

Approved 4-21-15

City of Ecorse
Receivership Transition Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 10, 2015

Ecorse City Hall
Council Chambers
Albert B. Buday Civic Center
3869 West Jefferson
Ecorse, Michigan 48229

RTAB MEMBERS PRESENT:

ROBERT BOVITZ

EDWARD KORYZNO

MEMBER ABSENT:

JOYCE PARKER

Reported by:

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Called to order at 9:01 a.m.

MR. KORYZNO: It's 9:01, and I'll call the City of Ecorse Receivership Transition Advisory Board meeting to order.

Mr. Van de Grift, roll call?

MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Robert Bovitz?

MR. BOVITZ: Here.

MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Edward Koryzno?

MR. KORYZNO: Here.

MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Joyce Parker?

MR. VAN DE GRIFT: Absent. The quorum is present.

MR. KORYZNO: Let the record show that Ms. Parker contacted me earlier this week, or last week, actually, and said that she would be out of town and unable to attend.

Next item is approval of agenda.

MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

MR. KORYZNO: Support. Any discussion?

(No response.)

MR. KORYZNO: All in favor of the motion say aye.

MR. BOVITZ: MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign?

(No response.)

MR. KORYZNO: The agenda is approved as printed. A reminder that if you intend to speak at public comment, please sign the sheet at the podium, and unless you've signed in, you will not be recognized.

1 Next item is approval of the RTAB minutes of the
2 February 10, 2015 meeting with noted clarifications.

3 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

4 MR. KORYZNO: Motion to approve; support. Any further
5 discussion?

6 (No response.)

7 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the motion
8 say aye.

9 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

10 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign?

11 (No response.)

12 MR. KORYZNO: The minutes are approved. Next item is
13 old business, five year budget. Last month, City Administrator
14 O'Neal stated that the five year budget would be completed and
15 submitted for this month -- this month's meeting.

16 Unfortunately, later that same day, the city contracted --
17 contacted Treasury to delay the delivery of the five year
18 budget because assessment figures were unavailable. Mr.
19 O'Neal, can you inform the Board as to when we can receive a
20 realistic balanced and council approved five year budget?

21 MR. O'NEAL: Thank you Mr. Chairman, members of the
22 TAB board. I don't know if I can promise a balanced five year
23 budget. What I'm going to do is, it's a work in process, as I
24 indicated to Mr. Van de Grift, and I, I can't remember the
25 guy's name that I talked to from the state.

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MR. KORYZNO: ~~Dubay~~ ^{Dubé}.

MR. O'NEAL: No.

MR. VAN de GRIFT: Terry Bollin.

MR. O'NEAL: Terry Bollin, yeah. I've had conversations with him, and we're going to collaborate together on this. I don't know that he needs to come down here; I'm going to send him my budgeted figures that I have so that he can look them over in detail, to make sure that we're moving along the right way.

I will tell you that I've had meetings with both Lincoln Park and also River Rouge, relative to collaboration of services both assessing -- we've got an assessing contract coming from WCA, because we know Wayne County's no longer going to be doing assessing. So we're looking at that, and going collaboration, that will save both of our cities approximately 15 percent if we both go in together.

We're looking at any and all areas that we might be able to do collaboration of services so that we can not only reduce the costs in the short term, but also reduce the costs in the long term.

I've also had talks with Drew and all the members from the state, relative to MERS. We're going to take a look ~~at~~, talk with MERS, and ~~asking~~ ^{ask} them for some lower numbers, going forward. I know they want to accelerate the ~~close~~ ^{closed} units and the numbers there, and it's come to my attention that if you go

1 there and you talk with them very, very nicely, they might be
2 able to work on some lower numbers for us. I want to look at
3 that.

4 Also, we've got our assessing numbers, as you
5 indicated, Mr. Koryzno, we're getting those. We've got some
6 questions on our personal properties; you know that half our
7 assessed valuation is personal properties, a hundred million
8 dollars. So that's very, very important. And we're going to
9 be looking at that. I will promise that I will have an
10 approved 2015-16 budget to you. I have got to have that done,
11 I believe our charter says that's got to be done in April.

