

Minutes of the January 17, 2024 Special Meeting of the Tecumseh Local Board of Education

January 17, 2024

The Tecumseh Local Board of Education met in special session on January 17, 2024 with Board President Sue Anne Martin presiding. Ms. Martin called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was held in the Tecumseh High School Arrow Conference Room 9830 W. National Rd., New Carlisle, Ohio 45344.

Roll Call: Present — Members Martin, Stafford, Clark, Diller, and Mills.
Absent — None.

Ms. Martin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

New Business

None at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Motion by Mrs. Clark at 5:37 p.m. to recess into Executive Session to review negotiations or bargaining sessions with public employees concerning their compensation or other terms and conditions of their employment and to consider matters required to be kept confidential by federal law or regulation or state statutes. Second by Mr. Stafford..

Roll Call: Ayes, Members Clark, Stafford, Mills, Diller, and Martin.
Nays, none. Motion carried 5-0.

The meeting reconvened at 6:38 p.m.

-Rebecca Princehorn from Bricker Graydon joined the meeting.

Planning and Discussion

Paula Crew - Thank you for being here, Becky, I know that you've been here two other times previous to this. Actually, I'm kind of thinking how to go through this. I had a packet I wanted to go through with levy information. And the reason being, if we can kind of go around the room, this is Roger Diller to your right. This is his first month. Matt Mills. I think he was here when you were here before. Brenda Clark. This is also her first month. Jon Stafford's been on the board for about a year, John, is that right? Or about a year? No, a year and a half. But he's also a previous board member, so this is his second time around. He's our vice president. And Sue Ann Martin, our president, and this is her 6th year being on the board. And, you know, Denise and myself, I'm only telling you that because I was going to review some things because Roger and Brenda are new, but I'm cognizant of your time as well and needing to drive back.

So, we're thinking that we're going to need some additional operating funding. In order to do that, we need to put a levy on the ballot we believe. In order to do that, we need to decide what to put on. So I brought you here to bounce questions off. Our board members can ask you questions as their attorney and the person who is kind of an expert in the area of levies, campaigns, and all of this information and who districts go to to file all their things, etc. Anyway, so in your packet, in this red packet, Becky sent two things. They look like this one is the election filing deadline. And

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then I know a couple of things that we need to think about. There's also the levy result by precinct that you have in here. That's levy results by precinct in the district. And then what Denise and I were talking about earlier, just the estimated income tax yield and equivalent millage. So we know how much we need to sustain us.

Becky, just to confirm that you know this, we haven't passed new operating, additional operating money since 1995 as a district. I know that you meet with a lot of school districts. We did pass for new buildings in 2003. And we do have two renewals. It used to be three, we combined two, so we have two. And we did that after talking with you when you came to Park Layne Elementary School four years ago. So we did that. So that's kind of where we are now. And looking at our five year, we were really secretly blessed by the Covid money, the ESSER, and we used that quite a bit to offset the cost of our salary, since we were allowed to supplant that funding, as you know. So by supplanting that for a long period of time that we had the time that we had the ESSER funding, we were able to continue with our carryover. We were projected to be in the red on our five year this year before we received the ESSER and the other Covid funding.

So I just wanted to bring you up to speed on that. So I think, and I don't want to speak for the board. I can have an open discussion now. Can you talk about our choices and maybe pros and cons? Is that a good way to say it? **Becky Princehorn** - No, I've got pros and cons. And perhaps the best way to start this is to maybe talk about when and then talk about what. So let's get when out of the way. If you look at the election filing deadline, you see this year, because it's presidential, we had a March or are about to have a March election. I say that in the past tense because the filing deadline for that was in December. November 5, you back up 90 days, and that is August 7. And if you look down that November 5 column, you'll see just depending on what it is you're going to do, you may or may not have an intermediate deadline. But by and large, for planning purposes, every board is different. Some boards don't meet in July. And so one of the things that you'll want to think about is when you need to have a final decision made so that you can, if you want to be on in November, you can hit that August 7 deadline, which is, for most of these, is the applicable deadline. So the idea then would be to think about, well, if we don't go in November and start collections in 2025, could we wait until 2025? Which maybe you can, maybe you can't. If you turn the page. I just want to make this note for you, the May election. We're back to May in 2025, and it's actually my birthday, May 6. That election, and you might want to make a note of this, is considered a special election under Ohio law. Why is that? Because in odd numbered years, in odd numbered years, there's not a contested primary. You don't have state races, you don't have presidential. It's not a contested primary. And so I would think, and I'm looking at Denise, one of the first things I would want to know as I look at my choices is if Tecumseh had to go solo, you were the only ones with something about how much would that election cost? And I got to tell you, the costs of elections have just skyrocketed with all the allegations of voter fraud and all this other. So many consultants, so many tech people, and all those costs are being passed along to the local government. I have a township east of here, over in Madison county. This township had four precincts, and everybody voted at the high school. So, it wasn't even like you had a bunch of far flung precincts or anything. They were told if they had been on the ballot in May of 2023, the cost to them, and this is a township, \$40,000, and you are so much geographically bigger. So I'm not saying don't think of it as an option, but I want you to have eyes open about what May of 2025 means. The other thing I would point out to you we have as a banner consult council for August election on each page. The reason we have that is because that, too, is a special election. And the way state law has changed. You basically have to be in a

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declared state of fiscal emergency to be on the ballot in August. And it's a special election. So you've got to be... and you carry the cost and you get to pay. Go figure. So I think probably then you're oriented to November of 2024 to stay away from this. And then the other pages you get to 2026 and it's state races, even numbered years. So then you would have contested primaries and no cost passed along 2027. So that's the when. If you pass something in November of 24, you could begin collection on whatever it was you passed in 2025. So now we get into the what.

