## PASSAIC VALLEY WATER COMMISSION MEETING OF

OCTOBER 24, 2012

(OPEN SESSION)

## COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

ROBERT VANNOY, President

RIGO SANCHEZ, Vice-President

JEFFREY LEVINE, Treasurer

GLORIA KOLODZIEJ, Secretary

IDIDA RODRIGUEZ

THOMAS P. DeVITA

MENACHEM BAZIAN

## ALSO PRESENT:

JOSEPH A. BELLA, Executive Director

GEORGE T. HANLEY, Counsel

JAMES G. DUPREY, Director of Engineering

JAMES J. GALLAGHER, Personnel Director

YITZ WEISS, Comptroller

LOUIS AMODIO, Administrative Secretary

1 PRESIDENT VANNOY: Good morning, everyone. 2 MR. AMODIO: On the roll. 3 (Roll call was taken, all Commissioners 5 present respond in the affirmative. Commissioners 6 Kolodziej, Rodriguez, and Levine are not present 7 yet) 8 9 MR. AMODIO: Commissioner Kolodziej will be late. 10 11 Commissioners Rodriguez and Levine are on 12 their way. 13 MR. AMODIO: You have a quorum. 14 The time is 10:17 a.m. 15 All of the requirements of the Open Public 16 Meetings Act have been met. Commission meeting 17 notice have been furnished to all Commissioners, 18 City Clerks of Paterson, Passaic, and Clifton; 19 North Jersey Herald News, the Passaic County edition; and the Commission's Executive Staff with 20 21 a copy posted on the main bulletin board of the 22 Clifton facility. 23 Please rise. 24 Commissioner Bazian, would you lead us, 2.5 please.

1 Someone get George Hanley, please. 2 We're going to go into closed session. have a number of attorneys here that need to be 3 heard. 5 COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: Mr. President, can 6 I make a motion to go into closed session to 7 listen to the attorneys. MR. AMODIO: Motion by Commissioner 8 9 Sanchez. 10 Second by... 11 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: Second. 12 MR. AMODIO: Commissioner DeVita. MR. AMODIO: WHEREAS, Section 8 of the 13 14 Open Public Meetings Act permits the exclusion of 15 the public from a meeting in certain 16 circumstances; and 17 WHEREAS, the public body is of the opinion 18 that such circumstances presently exist; 19 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the 20 Commissioners of the Passaic Valley Water 21 Commission: 22 1. The public shall be excluded from 23 discussion of the hereinafter specified subject 24 matters; the general nature of the subject matters 2.5 being: Financial, Insurance, Personnel,

1	Contracts, Negotiations, Security, and Law. We
2	have Summary/Aging reports. We have the matter of
3	Delford Gardens. Homeland Security - SCADA. J.
4	Fletcher Creamer and Verizon v. PVWC. Prismatic.
5	Workers' Comp: Zwerin, Green, Cucuzella, Coates,
6	Frazier, Mangarelli, Rocca v. PVWC as well as
7	Veterans Preference and Dial Corporation located
8	at Shady & Lowe in Paterson. Personnel, we have
9	promotion John Kelly - General Supervisor, Water
10	title change. Debbie Ratajczak - Keyboarding
11	Clerk 3. Contract negotiations updated.
12	Non-aligned personnel. Electrical power
13	procurement and the Sheriff's contract, and any
14	other matter as may be discussed <u>in</u> <u>camera.</u>
15	2. It is anticipated at this that the
16	above-stated subject matters will be ratified
17	during public meeting following or soon thereafter
18	as reason for the discussion no longer exists.
19	3. This Resolution shall take effect
20	immediately.
21	Second by Commissioner DeVita.
22	On the
23	MR. HANLEY: Just to note, all of the
24	employees to be discussed were Rice noticed.
25	MR. AMODIO: Were Rice noticed and for

1	closed session.
2	On the roll.
3	
4	(Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
5	present respond in the affirmative. Commissioners
6	Levine, Rodriguez, and Kolodziej are not present
7	yet)
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11	MR. AMODIO: On the roll.
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13	(Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
14	present respond in the affirmative. Commissioners
15	Vannoy and Levine are excused absent)
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17	MR. AMODIO: The time is 12:26 p.m.
18	You have a quorum.
19	We can go through this quickly, if you
20	like.
21	We'll go to the Consent Agenda. We have
22	the minutes of Passaic Valley Water Commission <u>in</u>
23	camera session and regular public meeting held
24	September 19th, 2012.
25	Do I have a motion?