12 As part and parcel to that, I'm going to have a
13 projected five year budget. I'm going to look at as many as I
14 can, without using fund balance, and the numbers that I had
15 before, I wasn't using fund balance until I got out into the
16 third fiscal year. I know that Treasury and this Board has
17 indicated you'd like to see budgets that are balanced without
18 using fund balance, and that's where we're headed with that.
19 And again, we're going to look at anything and everything that
20 we can, relative to that.

21 As I indicated before to this Board, that I'd to work
22 closely with the Board so that we can both agree on the numbers
23 that we might have and that's going to be a work in progress.
24 So that I understand, that you react -- when you react, if you
25 react to my numbers favorably, then what I would like to do is

1 take that back to my board and get approval going forward on
2 the additional four years of the five year budget. And that,
3 Mr. Chairman, is going to be a work in progress.

4 MR. KORYZNO: So do you anticipate having a five year
5 budget completed for the April RTAB meeting?

6 MR. O'NEAL: I'm hoping to have that. Whether or not
7 I've got signed agreements with anybody from anywhere else, as
8 you know, one of the things that I've been very proactive with,
9 as well as the emergency manager in Lincoln Park and Mr. Bolden
10 (sp) from River Rouge, and also Ms. Folks (sp) is up there.

11 We realize that all of the communities within Wayne
12 County and this immediate, are either in receivership, under
13 consent agreement, or may, in the near future, fall into
14 receivership. Warren Evans was on the radio this morning,
15 they're facing a 70 million dollar deficit in Wayne County.
16 That's going to have an effect on us.

17 One of the things that I do want to bring to your
18 attention, is really of concern to me right now, one of the
19 things I've been looking at with Mr. ~~Pennyman~~ ^{Pepperman}, and there's a
20 charge back from the county to us for delinquent taxes. That's
21 -- that could be a very large number, and depending on how we
22 deal with that number, that has an effect going forward. And
23 so I want to make sure that I've got a firm handle, as best I
24 can, on that.

25 I know that I've been working with our assessing

1 department and Terri Capra, relative to homes that we've got
2 out there that are both owned by the city and that there's a
3 lot of delinquent taxes owed to the county. And how we can
4 best do away with those, and tear these homes down and get
5 these properties back on the tax roll. And having heard that
6 we've got a 70 million dollar deficit at Wayne County, I can
7 see where those -- that's going to be problematic.

8 So, coming forward, I've got that MERS number, the tax
9 number, the chargeback number. And of course the legacy costs.
10 I want to get a good handle so when I come forward, and I stand
11 here to you, I can tell you with utmost confidence the numbers
12 that I have in there are good numbers, and that I don't have
13 chargeback numbers of ~~250~~ ^{\$250,000} when they should be ~~750,000~~ ^{\$}. And
14 three years later from now, as it comes to fruition and it's
15 higher.

16 Because I don't want fake -- I'm not going to cook
17 these books, Mr. Chairman, is what I'm trying to say. So I
18 will have a budget for you for '15-'16, for the April meeting.
19 The five year budget is going to be a work in progress; I will
20 have numbers for you. Whether or not that's approved by city
21 council or not, that'll be another issue.

22 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you. Any questions for Mr.
23 O'Neal?

24 MR. BOVITZ: No.

25 MR. KORYZNO: All right, thank you. Next item is

1 Resolution 356.14, budget amendment ~~2014~~²⁰¹⁵⁻⁴-15 DPW.

2 This budget amendment is the first of three amendments
3 which have been tabled until a five year budget is presented,
4 and Treasury accountants confirm the funding source. Absent a
5 contrary view from a board member, this matter will remain
6 tabled. All right.

7 Next item is resolution 357.14, budget amendment 2015-
8 5, body camera purchase; for the aforementioned reason, this
9 matter will remain tabled.