Paula Crew - Just a clarification. When you begin collecting those in 2025 would be different for a property tax versus income. One is twelve months and one is eighteen. **Becky Princehorn** - I was going to talk about that very thing. That was next. **Matt Mills** - I have a follow-up question real quick. If, say we were to put levy on the ballot for this November and it fails, are we better off to try and redo it again in May or the following November? **Becky Princehorn** - Probably the following November, because it's not going to make a difference when collections start. And you could have members of the community say, why did you go right back on when you knew it was special election and the additional cost, you're not getting the money any faster. Why not wait till November? So that's that piece of it. Now let's start to talk about options. And I'm going to start, maybe this will be a little backwards, but I'd like to start with let's talk about income tax first. And I pulled your voter history, and there have been six attempts to have an income tax, and they've all been defeated, as you know. But the last attempt was in 2010, so that's thirteen years ago. And my question, and maybe some of you around the table know this. Were any of these earned income only? **Denise Robinson** - They were all earned income. And the first two were continuing. The third was for five years, the next one was continuing, and the other two were for five years. **Becky Princehorn** - So, whether there's more of an appetite for it thirteen years later than property tax, you know better than me the demographics of the community. Typically your agricultural interests prefer income tax and working parents prefer it to be a traditional income tax rather than an earned only and very different schools of thought. In some communities, it's, let's not go back to the baby boomers, the owners of homes and farms and so forth with property tax. Let's do earned only because earned only, those are the people that most likely have kids in school and they should pick up more of this cost. On the other hand, your parents, who are some of your most ardent supporters, say, wait a minute, we shouldn't have to bear that burden ourselves. It should be more evenly spread. Every community is different. There is no right or wrong on income tax. What I would tell you, if you have a lot of retirees, they too really like earned income income tax. If you're going to go the income tax route, you may know this. If you've had some discussion. An income tax is a little different than property. It's collected by the state. Of course, the state takes cut for administering it, but it's an eighteen month phase in period till you get that first full year of collection. **Sue Anne Martin** - When does the taxpayer start paying it, though? When it passes? **Becky Princehorn** - Oh, they would start paying January 1. After it passes in November. But okay, tell the employers, do the remittances and it goes to the state. And then the state figures out what's due to Tecumseh and takes their cut off the top. It's remitted quarterly, and so it takes about eighteen months for that first full year to come in. Now, again, with income tax to me, and I've been around since before there was an income tax. I'll be in my 43rd year of practice, and I've seen the good and bad and the ugly with income tax. What I would tell you is it's a nice complement to property taxes, if you will, another arrow in the quiver. Because you can get some growth. But an income tax is an elastic tax. And when the economy contracts, there go your income tax collections. And so I always say you never bet the ranch on an income tax, because you just don't know. Now, most of the time, it increases over time, maybe not dramatically. Although I did have one district that had a spike. Somebody in their district won the lottery. And I couldn't figure out what I was looking at. Anyway. **Sue Anne Martin** - They

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just had a traditional one then, right? That wasn't earned? **Becky Princehorn** - Yeah, and this was back. In fact, I think it might have been before earned was even an option. But anyway, so income tax, nice to have it grows, but it also can contract in a downturn. And one of the things that to me is kind of quirky and didn't come up in all these years. It never came up until Covid was unemployment compensation. If it's an earned income tax, people who get unemployment compensation do not have to pay income tax on that. If it's traditional, they do. So, that's just a little factoid. **Brenda Clark** - We have so many low income in our area, and so many of those people are cash earners. What's your suggestion? I mean, it's a big number. **Becky Princehorn** - Well, income tax is very much, I believe, a demographic question. And in your information you got from the Department of Taxation, they give you a grid and you can see if you do traditional base versus earned base and what your yield would be. Looking at the forecast if you look, I mean you guys are going negative pretty much this year. If you look at your 6.0101.3, you know, you're going to have, probably need to be sure to get what you need, a half percent because they do, even though they're giving you rates 0.375 you have to levy an income tax in quarter percents. So you would need at least a half percent. **Denise Robinson** - And that's for the negative balance that we have now. **Becky Princehorn** - On a traditional base. Yeah. **Paula Crew** - That's just to bring us up to zero. **Becky Princehorn** - Just to get you to zero this year. Yes, this year. **Paula Crew** - Not to hold steady it. Yeah. **Becky Princehorn** - So there's that. You live here. You know better than me what makes the most sense for your community. And this is a good guide. But again, I wouldn't be waiting until June or July and relying on this. I would get this updated because it. **Denise Robinson** - I just asked for it today. **Becky Princehorn** - So by the time the board would be taking action, you would probably want to get an update. **Denise Robinson** - I do. **Becky Princehorn** - To confirm that. So there's that. So that's an income tax quarter percents, eighteen month phase in, earned or traditional base. You can see what your deadlines are pretty much the same. There's an intermediate step to get to tax commissioner. That's how that works. **Sue Anne Martin** - Just kind of a question on that. I'm noticing that it says standalone or combined with property tax. Can you define that for me. **Becky Princehorn** - Yeah, I'm going to talk. That's a good segue to this chart. You guys are always two steps ahead of me. If you look at, look at the last page, combined levy options. This is kind of cutesy technical legal word for you. Kind of cutesy. But there was a district up in the Cleveland area that wanted to combine an income tax with a property tax levy and they got some legislator to introduce that and add it to the end of the income tax chapter 574809, and what it basically is, is an emergency levy, except they never use the word emergency. It's a dollar based levy plus an income tax as one question. I've had a couple clients try it. Mixed success. I'm not saying it's good or bad. It might be a good fit here. Help me, Denise, are you guys at the 20 mil floor? **Denise Robinson** - We are. **Becky Princehorn** - I thought you were. So this would not affect the 20 mil floor. And it's kind of like camel getting its nose under the tent. You could put on dollar based with an income tax that was on maybe the smaller side. Just to get it started. That's what that is. **Paula Crew** - You mean just to get it, just to clarify, just to get it started. As far as just to get something passed? **Becky Princehorn** - To get an income tax on the books. Albeit maybe at a smaller percentage than you otherwise would do, recognizing you've got some folks who maybe aren't necessarily high income. So you have small income tax and a dollar amount. **Denise Robinson** - What time period can you do this for? Is it five, ten? Continuing? Is it any period of time? **Becky Princehorn** - It can be... **Denise Robinson** - Oh, it says one to ten years or continuing. **Sue Anne Martin** - And the income tax can be also continuing. **Becky Princehorn** - Also continuing. Yeah. Income tax is weird that way. It can be any number of years. **Matt Mills** - And it doesn't impact the 20 mil floor? **Becky Princehorn** - and it doesn't impact the 20 mil floor

