

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

February 20, 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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1 STATE OF INDIANA)
)SS:
2 COUNTY OF LAKE)

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

8 REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS had at the meeting
9 before the Calumet Township Board of Trustees,
10 reported by Beth A. Barnette, CSR and Notary Public,
11 Illinois License No. 084-004727, at the Calumet
12 Township Trustee Building, 610 Connecticut Street,
13 Gary, Indiana, on the 20th day of February, 2017, at
14 12:34 o'clock in the afternoon.

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APPEARANCES:

- Darren Washington, Board Chairman
- Clorius Lay, Board Member
- Mary Ann Canty-Reedus, Board Member/Secretary
- Steve Dalton, Chief Deputy
- Sharita Smith, Deputy
- Kimberly Robinson, Board Trustee
- Romeka Bonds, Executive Secretary
- Rinzer Williams, III, Township Attorney
- and
- Members of the Public

* * *

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1 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Good
2 afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. We are
3 getting ready to start the meeting for
4 February 20th, 2017. May we have a Roll Call,
5 Ms. Bonds.

6 MS. BONDS: Mr. Lay?

7 MR. LAY: Present.

8 MS. BONDS: Ms. Reedus?

9 MS. REEDUS: Present.

10 MS. BONDS: Mr. Washington.

11 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Present.

12 With three Board members present, we have
13 enough for a quorum.

14 Item No. 1, Approval of the
15 Minutes for February 13, 2017. The Chair
16 would like to make a motion to approve the
17 minutes of February 13, 2017. Is there a
18 second?

19 MR. LAY: They can't be approved.
20 We don't have them.

21 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Well, what
22 can be approved --

23 MR. LAY: Nothing. We'll have to
24 wait for the next meeting to approve those.

25 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: No, no.

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1 What can be approved is the --

2 MR. LAY: Oh, the previous. I'm
3 sorry. I'm sorry.

4 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Right,
5 right. So what we actually did do, it shows
6 in the minutes that we had to adjourn and come
7 back.

8 MR. LAY: I apologize.

9 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Right.

10 MS. REEDUS: Second.

11 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Any
12 discussion? Hearing none. Roll call,
13 Ms. Bonds.

14 MS. BONDS: Mr. Lay?

15 MR. LAY: Yes.

16 MS. BONDS: Ms. Reedus?

17 MS. REEDUS: Yes.

18 MS. BONDS: Mr. Washington.

19 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes. With
20 three Yes; zero No, the motion carries.

21 Item No. 2 for this meeting, Board
22 Attorney and Legal Services. What I have
23 provided to my fellow Board members is a
24 proposal provided by Attorney Deidre Monroe,
25 who I'm presenting before the Board today as a

1 possible selection to represent the Board of
2 Trustees as legal counsel.

3 MR. LAY: Are you asking for a
4 vote?

5 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: No.
6 Question before I bring a motion up. The
7 Chair would like to make a motion to make
8 Attorney Deidre Monroe the Board's attorney
9 for the Calumet Township Board of Trustees, at
10 the rate she has listed for \$125 per hour, and
11 also attached to this motion will be her
12 letter providing her fees. Is there a second?

13 MR. LAY: Second.

14 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Any
15 discussion? Yes, Attorney Lay.

16 MR. LAY: My discussion will be we
17 would ask that this letter, as required, if it
18 passes, that -- (Phone ringing.) I apologize.
19 I thought it was off. This letter calls for a
20 contract. I would ask Mr. Williams to be
21 given a copy of the letter -- the Trustee
22 should have been given a copy of this letter
23 too, and that a contract be drafted complying
24 with this.