10 Item D, Resolution 372.14, budget amendment 2015-3,
11 master plan -- this will also remain tabled.

12 The next item, employment contract, excuse me. This
13 contract will be evaluated once the five year budget shows, to
14 the Board's satisfaction, that the city can afford it. I note
15 for the record that additional information concerning this
16 contract was received from Administrator O'Neal, and absent a
17 motion, this matter will remain tabled.

18 Resolution ~~403.1~~^{403.14}, withdrawal from the Wayne County
19 Library system, the Board has not received any new information
20 concerning the separation from the county library system, and
21 this matter will be -- will remain tabled until additional
22 action is taken.

23 Item G, report from UHY. When this Board approved UHY
24 to be the city controller in January, we requested a monthly
25 report concerning the adequacy of the part time controller

1 arrangement.

2 For a second month, we have not received such a
3 report; moreover, last month, we requested a monthly list of
4 issued but unapproved checks, which we have not received.

5 Mr. O'Neal, is the part time status of the city
6 controller the reason the Board has not received these
7 documents?

8 MR. O'NEAL: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9 I did not reduce anything to writing, relative to the
10 use of UHY as a -- as a consult, as our controller, consultant.
11 I will tell you, as I indicated at the last meeting, that
12 they've come in with some catch up that they had to do.
13 They're doing fine. Can we do better? I'm looking to possibly
14 having a full time controller on board.

15 This was stopgap, because of the situation with Plante
16 Moran. I'm happy with John Pepperman, I'm happy with UHY
17 coming in and doing it. I know we've had a trailing budget to
18 actual, that you couldn't understand because of the catch up,
19 but we did catch those up. At the minutes, I think your
20 minutes show that you didn't get it, but you did get it because
21 it was late, but we did get those to you.

22 We're going to have those reports timely to you. The
23 other part, Mr. Koryzno --

24 MR. KORYZNO: Well, the two parts, one was whether the
25 firm of UHY is performing in a part time capacity versus the

1 former controllers, the contract controller who was performing
2 it on a full time capacity. My concern, and perhaps I'll let
3 Mr. Bolden speak for himself, is whether the adequacy of a part
4 time function can fulfill the requirements necessary to stay on
5 top of the financial issues here in the city. And secondly,
6 the reports, particularly the checks that are issued, how are
7 the checks being issued --

8 MR. O'NEAL: Okay, I would let Mr. Pepperman speak to
9 the reports, and I will tell you that for the last couple of
10 months, that Mr. Pepperman has been here more on a full time
11 basis than a part time basis because of obviously, the learning
12 curve and the catching up to that. And that will wane itself
13 down as we move on, and we kind of expected that, going
14 forward.

15 Relative to the checks and those other reports, I'll
16 leave that for Mr. Pepperman.

17 MR. KORYZNO: All right, thank you, Mr. O'Neal.
18 Morning, Mr. Pepperman.

19 MR. PEPPERMAN: Good morning, gentleman, thank you.

20 As respect to the checks, I have been holding all of
21 the checks until such time as they are prepared, reviewed by
22 the city council and approved by the city council, and then
23 reviewed and approved by you. Right now, those checks are
24 sitting in my desk drawer. And until such time as you folks
25 approve those checks, they'll stay there. Unless it's an

1 absolute emergency where we have to pay somebody because
2 they're going to decline to do service for us.

3 But I hadn't seen any of those extraordinary
4 circumstances since I've been here. Does that answer your
5 questions?

6 MR. KORYZNO: Yes.

7 MR. PEPPERMAN: Okay. So if I do have checks, I will
8 provide you with a report, unless you'd like an oral report
9 every month.

10 MR. KORYZNO: We were receiving those checks, I would
11 say if you were issuing checks, then those checks, that report
12 needs to be in writing. And if you're not issuing any checks,
13 then I think an oral report would be sufficient.