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Denise Robinson - No, it does not because it's like an emergency levy. Emergency levies do not affect 20 mil floor. But a regular, **Roger Diller** - Is that what Northwestern did years ago? **Denise Robinson** - we tried, we only have ... Yeah, Northwestern has a continuing. **Roger Diller** - That's what I thought. **Becky Princehorn** - So maybe that's a fit here because you wouldn't have to put all your eggs in the income tax basket. **Denise Robinson** - But, it would have to be a dollar amount, or... **Becky Princehorn** - Well, what you do is just similar to an income tax. You have to certify dollars to the Department of Taxation. They certify back what percentage. **Paula Crew** - Just like on that paper. **Becky Princehorn** - Yeah. **Denise Robinson** - Well, I was thinking more of the emergency levy part. **Becky Princehorn** - You would have dollars. It would be a fixed amount of dollars. **Denise Robinson** - Because the most they ever passed for an emergency was 1.3 million. And we combined that with a 700,000. So now it's a 2.1. **Becky Princehorn** - Yeah, because I want talk to you about that. And you had the 712,000, the 2.106. And you've had good success with emergency levies. **Denise Robinson** - Correct. **Becky Princehorn** - And so if I'm hearing you right, when you renewed these the last time, it doesn't look like they were combined on the election history that I pulled. **Denise Robinson** - The 2.1 is a combination. It was one levy of \$1.3 million and a \$700,000 levy. And then we also have the 712. **Becky Princehorn** - Well, then my question to you guys is you've got these coming up. You've got what I call the 2.1. **Denise Robinson** - And a 700 **Becky Princehorn** - Is the last year of, and we always go by the last year of collection. So last year of collection on the 2.106, 398 is 2025. And the last year of collection on the other one is 2027. And you could combine those two. The earliest to do that would be 2024. The earliest. But you could also wait until next year. So if I'm in your shoes, you need those. Do you get them out of the way first and then ask for new money, or do you flip it and ask for new money in the presidential election this year, which is going to be high turnout no matter what political stripe you are? How does that usually, I mean, looking, you guys have been on in November a lot and all these renewals by and large were November. **Denise Robinson** - So I have a question about that. So let's say the board decides to do the combined. Could they run that as we'll add the other emergency levies in so that we only have this, this will be it. We won't go back in 25 or 27. We could put it all. Okay, so let's say we do that, combine it and let's say it doesn't pass. If it doesn't pass, we still have those renewals to try later. **Becky Princehorn** - Well, again, I don't know. You guys know better than me. Is big turnout in November a good thing or a bad thing for supportive schools? **Sue Anne Martin** - I'm going to say it. I don't think it would be a great thing here in our part of the county. **Becky Princehorn** - So that being said, if you want to combine these, you don't have to do it this year. You could wait and do it in November of 25. But on the 2.1 that would be your only bite at the apple. You don't have a fallback. That's your last year of collection.

Matt Mills - Follow up question. So say that you did the combined... **Becky Princehorn** - and you got that out of the way. You did it in November. **Matt Mills** - Well, I'm saying the combined, plus the Income tax, plus the property. Can you ask for more? **Becky Princehorn** - Well, here's the problem. I will need to double check the statute, but this 57.4809 I think it's new. I don't think it would accommodate a renewal. **Matt Mills** - Okay. Makes it a whole lot easier to go to somebody and say, hey, this is it. **Denise Robinson** - This will be the only one. **Matt Mills** - You're not going to have to pass a levy. **Denise Robinson** - Well, okay. Well, what about, let's think about that, though. So let's say we forget about the renewals for right now and we say, okay, we're going to pass this. And I'm just throwing numbers out. 9 million is the number. Emergency levy, \$9 million and a half percent income tax. Let's say we put that out there and it passes. Then we just say we're not going to renew the other two. This will be the only thing. I was just trying to work on the voter fatigue of we pass something and then go back for renewals. I'm thinking,

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could we just do a big one to start with? **Paula Crew** - I was thinking that too. And then come back if we needed to with the renewals. **Denise Robinson** - Yes, if we needed to, but hopefully we wouldn't. **Paula Crew** - That's a way you could go. **Becky Princehorn** - Well, you want to avoid May of 25. **Denise Robinson** - Right. **Becky Princehorn** - So you've got November of 24, November of 25. The safe route would be to do your combination, get that out of the way. Now what we have to **Paula Crew** - To do our what? To do our renewal in November of 24? Is that you're... **Denise Robinson** - No, to do the combination of the two renewals? **Becky Princehorn** - Of the two renewals. **Paula Crew** - You're talking renewals. **Becky Princehorn** - Combining the 712,000 and the 2.1. The two you already have ... **Denise Robinson** - In 24 or 25? **Becky Princehorn** - in 24. Because if you wait and you don't want to go in May and you go in November of 25, that is your last opportunity to renew the 2.1. And I wouldn't want to see you in the position of having just one bite at the apple and for whatever reason it doesn't pass. **Denise Robinson** - I just don't think they'll never pass the renewals and then a whole new one. There'd be no way. **Brenda Clark** - If you ask again. **Denise Robinson** - Yeah, they'll never do that. I know I wouldn't if I was a voter. I'd be like, you just came to me for these renewals. Why do you want new now? **Roger Diller** - Yeah. **Becky Princehorn** - Here's another idea. What if, and I think we talked about this at one of the meetings before, are you having a lot of property tax growth in the district? **Denise Robinson** - We just did 21% **Paula Crew** - Do you mean potential for property tax growth? **Becky Princehorn** - New growth. **Matt Mills** - We have 650 new homes going in in the next ten years. **Becky Princehorn** - All right. **Sue Anne Martin** - But we also did have property tax increases on existing homes to a fair amount. **Becky Princehorn** - But if what you're saying holds, turn to page two of the options page. Have you thought, and I think we talked about this, about doing a substitute and you could take your two existing and do a substitute. Miamisburg schools down the way from you guys has like three substitute levies. I mean, it's crazy, but a substitute can provide growth if you have new real property improvements being made, not inflationary increases due to reappraisal, but true growth. **Denise Robinson** - What about if the growth isn't going to occur for four to five, six years? **Becky Princehorn** - Well, once again, if we're thinking about arrows in our quiver, you got to renew these anyway. Why not try it as a renewal with a substitute? A substitute can be continuing. **Sue Anne Martin** - And we are setting ourselves up. Even if it's four or five years down the road. We are setting ourselves up and looking ahead to what can happen. My bill stays the same. The next person with their \$400- \$500,000 house is the one who's adding to the bucket. **Becky Princehorn** - And when the person stands up in the public meeting and says, hey, I've been there, yeah, they stand in a public meeting and say, well, if you hadn't done a substitute, my property tax millage would have gone down. And the answer, madam president, is your millage is still going to go down, but the people who are coming on the duplicate are going to come in at the same level as you. And over time, triennial update, sexennial reappraisal that millage is going to be driven down because the pie is going to be greater and the millage is going to go down on the bigger pie. And if you've got real growth coming, this could be a nice opportunity. Doesn't get you the trifecta, but maybe the daily double. You get them renewed continually so you're not on this treadmill with this. **Jon Stafford** - I like that because I think we do have growth coming. **Matt Mills** - 650 homes. The city of New Carlisle has already approved preliminary plans and has already passed the TIF legislation. I mean, it's coming. I think that the builders are just waiting. **Sue Anne Martin** - The market should be a little more friendly. **Becky Princehorn** - And it's a growth levy. Now, as with the income tax, I think you don't bet the ranch on a substitute because you just don't know. I don't know if you've ever been up 71, when you get beyond Polaris, there's the Big Walnut School District. It's right there by that outlet mall. And they have two substitutes now, and it didn't quite