25 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Duly noted,

1 Attorney Lay. Any question? Ms. Reedus.
2 MS. REEDUS: Do we have money to
3 pay it, to pay her?
4 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes.
5 MR. LAY: Resolution 9813-A, which
6 you paid me money for, has been sent all the
7 way up to the Court of Appeals. We can take
8 money from any source other than the Trustee's
9 salary to pay.
10 MS. REEDUS: Okay. Thank you.
11 MR. LAY: Even Mr. Williams'
12 salary.
13 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Roll call,
14 Ms. Bonds.
15 MS. BONDS: Mr. Lay?
16 MR. LAY: Yes.
17 MS. BONDS: Ms. Reedus?
18 MS. REEDUS: Yes.
19 MS. BONDS: Mr. Washington.
20 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes. With
21 three Yes; zero No, the motion carries.
22 Do we have any comments from our
23 Trustee this afternoon?
24 MS. ROBINSON: No.
25 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Board

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comments?

MR. LAY: None.

MS. REEDUS: None.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Hearing none. The Chair would like to make 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: The ayes have it.

(Proceedings concluded.)

* * *

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 seven (7)
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 1st day of March,
19 2017.

20
21
22 *Beth Barnette*

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

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3:4,15,17

20th (1)

3:4

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9813-A (1)

6:5

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(2) 1 - 9813-A

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

*CONTINUATION OF PROCEEDINGS of FEBRUARY 13, 2017
February 20, 2017*

BOSS REPORTERS

*Gary * Merrillville * Valparaiso, Indiana'
3893 East Lincoln Highway (Rt. 30)
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BEFORE THE CALUMET TOWNSHIP
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
GARY, INDIANA

CONTINUATION OF PROCEEDINGS of
February 13, 2017, 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 20th day of February, 2017, at 12:01 o'clock in
the afternoon.

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APPEARANCES:

Darren Washington, Board Chairman

Clorius Lay, Board Member

Mary Ann Canty-Reedus, Board Member/Secretary

Steve Dalton, Chief Deputy

Sharita Smith, Deputy

Kimberly Robinson, Board Trustee

Romeka Bonds, Executive Secretary

Rinzer Williams, III, Township Attorney

and

Members of the Public

* * *

NOTE: Exhibits A and B have been attached to the transcript at the request of Board Member Lay.

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1 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Good
2 afternoon, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to
3 the reconvening of the Township Board meeting
4 from February 13, 2017.

5 We have one item to be discussed,
6 and that is Resolution 2017-01, the annual
7 report. That meeting was held over and
8 adjourned based on Attorney Clorius Lay
9 requesting some information. He has that
10 information. Attorney Lay, you have the
11 floor. Do you have any questions of the
12 Trustee?

13 MR. LAY: Yes, several. What is
14 this new document here for \$68,000? Why is
15 this here?

16 MS. ROBINSON: That was the
17 invoice that was submitted that you asked for.

18 MR. LAY: But it does not equal
19 what's in your annual report. How is that
20 possible? Your annual report is showing a
21 figure of 57,000. This shows a figure of
22 68,000.

23 MR. DALTON: Was a partial payment
24 made before the end of the year?

25 MS. ROBINSON: No. That is just

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1 what was to date and then what was submitted.
2 The \$68,000 was not submitted, what we have in
3 the report, but you asked for a very itemized
4 document to show what was --

5 MR. LAY: Oh, you didn't pay the
6 68,000.

7 MS. ROBINSON: I paid the 57,000.
8 That's in the report.

9 MR. LAY: Okay.

10 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Pardon me.
11 What page is that on?

12 MR. LAY: It's on page 11.

13 MR. DALTON: At the bottom of
14 page 11.

15 MS. REEDUS: 57, okay.

16 MR. LAY: Mr. Dalton, this report,
17 although you put -- it's identical to the
18 report that we received on the 13th.

19 MR. DALTON: Yes.

20 MR. LAY: No changes.

21 MR. DALTON: No changes
22 whatsoever.

23 MR. LAY: Because we've got to
24 make the date, and that's under, again,
25 36-6-6-5. We adjourned that meeting. The

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1 Chair is absolutely right. We were in a
2 meeting that started the 13th. We have to
3 continue to show that. We can't change it.