1	COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Move it.
2	MR. AMODIO: Motion by Commissioner
3	Bazian.
4	Do I have a second?
5	COMMISSIONER DeVITA: Second.
6	MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner DeVita.
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8	(Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
9	present respond in the affirmative. Commissioners
10	Levine and Vannoy are absent)
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12	MR. AMODIO: Next, does the Chair accept,
13	receive, and file miscellaneous orders placed by
14	Linda Beckering, Purchasing Agent, for the period
15	of September 10th, 2012 to October 14th, 2012?
16	COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: Even though I'm
17	covering, can I abstain on that or?
18	MR. AMODIO: You're just approving the
19	purchase orders.
20	COMMISSIONER DeVITA: You're just
21	receiving them now.
22	MR. AMODIO: You are now. You're pro tem.
23	COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: Okay.
24	MR. AMODIO: Thank you.
25	COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: I ask a lot of

1	questions.
2	COMMISSIONER DeVITA: Stop asking so many
3	questions.
4	COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: My mother says, ask
5	as many questions as you could and say no to
6	everything.
7	MR. AMODIO: Move on to Requests For
8	Action:
9	Contract #12-B-33 "Pavement and Sidewalk
10	Replacement," recommendation to award a two-year
11	contract to Diamond Construction of Brick, NJ in
12	the amount of \$1,699,360.
13	Discussion?
14	COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: So moved.
15	MR. AMODIO: Motion by Commissioner
16	Kolodziej.
17	Do I have a second?
18	COMMISSIONER DeVITA: Second.
19	MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner DeVita.
20	On the roll.
21	
22	(Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
23	present respond in the affirmative. Commissioners
24	Vannoy and Levine are absent)
25	

1 MR. AMODIO: Commissioners Vannoy and 2 Levine are not here. Moving on, Contract #12-B-34 "Furnish and 3 Install Windows for Clifton Administration 5 Building, " recommendation to award a one-year 6 contract to 1st Westco Corporation of Oaklyn, New Jersey in the amount of \$110,600. 7 Discussion? 8 9 Motion? 10 Anybody? 11 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: So move. 12 MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner DeVita. Do I have a second? 13 14 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Discussion on the 15 motion. 16 I just probably have to have my mind 17 refreshed. These are windows replacing which 18 windows? 19 MR. BELLA: All the windows. 20 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: All right. They 21 will be the new energy efficient and all that kind 22 of stuff. So we are going to upgrade our ability 23 to keep the heating bills down and all that? 24 All right. Based on that, I'll second the 2.5 motion.

1	MR. BELLA: These are all from the 1950s.
2	COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: That's what I'm
3	saying.
4	COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: The 1950s were great
5	years.
6	MR. AMODIO: On the roll.
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8	(Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
9	present respond in the affirmative. Commissioners
10	Vannoy and Levine are absent)
11	
12	MR. AMODIO: Thank you.
13	COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: I'd like to see
14	local vendors Clifton, Paterson, Passaic.
15	COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: You're supposed
16	to call them and tell them who to send the package
17	to.
18	COMMISSIONER DeVITA: There were a lot.
19	MR. AMODIO: We had quite a few local
20	vendors, but it's a low bid process.
21	COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: So they couldn't
22	match this.
23	COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Just out of
24	curiosity, sorry I missed this, Tekton Development
25	has a lower total price.

1 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: Their bid was 2 deficient. COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: How? I'm looking at 3 it right now. MR. DUPREY: May I address that? 5 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: The window wasn't in 6 conformance with what we want. 7 MR. DUPREY: That's correct. 8 9 MR. AMODIO: Moving on to Resolutions. 10 have Emergency Resolution - Emergency Repair 11 Passaic Valley Water Commission's eight-inch Water 12 Main at the Garden State Parkway by Colfax Avenue in Clifton, New Jersey with the finalized invoice 13 14 amount of \$51,112.74 to J. Fletcher Creamer & Sons 15 of Hackensack, New Jersey. Discussion? 16 17 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Why is this a 18 separate Resolution? 19 MR. DUPREY: It's a separate Resolution 20 because it's an emergency and as an emergency, if 21 you look in the back of it, there's an emergency 22 certification that I provide. There's also a 23 memo, you know, describing the emergency and then the Resolution is to reimburse the contractor for 24 2.5 the monies that when they were in excess of the

1	bid threshold, but we had to do it because of the
2	emergency issue.
3	MR. AMODIO: Any further discussion?
4	COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Move it.
5	MR. AMODIO: Move by Commissioner
6	Kolodziej.
7	Do I have a second?
8	COMMISSIONER DeVITA: Second.
9	MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner DeVita.
10	On the roll.
11	
12	(Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
13	present respond in the affirmative. Commissioners
14	Vannoy and Levine are absent)
15	
16	MR. AMODIO: Commissioner Levine and
17	Vannoy are not present.
18	New Business, summary of disbursements and
19	payrolls through October 24th, 2012 in the amount
20	of \$6,511,391.11. The Treasurer has certified
21	them.
22	Do I have a motion.
23	COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Quick question, if I
24	may ask?
25	What are all these checks for \$291?

