

1 FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE  
2 COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES TAX WORKING GROUP  
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10 PROCEEDINGS: Public Meeting  
Vol. 2, Pages 127 - 205  
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Boulevard, Bldg. 1  
12 Tallahassee, Florida  
13 DATE: December 7, 2012  
14 TIME: Commenced: 8:30 a.m.  
Concluded: 2:36 p.m.  
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16 REPORTED BY: ANDREA KOMARIDIS  
Notary Public in and  
17 for the State of  
Florida at Large  
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A P P E A R A N C E S

Committee Members:

MARSHALL STRANBURG, Chair

GARY RESNICK

SHARON R. FOX

DAVIN SUGGS

ALAN ROSENZWEIG

KATHLEEN KITTRICK

CHARLIE DUDLEY

GARY S. LINDSEY

BRIAN D. SMITH

Also appearing:

ANDREA MORELAND

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P R O C E E D I N G S

MR. STRANBURG: Okay. Let's go ahead and get started. I think we won't get too far before our one missing member of the group probably makes it back from lunch.

We were going to, I think, take a few minutes to run through the list that had been provided at the October 31st meeting of all of the various options that the members had submitted. Just run through that one more time to see if there is anything that anyone would like to further add to the discussions that we've already had on those options, and to just be sure, again, after we do that, that there isn't something else that the members would like to have included as a potential option in the report that we put together.

MR. ROSENZWEIG: Can we talk again -- this goes back to one of my earlier observations, comments, concerns. How are we phrasing what the committee's position, for lack of a better term -- when this list goes in, it sounds like we're building some consensus around the holistic approach. And that's kind of where we want to be. But what are we conveying to the

1           Legislature? That eight of us agree with that?  
2           Six of us agree?

3                   And then once we get to this list, I'm  
4           just not sure -- I mean, it's not as if -- I'm  
5           not smart enough to figure out if all of these  
6           are even doable at one time or if some of them  
7           are in conflict with each other. A lot of them  
8           won't even need to be addressed if the holistic  
9           approach went forward.

10                   So, I just want to figure out, again, what  
11           is it we're saying about this list, per se, when  
12           it goes to the Legislature?

13                   MR. STRANBURG: I think we envisioned --  
14           and I believe we had a little bit of discussion  
15           about this previously -- that we would, first of  
16           all, have all of these available as options.

17                   MR. ROSENZWEIG: Right. Okay.

18                   MR. STRANBURG: We would include in the  
19           body of the report those items which seem to  
20           have a level of support among members of the  
21           working group.

22                   MR. ROSENZWEIG: Okay.

23                   MR. STRANBURG: And those that did not  
24           have a certain level of support among members of  
25           the working group would be part of the report,

1 but they would more or less be included as a  
2 list of, these are ideas for options that the  
3 members put forth.

4 MR. ROSENZWEIG: Okay.

5 MR. STRANBURG: We didn't feel as though  
6 we needed to exclude anything unless the member  
7 who put forth that option decided that he or she  
8 did not want to have that option go forward.

9 But we did want to give the Legislature  
10 some idea of a sense of this is the level of  
11 support for this option among the members of the  
12 working group. But the holistic approach -- the  
13 group agreed at one time that that was the  
14 primary option they wanted to put forth for the  
15 Legislature to consider.

16 MR. ROSENZWEIG: Okay. Thank you.

17 MS. FOX: Will we have the opportunity to  
18 get together after the draft is written so that  
19 we can discuss the nuances after we've seen it?

20 MR. STRANBURG: I think as I mentioned  
21 before lunch, we would like to have an  
22 opportunity to have a -- and again, try to do it  
23 by conference call rather than trying to have  
24 everyone in person to at least go over things on  
25 the phone and, again, have an opportunity to get

1 your reaction, your response to what we put  
2 together with respect to that.

3 So, yes, it's our plan to do that. And  
4 we'll talk about that, as I said, a little bit  
5 later on today of, again, kind of a follow-up  
6 timeline for us to get our order prepared.

7 Okay. Why don't we just start and quickly  
8 go through these. We've discussed all of these  
9 previously. But just to be sure that there  
10 isn't something that maybe we've overlooked, or  
11 maybe there is something that has come to  
12 everyone as something that we want to be sure is  
13 emphasized as part of this group of options.

14 The first group of options were those to  
15 streamline the administrative system. We  
16 discussed the first group of those at our  
17 meeting on October 16th. They dealt with an  
18 option to deal with the rate structure.

19 They were creating some type of --  
20 proposing to create a statewide rate with a  
21 distribution formula with a couple of, again,  
22 subcategories underneath that that you would  
23 create potentially a statewide rate with a  
24 distribution formula and then potentially have a  
25 local rate that, again, would work in a similar

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1 fashion with a distribution formula. Or you  
2 could potentially have a local CST rate that  
3 would be applied at a county level.

4 So, does anybody have any comments? Any  
5 further input that you want to make on that  
6 particular option about a statewide rate with  
7 some type of distribution formula?

8 Gary?

9 MR. LINDSEY: As far as including these,  
10 did we discuss that we would -- basically, we  
11 would list all of these options, unless someone  
12 specifically just said, well, put that in the  
13 appendix or move it. That's pretty much the way  
14 we will go through these?

15 MR. STRANBURG: A little different  
16 approach, maybe, I thought we were going to take  
17 on that, Gary, was those that seem to have a  
18 higher level of support, we would have as a list  
19 in the body of the report. Those that didn't  
20 reach a certain level of support would be a list  
21 as more or less an attachment, an addendum to  
22 the report, itself.

23 MR. LINDSEY: Okay. And I had voluntarily  
24 decided to put one into the appendix. We'll go  
25 through the process with the others.

1 MS. KITTRICK: I think one of the concerns  
2 I have about sort of a statewide rate -- I mean,  
3 I think it's certainly a good Plan B option.  
4 But to the extent that some customers would see  
5 an increase because there is no local CST now,  
6 or a very low CST -- there would still be the  
7 issue politically of an increase with no sort of  
8 benefit, right?

9 I mean, at least under the sales tax  
10 option, there is a small increase. But the  
11 benefit is the entire CST is off your bill. So,  
12 I just think that from a consumer perspective,  
13 there is not a lot of bang there for that buck.

14 MR. SUGGS: And my concern is, to that  
15 same effect, that in order to implement the  
16 statewide rate, more than likely, they would cut  
17 to a low denominator to try to minimize a tax  
18 increase somewhere else.

19 So, therefore, at the end of the day, we  
20 would lose -- it wouldn't be revenue neutral.  
21 It would be probably a revenue decrease,  
22 especially for the locals because, I mean, there  
23 are 122 different rates.

24 So, in order to do that, I think they  
25 would cut rates or strongly consider cutting the



1 aggregate rate -- whatever the aggregate or  
2 statewide or local rate is. So, the pot would  
3 get smaller for locals.

4 MR. LINDSEY: May I ask a question?  
5 Again, you know, there were individual  
6 submissions related to all of these. And I know  
7 that the ones -- at least when I wrote, I tried  
8 to put attributes of them, if you will, which is  
9 kind of like what we're discussing right now. I  
10 think we might have documented some of these.  
11 Will that be in the report?

12 For example, in this, we might -- instead  
13 of just saying the statewide rate with the  
14 distribution formula, I think we had some  
15 writeups that would supplement this that we  
16 would basically present for the benefit of being  
17 in the report for legislators to look at, and  
18 say this is beneficial from this standpoint.

19 Another attribute is that there could be  
20 winners and losers, et cetera, sort of the  
21 things we are just now talking about. We would  
22 include that in the writeup as well?

23 MR. STRANBURG: For things that would be  
24 included in the body of the report, yes, we  
25 would envision there would be some, again, very

1           brief description and further discussion of the  
2           adoption.

3                   MR. LINDSEY:   So, are we going to go  
4           through each these and kind of debate them?  It  
5           seems to me -- I think we've already kind of  
6           looked at these previously.

7                   And it would seem to me if we look through  
8           and say at least three or more of us agree -- I  
9           don't know.  Are we going to have a vote on each  
10          one of these?  Or are we going to say this was  
11          everything that was submitted and these are  
12          other options for consideration?

13                   MS. KITTRICK:  Didn't we essentially do  
14          that with this?

15                   MR. LINDSEY:  I thought we did -- well,  
16          that was where we were kind of whittling down  
17          and we started focusing on the holistic  
18          solution.  But I thought we had kind of walked  
19          through these previously.

20                   MS. FOX:  I agree with Gary.  Because we  
21          don't have all of the body of the meeting --  
22          documentations from all of the previous meetings  
23          in front of us, instead of trying to remember  
24          all of these things, since they are already on  
25          record -- I think that we have rehashed each one

1 of these things with the pros and the cons.

2 So, I guess that's why I wanted to see  
3 what was in writing first because then we could  
4 see if something was left out as opposed to  
5 trying to remember it all now and then -- it  
6 seems like duplicative work.

7 MR. STRANBURG: I'm hearing what you're  
8 both saying and wondering -- I don't know if it  
9 would be a beneficial use of our time -- and  
10 when I say our time, I mean DOR staff time who  
11 will be doing a lot of this drafting -- to try  
12 to write something up on every one of these  
13 options.

14 Maybe we ought to get a sense from the  
15 members of is there some level of support for  
16 these to have a further writeup done for  
17 inclusion in the report and then other things  
18 just be listed in the appendix as, here are  
19 things that were considered, did not have a  
20 level of support sufficient among the members of  
21 the group for us to go into any more detail on  
22 it. But provide the record that, yes, this was  
23 something that was brought up as a potential  
24 option for the Legislature to consider.

25 MS. FOX: I think a lot of it depends on

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1           what you incorporate with regard to prior  
2           meetings.