14 MR. PEPPERMAN: Okay, thank you. Any other
15 questions?

16 MR. KORYZNO: Questions?

17 MR. BOVITZ: Well, the checks are disbursed, they're
18 showing up in the financials, as to whether they're cashed or
19 not or if they're sitting in a drawer is irrelevant, right? I
20 mean, we should at least know what checks have been disbursed,
21 whether they're actually released or not.

22 MR. PEPPERMAN: That's fine, we can do that.

23 MR. BOVITZ: Because when we do release them, we want
24 to know what they are.

25 MR. KORYZNO: True. Clear?

1 MR. PEPPERMAN: Very clear.

2 MR. KORYZNO: All right.

3 Any other questions?

4 (No response)

5 MR. KORYZNO: All right, thank you. We'll move onto
6 new business, approval of resolutions and ordinances for city
7 council meetings, number one, resolutions from regular city
8 council meeting of January 20, 2015.

9 MR. BOVITZ: Entertain a motion to accept the minutes
10 from the meeting of January 20th, 2015, with the exception of
11 Resolutions 23.15, 24.15, and 28.15.

12 MR. KORYZNO: Support. It's been moved and supported
13 to entertain a motion to approve the resolutions from the
14 January 20, 2015 meetings with the exception of ~~23.15~~^{23.15}, ~~24.15~~^{24.15},
15 and ~~28.15~~^{28.15}. *meeting*

16 Any further discussion?

17 (No response.)

18 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the motion
19 say aye.

20 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

21 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign?

22 (No response.)

23 MR. KORYZNO: Motion is approved. Next item is
24 Resolution ~~23.14~~^{23.15}, snow removal ordinance. Mr. Van de Grift,
25 can you summarize this matter for the Board, please?

1 MR. VAN de GRIFT: Yes, Drew Van de Grift, Michigan
2 Department of Treasury.

3 Resolution 23.15 is a first reading of an emergency
4 snow removal ordinance. I, you know, we have no concerns about
5 the subject matter of the ordinance, but I note that all
6 ordinances must be submitted to the RTAB, just as all
7 resolutions, so we would be looking to see a copy of that
8 ordinance before it would become effective.

9 MR. KORYZNO: Okay, thank you. I'll entertain a
10 motion.

11 MR. BOVITZ: Move that we table Resolution 24.15, the
12 boat ramp contract.

13 MR. KORYZNO: All right, support.

14 MR. VAN de GRIFT: Twenty three point 15, snow
15 removal.

16 MR. BOVITZ: I'm sorry, 23.15, I amend my motion.

17 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you for the clarification.

18 MR. BOVITZ: I'm on the next page.

19 MR. KORYZNO: That's all right. Slow down. I'll
20 support that motion to table; any further discussion?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the motion
23 say aye.

24 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

25 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign. Resolution

1 23.15 is tabled. Item B, Resolution two point -- excuse me,
2 24.15, boat ramp contract. Mr. Van de Grift?

3 MR. VAN de GRIFT: Similarly, this is a contract that
4 was not submitted to the Board. Before the city would be able
5 to engage in it, it would need to be approved by the RTAB.
6 There is a contract disclosure form that was prepared by
7 Treasury to facilitate the city in meeting these requirements;
8 simply need to be submitted.

9 MR. BOVITZ: Move that we table Resolution 24.15, the
10 boat ramp contract.

11 MR. KORYZNO: Support. Any further discussion?

12 (No response.)

13 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the motion
14 say aye.

15 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

16 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign?

17 (No response.)

18 MR. KORYZNO: Resolution 24.15 is tabled.

19 Item C, Resolution 28.15, council hiring of city
20 treasury employee.

21 Mr. Van de Grift?

22 MR. VAN de GRIFT: The Board encountered this issue
23 before. The city council here has purported to hire a city
24 employee, but of course the final EM order and the job
25 description that was adopted by Joyce Parker granted all hiring

1 and firing authority to the city manager. So we would look for
2 an action by the city manager.

