b>fiscal</b> 42:11 45:5 68:7</p> <p><b>fit</b> 69:20</p> <p><b>fits</b> 69:12</p> <p><b>five</b> 19:10,15 41:16 42:15 67:21 106:10,10 133:5,6 134:15 137:3,5 148:6 155:15,21 187:20 209:8,12 225:12,17 229:5,5 253:3,6 254:15 258:18</p> <p><b>fix</b> 81:6 98:6</p> <p><b>fixed</b> 20:5 237:17 239:4,7 250:6</p> <p><b>flexibility</b> 14:18 15:6 24:7</p> <p><b>floor</b> 21:9 177:9 184:10 188:16 190:20 217:18,19</p> <p><b>flow</b> 165:4 166:2 205:11 206:12 208:11,16 214:21 215:3</p> <p><b>flowing</b> 173:5 229:17</p> <p><b>flu</b> 255:20</p> <p><b>flush</b> 124:11,13</p> <p><b>focus</b> 5:10 6:9 26:13 42:17 49:8 50:8 51:12 52:18</p> <p><b>focusing</b> 48:17</p> <p><b>follow</b> 3:4 73:12 118:16 210:2</p> <p><b>followed</b> 100:8 142:9</p> <p><b>following</b> 70:21</p> <p><b>food</b> 60:19</p> <p><b>footprint</b> 215:4</p>
---	---	--	---

<b>force</b> 5:3,15 7:4 25:1,19 26:11 28:11 46:9 211:10 249:5	67:15 105:10 112:5,7,12 148:6 150:19 152:9 210:4 216:15 224:5 230:19 248:15	<b>funds</b> 38:21 40:3 205:7 238:6	139:13 167:9 188:20 225:10 250:3
<b>forefront</b> 63:14	<b>fracking</b> 38:12	<b>fur</b> 230:2	<b>given</b> 6:19 14:5 64:17 69:15 99:1 180:17
<b>forensic</b> 35:19 36:16 42:9 43:9 43:17,19 45:10	<b>frame</b> 14:19 15:1 208:15 214:6,14 214:16	<b>further</b> 20:1 67:12 94:13 186:14 261:5,8,10	<b>gives</b> 130:8 144:12 <b>giving</b> 64:8 225:12 252:20,20
<b>forest</b> 224:10	<b>frank</b> 1:16 101:12 107:18 126:19 129:11 153:21 231:7	<b>future</b> 129:11 207:12	<b>glad</b> 61:14
<b>forestry</b> 233:9	<b>frank's</b> 153:20 154:11	<b>fy2021</b> 11:7	<b>glenn</b> 231:5
<b>forever</b> 80:14	<b>frankly</b> 208:18	<b>fy22</b> 24:8,12 238:4	<b>go</b> 2:3 9:19 13:2 13:18,18 15:20 22:4 31:4,16 34:15 49:13,15 52:4 63:9 74:5,8 81:1,11 82:13 83:4 84:1 85:10 85:18 91:5,5 95:16,21,21 108:17 113:13 118:3 119:8 120:4 120:17 122:10 127:8 131:6 135:17,17 136:21 137:14 138:21 148:4,7 149:9 154:9 156:10 157:9 159:8,9 160:15 161:19,20 165:15 167:8,9 173:2,4 174:2 175:4,4 177:2 179:7,9,10 181:21 186:13 189:11,18 191:14 192:20 193:16 194:12 195:3,5 196:8,11 196:13 198:3 203:20 208:11 210:15 211:7 212:6,14 215:3 216:3 218:11 219:7,14 221:12
<b>forget</b> 31:9 40:20	<b>fraud</b> 17:16,17,18 216:8	<b>g</b>	
<b>forgotten</b> 3:7	<b>frederick</b> 29:1,5 29:15	<b>gallon</b> 213:11	
<b>form</b> 17:6 92:8 110:20 181:13	<b>free</b> 17:14 27:19	<b>gamble</b> 27:21 258:10	
<b>formally</b> 6:5	<b>frequently</b> 43:9	<b>game</b> 86:13,15	
<b>former</b> 183:11 214:8	<b>friday</b> 53:2 130:10 221:1,1	<b>garner</b> 100:1	
<b>formerly</b> 67:12	<b>frivolous</b> 143:19 144:1,14 151:19	<b>gather</b> 153:9,9	
<b>forth</b> 101:15 102:10 129:3 163:3 166:11 167:9	<b>front</b> 3:16 64:3 101:20 105:9,15 124:14 152:21 214:13	<b>general</b> 71:1 92:1 92:15 222:8	
<b>fortuitous</b> 42:20	<b>full</b> 18:1 41:13 84:17 132:6 202:12	<b>generally</b> 130:11 208:21	
<b>fortunate</b> 37:11	<b>fully</b> 9:8 101:8	<b>generate</b> 206:12	
<b>forward</b> 15:3 28:7 100:14 105:7 114:11,12 124:5 135:10 157:9 173:17 179:7 186:14 194:10 199:3 200:8 202:11 234:18 241:6,20	<b>functions</b> 38:10	<b>generous</b> 39:21	
<b>forwarded</b> 193:4	<b>fund</b> 16:20 40:9	<b>gentleman</b> 2:12 86:11 194:13 214:7	
<b>foster</b> 60:20 61:2	<b>funded</b> 40:4	<b>gentleman's</b> 86:10 218:1	
<b>found</b> 9:17 92:6 192:17	<b>fundraising</b> 40:6	<b>gerard</b> 201:4,5,6,6 203:2,5	
<b>foundation</b> 40:8,9 40:12 201:7		<b>getting</b> 20:11 30:13 50:8 56:21 120:19 144:13 166:17 194:1 234:14 243:1	
<b>founder</b> 47:13 56:5		<b>ghezzi</b> 194:21 195:3	
<b>four</b> 32:21 43:7 49:9,15 50:5,13		<b>gift</b> 50:9 65:14	
		<b>girls</b> 7:20 40:9	
		<b>give</b> 2:8 13:21 14:9 17:10,12 75:5 102:12,14 121:5 123:7 125:11 127:15,16	

240:4,4 244:2,8 248:8 252:9,11,16 252:16 <b>goal</b> 48:5 <b>god</b> 10:7 178:14 251:14 <b>goes</b> 18:19 21:15 91:20,21 130:9 131:7 193:8 251:18 <b>going</b> 2:6 4:7 11:7 16:15 18:18 19:1 20:9 21:18 27:6 53:7 63:21 65:8 70:18 73:11 74:3 74:4 75:10 78:1,8 78:8 79:19 81:4 82:5 84:17 86:6 86:12 87:9,21 90:18 92:1,15 93:6,13,14,17 95:16 97:6,7,10 98:6,6 101:13 105:5,6 106:1 108:3 111:18,19 114:12,13,14 116:16 118:2,7,13 121:3,4 123:20 126:5 127:3,8 129:18 131:5 136:13,13,20 137:18 140:2,8 141:4 145:2,6 146:17 147:16 152:15 160:15 161:17 162:15 169:15 173:19,19 181:9 182:1,6 184:16 186:1,19 187:17 188:15,20 188:21 191:5 193:9,12 194:8 209:3 212:21 214:13 217:9,21	218:18 221:17,19 227:8 228:7 229:15 230:3 232:9 234:12,20 238:19 241:20 248:9,13,14,20 250:9 251:10,21 252:12 253:1,2,21 255:19,21 257:14 <b>golden</b> 107:8 <b>good</b> 10:10 11:4 11:21 15:15,19 16:4 19:6 21:18 23:9,19 27:16 30:10 32:6 39:2 47:2 51:8 60:16 62:5 68:13 77:3 96:14 101:16 106:9 130:6 142:3 149:13 161:11 192:9,9 219:3 234:2 240:13 242:2 247:21 <b>goodness</b> 126:16 <b>gory</b> 18:18 <b>gotten</b> 40:11 41:21 58:20 123:14 <b>govern</b> 84:19 <b>governance's</b> 20:15 <b>government</b> 40:5 150:10 168:13 244:16,20 252:9 <b>governments</b> 13:1 <b>governor's</b> 39:16 <b>grade</b> 53:11 57:14 57:19 58:12 <b>graders</b> 57:2 <b>grandson</b> 28:21 <b>granicus</b> 233:4 <b>grant</b> 38:11 39:18 146:4 172:1 196:2 196:7 197:14 216:14 232:8	236:3 <b>grants</b> 38:12,13 40:6 <b>grassroots</b> 54:6 <b>grateful</b> 9:3 <b>great</b> 6:19 11:2 21:11 23:1,21 24:11 28:21,21,21 28:21 31:2,3 60:7 66:7,11 98:1 106:6 188:9 222:17,20 228:5 242:13 <b>greatly</b> 9:15 63:15 199:13 <b>green</b> 165:10 <b>griffith</b> 44:19 <b>grill</b> 230:3 <b>groomed</b> 107:13 <b>grossing</b> 5:9 <b>ground</b> 144:19 188:18 <b>grounds</b> 144:17 <b>group</b> 29:6 33:20 34:2,10 246:19 <b>groups</b> 50:1 54:15 97:8 <b>grown</b> 41:6 <b>guardianship</b> 231:3 <b>guess</b> 42:20 64:14 110:6 175:18 192:20 209:13 221:6 <b>guidance</b> 16:14,17 18:13 <b>guise</b> 94:2 168:14 <b>gut</b> 48:18,20 49:3 49:3,5 107:10 <b>guy</b> 85:7,12 228:1 <b>guys</b> 11:11 66:3 66:19 101:15 108:2 165:5 178:7 196:21 200:15,17	211:5,12 228:4 229:10 254:9 <b>gymnasium</b> 241:21 <b>h</b> <b>half</b> 98:18 103:7 <b>halfway</b> 165:9 <b>hand</b> 49:10,12 74:9,9 84:14 185:20 188:11 203:9,11,17 232:9 242:20 261:13 <b>handing</b> 60:19 <b>handle</b> 179:1 217:16 236:16 <b>handles</b> 62:21 <b>handling</b> 96:16 217:16 <b>hands</b> 6:19 33:17 33:18 35:5 89:3 218:13 <b>hang</b> 64:16 230:4 <b>hanging</b> 196:14 203:4 <b>happen</b> 43:10 60:3 68:18 74:17,17 105:6,6 120:1 244:4 255:5 <b>happened</b> 2:20 36:6 37:1 91:17 92:4 133:8 210:4 255:3 256:21 <b>happening</b> 63:13 117:19 241:18 <b>happy</b> 4:8 23:5 59:14 62:5 63:20 76:6 125:4 231:13 247:3 253:4,5 <b>hard</b> 22:19 55:16 60:10 98:13 226:19 227:2 241:8,14 <b>hardest</b> 227:16
--	--	--	--

<b>harm</b> 103:15 190:16 257:11	195:18,20 202:7 248:1 249:3,4	<b>helpful</b> 45:19 64:19	258:4
<b>harm's</b> 7:21	<b>hearing</b> 3:19 4:4	<b>helping</b> 13:13 23:9	<b>homeland</b> 43:10
<b>harms</b> 102:16	60:2 80:15 101:15	44:8,11 49:8,18	<b>homes</b> 167:21
<b>hat</b> 29:9	104:15 108:16	51:16 54:20 65:20	168:3,21 170:16
<b>he'll</b> 236:4	117:14 160:5,16	66:4	170:20 171:19
<b>head</b> 90:14 105:14 139:20	162:1,6,15 167:7	<b>helps</b> 204:20	190:14 202:21
<b>headed</b> 101:8 191:17	167:8 174:20	<b>herds</b> 226:21	206:2,10 210:18 244:19
<b>heal</b> 34:7 55:19 65:20	176:3,11 177:20	<b>hesitate</b> 228:2	<b>honest</b> 250:14
<b>healing</b> 42:18 45:20,20	178:1,4,5,17	<b>hey</b> 11:15 103:3	<b>honor</b> 4:18
<b>health</b> 34:5 35:16 37:18 38:15 39:7	179:8,13,16 180:6	104:12 136:6	<b>honored</b> 7:2 59:6
39:9,12 45:3,9	180:10,10,15,18	183:21,21 192:5	<b>honoring</b> 47:6
57:7 61:15 63:14	180:21 181:4,21	194:7	<b>hook</b> 98:3 169:12
116:20 245:6,15	182:11 183:16	<b>hi</b> 11:13	172:6 212:13
246:3,8 247:6,16	184:4,5 185:20	<b>hide</b> 87:4 112:20	<b>hooking</b> 212:15
247:18,21 248:1,6	186:3,13,18	<b>hiding</b> 87:6	<b>hookup</b> 212:8
249:1,8 250:2	187:17 189:12	<b>higgins</b> 231:5	<b>hookups</b> 163:14
252:13	190:1 193:17	<b>high</b> 15:21 17:8	199:10,10
<b>healthiest</b> 38:20	201:11 209:15	78:5,6 79:19 80:1	<b>hope</b> 3:2 21:21
<b>healthy</b> 17:18 51:4 51:11,14 52:1	217:8 218:9	<b>highest</b> 5:8	97:12 147:8
53:6 106:15	220:10,14	<b>highlight</b> 247:20	202:18 217:3
250:16	<b>hearings</b> 128:9	<b>highlighted</b> 19:12	247:10
<b>hear</b> 11:12,14,16 25:7,7,9,10,17	153:1 180:17	<b>highly</b> 43:19 44:7	<b>hoped</b> 15:3
34:14 52:13,13	193:1	<b>hiking</b> 225:16	<b>hopefully</b> 63:18
60:16 124:21	<b>heart</b> 65:9,12,18	<b>hired</b> 44:5 83:17	118:1 119:17
167:6 181:2 183:1	240:14 256:15	86:4	130:1 181:10
189:2,4,10 194:1	<b>heartland</b> 233:3	<b>history</b> 212:21	194:9 225:16
195:12,13,16,17	<b>heat</b> 256:11	<b>hit</b> 29:5 228:20,21	230:16 247:12,12
196:1,6 220:19	<b>heavily</b> 229:19	229:5	<b>hopes</b> 57:20
222:21 223:2,3	<b>height</b> 56:3	<b>hock</b> 98:3	<b>hoping</b> 12:9
229:5,20 240:2	<b>heinous</b> 7:18,18	<b>hold</b> 16:18 86:17	<b>horrendous</b> 6:17
246:13 247:3	<b>held</b> 44:14 54:11	86:18 111:19	8:1
<b>heard</b> 35:1 46:9 51:5 71:11 101:17	180:17 258:6	118:14 119:10	<b>horse's</b> 124:18
105:17,17 108:18	<b>help</b> 9:21 27:17	125:12 133:7	125:1
148:16 176:20	42:17 48:3,9,14	177:17 178:12,12	<b>hospice</b> 65:7
181:18 192:12	50:2,11 51:10	181:4	<b>hospital</b> 37:16
	52:8,16 55:19	<b>holding</b> 58:12	39:10 44:11 245:8
	59:4 66:8 75:6	258:19	<b>houlihan</b> 1:21
	122:17 136:18	<b>holdings</b> 204:3	261:2,16
	179:1 197:14	<b>holds</b> 126:10	<b>hour</b> 43:17 103:7
	198:3 242:11	<b>holiday</b> 15:2 60:19	155:2
	247:1 250:2	<b>home</b> 26:4 36:6	<b>hours</b> 105:10
	<b>helped</b> 32:11 41:9	198:16 227:14	108:17 160:18
	57:11,11 228:18	228:1 247:17	

