

**In The Matter Of:**  
*BEFORE THE CALUMET TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES*

---

*October 23, 2017  
REGULAR MEETING*

---

*BOSS REPORTERS  
Gary \* Merrillville \* Valparaiso, Indiana  
3893 East Lincoln Highway (Rt. 30)  
Merrillville, Indiana 46410  
(219) 769-9090*

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STATE OF INDIANA)  
  )SS:  
COUNTY OF LAKE )

BEFORE THE CALUMET TOWNSHIP  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
GARY, INDIANA

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS had at the meeting  
before the Calumet Township Board of Trustees,  
reported by Beth A. Barnette, CSR and Notary Public,  
Illinois License No. 084-004727, at the Calumet  
Township Trustee Building, 610 Connecticut Street,  
Gary, Indiana, on the 23rd day of October, 2017, at  
6:01 o'clock in the evening.

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APPEARANCES:

Darren Washington, Board Chairman

Clorius Lay, Board Member

Mary Ann Canty-Reedus, Board Member/Secretary

Sherita Smith, Chief Deputy

Denise Roberts, Deputy

Kimberly Robinson, Township Trustee

Romeka Bonds, Executive Secretary

Deidre Monroe, Board Attorney

Rinzer Williams, III, Township Attorney

Steve Dalton, Finance Consultant

and

Members of the Public

\* \* \*

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1 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Good  
2 evening, ladies and gentlemen. I would like  
3 to welcome everyone to the Township Board of  
4 Trustee's meeting. Could we stand for the  
5 Pledge of Allegiance.

6 (Pledge of Allegiance recited.)

7 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Good  
8 evening, everyone.

9 (Members saying "good evening" in  
10 unison.)

11 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: This goes to  
12 the Item No. 2, Approval of the Minutes for  
13 September 18, 2017. The Chairman would like  
14 to make a motion for approval of those  
15 minutes.

16 MR. LAY: Should we call roll  
17 first?

18 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Oh, yeah, I  
19 forgot about that. Thank you, Mr. Lay. Roll  
20 Call.

21 MS. BONDS: Mr. Lay?

22 MR. LAY: Here.

23 MS. BONDS: Ms. Canty-Reedus?

24 MS. REEDUS: Yes. Here.

25 MS. BONDS: Mr. Washington.

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1                   CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Here. We're  
2 all here. Motion passes. There's enough for  
3 a quorum.

4                   Back to Item No. 2 -- thank you,  
5 Attorney Lay, Approval of the Minutes for  
6 September 18, 2017. The Chair would like to  
7 entertain a motion to -- not to entertain, but  
8 to make a motion for the approval of those  
9 minutes for September 18, 2017. Is there a  
10 second?

11                   MR. LAY: Yes, second.

12                   CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: And a  
13 second. Is there a discussion by Board  
14 members?

15                   Hearing none. Roll call,  
16 Ms. Bonds.

17                   MS. BONDS: Mr. Lay?

18                   MR. LAY: Yes.

19                   MS. BONDS: Ms. Reedus?

20                   MS. REEDUS: Yes.

21                   MS. BONDS: Mr. Washington?

22                   CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes. With  
23 three yes, the approval of the minutes of  
24 September 18, 2017 has passed.

25                   The Chair would like to make a

1 motion to amend tonight's agenda and put it  
2 right after Topic No.7. It's not a resolution  
3 or anything that we need to come to action  
4 tonight, but I wanted to bring up a discussion  
5 about a NIPSCO rate increase and bring some  
6 type of resolution to the Board at a later  
7 date, not tonight, but just put that on  
8 tonight's agenda for discussion.

9 So the Chair entertains a  
10 motion -- the Chair makes a motion to amend  
11 tonight's agenda to place a discussion of  
12 NIPSCO rate increase on tonight's agenda. Is  
13 there a second?

14 MR. LAY: Second.

15 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Second. Any  
16 discussion?

17 Hearing none. Roll call,  
18 Ms. Bonds.

19 MS. BONDS: Mr. Lay?

20 MR. LAY: Yes.

21 MS. BONDS: Ms. Reedus?

22 MS. REEDUS: Yes.

23 MS. BONDS: Mr. Washington?

24 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes. We  
25 will add the NIPSCO rate increase to tonight's

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1 agenda.