4 Would someone, either you or --
5 take a look at this new document. And do we
6 owe \$11,000 for 2016 still?

7 MR. DALTON: So the difference
8 between the invoice of 68 and the payment of
9 57 --

10 MS. ROBINSON: Yes.

11 MR. DALTON: -- we still owe?

12 MS. ROBINSON: Yes.

13 MR. LAY: Why is that? Why do we
14 still owe that, if you had this bill as of
15 July of 2016?

16 MS. ROBINSON: Because, you
17 remember, you also asked what was going on
18 with the fence, had he charged anything in the
19 last month or is the fence still there. So
20 the fence has been there since everything has
21 been ended.

22 MR. LAY: No, I'm only on -- your
23 bill here is dated, or the invoice, is dated
24 July 18, 2016, for \$68,330.46. The annual
25 report is, as of December 31st, 57,000. Why

1 wasn't he paid the 68,000?

2 MS. ROBINSON: Because it was
3 really a third of what was included with the
4 contract that was signed. But this came up
5 to -- you see the whole eight months that he
6 had there for the fence? But it had not been
7 eight months yet. So --

8 MR. LAY: That would mean you
9 would owe him money in the future.

10 MS. ROBINSON: Yes.

11 MR. LAY: How much do you owe him
12 right now? This figure has been expanded a
13 great deal. You say you owe him 11, but you
14 didn't pay him in '16, which I don't
15 understand that.

16 Mr. Dalton, we have sufficient
17 dollars to pay the 11,000 to complete payment
18 on this; right?

19 MR. DALTON: Yes, we do.

20 MR. LAY: No, no, in '16.

21 MR. DALTON: In '16? I'm sure we
22 did.

23 MR. LAY: I really can't follow
24 why the person wasn't paid. It has nothing to
25 do with the fence. He should have at least

1 been paid this amount. But inside of this
2 bill raises some problems.

3 Why are we paying -- why do we owe
4 him -- well, he went out and had an attorney
5 to determine if the Trustee had authority to
6 contract. That's not his responsibility.
7 He's paid, in these bills, at least one for
8 \$700, where he went out and he -- I think it's
9 Attorney Price, if I've got it in the right
10 order. Yeah, Attorney -- I guess it's
11 pronounced Karen Price in Crown Point, to
12 research the Township's ability to contract
13 for services without Trustee Board's approval.
14 Why is he doing that?

15 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Did we pay
16 him for that?

17 MR. LAY: Yes.

18 MS. ROBINSON: No, we didn't pay
19 him for that. That was his interest to do
20 that. We didn't pay. He's just giving an
21 invoice of things that had been done that he
22 had paid for.

23 MR. LAY: Well, he's got in here
24 also Item No. 10, which happens to be \$700 to
25 replace the missing fence. Why wouldn't that

1 be his own problem? He should have that fence
2 insured. We can't insure that fence against
3 theft. I mean, I don't know why they were
4 missing. I'm assuming he put them there.
5 This probably needs to really be digested.
6 This isn't making -- I mean, what do we owe
7 him now, right now, right now right here as of
8 February 13th?

9 MR. DALTON: I don't know the
10 answer to that question.

11 MS. ROBINSON: I don't know the
12 answer either.

13 MR. LAY: I'm not sure you should
14 pay that, but that's up to you what you do.
15 And I know that -- let me say it this way:
16 What appears to be, I guess you call it,
17 micromanagement, and Ms. Smith referred to it
18 as personal. I've looked at every code for
19 the Township. I knew most of them in my life,
20 but I reviewed them all over the weekend. And
21 I'm not sure where we should start, but I will
22 discuss and let me start -- Mr. Chairman, if
23 you want to stop me, do that. Let's go to
24 something that I think is absolutely central.

25 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Let me ask

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1 you first, are you dealing with just the
2 annual report?

3 MR. LAY: Yes, it's all on --

4 MS. REEDUS: Tell us what page
5 you're on.

6 MR. LAY: Well, let me put it this
7 way --

8 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Can you tell
9 her the page so that Ms. Canty-Reedus can
10 follow?

11 MR. LAY: Yes, it's in the annual
12 report, or it's something that came up in the
13 annual report meeting. Now, I don't know --
14 and I'll tell you what it is, and these would
15 have been questions that I had that we
16 discussed. It has to do, first of all, with
17 the memorandum of understanding.