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produce as much as they thought it would. But it's nice because it's steady as the growth is occurring. And with Intel, that district is just going to blow up. So I don't want to oversell this, but it can be a nice option. If you've got to renew these anyway, why not set yourself up to get some growth and flip them to continuing? You get that done, then you've got a clean slate to think about. Do we come back then November of 25 with an income tax or a combined emergency income tax? **Matt Mills**- So you can't add millage to this option? **Becky Princehorn** - No, but you can substitute for one or more levies so you can take both of them and make it a substitute. And you may want to talk to. **Paula Crew** - Sorry, just to clarify, but we're just going to receive the same amount of funding, except. **Becky Princehorn** -Except in the initial year it would be add the two together, 2,818,398. And then it starts to grow as new growth comes on the tax base. And if that growth is erratic, you may not see a straight line trajectory. Like I said with Covid we had people with income tax going this way. We had substitute, you know construction stopped and they couldn't get materials and supply chain and all of that. But I like this for you because it gets these out of the way and it only would leave you with the PI and that little library money, which isn't yours anyway. So that's a thought. **Sue Anne Martin** - So would you, thinking of combining those, making it a substitute? The selling point is as time goes on and we build these new homes, it benefits all of us. Is that a good time to also put in an income tax as a separate, because as those houses sell and there are more people in the income tax base coming in will increase as well. **Becky Princehorn**- Well, again, you know the community better than me, it would seem, combining these and making that a substitute, that's a bit of a lift because you're going to have to educate the community about what it is and how it works. I don't know that I would run an income tax at the same time. **Sue Anne Martin** - Okay. **Becky Princehorn** - I would probably wait. **Paula Crew** - We could do November of 24 and do the substitute November of 25, run an income tax or the combined. **Becky Princehorn** - Or the combined. Because what we're going to want to see, the other thing, God knows what the legislature is going to do with property tax. I think, we're counseled to Paula's professional associations, so we're pretty heavily involved in this. And OSBA and OASBO, I mean, we're all following stuff. I think they're going to go for what I call the low hanging fruit first. They're going to change up how reappraisals and triennial updates are done to make it more uniform across the state. You have some counties where they look at recent sales, you have other counties where they don't, and everything in between. So I'm guessing the attention is going to be on the reappraisal side of the equation, at least at the get go. Then we believe as a legal matter to try to monkey with inside millage, there are constitutional problems. So I'm hoping they get off that bandwagon and start thinking about perhaps extending the homestead exemption for low income folks. Other ways to get at it. The thing that is a little frustrating is the state has money. They have a lot of money right now. And so it's not like they couldn't continue rollbacks. It's not like they couldn't continue the homestead exemption payments. I'm just going to say it. There's no press here, Clay, and he knows how I feel. They don't understand it. They totally don't understand property taxation in Ohio and the evolution of it. Back in 1976 when George Voinovich was in the Ohio House of Representatives, that's how we got House Bill 920. And the idea was that you would not have windfalls to local governments from inflationary increases in the tax base. And that's how we got kind of to where we are now. If they build more housing, we might not have such high spikes in the reappraisals. But that's a whole nother subject. So, anyway, we only control what we control. And right now, under the law, you can do these in November combined as a substitute, if you choose. You could also do the property tax with the income tax combo, or you could do a separate income tax. I mean, you know best on how this community would support the different options. I want to switch gears for just a minute. This will be, if you will, your bible. And I have

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a conversation scheduled for tomorrow afternoon with the Auditor of State. **Sue Anne Martin** - Send him my love. **Becky Princehorn** - I did a presentation in December and he came. I got a text from one of my partners, Faber is in the back of the room. Joking aside, as you are out in the community and talking with folks, I know how hard it is to get folks fired up about raising their taxes and supporting the district, but this is going to be your verifiable information. Remember, neutral, informational, verifiable. And you as board members, and Paula and Denise can talk facts all day long, and I see a whole bunch of negative numbers here. So I think you've got this to back up. We need to have some assurance that we're going to be on sound financial footing. One way is to eliminate these recurring levies and get them continuing. And if we can get some growth off it, that's great. And then we're going to have to take a hard look in 2025 at where we go from here. But the more we talk, I feel like getting these out of the way first, before first is the smart way. **Paula Crew** - I would have to come with a lot of transparency, what they perceive as transparency, my opinion, and a lot of just that voter education. **Becky Princehorn** - We can give you that. **Paula Crew** - We're going to be coming with something else. Even when we passed the new buildings, those of you that were here and are cognizant, we did that in 2003, twenty years ago when we passed that the board at the time, if you'll remember, they did an excellent job of this. We will need operating money. Do you remember? And that kind of went with the campaign. Do you remember? We're going to pass this, but we're going to come right back at you because in order to make this a go, we also need operating funding. And 20 years later, still with all the best attempts, we haven't done that. **Matt Mills** - Denise, can I ask a question? Because, say we do that, what is that time gap between we need more money. I'm all for getting that out of the way and combining it and making it easier. **Denise Robinson** - It really doesn't change the five year forecast. It's just you're doing it earlier. **Matt Mills** - So you could be going to them this November for that and then next November, we're going to go for more. **Denise Robinson** - Right. Because it really doesn't... **Matt Mills** - It's not more money **Becky Princehorn** - For your existing taxpayers. This you can say with a straight face, this is not a tax increase. **Denise Robinson** - Right. **Paula Crew** - You could say it's no additional money for you. **Becky Princehorn** - Yeah. **Paula Crew** - No additional. **Becky Princehorn** - And you'll want to craft... **Paula Crew** - We don't want to say this is no new money. **Becky Princehorn** - Correct. **Paula Crew** - But we'll say it is new money because I wouldn't have to spend it if I didn't approve it. You know what I mean? **Becky Princehorn** - But it's making it permanent. **Paula Crew** - Oh, yeah, I agree. **Becky Princehorn** - And new real property added to the tax base is going to generate a bit of growth. Not enough to get us out of the hole. **Paula Crew** - but not enough to compensate for all the negatives we're seeing on that five year. So we would, to answer your question, we would have to put something like that, a one two punch would have to be November 24. November 25. But we'd have to tell them ahead of time on November 24. I guess that's what I meant. I think we need to let them know, like you said, so they're not surprised. There's no, like you said, we just passed that renewal, now they're asking for more. **Becky Princehorn** - Basically it's like a strategic financial plan. Yeah. And if you don't get these out of the way, you can't really focus on then what the remaining need is. **Paula Crew** - And we absolutely rely on that. Obviously, you know we need that, too, those renewals. Now, fortunately, those renewals, I don't want to jinx us. We've never failed them. They've always passed very healthy. I mean, very healthy passage. **Becky Princehorn** - Yeah, you're right. 64%. 63%. Healthy passageways. Oh, that's a landslide. **Paula Crew** - Exactly. So another way to look at it. If there is anything you can do to make them continuing and combined. You said, you can't add to those. Correct. That's a shame. **Becky Princehorn** - I have a whole folder of talking points and stuff for a substitute. If you think you want to go that route. **Paula Crew** - What are you guys thinking? What are your