2 All right. Item No. 3, Resolution  
3 No. 2017-03, the 2018 Operating Budget.

4 Madam Trustee. Good evening.

5 MS. ROBINSON: Good evening. It  
6 was presented to you in September, and if I  
7 could have Mr. Dalton give an overview.

8 MR. DALTON: Board members, you'll  
9 recall in September that we had the public  
10 hearing, which is required by statute. We had  
11 that public hearing on September 18th.  
12 Tonight is the advertised adoption hearing,  
13 where you could take the actions of adopting  
14 that at the request of the Trustee. You can  
15 also ask questions and I'd be happy to answer  
16 those questions. I'm not sure what those  
17 could be, so to give you a summary what we  
18 already did just a month ago may seem  
19 redundant, but I'll be happy to entertain  
20 such.

21 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: At this time  
22 does any of the Board member have any question  
23 regarding the 2018 operating budget?

24 MR. LAY: Mine will actually --  
25 Mr. Chairman, I'm sorry.



1 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes.

2 MR. LAY: Mine will actually go  
3 more to the salary resolution, but I do have  
4 one. I guess it's part of the salary too. I  
5 don't have any questions. I will wait on the  
6 salary resolution.

7 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Are you  
8 sure?

9 MR. LAY: Yes.

10 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Okay. Is  
11 there anyone tonight in the public that would  
12 like to ask any questions regarding the 2018  
13 operating budget? Is there anyone in the  
14 audience this evening?

15 Hearing none. No questions,  
16 Ms. Reedus?

17 MS. REEDUS: No.

18 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Roll call,  
19 Ms. Bonds.

20 MS. BONDS: Mr. Lay?

21 MR. LAY: Yes.

22 MS. BONDS: Ms. Reedus?

23 MS. REEDUS: Yes.

24 MS. BONDS: Mr. Washington?

25 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes.

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1           Actually, let's back that up because I need to  
2           make a motion to approve the budget. So  
3           excuse me.

4                       The Chair would like to make a  
5           motion to approve the 2018 operating budget.  
6           Is there a second?

7                       MR. LAY: Second.

8                       CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Hearing a  
9           second, any discussion?

10                      Hearing none. Roll call.

11                      MS. BONDS: Mr. Lay?

12                      MR. LAY: Yes.

13                      MS. BONDS: Ms. Reedus?

14                      MS. REEDUS: Yes.

15                      MS. BONDS: Mr. Washington?

16                      CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes. With  
17           three yes, zero noes, the resolution passes.

18                      Item Number 4, Resolution  
19           No. 2017-04, 2018 Salary Resolution. Madam  
20           Trustee?

21                      MS. ROBINSON: This was the second  
22           part of the budget that was presented in  
23           September. So I'll defer to Mr. Dalton.

24                      MR. DALTON: You'll recall a month  
25           ago, when we brought you a salary resolution,

1 I threw myself on the sword and told you that  
2 I had actually used the wrong template. So  
3 you have in front of you the corrected  
4 template. There are no changes to salaries  
5 from the salaries that people are being  
6 currently paid or from the salaries that you  
7 approved one year ago.

8 Just to be specific, in case you  
9 want to ask me a specific question or think  
10 I'm dodging the way I'm misstating that, the  
11 salary resolution that was presented to you a  
12 month ago had errors in it and it included  
13 salaries from previous resolutions. It did  
14 not include the salaries that people are  
15 currently being paid. These salaries have  
16 already been done. Everybody is currently  
17 being paid. There are no raises. Hope I said  
18 that specific enough. Any questions?

19 MR. LAY: Mr. Chairman.

20 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes,  
21 Mr. Lay.

22 MR. LAY: Let me just rephrase it.  
23 Was anyone given a raise from the salary  
24 resolution in 2016 anytime during the year of  
25 2017?

1 MR. DALTON: I don't believe so.

2 MS. ROBINSON: No.

3 MR. DALTON: The answer is no.

4 MR. LAY: Okay. So we didn't have  
5 a reorganization meeting? That's what I  
6 wanted to make sure.

7 MS. ROBINSON: No.

8 MR. LAY: I have some other  
9 questions on the salary resolution. I guess  
10 it goes to the contractual vendors for 2017.  
11 Who put in here -- and I wasn't able to  
12 call -- I wouldn't call the Chairman on this.  
13 Where it's in there not to exceed \$10,000 for  
14 the recorder, who put that in there? How did  
15 you get that 10,000 in there?