<p><b>house</b> 26:8 44:14 64:12 205:9,12 222:13 225:6 226:1 227:10 247:4,4,11 258:12</p> <p><b>household</b> 35:9</p> <p><b>households</b> 197:16</p> <p><b>houses</b> 117:19 198:12 205:11</p> <p><b>huge</b> 53:3 73:8</p> <p><b>human</b> 4:9,19,21 5:7,12,14,15,17 6:1,3,6,13,15 7:3 8:11 25:1,16,19 25:21 26:3 29:2,7 30:4 43:1,2,4,21 46:11 47:7,10</p> <p><b>humane</b> 8:5</p> <p><b>humanity</b> 29:13</p> <p><b>hunky</b> 137:21</p> <p><b>hunt</b> 225:13</p> <p><b>hunting</b> 222:14 223:16,20 224:16 226:2</p> <p><b>hurt</b> 2:20 75:12 104:9 200:1</p>	<p><b>illness</b> 246:13</p> <p><b>imagine</b> 9:20 223:4</p> <p><b>immediate</b> 42:17 68:4</p> <p><b>immediately</b> 78:11 98:7 185:19</p> <p><b>impact</b> 41:4 46:13 55:3,5,8 70:6 199:13 208:8 233:1</p> <p><b>impacted</b> 246:1</p> <p><b>impacts</b> 202:1 209:3</p> <p><b>impaired</b> 78:9 79:20</p> <p><b>impede</b> 84:12 94:14 95:5 167:13 167:20 170:19 173:10,16</p> <p><b>implement</b> 13:5</p> <p><b>implementation</b> 36:3,13 57:10</p> <p><b>implemented</b> 45:13</p> <p><b>implementing</b> 45:14 46:18 49:9</p> <p><b>importance</b> 247:21</p> <p><b>important</b> 4:14 8:9 45:7 46:11,12 48:11 52:10 61:5 68:21 150:6 228:10 229:21 247:17 253:13 255:12</p> <p><b>importation</b> 249:2</p> <p><b>impose</b> 84:18</p> <p><b>imposed</b> 190:10</p> <p><b>improvements</b> 67:18 94:12 95:2</p> <p><b>inaccurate</b> 91:16</p> <p><b>inappropriate</b> 93:7 181:16</p>	<p><b>inaudible</b> 18:17 93:20 98:21 121:13 122:13 131:14 150:9 156:3 157:10 185:15 190:18,19</p> <p><b>incentives</b> 208:2</p> <p><b>incentivizes</b> 208:5</p> <p><b>incidence</b> 48:5 147:20</p> <p><b>incident</b> 38:5</p> <p><b>incidents</b> 36:12</p> <p><b>include</b> 39:16 120:5 132:9 134:4 134:5 139:2,4</p> <p><b>included</b> 21:1 224:8</p> <p><b>includes</b> 35:14 224:1</p> <p><b>including</b> 237:19 254:5</p> <p><b>inconsistent</b> 128:10 163:7 190:3 192:13,18</p> <p><b>incorporated</b> 57:6 84:5 198:9</p> <p><b>incorporating</b> 159:3</p> <p><b>incorrect</b> 89:18 97:3</p> <p><b>increase</b> 41:9,19</p> <p><b>increased</b> 5:10 41:12</p> <p><b>increasing</b> 5:12</p> <p><b>incredibly</b> 45:6</p> <p><b>incumbent</b> 216:12</p> <p><b>indicated</b> 190:6 243:3</p> <p><b>indicates</b> 32:9</p> <p><b>individual</b> 38:1 96:15 180:1 244:21 245:13</p> <p><b>individually</b> 187:19</p>	<p><b>individuals</b> 9:18 34:7 62:9 225:13 225:15 250:4 252:3</p> <p><b>indoor</b> 245:10</p> <p><b>information</b> 19:14 21:2,4 33:15 36:20 56:7 59:18 60:8 69:1,15,16 72:10 75:15,16,20 76:2 89:2 91:16 96:12,18,20 98:21 99:1,6,9,14 100:1 107:15 114:11 115:11,12,13,14 117:8,9,13 124:7 126:4 127:1 150:1 150:6,15 153:4 167:10 192:21 193:3 194:2,5,9 196:5 209:19 210:3 212:21 218:4,8 244:18</p> <p><b>infrastructure</b> 205:10 213:19 238:4</p> <p><b>initial</b> 99:12 164:1 165:3 166:1 210:11</p> <p><b>initiative</b> 54:6</p> <p><b>injuries</b> 247:19</p> <p><b>input</b> 203:3</p> <p><b>insert</b> 208:14</p> <p><b>insight</b> 127:5</p> <p><b>instances</b> 17:15</p> <p><b>instinct</b> 48:18,21 49:5</p> <p><b>intend</b> 205:21 206:2 211:19 215:13</p> <p><b>intended</b> 162:18 170:11 198:5</p> <p><b>intent</b> 208:19 210:10,19,20</p>
<b>i</b>			
<p><b>ice</b> 237:12,18 238:13 241:21</p> <p><b>idea</b> 110:8 136:1 137:13 142:3 151:17 186:5,7 211:3</p> <p><b>identical</b> 223:15</p> <p><b>identified</b> 20:21 54:3</p> <p><b>ifs</b> 50:13</p> <p><b>ignore</b> 184:12,13 185:3</p> <p><b>illegal</b> 8:4 96:6,20 97:3</p> <p><b>illegally</b> 96:11</p>			

<p>212:13 213:9 215:18 <b>intention</b> 80:20 <b>intentions</b> 94:21 211:2 <b>interact</b> 58:15 <b>interactive</b> 49:11 49:16 <b>interacts</b> 53:13 <b>interested</b> 41:4 55:4 59:13,20 64:8 261:12 <b>interim</b> 204:17 205:5,6 210:9 <b>intern</b> 58:11 <b>internal</b> 19:9 <b>international</b> 26:4 <b>internet</b> 12:9 40:21 <b>interpretation</b> 95:3 <b>interrelated</b> 19:10 19:15 <b>interrogated</b> 261:4 <b>interrupt</b> 24:18 <b>interrupting</b> 90:20 <b>interview</b> 36:17 44:1 45:9 <b>interviewer</b> 36:16 <b>interviews</b> 35:20 37:3 42:9 43:5,10 43:18,19 <b>introduce</b> 182:2 <b>introduced</b> 72:19 94:8 130:10 175:7 175:9,11 176:8,14 177:5 183:15 201:9 207:20 247:4 <b>introducing</b> 182:9 <b>introductory</b> 32:7</p>	<p><b>invalid</b> 82:21 <b>invent</b> 97:12,17 <b>invested</b> 229:7 <b>investigation</b> 36:21 38:2 45:8 <b>investigator</b> 36:7 36:18 <b>invitation</b> 228:15 <b>invite</b> 125:6 228:9 <b>invited</b> 109:3,4 110:11 <b>invites</b> 207:11 <b>involved</b> 43:14 101:5 <b>involves</b> 71:5 <b>ire</b> 197:12 <b>irrigation</b> 73:9 77:9 166:14 171:20 211:8 213:13 215:6 216:5 236:2 <b>isolation</b> 246:15 <b>issuance</b> 16:17 163:12 211:16 <b>issue</b> 93:3 132:2 141:19 187:8 249:17,20 <b>issued</b> 17:8 72:9 74:16 213:21 <b>issues</b> 70:15 71:2 71:10 128:13 166:15 246:9 <b>item</b> 119:12 232:5 243:19 <b>items</b> 230:20 241:15 242:4</p>	<p><b>jessica</b> 31:11 201:6 <b>jewelry</b> 33:21 <b>job</b> 22:11 23:1,9 62:7 66:7 68:13 83:11,11,12,14 86:4,5 97:21 188:20 212:4 233:12 234:2 240:13 242:2,13 <b>john</b> 40:8 <b>johnny</b> 226:17 228:6,17 230:8,9 <b>join</b> 28:10 146:20 241:12 <b>joined</b> 7:6 25:2 74:20 <b>joining</b> 44:8 188:8 <b>joint</b> 191:14 <b>journal</b> 18:5 <b>joye</b> 11:7 12:1 14:2,11,13,14 16:5 22:1 23:4,14 <b>judgment</b> 95:14 <b>july</b> 42:5 79:10 <b>jump</b> 86:6 <b>jumping</b> 147:11 <b>june</b> 5:19 16:12 <b>jurisdiction</b> 141:14 143:10 <b>jurisdictions</b> 41:16 43:15 <b>justice</b> 61:6 <b>justifiable</b> 86:21 <b>justifies</b> 100:18</p>	<p>210:18 251:11 256:12 257:3 <b>keeping</b> 53:4 104:3 <b>ken</b> 12:18 13:3 14:9 15:9 23:5,17 23:20 24:14 <b>kenneth</b> 28:19 <b>kent</b> 40:18 <b>kept</b> 230:2 <b>kerri</b> 231:5 <b>keswick</b> 58:10 <b>key</b> 19:3,21 234:10 <b>kicking</b> 82:20 <b>kidding</b> 241:7 <b>kids</b> 27:13 48:15 51:20 52:1 60:11 64:3 <b>kind</b> 16:17 20:1 50:18 51:6 58:9 62:21 65:9 66:13 74:8 97:12 103:6 105:11 147:20 218:13 226:21 <b>kinds</b> 253:2 <b>klakring</b> 231:5 <b>knew</b> 41:13 62:18 110:12 175:20 <b>know</b> 4:10 12:1,6 19:5 23:14 27:16 28:4,19 29:11 31:11,15 33:13 35:6 39:6 48:20 48:21 52:6 53:7 53:15 55:15 59:9 62:19 66:6 68:15 71:3 76:13 77:16 83:1 87:9 88:14 88:15 101:9 102:11,19 103:10 107:9 109:14 110:6 111:20 114:17 116:17</p>
	<p><b>j</b></p> <p><b>jacob</b> 47:15 <b>january</b> 1:7 3:17 3:21 4:20 6:5,13 6:20 123:8,10 190:2 205:4 261:13</p>	<p><b>k</b></p> <p><b>k</b> 57:18 <b>keep</b> 9:10,12 30:4 45:7 48:10,14 49:5 51:13,21 55:18 80:15,15 114:1 139:10 149:5 151:18 188:21 194:10</p>	

117:8 118:18 123:17 124:16,20 125:8 126:9,14,14 126:15 127:7 132:1,2,16 137:6 138:10 144:20 145:8 149:14 150:4 153:2 156:9 167:11 171:1 172:18 176:4 179:4 183:12 185:21 191:21 193:18 198:19 199:5,5,20 205:8 213:6 220:9 223:7 224:3 227:6 228:2 228:17,21 229:2,9 229:18 230:17,18 231:12 240:16,20 243:7 247:13 248:1,2 254:6 257:16 258:2 <b>knowledge</b> 12:20 53:17 131:12,16 186:14 207:7 <b>knowledgeable</b> 62:7 <b>known</b> 2:19 61:5 67:12 95:7 <b>knows</b> 55:4,5 227:14 <b>kupersmith</b> 133:1 133:15	<b>lakeside</b> 67:10,11 68:6,10 94:18 117:18 161:8 162:19 163:13 164:1,2,10,16 165:17,21 170:13 172:12,17 174:5 190:15 199:11,15 204:9,17 205:16 205:20 208:17 211:19 214:18,21 215:14 250:9 <b>land</b> 224:8,9,18,20 225:8 232:17,20 233:11 <b>landed</b> 61:14 230:2 <b>landfill</b> 16:21 <b>language</b> 48:9 51:7,8 128:10 130:13 134:3 135:5,13 139:6 152:5,12 157:13 163:8,15,19 165:18 167:4,12 198:6 207:11 210:16 <b>largest</b> 93:3 <b>late</b> 14:15 <b>laughter</b> 51:19 <b>laura</b> 1:18 137:6 138:3 222:4 231:4 <b>law</b> 35:15 43:14 57:6,10 70:17 83:17 105:16 141:11,16,18 143:6,6,7,12 144:12 146:17 261:4 <b>lawsuit</b> 100:11 <b>lawyer</b> 102:20 <b>laying</b> 189:20 <b>lead</b> 11:8 14:7 54:7 254:17 255:9	<b>leaders</b> 50:1 107:4 254:16 <b>leadership</b> 22:8,15 <b>leading</b> 255:2 <b>learned</b> 13:3 <b>learning</b> 23:20 60:1 64:13 <b>leave</b> 188:4 220:18 220:20 221:2,18 244:20 <b>led</b> 119:5 <b>ledger</b> 18:8 <b>left</b> 32:8 33:18 <b>legacy</b> 232:8 233:1 233:2,3,7 234:3 235:2 <b>legal</b> 35:15 38:4 70:19 104:21,21 136:10 258:15 <b>legislation</b> 98:9 128:8 129:2,14 130:3,4,15 131:4 136:1 137:4 138:14 222:9,11 224:15 225:1 <b>legislative</b> 82:8 <b>legislature</b> 247:9 <b>lehman</b> 11:9,13,13 11:16 12:1,5,12 12:16 13:15,20 14:6 15:9,17,20 16:5 22:2 23:10 23:13 <b>length</b> 108:17 <b>lesher</b> 1:15 3:9,12 8:16 10:17,18 22:6,16 44:16 64:10 65:1 68:14 68:15 69:14 70:3 71:10,17 74:20 98:14,15,16,18 110:18 111:12,13 112:5,11 113:5,8 113:11,19 121:20	122:1,9 123:2,16 123:19 127:4 135:4,15 141:20 142:18,19 145:10 150:8,10 157:15 158:14,15 159:17 159:18 161:20,21 162:8 163:17 172:20 173:1 177:6,12,16 182:8 182:16,18 183:1,5 183:6,11 186:8,21 187:4,7 191:9 217:14 218:15 219:14,15,17 226:11,12 231:20 231:21 235:11,12 237:5,6 239:18,19 244:15 245:17 258:3,5 259:16,17 <b>lesher's</b> 250:20 <b>letter</b> 96:5 232:7 232:21 233:6 <b>level</b> 5:12 15:21 17:8 78:7 79:19 190:8 196:21 <b>levels</b> 76:19 168:21 <b>liberty</b> 245:3 <b>library</b> 27:2 29:15 <b>license</b> 56:11 <b>lied</b> 96:21 <b>lies</b> 96:6 216:8 <b>life</b> 9:2 63:1 245:15 <b>light</b> 52:3 69:16 99:5,13 150:6 <b>limit</b> 207:21 210:17,18 <b>limitation</b> 146:18 147:15,19 149:14 150:5 <b>limiting</b> 206:6
<b>l</b>			
<b>la</b> 78:8 164:6 190:9,11 202:2 204:15 <b>labor</b> 5:5 <b>laboratory</b> 38:19 <b>lack</b> 190:9 <b>ladies</b> 26:7 34:10 <b>lady</b> 2:14 <b>lagoon</b> 82:3			

<b>limits</b> 201:15 204:13,14 <b>linda</b> 30:17,20 31:15 47:4,8 60:6 60:15 62:8,13 66:1 <b>line</b> 92:6,14 165:15 166:21 194:18 196:10 202:14 <b>lines</b> 43:14 173:2 173:4,5 174:2 211:14 <b>list</b> 120:17 <b>listed</b> 258:16 <b>listen</b> 49:2 85:12 98:8 100:20 114:10 178:10 209:21 221:3 <b>listened</b> 101:21,21 200:14 <b>listening</b> 25:14 101:1 105:1 218:4 218:6 <b>listing</b> 192:20 <b>liter</b> 201:19 <b>little</b> 2:6 15:12 16:18 27:10 32:2 32:5 33:14 35:1 74:4 102:17 104:8 107:5,6 127:5 128:15 137:9 141:17 144:13 149:10 150:7 156:14 194:4 196:5 206:7 212:4 225:7 228:18 <b>live</b> 56:16,17 58:8 132:12,12 250:17 251:16 253:5,8 <b>lives</b> 60:11,11 245:4 <b>llc</b> 11:9	<b>loaded</b> 83:2 <b>local</b> 13:1 44:7 54:16 56:10 58:21 202:3 238:3 245:8 247:10 <b>locally</b> 29:11 53:21 54:5 <b>located</b> 67:9 <b>location</b> 35:18 38:15 39:11 61:17 61:18 244:19 <b>locations</b> 259:5 <b>logo</b> 32:8 33:2,2 <b>logos</b> 32:7 <b>london</b> 244:19 <b>londoners</b> 245:2 <b>long</b> 75:3 130:2 143:9 160:2,3 167:1 170:8 187:5 204:10 229:10 241:17 244:11 251:12 258:3 <b>longer</b> 132:15 <b>look</b> 4:2 8:19,19 15:3,12 19:9,11 19:16 20:1,2,3,9 28:7 51:15 55:8 85:2 101:2,17,18 105:5 106:8 107:19 118:4 178:16 221:9 234:18 246:6 247:11 248:9 256:4 257:14,17 <b>looked</b> 91:17 199:1 <b>looking</b> 19:21 47:9 55:17 69:8 75:4 95:12 97:14 223:5 240:11 248:5 251:7 <b>looks</b> 256:10 <b>loop</b> 135:7	<b>loosely</b> 122:12,21 123:1 <b>lord</b> 6:21 <b>lose</b> 92:1 153:2 <b>loss</b> 245:2 <b>lost</b> 2:19 <b>lot</b> 2:19 27:5 29:1 30:10 39:18 50:12 50:13 54:19 55:8 60:8,20 63:12 66:19 89:21 101:3 101:12 104:10 107:17 150:1 199:12 220:18 229:6 240:12,15 240:15 241:7 242:1 249:14 251:9 254:18 255:4 260:1 <b>lots</b> 51:19 212:19 <b>lousy</b> 80:11 <b>love</b> 48:11 63:17 113:13 151:2 <b>low</b> 64:15 <b>lowe's</b> 252:17 <b>lower</b> 78:5,20 <b>lppi</b> 239:3 <b>lucky</b> 56:19 <b>luftwaffe</b> 244:17 <b>lymes</b> 251:15  <b>m</b> <b>madam</b> 4:16 7:1 10:11 67:2 68:12 111:6 128:1 142:5 158:8 161:2 196:8 201:1 203:6,15 217:6 220:9 222:10 225:19 226:5 230:10 231:14 235:5 236:20 238:14 239:12 242:16 259:10	<b>magazine</b> 253:13 <b>maguire</b> 248:4,16 <b>mail</b> 63:21 221:21 <b>maintain</b> 56:9 <b>maintained</b> 54:7 <b>major</b> 18:20 <b>majority</b> 112:14 112:16 114:14 176:18 254:7 <b>making</b> 19:3 45:17 75:11 80:4 89:1 93:10 104:4 105:7,10 113:2 126:11 160:2,3 162:8 199:3 243:12 256:15 <b>male</b> 35:6 <b>man</b> 192:6 <b>manage</b> 21:16 226:19,19 <b>managed</b> 227:1 <b>management</b> 18:2 232:17 <b>management's</b> 19:5 <b>manager</b> 21:12,13 38:9 129:5 132:7 138:10 139:16,20 140:9,10 230:15 230:20 242:13 <b>managing</b> 233:12 <b>mandate</b> 57:10 140:7 <b>mandated</b> 17:1 <b>maneuver</b> 84:9 <b>manipulative</b> 5:3 <b>manner</b> 8:5 261:7 <b>map</b> 67:13,13,15 233:4 <b>maps</b> 71:17 <b>march</b> 126:1 193:11,14 <b>marks</b> 21:11
---	--	---	--