3           MR. DUDLEY: Well, I guess to your point,  
4           and to what Davin said, the local governments  
5           would be against a statewide rate with a  
6           distribution formula unless it had certain  
7           requirements; revenue neutrality or had a  
8           minimum for local governments, for example, and  
9           some way of feeling comfortable that it wasn't  
10          going to be adjusted in the future right?  
11          That's to your point, Sharon.

12          MS. FOX: Right, and we discussed all that  
13          prior.

14          MR. DUDLEY: Is prepaid in or is prepaid  
15          not in.

16          MS. FOX: I mean, we've already spent  
17          pretty much half of the day working on the major  
18          issues. And then if what has been provided  
19          prior is -- after that with maybe a summary or  
20          something along those lines, based on what has  
21          been compiled in the body of the working-group  
22          meetings --

23          MR. DUDLEY: It seems to me like we should  
24          have some sort of section on findings that talks  
25          about some of the things we've talked about;

1           that this was designed to be a tax that was  
2           going to capture, but that's failed. And tax  
3           has not been stable, has not grown like people  
4           intended it to. And it needs to be either --  
5           some issues may need to be immediately addressed  
6           and it may need a long-term fix as well.

7                        So, here is our section, now, on what  
8           individual things do we see that the Legislature  
9           should take a look at immediately and try to  
10          fix.

11                      And then a little further down, what about  
12          long term or what do we think a better solution  
13          is than what we have. You know maybe that's  
14          "A," "B," "C." Within "A," "B," "C," there may  
15          be some stuff like we worked on this morning.  
16          We kind of mapped it out this morning on the  
17          holistic approach. Is that what -- I mean...

18                      MR. LINDSEY: I don't know about trying to  
19          prioritize it in terms of chronologically or  
20          this is what we should do this year and put off  
21          until next year.

22                      I think the findings -- the report on the  
23          holistic approach for which there was interest  
24          of the whole group and then here are additional  
25          options that may be considered by the

1           Legislature, you know -- that may be considered.

2                   And I think I would be fine with these  
3           being listed, you know, by these major headings  
4           and supplemented with some of the information  
5           that was in the individual writeups. And I  
6           understand about that being a lot of work.

7                   And maybe we could decide about -- well,  
8           actually, all of these probably warrant being  
9           left in there, the tax base. I mean, the data,  
10          the information is there. Perhaps, if we were  
11          to all look at it to be sure that the points  
12          that were of interest to us be made for each of  
13          these items, we could individually do that.

14                   For example, the audits -- those who wrote  
15          the information about the audits provided  
16          additional resources, mandate more audits. I  
17          mean, those are pretty much good options to be  
18          considered on their face value.

19                   If there is some additional information  
20          that we want to add, we could, perhaps, offer  
21          that. Maybe we could try to think of more work  
22          for us to do during the holidays, I guess -- or  
23          not really.

24                   But we could, you know, say here are some  
25          other points I would like to be made. I don't

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1 know that I could say that from memory. We  
2 could say, you know, on the audit, Mayor Resnick  
3 may want to add a couple more sentences on to  
4 that just to further explain that.

5 MAYOR RESNICK: So, are you envisioning  
6 each of us on the committee taking a portion to  
7 flesh out a portion of this report?

8 MR. LINDSEY: Maybe for these options just  
9 to be sure that they state what we wanted them  
10 to be maybe in a very succinct manner.

11 MAYOR RESNICK: Can I make a suggestion?  
12 Because we've spent a huge amount of time and it  
13 seems like we keep rehashing the same things.  
14 We don't have a lot more time to do this.

15 Also, I'm not sure -- you need to ask your  
16 lawyer because I'm not sure you can meet by  
17 phone. The Sunshine Act, I think, requires at  
18 least some people at this meeting to be present.  
19 But that's another meeting. Maybe after this  
20 meeting --

21 MR. STRANBURG: I think we've checked on  
22 it. I believe our preliminary look at that was  
23 it is okay.

24 MAYOR RESNICK: Oh, really? All right.  
25 Because our city attorney said you always need a

1 quorum present and then others can call in,  
2 based on the Sunshine Act. But just checking.

3 MR. STRANBURG: We will doublecheck on  
4 that. But again, we asked our people to look at  
5 that after you raised that, Mayor. And I  
6 believe that is what they got back to me with,  
7 their initial look at that statute.

8 MAYOR RESNICK: It might save a lot of  
9 time -- you know, not that I'm biased -- but if  
10 we adopted Sharon's comments as sort of the  
11 framework for our report because she basically  
12 outlines in an objective fashion the things that  
13 we've looked at, the different options that  
14 we've considered, the background, you know, that  
15 we began studying, which was part of our charge,  
16 and then talks about the different options.

17 I know the different things under there  
18 need to be tweaked, but her comments can  
19 actually serve as the framework for the final  
20 report that this committee issues.

21 And by the way, the committee issues the  
22 report, not DOR. So, I'm not even -- you know,  
23 I think we need to decide what it's going to  
24 look like and what the framework is going to be.  
25 I think that can serve as the framework. And



1           then we could go from there and tweak it.

2           To the point there is not a consensus, we  
3           can indicate which items are still in debate or  
4           which items have issues that have been  
5           identified.

6           And then some of the things that may not  
7           have been included in Sharon's comments of  
8           things that have been identified before, we can  
9           add to it. It might make it simpler to try to  
10          finalize the work product for us.

11          MS. FOX: I do think that the history is  
12          important because it goes back to the 1940s, for  
13          local governments in particular. So, that part  
14          is important for me that everyone understand  
15          that.

16          Beyond that, from a format perspective, we  
17          can work together. But I do think that the  
18          history portion is important just because of how  
19          we got to here from there.

20          MR. STRANBURG: And Mayor, I would be very  
21          happy if the members would love to do this. We  
22          were just anticipating that the members were  
23          going to look to DOR to do the work.

24          MAYOR RESNICK: Well, I don't think it can  
25          be, here is an idea from DOR -- well, it's up to

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1 the committee really. But ultimately, the  
2 committee is the group that issues the report.

3 So, however we decide to do that --  
4 whether we give instructions to DOR as to how to  
5 format the report or what to include or we give  
6 enough instructions that DOR puts together some  
7 type of drafts for us to look at, you know --  
8 whichever is going to get the job done, I guess.

9 MR. LINDSEY: Going back to this sheet, I  
10 would be fine with all of these being listed.

11 MAYOR RESNICK: Listed.

12 MR. LINDSEY: We could probably eliminate  
13 the few -- like the one that says eliminate CST  
14 and apply sales and use tax -- well, that's kind  
15 of inherent in our holistic approach. I think  
16 there are a couple we could just strike.

17 But I think the others, we say, these are  
18 options. I don't know that they need to rate  
19 them. Just say these are other options by these  
20 categories. And maybe, again, if anyone cares  
21 to go in and add -- wants to add some additional  
22 comments to any one of the items to clarify it,  
23 I think that would be sufficient.

24 And you know, it's kind of the result of a  
25 lot of work that we've done in these meetings.

1           So, that would kind of be the list of other  
2           options, you know, that could be considered in  
3           addition to the holistic approach.

4           MR. DUDLEY: Does it make sense to work  
5           off of this two-pager and to have the members  
6           submit to the staff, Marshall, any comments we  
7           would like to make or put forward as it relates  
8           to any one of these bullet points? And then if  
9           you choose not to make a comment, you could  
10          maybe make one after you see what the other  
11          comments are?

12          I mean, you may go through here and  
13          decide, okay, there are about six of these I  
14          want to comment on or you may want to comment on  
15          every one of them. I'm just trying to think --  
16          from the comments, you would be able to build  
17          the report. That's just a thought.

18          MAYOR RESNICK: Would it be the consensus  
19          of the committee to look at the rate structure  
20          discussions or topics? From the discussion this  
21          morning, it seems like there is general  
22          agreement that any change to the rate-structure  
23          has to be either revenue neutral or hold each  
24          jurisdiction harmless, whatever language we want  
25          to use.

1           But is it the consensus of the committee  
2           that everyone agrees with that principle; that  
3           any change to the structure needs to hold  
4           harmless each jurisdiction?

5           MR. LINDSEY: Uh-huh.

6           MAYOR RESNICK: Maybe we can state that up  
7           front with respect to the discussions of rate-  
8           structure changes.

9           MR. LINDSEY: And I think that's  
10          consistent with what Charlie was saying; that we  
11          could just either do this in writing and share  
12          this subsequently -- that might be a good way to  
13          do it because I might need to go back and  
14          refresh my memory on some of these.

15          We just submit it, maybe go through a  
16          couple of iterations of kind of accumulating the  
17          comments on each one of these. And then we just  
18          have -- that would just end up being in the body  
19          of the report of the options.

20          MR. SUGGS: Marshall, going back to the  
21          second sheet where they made the copy of the  
22          white board -- I thought that second sheet along  
23          with -- we had all of these options. But I  
24          thought we came up with three broad categories  
25          of level of options.

1           Like holistic was the major option. And  
2 then we had two other broad categories of  
3 options where we could put all of this stuff  
4 under -- like, the partial replacement consisted  
5 of somehow -- we agreed if we couldn't go  
6 holistic, if we could fix local somehow, where  
7 the State could focus on themselves, you could  
8 still address a lot of other things.

9           And then if that didn't work, then there  
10 was a whole list of other options that went  
11 under "fix CST" under current law. I thought we  
12 had defined three broad categories or buckets  
13 that we could put all of these options under.

14           So, I don't know if that still works for  
15 everybody in terms of the three broad categories  
16 to try to sort of organize everybody's thoughts.

17           MS. KITTRICK: I agree. That's why I kind  
18 of held this up before. I mean, I think we had  
19 spent a lot of time discussing all of the  
20 various options and then sort of whittling down  
21 the three buckets. And we, you know, polled  
22 each other on what we thought was the priority  
23 of these buckets.