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thoughts? Can I ask that? I mean, that's a lot of information. A lot of things. **Sue Anne Martin** - I like the idea of addressing what we already have, putting it together, and it is the beginning of a process... **Paula Crew** - and communicating **Sue Anne Martin** - and communicating that. It is a process as we look forward. **Becky Princehorn** - And God knows again what's going to happen at the state level. That's another thing. If I was in your shoes, I would want to get this out of the way and then kind of keep an eye on what's going to happen this spring with any property tax changes. Before I tried a new money approach. One of the bill's outlaws replacement levies. And you want to tell them nobody's done replacement levies ever since you made them not eligible for rollback. Where have you been? Nobody's using that. I haven't done a replacement levy in a decade. **Sue Anne Martin** - And it allows us to have maybe a little bit more breathing room if the economy starts to come back a little bit more, if the Fed starts to drop rates a little bit more, if people are feeling a little bit better about what's going on. **Becky Princehorn** - You're clearing the decks for a good decision on new money. **Paula Crew** - And so whatever we do another way is how do we communicate with everyone? And I know that's the problem. That's the issue, if you will, that Bellbrook got into with their board members. Faber hates surveys. It was the survey. **Paula Crew** - So for example, this is a legal question for you in that we do a Connecting Link, which is a mailer that we send out twice a year to every household in the district. And we've been putting facts and figures on that, all neutral, informational. We were getting ready to send one out. We can hold that off. Are we allowed in there in the facts and figures page to say once the board decides what they want to do in that publication? I love what you said. I wrote that down. This is our strategic financial plan. We have a strategic plan and fiscal responsibility is our third role. But as part of that, it could be the strategic financial plan. Right. So is that information, Becky, that we're allowed to put in the Connecting Link? **Becky Princehorn** - Oh, for sure. **Paula Crew** - Here's our strategic plan. Bullet one, we're going to go with, you know we're going to go... **Becky Princehorn** - Bullet one, we want to eliminate repeating renewals. Bullet number two, we want to pursue a substitute levy, which provides an option for growth as real property is added to the tax base. Bullet number three... **Paula Crew** - Yes. **Sue Anne Martin** - That's what we need to reevaluate. **Paula Crew** - And so, there's not the Connecting Link police of when it goes out. Traditionally, it's been January, but I would love to get that connecting link out twice. **Becky Princehorn** - And we can review it just to make sure. **Paula Crew** - Oh, don't worry, I'll send it to you. **Becky Princehorn** - You would not believe, even with this guidance, having been out since August, some of the things we see. **Paula Crew** - I'm just saying to the board, though, what a good opportunity for the levy. We're just getting a levy committee off the ground. We just, thankfully, you advised that one of our board members can be the levy president. Matt has agreed to do that. Thank you, Matt. **Matt Mills** - You're welcome. **Paula Crew** - So, with that being said, it's going to be hard. You know how hard it is to get a levee committee communication to get going because we cannot disseminate anything from our Tecumseh Local emails to anyone. It all has to come from their gmail and get word of mouth. And Matt will be great at that. But our Connecting Link goes to every single household. **Becky Princehorn** - And there is nothing wrong with stating the facts of these two levies and describing what a substitute levy is and how it works. **Paula Crew** - If we're going to do that, though, I think it would be advantageous to go, to absolutely do that. But what you said, we're going to do a financial, if this is what we decide, whatever the strategic financial plan is in that Connecting Link to, say, in November of 24, we're doing this and it means this, in November of 25, we're coming right back to you with this. And this is why, and it means this. **Sue Anne Martin** - And I agree. I think that any way we go, we should wrap it into the fiscal part of the strategic plan, any part of the communication. **Roger Diller** - And 25 is new money. **Sue Anne Martin** - It would be additional dollars. **Roger Diller** -

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But as long as people know and hear of that a year in advance. **Becky Princehorn** - Related to the five-year forecast. **Paula Crew** - and then when it passes in November, when that passes, if we do it this way in November of 24, in that Connecting Link that goes out in January, we can't thank them. But our financial check mark, that one was done. We put a check mark. Whatever we're allowed to do. Next phase will be in November of 25. Maybe I can't do that. I can't thank anyone. **Becky Princehorn** - No, no pictures of Paula holding a levee brochure. Yes, we had that, right on the school district's website. Superintendent, standing in front of the building holding a levee brochure. **Paula Crew** - No, I'll be low crawling out of the room if you see a levy. But we could then that connecting that publication, if you will, that goes out after November of 24. We can use that to put facts and figures on that as well of this passed, thank you. Next phase of our strategic financial plan is this coming up remember. So, just to give them, they can never go to the polls, I mean, they could... **Brenda Clark** - and say they didn't know. **Paula Crew** - but they can't go and say, I just have no way. I just asked. Yes, they told me about this. I remember getting this three times now. **Sue Anne Martin** - Facts and figures every time we want to communicate. **Becky Princehorn** - Neutral, informational, verifiable. **Paula Crew** - On whatever we want to do. I just think that I'm just kind of bringing in my community engagement hat on how to do that. Of your financial... **Roger Diller** - Two sided billboard on 235 would be great. **Matt Mills** - Do you want to make a donation? **Sue Anne Martin** - We can talk about in our board meeting. A communication plan for this or no? **Becky Princehorn** - cautiously... **Sue Anne Martin** - - Okay. **Becky Princehorn** - ...is what I would say. Because you want Matt and the committee to do all the heavy lifting. **Sue Anne Martin** - Got it. **Becky Princehorn** - You don't want anything to be inferred that you are using **Sue Anne Martin** - that we are directing. **Becky Princehorn** - that you directing you in a board meeting are being compensated. And so when you're outside a board meeting, it's a different story. A little bit different for these ladies. He backed off of them working 24/7. That's where we started with draft number one. Now, they work irregular hours, and so for them, it's a little bit more dicey. But for you, when you are not in a meeting, you've got a first amendment right. But in a meeting, **Sue Anne Martin** - okay. **Becky Princehorn** - you can talk about the merits of doing one or two or one or whatever, and we have to do something. We have levies that are coming up that need attended too, and we're going negative. And you can have very good discussion about pros and cons, and that's okay. **Matt Mills** - As a board member, you're in the meeting, I'm sitting up here talking. Can I temporarily take my hat off, go up to the podium and speak as a member of the public? **Becky Princehorn** - I would really watch that. **Matt Mills** - Okay. I just wanted to ask. **Becky Princehorn** - I would watch that because you're in a board meeting. Now, when you're not at a board meeting and you can't use district emails for levy stuff, but when you're not in the meeting, have at it. I just would be real cautious about, I'm Matt Mills and I'm a member of the board, blah, blah, blah. **Denise Robinson** - Can he disseminate information from the levy committee at a board meeting? **Matt Mills** - That's kind of what I was getting at. **Denise Robinson** - Like, if they're going to do a fundraiser, or if they're going to... **Becky Princehorn** - I would say no. **Paula Crew** - It's a sticky situation. **Sue Anne Martin** - Can someone else from the committee come and do that? **Becky Princehorn** - That would be better. **Sue Anne Martin** - Okay. **Becky Princehorn** - I mean, they just get it up in public participation and turn blue. It shouldn't be one of you in the context of a board meeting. **Paula Crew** - But at our levy meetings, absolutely, right? **Becky Princehorn** - Oh, yeah. **Paula Crew** - Those are different. **Becky Princehorn** - That's different. **Sue Anne Martin** - Now, can Paula and Denise go to a levee meeting? **Becky Princehorn** - Yes. **Sue Anne Martin** - As a participant? **Paula Crew** - And we can share neutral information and verifiable information? **Becky Princehorn** - Yes, they can. And if there's a local Kiwanis, Rotary, fire district, I mean,