<p><b>maryland</b> 1:1 6:2 37:17 38:14 39:8 39:12 45:2 67:10 79:6 82:1 120:15 197:15 229:14 233:14 238:2 258:12 261:1,2 <b>mask</b> 251:10,11 252:1,10,12,14,17 <b>masking</b> 245:10 <b>masks</b> 251:19 252:21 <b>massage</b> 28:16 <b>material</b> 17:14,20 20:20 99:8 149:17 150:20 152:10,18 153:11 154:7 155:6 157:2,6,8 158:4 162:13 <b>matter</b> 75:9 88:19 91:10 99:9 100:3 105:7 112:3,9 119:6 126:5 127:11 141:13 143:10 144:3 151:1,6,21 153:16 156:20 158:1 174:11 261:7 <b>matters</b> 122:7 143:20 221:4 258:16 <b>mautz</b> 44:18 222:15,18,19 223:4,8,13 227:4 228:13 229:4,7 230:5 <b>mautz's</b> 225:6 <b>maximized</b> 197:9 <b>mbr</b> 82:3 165:2,20 <b>mde</b> 72:9 73:6,8 74:18 75:10 76:16 78:1 79:14 84:3,3 84:6,13 88:11,14 91:5,6 94:17,20</p>	<p>94:20 95:10 96:3 96:5,10,13,17 98:21 99:2 100:5 101:3 102:4,13 117:5,10 120:16 166:7,15 168:2 169:14,14,18 170:7,21,21 197:14 199:4 211:9,15 213:18 215:8,10 <b>mde's</b> 95:3 <b>mdse</b> 57:6 <b>mdt</b> 45:7 <b>mean</b> 76:2 78:6,14 88:12,13,17 107:19 113:17 114:17 124:20 131:9,11 132:13 136:12 137:2,5,5 141:8 145:14,17 146:11,14 147:7 147:14 149:16,20 169:10 170:1 185:5 207:9 211:19 219:2 221:12 223:7 230:17 234:3 240:17 255:5 <b>means</b> 32:19 103:18 148:7 240:15 248:17 261:7 <b>measure</b> 55:7 <b>measuring</b> 55:5 <b>meat</b> 225:13 <b>media</b> 5:11 103:14 <b>medical</b> 35:16,20 38:3,18 40:15,16 40:17 42:10 44:6 44:9,10 45:9 245:8 <b>medicine</b> 251:17</p>	<p><b>meet</b> 14:19 42:16 57:12 74:11 77:4 120:3,4,5,6,12,12 121:6 125:20 168:2 220:21 221:1 227:21 <b>meeting</b> 1:4 2:5 62:20 68:19 73:1 75:2 99:18,20 103:15 109:1,3,13 109:14 110:4,7,12 119:16,17,19 121:4 123:10,20 163:2 166:11 190:2 191:10 193:20 196:19 221:3 227:7,15 245:7 251:1 254:5 257:1,13,17 258:6 258:17,20 259:3,5 259:7 260:3 <b>meetings</b> 27:1 90:5 93:9 103:14 198:19 242:7 244:3 <b>meets</b> 78:14 <b>member</b> 22:4 30:8 35:2,7 59:19 128:21 129:12 130:14,16 132:1 132:18 134:2,8,14 135:20 184:9,15 191:9 194:16 253:15 <b>members</b> 1:13 9:11 25:15 31:20 44:16 45:5,7 48:4 59:11 73:15 83:1 90:5 129:4 130:8 130:21 131:4,6,10 132:5,10 133:8,16 134:6,10,17,19 135:9,12 137:3,15 138:9,13 139:3,8</p>	<p>139:15,17 140:8 140:14 148:12 156:1 201:8 204:1 207:20 <b>memo</b> 146:15 <b>memorandum</b> 189:19 <b>mental</b> 34:5 35:16 45:9 63:14 246:3 246:8,13 247:6,16 247:21 248:1,5 249:1,8 252:2 255:15 <b>mention</b> 39:13 <b>mentioned</b> 14:13 16:5 28:12 46:6 53:9 121:21 132:14 248:16 <b>merely</b> 150:13 <b>met</b> 15:7 32:19 <b>michael's</b> 40:10 <b>michaels</b> 258:11 258:21 <b>microscope</b> 62:11 <b>mid</b> 40:8 232:8 <b>middle</b> 165:8,13 <b>midst</b> 33:7 <b>miguel</b> 122:19,19 167:9 175:4 189:4 189:14,16 232:6,9 234:1 235:17 <b>mike</b> 133:1,15 <b>milligrams</b> 80:2,7 80:9,9 201:19 <b>million</b> 171:21 197:17 238:1,18 <b>mind</b> 30:4 63:15 74:2 76:3 104:3 108:3 197:21 218:3 223:7 254:9 256:13 257:4 <b>minds</b> 55:16 <b>minimize</b> 202:1</p>
--	--	--	---

<b>minnesota</b> 47:16 <b>minute</b> 25:18 133:5 176:13 185:4 195:4 227:11 <b>minutes</b> 3:5 133:5 146:1 149:8 160:8 160:10 187:18,20 190:20 209:8,11 209:12 <b>mirror</b> 230:4 <b>misrepresentation</b> 214:16 <b>misrepresentatio...</b> 216:7 <b>misstatement</b> 17:14 <b>mistake</b> 151:14 <b>mistakes</b> 75:20 96:4,6 <b>mistruths</b> 91:1 <b>mitigate</b> 246:8 <b>model</b> 36:1 <b>models</b> 255:8 <b>modular</b> 77:11 165:2,20 166:13 171:17 172:3,7 <b>moment</b> 2:8 3:4,8 24:19 39:13 182:12 183:15 189:1 190:19 256:12 <b>moments</b> 257:15 <b>monday</b> 154:1 <b>money</b> 7:21 21:16 197:14 240:12 252:20 <b>monitoring</b> 19:15 <b>montgomery</b> 229:13 <b>month</b> 4:9,19 6:4 6:12,14 43:3 47:7 58:7 72:19 115:4 125:20 150:4	205:18 208:15 250:21 <b>months</b> 60:18 101:19 113:18,21 133:10 145:16 149:15 151:8 153:7,18 154:3,12 155:18 157:1 158:3 163:10,11 197:13 206:1,10 207:1,16 208:5,9 208:21 211:12 228:21 <b>moran</b> 193:5 <b>moratorium</b> 171:7 171:16 173:12 174:13,19 175:20 176:2 <b>morris</b> 28:19 119:14 <b>motion</b> 7:13 8:12 10:11 110:20 111:5,6 142:9 157:13 158:7 159:5,7 162:9 177:2,9 190:4 217:9,18,19 218:20 219:1,4,6 219:6,15,18 220:2 220:7 225:20 226:5 231:8,10 234:19,21 235:1,4 238:12 259:6,10 <b>motivations</b> 150:13 <b>mouth</b> 124:18 125:1 <b>move</b> 33:12 39:10 66:21 100:14 110:21 114:11,12 124:5 127:21 142:1 161:21 162:2,5,7 187:12 187:15 202:11	217:10 220:8 221:4 222:5,6,7 225:5 250:6,19 <b>moved</b> 236:18 238:10 243:18 244:1 259:8 <b>moves</b> 3:19 4:4 <b>moving</b> 26:12 105:7 117:17 173:17 194:10 200:8 220:15 241:6,20 250:11 <b>multi</b> 67:19 68:2 <b>multidisciplinary</b> 35:13 36:14 41:18 44:20 45:6 <b>multiple</b> 43:14 83:18 85:11 215:11 <b>municipalities</b> 199:19 <b>municipality</b> 90:7 94:7,21 104:4 167:14,20 198:9 <b>mute</b> 112:2 <b>muted</b> 11:1 111:3 158:19	<b>nationally</b> 29:12 <b>natural</b> 238:2 <b>nature</b> 18:12 20:14,16 28:17 201:10 <b>nay</b> 226:12 <b>near</b> 204:18 <b>nearby</b> 26:9 <b>nearing</b> 199:8 <b>nearly</b> 201:18 <b>necessarily</b> 64:14 115:10 117:6 141:15 144:20 186:2 <b>necessary</b> 141:1 145:9 <b>necessity</b> 14:15 <b>need</b> 6:7 8:19 9:3 9:3 20:16 24:16 38:4 39:4 41:11 51:21 70:9 74:1 74:11 75:5,6,11 76:18 88:21 97:19 98:3 107:20 109:8 120:11 125:5 129:10 133:2,20 135:1 136:8 137:19 145:20 150:1 152:12 175:4 183:1 184:3 188:18 198:10 202:1 218:8 220:10 227:1 234:19 <b>needed</b> 36:19 37:1 41:14 64:17 66:18 66:19 100:11 176:4 191:20 201:13 231:11 <b>needing</b> 64:18 73:12 <b>needs</b> 42:17 72:10 106:14 126:7,8 129:10,12 133:6
		<b>n</b>	
		<b>nagle</b> 12:4,7,17 14:4,7 22:8 23:16 23:19 24:1 <b>name</b> 58:16 77:14 77:16,17 146:9 <b>named</b> 214:8 261:3 <b>names</b> 145:19,21 153:9 <b>narrative</b> 68:8 <b>narrow</b> 225:7 <b>nation</b> 6:3 7:19 <b>national</b> 4:9,19 26:3 33:3,8 43:2 47:7 54:4	

136:17 139:20 177:2 184:18 202:7 <b>negative</b> 18:11 20:13,16 72:16 160:20 <b>neglect</b> 34:20 <b>neighbor</b> 53:18 <b>neighborhoods</b> 54:17 <b>neighboring</b> 223:21 251:19 <b>neighbors</b> 245:4 <b>neither</b> 12:21 <b>net</b> 49:9,11,12,19 <b>nets</b> 50:3 <b>never</b> 3:6,6 62:18 89:14 129:7 131:19,19,20 140:3,3 146:4 212:8,12 <b>new</b> 21:13 22:8 44:4,6 45:2 67:19 69:16 72:7,10 75:7,8 99:1,3,6,9 99:14 115:17 126:21 140:3 149:18 150:1,5,15 150:16,21 151:9 151:11 152:1,12 162:18 163:13 164:7,7 166:4 168:4 169:4,7,16 170:5,12,14 171:11,19 172:13 172:16 173:6 174:5 179:4,15 192:21 198:21 199:7,14 200:4 202:20 204:21 205:16 208:12,17 212:15,20 221:15 238:13 241:21	<b>news</b> 32:6 <b>nice</b> 21:10 25:15 29:15 136:15 137:2 193:19 <b>nicely</b> 25:11 <b>nick</b> 109:1 <b>night</b> 53:2 64:20 122:15 228:5 229:10 244:11 254:16 258:3 <b>nine</b> 42:10,13 <b>nitrogen</b> 78:7 79:17 80:3 190:8 190:9 201:15,19 <b>non</b> 34:21 35:11 <b>nonprofit</b> 40:3 <b>nonprofits</b> 54:12 <b>normally</b> 123:13 189:2 <b>notary</b> 261:2,17 <b>note</b> 18:5 208:20 242:20 250:20 <b>noted</b> 190:12 195:9 259:7 <b>notes</b> 255:13 261:6 <b>notice</b> 256:21 <b>notified</b> 132:6 135:15 215:12 <b>notify</b> 129:12 130:16,20 133:13 133:16 <b>notifying</b> 132:6,7 <b>notorial</b> 261:13 <b>november</b> 32:14 72:3 73:7 76:4 79:8 88:13 89:2,8 94:16 163:20 <b>number</b> 26:9 27:1 41:6 46:16 51:9 67:4 80:4 86:8 128:3 147:3 150:18 152:9 161:3,4 162:4	206:15 221:10 235:21 237:12 <b>numbered</b> 128:6 217:11 <b>numbers</b> 42:5 55:14 80:5 257:7 <b>nurse</b> 38:17 44:7 62:20 <b>nutrient</b> 78:7 <b>nutrients</b> 79:18 <b>o</b> <b>o'clock</b> 134:15 258:7,8,18 <b>observe</b> 36:15 <b>observing</b> 59:12 <b>obtained</b> 18:3 <b>obviously</b> 27:20 72:18 125:4 147:14 <b>occasions</b> 133:4,9 <b>occupied</b> 205:12 206:11 <b>occur</b> 95:2 180:11 205:14 208:6 215:10 <b>occurred</b> 214:4 <b>occurs</b> 6:6 205:8 <b>october</b> 44:15 64:12 75:2 79:8 117:14 <b>offender</b> 43:6 <b>offending</b> 34:21 35:11 <b>offer</b> 58:3 59:11 162:2 219:17 <b>offered</b> 45:4 163:19 182:14 183:6 184:18 185:20 187:2 <b>offering</b> 162:8 178:2,7 183:4 <b>offhand</b> 224:4 <b>office</b> 37:6 39:16 39:18 70:17	<b>officer</b> 189:3 195:10 245:6 <b>official</b> 73:18 <b>officially</b> 74:1,5 222:3 <b>officials</b> 257:20 258:20 <b>offline</b> 127:15 <b>oftentimes</b> 8:4 <b>oh</b> 14:4 25:3 46:1 49:7 52:1 77:13 83:3 116:21 153:4 188:5 194:20 223:1,6 229:4 <b>okay</b> 3:13,20 4:6 7:2,9,9,9 11:5,17 12:17 14:2 16:4 24:17 25:3,6 30:9 31:8,17 44:2 66:1 66:20 72:2,17 77:21 78:2 80:4,7 86:6 87:10 96:2 96:10 100:21 107:17,17 109:21 111:5,18 114:18 115:19,19 116:21 117:1,2 126:20 127:1,17,20 132:4 138:7,17 140:12 142:13 143:4 146:5 154:13 157:12 158:7 159:5 160:15 161:16 165:14,14 176:13 178:15 180:6 182:5,19 184:3 186:20 187:1,12,16 191:7 191:20,21 192:5 194:20 195:2 196:8 203:14,14 209:13 211:21 217:21 220:5,8,14 220:14,17 221:6
---	---	--	--