24           So, to the extent that we could write a  
25 report that at least summarizes those three

1 buckets and then, as you said, put the various  
2 options underneath it, I think that makes a  
3 little bit more sense from an organizational  
4 standpoint and a priority standpoint.

5 MR. SMITH: Just for clarification, are  
6 you saying that each of the items on this two-  
7 page would fall into -- the holistic approach  
8 stands on its own. It's kind of conceptually a  
9 replacement to the CST under the sales tax.

10 Once you get past that, do each of these  
11 options fall into the other two buckets?

12 MS. KITTRICK: Yeah, well --

13 MR. SMITH: So, they are either going to  
14 fall into the holistic replacement or the other  
15 two buckets.

16 MR. LINDSEY: And there might be a couple  
17 of outliers.

18 MS. KITTRICK: Right.

19 MR. LINDSEY: Like the audit, you could  
20 say that relates to fixing CST or you could just  
21 say in addition to -- I just picked that one for  
22 an example.

23 So, would it be a good exercise to go  
24 through and say which ones of these falls under  
25 these other two buckets and see if we can agree

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1 on that and then see if anything else falls out  
2 and we could categorize them that way?

3 MS. KITTRICK: Yeah.

4 MR. LINDSEY: So, obviously the statewide  
5 rate with distribution formula -- that kind of  
6 goes under "fix CST," I would think.

7 MR. STRANBURG: And I don't know -- maybe,  
8 Gary, I'm looking at this a little  
9 simplistically, but I think other than what  
10 we've got in the rate structure, aren't most of  
11 those going to fall into that bucket of fix the  
12 existing CST?

13 MR. LINDSEY: They probably -- they may.  
14 They may.

15 MAYOR RESNICK: I'm not sure where the  
16 surcharge discussion came up. I'm not sure if  
17 that's on here.

18 MR. LINDSEY: That may be in 2B,  
19 prepaid --

20 MR. STRANBURG: Right. I think --

21 MAYOR RESNICK: Oh, okay. Just under  
22 prepaid? Yeah.

23 MR. LINDSEY: So, that might just be --

24 MAYOR RESNICK: -- separate.

25 MR. LINDSEY: -- prepaid options, yeah.

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1 MR. STRANBURG: And again, as I said  
2 earlier, do you want to consider a separate  
3 discussion of prepaid as part of the report.

4 MR. LINDSEY: Yeah, I think so. I think  
5 that's pretty much contained down here in 2B --

6 MAYOR RESNICK: Which is the way that  
7 Sharon has laid it out also.

8 The only thing that's not in the contents  
9 that I think needs to be added are the  
10 transparency discussions. We had a little bit  
11 of discussion about that you need to make sure  
12 that the billing to customers is transparent,  
13 especially with bundled services, so they know  
14 exactly what taxes they are paying on what  
15 services.

16 It's important that we -- whether we do  
17 the holistic approach or not, that's still going  
18 to be an issue. With bundled services, with  
19 some services not being taxable, there still  
20 needs to be transparency.

21 MR. LINDSEY: That could just be another  
22 heading or...

23 MS. KITTRICK: I think you could keep it  
24 under either the sales tax or the CST bucket.

25 MAYOR RESNICK: And I would add to that,



1 it wasn't fleshed out. I don't think I had the  
2 discussion at the time of this report -- this  
3 two-pager was created -- about giving the Public  
4 Service Commission authority on building issues.

5 By the way, what is a Federal subscriber  
6 line charge? And is it taxable or not taxable?  
7 I get that question all the time.

8 MR. LINDSEY: Federal subscriber line  
9 charge. I would have to ask one of my  
10 regulatory people that, but if it's -- I would  
11 have to get back to you.

12 MAYOR RESNICK: That's what I always tell  
13 residents. I'll get back to you on that. No  
14 one seems to know.

15 MR. STRANBURG: Would you have a problem,  
16 Mayor, if we included as another -- maybe it  
17 would be Point 8 under "transparency," the PSC-  
18 authority issue?

19 MAYOR RESNICK: Sure. Or it could be  
20 incorporated into the others. That's fine.

21 MR. STRANBURG: Okay. I'm just looking  
22 for a place for it to reside so it's not sitting  
23 here on its own. If we could add it in there, I  
24 think that's what you're getting at, that  
25 transparency issue in general. And this is

1 another way to ensure that --

2 MAYOR RESNICK: Well, there has to be some  
3 enforcement of that. Right now, I don't think  
4 there is any agency or government entity, not  
5 only in Florida, but in the country, that has  
6 authority for that.

7 MR. DUDLEY: Right. So, this is where I  
8 think the Mayor may have these opinions or  
9 thoughts on transparency issues like that.

10 And the others may want to add comments  
11 that say, however, these are national companies.  
12 No other state regulates or has an entity that  
13 regulates how our bills are presented. We  
14 strive to make our bills as transparent as  
15 possible, otherwise -- we don't want to lose the  
16 customers.

17 So, I just want to make sure you get the  
18 point of someone believes there needs to be  
19 regulation here or something down here and  
20 others believe you don't. I mean, that's...

21 MS. KITTRICK: Right.

22 MR. DUDLEY: Because I don't want the  
23 Legislature to look at it and say, well,  
24 Charlie, you supported a report that said this.

25 MS. KITTRICK: Right.

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1 MR. DUDLEY: And it's, like, well, no, I  
2 didn't support that particular --

3 MAYOR RESNICK: You can go on record and  
4 say you --

5 MR. DUDLEY: No, I understand. I just  
6 think -- and that's up to me.

7 MAYOR RESNICK: Absolutely. I'm not  
8 trying to do anything --

9 MR. DUDLEY: No. No. All I'm saying,  
10 Gary, is that's why I suggested, when I go  
11 through all these -- like earlier Sharon was  
12 talking about the increased audit capacity and  
13 not liking the bundling language passed last  
14 year. And we happen to like that. She wants to  
15 be critical of it. That's fine. That's her  
16 opinion.

17 I want to be explanatory as to why it's  
18 necessary in our opinion. I mean, that's all  
19 I'm saying.

20 MAYOR RESNICK: I appreciate that.

21 MR. SUGGS: Marshall, can I make a  
22 comment? It's my opinion -- and it's just my  
23 opinion. As we're crafting this -- and we've  
24 talked about a lot -- somewhere, three four  
25 months ago, we may have felt very strongly to

1 where we've been narrowing things down.

2 I just want to be cautious that less is  
3 more. And I don't want to water down the weight  
4 of what we really think is the right thing to do  
5 with another 20 to 30 pages of a lot of other  
6 could-bes or would-bes.

7 MR. STRANBURG: I understand.

8 MR. SUGGS: And this morning when we  
9 started and I said, are we telling them what we  
10 should do versus political reality -- that's  
11 going to be a struggle in how this report gets  
12 big or not because we're going to struggle with  
13 what we really should do -- which we could  
14 probably write in three pages versus trying to  
15 address what we may perceive to be political  
16 realities and trying to make sure everybody's  
17 bases are covered or what they think is doable.

18 MAYOR RESNICK: I don't think we were  
19 supposed to look at political realities, though.  
20 I think we were supposed to come up with options  
21 for the Legislature with tax policy.

22 MR. SUGGS: Yeah, but I think that's  
23 listed under the holistic thing. I think that's  
24 listed under the primary option.

25 MR. LINDSEY: It seems to me that, again,

1 we position that holistic approach as saying  
2 this is the committee -- you know, the working  
3 group's consensus was that this will be an  
4 optimal way to put together a way to tax  
5 communications. I mean, this is the one that  
6 generated the most interest among the working  
7 group and that we all had a lot of interest in.

8 Then, subsequently, we had these other  
9 options that were considered and included the  
10 following. We have these. And they are going  
11 to be informational.

12 So, to the point that Charlie made, if  
13 there are succinct comments that we want to make  
14 about them, then that would be informative to a  
15 legislator looking at it that would help them  
16 look at it and go, okay, I see that's an option.  
17 I see they looked at that. Here is some  
18 information about that. But I also know that  
19 they really focused on this holistic option.  
20 And these are other things that were considered.

21 And again, with some background and  
22 introduction, I think that would present a  
23 pretty -- you know, a good way to present it.

24 MS. FOX: Mr. Chairman, a different way to  
25 handle it, perhaps, that might make it a little

1 bit easier is to just go back to what our  
2 mission was. Other than the review, which we've  
3 done extensive review, we've actually been  
4 charged with three things; one was to identify  
5 options for streamlining the administrative  
6 system; one was to identify options that removed  
7 competitive advantages in the industry as it  
8 relates to the State's tax structure.

9 And the last -- but that is a caveat in  
10 that it says, without unduly reducing revenue to  
11 the local governments. The second charge is  
12 really a two-part charge.

13 So, we could format the report based on  
14 what we were asked to do and use those as  
15 categories and start from that aspect.

16 MR. STRANBURG: Again, that's what we  
17 tried to do on this sheet. We tried to  
18 categorize those that appeared to streamline the  
19 administrative system and, again, remove the  
20 competitive advantages without having issues to  
21 local government revenue-wise.

22 I'm just here to try to make sure that I'm  
23 doing what you want to have done as the working  
24 group. I'm not here trying to tell you how the  
25 report should be written. I'm here to offer our

1 services to assist in that.

2 But I don't want it to appear as though  
3 I'm trying to impose my will upon all of you as  
4 to this is how the report -- we had our  
5 suggestions from our perspective on what we  
6 thought would be both responsive and beneficial  
7 to this process.

8 But we're willing to do, within reason,  
9 what y'all would like us to do.

10 MS. KITTRICK: We appreciate that.

11 MR. STRANBURG: Yes.

12 MR. LINDSEY: Absolutely.

13 MR. STRANBURG: We have been compiling all  
14 of the materials of all of the presentations  
15 that have been done. They need to be available  
16 as part of this report. We will have the  
17 summaries, notes and the transcripts from all of  
18 the meetings as part of that. But yes, as far  
19 as the body of the report goes, we're trying to  
20 do what your will is.