18 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Right.

19 MR. LAY: In other words, if I
20 went beyond -- which I should have at the
21 time, but I did take the whole weekend to do
22 this. And I will say this -- and if
23 Mr. Williams disagrees, fine, the difference
24 here is my vote, and he is your attorney -- or
25 I'm going to show he's the Township attorney.

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1 I shouldn't say he's your attorney. The
2 Township Board, based on Statute 36-6-4-8,
3 signs contracts. Also, we're a committee,
4 which is a little shaky. We sign contracts
5 there. And even further, I dealt with
6 Mr. Chase -- Chase may be his first name, at
7 the State Board of Accounts, who indicated an
8 ordered exception may appear if it were
9 located inside of an order that the Township
10 Board cannot approve a contract.

11 The only contract I probably would
12 yield that the Township Board does not have to
13 approve, that would be your attorney, and the
14 statute does say specifically. And I'm going
15 to deal with that too because that's a problem
16 that I may be the only one that knows how it's
17 been cleared up. But anyway, I think MOU has
18 absolutely no value. The Board has three
19 responsibilities; the annual report, the board
20 of finance -- is actually where your budget
21 comes through; although, we never called it
22 that way here -- and then the approval of
23 contracts. That's within your statute and
24 certainly within our statute, and I think that
25 is pretty much out.

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1 An issue -- and I believe it was
2 in a meeting going to the attorney and it was
3 raised by Mr. Williams that he did not
4 represent this Board. That is absolutely
5 untrue. He represents the Township. If you
6 look at your statute again -- and that would
7 be, I believe, 36-6-4-4, he is appointed to
8 represent the Township. The Township is made
9 up of the executive and legislative branches
10 of government. Once you pass county,
11 basically, everything below that is really
12 statutory; although, civil townships sometime
13 is viewed as constitutional because it's more
14 like the courthouse, or something.

15 So that statute is clear. He does
16 represent this Board and he's appointed by
17 you. I certainly have no problem with your
18 appointment, but it's got to be clear that he
19 represents this Board. Apparently,
20 Mr. Boswell didn't seem to understand that.
21 Apparently, he thought he could sue me. He
22 certainly couldn't do that.

23 So, we dealt with those two
24 things. And what made me go back and do this
25 is because, absolutely, I misunderstood what

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1 my goal was and what I've attempted to do.
2 I've attempted to be helpful. It's not
3 playing out that way. But let's go to the
4 issue of travel and then I will explain it.
5 Within the documents that I asked for and you
6 sent me, there are two travels. One I had
7 been told existed, but I never raised it until
8 I actually saw whether or not it existed, and
9 that would be to the National League of
10 Cities.

11 And if you review your own
12 ordinances, not my interpretation, it says all
13 of these things have to have a relationship
14 with somehow improving the operation of the
15 Township. And specifically the ones that I'm
16 talking about is 17, I believe, and 12;
17 36-6-4-17, which is under the executive
18 branch, and 36-6-6-12, which is under the
19 legislative branch. In fact, there is no way
20 that the Township, in my opinion -- which, of
21 course, you'll have an opportunity to explain
22 this because there's probably going to be an
23 ordered exception to this Township, to explain
24 how going to the National League of Cities,
25 you and Ms. Smith. And if you look at these

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1 statutes, it has nothing to do with what's
2 going on here.

3 I'm also going to put these
4 statutes with the minutes, since we have a
5 court reporter. I'm going to add them there
6 so your attorney and you will have an
7 opportunity to review what I'm talking about.
8 I don't think you can make that trip at all.
9 And even when the two of you travel together,
10 you create another problem, and I will tell
11 you what that is. You also went to Aruba.
12 Now that's even a further stretch than, in my
13 opinion, going to the National League of
14 Cities.

15 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: What
16 conference was that?