16 MR. DALTON: It's in the budget.

17 MR. LAY: Who put it there? Did  
18 the chairman put it there or did you put it  
19 there?

20 MS. ROBINSON: Our finance  
21 department created -- this listing of the  
22 contractual vendors that you're asking about?

23 MR. LAY: Yes.

24 MS. ROBINSON: Our finance  
25 department. That's what the Chairman asked

1 for us to present. This is --

2 MR. LAY: Under Attorney Deidre  
3 Monroe, it says not to exceed 10,000. That  
4 was did by the finance department?

5 MS. ROBINSON: No, that was did  
6 from her contract. The finance department  
7 just put the dollar figure in there.

8 MR. LAY: So that was a contract.  
9 How about Boss Reporters?

10 MS. ROBERTS: In the contract,  
11 yes.

12 MR. LAY: Okay. That was the  
13 contract for 2017.

14 MS. ROBINSON: This is what -- if  
15 I remember correctly, and we asked him to  
16 write it out, he wanted to know what was given  
17 to date and what was expected throughout the  
18 end of '17.

19 MR. LAY: Oh, no, I'm not raising  
20 a question -- I'm going to tell you why I'm  
21 raising this. It's not a question -- this may  
22 be the only time and the only trustee's office  
23 where they have to come to this Board and  
24 start discussing attorneys and certain  
25 expenditures. That was a resolution that was

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1 passed June 25, 1998, which is 98-13-8, which  
2 the Township spent about \$400,000 defending  
3 against that and they lost. They lost twice.

4 So here, they actually have to --  
5 although the Chairman is signing the  
6 contracts, I'm not even raising an issue with  
7 that, they have to come back to this Board to  
8 put those two in. We're not locked into the  
9 Trustee doing it. We can only reduce it. In  
10 98-13-8, it deals with we can never go over  
11 the bids, but the Trustee, back in June of  
12 '98 -- June 25th, I think, I haven't seen it  
13 in a while now -- June the 25th, agreed with  
14 the Board that that would be the home rule --  
15 that was the home rule statute. So this is  
16 one where you actually have to come to us.

17 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Lay, if I may,  
18 and Madam Trustee. You're correct, that's not  
19 the intent of this document. That was simply  
20 to express -- to meet the questions and the  
21 request of the Chairman, to show the funds  
22 that have been expended this year and what we  
23 expect throughout the remaining of the year.  
24 But we're well aware and I agree with the  
25 conclusion you just reached.

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1 MR. LAY: So what's actually in  
2 the budget?

3 MR. DALTON: If I can draw your  
4 attention to Page 1 of the budget, Form 1.  
5 It's in your little packet. I guess it's  
6 Page 3. Down four lines from the bottom, it  
7 says, Board Legal Counsel, 25,000.

8 MR. LAY: Right. But who put that  
9 in?

10 MR. DALTON: Probably me, as I  
11 built the budget and proposed it so that you  
12 guys can take a look at it. I don't even know  
13 what number is in there.

14 MR. LAY: I don't have a problem  
15 this year, but you actually have to come to us  
16 and ask. As long as we don't go over the bid  
17 laws, we put that in. We plug that in.

18 MS. ROBINSON: That's why we gave  
19 you the budget in September, to make sure that  
20 everything was plugged correctly.

21 MR. LAY: Well, again, you've  
22 advertised the 25 already. I'm saying -- and  
23 again, I know it's probably unnecessary legal  
24 advice and not warranted, but what you have to  
25 do is just simply ask so you can publish the

1 correct price. That's all. I'm not  
2 suggesting we change it. I'm not suggesting  
3 we do anything. Just in the future, because  
4 it was done last year, and Mr. Williams  
5 brought it to my attention. It was even in  
6 the --

7 MR. DALTON: I understand the  
8 point. What I can do is add it to the check  
9 list that we request those two figures to you  
10 prior to advertising.

11 MR. LAY: Yes, right.

12 MR. DALTON: This is very specific  
13 to Calumet Township and doesn't apply to other  
14 places.

15 MR. LAY: Yes, yes. Here is one,  
16 going back to the vendor for professional  
17 services, here it says, under Rinzer Williams,  
18 not to exceed 72,000. I thought his was a  
19 flat fee, I've always been told.