21 I just want to remind everyone, to the  
22 extent you submitted options and they are  
23 captured on this two-page list, those will be  
24 part of the submissions that will -- whether  
25 they accompany the report or are referred to in

1 the report, our list of these are the  
2 available -- both presentations and submissions  
3 and comments that were received by the working  
4 group -- that all will be there.

5 It's just what you want to put in the body  
6 of that report -- again, we're going to work  
7 with you to do whatever you would like. Again,  
8 I don't want it to seem that we at DOR are  
9 trying to, in any way, say this is how it's got  
10 to be. We wanted to put suggestions out there  
11 and get your input of how you want to do it.

12 So, again, I would be very supportive,  
13 from DOR's perspective, if the members wanted to  
14 submit brief descriptions of what we've put  
15 together on these two pages. If you want to  
16 have someone do the drafting, whether that be us  
17 or one of the other members of the working  
18 group, I would be okay with that.

19 We just want to, again, facilitate how you  
20 would like to have this done without, I think,  
21 putting a major burden both on you all as  
22 members and us as the Agency.

23 MR. LINDSEY: Something you mentioned  
24 Marshall, that reminds me, to your point -- all  
25 of these are discussed in the documents that



1 everyone has submitted. So, that would be  
2 referenced in the report for further reading.

3 So, maybe if we do feel compelled to  
4 expand on some of these a little bit with  
5 comments -- but actually the body of the  
6 comments really reside in the documentation that  
7 accompanies the whole report.

8 So, if someone wanted to dig in and read  
9 about, you know, requiring customer bills to  
10 indicate tax or fee -- there is already  
11 something written up about that that can be  
12 looked at.

13 So, that kind of goes back to what Davin  
14 was saying about less is more. Maybe these will  
15 be very succinct, maybe slightly expanded. But  
16 we'll just emphasize the material really resides  
17 in the documentation that can be read for  
18 further information on these other options. And  
19 the real body of the writeup will be just  
20 summarizing the holistic approach.

21 I mean, that kind of makes sense to me.

22 MR. SMITH: If we're going to solicit  
23 comments back on this, it's going to be an  
24 integrated process. I guess with the schedule  
25 kind of at year-end, let's set some timelines so

1 we kind of go through it a couple of times in a  
2 rather quick fashion.

3 I don't want to -- I guess I want to focus  
4 on it while it's still fresh on everybody's  
5 mind. I don't want to end up three weeks down  
6 the road and we're getting our first submission  
7 back, if we choose to go that route.

8 MS. KITTRICK: I think it's going to be  
9 incumbent on all of us, when we get a draft, to  
10 quickly get any comments back to you, you know.  
11 I would imagine that there will be a process  
12 where we get a draft, make comments, get a  
13 draft, make comments maybe twice. I don't know.

14 But I think to Brian's point, we don't  
15 want to drag it out forever.

16 MR. SMITH: And then back to kind of the  
17 idea that was floated about Sharon's writeup, is  
18 there a consensus that we can use, like, the  
19 historical intro as, you know, kind of a lead  
20 or -- I think the context is good. I don't know  
21 if that's something that people feel strongly  
22 about or if we're just going to -- it's going to  
23 look like this when we turn it in.

24 MAYOR RESNICK: I think at some point,  
25 especially since probably no one in the

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1           Legislature now was there when the CST was  
2           created -- so, I think it's useful to understand  
3           what the purpose was initially.

4           MR. LINDSEY: So, you --

5           MAYOR RESNICK: Certainly the sponsor of  
6           the bill in the Senate that we're all operating  
7           under isn't there anymore either. Just the  
8           historical context of what we're supposed to be  
9           doing is going to be important.

10          MR. STRANBURG: So, are we saying that the  
11          first three paragraphs of Sharon's submission --

12          MAYOR RESNICK: I actually think the whole  
13          thing can serve as a framework.

14          MR. STRANBURG: Well, I'm just talking  
15          historical, now. If we want to expand that for  
16          the framework, that's fine.

17          MAYOR RESNICK: Yeah.

18          MR. STRANBURG: Brian has talked about the  
19          first three paragraphs that, I think, are kind  
20          of setting the stage with that historical  
21          context.

22                 Are there additional things in the rest of  
23          the body that we feel are important for that  
24          historical context? Or does that seem to be the  
25          sufficient coverage of setting the stage for the

1 report to go from that point?

2 MR. DUDLEY: Yeah, I mean, I think it  
3 needs to be broadened just a little bit because  
4 it's critical money for the State and local  
5 governments. Maybe just some small edits there.

6 MAYOR RESNICK: Right.

7 MR. DUDLEY: It's critical funding for  
8 general revenue, PECO and local governments, not  
9 just municipal governments. There is just  
10 some --

11 MS. KITTRICK: I would like to rework some  
12 of the stuff that Bob McKee had put together  
13 that talks about the fact that revenue has been  
14 down and the forecast for the CST is also down,  
15 but forecast for the sales tax is a little bit  
16 better than that.

17 I think if you're looking at context and,  
18 you know, why we think the holistic plan is  
19 important, I think you need to go back to some  
20 of the work that Bob had done.

21 MR. SMITH: So, maybe somebody takes a  
22 shot at a transitional paragraph; here is the  
23 history; here is the transition of why we looked  
24 at what you're about to read.

25 MR. ROSENZWEIG: And I have full

1 confidence in the DOR staff doing -- drafting.  
2 They write incredibly well. I feel confident  
3 they can pull all of that together for us to  
4 review.

5 But I think ultimately, this report -- I  
6 don't know how many people are going to read the  
7 whole thing. Nobody is going to go back and  
8 read all of our materials, per se.

9 I feel really strongly that we're trying  
10 to send a singular message that this is a broken  
11 revenue that is declining and that we think it  
12 needs to be replaced.

13 So, whatever report there is, I think  
14 there should be a one- or two-page high-level  
15 executive summary slapped on the front of it  
16 that maybe you might get a legislator to read  
17 walking down the hall. But something very brief  
18 because all of this other material and all of  
19 this stuff is very important for a lot of  
20 technical people.

21 But for that high-policy impact, I think a  
22 very, very -- even if it's a page that says,  
23 hey, we looked at it. We spent a lot of time.  
24 It's broken. It needs to be replaced. That's  
25 the consensus of the group. If you want more

1 detail, read the rest of this report. If you  
2 don't, that was our general consensus.

3 But I don't want that to get lost --  
4 especially the way our mission is laid out, it  
5 would take you to Page 55 of the report to get  
6 to that, if you went by this. Now, I  
7 understand, you have to include "A," "B," "C,"  
8 "D" in a report. It can be in the appendix.

9 Even this list -- I was one who really  
10 pushed for voting. I'm more than willing -- if  
11 you want to include the list and say, the  
12 committee -- this is in response to "E." No  
13 vote was taken on any of these options. People  
14 can add comments or not add comments.

15 But from Charlie's point of view, if he  
16 doesn't want to be tied to this, per se, I don't  
17 blame him, especially since we have consensus of  
18 eight of us around a solution. We don't think  
19 you really should be worried about this right  
20 now. If you did what we wanted you to do, this  
21 wouldn't really be an issue.

22 But if you do get into this, then here is  
23 a lot of things and we think you need another  
24 group to really dig into that again. And I  
25 would be happy just to put big, bold letters:

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1 No vote was taken on this by the committee  
2 because -- see the executive summary.

3 I think you could get out of it very  
4 quickly that way. You put all of your review  
5 stuff as an attachment. You put an executive  
6 summary. DOR writes it up. Take Sharon's  
7 history as the intro and you spice it up a  
8 little. We all say grace and go home.

9 MS. KITTRICK: Well said.

10 MR. DUDLEY: Well said.

11 MR. SUGGS: So moved.

12 MR. STRANBURG: So, what I'm hearing you  
13 say, Alan, is you would look to DOR and staff to  
14 take the first three paragraphs, maybe make a  
15 couple of adjustments, tweaks that Charlie  
16 mentioned, do a transition paragraph and then do  
17 some writeup of the holistic approach.

18 You would, I guess, look to us to also do  
19 the writeup of the holistic approach.

20 MR. ROSENZWEIG: Completely.

21 MR. STRANBURG: And then we would, at the  
22 end, or somewhere, indicate that these were  
23 other options put forth, but as you indicate, no  
24 vote was taken and, therefore --

25 MR. ROSENZWEIG: And there is support of

1 "E" in our mission. That whole table was  
2 designed for Option E, which we don't think you  
3 should be doing or worrying about because we all  
4 voted or by consensus said you should be  
5 worrying about this.

6 MR. DUDLEY: I think we might want to do  
7 some of the appendices tied back to this sheet  
8 because different people -- people submitted  
9 options and three or four pages, or whatever,  
10 that relate to something in "A" or something in  
11 "B." Then, you know, that way it will correlate  
12 back.

13 So, if someone is reading through "A" and  
14 they're interested in "A," what did they talk  
15 about in "A" that most of the stuff on statewide  
16 rate would be in Tab A or something. They can  
17 go read the ten or 12 pages in Tab A, if they  
18 wanted to and see --

19 MR. ROSENZWEIG: Of the writeups that were  
20 previously submitted.

21 MS. KITTRICK: Right.

22 MR. ROSENZWEIG: They don't have to  
23 recreate anything, DOR. You can use the  
24 writeups that were done already as the appendix  
25 to support it.



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1 MS. KITTRICK: Right.

2 MR. DUDLEY: Which is all part of the  
3 record anyway here.

4 MS. KITTRICK: Right. That makes it easy,  
5 clean.

6 MR. ROSENZWEIG: It's in the document  
7 anyway. Sharon's initial writeup is in there.  
8 The Mayor's -- all of that stuff is referenced  
9 right to the appendix. You go grab it if you  
10 want it. DOR doesn't have to rewrite any of  
11 that.