17 MR. LAY: Oh, I thought everybody
18 knew. I'm sorry. It looked like it had
19 something to do with --

20 MS. ROBINSON: Treating The People
21 Of Color.

22 MR. LAY: Yes.

23 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Let me say
24 this for the record, excuse me, and we didn't
25 make this clear, Trustee Robinson. It's my

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1 fault. Anytime a Board member requests
2 information specific, send it to us all so we
3 can kind of follow along with him, because
4 we're not looking at anything that he's
5 looking at. So I should have made that clear.
6 Do you have enough for you so you can follow
7 along with him? Do you have it?

8 MS. ROBINSON: Yes.

9 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Okay. And
10 that's my fault. I just assumed and I
11 shouldn't have.

12 (Ms. Bonds tendering documents to
13 Board members.)

14 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Thank you,
15 Ms. Bonds. Mr. Lay, go ahead.

16 MR. LAY: Yes. And again, the
17 reason I'm saying all this -- and I think I
18 indicated that previously I was going to vote
19 no. I knew there was some things wrong that I
20 certainly would not be part of. As a matter
21 of fact, every trustee since Shortie Duval
22 (Phonetic) has had problems in this Township
23 and, I don't know, you're on a rough path
24 right now. There is no way that I can think
25 of that People of Color Conference, an

1 International Perspective assists in any way
2 in assisting this Township. And so I have to
3 at least say something about that.

4 If you go to 36-6-4-17, it says
5 reasonable -- Reimbursement is under 2:
6 reimbursement for expenses that are reasonably
7 incurred by the executive for the following.
8 And the one I'm concerned with is travel and
9 meals while attending seminars or conferences
10 on Township matters. That is how you move
11 under your statute. Under our statute, in
12 order for us to approve or put money in there,
13 that would be 36-6-6-12. There it says: In
14 order to attend, it must be membership of the
15 township in county, state, or national
16 associations, but it goes down here: Are they
17 civic, educational, governmental in nature and
18 have as a purpose improvement of township
19 government operations. Again, I'm sure you
20 guys are probably aware of these two statutes,
21 at least yours, and I do not see how that fits
22 whatsoever. I see that certainly as relating
23 to an ordered exception.

24 I show you another problem that
25 you have. It took me a while to find it

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1 again. It's under 36-6-4-18. And all of
2 these statutes I've read before. It's my
3 nature. I wouldn't expect any attorney that
4 you have to read all of this. They would not
5 function in that manner. They would function
6 only when you have a problem that they now
7 look at it. It's a lot of work. I enjoy
8 doing this. Everywhere I've ever been, I know
9 their statutes. I may have started to forget.

10 But way back in January, I talked
11 to you about, January of 2015, about a
12 designee for the Township. That is under
13 36-6-4-18. At that time you indicated your
14 first Chief Deputy as your designee, and then
15 I believe later on you indicated Ms. Smith as
16 your designee. Well, the problem there is if
17 you left this Township, you must inform --
18 crazy as it sounds, the Chairman of this Board
19 so he knows that the designee is functioning.
20 In your guys' case, you took both, you and the
21 designee. So if you didn't call him and give
22 him another name, I'm not sure who, under the
23 statute, is running the Township. That,
24 again, is 36-6-4-18.

25 And the reason I raised it, part

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1 of the notice you have to give is to the
2 Sheriff of Lake County, and I represent the
3 Sheriff. In fairness to you, I don't think a
4 Trustee in this County has complied with this
5 statute. At least if they have, he has not
6 told me about it. And I would be the one to
7 take a look at the compliance. And so you're
8 no different, but I think the difference here
9 is that both of you left. As I understand the
10 law, you can't do that. So there was nobody
11 legally running the Township. You probably
12 didn't, I'm sure, put it in someone else's
13 hands.

14 The third and final thing that I
15 believe I wanted to discuss -- give me a
16 moment, please. Here is one thing I didn't
17 understand and was somewhat confusing to me
18 too. Mr. Williams all year, with the
19 exception of one month, was paid \$63,000. I
20 absolutely have no problem with that. That is
21 between you and Mr. Williams. What I don't
22 understand is how does another attorney, for
23 less than four months, make \$36,000? Now how
24 does -- and only because I know this attorney.
25 I have a great deal more experience; although,

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1 I've been advised it's my personality that
2 keeps from paying me not so much, not my
3 experience. How does Mr. Walker get paid
4 \$36,000? How much time did he spend?