222:2,7,9,21 223:4,13 225:3,19 226:4 230:5,5,14 231:10 232:5 237:11 238:12,21 243:5,7 255:13 256:9,10,14 257:8 259:21 <b>old</b> 63:10 165:18 212:8,13 213:3 237:18 <b>older</b> 197:6 <b>omicron</b> 227:11 <b>once</b> 37:2 60:6 83:20 105:14 125:20 145:18 147:10 148:9,18 196:6 211:8 243:12,18,21 <b>ongoing</b> 95:5 207:12 <b>ons</b> 148:6 <b>open</b> 21:6,8 44:14 54:11 64:12 75:3 90:5 93:9 100:5 104:3 128:20 161:17 175:7 187:17 194:13 220:19,21 221:2 221:18 236:13 239:5 258:8 <b>opened</b> 47:8 <b>opening</b> 3:10 <b>operate</b> 198:5 <b>operated</b> 197:10 207:3 <b>operating</b> 165:3 166:1 198:4 <b>operation</b> 19:2 37:12,18 62:3 <b>operator</b> 214:9 <b>opinion</b> 17:9,10 17:11 20:20 22:10 68:16 71:8 72:4	82:20 92:18 93:8 98:20 99:12,14 104:18 105:13 113:9 117:4 123:7 124:1 191:11 194:3 195:7 <b>opinions</b> 123:13 180:18 <b>opportunities</b> 45:4 55:18 216:1 <b>opportunity</b> 47:3 57:17 59:7 60:4 66:12 68:18 69:4 99:5,16 102:12 108:19 110:10 151:16 225:12 227:5 243:20 <b>opposed</b> 52:5 70:14 80:9 153:7 <b>opposite</b> 118:11 207:18 <b>option</b> 164:21 <b>options</b> 199:1 <b>order</b> 14:19 15:6 36:20 81:8,12 110:17 112:3 119:9 176:6 206:17 <b>ordered</b> 99:2,4 244:17 <b>orders</b> 166:8 <b>organization</b> 7:8 33:4 58:6 64:7 187:20 <b>organizations</b> 8:19 33:6 39:14 40:7 54:12 64:2 <b>original</b> 212:7,9 212:12 216:4 <b>ought</b> 155:7 <b>ourself</b> 104:1 <b>outcome</b> 137:12 261:12	<b>outdated</b> 128:10 <b>outreach</b> 44:12 58:2 <b>outside</b> 251:6 <b>outstanding</b> 166:7 206:18,20 207:10 <b>overall</b> 190:11 <b>overburdened</b> 131:3 132:14,21 <b>overkill</b> 133:3 <b>overreach</b> 168:13 <b>overrule</b> 112:6,7 112:11 <b>overturned</b> 73:7 <b>overview</b> 47:18 <b>overwhelming</b> 246:4 <b>owner</b> 174:8 <b>oxford</b> 258:11,21	116:13,15,18,21 117:2 120:3,11 121:1 122:5,14 127:8,14,18 130:18 131:2,12 131:15,20 132:13 135:14,17 138:18 139:10,13 140:10 140:12,18 141:2,7 142:10 143:1,2,4 145:1,10,13 147:21 149:2 150:9 152:11 153:14 154:16 155:1,9,12 156:5 157:11 158:18,18 158:19 159:1,6,10 159:21 160:1,18 160:20 165:5,10 165:12,14 167:11 167:16,19 168:7 168:11,19 170:16 171:6 172:21 173:2,13,16,21 175:6,9 176:6,14 176:17,20 177:9 177:13 178:2,6,18 178:20 182:4,8,14 182:19 183:4,7,18 183:20 184:1,6,9 184:15 185:3,5,7 185:13,17 186:4 186:19 187:1,7,13 188:20 195:5,16 196:3 203:14 209:12,16 211:13 217:7,8,18 218:6 218:14,20 219:3,5 219:10,12 220:1,7 220:16 221:4 222:4 226:15,16 231:9 232:3,4 234:19 235:1,15 235:16 236:18
		<b>p</b>	
		<b>p.m.</b> 1:7 258:7,9 258:19 259:2 260:3 <b>pack</b> 1:17 4:11,14 7:13 10:21,21 11:1 22:20,21 28:9 44:16 60:13 60:15 62:14,15 69:7 80:13 81:8 81:10,12 86:4,12 86:21 87:3,8 88:2 89:6,10,13,18 90:15 91:1 93:10 93:14,17,21 94:1 95:15 96:8 101:7 102:19 104:12 105:20 107:14 108:8 109:7,12,16 109:20 110:3,9,15 111:16,17,20 112:9,20 113:3,6 113:17,20 114:5 114:16,19 115:3,7 115:12,19 116:8	

237:9,10 238:10 240:1,1,2 241:1,3 241:9 244:6 245:18,19,21 249:11 259:20 <b>package</b> 162:4 <b>packet</b> 68:16 89:9 95:19,20 123:11 174:16 237:14 <b>packets</b> 123:5 <b>page</b> 126:17 128:19 139:1 165:7,8 <b>paid</b> 205:7 <b>paint</b> 143:21 <b>pandemic</b> 29:5 33:21 42:4 56:3 56:21 57:17 245:21 246:14 255:14 <b>paragraph</b> 129:19 139:1 165:8,9 172:20 <b>parallel</b> 100:2 <b>parcel</b> 67:13,15 <b>parcels</b> 67:14 <b>parent</b> 61:2 <b>parenting</b> 54:14 <b>parents</b> 30:1 60:20 63:9 <b>paris</b> 31:5 46:6,20 46:21 59:17 60:7 60:16,18 66:6 <b>parking</b> 60:20 <b>parks</b> 238:3 <b>parlor</b> 28:16 <b>part</b> 17:5 19:3 29:16 34:1 41:13 43:1 59:6 61:5 70:6 76:18 121:14 121:18 124:9 128:18 212:9 232:17 234:6 236:7 239:2,5	241:17 <b>participate</b> 38:4 <b>participated</b> 33:19 34:11 <b>particular</b> 103:4 148:18 151:20 211:4 <b>parties</b> 119:15 261:11,11 <b>partner</b> 6:8 12:12 16:6,8 <b>partners</b> 11:8,9 35:17 44:21 246:7 246:21 <b>partnership</b> 57:2 57:4,8 233:13 <b>partnerships</b> 37:12,14 <b>parts</b> 51:16 <b>party</b> 53:1 <b>pass</b> 72:13 73:14 76:9 83:13 92:7 136:20 <b>passed</b> 69:5 72:6 91:15 175:10 190:4 227:3 247:5 <b>passes</b> 77:15 180:14 <b>passing</b> 76:14 <b>passionate</b> 102:19 104:11 106:9 <b>patrick</b> 130:1 135:21 139:11 <b>paul</b> 57:16 <b>pay</b> 30:1 63:11,12 79:17 85:4,4 88:10 92:4 199:13 204:21 240:11 <b>paying</b> 85:9,10 198:18 <b>payroll</b> 20:5 <b>peak</b> 197:10 <b>peas</b> 154:1,3,8 157:11	<b>pending</b> 222:8 <b>penetration</b> 41:9 <b>people</b> 5:4 10:7 15:16,17 16:2 21:15 22:12 27:12 27:15,15,16 29:21 41:3 45:15 51:15 52:11 55:9 60:9 62:6 63:3 65:7,12 78:18 80:16 86:8 88:11,15 90:3 91:6 101:3,20 102:1 104:10,15 104:16 105:9 106:9,11 107:10 108:5 110:11,13 114:21 115:8 117:10 127:15 136:16 137:20 146:11,12 147:5,7 147:11 151:18 162:14 164:18 175:20 181:1 187:13 188:7 197:13 200:17 220:19 221:3 231:11,13 240:16 246:9,16 247:2 249:1,9 250:10,11 250:17 251:9 252:13,18 253:6 254:18 255:9,12 255:15 256:6 257:2,20 258:1 <b>people's</b> 60:11 <b>peper</b> 236:7 238:20 239:2 240:9,18 241:3 <b>percent</b> 90:11 105:20 201:16 236:12,17 <b>perfect</b> 11:18,18 31:17 61:18 200:19	<b>perfectly</b> 133:21 <b>performing</b> 201:17 <b>period</b> 83:9,14 85:20 86:1 89:16 150:12 205:14 <b>permission</b> 87:18 90:11,16 91:2 94:5 <b>permit</b> 73:9,10,10 74:15 75:7,7,8 87:19 94:11 166:15 171:2 201:14 204:13 205:15,16 207:4 211:9,16,17 <b>permits</b> 72:9 163:12 193:3 208:10,11 211:20 213:21 214:3 215:11 <b>permitted</b> 205:21 224:17 <b>permitting</b> 202:12 <b>perpetrated</b> 8:21 17:19 <b>perpetrators</b> 6:16 <b>person</b> 8:7 26:6 44:14 49:14 50:7 56:15 57:1,21 58:4,8 59:15 105:1 137:13 175:1 227:15 251:21 <b>person's</b> 156:6 <b>personal</b> 47:21 196:21 244:21 245:3 <b>personalities</b> 93:4 <b>personalized</b> 33:14 <b>personally</b> 261:3 <b>personnel</b> 258:15
--	---	---	--

<b>persons</b> 247:9	<b>phosphorus</b> 78:7	82:11,13,21 83:3	208:1,12,17,17
<b>perspective</b> 19:5,7	79:18 198:1	83:8 85:18 87:4,6	209:2 211:8,18,20
206:8 255:4	<b>photo</b> 50:10 58:10	88:7,12,20 91:18	212:8,13 213:12
<b>perspectives</b>	58:19	91:21 92:2,10,12	213:16 214:2,18
251:8 252:7	<b>physical</b> 34:19	92:15 97:11 98:19	214:19,21 215:5
<b>pete</b> 1:15 110:14	38:15 247:18	99:11,13 100:16	215:10,15,19
<b>peter</b> 57:16	255:16	101:5 102:13	216:4 237:13,19
<b>petition</b> 128:16	<b>pick</b> 127:4	105:18 106:2,8	238:13 241:21
141:12,13,16,19	<b>picture</b> 18:16	112:20 113:2,4,6	<b>plants</b> 78:4
143:16,18 144:1	<b>pictured</b> 47:12	121:5,11,12,16	<b>plate</b> 103:3
144:15,17 145:17	<b>piece</b> 75:5	122:3,7 123:9,19	<b>play</b> 50:14 86:12
146:4,20 147:4,8	<b>piecemeal</b> 118:5	124:7 125:12	236:9 251:4
147:10,11,18,20	<b>pieces</b> 75:11	126:2 163:19	<b>players</b> 101:5
148:2,3,7,9,15,18	<b>pimps</b> 29:20	166:21 167:3	102:13 103:5,8
149:18 150:17,21	<b>pivot</b> 215:9	175:15 177:3	120:18,20 126:6
151:5,7,12 152:3	<b>place</b> 3:1 7:19	179:11 180:16	<b>please</b> 3:10 4:17
152:20 153:15,17	19:4,6 21:16 22:9	183:2 189:2,7,20	9:12 10:12 27:19
153:19,20,21	22:13,13 32:13	192:12,17 193:8	28:4 34:13 37:9
154:2,11,12	35:4,19 50:21	193:21 194:17	41:2 44:3 47:17
155:17 156:5,7,19	75:12 139:11	195:8,9,19 197:2	48:16 50:4 53:8
156:21 157:9,21	147:17 199:7	199:8 206:1	53:20 55:2 59:13
158:2	202:16 225:17	218:12 249:17,21	67:3 123:17 127:9
<b>petitioned</b> 143:17	253:5,8 261:4	<b>plans</b> 202:8 216:2	128:2 142:6,7
<b>petitioner</b> 100:8	<b>placed</b> 7:21	<b>plant</b> 72:8 76:8,11	156:18 160:8
119:3 143:5 145:3	<b>places</b> 26:2 252:12	77:10 78:21 80:6	161:3 162:11
149:1	<b>plan</b> 67:7,7 68:4,8	80:6 81:5 97:13	188:10 210:5,7
<b>petitioner's</b>	68:9 69:13,18	97:18 98:7 104:19	223:11 228:1
118:17	70:2,4,5,5 71:6,18	104:20 105:2	231:15 235:6
<b>petitioning</b> 144:3	84:6,7,13,16 90:9	163:1 164:3,4,8,9	238:15 240:20
144:6	90:13 91:3,9 92:6	164:20 165:3,21	242:19 259:4
<b>petitions</b> 128:8	92:14 94:6,9,19	166:6,13,16 167:5	<b>pleased</b> 26:18 27:6
141:9 143:4,9,19	126:12,12 161:6	168:1,4,4 169:7,9	<b>pleasure</b> 60:15
146:5,21 147:1,1	163:5 190:4	169:13 170:6,21	61:1
151:19	192:14,18 201:21	171:3,12 172:2	<b>pledge</b> 3:11
<b>phase</b> 161:7	202:15,19 213:14	173:9 190:10,12	<b>plenty</b> 13:9
162:19 163:9,14	213:15,17,21	190:13,15 197:5,6	<b>ploy</b> 82:19 83:6
164:1,2 170:12	215:3 216:4 233:8	197:6,7,8,12,19	84:9 85:15 86:2
173:3,7 174:2,3	239:3 241:17	197:21 198:2,8,12	87:3,8 115:8
207:15	<b>planned</b> 67:10	198:13,17,21	<b>plus</b> 237:17
<b>phone</b> 29:19 63:19	<b>planning</b> 68:17,19	199:7,14,16 200:5	<b>point</b> 43:6 81:8,12
188:1 249:17	69:10,11 70:12,20	200:7 201:13,14	82:7 88:5 89:17
250:8	71:3,15,20 72:3	201:18 202:7,10	89:20 90:18
<b>phones</b> 29:19 30:2	72:12 73:12,16	204:11,13,21	107:13 110:17
	74:11 75:16,19	205:17,19 207:3	112:2,3 119:9

123:21 124:11,13 124:19,20 127:9 134:3 135:12 138:11 145:11 148:1 150:18 152:9 176:6 186:16 192:19 193:6,19 194:7 199:6,6 200:3 215:7 232:10 236:5 243:18 246:11 248:11,12 248:13 257:5 <b>pointed</b> 62:8 <b>points</b> 101:16 149:11 212:19 248:10 <b>police</b> 258:11,12 <b>policy</b> 94:12 <b>political</b> 82:19 83:6 <b>politics</b> 213:6 214:6 216:10,13 253:19 <b>poopy</b> 52:3 <b>pops</b> 7:10 243:2,6 <b>population</b> 61:8 228:19 <b>populations</b> 54:17 <b>portion</b> 163:8 164:1 207:14 224:14 <b>portions</b> 67:8 <b>position</b> 73:18 152:1 <b>positive</b> 13:5 255:7,8,12 <b>possibility</b> 193:2 215:9 <b>possible</b> 58:21 124:4 149:1 <b>possibly</b> 7:7 97:21 157:16	<b>pound</b> 79:17 <b>power</b> 84:12 89:13 89:15 94:3 252:19 <b>powerful</b> 48:13 <b>practicality</b> 206:5 <b>practice</b> 36:1 <b>practitioner</b> 44:7 <b>pray</b> 2:21 <b>prayer</b> 3:10,11 <b>pre</b> 57:17,18 137:19 138:1,2 <b>precisely</b> 99:5 <b>preclude</b> 135:19 136:5 148:1,10 <b>predators</b> 29:20 <b>predetermined</b> 137:11 <b>preference</b> 215:2 <b>prejudice</b> 68:11 118:20 <b>preliminarily</b> 99:1 <b>preliminary</b> 199:9 202:9 <b>premature</b> 104:8 194:4 <b>prepare</b> 189:19 <b>prepared</b> 13:4 31:12 107:14 162:3 224:4 <b>preparing</b> 46:1 242:14 <b>prerecorded</b> 58:4 <b>preschool</b> 53:11 <b>presence</b> 2:19 248:18 261:9 <b>present</b> 151:11 157:5 198:1 204:5 223:9 232:10 <b>presentation</b> 7:7 11:6 12:5 13:17 15:11,14 31:10 34:14 47:6 53:10 53:17 56:6,8,12 57:20 59:2,14	60:8 62:13 64:19 151:9 245:5 <b>presentations</b> 49:20 54:1 55:21 56:4,15 57:1 <b>presented</b> 117:13 149:21 <b>presenting</b> 48:12 48:13 55:20 57:14 <b>presently</b> 198:20 <b>preservation</b> 233:9 <b>preserve</b> 199:6 <b>president</b> 31:19 46:5 66:11 68:14 119:9 125:3 141:21 183:11 187:5 203:21 214:9 234:18 242:10 243:9 244:14 253:14 <b>preston</b> 235:19,19 236:6 237:14 238:5 240:7,8 241:14,19 242:2 <b>presume</b> 124:4 <b>pretty</b> 89:3 234:2 250:10 <b>prevent</b> 9:6 146:2 146:8,12,19 147:9 151:17 154:14,16 155:14 <b>prevented</b> 26:16 <b>preventing</b> 46:11 154:20 <b>prevention</b> 4:11 4:12,13,19 5:17 6:4,9,13,15 8:11 32:3 39:17 43:2 46:13,19 47:7,9 47:19 55:5,6,15 59:4 249:5 <b>previous</b> 21:12 82:9 84:13 85:21	131:21 151:8 157:1 158:3 <b>previously</b> 132:8 <b>price</b> 1:18 8:14 10:19,20 21:10 22:3,11 65:2,16 70:10 71:9 72:1 76:1,11,16 77:16 77:21 79:12,16 80:2,19 86:3,6,14 86:17 87:2,6,9 88:4 89:8,12,17 90:18 91:5 93:13 93:16,20 95:12,16 95:18 98:1 110:6 110:11 111:3,14 111:15 115:15,20 116:1 117:3 119:2 119:8,12,21 120:14 121:9 122:6 123:4 125:16,18 126:9 127:3 128:12 131:1,9,14,18 132:13 134:15 136:21 137:7,11 137:18 138:6 140:2,17,18,19 141:8,20 142:3,10 142:20,21 143:5 143:14 144:11 145:1,14 147:13 147:21 148:20 149:6 150:18 151:13 152:4,9,13 153:10 154:13,20 155:2,11 156:3,9 157:10,12 158:16 158:17,21 159:2,5 159:19,20 160:7 160:12 161:18,20 162:10 164:11 165:7,11,15 167:15,17 168:6,9
--	--	--	--