12 MS. KITTRICK: Right. That makes it  
13 easier for you guys.

14 MS. FOX: I will suggest that after the  
15 holistic approach, we do have our other  
16 alternate options if the holistic approach is  
17 not adopted because I asked for other options.

18 So, these things -- and granted, your take  
19 on prepaid services is not the same as mine. I  
20 think that we should both have the opportunity  
21 to put in what we think should be done with  
22 regard to prepaid services and unbundling and  
23 whatever other viable options are that we  
24 perceive exist.

25 MR. LINDSEY: And those are all outlined

1 on here.

2 MS. FOX: And in other submissions, yes.

3 MR. STRANBURG: I want to be sure I'm  
4 capturing that correctly. What you're saying,  
5 Sharon, is we would include a reference to all  
6 of these other options after we've had a  
7 discussion of the holistic option in the report.

8 And then you're wanting to allow the  
9 members to submit their own comments about any  
10 of the options on here that are listed?

11 MS. FOX: I think -- well, my personal  
12 opinion beyond the holistic approach is that  
13 other of these -- a lot of these things on the  
14 list we discussed and decided they weren't going  
15 to work. And I don't see any point in adding  
16 more about that.

17 There are other things. If the holistic  
18 approach is not considered doable, then what? I  
19 mean, we still have the prepaid issue that has  
20 to be addressed one way or another. It's been  
21 discussed as an important issue.

22 And we have differing opinions. So, I  
23 think that needs to be expanded on by those that  
24 have differing opinions. And the same for  
25 unbundling and possibly the residential sales-

1 tax exemption because there was consensus about  
2 that. Whether or not that's viable because it's  
3 a tax increase, you know, that's, again, a  
4 political issue.

5 But there are some things that have been  
6 the subject of extensive discussion on both  
7 sides. And I think those need to be given a  
8 little bit more press, for lack of a better  
9 word, than just the laundry list that was  
10 nothing more than a laundry list with our basic  
11 impressions about those at the time.

12 Now, we have evolved, more or less, in  
13 this process.

14 MR. STRANBURG: I understand. I guess I'm  
15 asking, is your plan to have the members do that  
16 or to have DOR do that as part of the report  
17 preparation? I'm not sure what your expectation  
18 is there, if you see that included -- if you  
19 want that included as part of the report.

20 MS. FOX: I want that included as part of  
21 the report. And I'm happy to write it.

22 (Laughter.)

23 But I suspect everyone else is not going  
24 to necessarily want to say, okay, I agree with  
25 that. So, they are going to want their --

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1 MR. STRANBURG: That's what I'm asking:  
2 Do you want to allow all of the members to kind  
3 of submit their own little submission about what  
4 they see as pros and cons of all of these  
5 potential options?

6 Because as you say, if you write  
7 something, Charlie might want to write something  
8 or Davin might want to write anything something  
9 or Mayor Resnick might want to write something.

10 And if we're going to do that, I want to  
11 be sure everyone understands that's what they're  
12 committing themselves to do -- and if they feel  
13 as though that's appropriate to do or not  
14 appropriate to do.

15 MS. KITTRICK: My only concern with that,  
16 again, going back to Alan's point, is that I  
17 don't want to weaken our arguments or sort of  
18 bet against ourselves here. If we have the  
19 belief that the holistic option is the option to  
20 go with -- you know, I don't want to spend a lot  
21 of time and effort on a lot of other options.

22 I mean, I think they could certainly --  
23 they will know that the prepaid issue -- maybe  
24 we can craft a paragraph that talks about, as  
25 part of the holistic approach, why we think that

1 is the solution for prepaid.

2 But I think we could really lose people if  
3 we get too granular about all of the other  
4 options, lose interest, lose people's excitement  
5 over the holistic plan. I don't know.

6 MR. LINDSEY: Well, I think the  
7 information --

8 MAYOR RESNICK: Well, the problem with  
9 doing it that way -- and I think Sharon has laid  
10 it out pretty well. In terms of options that  
11 should be considered and the pluses and minuses  
12 of each, the holistic approach and totally  
13 eliminating CST and replacing it with a sales  
14 tax -- it's going to require, first of all, a  
15 longer term, which we all recognize, to  
16 accomplish. And there are the existing problems  
17 that need to be addressed in a shorter term.

18 Plus, there are a lot of policy reasons  
19 why the Legislature and the Governor may just  
20 not agree that that's a good thing for Florida  
21 to do. And if we all sort of put our eggs in  
22 one basket, not for nothing, we just wasted four  
23 months, not to mention a heck of a lot of  
24 resources.

25 And I don't really want to say to people,

1 we spent four months studying this complicated  
2 tax structure and, to the extent that anyone can  
3 become experts on this, we became experts on  
4 this. We recommended an option that's no way  
5 feasible to the Legislature and the Governor.  
6 So, thanks very much for the opportunity.

7 I think we need to outline these things  
8 comprehensively.

9 MR. LINDSEY: It seems to me --

10 MS. KITTRICK: So --

11 MR. LINDSEY: I'm sorry. Go ahead.

12 MS. KITTRICK: Sorry. In terms of the  
13 prepaid issue, though, I don't think we're ever  
14 going to agree on what a solution is.

15 MAYOR RESNICK: Outline the various option  
16 that both parties are identifying and say there  
17 is no consensus of the work group. That's what  
18 we started from day one saying we were going to  
19 do.

20 MR. LINDSEY: I think, you know, we could  
21 consider structuring it this way as far as with  
22 regard to the other options. We can have the  
23 holistic-approach writeup, which is the main  
24 emphasis of the writeup.

25 Secondly, we could say, another option

1 under a general heading would be to fix the  
2 existing CST. And you could really kind of have  
3 "fix CST" and "partial replacement" almost kind  
4 of the same. But we can have most of these  
5 options under fixing the existing CST with  
6 regard to rate structure, et cetera.

7 A third thing we could have is there was  
8 also construable discussion and focus on the  
9 prepaid issue. And really, a second page, 2B,  
10 provides all of those. We can say these are the  
11 options that were put forth concerning that.

12 And again, as far as pros and cons, that's  
13 all in the body of everybody's documentation  
14 that we've submitted and the testimony.

15 MAYOR RESNICK: Going back to Marshall's  
16 question, though, I mean, do we want to do  
17 that -- which, it's pretty much done. I mean,  
18 Sharon's portion is there.

19 MR. LINDSEY: Right.

20 MAYOR RESNICK: To the extent that the  
21 industry wants to put their portion there, they  
22 could write their portion up as opposed to  
23 having DOR --

24 MR. DUDLEY: Well, like you said, the  
25 MetroPCS document from today would be under the

1           tab under "prepaid." Sharon's comments would be  
2           under the tab under "prepaid." I think that's  
3           what Alan was saying. I mean, I don't want to  
4           put words in his mouth, but --

5           MR. ROSENZWEIG: I think it all needs to  
6           be there. But it's in an appendix. It's there  
7           for those who want that level of detail in  
8           discussion.

9           MS. FOX: I prefer to think of it as an  
10          opposing opinion on some of these things because  
11          I really don't think that some of this is doable  
12          in the short term. And I believe that fixing  
13          prepaid is doable in the short term, if only on  
14          a temporary basis. And unbundling is doable on  
15          short term.

16          MR. SUGGS: Marshall, can I say one thing?

17          MR. STRANBURG: Go ahead, Davin.

18          MR. SUGGS: I think the use of this  
19          report, that whatever we produce, to set up or  
20          draw lines in the sand for future potential  
21          adversarial -- whatever -- I think is a  
22          mistake -- adversarial actions or -- I mean, we  
23          live in a political world. Yeah, we're going to  
24          be on different sides and stuff.

25          I mean, if we have the opportunity to use



1 the report to produce one significant consensus  
2 statement -- you know, we have varying opinions  
3 on whether it's politically feasible or not.  
4 But it's not going to be politically feasible if  
5 we produce a crappy report that's not focused on  
6 what we all think should happen.

7 I don't think we should use this report to  
8 set up future battlegrounds or whatever. I  
9 don't think that speaks -- it would not be a  
10 wise use of the last five months.

11 I mean, this is why I brought the subject  
12 up at the beginning of the meeting, what we  
13 should do. And yes, we all have jobs to do and  
14 we're all going to do them, based on some of  
15 them, based on reactions, whatever, however our  
16 report is received. But here is an  
17 opportunity -- we don't get this opportunity  
18 when we get started.

19 We've all got clients. It's very  
20 competitive. There are winners and losers.  
21 We've been together for the last four months.  
22 Nobody thought when we started we would get to  
23 the consistency point where we are. So, I don't  
24 want to waste it or blow it by -- I mean, it's  
25 just like Alan said, less is more. I think Alan

1 had a good idea.

2 So what if they don't want to do it.  
3 We're resigned to the fact that this could be a  
4 two-year issue. It doesn't negate the fact that  
5 right now, we think this is the very best option  
6 where this State needs to move, period.

7 Each of us will go back to our jobs. If  
8 they don't take up number one, we'll do the best  
9 we can. We'll talk and do what we always do in  
10 the political process.

11 I just don't want to waste an important --  
12 I mean, of this group and what we achieved --  
13 especially where we thought we were going to be  
14 at the end of the first meeting versus where we  
15 were at the end of the last meeting and the  
16 beginning of this morning.

17 MR. LINDSEY: I agree. I think a lot of  
18 weight needs to be provided in the report to the  
19 collective work that we've done and the  
20 consensus that we've reached, these other  
21 options. And I think that the legislators, you  
22 know -- they are going to be smart enough to go,  
23 okay, yeah, there is not enough time to do that.  
24 What else might there be that I can look at.