3 MR. KORYZNO: All right, entertain a motion.

4 MR. BOVITZ: Well, this one, I don't see a problem
5 with.

6 MR. KORYZNO: Well --

7 MR. BOVITZ: Because the council approved it but it
8 hasn't gone through the due process?

9 MR. VAN de GRIFF: No, by virtue of Emergency Manager
10 order, the council simply does not have the authority to hire
11 employees. So, without commenting to the merits of the
12 employee or the situation at all, it should be an action by the
13 city manager.

14 MR. BOVITZ: Okay, so that, to table -- I move that we
15 deny Resolution 28.15.

16 MR. KORYZNO: Support. Any further discussion?

17 (No response.)

18 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the motion
19 say aye.

20 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

21 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed same sign?

22 (No response.)

23 MR. KORYZNO: Resolution 28.15 is denied.

24 Item two, resolutions from special meeting of January
25 29th, 2015. This -- the Board approved the only substantive

1 resolution from this meeting, which was regarding the SMART bus
2 insurance, Resolution three point -- 32.15, therefore, no
3 further action is necessary.

4 Item three, resolutions from city council meeting of
5 February 3, 2015.

6 MR. BOVITZ: Move to accept the resolutions from the
7 February 3rd, 2015, city council meeting, with the exception of
8 Resolution 39.15, the animal control contract.

9 MR. KORYZNO: Support. *41.15*

10 MR. BOVITZ: And ~~31.15~~, the Sendry lawsuit.

11 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

12 MR. BOVITZ: Sendry lawsuit.

13 MR. KORYZNO: Support. Any further discussion?

14 (No response.)

15 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the motion
16 say aye.

17 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

18 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed, same sign?

19 (No response.)

20 MR. KORYZNO: The resolutions from the February 3rd
21 meeting have been approved, with the exceptions of 39.15, and
22 41.15. Item A, Resolution 39.15, animal control ~~act~~, *contract*, Mr. Van
23 de Grift?

24 MR. VAN de GRIFT: The Board will recall that this
25 contract originated through a C-GAP grant; at the time, the

1 city had been approved for a jail consolidation, dispatch
2 consolidation and an animal control consolidation with River
3 Rouge. The city did act on the animal control contract, which
4 appears to be eligible for renewal at this time. The only
5 issue is that no contract or accompanying disclosure form was
6 submitted to the Board, so there's no contract before the Board
7 to approve at this point.

8 MR. BOVITZ: I would move that we table Resolution
9 39.15, animal control contract.

10 MR. KORYZNO: Support. Any further discussion?

11 (No response.)

12 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the motion
13 say aye.

14 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

15 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed, same sign?

16 (No response.)

17 MR. KORYZNO: Resolution 39.15 is tabled. Item B,
18 Resolution 41.15, the Sendry lawsuit. Ms. Boomes, could you
19 summarize this matter for the Board, please?

20 MS. BOOMES: Certainly. Cassandra Boomes, City
21 Attorney's office. Ty Sendry versus the City of Ecorse is a
22 personal injury claim, based on a defective sidewalk. We were
23 able to settle it out of court. The amount is confidential,
24 but I provided, and Wayne assisted in providing, the
25 confidential communication that was provided to council when

1 the settlement was approved. That's basically it.

2 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you.

3 MS. BOOMES: Oh, it's a good settlement; we recommend
4 it. Throw that in there.

5 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you. Okay. Mr. Bovitz, any
6 questions?

7 MR. BOVITZ: No. I move that we approve Resolution
8 41.15, the Sendry lawsuit.

9 MR. KORYZNO: Support. Any further discussion?

10 (No response.)

11 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the motion
12 say aye.

13 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

14 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed, same sign?

15 (No response.)

16 MR. KORYZNO: Resolution 41.15 is approved. Item
17 four, claims and accounts from regular city council draft
18 minutes of February 17, 2015.

19 MR. BOVITZ: Move that we approve the claims and
20 accounts from the February 17, 2015, city council meeting.

21 MR. KORYZNO: Support. Any further discussion?

22 (No response.)