5 MR. WILLIAMS: Mr. Lay, if I may,
6 on behalf of the Trustee, answer that
7 question. As you very well know as an
8 attorney, this was very complicated legal
9 work, and I think that Attorney Walker and his
10 firm did an excellent job as they fought back
11 and, of course, rescinded their request. I
12 assume they're going to come back at a later
13 date. I'm not aware of his hourly rate. I
14 have not seen the bill, but that would be the
15 question. If you can articulate what his
16 hourly rate is, then we could express whether
17 we think that's reasonable, or not.

18 For example, if it's \$2,000, that
19 would be ridiculous. But I think Tony Walker,
20 20 plus years of experience, and the
21 complicated issues, that if you read his
22 briefs, they were, in my opinion, superb. I
23 would need to know that. I don't have that
24 information, but that would dictate the
25 reasonableness of the fee. The amount of time

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1 and hours that he put in, to some extent I can
2 attest to because we had several meetings and
3 E-mails and telephone conferences regarding
4 the matter. But without that information I
5 don't think we're prepared to answer that.
6 And the reason I asked the Trustee to allow me
7 to answer is because she's not in a position
8 as a non-attorney to determine what a
9 reasonable fee would be as well.

10 MR. LAY: The only problem is take
11 a look at 36-6-6-9. You have to tell us.
12 We're now questioning that fee. In other
13 words, it appeared to me -- and that gets back
14 to this type of statute. I believe once she
15 moves beyond you, she just can't go out and be
16 hiring these attorneys. She can hire them,
17 but it has to come back to this Board. I will
18 yield to the first one. Certainly, it's not
19 because of our relation. A lawsuit settled
20 that. In other words, the State, in the form
21 of a Trustee, goes out and sues the State
22 Board of Accounts and that was settled; that
23 he could just have this person out all the
24 time in spite of that statute and I just so
25 happen to be aware of it.

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1 But again, we have Mr. Walker --
2 you know, and again, I'm fully aware of
3 fifteen eighty-five. I've read it. I knew
4 they were doing it prematurely. I believe you
5 can find that in your minutes once you go
6 back. They were a year ahead of themselves.
7 So they figured that out. But then we need to
8 see his invoices. He's making the rate of
9 \$12,000 a month if he worked three months.
10 There's no single petition -- I've been all
11 the way to the Supreme Court in cases and I
12 have 43 years of service. That means his fees
13 are extraordinarily high, but we need to know
14 that.

15 I think now we must assume that it
16 was not a reasonable fee because we don't have
17 anything to make it a reasonable fee. But
18 anyway, that is a thing I've seen as a
19 problem. I've went over these documents I
20 don't know how many hours. I wouldn't have
21 made \$12,000 reviewing every statute and I
22 reviewed every one.

23 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: I have a
24 question regarding the same legal -- not Tony
25 Walker. But again, we don't know how much

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1 he's being paid an hour. Who was the firm
2 that first met with you all that started the
3 work regarding the cessation? What was the
4 name of that firm? How much were they paid?
5 I just can't find it inside this.

6 MR. DALTON: Estrada's firm?

7 MR. LAY: You indicated \$2100
8 previously.

9 MR. WILLIAMS: But the name of the
10 firm, I don't know.

11 MS. ROBINSON: Burke, Costanza &
12 Carberry on page 35. And Alfredo Estrada was
13 the attorney that came from there.

14 MR. LAY: I remember that \$2100.

15 MR. WILLIAMS: And again, that
16 firm was only representing us at the point
17 that we were challenging the Election Board
18 and trying to defeat this at that point. Once
19 this moved beyond that, Attorney Walker's
20 services were retained.