25 I don't know that we need to present them,

1           like, here is -- if you don't want to do  
2           something next year, here is what you do. But I  
3           think it will be pretty evident if we have, here  
4           are some fixes and we list them, you know,  
5           categorically under that heading, and we have  
6           the prepaid listed -- I mean, I think -- that's  
7           more information for the Legislature, again, to  
8           place the primary emphasis on the holistic  
9           approach that we've come up with.

10                 MR. STRANBURG: One thing I was just  
11           asking Andrea about is maybe what we can do is  
12           cross-reference on this chart to the materials,  
13           to the presentations so that if people wanted to  
14           see more discussion on the prepaid issue, they  
15           know they need to go to either this presentation  
16           or to this submission or to a particular  
17           document that's been submitted by one of the  
18           members of the working group or there is a  
19           public comment so that, in looking at this, they  
20           would not just see this and be left trying to  
21           figure out what is meant.

22                 We can send them to, here is what you need  
23           to go look at if you want more information about  
24           this option within the materials that were  
25           gathered by this group.

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1 MS. KITTRICK: That's exactly -- I think  
2 that's perfect. Like a link to the appendix.

3 MR. STRANBURG: And this would give  
4 anyone, then, an opportunity here, if they want  
5 to do a submission on one of these things, get  
6 it to us. We will have it included in the  
7 materials and it will be referenced to the  
8 particular option that's included on this list.

9 MR. LINDSEY: So, if we haven't said  
10 everything already or we want to re-emphasize --

11 MR. STRANBURG: -- re-emphasize, please,  
12 let's have a submission to us, yes.

13 MAYOR RESNICK: I would suggest -- I think  
14 the way -- is DOR writing up a draft of the  
15 holistic-approach concept or is that --

16 MR. STRANBURG: I think that was what Alan  
17 had volunteered us to do. I don't know if he's  
18 still wanting --

19 MR. ROSENZWEIG: I think if we have to  
20 take a vote, I think I would absolutely make it  
21 a motion.

22 MAYOR RESNICK: Alan, he doesn't like  
23 motions and votes. So, forget about that.

24 The --

25 (Laughter.)

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1 MR. SUGGS: One minor change, though --

2 MAYOR RESNICK: Davin, can I just finish  
3 one thing? That was, I think, the points that  
4 Sharon read earlier about the caveats in terms  
5 of basically explaining more revenue-neutral  
6 concepts need to be incorporated into that.  
7 Just take her points from that report and  
8 include it.

9 MR. STRANBURG: And I would agree with  
10 you, Mayor. I think Andrea has been taking  
11 notes. I have been taking notes. I think other  
12 DOR staff here have been taking notes as we had  
13 our discussion on the holistic approach.

14 I assume we would collaborate and try to  
15 incorporate all of the things that we have  
16 discussed, including the materials submitted by  
17 Sharon. If there are any other materials  
18 submitted by another member, as part of our  
19 body, we will try to keep it as brief as  
20 possible.

21 I think someone said earlier, if we write  
22 40 or 50 pages on this, someone is not going to  
23 read it. But we will try to encompass all of  
24 those things that we have talked about as part  
25 of that discussion of this approach; either the

1 concerns, benefits, the potential detriments,  
2 the perceptions.

3 MAYOR RESNICK: And perception is what  
4 troubles me about keeping it too simple because  
5 then, if you don't say something, that speaks as  
6 loudly as saying something.

7 So, for example, if we don't mention  
8 internet sales, they'll say, well, this work  
9 group met for five months and talked about it  
10 numerous times and decided not to put that in  
11 the report that the State should consider taxing  
12 internet sales. That speaks volumes.

13 So, I'm really concerned about not saying  
14 certain things also.

15 MR. STRANBURG: And again, that's why I  
16 think we want to -- whatever we prepare, give it  
17 to the members to give us the feedback on that  
18 so that we can be sure we have not done  
19 something of that nature.

20 MR. DUDLEY: And historically speaking,  
21 the last time Sharon and I did this, the report  
22 had a big idea. It had some other ideas. The  
23 big idea didn't happen for two or three years  
24 until after the report got pulled back off the  
25 shelf and became the CST.

1           In the interim, though, some of the other  
2           ideas were implemented, you know. Whether it  
3           was right or wrong, the Legislature went ahead  
4           and enacted an internet tax hands-off before we  
5           did the big revision to CST.

6           If you remember, that was the impetus of  
7           the first task force we did. The Governor  
8           vetoed the internet bill. We spent 18 months  
9           and we produced a report. They recommended,  
10          what, a 2 percent privilege fee and a State flat  
11          tax or something. Ten to nine was the vote or  
12          something crazy like that. The report was  
13          produced and it sat around for two years.

14          The Legislature, in the interim, fixed the  
15          internet thing, didn't really fix anything else,  
16          then came back. The work group happened and the  
17          CST was born.

18          You have to be realistic in the analysis.

19          MAYOR RESNICK: That's a good thing.

20          MR. DUDLEY: Well, no, I'm just saying --  
21          (Technical difficulties.)

22          MR. DUDLEY: -- just on a historical  
23          perspective.

24          MAYOR RESNICK: It's sausage. You don't  
25          want to watch it get made. And whether it comes

1 out and it's ultimately a good thing or not, you  
2 won't know for years.

3 MS. FOX: Kathleen, are you satisfied with  
4 not putting anything in there about prepaid  
5 other than somewhere back in the appendix?  
6 Because it seems to me that you've identified  
7 this is important to you.

8 MS. KITTRICK: I have. I just think  
9 that -- I mean, I certainly think that it will  
10 be very clear in a submission -- we'll  
11 probably -- you know, I would imagine we'll add  
12 something to address it.

13 But I think if we write the holistic  
14 approach correctly, we could identify the fact  
15 that that is the solution for prepaid. And I  
16 think it will be addressed.

17 MS. FOX: So, then I will be able to put  
18 in there why that could be adopted earlier under  
19 a different format in the interim. And it won't  
20 be relegated to the appendix.

21 So, I'm happy with that.

22 MS. KITTRICK: So, you'll agree that if we  
23 need to address the definition of prepaid to  
24 make it clear that it's under the sales tax,  
25 that's --



1 MS. FOX: I will have an opposing opinion  
2 right next to it.

3 MR. LINDSEY: I think that if -- again,  
4 here is -- Page 2B is everything that's offered  
5 regarding prepaid. I don't think it's going to  
6 be tucked away in the back where it disappears.

7 MS. KITTRICK: No, I don't think so.

8 MR. LINDSEY: It's going to be there. And  
9 an informed legislator that wants to go, okay,  
10 where is the prepaid, they're going to see this.  
11 It's going to be referenced. I think that's a  
12 great idea to have everything referenced.

13 They're going to be able to look and say,  
14 okay, communication services tax. They will be  
15 able to go back and look at the comments and be  
16 able to discern -- you know, the information  
17 will be there.

18 So, I've got no problem with that being in  
19 the body. And there it is.

20 MAYOR RESNICK: They are all options.  
21 That's what we were asked to identify.

22 MR. SUGGS: Earlier, when we were talking  
23 about the holistic -- the industry was going to  
24 get with their economists and do a brief  
25 end-user analysis. That's going to be one of

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1 the most critical components.

2 If you guys could do that and hook it up  
3 with Marshall, and Marshall can insert it --  
4 however that happens -- because I think that's  
5 one of the snapshot analyses that the  
6 politicians have to see that part.

7 MS. KITTRICK: Yeah, that's good.

8 MAYOR RESNICK: Davin, no disrespect, but  
9 I have a real issue with committees or  
10 subcommittees, whatever, getting together and  
11 organizing something like that.

12 MR. ROSENZWEIG: I think the documents  
13 will come back to the body as a whole.

14 MR. SUGGS: Yeah, we'll see it.

15 MR. ROSENZWEIG: It will just be  
16 information that's prepared. I don't think any  
17 of us are going to go --

18 MS. KITTRICK: The only thing I need is  
19 information -- and he can send it to Andrea,  
20 right?

21 MR. DUDLEY: Or we can submit to Scott  
22 directly and not share with each other, if  
23 that's to Gary's point. And then if Scott wants  
24 to produce something, he can send it to Andrea.

25 MR. ROSENZWEIG: Right.

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1 MR. DUDLEY: And say, I've got information  
2 from different sources -- he may have his own  
3 sources, OCC data and other things.

4 MR. ROSENZWEIG: And let DOR compile it.

5 MR. DUDLEY: Here is a potential analysis  
6 and Andrea can distribute it to everybody.

7 MR. SUGGS: Or I mean, they've --

8 MR. DUDLEY: I can't send her anything.  
9 I've got it. You're right.

10 MR. SUGGS: Oh, yeah. Or even if you've  
11 got -- Marshall said that DOR can -- I mean, the  
12 League of Cities -- you guys have very technical  
13 contract staff. But there is certain raw data  
14 from the industry that would be helpful in  
15 computing the end-user analysis, average bill or  
16 whatever.

17 So, I don't care whose economist does it.  
18 I mean, just DOR has established we need some  
19 additional help outside of DOR to make it sort  
20 out. And I understand there has to be a certain  
21 neutrality because that analysis will promote  
22 our holistic option and to get it done and let  
23 DOR maintain some type of neutrality without  
24 taking sides, but presenting objective facts.

25 MR. ROSENZWEIG: And that turns into two

1 or three bullets up front. And the details of  
2 that analysis become the appendix. You know,  
3 the overall fiscal impact on average end user is  
4 "X." Impact to the State, perhaps, if the  
5 economists come up with that, are "Y." See the  
6 details in the back.

7 But again, it's very tight. It's up  
8 front. It's very clear why we did this and why  
9 we don't think it's impacting anybody's  
10 constituents.