23 MR. KORYZNO: Seeing none, all in favor of the motion
24 say aye.

25 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

1 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed, same sign. Claims and
2 accounts from the February 17th, 2015, meeting are approved.
3 Item D, letter from City Administrator, dated March 10, 2015.
4 Item one, employment contract, was addressed in old business.
5 Item two, city council minutes; those were also addressed in
6 the old business. Item three, budget to actual report.

7 Mr. Pepperman, could you please summarize this report
8 for the Board?

9 MR. PEPPERMAN: I'd be happy to. Basically, we are,
10 for the most part, on track, budget to actual. The only
11 concern we have is in the DPW, and we think that has to do with
12 where services are actually being performed, versus where the
13 budgeted numbers are set up. In particular, there's an
14 ordinance officer within the DPW that should be in the
15 Community Development block grant area; that's where the
16 funding's at, for him. And I believe his costs should be moved
17 there. That would help relieve some of the issues in the DPW
18 budget.

19 Also, DPW provides services to the water and sewer
20 department. I believe part of their money should be charged to
21 water and sewer, as opposed to DPW. Not only for past
22 performance, but for future performance, also. I have talked
23 with the DPW director, he believes about 20 percent of his
24 money and time was allocated towards water and sewer.

25 Police department seems to be, or public safety,

1 excuse me, seems to be on budget, and everybody else seems to
2 be within their budgeted line items.

3 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you. Any questions for Mr.
4 Pepperman?

5 MR. BOVITZ: No.

6 MR. KORYZNO: Okay. I have a question for
7 Administrator O'Neal. It appears that a significant amount of
8 DPW expenses are related to the director's wages. That one
9 time, this individual, although an administrative person, was
10 receiving overtime, and now that you've got an HR firm on
11 board, working for the city, has this, have they opined as to
12 the validity of an administrator receiving overtime?

13 MR. O'NEAL: We've looked at that, and there's no
14 violation of FELSA (sp) on that. We've looked at that. I know
15 you and I had discussed this, and the Board had discussed it in
16 the past. Again, the DPW is a work in ~~process~~ *progress*. There are a
17 lot of things that the DPW superintendent can do that other
18 people cannot do. We're trying to keep the costs down,
19 relative to the individuals, to keep us under the AC-8 (sp)
20 kick in, what have you, so -- again, going forward in the next
21 year into the next year's budget, I will be discussing with
22 you, and the DPW area, possible ways to saving funds relative
23 to that.

24 And again, we only have one administrator in the DPW,
25 and he gets called for everything; that's one of those

1 situations that that's going to be a work in progress as well,
2 Mr. Chairman.

3 MR. KORYZNO: All right, thank you, Mr. O'Neal. I'll
4 entertain a motion to approve the budget to actual report.

5 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

6 MR. KORYZNO: Support; any further discussion?

7 (No response.)

8 MR. KORYZNO: All in favor of the motion say aye.

9 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

10 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. Opposed, same sign?

11 (No response.)

12 MR. KORYZNO: Budget to actual report is approved.

13 Item four, poverty guidelines, were addressed in new business,
14 and number five, the Sendry settlement, was addressed in new
15 business.

16 MR. BOVITZ: Say that fast five times.

17 MR. KORYZNO: That concludes the action item portion
18 of the agenda; the next portion is public comment.

19 Mr. Van de Grift?

20 MR. VAN de GRIFT: Rhonda Major?

21 MR. KORYZNO: Let me -- I'm sorry -- you will have two
22 minutes to speak per the Board's rules, and please identify
23 yourself when you reach the podium. Thank you, Mr. Van de
24 Grift.

25 MR. VAN de GRIFT: Ms. Rhonda Major.

1 MS. MAJORS: Good morning.

2 MR. KORYZNO: Good morning.

3 MS. MAJOR: My name is Rhonda Major, I'm here to
4 represent (indiscernible) for the treasurer. And we're here, -
5 - she submitted resolution to try to hire help in her office,
6 and we tried to meet with Wayne O'Neal, and he never got back
7 with us to set up a meeting to go over the concerns.