21 MR. LAY: Let me show you. Here's
22 another thing which I was aware of, and a
23 previous time on this Board -- and again, I
24 want to try to be fair. There was never a
25 possibility of a second vote to change

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1 anything that Trustee Elgin (Phonetic) was
2 doing. So again, although I did file
3 lawsuits, a waste of time, but I can assure
4 you I have no intention of filing a lawsuit
5 anymore because it takes me too long.

6 36-6-6-11, we can require absolute
7 detail of estimates for professional services,
8 I mean, down to the last dollar. I believe
9 Mr. Dalton should be aware of that statute.
10 And so basically, I think what brought my
11 attention to that was because of this \$400,000
12 that went somewhere. I'm going to, at some
13 point or another, make a motion that whatever
14 is over there stops. We don't do anything any
15 further. And I was advised that they have not
16 opened bids or they didn't do anything over
17 there. They just held it. I was advised of
18 that.

19 But I think if we're not
20 careful -- you're talking about
21 micromanagement. This thing, this 36-6-6-11
22 is micromanagement from the State. It's not
23 this Board. We haven't created a statute that
24 I'm aware of. We haven't even adopted a
25 procedure for the meetings. We're just all

1 following the old procedure, parliamentary
2 procedure. But within this statute,
3 absolutely, you can ask for the estimates, and
4 all of this stuff, to be broken down so fine.
5 Again, that's 36-6-6-11.

6 And I do owe the Board an apology.
7 I really didn't think of the fact, because it
8 was law, that I should necessarily bring
9 everyone a copy. It took me all day
10 yesterday, pretty much, and I didn't finish it
11 off until this morning. But I think that is
12 something that should be looked at and
13 somehow -- I don't know how it's going to be
14 cleared up. Maybe that's something we'll have
15 to ask the State Board of Accounts and the
16 Attorney General to clear up for us. That
17 would be certainly the cheapest way to do all
18 of these issues that are being raised, at
19 least from my standpoint.

20 Again, I have nothing against
21 anyone here, but I'm certainly not going to
22 jeopardize myself in any way forgetting to
23 raise something or not raising it or just
24 saying, okay, and answer this incorrectly.
25 Again, Mr. Chairman, I do apologize for not --

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1 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: No problem.

2 MR. LAY: I assure you, I put in
3 way more work than you're seeing today in
4 terms of the time I've used.

5 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Ms. Reedus,
6 do you have any questions?

7 MS. REEDUS: No, sir.

8 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: I just want
9 to say, regarding the travel, what it does
10 say, the statute, is two items. Number 1
11 talks about if there is educational
12 opportunities, and then the next one talks
13 about how it's affiliated with the township.
14 So the National Leagues of Cities, in my
15 opinion, I think that's fine. I do have a
16 problem with the trip to Aruba, because items
17 that's listed on there could have been
18 received locally. So I just want to note
19 that. But it does in the code allow the
20 Trustee to travel based on Number 1, education
21 for the Township, and then other issues
22 pertaining to the Township, those two areas on
23 that one.

24 Attorney Williams, do you have any
25 comments?

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1 MR. WILLIAMS: No.

2 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Steve?

3 MR. DALTON: No.

4 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Ms. Smith?

5 MS. SMITH: No.

6 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Madam

7 Trustee?

8 MS. ROBINSON: No.

9 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Okay.

10 MR. LAY: I would direct your
11 attention, with your permission.

12 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes, sir.
13 Go ahead, Mr. Lay.

14 MR. LAY: Under 4, it basically
15 talks about joining -- it's not 4. 17, I'm
16 sorry. And again, you have a slight
17 disadvantage. The National League of Cities
18 has absolutely nothing concerning township
19 government. There may be less than 15 states
20 in this country with a unit of township
21 government. Most of them seem to be out east
22 somewhere. And again, this is where we
23 differ. And if we're just talking about
24 votes, I'm not being argumentative here. I
25 wouldn't do that if I was this Township, go to

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1 the National League of Cities. I really
2 wouldn't.