168:17 169:2,14 170:7 171:9,13 172:10,17 173:11 173:15 174:12 175:8,13 176:13 176:16,19,21 177:6,7,15,19 178:4,8,10,14 181:16 182:6,12 183:3,9,14,19 185:2,15,18 189:1 189:6 195:13 210:6,9 211:21 213:3 216:12 217:21 218:7,17 219:3,5,20 220:18 221:6,16 222:2 225:5 226:13,14 228:17 229:6 230:1,8 232:1,2 235:3,13,14 237:7 237:8 238:16,18 238:21 239:9,20 239:21 243:9,10 243:11 244:8,9 259:18,18,19 <b>price's</b> 127:9 134:3 <b>printed</b> 261:6 <b>prior</b> 36:3 99:19 201:11 <b>priority</b> 68:4 <b>priuses</b> 79:3 <b>private</b> 6:8 51:16 199:18 224:8,18 224:20 <b>proactive</b> 73:21 <b>probably</b> 41:3 61:4 91:15 108:2 112:2 138:15 140:5 146:14 167:9 193:10 229:3 243:19	<b>problem</b> 5:1 8:17 14:1 81:10 105:11 118:2 127:20 133:12 140:4 160:13 192:2,2,11 192:11 196:18 210:20 220:6 224:10 250:5 251:7 252:6 <b>problems</b> 253:2 255:15,16 <b>procedure</b> 73:9 128:5 183:12 218:21 <b>procedures</b> 128:6 <b>proceed</b> 162:5 186:18 215:13 <b>proceeding</b> 69:2 <b>proceedings</b> 2:1 <b>process</b> 16:16 18:6 18:10,14,15 19:20 20:18 21:19,21 24:3 33:11 61:6 94:10 95:5 128:16 131:6 137:1,14,15 144:5 148:5 153:8 232:8 <b>processes</b> 19:4,21 20:13 21:17 24:10 <b>processing</b> 197:21 <b>proclamation</b> 4:8 4:17,18 7:15 8:3 11:3 25:17 26:19 <b>procure</b> 225:13 <b>procurement</b> 209:2,5 <b>professionalism</b> 24:6 <b>professionals</b> 35:13 36:15 <b>program</b> 32:3 38:9 40:16 46:20 47:9,14,19 48:1,2 54:8 55:8 56:5	57:9 64:13 229:12 232:18 233:16 234:14 236:13 239:5 <b>programmed</b> 67:20 <b>programs</b> 30:16 33:16 54:15,21 55:6 61:3 233:13 238:3 <b>progress</b> 67:21 94:14 199:3 <b>prohibition</b> 150:11 <b>project</b> 47:16 59:7 67:11 68:6,10 88:1 100:14 115:4 161:8 164:10,16 165:17,21 174:5 197:17 204:10 213:8 215:17 237:21 252:6 <b>projects</b> 46:8 68:5 234:11 <b>promoted</b> 29:2 <b>promoting</b> 5:17 <b>proper</b> 98:10 <b>properly</b> 72:9 74:16 <b>properties</b> 234:10 <b>property</b> 67:9,17 71:13 84:21 85:3 85:6 174:8 <b>proposal</b> 129:3 <b>propose</b> 69:3 130:15 <b>proposed</b> 129:2 130:2 135:5 163:6 163:16 173:4 184:10 193:15 206:13 207:13 213:19 <b>proposing</b> 141:12 191:4	<b>prosecution</b> 6:9 6:16 <b>protect</b> 37:7 <b>protection</b> 53:19 234:10 <b>protective</b> 35:14 36:6 <b>protein</b> 229:19 <b>proud</b> 45:1 240:10 251:17 253:9 254:15 256:8,9,17 257:12,16 258:2 <b>proudly</b> 34:11 <b>provide</b> 5:5 34:5,5 34:9 35:21 37:15 38:9,17 39:14 40:5,21 42:16 43:9 45:11 58:18 59:2 61:10 98:19 191:11 192:20 <b>provided</b> 14:18 35:12 39:11,20 42:12 45:2 66:14 70:19 164:16 165:1,17 <b>providers</b> 245:8 248:2 249:7 <b>provides</b> 34:18 37:21 38:15 40:15 40:17 205:4 <b>providing</b> 45:18 48:2,6,8 63:4 204:15 <b>provision</b> 208:9 <b>prying</b> 27:15 <b>public</b> 6:8 26:13 26:14 57:3 71:1 75:3 83:19 89:21 95:5 100:6,9 102:18 108:16 117:14 122:8,16 123:5,11 128:9 130:9 148:11 153:1 154:14,17
--	--	---	--

155:5,15,17 156:4 160:5,16 162:1,6 162:15 167:6,8 174:20 176:3,4,11 176:11 177:19,21 178:4,5,16 179:7 179:11,13,16 180:6,8,9,10,11 180:15,16,21 181:19,21 183:16 184:4,5 185:19,21 186:3,10,11,13,17 187:17 189:3,7,8 189:12 190:1 192:16,19 193:1 193:17 194:13,17 195:6,8,10,11,12 195:20 196:1,6,6 196:9 201:11 205:19 207:5 217:8 218:9 220:10,13,20 221:2,18,19 222:3 224:8,9,14 225:8 231:2 242:17 243:14 251:1 252:8 254:6 256:20 257:19 261:2,17 <b>pull</b> 109:8 <b>pullen</b> 133:1,15 <b>pulling</b> 22:9 182:10,16 <b>purchase</b> 238:9 <b>purple</b> 143:21 <b>purpose</b> 122:1 134:21 <b>purposes</b> 141:3 151:19 <b>purview</b> 82:5,10 82:15 126:11 145:4,7 169:18 <b>push</b> 79:3	<b>put</b> 8:1 16:18 62:10 70:13 98:7 110:20 111:19 113:14 114:10 119:14,18 122:19 146:18 152:4,20 153:8 155:16,17 159:8 172:15 176:2 180:7 210:11,13,16 211:5,21 216:16 223:19 230:16 238:13 252:4 <b>puts</b> 65:18 73:17 153:21 255:4 <b>putting</b> 150:4 199:6 210:1 <b>pwab</b> 123:15 <b>q</b> <b>qualified</b> 147:3 <b>quality</b> 18:7 74:12 204:10 <b>quarterly</b> 258:20 <b>queen</b> 40:19 258:21 <b>question</b> 69:6 71:16 72:8,15 77:13 81:12 110:15 112:13,14 120:8 140:19 169:3 206:21 207:9 212:6 213:16 238:16 <b>questioned</b> 36:10 <b>questions</b> 13:9 16:2 18:3 21:3,7 22:6,18,21 23:2 36:7,9,19 50:14 74:14 210:7 216:20 232:16 233:15,19 <b>quick</b> 107:4 120:1 255:5,5,5	<b>quickly</b> 39:5 218:10 <b>quiet</b> 230:18 <b>quillet</b> 31:7 46:7 47:1 <b>quite</b> 13:3 29:6 91:15 227:14 250:7,13 <b>quote</b> 78:12 <b>r</b> <b>race</b> 208:3 <b>raise</b> 188:11 203:11,17 242:19 <b>raised</b> 203:8 <b>raises</b> 40:3 <b>raising</b> 48:7 <b>range</b> 241:17 <b>rarely</b> 35:3 <b>rates</b> 165:4 166:2 <b>ray</b> 85:9 189:8 192:3,5 193:12 241:9 <b>reaccreditation</b> 33:7,11 46:2 <b>reaccredited</b> 32:15,21 <b>reach</b> 27:19,20 29:20 55:10 78:6 96:12 <b>reaching</b> 41:10 135:20 168:16 <b>read</b> 4:16 20:9 25:17 67:2 80:19 93:15,17 95:19 122:10 128:1 139:7,17 146:14 157:16,21 161:2 164:12,14 172:21 213:4 217:12 225:20 237:14 253:12 <b>reading</b> 63:7 154:17 165:6 170:14	<b>reads</b> 139:15 <b>ready</b> 30:14 31:16 86:8 161:13 194:1 218:2,2,17 236:10 <b>real</b> 13:1 67:9 169:3 245:14 258:15 <b>reality</b> 52:7 199:15 206:5 216:8 <b>really</b> 14:12 18:19 20:13,15 23:3 39:4,19 44:17 51:10 52:10 53:13 53:16 54:5,17 56:19 59:3,7 60:10 62:2 64:4 66:6,7 82:4,5 89:3 101:9,16 103:1,15 103:16 104:20 106:11 107:20,21 108:1,1,6 113:13 119:2 124:16 129:19 130:13 136:14 148:21 152:1,12 181:18 193:19 194:4 209:18 227:2 228:8 231:12 240:10,13,13,15 243:13 248:12 254:3,9 <b>reappointment</b> 231:4 <b>rearview</b> 230:4 <b>reason</b> 78:2 82:12 85:18 200:16 220:20 221:17 <b>reasonable</b> 100:3 <b>reasonably</b> 17:13 <b>reasons</b> 51:9 87:1 202:18 <b>recall</b> 32:11 34:3 133:9
---	---	---	--

<b>receipt</b> 208:10 <b>receive</b> 35:9 64:12 97:4 <b>received</b> 18:1 75:18 249:16 <b>receives</b> 11:3 <b>receiving</b> 202:4 <b>recess</b> 160:14 <b>reclassify</b> 67:8 <b>recognize</b> 7:17 97:20 241:13 253:19 <b>recognizes</b> 6:5 201:21 <b>recognizing</b> 65:21 <b>recommendation</b> 70:19 92:10 123:5 123:11 245:10 <b>recommendations</b> 73:13 250:4 <b>reconsider</b> 150:2 <b>reconvene</b> 259:7 <b>record</b> 4:17 56:5 67:3 95:17 123:3 128:2 141:5 148:8 148:17 157:17 161:3 175:19 186:11,18 225:21 <b>recorded</b> 37:3 59:15 261:6 <b>recording</b> 148:4 <b>recordkeeping</b> 141:3 <b>records</b> 18:2 <b>recovered</b> 9:18 <b>recreational</b> 54:12 <b>recreationists</b> 190:17 <b>red</b> 130:19 <b>redirected</b> 163:15 <b>redo</b> 84:2 <b>reduce</b> 48:5 204:20	<b>refer</b> 132:16 <b>reference</b> 51:5 <b>referenced</b> 170:13 <b>referendum</b> 147:1 147:14 <b>referrals</b> 41:19 <b>referring</b> 174:6,7 <b>reflect</b> 49:1 <b>reflects</b> 163:18 <b>regard</b> 79:2 <b>regarding</b> 128:6 161:6 233:1 246:13 250:20 <b>regardless</b> 251:20 <b>regiment</b> 223:20 <b>region</b> 39:9 40:16 <b>regional</b> 37:17 38:14 39:9,12 44:20 45:3 <b>regular</b> 189:3 <b>regularly</b> 250:8 <b>regulations</b> 198:10 199:19 <b>regulatory</b> 81:21 171:2 <b>reimbursed</b> 238:7 238:19 <b>reimbursement</b> 236:13 238:1 <b>reinforce</b> 50:2 58:17 <b>reissuance</b> 75:9 <b>rejected</b> 94:17 <b>related</b> 68:6 190:7 191:1 233:9 261:11 <b>relationship</b> 96:14 <b>relative</b> 68:9 <b>release</b> 190:8 <b>reliant</b> 39:3 <b>relies</b> 229:19 <b>rely</b> 164:2 254:19 <b>remain</b> 242:7	<b>remains</b> 12:10 233:7 <b>remap</b> 67:8 <b>remember</b> 9:9 28:13,14,15 62:20 70:15 122:14 130:18 187:6 <b>remembers</b> 118:18 <b>reminding</b> 193:13 <b>remote</b> 227:9 <b>remotely</b> 36:17 82:12 227:9 <b>removal</b> 237:18 <b>remove</b> 140:10,11 <b>removed</b> 35:9 61:15 192:16 <b>render</b> 99:14 124:1,8 <b>rent</b> 63:12 <b>repeat</b> 77:13 <b>repeated</b> 90:6 <b>repercussions</b> 9:1 <b>replacement</b> 237:13 <b>replacing</b> 240:14 241:21 <b>reply</b> 90:4 93:7 <b>report</b> 17:4 18:12 79:5 189:6 195:18 230:20 <b>reported</b> 1:20 <b>reporting</b> 20:4 38:12 55:13,18 <b>reports</b> 5:20 202:9 <b>represent</b> 7:8 71:19 <b>representative</b> 109:1 <b>representatives</b> 44:19 258:10 <b>representing</b> 49:13 90:1 187:19 201:7	<b>request</b> 118:17 128:21 129:6 132:11 133:18 134:11,14,20 139:9,16,18 140:15,20 141:1,8 216:14 232:7,10 236:5 237:11 <b>requested</b> 18:2 238:1 <b>requesting</b> 145:3 231:3 237:15 238:5 <b>requests</b> 128:20 232:21 235:20 <b>require</b> 44:1 135:8 147:2 164:4 171:20,21 202:20 211:6 <b>required</b> 17:17 20:14 32:20 163:12 251:19 <b>requirement</b> 140:6 162:18 <b>requirements</b> 57:7 <b>requires</b> 112:13 112:15 208:2 <b>requiring</b> 175:21 <b>rescind</b> 67:5 70:13 82:9,17 83:5,19 84:13 85:21 89:14 89:16 97:10 116:9 118:19 177:1,1,7 <b>rescinded</b> 89:12 181:20 <b>rescinding</b> 69:12 70:11,17 71:8 73:3 98:5 101:13 <b>rescission</b> 72:17 85:19 <b>rescued</b> 6:2 <b>research</b> 92:19 136:1,10 153:9
---	--	---	--