20 MS. ROBINSON: No.

21 MR. WILLIAMS: I didn't hear the  
22 question.

23 MR. DALTON: Is your contract a  
24 flat fee or a not to exceed?

25 MR. WILLIAMS: It's both. It is a



1 flat fee, but under no means can I exceed that  
2 dollar amount. Both terms are in the  
3 contract.

4 MR. LAY: I bet you will work up  
5 to that amount.

6 MR. WILLIAMS: And beyond.

7 MR. LAY: The other question I  
8 have -- and Mr. Williams told me I don't read  
9 well either, which he could be right. In the  
10 Walker Group, I thought we paid them \$36,000  
11 between January 1st and September.

12 MS. ROBINSON: That was last year  
13 that amount was paid. You only asked for the  
14 attorneys that were paid for '17 and that's  
15 where we were for '17 with them.

16 MR. LAY: Oh, they were paid in  
17 '16.

18 MS. ROBINSON: Yes, sir.

19 MR. LAY: Okay.

20 MR. DALTON: Much of that lawsuit  
21 was last year.

22 MR. LAY: Oh, yeah. I thought it  
23 was done this year, that's all. Just again  
24 some more unwarranted advice, I would suggest  
25 that you have Mr. Rinzer take a look at his

1 contract again, just take a look at it.

2 MR. WILLIAMS: Attorney Walkers'  
3 contract?

4 MR. LAY: Yes, not yours.

5 MR. WILLIAMS: Okay. Be clear  
6 about that.

7 MR. LAY: I'm sorry, I was not  
8 clear. Is Attorney Boswell working for the  
9 Township as I speak?

10 MS. ROBINSON: Yes.

11 MR. LAY: Okay. Once I asked that  
12 question following the lawsuit. So he went  
13 away and he came back to the Township.

14 MS. ROBINSON: Yes.

15 MR. LAY: What does he do?

16 MS. ROBINSON: He works in  
17 restitution, collection, and with appeals. It  
18 wasn't on here because it did not come out of  
19 the professional services. It does not come  
20 out of the professional services.

21 MR. LAY: Where does it come from?

22 MS. ROBINSON: It comes from --

23 MS. ROBERTS: Special supportive  
24 services.

25 MR. LAY: And how much is he paid?

1 MS. ROBINSON: Not to exceed  
2 12,000. I think he started in May, and it's  
3 not to exceed. I can get that for you.

4 MR. LAY: No. Your information is  
5 good.

6 MS. ROBINSON: Okay.

7 MR. LAY: I have nothing else.  
8 That was it.

9 MR. DALTON: Mr. President, we may  
10 still be on the resolution for salaries, if I  
11 recall.

12 MR. LAY: That is where we are. I  
13 thought this -- I was using it for the salary,  
14 what I would do with the salary resolution.

15 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Ms. Reedus,  
16 do you have any questions?

17 MS. REEDUS: No.

18 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Okay.  
19 Mr. Lay, do you have any more questions?

20 MR. LAY: No, sir.

21 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Okay. The  
22 Chair would like to make a motion for the  
23 approval of Resolution 2017-04, 2018 Salary  
24 Resolution. Is there a second?

25 MR. LAY: I second.

1                   CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Any  
2                   discussion by Board members?  
3                   Hearing none. May we have a roll  
4                   call, Ms. Bonds.  
5                   MS. BONDS: Mr. Lay?  
6                   MR. LAY: Yes.  
7                   MS. BONDS: Ms. Reedus?  
8                   MS. REEDUS: Yes.  
9                   MS. BONDS: Mr. Washington?  
10                  CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes. With  
11                  three ayes, zero nays, motion carries.  
12                  Item No. 5, Resolution No.  
13                  2017-05, Temporary Loan.  
14                  MR. DALTON: Your staff found  
15                  three scrivener's errors. This is a cleaned  
16                  up copy. I will point out where they were so  
17                  that you know that they're not material.  
18                  Paragraph 5, "whereas", the original copy you  
19                  had reflected December 31, 2016. It should  
20                  have said '17. Paragraph 6, there's a word  
21                  "of" inserted between "copy of this  
22                  resolution", in the fourth line. And the very  
23                  last line, "adopted this 23rd day of October,  
24                  2017" had an extra word "of" in it that has  
25                  been deleted. Those three scrivener's errors

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1 have been corrected in the copy you have in  
2 your hand.