3 But that will be settled during
4 the audit if that is a legitimate expense,
5 that travel, because it very specifically has
6 to tie back to the Township. And this unit of
7 government exists in very few states, very few
8 states. So there's never been an issue of
9 National League of Cities something on
10 township government. And if you're talking
11 about education, you can just as well sign up
12 and go to Harvard than a local state of
13 government. So I do differ, but not
14 adamantly, on that one point. Thank you.

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

17 MS. REEDUS: No, sir.

18 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: All right.
19 The Chairman would like to make a motion for
20 the approval of Resolution 2017-01, Annual
21 Report. Is there a second?

22 MS. REEDUS: I second.

23 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: May we have
24 a roll call. First of all, before we vote,
25 are there any other questions or any comments?

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1 Hearing none. Roll call.

2 MS. BONDS: Mr. Lay?

3 MR. LAY: No.

4 MS. BONDS: Ms. Reedus?

5 MS. REEDUS: Yes.

6 MS. BONDS: Mr. Washington.

7 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes. But

8 let me also add, with the exception to the
9 trip to Aruba that I disagree with and also
10 being unclear regarding Attorney Tony Walker's
11 expenses. But again, I will note that it was
12 explained that no one knows the hourly rate.
13 So work has to be done. With those two
14 exceptions, I vote yes.

15 MS. REEDUS: I want to vote yes,
16 but also include the comments that Mr. Lay
17 made for our clarification.

18 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes.

19 MR. LAY: One other thing, I
20 believe we're required to put in writing what
21 our objections are.

22 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Yes.

23 MR. LAY: I have not done that. I
24 will put in writing what my objections are.
25 We do have the detailed minutes also. Those

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1 are my objections and we're required to state
2 those.

3 MR. WILLIAMS: Sure.

4 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: With two Yes
5 and one No, the annual report carries.

6 MR. DALTON: Just for
7 clarification, there were two forms. Both
8 were labeled Resolution 2017-01. They're both
9 State forms. The second form is the one that
10 we'll use because it has the line item for
11 exceptions.

12 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Okay.

13 MR. DALTON: We will include the
14 exceptions to the State with that resolution.

15 MR. LAY: I think what has to be
16 done with these, Mr. Chairman, they have to be
17 crossed out and put back to the 13th. There
18 is no meeting of this Board on the 20th. It's
19 the 13th.

20 CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Actually,
21 the top of this is Reconvening of the Meeting
22 on February 13th. So this will state
23 February 13th, because we adjourned and we
24 re-adjourned. I'm going to close out and open
25 another meeting.

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MR. WILLIAMS: Sure. That's no problem.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: Is White-out acceptable?

MR. LAY: A cross-out is probably fine, and I will produce my comments in writing later. I don't have a problem.

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: All right. Regarding the vote that was taken, hearing no comment from the Board members and Trustee, the Chair would like to make a motion for adjournment of this continuation of the meeting for February 13, 2017. All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Board members saying "aye" in unison.)

CHAIRMAN WASHINGTON: No opposed. The ayes have it.

(Proceedings adjourned.)

* * *

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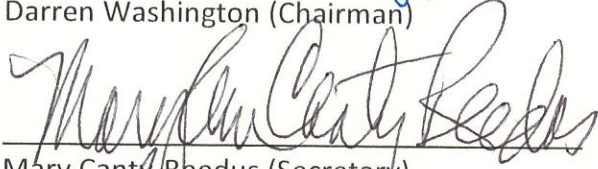
MOTION TO ADJOURN:

Darren Washington moved to adjourn, Clorius Lay seconded,

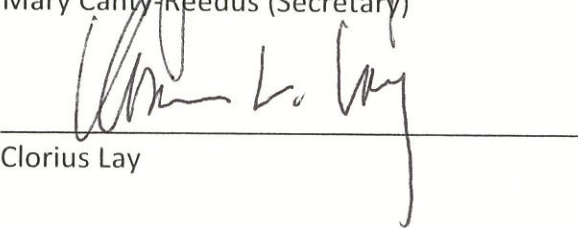
MEETING ADJOURNED AT
12:38 p.m.



Darren Washington (Chairman)



Mary Canty-Reedus (Secretary)



Clorius Lay