<b>researching</b> 198:21 <b>reserve</b> 209:14 <b>residents</b> 26:10 197:15,16 <b>resining</b> 178:10 <b>resolution</b> 7:14 67:3,4,5,5,6 68:17 72:4,18 73:20 74:6 82:9,17 83:13 86:1 94:8 94:15 95:3,7 98:20 99:7,8,9,12 99:15 108:9 110:21 113:7 117:21 118:11 128:1,3,4 136:4,8 140:13 145:5 150:2 161:3,4,5 161:13 162:4 163:11,21 179:10 179:12,18,19,20 180:1,2,3 183:16 187:9 189:21 190:3 191:11 192:13,15 193:2,7 201:9 204:4 205:2 207:17 211:4 217:11,15 221:15 <b>resolutions</b> 67:1 106:21 128:7 <b>resolves</b> 144:20 <b>resource</b> 47:15 54:4 56:12,13 <b>resources</b> 9:16 42:16 56:8 59:3 229:16 238:3 253:16 <b>respect</b> 86:14,18 94:10 102:1 108:9 108:9 117:3 140:8 184:7 187:8 <b>respectful</b> 219:9	<b>respond</b> 39:5 <b>response</b> 135:9 245:14 246:5 <b>responses</b> 18:4 <b>responsibility</b> 48:14 <b>rest</b> 189:11 228:5 252:15 <b>restaurant</b> 27:3 28:15 169:11 170:2 <b>restrict</b> 148:14,15 <b>restrictive</b> 128:16 <b>resubmit</b> 153:5 <b>result</b> 38:5 114:16 <b>results</b> 16:1 34:12 <b>resumed</b> 56:15 <b>rethink</b> 153:7 <b>retired</b> 109:9 <b>return</b> 245:10 <b>revenue</b> 20:5 <b>reverse</b> 69:21 <b>reversed</b> 69:21 <b>review</b> 72:21 99:17 121:5,17 125:12 130:9 231:3 <b>reviewed</b> 147:18 <b>reviewing</b> 71:5,21 75:1 88:15 117:8 126:6,6 <b>revised</b> 69:15 135:12 <b>revolve</b> 249:18 <b>rid</b> 166:19 <b>right</b> 8:18 10:6 11:4 21:15 25:20 26:6 27:2 28:2 33:2 43:5 47:13 48:20 50:19 52:2 55:4 56:20 65:17 66:19 70:16 71:11 74:21 79:5 80:1 84:19 96:2 98:6	98:11 101:11,12 102:6,7 103:19,20 103:21 104:6,13 105:20 106:1 107:16,16 110:12 116:5 117:19 118:12 120:16 123:3 124:12,17 127:19 131:15 143:5 147:18 148:14,15 150:18 153:3,6 155:7,19 160:5,6,9,18 161:1,11 165:12 175:14,16 178:8 181:12 182:12 183:3 184:4,4,5 184:20 185:15 187:1,16,16 189:17 191:17,18 196:2 208:4 218:12 221:10,16 223:5 225:3 226:4 227:6,9,17 228:16 230:11 239:11 241:1,5 243:1,2 243:21 248:3 251:15 252:9 257:9,10 <b>rings</b> 34:1 <b>rink</b> 238:14 <b>rise</b> 55:14 <b>rising</b> 55:14 <b>risk</b> 19:13 <b>road</b> 95:9 <b>roadblock</b> 252:2 <b>rob</b> 214:8 <b>roberts</b> 231:6 <b>role</b> 53:19 251:4 255:7 <b>roles</b> 63:4 <b>roll</b> 10:12 238:15 <b>rooms</b> 28:18	<b>rose</b> 132:1 <b>round</b> 13:2 80:5 <b>route</b> 215:20 216:6 <b>row</b> 32:17 <b>ruin</b> 52:21 <b>rule</b> 52:8,18 82:16 85:19 134:10 151:14 218:21 <b>rules</b> 49:10,15,18 50:5,13,16 92:5 128:5 188:18 198:10 199:18 <b>run</b> 61:3 198:12 200:7 230:21 253:8 <b>running</b> 105:2 131:4 <b>runs</b> 33:17 <b>rural</b> 232:8 233:2 233:3 234:3 235:2 <b>ryan</b> 126:16 172:4 203:18 204:1
			<b>s</b>
			<b>s</b> 67:17,21 71:14 85:1,3,6,11 <b>sad</b> 255:17 <b>safe</b> 48:10,15 49:6 51:14 52:1 53:6 55:19 58:5,8 105:2 229:21 230:6 250:16 251:11 253:5 <b>safer</b> 236:10 <b>safety</b> 27:12 46:19 47:21 49:9,10,15 49:19 50:3,5 116:19 251:1 256:4 <b>sakes</b> 126:16 <b>salinas</b> 189:15,17 189:19 191:7,20 193:12 232:12,15

<p><b>sanitary</b> 67:20 68:2 <b>satterfield</b> 232:13 232:15 234:1 235:18 <b>saving</b> 245:3 <b>saw</b> 55:11 <b>saying</b> 72:16 75:19 80:12,16 91:11 95:8 96:3 103:2 105:10 109:7,10,11,12,16 114:1,5,6,21 136:6,12 137:9 138:3,3,5 139:3 139:10 141:10 152:14 153:14 154:2,5,6,10,19 155:9,10,12 156:8 156:9,12 168:2 173:7 174:1 179:14 185:12 210:13 211:11 248:5,6 <b>says</b> 17:12 22:12 80:20 81:2 85:13 128:19 129:4 138:21 141:9 145:16,16 150:19 153:21 164:13 165:12 166:18 167:4 169:4 170:5 171:11 174:3 207:14 208:9 211:3 251:19 <b>sb</b> 11:9,14 12:13 24:6 <b>scenarios</b> 50:15 <b>scenes</b> 64:15 <b>schedule</b> 125:4 <b>scheduled</b> 46:3 58:6 124:4 180:21 <b>schmidt</b> 188:12,15 196:10,13,16,19</p>	<p>200:10,19,21 <b>school</b> 36:5 56:18 57:12,13,18 247:7 <b>schools</b> 54:10,21 57:3 246:10,20 252:11 <b>sciences</b> 45:10 <b>scope</b> 16:10 145:4 168:16 <b>scossa</b> 27:4 <b>scourge</b> 29:12 <b>scramble</b> 134:16 <b>screen</b> 12:6 15:10 15:12 31:12,14 33:18 <b>seal</b> 6:19 261:13 <b>season</b> 15:2 223:16,18 224:1 224:18,19 <b>seasons</b> 246:20 <b>seat</b> 102:15 104:5 228:11 <b>seats</b> 254:21 <b>second</b> 5:8 8:14 10:12 13:21 24:5 32:17 104:6 111:2 111:6 139:1 140:16,17,18,19 157:14,15 158:8 159:6,8 162:10 165:8 177:1,8,10 177:18 178:11 181:20 184:19 186:16 192:1 207:13 208:13,14 212:6 217:12,13 217:20 219:11,19 225:9,10,20 226:5 231:9,11 235:3,5 236:19 237:11 238:11,13 250:20 259:9,10 <b>seconded</b> 111:4 142:10 175:7,10</p>	<p>175:12 176:8,15 176:21 177:4,6,13 182:15,21 183:7,8 187:10 <b>seconds</b> 93:16 219:1,6 <b>secret</b> 52:2 <b>secretary</b> 4:16,18 7:1,5 10:11,13,15 10:17,19,21 11:2 24:18,21 25:4 31:14 67:2,4 68:12 91:6 111:6 111:8,10,12,14,16 128:1,3 138:11 140:21 141:2 142:5,8,13,16,18 142:20 143:1,3 148:4,10,17 158:8 158:10,12,14,16 158:18,20 159:13 159:15,17,19,21 161:2,4 177:5 188:3,6,10 196:8 196:10 201:1,3 203:6,8,15,16,20 217:6 220:9,12 222:10,12 225:19 226:1,5,7,9,11,13 226:15 230:10,12 231:14,16,18,20 232:1,3,13 235:5 235:7,9,11,13,15 236:20 237:1,3,5 237:7,9 238:14 239:12,14,16,18 239:20 240:1 242:16,18 243:3,8 259:11,12,14,16 259:18,20 <b>secrets</b> 52:19,20 53:4 <b>section</b> 161:7 163:4 170:13</p>	<p>173:3 174:3 <b>sections</b> 20:10 <b>sectors</b> 6:8 <b>secure</b> 40:7 <b>security</b> 43:10 <b>see</b> 7:5,7 9:14 11:16 13:20 14:6 15:10,11,13 16:10 21:11 24:21 32:6 33:17 35:3 41:5 42:2 46:13 47:12 58:19 61:14 69:12 69:21 71:7 95:15 100:17 102:16 103:5,15 104:9 145:13 152:7 165:11 173:4 187:13 191:18 205:13 213:10 215:2,19 217:19 218:11 222:20 223:1,2,2 246:7 247:12 248:7 250:7 251:18 252:3 254:2 255:12 257:11 <b>seeing</b> 60:16 <b>seeking</b> 50:11 <b>seen</b> 75:21 102:6,8 180:8 <b>segments</b> 18:20 <b>segue</b> 12:2 <b>sell</b> 79:2 <b>senator</b> 44:18 <b>send</b> 24:3 69:10 88:21 97:10 100:19 113:3 121:11 175:2 242:20 <b>sending</b> 14:21 74:3 97:15 100:16 113:1 122:6 167:1 167:2,3 168:10 178:1</p>
---	--	--	--

<p><b>seniors</b> 65:7</p> <p><b>sense</b> 72:21 74:2,7 103:12 104:5,17 118:3,8,10 124:6 136:18 137:8,10 147:15</p> <p><b>sensitive</b> 233:10</p> <p><b>sent</b> 84:3 122:2 126:17 190:1</p> <p><b>sentence</b> 139:7,14 140:20 157:20,20 169:4 206:13 207:13,14 208:1,7 208:8,14</p> <p><b>sentences</b> 164:12</p> <p><b>separate</b> 39:11 174:11 214:18 215:14</p> <p><b>separately</b> 124:2 214:15</p> <p><b>separation</b> 227:18</p> <p><b>september</b> 79:9 261:20</p> <p><b>septic</b> 169:11 170:3,3 174:8 249:19,20</p> <p><b>serious</b> 4:21 102:3</p> <p><b>seriously</b> 26:20 92:21 93:4</p> <p><b>serve</b> 34:20 35:10 45:12</p> <p><b>served</b> 41:6,17 42:7,8 45:16 68:1 68:1 204:10 213:11</p> <p><b>serves</b> 61:5 134:21</p> <p><b>service</b> 40:21 41:14 61:10 63:5 213:10</p> <p><b>services</b> 5:6 16:11 30:15 32:16 33:17 34:8,18 35:10,12 35:14,21 36:7 37:15,21 38:19</p>	<p>39:17 40:4,13,15 40:17 41:11 45:16 45:18 46:17 60:21 64:18 65:5 66:4</p> <p><b>servicing</b> 65:19</p> <p><b>session</b> 120:9,11 124:9 125:4,9,14 128:21 148:11 181:10 191:4,12 191:13,14,19 217:4 221:14,19 228:8 258:8,9,14</p> <p><b>sessions</b> 42:7 54:11 58:3</p> <p><b>set</b> 47:4 48:3 120:8 125:8 126:1 129:3 163:3 166:11 191:4 224:10 261:4</p> <p><b>setting</b> 58:4,8 191:3 200:14 229:11</p> <p><b>settings</b> 54:1</p> <p><b>seven</b> 130:5,8 234:11</p> <p><b>severe</b> 34:19</p> <p><b>sewer</b> 67:7 68:5 70:4 71:18 90:9 90:12 91:3,9 94:6 95:1 126:12 161:6 163:4 202:19 213:10,14,17,20 240:19</p> <p><b>sewerage</b> 163:3</p> <p><b>sex</b> 5:5,20 34:19 36:12 38:5,17 40:18 41:20 43:18 46:14 47:9,11,19 48:6</p> <p><b>sexual</b> 35:4</p> <p><b>sexually</b> 36:2</p> <p><b>seymour</b> 16:6</p> <p><b>shake</b> 90:13</p>	<p><b>share</b> 12:6 13:16 13:20 31:12,14 33:14 47:3 53:7 59:8 65:13 125:7 137:16,17 201:8 204:6</p> <p><b>shared</b> 67:20 68:2</p> <p><b>sheriff</b> 27:21 258:10</p> <p><b>shift</b> 106:19</p> <p><b>shifted</b> 104:17,18</p> <p><b>shoot</b> 63:21</p> <p><b>shore</b> 5:1,14 6:1 7:3 25:1,19 37:17 38:14 39:8,12 40:8 45:3 61:15 228:20 232:8,16 232:20 233:3,11 234:10,16</p> <p><b>short</b> 99:21 197:20 205:14 224:1</p> <p><b>shot</b> 72:1</p> <p><b>shoulders</b> 105:19</p> <p><b>shout</b> 249:6</p> <p><b>show</b> 21:15 45:1 109:4 146:3</p> <p><b>showalter</b> 93:8 126:17 127:6 172:5 203:18,20 203:21 204:2 209:9,10,13,17 210:7 211:13 212:18 213:5 217:1,2</p> <p><b>showed</b> 245:14</p> <p><b>showing</b> 31:11 33:21 34:11 79:7</p> <p><b>shows</b> 79:8,9,10 79:10</p> <p><b>sic</b> 17:18 185:6 211:13 251:15</p> <p><b>sick</b> 247:19</p>	<p><b>side</b> 22:7 92:1,15 105:12,19 215:19 216:5</p> <p><b>sides</b> 105:16</p> <p><b>sign</b> 64:16 146:3 147:4 251:18</p> <p><b>signature</b> 261:15</p> <p><b>significance</b> 206:7</p> <p><b>significant</b> 95:2 155:3,6</p> <p><b>silence</b> 2:8 3:5,8</p> <p><b>similar</b> 15:4 201:10</p> <p><b>simplify</b> 134:18 135:3</p> <p><b>simply</b> 89:1 100:1 110:19,19 135:13 186:9</p> <p><b>single</b> 16:14,15,18 17:5,7 18:10 93:2 129:12 130:16 137:15 156:11 198:15 214:19 215:19 236:2 253:10</p> <p><b>sir</b> 192:4 203:5 209:16</p> <p><b>sit</b> 87:15 90:13 108:13,14 257:9</p> <p><b>site</b> 32:12 33:10 46:2 215:4,6</p> <p><b>sitting</b> 15:16,18 100:21 105:9</p> <p><b>situation</b> 15:4 92:13 103:4 245:7</p> <p><b>six</b> 43:12 128:19 133:10 139:1 152:17 258:7</p> <p><b>sixth</b> 53:11 57:19</p> <p><b>skating</b> 238:14</p> <p><b>skepticism</b> 17:18</p> <p><b>skill</b> 48:3</p> <p><b>skills</b> 44:1 50:2</p>
---	--	---	---

<p><b>slapped</b> 84:14,14  <b>slide</b> 16:10 18:16  31:16 32:7 33:12  34:13 37:9 41:2  44:3 47:12,17  48:16 50:4 53:8  53:20 55:2 59:13  <b>slides</b> 19:1  <b>slow</b> 108:4 178:13  178:15  <b>smacks</b> 168:12  <b>small</b> 62:9 246:19  <b>smiling</b> 223:5  <b>snow</b> 79:3  <b>social</b> 5:11 30:15  32:16 33:17 37:20  40:4,13 46:17  60:21 103:14  <b>society</b> 248:19  <b>sold</b> 206:11  <b>sole</b> 157:4 158:6  237:16  <b>solid</b> 24:1  <b>solution</b> 107:9  212:17  <b>solve</b> 10:1 118:2  133:11 250:5  253:1  <b>solving</b> 251:6  <b>somebody</b> 7:10  51:21 96:21 104:7  105:15 116:6  137:13 141:12  143:20 146:2,8  151:10,21 154:20  203:17 249:19  253:21  <b>somewhat</b> 135:3  196:21  <b>soon</b> 124:4 205:20  206:3  <b>sooner</b> 208:6  <b>sorry</b> 4:13 7:15  8:7 11:1 75:19</p>	<p>77:13 111:3 142:8  158:19 159:11  161:9,10 165:5  166:1,9 187:3  188:5 203:16  207:16 209:10  229:4,20  <b>sort</b> 64:15 117:16  227:11  <b>sorting</b> 117:12  <b>soul</b> 65:18  <b>sound</b> 83:20  <b>sounds</b> 16:4 30:10  142:3 200:19  222:17  <b>source</b> 39:3  <b>sources</b> 39:1  <b>sovereign</b> 84:18  94:7 167:13,20  <b>space</b> 18:17 45:2  236:13 239:6  <b>speak</b> 14:9 19:1  22:4 37:5 136:16  181:1 187:18  188:10,14 192:1  196:12 203:9,10  203:18 239:10  242:19 243:4  <b>speakers</b> 203:12  <b>speaking</b> 64:7  174:4  <b>speaks</b> 18:6  <b>special</b> 44:1 46:7  65:9  <b>specialized</b> 35:19  43:20  <b>specially</b> 36:16  38:17  <b>specific</b> 19:8 56:6  56:7,11  <b>specifically</b> 70:9  132:1 213:14  233:15</p>	<p><b>speed</b> 13:11 106:7  <b>spend</b> 32:2  <b>spending</b> 226:18  252:19  <b>spent</b> 150:2 155:2  <b>split</b> 84:21  <b>spoke</b> 29:6 59:9  122:16  <b>spoken</b> 76:7  <b>sponsor</b> 4:8  <b>spray</b> 73:9 77:9  166:14 171:20  211:7 213:13  215:6 216:5  <b>spring</b> 57:21  224:2  <b>ss</b> 54:7  <b>st</b> 40:8,10 57:16  258:11,21  <b>stabilization</b>  42:13  <b>stable</b> 12:10  <b>staff</b> 21:14 54:3  56:17 61:2 65:12  114:9 120:8 125:3  125:11 140:1  194:12 256:9,10  256:13 258:9,10  260:2  <b>stage</b> 47:4 103:13  <b>stamp</b> 119:13  120:7 121:7,10,14  121:18 125:3  127:14 230:19  232:5 233:20  234:17 235:17  236:11,15 237:11  240:5 241:12  <b>stand</b> 2:8 83:2  97:6 223:11  <b>standalone</b> 213:10  <b>standard</b> 32:19  77:1 78:5,14,20  79:12 80:11</p>	<p><b>standards</b> 17:12  57:12 77:4 78:10  163:1,2 164:5  166:10,11 168:2  197:9 198:1,5  <b>start</b> 2:7 4:7 12:2  12:8 15:16 21:10  25:20 32:5 50:21  52:4,4 99:3  137:15 161:14  189:3 196:9 211:7  249:15 256:1  <b>started</b> 2:4 3:14  3:15 14:15 23:6  27:3 28:13 46:17  54:2 96:16 110:19  146:10 160:16  241:2 243:12  256:19,20 257:3  <b>starts</b> 15:17  <b>startup</b> 162:19  163:9,14 164:13  164:14,15 165:1  165:16 207:15  <b>state</b> 17:1 43:13  81:21 82:1 90:2,3  197:14 204:14  207:6 213:21  215:12 229:14  233:14 236:13  261:1,2  <b>state's</b> 36:8 37:6  <b>stated</b> 8:3 83:18  94:20  <b>statement</b> 16:9,12  17:3,16 18:21  73:8 74:6 89:1  122:6 245:12  258:16  <b>statements</b> 17:9  17:13 18:7 20:3  105:10  <b>states</b> 2:20 5:9 6:7  8:18 134:8 233:6</p>
---	---	--	--