8 So right now, the office is really fading. We have
9 Terri Capra, who's in there working in other different
10 capacities, just trying to help out Tanisha Sellers at the new
11 position, water department, running back and forth, and
12 sometime her office is just shut down, lights off. And I
13 worked in that capacity for like 17 years -- recommended that I
14 get the position, based on my experience in the operation of
15 the treasurer's office, and the salary could be negotiable, and
16 going over the contract, based on Tim -- he said that he
17 recommended that the treasurer's office needed help even before
18 now, because the work is being passed to the controller's
19 office, all over the place.

20 And he said it needed to come back in house. And
21 finally, having experience over, knowing how to do everything
22 in there, that was Tim's recommendation, so he said he was
23 going to add more money to the budget. And I think we have
24 money in the budget to hire myself and if they want to hire a
25 union position, as well, based on, we wanted to come before

1 this Board and see what your recommendations would be.

2 In the clerk's office, they had a union person that
3 left, and they hired someone outside the union. So their
4 office is being handled, but, the treasurer's office is not
5 being handled correctly, I think it's being -- it's just like
6 being handicapped. And she's had major concerns regarding,
7 that she's been the treasurer over 20 some years, and never
8 been through nothing like this. So, I guess we'd just like
9 insight on -- from the Board, to see how she should handle this
10 matter.

11 MR. KORYZNO: All right, thank you. We'll address
12 that during the comments.

13 MS. MAJOR: Thank you.

14 MR. VAN de GRIFT: That concludes public comment.

15 MR. KORYZNO: All right, thank you, Mr. Van de Grift.

16 Next item is board comment. In regards to the
17 concerns regarding the treasurer's office, Mr. Van de Grift,
18 can you clarify for the Board, or for the audience as well, the
19 procedure for hiring or staffing, per the EM's orders?

20 MR. VAN de GRIFT: Yes, I can. Ordinarily, there was
21 a procedure before Joyce Parker was appointed as, originally,
22 emergency financial manager and most recently, emergency
23 manager. She left in place a series of orders that survive
24 after her departure. Two of those orders are on point here.
25 They mandate that all hiring decisions be made by the city

1 administrator, who currently is Wayne O'Neal.

2 And so, any alternate method, be it in the charter or
3 by prior use, you know, it is no longer appropriate. Wayne is
4 the contact and the authority for all staffing. The kind of
5 counter to that is that all contracts over \$10,000 are reviewed
6 by the RTAB board, so that would include most employment
7 contracts.

8 MR. BOVITZ: And that's the reason we denied the
9 resolution, for the city council and not the fact that we're
10 against the hiring, it's just that the process, if you could --
11 the city administrator has to do the hiring.

12 MR. VAN de GRIFF: That's right.

13 MR. KORYZNO: Thank you, Mr. Van de Grift. So
14 consequently, this Board has no authority to intervene in this
15 matter. It's purely at the local level, under the hand of Mr.
16 O'Neal.

17 MS. MAJOR: Can I ask a question?

18 MR. KORYZNO: Yes?

19 MS. MAJOR: But when we try to discuss this matter, he
20 never returned the call or got back to us to try to get this
21 matter resolved.

22 MR. KORYZNO: I think that's a matter that you need to
23 resolve locally, and come to some type of ~~dis~~agreement, agree
24 not to agree otherwise. This Board's function is to review
25 actions taken by the city council and requests by the city

1 administrator, and that we don't delve any deeper than that,
2 unfortunately for you.

3 Any comments for you, Mr. Bovitz? If not, I'll
4 entertain a motion to adjourn.

5 MR. BOVITZ: So moved.

6 MR. KORYZNO: Support. All in favor say aye.

7 MR. BOVITZ: Aye.

8 MR. KORYZNO: Aye. This meeting is adjourned at 9:31.

9 Thank you.

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16 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED:

March 17, 2015

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18 s/ *Nina Lunsford*

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20 Nina Lunsford CER 4539

21 Certified Electronic Reporter

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