1	COMMISSIONER DeVITA: Reimbursement for
2	Medicare.
3	MR. AMODIO: Yes, that is correct.
4	Any further questions?
5	Motion?
6	COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Move it.
7	MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner Bazian.
8	COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Second.
9	COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: I abstain on Dell.
10	(Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
11	present respond in the affirmative. Commissioners
12	Vannoy and Levine are absent)
13	
14	MR. AMODIO: Thank you. Commissioners
15	Levine and Vannoy are not present.
16	Next we go onto recommendations from
17	Executive Session.
18	Title change for Debra Ratajczak -
19	Keyboarding Clerk 3 with no change in salary.
20	Motion?
21	COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Move it.
22	COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Second.
23	MR. AMODIO: Move by Commissioner Bazian.
24	Second by Kolodziej.
25	On the roll.

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(Roll call was taken, all Commissioners present respond in the affirmative. Commissioners Vannoy and Levine are absent)

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MR. AMODIO: Commissioner and Levine are not present.

We will go back on the agenda if there's any committee reports that anybody would like to give at this time.

COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Commissioner Kolodziej, would you like to discuss the budget since you're here?

COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Oh, please. We had a really good budget session. Commissioner Levine didn't make the meeting. I think it's important to hear the overview because it kind of pulled all the suggestions we got to you and we're adopting.

So overview.

COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Oh, the overview basically, is we're trying to look at the budget in terms of what is realistically expected to be needed for next year. We've only been looking at the expenditure side, next we will be looking at

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the revenue side which is not something I believe we've done in the past, but we should really be looking at both sides. We've been able to identify some areas for savings. For example, I believe, we took, approximately, \$275,000 out of the legal budget. We're looking at other areas trying to find the normal. It's not a perfect process, but it's definitely better than what it's been in the past. We are recommending that certain procedures and policies be put in place, especially, with regards to travel expenditures, tighten things up a little bit over there and it's something which I think should be reviewed by our policies committee and a recommendation should be made to the Board.

Am I missing anything?

COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: No. We think we could have something to you by November. Yitz is putting together the piece on the capital budget which we did not go over, but we pretty much know, you know, what we have to do. So that will be a separate piece. But that will give us a whole month ahead of what we're doing in previous years. So it's not hurry up and vote in December, you'll have a whole month to look at it.

1 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: And the other thing, 2 the total amount of expenditures, this year's budget versus last year's budget are practically 3 identical. I think there's maybe a \$300,000 difference and I don't remember if it's over or 5 under on a \$77 million expenditure budget. So 6 7 that means we're almost exactly where we were last 8 year in total amounts which is good. We're 9 projecting that actual expenditures are actually going to be below by a few million dollars. We're 10 11 actually going to be under budget. 12 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: I thought what 13 was also significant is we, all seven of us, gave 14 some very distinct directions to Administration 15 about how they should put their budget together. 16 Joe has commended his department heads for cutting 17 down on the overtime, like we requested, and they 18 have come up with additional cost savings that are 19 reflected in this budget and you did say they 20 actually enjoy doing it, right? 21 MR. BELLA: Yes. 22 MR. AMODIO: Okay. Is that it for 23 finance? 24 COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Yup. 25 MR. AMODIO: Is any other committee

reports?

COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: IT. We met with

Westin. They're doing our Business Process

Review. It was a fascinating meeting in terms of their going through our operations, how we do things and making the report which, unfortunately, due to my schedule, had not had a chance to go through the details. So hopefully, I'll have more comments next month.

They are making concrete recommendations, which when the final report is delivered, will come to the Board, obviously.

COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: When do you think that's going to be done?

MR. BELLA: Some time next week.

definitely in a position with our aging technological infrastructure, that there are certain changes that must be made and soon. There are various ways to approach the issue of replacement, existing hardware and software.

They've come to us with a specific way of doing it which is a valid method of doing it. It's recommended by the staff. I'm not yet at the point where I'm ready to signoff on it myself and

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say I agree with them because I have not yet had a chance to read the full report.

COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: Are they going to give us a recommendation on how to establish some assemblance of the IT division or --

COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: They have made recommendations in terms of personnel requirements for IT.

COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: Okay.

recommending that we add one person, if memory serves, internally, for IT. What the level of that person is and what the skill set of that person is, will they provide us, I don't recall. But they certainly are thinking infrastructurally both in terms of personnel and in terms of hardware and software requirements which is good.

They've recommended things that we discussed in the past, such as social media, which we can give the information out. I was just doodling before, an idea that just hit me that I'm going to raise with Jim later, possibly doing an iPhone or and Android app. for our customers, you know, those things we might look at at some point in the future; but...

Definitely, it looks like this can be the dawn of a new technological age of the Commission. And it is long overdue. Especially, given the fact that we're running on a platform that was antiquated ten years ago and now is difficult to support.

We're talking about upgrading servers, work stations, everything. And by the end of the day, hopefully, it means that we will be getting and processing our information more efficiently with less errors. And that's what we're looking for.

Again, I have not yet read the full report, so I will read the full report and discuss it in IT.

in because I have the clip notes version. Believe me, I appreciated that. But this is a phased in project. I believe it's like a five-year plan. This year's budget includes money for phase 1. Again, what I'm seeing here, which I think is important which every Commissioner around this table has worked for, is we're now working as a team. We're not divided. We're sending clear messages.

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So part of the strategy used with the work force was, evaluate your own departments but when it comes to getting these things done, put down the departments you think should be done first.

And I was just totally gratified to see everybody not being selfish and recognizing who needed to be first and who would be last.

So, Joe, again, good job in getting everybody to work towards the goals that we have set.

Thank you.

COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: One thing I do want to caution and I just want to caution my colleagues on this. This is not on the basis of the meeting with Westin nor is it on the basis of the department, this is just a personal observation based on the fact that this is what I do for a living. The period of time when you are selecting, even more importantly transitioning, from one system to another is exceedingly difficult in an organization. New procedures have to be developed and put in place. New training has to be done. Data has to be moved over from one system to another. It means that the next couple of years are going to be rather trying as

1	pieces of the old system are migrated away and
2	moved into the new system. So we should all just
3	be cognizant of that fact that although this is
4	something that is desperately needed, it's kind of
5	like going through physical therapy. It hurts
6	while you do it, but at the end of the day you
7	come out better.
8	COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: I just want to
9	share something you guys didn't know.
10	Commissioner Bazian's father was an opera singer.
11	So Commissioner Kolodziej plays the piano. So,
12	hopefully, one day we'll have some entertainment.
13	COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: We'll entertain
14	you while you're having lunch.
15	COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: So I just want to
16	you know, if you request for that.
17	MR. AMODIO: Any further reports?
18	COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Just one question.
19	Gloria, should we discuss the memo that we got
20	COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: I don't think so.
21	You know what, it's just good news. You got the
22	memo from Yitz on the illegal hookups. We don't
23	need to discuss it. It's good news. It's in the
24	packets.
25	COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: Good job.

1	COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: I think that part of
2	the point is that there were some people who
3	should be recognized for that.
4	COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: You want to put a
5	letter in their file commending them?
6	COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Yes.
7	COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: So moved. A
8	letter in the file of the employees that went
9	above and beyond.
10	COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Absolutely.
11	MR. AMODIO: Any other committee reports?
12	Move on to the Executive Director report.
13	MR. BELLA: One of the important things we
14	need to do is renew our contract with Passaic
15	Valley Sewerage. They request that we do it at
16	this meeting. I provided you with the formal
17	agreement. We need a vote on that.
18	The other issue is the proposals that
19	we're asking permission to go out to upgrade our
20	customer account validation which includes the GIS
21	system. So that the two of those will have to go
22	together and just go out to get the proposals to
23	do this and get a firm cost to do all this.
24	COMMISSIONER DeVITA: I have a question on
25	the contract with Passaic Valley Sewer. Is this