<b>stats</b> 55:12	124:16 125:1	225:5 232:7,21	166:4 169:6 214:9
<b>statue</b> 113:20	144:14 242:15	234:13 247:13,14	<b>systems</b> 22:13
<b>status</b> 68:4 251:20	256:15 257:8	256:3,4	38:4 68:7,10
<b>statutory</b> 14:20	<b>subject</b> 99:8 100:3	<b>supported</b> 54:8	249:19
<b>stay</b> 139:6 252:17	162:21 166:5	69:17 131:5	<b>t</b>
<b>staying</b> 247:17	169:6	176:17 224:21	<b>table</b> 102:15 103:5
<b>steadily</b> 41:7	<b>submit</b> 149:4	<b>supporter</b> 61:13	103:8 104:6
<b>stem</b> 247:1	156:11 202:9	<b>supporting</b> 131:16	106:20 107:2,10
<b>stenographic</b>	206:15 239:1	148:2,11	108:5 113:15
261:6	<b>submitted</b> 134:13	<b>supports</b> 33:4	115:1 126:8
<b>stenographically</b>	152:8 202:8	38:1 59:3	228:12 257:6,9
261:6	<b>substance</b> 129:3	<b>sure</b> 11:2 14:11	<b>tactic</b> 87:3
<b>step</b> 9:7,21 20:1	150:17 151:12	15:13 19:3 24:20	<b>tactics</b> 5:3
63:3 73:21 103:3	<b>substandard</b> 81:5	31:9 36:18 38:21	<b>take</b> 4:1 7:17 9:5
135:10 253:21	<b>substantive</b>	39:4 45:17 105:7	9:12 11:7 21:16
<b>steps</b> 72:11	162:14	107:11 119:21	25:18 39:13 50:10
<b>stick</b> 93:11 243:20	<b>successful</b> 45:1	123:8 126:3	53:5 72:1,12
<b>sticking</b> 192:10	<b>successfully</b> 32:15	128:15 140:7	73:18,21 81:16
<b>stigmatized</b> 62:10	<b>sudden</b> 133:6	142:9 145:11	91:19 92:8,20
<b>stipulations</b> 261:8	<b>sufficient</b> 209:4	152:7 160:9	93:3,4 96:12,18
<b>stop</b> 10:8 28:3	<b>suggested</b> 82:13	175:19 182:4	109:21 112:6
90:20 91:1 114:6	<b>suggestions</b>	190:21 191:15	117:20,21 119:18
252:2	146:16 205:18	200:12 209:20,21	159:2 160:7 164:5
<b>story</b> 246:13	207:5 212:20	210:8 212:15	164:20 181:17
<b>stranger</b> 9:9 35:2	<b>suitable</b> 236:16	216:20 220:16	198:6 218:8 246:6
51:6,7	<b>sunday</b> 223:16,20	227:13 228:13	247:6,15,17 253:2
<b>street</b> 27:4 85:7,13	224:16,19	229:2 239:9 243:8	255:3 256:14
92:18	<b>sundays</b> 222:14	250:15,17 251:6	257:3
<b>streetlight</b> 144:7	223:18 224:5,16	255:6	<b>taken</b> 61:9 160:14
<b>stress</b> 246:3,17	225:11,18 226:3	<b>surely</b> 183:12	194:3,4 198:2
<b>stricken</b> 139:6	<b>super</b> 112:14,15	187:4	207:6,8
<b>strikeout</b> 132:9	<b>superintendent</b>	<b>surface</b> 190:16	<b>takes</b> 8:9 112:12
139:1	198:4	<b>surprise</b> 26:1 53:1	175:1 199:7 205:9
<b>strikeouts</b> 130:20	<b>supervisor</b> 38:9	53:5	205:10 206:10
139:11	<b>supply</b> 97:1	<b>surprises</b> 52:20	247:11 253:17
<b>strong</b> 245:9	<b>support</b> 4:10 6:10	<b>survey</b> 45:13,14	<b>talbot</b> 1:1 6:12,14
<b>strongly</b> 213:1	6:17 8:10,12,13	<b>survivors</b> 6:10,17	6:20 28:20 29:4
<b>student</b> 58:11	10:3,9 18:3 34:18	<b>susan</b> 193:5	30:14 32:1,15
<b>students</b> 246:10	36:21 39:15,21	<b>sustaining</b> 37:14	34:16 37:11,20
247:6,15,17	41:20 43:9 45:19	<b>sustains</b> 39:19	40:2,18 44:4 57:3
<b>stuff</b> 10:6 27:13	56:9 58:19 131:10	<b>system</b> 39:8,9	66:4 67:6 82:1
28:3 66:4 101:20	135:13 146:3	81:17,19,20,21	93:2 126:10 128:4
106:20 107:1	147:7,9 148:14	82:4,4 161:9,10	161:5 197:15
115:17 124:12,14	152:1 167:11	162:20 163:3,10	198:14 200:5

222:13 223:19 224:9 226:2 229:16 233:2 234:12 252:10 253:4 255:8 261:3 <b>talent</b> 65:4 <b>talk</b> 2:11 15:21 33:15 34:4 35:2 46:10,20 51:1,17 52:3 53:3 76:11 78:18 80:5 81:7 86:16 88:14 91:5 104:6 140:8 173:19,20 182:1 188:1 195:3 236:4 <b>talked</b> 88:11 101:2 101:3,4,4,5 103:7 104:10 106:5 117:5 166:17 241:15 <b>talking</b> 11:11 28:13 32:2 51:19 89:7,11 93:11 94:2 143:9 172:11 172:12,17,18 199:3 210:18 244:8 256:20 <b>targeting</b> 173:6 <b>task</b> 5:15 7:4 25:1 25:19 26:11 28:11 46:9 249:5 <b>tattletale</b> 52:13 <b>tattletaling</b> 52:14 <b>tattling</b> 52:9,15 <b>taught</b> 52:12 251:5 <b>tax</b> 67:13,13,15 <b>taxpayer</b> 21:18 <b>tcps</b> 57:8 <b>teach</b> 49:2,11 51:1 52:9,14 <b>teacher</b> 36:5 <b>teachers</b> 58:17	<b>teaches</b> 47:20 50:6 <b>teaching</b> 48:3,18 48:19 49:21 <b>team</b> 13:13 14:12 14:17 22:8 23:4,6 24:4 27:11 29:10 35:13 36:14 37:1 44:8,10 45:6 65:18 66:3 241:19 246:5 <b>teams</b> 41:18 44:20 <b>technical</b> 45:18 <b>technicalities</b> 183:10 <b>technically</b> 80:7 <b>techniques</b> 45:10 <b>technology</b> 77:6,7 78:16,17 80:21 81:2 98:2 171:16 171:17,19 172:4 174:14,17 176:1 202:16 212:16 213:5 215:21 216:9,18 250:18 <b>telecast</b> 246:12 <b>telephone</b> 29:19 <b>tell</b> 11:21 52:8 76:9,16 78:1 85:21 94:3 106:3 168:19 175:13 188:18 196:4 209:3 256:18 <b>telling</b> 52:10,16 78:2 91:1 105:15 107:10 200:6 256:16,16 <b>temporary</b> 77:11 166:13,20 171:17 172:3,6 205:6 <b>ten</b> 80:7,9 106:10 236:17 <b>term</b> 204:10,18 248:2	<b>terms</b> 233:12 <b>terrible</b> 63:12 <b>test</b> 76:10,14 77:14,17,18 <b>testify</b> 37:6 <b>thank</b> 3:12,13 4:15 7:1 10:4,5,7 11:5,5,20 13:12 14:11,12 15:8,9 21:20 22:3,14,14 22:16,19 23:8,10 23:10 24:4,5,13 24:14,15 26:20 27:8,9,10 28:6,8 28:10 29:13 30:5 30:7,12 31:2,17 31:19 44:15 47:2 59:16 60:6,7 62:12,14,15 63:3 64:4,6,20 65:1,2 65:11,15,16,21 66:1,7,11,15 68:12,15 127:18 142:13 143:3 158:20 160:2,11 160:12 163:17 191:21,21 192:1 193:12,13 200:9 200:10,11,20,21 203:1,2,5,21 209:16,17 216:19 217:1,2,4 226:17 227:4 228:4,15 230:7,9,19 234:17 235:17 239:11 240:5 242:3,10,12 244:11,15 245:17 249:11 254:11 260:2 <b>thanks</b> 30:10 59:17 60:4,13 64:9 66:19 173:21 196:16 201:6 203:3 230:8 241:7	249:10 259:21 <b>thanksgiving</b> 32:13 <b>therapies</b> 34:6 <b>therapy</b> 33:20 34:2,5,8 <b>therefor</b> 26:12 <b>therewith</b> 163:7 <b>thing</b> 64:16 76:18 94:1 107:9 108:6 110:9 116:5 119:18 156:11 208:20 211:12 212:14 227:12 228:6 229:21 230:11 240:7 242:5 256:18 <b>things</b> 2:6 27:14 29:17 41:8 44:12 50:21 62:18 63:12 65:8 74:12 79:18 80:21 86:7 98:8 102:17 105:11 106:19 107:17 116:2,2 127:6 128:12 129:16 130:7 145:14 154:14 167:2 177:21 197:3 219:7 227:9,16 241:18 255:4 256:12,20 <b>think</b> 11:7 15:15 21:14 29:17 51:2 55:11 56:20 64:2 68:21 73:17 74:8 75:5 76:1,2 95:13 101:11,11 102:8 102:17 103:19 104:8 105:16 106:3 107:16 111:21 118:8 121:7,14,18 122:4 122:15 124:12
--	--	--	---

126:4 129:9,10,17 129:20 130:5,11 130:14,17 132:16 132:17,18,20 133:3,11,19 134:12,17,21 135:2 136:11 137:7 138:8,15 139:5 140:5 141:2 141:12 144:14 145:1 146:15 151:2 152:11 154:13 155:5 156:8,15 164:18 165:6 170:11 179:5 183:1 191:9 192:12 193:1,5 206:6,18 207:11 207:17 208:17 212:4 225:14 227:15 234:1 241:3,9 244:1 246:11,19 247:15 248:13,21 249:15 250:12,15 251:2,3 251:5,17 252:3,8 252:8 253:1 254:2 254:6 255:10 <b>thinking</b> 55:15 63:1 88:16 143:15 144:7 <b>thinks</b> 26:3 126:14 126:15 <b>third</b> 90:6 208:8 <b>thomas</b> 7:3,6 11:3 24:21 25:6,7,8,10 25:13 27:9 28:2,6 28:9 29:14 30:10 30:12 46:9 131:18 133:14 134:2 135:21 136:3,14 139:5,12,14 142:4 143:13,14,15 144:16 146:21	148:1 151:4,15 152:7 155:11 156:13,15,19 157:16,18 159:4 161:12,15 162:11 162:16,17 170:11 171:14 179:1,5,17 180:9 181:12 <b>thought</b> 76:20 101:7 135:10 <b>thoughtful</b> 25:16 <b>thoughts</b> 102:11 102:12 153:8 204:7 <b>threats</b> 5:2 <b>three</b> 2:10,15 43:6 67:21 72:18 73:15 74:8 76:19 78:3 110:13 137:6 145:21 146:1 149:7 187:18 190:4 195:18,19 201:20 207:1 211:18 224:5 229:1 258:8 <b>thrilled</b> 44:6 128:17 <b>throw</b> 105:18 187:8 188:17 <b>thursday</b> 259:2 <b>tied</b> 89:3 218:13 <b>time</b> 7:17 8:8,9 13:16 14:19 15:1 17:19 32:2 34:4 34:15 36:10 37:10 41:13,13 49:6 60:3 62:20 63:7 90:7 100:13,13 117:16 121:17 128:19 130:7,14 132:17 136:19 138:14 141:1 144:2 146:7,18 147:4,15,19 149:4	149:14 150:3,12 151:8 153:18 157:1 158:2 160:2 160:3,5,6 173:18 173:19,20 184:2 188:21 189:18 193:21 194:5,11 197:19 203:15 205:9,10,14 207:4 208:15,21 209:4 213:7 214:6,14,16 215:1,19 217:12 219:11 220:9,13 221:2,5 226:18 227:6 243:17 244:4 248:10,11 248:12,13 254:4 255:18 256:5 261:4 <b>timeline</b> 94:11 123:18 166:19 <b>timely</b> 18:4 47:5 <b>times</b> 43:13 51:13 83:10,18 85:11 93:18 220:18 251:5 <b>tip</b> 29:9 <b>tired</b> 90:20 183:9 <b>title</b> 71:11,12 <b>tmdl</b> 204:14 <b>tmdls</b> 77:5 79:16 <b>today</b> 46:6 59:11 78:13 79:15 98:2 172:4,5 174:14 176:1 205:17 224:15 249:3 <b>told</b> 76:7 83:16 85:3,5,11 91:20 100:5 102:20 110:7 135:2 160:20 174:14 <b>tolerate</b> 13:10 <b>tomorrow</b> 108:14 171:18 172:6	<b>ton</b> 53:21 95:20 252:20 <b>tonight</b> 2:5 4:7 24:17 26:19 47:6 66:7 86:13 90:7 93:12 101:15 107:12 108:10 115:7,8 118:6 123:2 125:8 127:11 167:18 168:10 174:16 175:1 179:13 180:11,15 181:2 181:19 182:9,11 182:17 186:20 196:14 203:3,4 209:21 218:18 220:2,3 224:5 226:18 227:7 230:17 241:15 246:2 256:8,17 257:5 <b>tonight's</b> 3:14,15 <b>toning</b> 256:19 <b>tony</b> 133:1,15 <b>tools</b> 48:9 <b>top</b> 28:14,18 64:20 180:7 185:5 <b>topic</b> 152:14 155:8 <b>total</b> 67:15 224:6 237:20 <b>totally</b> 155:21 224:4 <b>touch</b> 27:20 51:3,4 51:9,9,11,16 59:18 <b>touches</b> 51:2,12 51:18 52:6 <b>tough</b> 86:5 227:6 227:8 254:16 <b>tour</b> 59:21 63:17 64:8,11 <b>town</b> 67:9 84:12 94:13 95:4,6
---	--	--	--