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you name it, you can go. If they invite you, you can go and you can present information, answer questions. You just can't be promotional. **Sue Anne Martin** - Got it. **Becky Princehorn**- Because you would be going in your capacity as the CFO, in your capacity as the superintendent, but you can go. **Matt Mills** - Could we communicate said plan at our next meeting with all the government bodies? **Becky Princehorn** - Sure. **Paula Crew** - If we come up with our strategic financial plan. **Matt Mills** - But that's a board meeting. **Becky Princehorn**- But you can talk about we have two levees. **Paula Crew** - It's our strategic plan. **Becky Princehorn**- Yeah. We have two levies. We have to do something. **Denise Robinson** - You can't say vote for it. **Sue Anne Martin** - We talked about this two weeks ago. **Paula Crew** - We talked about this in our work session, we've come up with this conclusion. So really, though, we really need to figure out what the what, the why and the why. But we need to figure both of those out, even if it's not going to be until 24, 25, because that communication piece needs to happen. Begin now, soon. Is that right? Would you agree? **Becky Princehorn** - I would. And then as you're looking at your board calendar, some folks that are going to be on a November are doing, remember it takes two resolutions. Even for a substitute, it takes two resolutions. So you would do the first one, certify it to county auditor. They send back the information. You do the second one. And so whether you do that, May/June, whether you do that June/July, you just got to hit this. August 7 filing deadline. And if you choose to do income tax instead, then you've got this intermediate deadline with the tax commissioner. **Paula Crew** - And we'll need to make sure that we include and maybe we can come up with that communication plan. I just want to run it by you just to make sure we're dotting our I's, crossing our t's, if you will, to make sure that we're not messing up anything. **Sue Anne Martin** - Other questions? **Becky Princehorn** - Would it be helpful if I sent our updated slides to Paula? She can disseminate it to you all. **Paula Crew** - That'd be great. I'll put that in my weekly update on Friday. **Denise Robinson** - I think we normally have Dinsmore do our... **Becky Princehorn** - I've heard of him. **Denise Robinson** - I think we normally have them do our resolutions we have in the past. **Becky Princehorn** - It doesn't mean you have to do it. **Jon Stafford**- Is there any data that presidential years are better than others? We kind of said it might not be good, but my thought process is the no voters are going to come out no matter when you have it. Like you might get some ?? for a presidential election, Oh, schools. Okay, I like schools. I don't know. I just didn't know. I like the no's they're going to be a no. **Becky Princehorn** - Yeah. I mean, there is some thought that bigger turnout is usually more positive for schools. **Paula Crew** - I've heard that, but I don't have any data on that. **Sue Anne Martin** - We had one in 2016 that worked fine. No, it worked fine, it was like 61. **Becky Princehorn** - Yeah, it was a renewal. 61.54% to 38.4. **Paula Crew** - And keep in mind, if we go in 2024, if this is the plan, we go with Jon, that's going to be a renewal in 24 that we're talking about anyway. Even though we're making it a substitute, it's still a renewal. And, golly, maybe if that passes and we change it up a little bit and call it a substitute and it's a continuing, it'll get that growth. That's one thing. But even getting a yes on something different than a renewal might get that forward momentum going with communication. **Sue Anne Martin** - Valid. **Paula Crew** - And we hit them with a three prong approach from the levy, from the district and from the board. You know what I mean? We come at that with our communication plan. We're really in a good place as far as our strategic plan. We have a community engagement plan and we have our financial plan, Denise, with your... **Brenda Clark** - I know this is a negative thought, but let's say we do this, we're doing the replacement and it doesn't pass. Then what? **Becky Princehorn** - Then you, **Brenda Clark** - They're not gone yet, right? **Becky Princehorn** - They're not gone. The 2.1 million the last year of collection is 25. So you would have November of 25. That's another reason to do this. First you have that November of 25 as a backup. **Paula Crew** - Just in case, not

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everyone knows school finances on that renewal, you're only given a certain time and then it just, poof, it goes away. Poof! I mean, really. **Sue Anne Martin** - And we could look at doing something else with that specifically, maybe totally replacing it. **Becky Princehorn** - What you would do would be if you try for a substitute, both of them, it fails. Then maybe you take the conservative route and you come back with it as a renewal, maybe with a small increase. You can do a renewal with an increase as one ballot question. **Paula Crew** - As a separate. **Becky Princehorn** - As a separate. **Paula Crew** - So you're saying like, maybe **Sue Anne Martin** - keeping them individually. **Brenda Clark** - If it's a no. **Paula Crew** - You mean a renewal plus, like, what, income tax? **Becky Princehorn** - No, because it's a renewal. And so it has to be a... **Sue Anne Martin** - So you could do a renewal with a little bit of an increase? **Becky Princehorn** - You can renew with a dollar increase. **Sue Anne Martin** - Define little. **Becky Princehorn** - I mean, it can be whatever you pick. **Sue Anne Martin** - Oh, okay. **Becky Princehorn** - Whatever you pick. But if it fails, our combination substitute fails. 2025 is the last year of collection. You don't want to pay for special elections. So you go on in November, you renew it and maybe you add a renewal of Y with an increase of X **Paula Crew** - to that actual renewal? **Becky Princehorn** - To that renewal. What you can't do is you can't combine them, make them a substitute with an increase. You can't do that. **Brenda Clark** - It's one or the other. **Paula Crew** - But if it's the first way, **Becky Princehorn** - you get two, you don't get three. But if it's solo or you combine them, you could do it with an increase. **Sue Anne Martin** - Okay. **Paula Crew** - But if you did it with an increase, and we'd have to remember, our voters might, if they've just failed it because we changed it up a little bit from a regular renewal, we're really going to be taking a risk in 2025 to lose that because if they voted no on this kind of, we tweaked it and we called it a substitute. **Becky Princehorn** - And maybe you're stuck with a straight renewal. **Paula Crew** - I don't know. That's just my. **Sue Anne Martin** - If we do that straight renewal, **Paula Crew** - then we're stuck with. **Sue Anne Martin** - We're stuck because we can't do other things. **Roger Diller** - Then with that renewal, you're also putting on the new money in the same year. **Becky Princehorn** - Yes, and that's a problem. **Paula Crew** - That would be hard. **Matt Mills** - Denise, not to put you on the spot, but if you can dictate on what this should be, what's your recommendation? **Denise Robinson** - On the type of levy? **Matt Mills** - Yes. **Sue Anne Martin** - This year, November 2024? **Denise Robinson** - Well, if you didn't think about the renewal, I would say it would have to be a 1.25% income tax. **Matt Mills** - Earned income tax? **Denise Robinson** - Earned. **Sue Anne Martin** - Nothing else. The two renewals and that. **Matt Mills** - And then if we were to pass that, we still need the renewals next year? **Paula Crew** - Oh yeah. **Matt Mills** - what would we need to not have to have the renewals? **Denise Robinson** - You probably have to have a 2%, which. There's districts, I actually printed a sheet. There's districts that have 2%. I mean, I'm not saying that would ever pass, but I'm just saying I have a sheet that has, like Miami, Clark, Montgomery Greene, all the school districts who have income taxes and what their rates are. I have that in here. **Matt Mills** - So regardless of what we do, say we do a combo and it passes. We're still going next year, 1.25% income or whatever equivalent. **Denise Robinson** - Yes, and that's just to keep us afloat for a few years. And just like when we're talking about, if you do put a substitute on in November and it passes, that doesn't mean any extra money on the five year forecast. I mean, you might see a little bit with growth, but you're not going to see any, it's not going to make a difference. You're just passing it earlier than when it is. **Sue Anne Martin** - And you can't predict the growth of that. **Denise Robinson** - I'll never be able to predict. **Becky Princehorn** - But you never go backwards. **Denise Robinson** - Yeah. You'll always get the same. That amount at least. **Sue Anne Martin** - Okay. **Becky Princehorn** - And in the first year of a substitute, you get, just add the two numbers together. That's what you get.