11 MR. SUGGS: Our goal is local governments,  
12 revenue neutral.

13 MR. ROSENZWEIG: Right.

14 MR. SUGGS: It's less complex, less  
15 burdensome both on DOR and the industry. The  
16 industry is more competitive, more equitable,  
17 and the end user, i.e. taxpayer, benefits.

18 MR. ROSENZWEIG: Look at that. Win, win,  
19 win.

20 MR. SUGGS: Right. I don't care if it's  
21 this year or next year. That message is, hey,  
22 maybe you need to think twice about this,  
23 whether it's this year or next year. That type  
24 of message with some sort of analysis is -- I  
25 think somebody is going to read it twice if

1 that's in the executive summary.

2 MR. STRANBURG: All right. So, is the  
3 consensus movement I see where the members are  
4 going toward is we will take the historical  
5 information provided in Sharon's paper, do a  
6 little supplementing of that, create our  
7 transition paragraph? The Department will be  
8 creating that transition paragraph.

9 We will also be creating a discussion of  
10 the holistic option based upon the two meetings  
11 where we have discussed the holistic option.

12 We will look to you all, if you all have  
13 any other submissions that you want to make with  
14 respect to the other options that have been  
15 discussed at our meetings.

16 We will also go about referencing, cross-  
17 referencing meeting materials, submissions and  
18 so forth with these options so that if people  
19 want to see back-up material discussing pros,  
20 cons, revenue estimates, things of that nature  
21 that were done with respect to these other  
22 options, they will be available.

23 We will look for something from the cable  
24 and/or telecommunications industry about the  
25 economic -- I'll call it benefit of the holistic

1 approach for their industries.

2 We will also do a -- I want to make sure  
3 I'm getting this accurate, too. We will do a  
4 transitional paragraph after we've talked about  
5 the holistic option discussing that there were  
6 other options put forth and you will find them  
7 here with materials supplementing them  
8 referenced in the list of the additional options  
9 that the group considered.

10 But we would talk about earlier in the  
11 body, the group, in part of its decision-making  
12 process, seemed to reach consensus on this is a  
13 recommended option for the Legislature and  
14 policymakers to consider. But we also wanted to  
15 provide them other options should this either  
16 not be acceptable or not be instantly an option  
17 that could be implemented, something of that  
18 nature, so that they're aware of these other  
19 options and can look to those, should they feel  
20 the need to go to those.

21 Is there something I'm leaving out as part  
22 of that whole --

23 MR. ROSENZWEIG: The only piece you've got  
24 to make sure, Marshall, the other stuff that we  
25 did earlier on, the "A," "B," "C," "D," from the

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1 mission --

2 MR. STRANBURG: Yes.

3 MR. ROSENZWEIG: You'll capture all of  
4 that.

5 MR. STRANBURG: All of that. We have been  
6 compiling all of those --

7 MR. ROSENZWEIG: We'll just reference back  
8 the mission --

9 MR. STRANBURG: Yes. And there will be  
10 a -- I'm not sure if we will do an index of all  
11 of the submissions of the materials and the  
12 background information and the studies and the  
13 reports and so forth. Yes, that will be part --

14 MR. ROSENZWEIG: And on top of all of  
15 that, a nice summary document --

16 MR. STRANBURG: Right, a very succinct  
17 executive summary of what the --

18 MR. ROSENZWEIG: -- whole report.

19 MR. STRANBURG: -- whole report will  
20 entail.

21 Now, having said all of that, we did have  
22 John Barnes with MetroPCS, to kind of switch  
23 gears on everybody right now, who wanted to take  
24 a couple of minutes to talk about the paper that  
25 they had submitted on prepaid. And John

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1 indicated he was going to be tied up in the  
2 morning, would be free in the afternoon. I hope  
3 he's on the phone now and listening.

4 John, are you there?

5 MR. BARNES: Hello, Marshall. I'm here.

6 MR. STRANBURG: Is there something that  
7 you would like to say with respect to the paper  
8 that you submitted?

9 Can you hear me, John?

10 MR. BARNES: -- you. Can you hear me?

11 MR. STRANBURG: Just now, you were  
12 breaking up when you responded. We heard you  
13 say earlier that you were here, but anything  
14 beyond that, we have not been picking you up.

15 MR. BARNES: Can you hear me?

16 MR. STRANBURG: Yes, we did now.

17 MR. BARNES: Is that better?

18 MR. STRANBURG: Yes, thank you.

19 MR. BARNES: Okay. Good. Thank you.

20 Thank you to the working group for  
21 allowing me to speak this afternoon. I'm sure a  
22 lot of you probably didn't have a chance to  
23 review our paper. So, I just wanted to quickly  
24 run through it and maybe address some of the  
25 questions or concerns that have been raised



1 earlier today.

2 As Marshall mentioned, I was not able to  
3 participate for the entire morning, but I was on  
4 for most of it. So, again, thank you.

5 I know there has been a lot of discussion  
6 around a lot of different options. And  
7 definitely, we would like the broad reform that  
8 has been discussed. We think that's a fairly  
9 tall order.

10 Naturally, MetroPCS is a prepaid company.  
11 We focused our proposal on the prepaid issue  
12 that has been the subject of much discussion.

13 I think there has been a lot of varying  
14 opinions about what the legislative intent was  
15 back when the communication services tax was  
16 imposed in 2001.

17 And I think the one thing that's become  
18 clear to us in looking back at legislative  
19 history is that the intent was similar services  
20 were to be taxed the same way.

21 Prepaid, as we've seen, that exists today  
22 existed in much the same air as it existed back  
23 in 2000, 2001. What has changed has been  
24 consumer demand for data. And that has evolved  
25 through the years. But I think that the way in

1           which prepaid is sold is very much the same as  
2           it has been.

3                        So, I think it's a point that there are a  
4           lot of complex and varying business models out  
5           there. Lots of companies sell the same product  
6           in different ways. And our belief is that sales  
7           tax is really the only solution that can  
8           transcend those business-model variations.

9                        There has been a lot of discussion around  
10          alternatives like surcharges. And I think with  
11          the range -- the wide range of prepaid options  
12          that are out there that are -- in many cases,  
13          prepaid is a service of last resort for those  
14          individuals who cannot qualify for a long-term  
15          contract, cannot afford to be obligated for, you  
16          know, one to two years. Prepaid is their  
17          option. We've heard discussions around  
18          individuals using a prepaid phone as their only  
19          communications device.

20                        Any kind of surcharge, flat fee, you know,  
21          we think would be tremendously regressive. And  
22          if it were tiered to accommodate for the varying  
23          programs, would contradict the stated objectives  
24          of simplicity and ease of administration. It  
25          would create an unwieldy administration that we

1 think would further complicate collection and  
2 administration.

3 One of the unique things about prepaid is  
4 that it does not require a billing address.  
5 Subscribers are possibly more mobile than any  
6 other mobile subscriber. You can purchase  
7 prepaid over the internet.

8 And any significant changes in tax or  
9 increases in tax rates to treat prepaid in a way  
10 that could shift purchasing patterns such that  
11 customers seek alternate, lower-tax options --  
12 everyone loses in that situation.

13 So, those are the types of things -- we  
14 think sales tax -- a fair sales tax that is  
15 uniformly applied to prepaid is the best  
16 solution to clarify and treat everybody fairly  
17 and addresses the variations in business models  
18 as well.

19 We think it also addresses the ease in  
20 administration as that administrative system  
21 already exists today, both with audit and  
22 compliance.

23 One comment was made earlier, naturally --  
24 you know, MetroPCS is certainly interested in  
25 resolving the prepaid issue. I don't think it's

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1 any surprise or it's no secret anymore that  
2 MetroPCS has paid communication services tax on  
3 prepaid services in the past.

4 And I think there has been discussion  
5 around what is paid or is not paid for network  
6 facilities and whether there is a contribution  
7 to the franchise system in Florida. And I would  
8 only encourage the working group to focus on the  
9 facts and not make guesses as to how or what  
10 individual companies are doing as far as  
11 compliance goes.

12 Marshall, I think I'll leave the rest to  
13 the paper. If anybody has any questions or  
14 specific comments, I'm open to taking those. Or  
15 my contact information, I believe, was on the  
16 presentation I made in July on prepaid.

17 MR. STRANBURG: All right. Thank you,  
18 John.

19 Members have any comments?

20 Gary.

21 MR. LINDSEY: Yes. John, thank you for  
22 this information. As you heard, we've had -- or  
23 maybe you've heard today. We've had a lot of  
24 discussion about the prepaid issue. And I  
25 believe this will be referenced, if you heard

1 the most recent discussion we just had about  
2 looking at options -- I think this will be  
3 referenced in the material regarding prepaid-  
4 communication-service options.

5 We appreciate this. I think it probably  
6 fits under the 2(b)(1) option. I'm sure that  
7 will be cataloged appropriately. And we  
8 appreciate this information.

9 MR. BARNES: Okay. Thank you. I  
10 appreciate the opportunity to present it.

11 MR. DUDLEY: Marshall.

12 John or anyone else, this is Charlie  
13 Dudley. I think maybe one thing that someone  
14 should consider doing is, regardless of whether  
15 the Legislature decides to pursue the course  
16 that MetroPCS has outlined or pursues a course  
17 that prepaid should be part of the CST or a  
18 holistic approach, there is going to have to be  
19 a definition of prepaid so that you don't  
20 continue to have this issue every couple of  
21 years as the prepaid is marketed differently or  
22 is somehow shifted around.

23 So, I would encourage people or someone to  
24 maybe come forward. I don't know -- maybe it's  
25 in some of the material and I just need to be

1 told where it is. I'm not aware that there has  
2 been a, this is what SSTP or some other groups  
3 across the country are looking at in terms of  
4 the most modern, the most up-to-date, the most  
5 flexible definition of prepaid.