166:5 169:5,8 170:3,19 172:12 173:16 188:13 197:1,2 198:3 199:11 200:1,3 202:6 204:12,18 204:20 205:2,7 206:8 207:2 212:7 213:9 214:7,10,10 214:12,17,21 215:1,3,5,10,12 215:16,18 <b>town's</b> 94:14 208:1 215:4 <b>toxic</b> 237:20 <b>tradeoff</b> 225:15 <b>traffickers</b> 5:2 6:10 26:15 <b>trafficking</b> 4:9,19 4:21 5:7,13,15,16 5:18,21 6:1,4,6,13 6:16 7:4 8:11 25:1 25:16,19,21 26:3 26:7,17 29:2,8 30:4 43:1,2,4,18 44:1 46:12 47:7 47:10 249:5 <b>tragedy</b> 2:9,16 8:20 10:7 <b>train</b> 106:12 <b>trained</b> 36:16 38:17 <b>training</b> 43:17 45:4 56:17 <b>transcribed</b> 261:6 <b>transcript</b> 2:1 122:11,11 <b>transcription</b> 261:7 <b>transition</b> 14:14 14:16 <b>transmission</b> 208:16	<b>transparent</b> 135:6 <b>transportation</b> 224:12 <b>trappe</b> 67:9,12 77:10 78:8 81:17 84:12 87:11 91:10 94:3,4 95:4 101:4 102:13 106:13,15 108:21 109:2 126:14 161:8 162:20 163:3 164:3,4,6 166:3,5 169:5,8 170:3,19 172:13 173:9,16 188:13 190:9,11 190:15 197:1,2,16 198:8,8 199:11 200:2,4 202:2,6 202:11,17,20 204:2,9,12,15 205:2,2,16 207:2 213:9,11 214:1,7 214:8,10,12,17 215:14 228:10 229:18 259:1 <b>trappe's</b> 197:4 198:7,19 199:13 <b>trauma</b> 42:18 45:9 <b>traumatization</b> 37:8 <b>traumatized</b> 36:11 <b>travel</b> 26:2 <b>treasury</b> 20:2 <b>treat</b> 9:18 77:6 78:10 <b>treated</b> 163:2 166:10 202:4 <b>treater</b> 35:7 <b>treatment</b> 77:10 78:4 94:19 97:13 162:21 164:15,19 165:2,16,21 166:6 166:13,16 168:1 169:7 172:2 197:5	198:7,12,13,17 199:7,14,16 200:5 200:7 201:20 202:16,20 204:11 204:21 205:19 208:1 209:1 211:18 213:12 215:15 <b>tried</b> 84:11 95:8 <b>trolling</b> 29:21 <b>trouble</b> 12:10 27:12 52:16,17 84:10 <b>truck</b> 2:12 <b>trucks</b> 79:3 <b>true</b> 116:2,3,11,12 116:14 117:6 127:1 207:7 228:20 261:7 <b>trumps</b> 50:18 <b>trust</b> 16:20 51:15 204:3 <b>trusted</b> 49:14 <b>truth</b> 87:16 107:12 116:5 <b>try</b> 33:13 36:20 84:1,12 85:14 87:3 106:19 137:2 141:17 154:11 170:19 229:15 253:21 257:5 <b>trying</b> 45:15 80:5 82:20 84:18 97:16 105:8 107:6 116:4 119:3 129:13 133:11 149:9 154:13,16 155:14 156:7 167:13,19 168:15,19 170:18 171:4,6 175:13 185:10,11 200:18 210:12 219:4 226:19,19 227:3 246:7 248:21	<b>tuckahoe</b> 233:2 <b>tuesday</b> 133:5 134:15 154:4 258:6,18 <b>tuft</b> 230:2 <b>turf</b> 236:8 <b>turkey</b> 222:14 224:1,19 226:2 <b>turn</b> 58:15 153:3 155:19 242:9 246:11 <b>turned</b> 88:9 <b>tv</b> 246:11 <b>twice</b> 197:20 <b>twist</b> 150:16 <b>two</b> 2:6,12 29:4 32:7 43:8,12 53:9 60:18 67:1 76:7 89:10 102:15 108:5 118:12 130:21 131:5,9 132:5,10 133:7,8 133:16 134:6,10 134:16,19 135:1,9 135:11 136:16 138:8,13 139:2,7 139:17 140:13 148:5 159:3 160:7 160:10,17 164:11 164:17 165:7,8,12 173:2,4,5 174:2 189:10 190:5 195:19 210:7 216:19 227:21 228:21 229:1 233:1 235:19 241:15 244:5 248:10 <b>type</b> 62:3 77:11 81:5,17 133:17 137:19 176:1 211:8 <b>types</b> 63:16 65:8 78:3
---	---	--	--

<b>typically</b> 146:21 147:2,10 189:10 195:13 218:10	<b>university</b> 37:17 38:14 39:8,12 45:2	<b>utilization</b> 204:16 207:21	<b>virtually</b> 29:18 57:20 59:15
<b>u</b>	<b>unlawful</b> 101:21	<b>utilize</b> 206:9	<b>virtuals</b> 56:16
<b>uh</b> 49:7	<b>unmodified</b> 17:9 20:20	<b>utilized</b> 208:6 214:3	<b>visibility</b> 64:15
<b>ultimately</b> 94:15	<b>unmute</b> 11:12 188:15	<b>utilizing</b> 215:6	<b>visit</b> 32:12 33:10 46:2
<b>unanimous</b> 3:20 4:5	<b>unmuted</b> 196:11 201:5	<b>v</b>	<b>visited</b> 33:9
<b>unauthorized</b> 112:21	<b>unnecessary</b> 130:17 200:8	<b>vaccinated</b> 251:21	<b>voice</b> 148:16
<b>uncomfortable</b> 184:12 256:14	<b>unprogrammed</b> 85:8,13	<b>vaccine</b> 251:13,14 251:20	<b>voices</b> 126:7
<b>underlying</b> 144:3 144:21	<b>unquote</b> 78:13	<b>vaccines</b> 251:17 252:20	<b>volumes</b> 115:13
<b>understand</b> 49:7 51:10,17 52:5 72:15 76:19 101:8 102:1 103:20 104:14 107:15 115:6,6 147:13 185:11,11 190:21 191:3,9 200:17 205:13 256:11	<b>unsuitable</b> 202:4	<b>vacillated</b> 216:11	<b>vote</b> 73:15 75:17 81:14 85:17 86:9 86:17,18 87:9 91:19 96:19 97:6 99:21 103:1,4,11 103:11 104:13,14 107:4 108:3,10,12 110:14,16 111:7 112:1,4,5,7,10,12 112:15,16,21 114:13,13 118:6 118:13 121:6,7,15 121:19 127:11 141:21 142:6 147:16 158:9 159:2,9 175:7 177:21 179:3,3,5 180:13 181:17 183:14 184:21 185:18 186:2,16 189:20 190:7 193:21 194:4 217:10,12 218:2 218:10,17,19 219:10,20 220:2,2 221:4 225:2 226:6 231:15 235:6 236:21 239:13
<b>understanding</b> 115:18 182:10	<b>upcoming</b> 15:4 89:5	<b>vague</b> 206:16	<b>voted</b> 83:3 93:2 97:2 98:8 119:10 176:8 180:1,3 220:3
<b>understands</b> 255:7	<b>update</b> 30:14 31:21 68:8 149:7	<b>valuable</b> 61:7 209:18	<b>voters</b> 147:4
<b>undertaken</b> 215:1	<b>updated</b> 145:20	<b>variety</b> 54:1	
<b>undo</b> 94:9	<b>upgrade</b> 164:4,19 202:10,13 215:3,5	<b>vast</b> 254:7	
<b>undue</b> 145:11	<b>upgraded</b> 77:10 163:1 166:8,9 171:3,10 197:20 202:8	<b>vehicle</b> 229:20	
<b>unduly</b> 145:2	<b>upgrades</b> 198:2 201:12	<b>version</b> 204:6	
<b>unethical</b> 97:3	<b>upset</b> 110:2 250:10	<b>versions</b> 53:10	
<b>unfamiliar</b> 241:16	<b>upstairs</b> 26:7	<b>versus</b> 52:10,20	
<b>unfortunate</b> 61:21 62:1,19	<b>urge</b> 6:14	<b>vice</b> 68:14 244:14	
<b>unfortunately</b> 62:3	<b>usda</b> 199:4	<b>victim</b> 39:17	
<b>uniform</b> 16:14 17:3	<b>use</b> 5:2,10 21:18 30:2 49:10 58:14 59:18 67:19 68:2 82:21 151:13 190:18 245:1	<b>victims</b> 6:2 8:20 9:6 26:17 30:3 34:19 40:17 41:20 43:3,7,18,21 47:10 61:10,11	
<b>unique</b> 117:15	<b>uses</b> 216:5	<b>village</b> 9:12	
<b>unit</b> 67:11 118:1	<b>usually</b> 150:8	<b>violate</b> 90:5 93:8	
<b>united</b> 2:20 5:9 6:7 8:17	<b>utilities</b> 40:20	<b>violated</b> 201:14	
		<b>violation</b> 76:16 78:13,19 169:17 169:21 170:8,9 206:19 207:10	
		<b>violations</b> 76:17 77:21 78:1 166:8 201:17 207:1	
		<b>violence</b> 5:2	
		<b>virtual</b> 2:5 56:3,12 56:13,17 58:3 63:18 64:8 242:7	

<b>votes</b> 66:21 67:1 <b>voting</b> 69:4 98:12 110:21 147:14 167:17 168:9 174:21 179:17,18 179:20 <b>vulnerable</b> 61:7,8 62:9	181:1,2 191:15 194:11,12 197:3 198:14 200:12,15 200:16 209:4,20 212:18 221:11,12 227:13 228:17 229:9 240:6 243:15 253:20 255:6 256:11 257:8,10,10,16,16 <b>wanted</b> 13:12 14:8 25:4 31:21 112:11 119:3 120:21 174:9 175:18,19 214:17 229:1 239:9 247:20 <b>wants</b> 86:19 101:17 103:17 120:12 130:15 143:20 154:1 188:1 249:19 252:21 <b>waste</b> 95:1 136:19 144:1 202:5 <b>wastewater</b> 77:10 78:3 84:19 87:19 94:6,19 97:13 161:9,10 162:20 162:21 164:15,19 165:1,2,16,20 166:4,6,13,16 168:1 169:6,7 172:2 197:5 198:7 198:11,13,16 199:7,14,16 200:5 200:7 204:11 205:3,19 209:1 213:12 214:9 215:15 <b>watch</b> 63:20 66:9 <b>watching</b> 25:14 63:8 <b>water</b> 67:7 68:5 70:4 71:18 74:11	90:8,12 91:3,9 95:1 97:9 126:12 161:6 163:4 198:4 202:19 213:14,17 213:20 <b>watering</b> 145:8 <b>watermen</b> 190:16 <b>waters</b> 190:16 202:4 <b>waterway</b> 78:9 <b>waterways</b> 79:20 202:3 <b>watson</b> 108:17 <b>wavelength</b> 107:21 <b>way</b> 7:21 15:1 29:20 37:8 49:11 57:19 62:8 71:19 77:5 86:20 98:10 101:10 104:10 107:20 113:20,21 130:19 132:4,8 144:11 149:16 151:4 154:17 166:20 168:16 178:16 180:19 196:4 212:10 217:16 261:11 <b>ways</b> 34:7 55:7 101:2 179:2 240:11 246:1 <b>we've</b> 2:9 10:7 17:8 19:17 20:6 20:21 27:1 40:11 42:6,8,9,10,11 45:4,14 53:21 54:11,13,19 55:21 57:13,16,17 58:20 66:12 71:11 96:4 100:2 101:19 103:7 115:21 119:9 129:7,7 130:6 140:3 146:4 155:3 183:12,15	186:2 226:21 243:21 248:1 254:2 256:5 <b>weak</b> 245:14 <b>weaknesses</b> 17:21 20:20 <b>weapon</b> 223:17 <b>wear</b> 251:11 252:1 <b>webb</b> 30:17,19,21 31:6,10,17 59:17 62:14 64:6 65:1 65:16 66:11,16 <b>webex</b> 1:10 <b>wedding</b> 53:1 <b>wednesday</b> 99:18 123:21 <b>week</b> 18:13 32:13 74:21 88:14 102:15 104:9 108:5,14 119:15 119:20 134:13 191:11 228:8 249:15 255:4 <b>weeks</b> 102:15 106:7 114:9,15 117:20 148:5 194:10 210:4 211:18 <b>weight</b> 95:2 <b>welcome</b> 2:4 11:10 11:10,20 12:17 25:12,12 30:17 60:2 64:7 108:15 109:2 221:21 244:13 <b>welcomes</b> 57:13 <b>wendy</b> 231:4 <b>went</b> 41:16 42:3 100:7,12 213:3 <b>west</b> 215:19 <b>wetterling</b> 47:15 <b>whatnot</b> 193:1 <b>whine</b> 245:2
<b>w</b>			
<b>w</b> 1:17 67:17 68:1 71:14 85:1,3,6,12 <b>wait</b> 86:9 114:15 155:18 176:13 177:15 185:4 193:11 252:4 <b>waiting</b> 116:16 153:7 194:14 <b>walk</b> 63:19 <b>want</b> 2:4,7,8,17 3:4 7:11 11:20 12:2 14:8 15:13 22:4 23:17 28:10 29:9 30:17 31:4,9 32:5 33:13 34:15 39:2,13 44:15 52:13,13 63:19 65:11 69:20 71:3 76:13 78:10 85:12 86:9,17,18 91:10 100:19 103:1,20 104:7,20 105:2 106:13,14,15,19 107:4 108:13,14 109:18 110:13 114:1,2,2,6,6,21 115:8 118:10 120:3,5,16,18,20 122:18,18 124:15 125:21 127:15 128:20 135:11 141:2,18 149:7 151:18 154:3 161:13 162:7 172:10 174:12			

<b>whistles</b> 229:8	248:7,21 258:9	154:18 180:5	198:20 199:8
<b>widely</b> 61:4	<b>worked</b> 12:19	188:13 200:2	206:1 213:1 216:9
<b>willey</b> 187:21	41:18 240:21	210:17 220:20	229:5 234:4,5
188:3	241:4 254:3	<b>wrong</b> 75:20 76:2	255:15,20,21
<b>william</b> 12:14	<b>workers</b> 35:14	116:7 137:1	<b>young</b> 2:14 5:4
<b>willing</b> 13:8,10	63:16	<b>wrote</b> 149:10	7:20,20 29:21
66:9 100:20 211:5	<b>working</b> 9:5 10:8	156:10,11	33:19 34:10 43:20
<b>window</b> 56:20	13:1 14:18 16:14	<b>wye</b> 199:6	43:20 45:15 52:11
<b>wish</b> 61:19 62:2	16:19 21:20 37:16	<b>y</b>	231:4 246:9,15
62:18 188:10	43:4 44:10 49:17	<b>yeah</b> 4:15 11:18	247:2 249:1,9
243:3 251:14	60:10 62:6 65:13	11:19 15:17 25:9	<b>yous</b> 24:4
<b>wishes</b> 161:13	91:6 96:16 97:7	29:14 31:14 52:2	<b>youth</b> 39:17 45:13
<b>withdraw</b> 184:16	109:9 129:13,14	98:17 122:14,18	<b>yup</b> 11:19 13:18
<b>withdrew</b> 218:15	171:2 197:10	126:18 127:13	15:18 60:14 121:9
<b>witness</b> 261:13	200:4 226:18	149:2,3 151:13	165:7 188:17
<b>woman</b> 228:20	227:2 246:6 248:3	152:13 155:18	238:17 245:20
<b>women</b> 33:19 40:9	253:3	161:19 165:11	<b>z</b>
<b>wonderful</b> 44:12	<b>works</b> 53:14 115:5	182:3 223:1,10,10	<b>zero</b> 47:16
57:4 61:17 65:18	122:8,16 123:6,12	228:13 229:6	<b>zoned</b> 84:21
<b>woods</b> 251:16	179:11 180:11,16	234:20 240:9	<b>zoning</b> 189:2
<b>word</b> 4:14 30:6	189:7,8 192:16,19	<b>year</b> 5:9 6:5,21	249:17 250:1
153:10 244:3	194:17 195:8,10	12:18 14:13,16	<b>zoom</b> 261:13
<b>worded</b> 130:19	195:11,20 249:7	20:8 21:3 22:1,10	
132:8 145:1	251:17	23:7 24:11 32:12	
<b>wording</b> 132:4	<b>workshop</b> 124:3	32:21 33:20 39:7	
138:19	126:1,3 200:14	39:21 41:8 42:5	
<b>words</b> 7:11 66:13	210:1	42:11 43:8,13	
152:17 156:17	<b>world</b> 209:6	44:15 45:5 56:19	
210:13	<b>worries</b> 188:6	57:20 58:1 61:16	
<b>work</b> 6:15 9:4	196:16	98:18 146:5	
10:10 13:6 14:21	<b>worse</b> 63:8	201:15 210:14	
22:19 24:2 28:11	<b>worth</b> 82:5	223:14 224:7,13	
29:1 33:8 34:12	<b>wrap</b> 55:16	225:2,6,11 227:9	
43:3 55:5 61:19	<b>write</b> 58:16 211:9	229:1 232:20	
63:10 65:10,19	<b>writer</b> 156:9	239:5	
86:20 106:16,20	<b>writing</b> 38:11	<b>year's</b> 16:8	
109:5,6 120:8,11	129:2 134:4 136:5	<b>years</b> 2:14 29:4,16	
124:9 125:4,8,9	148:12 157:18	37:18 42:1 46:16	
125:13 168:7	210:21 211:2,6	51:5 67:21 68:7	
181:9 191:4,12,13	212:1,2 213:4	81:1 84:17 89:10	
191:14,19 217:4	215:13 216:17	96:17 115:5,13,16	
221:14,19 228:7	<b>written</b> 83:14 89:5	115:17 129:8,20	
234:8,15 241:8,14	126:16 134:3	132:15,19,20	
242:1 246:20	149:16 153:15	138:7 164:20	