3 You'll recall that each year we do  
4 a resolution similar to this. We use our  
5 rainy day fund as a source of temporary cash  
6 borrowing between our funds. We borrow from  
7 Rainy Day while we wait for our property tax  
8 distributions in June and in December.

9 Because of the hecticness of the end of the  
10 year, we ask that you give us the right to  
11 wait until after the first of the year, as the  
12 tax distributions have been accumulated and  
13 the books have been closed, to repay the  
14 temporary loans before we open a new set of  
15 temporary loans for 2018.

16 To do that, statute requires that  
17 you give us the emergency right to do so;  
18 otherwise, we would need to pay those loans  
19 back before the end of this year. So this is  
20 the request, to give us the right to wait  
21 until after the first of the year to repay  
22 those loans.

23 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: The Chair  
24 would like to entertain a motion for approval  
25 of Resolution 2017-05, temporary loan. Is

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1           there a second?

2                       MS. REEDUS:   Second.

3                       CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON:   Hearing a  
4           second, any discussion by Board members?

5                       MR. LAY:   Yes, just a question.  
6           You said you'd entertain and then it's the  
7           motion itself.

8                       CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON:   I know.   I'm  
9           sorry.

10                      MR. LAY:   That's all right.  
11           That's all right.

12                      CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON:   Let me  
13           repeat that again.   I'm so used to the school  
14           board.   You got seven people and that's three,  
15           so I'm getting out of --

16                      MR. LAY:   Yeah, right.

17                      CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON:   The Chair  
18           would like to make a motion for the approval  
19           of Resolution 2017-05, for the temporary loan.  
20           Is there a second?

21                      MR. LAY:   Second.

22                      CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON:   Hearing a  
23           second, now discussion.   Do you have a  
24           question, Attorney Lay?

25                      MR. LAY:   I notice you extended it

1 as we're giving you the money. How much is  
2 outstanding in the rainy day fund now?

3 MR. DALTON: There is  
4 \$1.65 million that has been borrowed from  
5 Rainy Day. If you're asking for the cash  
6 balance of Rainy Day, would you know off the  
7 top of your head what it was?

8 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I have a  
9 print-out. In Rainy Day, there is 2,884,651.

10 MR. LAY: Thank you.

11 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And some  
12 change.

13 MR. LAY: No further questions.

14 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Can you  
15 repeat that again?

16 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Yes. It's  
17 2,884,651.58. And that's as of today.

18 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Okay. Any  
19 questions, Ms. Reedus?

20 MS. REEDUS: No.

21 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Roll call,  
22 Ms. Bonds.

23 MS. BONDS: Mr. Lay?

24 MR. LAY: Yes.

25 MS. BONDS: Ms. Reedus?

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MS. REEDUS: Yes.

MS. BONDS: Mr. Washington?

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes. With three ayes, zero nays, the resolution passes. Item No. 7, Resolution No. 2017-07, 2018 Holiday Schedule.

MS. ROBINSON: Can we go back to Number 6?

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: I'm sorry, excuse me. Resolution 2017-06, Standards of Eligibility for Township Assistance. Madam Trustee.

MS. ROBINSON: Thank you. We have a packet of the standards in there. In that we just made a few housekeeping kind of changes where we changed, on Page 4, our office hours to reflect our four-day, 40-hour week.

And we also changed, on Page 25, we added that the income -- about your income tax refund. A client whose income tax return was seized due to past due federal or state taxes, outstanding child support, or student loans should present official documented proof for consideration of your eligibility. We



1 added that as a part of our standards.

2 And I believe there was two more,  
3 like just E-mails of -- okay. That was the  
4 last one. I'm sorry. The E-mails of the  
5 persons receiving complaints, two of our  
6 managers, the names of employees who are no  
7 longer here were there, so we just updated  
8 that. Everything else remains the same. So I  
9 ask that you receive this as submitted.

10 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Thank you,  
11 Madam Trustee.

12 The Chair would like to make a  
13 motion for the approval of Resolution 2017-06,  
14 Standards of Eligibility for Township  
15 Assistance. Is there a second?

16 MS. REEDUS: Second.

17 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Hearing a  
18 second, discussion? Any questions from Board  
19 members?