6 Because, again, regardless of what basket  
7 it's going to fit in, which is going to be a  
8 decision above our heads, that may be something  
9 we want to have in the report.

10 MR. STRANBURG: Any other questions or  
11 observations for John on the prepaid issue?

12 All right. Thank you again, John. We  
13 appreciate your submission. And again, I think  
14 you've been hearing, if you have anything else  
15 that you would like to get to us, please feel  
16 free to submit it for inclusion in the materials  
17 compiled by the working group.

18 MR. BARNES: Thank you. I appreciate it.

19 MR. STRANBURG: I think we've got a  
20 tentative plan on what we're going to do. We  
21 were going to talk a little bit about some  
22 scheduling possibilities.

23 We're going to be getting information from  
24 potentially some or all of you. The holidays  
25 are coming up. Our staff is trying to draft

1 things and put things together.

2 So, we were thinking of maybe throwing out  
3 there as a possibility -- we would shoot for  
4 January 4th, that's a Friday, to have a draft  
5 out to everybody of what DOR is preparing.

6 Hopefully, we would have submitted from  
7 anyone who wishes to submit additional materials  
8 or the industry's submission on the economics of  
9 the holistic approach -- if we could have it to  
10 include it as part of the draft report to send  
11 out on the 4th of January.

12 MAYOR RESNICK: Marshall, can I ask for  
13 just one piece of information from DOR -- which  
14 would probably be easy to find out. I'm just  
15 concerned about this.

16 Local governments, particularly the League  
17 of Mayors, is very much committed to giving  
18 economic incentives. As part of those economic  
19 incentives, we pay a portion of the sales-tax  
20 exemption to lure companies -- or various tax  
21 exemptions. I shouldn't say sales-tax  
22 exemptions -- to lure companies from out of  
23 state to Florida.

24 There are certain taxes they can get  
25 exempt from and get credited back to them in

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1 terms of cash payments. I know CST is one of  
2 them. I don't know if sales tax is or not.

3 So, is there a way to find out? It would  
4 be the Florida Department of Economic  
5 Opportunity and -- something that coordinates  
6 that program.

7 Is there a way of finding out -- like, for  
8 example, we had a company move into our city.  
9 Florida agreed that under the qualifying tax-  
10 incentive program that they are entitled to  
11 basically a tax credit. Monies that they pay in  
12 certain taxes is actually given back to them in  
13 terms of cash incentive.

14 MR. ROSENZWEIG: QTI.

15 MAYOR RESNICK: QTI, exactly, to locate in  
16 Florida. I know that the CST is something that  
17 they --

18 MR. ROSENZWEIG: We have to get them to  
19 pay it back.

20 MAYOR RESNICK: -- back in terms of the  
21 tax cash.

22 MR. ROSENZWEIG: We collect first, then  
23 pay.

24 MAYOR RESNICK: But I don't know if sales  
25 tax is. From an economic standpoint, I would



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1           like to know that before I sign off on switching  
2           to a sales tax.

3           MR. STRANBURG: Okay. We'll take a look  
4           at that. And we'll get that information out to  
5           you.

6           MAYOR RESNICK: It should be a really  
7           easy --

8           MR. STRANBURG: Yeah, I don't know the  
9           answer off the top of my head. So, we will look  
10          at that. And I'm assuming we can get you that  
11          information sometime, I would think, next week,  
12          and refer you to that statute. We'll see what  
13          we can find out.

14          MR. ROSENZWEIG: We also mentioned -- I  
15          know the industry is going to do some economic  
16          analysis. But if the League of Cities -- she  
17          just stepped out of the room. They have a lot  
18          of resources, too. If they want to contribute  
19          something to that analysis, that would be great.

20          MR. STRANBURG: We take from all takers.

21          MR. ROSENZWEIG: I appreciate it.

22          MR. STRANBURG: Then I think what we were  
23          hoping to do was, if we could, get some comments  
24          that you would have on our draft that we send to  
25          you on the 4th back to us by the 11th of

1           January.

2                   And then what we would like to propose is  
3           we would set up a conference call, if that seems  
4           to be a good time to do it, on January 18th.  
5           Again, that's a Friday. We would schedule that  
6           for 1:30 in the afternoon, given that we've got  
7           members of the group that are from coast to  
8           coast here. So, we're looking at maybe trying  
9           to do something in that early afternoon, that  
10          block of time.

11                   I believe it will be the third week of  
12          interim committee meetings for the Legislature.  
13          Hopefully by that Friday afternoon they won't be  
14          scheduling any meetings. So, that looks to work  
15          on that front.

16                   And that gives us as a back-up, then -- if  
17          we need to have any further discussions, we  
18          would like to look at Monday, January 28th,  
19          again in the afternoon, only if necessary, as  
20          another time for us to get together by phone to  
21          put any last-minute details, if we have any,  
22          that we weren't able to iron out at our call on  
23          the 18th.

24                   So, that's what we would like to put out  
25          there as a schedule to wrap things up. If there

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1 is a problem with that, please let us know right  
2 away.

3 We will probably be looking to you as we  
4 get closer to January 18th for contact  
5 information about a call. We'll get that out to  
6 y'all.

7 And Mayor Resnick, we will triple-check on  
8 the open-government issue just to be 100  
9 percent certain.

10 MAYOR RESNICK: I'm not a naysayer. And  
11 I'm not a lawyer for these purposes here. I  
12 just play one on TV.

13 MR. STRANBURG: Okay.

14 Sharon?

15 MS. FOX: Was there a special reason --  
16 and maybe you said it and I was concentrating on  
17 dates -- not to do the final discussion on the  
18 25th as opposed to 28th?

19 MR. STRANBURG: The 21st. Well, the 25th,  
20 I'm not available. That's why we didn't throw  
21 the 25th out there. I have a commitment that I  
22 will be out of town on that date and will  
23 probably be unavailable a good chunk of the  
24 afternoon on the 25th. That's why we rolled it  
25 over to the 28th, the Monday, as our backup date

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1 if we're not able to get everything done on the  
2 18th.

3 MS. FOX: So, is the 24th something that  
4 might work?

5 MR. STRANBURG: I'm -- I've got a  
6 multi-day commitment there, unfortunately, that  
7 I'm not going to be able to do a phonecall.

8 Is there anything else that we need to  
9 talk about today?

10 Let me take this opportunity to thank you  
11 all for your participation. I know this has  
12 been a real burden on many of you, both time  
13 commitment, travel commitments, taking you away  
14 from family at some inopportune times.

15 But we appreciate your efforts and all  
16 that you've done. And I think we're getting to  
17 a product that everyone seems to be happy with  
18 putting together as the work of this group.

19 I also want to take this opportunity while  
20 we're all together to give my thanks to the  
21 Department of Revenue staff who have been  
22 involved in this from Andrea, who has been your  
23 point of contact, who I don't think I could have  
24 done anywhere close to what we've done on this  
25 without her, the support of her staff, Lynne

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1 Moeller, Debbie Thomas, Jamie Peate.

2 Our communications people, Brad, Deion,  
3 Jeff, et cetera -- thank them for all of the  
4 work they've done setting this up.

5 And then Bob McKee and his staff for all  
6 of the data and information that they've pulled  
7 together.

8 I know I'm leaving people out from the  
9 Department end, from French Brown, who  
10 unfortunately is no longer with us -- the work  
11 that he did. A lot of people in our general tax  
12 program from Grace Reeves that many of you know  
13 from her years working with communication  
14 services tax. Dave Ainsley who works with our  
15 distributions. Our folks in our technical unit  
16 that you all deal with from Gary Gray to Heather  
17 Miller to Carla Bruce. Again, I want to give  
18 them kudos.

19 Again, I'm probably leaving out the legal  
20 staff, which is my old home in DOR, the work  
21 that they've done on that, too, from Nancy  
22 Terrel who did an open-government presentation  
23 early on and others.

24 But again, I want to thank all of these  
25 folks at Revenue who have done it, but I again

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1 want to go back and personally thank each one of  
2 you for all of your efforts.

3 In case we don't happen to get together  
4 again in person, I just wanted to take this  
5 opportunity --

6 MR. ROSENZWEIG: We're not coming to the  
7 DOR Christmas party? I'm not invited, is the  
8 point, apparently.

9 (Laughter.)

10 MR. STRANBURG: No, unfortunately we --

11 MR. DUDLEY: -- Leon County.

12 (Simultaneous speakers.)

13 MR. ROSENZWEIG: Y'all can crash any time  
14 you want. Every Tuesday, we have a big meeting.

15 MR. STRANBURG: But again, thank y'all for  
16 your work. We look forward to any additional  
17 materials that you've got to submit to us.  
18 We'll roll up our sleeves and get it out to you.  
19 Our goal is no later than January 4th.

20 Hopefully we can get it done a little sooner to  
21 give y'all a little more time to look at it.

22 (Discussion off the record.)

23 (Proceedings concluded at 2:36 p.m.)

24 \* \* \* \* \*

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF FLORIDA )  
COUNTY OF LEON )

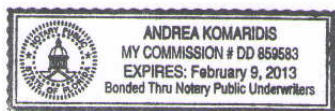
I, ANDREA KOMARIDIS, Court Reporter and Notary Public at Tallahassee, Florida, do hereby certify as follows:

THAT I correctly reported in shorthand the foregoing proceedings, at the time and place as stated in the caption hereof;

THAT I later reduced my stenographic notes through computer-aided transcription, or under my supervision, to typewritten copy, and that the foregoing pages, numbered 1 through 204, both inclusive, contain a full, true, and correct transcript of the proceedings on said occasion;

THAT I am neither of kin nor of counsel to any of the parties involved in this matter, nor in any manner interested in the results thereof;

THIS 21st OF December, 2012.



/s/ Andrea Komaridis  
\_\_\_\_\_  
ANDREA KOMARIDIS  
Notary Public, Florida

\* \* \* \* \*