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And then it's like stairstep. **Denise Robinson** - Yeah. **Jon Stafford** - So is that a waste of time? **Becky Princehorn** - It's a growth opportunity. And if you could turn these dollar based levies into something that's a growth opportunity, personally, I think I would try. **Sue Anne Martin** - And make them one. **Becky Princehorn** - Make them one. Make them a substitute. **Sue Anne Martin** - And it can be continuing, right? **Jon Stafford** - I think this is the first time we've had growth possibilities in this town in a long time. **Denise Robinson** - I mean, I think that's the way to go. I'm very pessimistic that in November 25, you're going to pass anything after doing this. **Jon Stafford** - So am I. **Denise Robinson** - That's where I'm at. **Becky Princehorn** - The state has been pretty aggressive in sending out precautionary letters. I haven't gotten one. **Denise Robinson** - No. Haven't gotten one yet. But I was on a webinar with the Auditor of State's office, and they said they've received a handful of complaints on the last election from the November election that they're looking into. And I guess they're investigating every single one. **Becky Princehorn** - They are. But at the same time, I think it is fair to say in the last cycle, most of the complaints were, well, they don't need that much money. I mean, they were non complaints. **Sue Anne Martin** - They weren't about the person holding the thank you sign, the levy thing on their homepage. **Becky Princehorn** - No, it was, well, they don't need that much money. Or I don't like my board of education. I mean, it was stupid stuff. **Denise Robinson** - It wasn't valid. **Becky Princehorn** - But they still want to put the fear of God in everybody. What I was talking about was actually the precautionary letters that are going out to folks who are negative financially. **Denise Robinson** - I figure I'll get one next year. But what you were saying about **Becky Princehorn** - But that can be helpful to a campaign. They're going to put us in fiscal emergency. **Paula Crew** - We didn't have that before we were in fiscal emergency. Remember that? And we told the district. **Becky Princehorn** - That didn't help? **Paula Crew** - No. **Denise Robinson** - Or it was fiscal watch. **Paula Crew** - Fiscal watch. Fiscal watch. But you could. I mean, another way of coming at it then is in 2024 is when I know that you're taking a risk because you're only having 2025 for that renewal. If you go for new money, additional operating funds in November of 2024, and then you tie it into, it'll be this amount, whatever this amount is. I don't know if you can do that. And we won't have renewals anymore. Although. But then again, renewals are the only thing that we know is a constant and will pass, hopefully, because they always have. That's the only data we know for sure, right? **Becky Princehorn** - But you've never tried anything else? **Paula Crew** - Well, we've tried 13 times, other things. We've tried the income tax and the property tax. **Matt Mills** - the school district (in my opinion) has to pass a new money levy by 2026 based on the 5 year forecast. **Paula Crew** - It is. Yeah, actually, a fiscal watch will probably come before. **Becky Princehorn** - It does. It'll be a caution, watch. (inaudible) **Brenda Clark** - No, they're not. Not anymore. And it still takes funds to run them. **Paula Crew** - Yeah. **Sue Anne Martin** - Then it takes more funds. I've used the example of we are paying for milk right now on what we paid for milk 30 years ago because we have not passed because we haven't got additional funds. Yeah. And are you doing that at your house? That's what we're doing at the district and going from there. Any other questions for Rebecca? Have we exhausted our questions? If we think of anything, we'll absolutely reach out. We appreciate your time. **Denise Robinson** - Will you send the talking points on the substitute. **Becky Princehorn** - I will do that. **Denise Robinson** - Okay. **Paula Crew** - If you'll just send it to me with the other one, then we'll have them both. And then we'll reach out. As soon as you leave, though, we're going to be like, oh, we should have asked. **Sue Anne Martin** - Paula will send you a question email. **Becky Princehorn** - That's alright. **Matt Mills** - Are you going to talk about the 20 mil floor? **Paula Crew** - Yeah, well I don't know how late you want to stay. Maybe we should schedule another meeting. **Sue Anne Martin** - I agree. **Becky Princehorn** - Do you need me for that? **Paula Crew** - No, we're going to just