20 MR. LAY: I don't have a question,  
21 but a statement.

22 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Attorney  
23 Lay.

24 MR. LAY: Mr. Chairman, this is  
25 probably the best report that I've seen. I'll

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1 not be able to vote for it and I'll be very  
2 specific why. I do not agree with the  
3 four-day week, and I don't know if you had it  
4 in there last year or not. If it was, I  
5 missed it. I don't agree with it, but I think  
6 the report is excellent.

7 For the first time people are  
8 talking about these cases that changes the  
9 Township. They were cases that are quite old.  
10 I knew they existed. I didn't know the names  
11 of these cases, but I knew they existed. But  
12 other than that, I would like to compliment  
13 you on the report, but my vote will be no  
14 because of the four days. I won't vote for  
15 that.

16 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Ms. Reedus,  
17 any question?

18 MS. REEDUS: None.

19 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: I have a  
20 question. Madam Trustee, two things, what has  
21 been the response from the public and the  
22 service since you have Fridays off and has  
23 there been any savings from having Friday not  
24 being included in the workweek? Can you  
25 explain that to us?

1 MS. ROBINSON: Yes. We have not  
2 had any formal complaints, because we also  
3 have a case manager at the Multi Purpose  
4 Center who is there 8:00 to 5:00 on Fridays.  
5 So if anyone is in need of an emergency or has  
6 an emergency situation, you can always get to  
7 the MPC where a case manager is there to serve  
8 you. So that has not totally rid out us  
9 having service on Fridays.

10 And with the savings, it comes  
11 because we have less absenteeism because most  
12 people have an extended weekend. So we've had  
13 pretty much a hundred percent staff daily,  
14 which saves us from, you know, just not having  
15 workers available. The building is closed.  
16 We're not here for, you know, those ten hours  
17 or eight hours in between. We will be able  
18 to -- once we have all of our collective  
19 savings at a final number, that's what we're  
20 working on now to get to you.

21 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: And then  
22 your hours now are from 8:00 to 6:00.

23 MS. ROBINSON: Yes. Some people  
24 come 7:00 to 5:00. Some people are here 8:00  
25 to 6:00. So, you know, we used to shut the

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1 door like 2:00 p.m. when we were done at 5:00,  
2 but now we get done at 4:00 p.m. Most  
3 appointments are made, you know, throughout  
4 the day, but we always take people as they  
5 come. We don't ever turn anybody away, but we  
6 try to scale it down to some cases. Social  
7 services are a little more extensive, take a  
8 little more time.

9 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: During the  
10 week someone has up to 6:00 to come in?

11 MS. ROBINSON: Yes.

12 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Okay. The  
13 reason why I say for the general public is if  
14 someone wants to kind of relate salaries to  
15 the time, you're still at an extra two hours  
16 in the workweek for Monday through Thursday  
17 that takes up that slack from Friday.

18 MS. ROBINSON: Right.

19 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: I understand  
20 Mr. Lay's point, but again, I read it. It was  
21 an excellent job that you and your staff put  
22 out there.

23 MS. ROBINSON: Thank you.

24 MR. LAY: I do have --

25 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: You got

1 another question?

2 MR. LAY: Yeah. Either I missed  
3 it last year, but if she has someone on site  
4 that can service the people, I don't have -- I  
5 don't have a problem with that.

6 MS. ROBINSON: We said that last  
7 year. We moved the case manager out there for  
8 that specific reason.

9 MR. LAY: As I get older, I don't  
10 hear quite as well. I certainly will withdraw  
11 my objection, although I haven't cast a vote  
12 yet. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

13 MS. ROBINSON: Thank you.

14 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Roll call,  
15 Ms. Bonds.

16 MS. BONDS: Mr. Lay?

17 MR. LAY: Yes.

18 MS. BONDS: Ms. Reedus?

19 MS. REEDUS: Yes.

20 MS. BONDS: Mr. Washington?

21 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes. With  
22 three ayes, zero nays, motion carries for  
23 Resolution 2017-06.

24 Item No. 7, Resolution No.  
25 2017-07, 2018 Holiday Schedule. Madam

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1 Trustee.