1 an increase in pricing? MR. DUPREY: Yes. Based on our usage and 2 projecting out, it's going to be approximately ten 3 percent, which is about \$100,000 a year increase. 5 The previous price, though, was in effect for 6 quite a period of time. So now it's going to go up based on the price schedule and our actual --7 8 COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Question. Are they 9 the only game in town? MR. BELLA: That's a good question. We 10 11 hired EET, their consultant, which we did during 12 the professional services. They're going to review all that and see what the other 13 14 possibilities are. There are other possibilities, 15 though, Passaic Valley Sewerage has been very, 16 very reasonable. 17 COMMISSIONER DeVITA: This is a three-year 18 contract? 19 MR. BELLA: It is a three-year contract. 20 We will not be obligated if we find a better 21 cheaper way to do it, we can start. 22 MR. AMODIO: So you're not asking for 23 permission today? 24 MR. BELLA: In other words, if we start 25 concentrating and sending --

1	COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: Joe
2	COMMISSIONER DeVITA: I'm sorry. It also
3	says that we're going to pay them if we send it
4	somewhere else, as if they picked it up. You may
5	want to just look at that and make sure.
6	MR. HANLEY: There's some other items.
7	COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: You're not asking
8	for permission for that, right?
9	MR. DUPREY: We're asking for permission
10	to negotiate through the Law Department the terms
11	and conditions of the contract because we need
12	them going forward.
13	COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: But isn't that par
14	for the course?
15	MR. DUPREY: Right now we're under
16	contract with them to continue sending our
17	residuals to them.
18	COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: I'm confused. I
19	thought we were going to look into the possibility
20	of other alternatives.
21	MR. DUPREY: We are.
22	COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: So if we're looking
23	at other alternatives, we may not be contracting
24	with the Sewerage Commission, we're going to go
25	with somebody else. But we're asking to go

1	forward or working on the contract with the
2	Sewerage Commission, which may not even happen.
3	MR. BELLA: No, to negotiate with them.
4	So that way we're finding out if there's other
5	alternatives at the same time.
6	MR. HANLEY: So you're not looking for
7	them to approve the agreement, you're looking for
8	the permission
9	COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Do you need
10	permission to negotiate? Do they even need?
11	COMMISSIONER RODRIGUEZ: It's good that
12	they come and let us know.
13	COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: That's fine. I
14	don't have a problem with that. I don't know that
15	we need to give permission.
16	COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: I think my
17	colleague to my left is weighing in on some of the
18	things he wants to see negotiated out of the
19	contract.
20	COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Go ahead.
21	COMMISSIONER DeVITA: No, I just think
22	George needs to review some things in here that
23	we're guaranteeing a hundred percent. If it goes
24	to
25	MR. HANLEY: Take or pay.

1	COMMISSIONER DeVITA: You want to look at
2	it.
3	MR. DUPREY: They're demanding
4	MR. HANLEY: I haven't had time to really
5	clearly review it.
6	MR. AMODIO: This will come back to the
7	Commission, Joe, once you have it.
8	If the Commission would like, we could do
9	one vote here. We have a request by Passaic
10	County Police Academy use of the Point View
11	Reservoir in-service classes and we have the
12	request to advertise for RFPs Project #13-P-52 for
13	"Customer Service Account Validation and Water
14	Infrastructure Asset Management Program" which
15	would be the block and lot program.
16	Is that okay?
17	Any questions on anything?
18	Hearing none, do I have a motion?
19	COMMISSIONER DeVITA: So moved.
20	MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner DeVita.
21	Do I have a second?
22	COMMISSIONER KOLODZIEJ: Second.
23	MR. AMODIO: By Commissioner Kolodziej.
24	On the roll.
25	

1	(Roll call was taken, all Commissioners
2	present respond in the affirmative. Commissioners
3	Vannoy and Levine are absent)
4	
5	MR. AMODIO: Thank you.
6	Commissioners Levine and Vannoy are not
7	here.
8	Last but not least, we have the
9	Comptroller's Report.
10	Mr. Weiss.
11	MR. WEISS: Cash on hand is 16.6 million.
12	Our accounts receivable are at 12.4
13	million. Thirty days or less accounts receivable
14	are 12 million.
15	Our accounts payable are at 4.5 million.
16	That's pretty much all I have. You have
17	the updated report. You have the self-insurance
18	report. You have the financial, the overtime
19	reports. Everything is very good and you heard
20	the update as far as the finance committee.
21	MR. AMODIO: Any questions?
22	I have nothing under good and welfare.
23	The next meeting will be rescheduled for
24	Tuesday, November 20th at 9:30 a.m.
25	COMMISSIONER SANCHEZ: Thank you.

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1	MR. AMODIO: Meeting adjourned.
2	COMMISSIONER BAZIAN: Motion to adjourn.
3	MR. AMODIO: Motion by Commissioner.
4	Second by Commissioner Kolodziej.
5	Unanimous.
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7	(Meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.)
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