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review. **Sue Anne Martin** - What we wanted to do. **Denise Robinson** - Thank you so much. **Denise Robinson** - I can give a two minute thing about floor. I know you probably guys have probably heard me talk about. So basically what happens is when you have a property tax, you vote it in at a certain amount of mills, and so you have to add that to what you have. You have inside mills. So all those mills get added together. And what happens is with an emergency levy, you can only collect what you pass that levy at. Okay, so if you pass it, 2 million, that's all you can collect. That's house bill 920. So what happens is, as property values go up, your tax bill goes down because they adjust the tax rate so that you don't collect any more than what you would have collected when it passed. Well, what happens is the law is house bill 920 that says that. But then there's another law that says, okay, but we're not going to allow the district to go below 20 mils. So when you take our continuing levy, it's 14.6 or 14.2, and then we have our inside mills is 5.8. You add that together, it's 20. So we're at the 20 mil floor. So what that means is now we can see growth on our property taxes. So if you go back and look at previous five year forecasts, you'll see our property taxes were like 7 million, 7.1, 6.9. Very stagnant. Once we hit the 20 mil floor, we've grown a million dollars over two fiscal years. It's been over a million dollars because property values went up 21% and we're on the 20 mil floor. What brings you off the 20 mil floor is if you pass another property tax, it automatically because you're passing millage. So you come off the floor and you lose the million that you had, but you'll pass whatever mills this is. **Brenda Clark** - That's why we're pushing for the income. **Denise Robinson** - Well, yeah, an income tax does not affect the floor and an emergency levy does not affect the floor. **Brenda Clark** - So, neither of the things that we're asking for. **Denise Robinson** - Correct. And this replacement would not affect the floor. Most school districts, when they're on the floor, they go for an income tax because they don't want to lose this additional revenue they're bringing in as values go up. But that's basically the 20 mil floor in a two minute. **Paula Crew** - So could we potentially kind of think about, could we potentially then press pause and let this soak in and schedule another work session with fresh eyes? Okay. Now what? Then come back? Or do you want to. **Sue Anne Martin** - Do we need another work session, or is that conversation we can have at our next board meeting? **Jon Stafford** - Does that need to be Executive Session? **Sue Anne Martin** - I don't think it has to, this is regular session. It would just be part of that. And then we can have the conversation maybe at the beginning in lieu of reports. **Paula Crew** - Okay. **Sue Anne Martin** - And then during, we can, it doesn't have to be written in the agenda, but during the agenda, do we need to vote then on what we're going to do, or is it just a conversation? And until we do the resolution? **Denise Robinson** - Right, you will just direct me, say, okay, we want to do a substitute levy, go with the attorneys, have the paperwork drawn up, then I'll bring the first resolution, and then I have to get the county auditor certify it. Then I'll bring in the next resolution. Then I file all of it with the board of elections. And that has to happen by August 7. **Sue Anne Martin** - I think that we would need, whatever it is, I think we need to do a May first resolution, **Denise Robinson** - at least. **Sue Anne Martin** - a June second resolution. **Denise Robinson** - Yeah, so the only issue is you have to have a certain period of time. So when you pass the first one, then you're at the mercy of the county auditor's office to return it with a certification. Then you're at the mercy of getting the second resolution done, however long it would take them. Then I have to bring that to the board to get passed. Then I have to take it to the board of elections. So there's some people that are outside of the board, I would say start it in April, just to have that extra time to be careful to not miss any deadlines. **Sue Anne Martin** - Agreed. **Paula Crew** - So you're talking at our February board meeting, not the Joint Meeting. **Sue Anne Martin** - I'm talking at our February board meeting, in lieu of reports at the beginning. Let's just open it back up. You've had this time. Fresh eyes. Any other conversation

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that we want to have. Which way do we want to go? **Brenda Clark** - Publicly? Are you saying publicly? **Denise Robinson** - Yeah, it's public. **Matt Mills** - Can we do it at board tours? **Denise Robinson** - Do what? Talk about it or **Sue Anne Martin** - decide what we're going to do and direct Denise to do? We can, because that's a regular meeting. We've done other stuff there before. **Denise Robinson** - I'd say if you do it first thing at the very beginning, before you actually, **Sue Anne Martin** - Agreed. **Denise Robinson** - But if you did it, like at the board office where you meet. **Sue Anne Martin** - Why would you want to do it then versus February, **Matt Mills** -in case the next regular meeting is full of other items, we could have another work session on the levy during board tours. Maybe that was all just a selfish request. **Denise Robinson** - I got you. **Sue Anne Martin** - How about if we see what the agenda looks like for February and then we make a decision if we do it there or not? Does that work? **Denise Robinson** - Yeah, because we don't have to put it. You just say it's new business. We're talking about the. **Sue Anne Martin** - It could be new business. Yes. **Denise Robinson** - Or reports could be levy options. Whether we talk about it or not. Whether we talk about it. **Sue Anne Martin** - Okay. **Matt Mills** - Thank you. **Sue Anne Martin** - Okay. Do we feel that we need another work session for any of this? We just need to decide. I just ask that everybody go dig into the data. If you have any questions, Paula, we can just send them to you. **Paula Crew** - Yes, please do. **Sue Anne Martin** - Okay. **Brenda Clark** - We are paying her to direct us. We're paying her to guide us. **Paula Crew** - Well, and that's what her job is. **Brenda Clark** - So, for us to go off tangent, not do what she's recommending, **Sue Anne Martin**- what she's kind of pointed us towards. **Paula Crew** - Well, and this is her job. Like, this is her third district today she's talked to about this. **Sue Anne Martin** - She knows her stuff. **Paula Crew** - And who's she meeting with tomorrow? I mean, the Auditor of State. **Sue Anne Martin** - I would like to remind, probably if you come up with questions and you send them to Paula, remember that in email, there's back and forth with the whole board. That communication is one way. Anything back and forth between us in email or anything like that could be considered a meeting. And we want to make sure we're not doing that. **Paula Crew** - Now, what I do, you can send a question to everybody, but send a question. Yeah, I'm sorry, send a question. If you email me Matt, if Matt emails me for you, that's a good example. If he emails me a question, I'm allowed to respond to all. You can send it just to me, but then I send it to all and include Denise, just in case you have that same question. And then that's still considered one way communication. But I'm bumping it back out to the entire board. And I do that with everybody who sends me a question. I bump it out to everyone. Because again, you might have asked me something, Roger, that Brenda might have wondered as well. So it would answer. **Sue Anne Martin** - But, yeah, that's the perfect way to do that. **Paula Crew** - Or they might say, oh, that's a good question. I never thought... **Brenda Clark** - So, then if we had a second question, we would not respond to that. **Paula Crew** - You would just respond it back to me. And I would... **Brenda Clark** - not the group email. **Paula Crew** - And then I would reply to all. But because I replied to all. You can look and see what Brenda's second. What's she talking? Oh, Brenda asked this. **Sue Anne Martin** - Open meeting rules. **Paula Crew**- Yes, it is parliamentary procedures. And that's in your other red folder that we didn't get to this evening. So not sure when you want to do that. **Sue Anne Martin** - Not tonight. **Paula Crew** - No. **Brenda Clark** - If you're doing that for just Roger and I, you don't have to. **Sue Anne Martin** - We bring it up for Roger, and you got us thinking about it, but it really is something that, as a board, we need to do every couple years. **Brenda Clark** - And we are going... **Sue Anne Martin** - Yes, you are. You're going to have a great time. **Matt Mills** - It's really good training. Is that the one you and I went to, or is that the one I went to? **Sue Anne Martin** - I went to it when I first joined, and then we went to 201 together. Yeah, it's a good training, but they'll talk a little bit about that

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sunshine law. It's just really good. I think you'll get a lot out of it. All right. Anything else? [*no further comments*]

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Mills to adjourn the meeting.

Second by Mr. Diller

Roll Call: Ayes, Members Mills, Diller, Clark, Stafford, and Martin.

Nays, none. Motion carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Shelia Martin", written over a horizontal line.

President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Dennis L. Robinson", written over a horizontal line.

Treasurer