2 MS. ROBINSON: I believe we have  
3 submitted this just as it was last year. We  
4 did not remove anything or add anything. I  
5 think we still have the upcoming Veterans Day  
6 out because it falls on a Sunday. So we did  
7 not add it to have that Monday because of our  
8 Friday day off anyway. Everything else is the  
9 same. It falls pretty much in line with city  
10 and county, National holidays.

11 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: The Chair  
12 would like to make a motion for approval of  
13 Resolution 2017-07, the 2018 Holiday Schedule.  
14 Is there a second?

15 MR. LAY: I'll second.

16 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Hearing a  
17 second, any discussion by Board members?

18 Hearing none. Roll call,  
19 Ms. Bonds.

20 MS. BONDS: Mr. Lay?

21 MR. LAY: Yes.

22 MS. BONDS: Ms. Reedus?

23 MS. REEDUS: Yes.

24 MS. BONDS: Mr. Washington?

25 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes. With

1 three ayes, zero nays, motion carries for  
2 Resolution 2017-07, Holiday Schedule.

3 The next item is basically for  
4 discussion by Board members and for the  
5 Trustee. There was a resolution that was  
6 passed a couple weeks ago by the Lake County  
7 Council regarding NIPSCO. And we don't need  
8 to take immediate action tonight, but I sent  
9 our legal counsel the information regarding  
10 the rate increase coming in 2018 and 2019.

11 And after reviewing, we will  
12 provide that to the Trustee and her legal  
13 counsel and maybe at the next meeting come up  
14 with a resolution that we agree as a Board --  
15 and I would like for it to be a joint  
16 resolution from the Trustee and the Board, if  
17 we can, in fact, agree, that we need to stand  
18 out there and say no to another rate hike.  
19 The Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission  
20 probably will give it to them anyway, but I  
21 still think that they need to hear, because  
22 the people we serve here in Calumet Township,  
23 that cost goes over to us.

24 They're continuously asking the  
25 Trustee to cut costs. We still have this

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1 issue with Griffith, and no one seems to think  
2 about those entities when those rate increases  
3 hit the Trustee's office when we're trying to  
4 provide services. So that's just a point that  
5 I wanted to make today. If any of the Board  
6 members and the Trustee have any comments  
7 regarding that, you have the floor.  
8 Attorney Lay?

9 MR. LAY: I don't think we will  
10 have another meeting this year, will we?

11 MS. ROBINSON: I'm not sure.

12 MR. LAY: I'm saying, basically,  
13 you have taken care of it. Do you have any  
14 idea why we would have another meeting this  
15 year?

16 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: No. Again,  
17 the hike doesn't come until 2018 and 2019. I  
18 just wanted to bring it to everybody's  
19 attention that there was a resolution passed  
20 by the Lake County Council. So we can  
21 probably do it at the first meeting of 2019.

22 MS. ROBINSON: Okay. I'm not  
23 well-versed enough. I've seen a little bit of  
24 it. So I would be happy, though, to be more  
25 than cooperative to get in on it and strike,



1 like you said, because we do pay some pretty  
2 hefty bills as a part of our duties. So that  
3 would be great.

4 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: And another  
5 thing, in all fairness, you know, that would  
6 give us some time to have a conversation with  
7 our state senator, Eddie Melton, to find out  
8 will there be any forms this year, something  
9 to kind of explain the need, give him that  
10 opportunity as an elected official  
11 representing us in this district on that. So  
12 that's why I don't want to try to approve  
13 anything, at least until we give him a heads  
14 up and kind of talk to him about what's going  
15 on so we could get more clarity on what's  
16 going on, because it seems like every year  
17 there's an increase.

18 Other than that, do we have any  
19 Public Comments tonight from anybody in the  
20 audience that would like to speak?

21 (No immediate response.)

22 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Okay. Madam  
23 Trustee, any comments?

24 MS. ROBINSON: I just basically  
25 want to say thank you to the Board in your

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1 diligence. We've never had a sweep like this  
2 before, so I really appreciate that. And I  
3 think I'm just going to be quiet. Thank you.  
4 Thank you. Nice birthday gift. I appreciate  
5 that.

6 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Comments  
7 from Attorney Lay?

8 MR. LAY: In light of what she  
9 said, in spite of myself, she probably  
10 (Inaudible.) I'm sure it was mutual. I  
11 would -- I would assume that this person will  
12 stay at the Multi Purpose Center?

13 MS. ROBINSON: Yes. As a case  
14 manager?

15 MR. LAY: Yes.

16 MS. ROBINSON: Yes.

17 MR. LAY: Okay. I'm going to wish  
18 everyone Happy Thanksgiving. I mean, I don't  
19 know whether we're going to be back here or  
20 not. I guess Merry Christmas at the same  
21 time. If we do, it won't hurt to say it  
22 twice.

23 I probably will give you some  
24 information that will be made public Wednesday  
25 or Thursday. I'm suing just about everybody

1 in the school system and I expect to win. But  
2 I think they're violating several laws over  
3 there, and so it should be filed tomorrow  
4 morning, either before -- I'm sorry?

5 MS. ROBINSON: As long as it's not  
6 us.

7 MR. LAY: No, no. No, it's not  
8 you guys this time. It's the school system,  
9 which includes the State too. All right.  
10 That's it.

11 Again, I'm assuming the year has  
12 come to an end. We have not always agreed.  
13 I've always tried to pass a vote actually what  
14 I thought it was. Whenever I could help the  
15 Township, I've done it. When there are things  
16 I didn't like, I just simply vote against  
17 them. I guess Rudy Clay, God rest his soul,  
18 wherever he may be, once made a comment, and  
19 his comment was that if you wanted to know  
20 where I stood on something, all you have to do  
21 is ask me and I certainly will tell you.

22 But I enjoyed working with the  
23 Board. Maybe we should keep the same attorney  
24 next year. We got to take a look at her work  
25 product. But, all right, I enjoyed myself.

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1 Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Ms. Reedus?

3 MS. REEDUS: Thank all of you who  
4 came tonight, who stayed tonight to join us.  
5 I wish the Trustee Happy Belated Birthday.

6 MS. ROBINSON: Thank you.

7 MS. REEDUS: And I wish everyone a  
8 Happy Holiday. And I did enjoy doing this and  
9 making sure that the budget was passed.  
10 That's it.

11 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Happy  
12 Belated Birthday to you, Madam Trustee.

13 MS. ROBINSON: Thank you.

14 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: And I also  
15 want to give you a public apology. A couple  
16 meetings ago the conversation kind of got  
17 heated and you wanted to speak and I told you  
18 you couldn't. So I want to apologize and tell  
19 you I'm extremely sorry for telling you you  
20 could not speak, because as a taxpayer and as  
21 a friend, you should be able to say anything  
22 that you want to say. We can always agree to  
23 disagree without being disagreeable. But I  
24 wanted to publically tell you I'm sorry about  
25 that.

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MS. ROBINSON: I accept your  
apology. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: All right.  
Thanks.

The Chair would like to entertain  
a motion for adjournment.

MR. LAY: So moved.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: All in favor  
signify by saying aye.

(Board members saying "aye" in  
unison.)

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: No nays.  
The ayes have it. The motion carries. Merry  
Christmas and Thanksgiving.

(Proceedings concluded at about  
6:33 p.m.)

\* \* \*

1 STATE OF INDIANA)  
 )SS:  
2 COUNTY OF LAKE )

4 BEFORE THE CALUMET TOWNSHIP  
5 BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
6 GARY, INDIANA

7 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE  
8

9 I, Beth A. Barnette, CSR and Notary  
10 Public, do hereby certify that I reported in machine  
11 shorthand the foregoing proceedings had in the  
12 above-entitled matter, at the time and place herein  
13 before set forth; and I do further certify that the  
14 foregoing transcript, consisting of thirty-six (36)  
15 typewritten pages, is a true and correct  
16 transcript of my said stenographic notes, to the  
17 best of my ability.

18 Signed this 27th day of October,  
19 2017.

20  
21  
22  
23 *Beth Barnette*

24 BETH A. BARNETTE, CSR  
25 Notary Public  
My Commission Expires: 6/13/22

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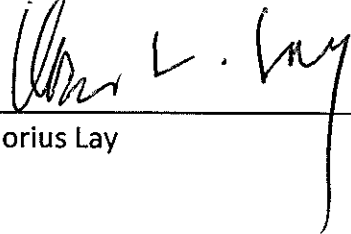
MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Darren Washington moved to adjourn, Clorius Lay seconded,

MEETING ADJOURNED AT  
6:33 p.m.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Darren Washington (Chairman)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Canty-Reedus (Secretary)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Clorius Lay

