



**Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority**  
Minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting  
March 22, 2018

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Board of Directors' Meeting of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority was held on March 22, 2018 in the Jordan Room; 5240 Knowledge Parkway; Erie, PA 16510. Legal Notice of the meeting was given through an advertisement appearing in the Erie Times-News. The meeting was called to order by the Chair.

**ROLL CALL**

Mr. Barney, Mr. Bagnoni, Mr. DiPaolo, Mr. Logue, Mr. Paris, Mr. Peters (arrives late), Ms. Presta, Mr. Sample, and Ms. Wyrosdick (arrives late). Mr. Lee, Mr. Leone, Mr. Wachter, and Mr. Wood are also present.

**APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Mr. Paris makes a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Presta seconds the motion. Motion carries 7-0.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES** – February 2018

- a) Mr. Barney makes a motion to approve the minutes of the regularly scheduled Board Meeting. Mr. Paris seconds the motion. Motion carries 7-0.
- b) Mr. Paris makes a motion to approve the minutes of the Special Meeting regarding Ridge Policy Group. Mr. Barney seconds the motion. Motion carries 7-0.

**Mr. DiPaolo:** I have a question. I know that we left the meeting with the idea that we were going to give the Ridge Policy Group 60 days; how are we going to do that? That is the only question I have. Are we bringing this up again or are we just waiting the 60 days or what are we going to do?

**Mr. Paris:** Did we say 60 days?

**Mr. Logue:** I think the language that we spoke about was there was going to be some type of reset and that there was something that would be coming into us at this meeting or just a little bit beyond to see what they are doing. We haven't done anything, or rather they haven't done anything – I should correct myself – so that's another \$4,000 - \$5,000 that has gone to the Ridge Policy Group. As a taxpayer and as a Board Member, I would like to see that money spread out here.

The Sisters of St. Joseph, although they didn't ask for it, they could've maybe gotten a little bit more. And I see we have a short fall, I noticed that, that we be amended from \$170 to \$230 and the Ridge money could have certainly bridged that short fall. So, if they're not going to cooperate and at least show us something that they're doing, again, we voted on this so it's redundant I'm not going to speak about it, but they do have an obligation to show us something.

Mr. DiPaolo: I think at the end of the minutes of the meeting, Mr. Sample stated we wanted to have this meeting within 60 days. That's where I got the 60 days from.

Mr. Paris: The meeting within 60 days, not to extend them by 60 days, right?

Mr. DiPaolo: Yes, the meeting within 60 days to find out what we're going to do.

Mr. Wood: We are looking at days in April to have what was commonly called the reset meeting, but Mr. Logue to say that they haven't done anything, I don't think, is completely accurate. If you look in the Executive Director's Report, you'll find two activity reports; one is what the Board requested which is a list of what they did during November 2017 and February 2018, and the second report is what they did specifically for the month of March. What we have decided in having conversations with Ridge Policy is that we would have a monthly activity report that I would be able to provide to every one of you to see exactly what they have done. There is a nice summary of the activities they participated in as well as some of the email exchanges that I've had with them about directions we are headed.

Mr. DiPaolo: That's all I wanted to know. Very good.

Mr. Wood: Thank you.

#### DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

Mr. Logue: I will reserve my comments for a couple of the line items that we have on the agenda, so we can move on unless there are others who have Director's Comments.

#### COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR

Mr. Sample: There are no comments at this time.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Leone: Good morning. Just a few issues that I'd like to talk to the Board about. One of them, I asked for all of the Ethics Statements from everybody from the time of inception of this Board until this very day. Some of you do an excellent job as far as the Ethics Commission Reports are concerned, but some of you take it quite lightly and there are quite a few of them missing. I don't know whether you understand that or not but the Ethics Commission, it's a law that says you must file by May 1 for the previous year's reports. There are quite a few of them missing, so I'm just bringing that to your attention; whoever is taking care of the reports should inform whoever the Board members are that they aren't up to date or they haven't filed their particular Ethics Commission Report.

The other issue I have is about the agenda. How do you go on the website to find out what's on your agenda for this particular day? You can't. How would somebody who would oppose any of this know what's on the agenda for today and be able to come in here and complain about it? You

can't find it on the website. As a Council member, I can easily find out what's going on but the people I'm looking out for, the people who are saying, "Is this place transparent?" It doesn't look like it because like I said, after you vote on this, now somebody could come in and complain but it's too late. I don't know how you go about doing it as far as the ECGRA Board is concerned. I know how the Council does it. We meet on Thursday, we discuss what's going on, that goes on our website immediately.

As far as the budget is concerned, I couldn't make heads or tails of the budget that you people have. Again, we're talking about transparency. I can tell you what the County did in 2017, what the revenues were, what they expended on a line-by-line item basis, on a \$406 million-dollar budget, yet I couldn't find anything other than the Profit & Loss statement that you put out. I think you indicated that you were going to do something about it to make it more transparent, bring it up something like the County has or for that matter, anyone else might have.

The other issue I looked at is, this is nice and I come in here and I see "Approval of the Agenda." Who approves it in the first place? How many members voted for what is going on on this particular agenda for today? Anybody have any input on it? How does that happen? I don't know.

Mr. Sample: I talk to Mr. Wood.

Mr. Peters: Mr. Leone, if I have something like today on my portion which is the Treasurer's Report, I think there are three or four bullet points. What I did is I submitted to Perry and said, I would like these on the agenda. That's how I do it for my particular piece.

Mr. Leone: What you're telling me is that any Board member can call Mr. Wood and tell him, "I want this on the agenda."? Is that correct?

Mr. Peters: Yes.

Mr. Leone: That's what I wanted to know; I'd like to find out just exactly how that happened. I know that the last time I was here you discussed loaning the RCWE building \$1 million dollars at 0.5% interest rate because they're in bankruptcy.

Mr. Peters: I'm sorry, could you repeat that?

Mr. Leone: The RCWE building is in bankruptcy and I believe you are the one that suggested you loan them \$1 million dollars at 0.5% interest rate.

Several Board members say No.

Mr. Peters: Please let me clarify. Absolutely not. First of all, this has been going on for a number of years with the RCWE building. Someone that we loaned money to, the Enterprise Development Fund which was one of the organizations that was part of the Greater Erie Industrial Development Corporation, they were loaned money from ECGRA. The Enterprise Development Fund was in two tranches given money for the purpose of making loans to small businesses. The Enterprise Development Fund loaned some amount of money to RCWE; I don't recall the exact amount – I think it was about \$500,000.

The context in which that was being discussed, Mr. Leone, was around the restructuring of the debt to the Enterprise Development Fund. I never would have suggested loaning money to RCWE. That's absolutely not accurate. And because I know there is a question about my business and the

things that we're involved with, my company manages the RCWE building and therefore, I would never have brought that up.

Beyond that, within the bankruptcy, that case has been dismissed. That building has been taken back by the bank, by FNB Bank who is the primary lender. I'm hoping that the minutes will reflect this very clearly and correctly that at no point did I ever recommend that this Authority loan money to the RCWE building. Never, once. The Enterprise Development Fund, which this group voted to loan money to so that it could make loans to small businesses some number of years ago, I'm going to say about five or six years ago, they loaned money to the RCWE building. We never did.

Mr. Leone: So, the Enterprise Development Fund that you're talking about, who is that?

Mr. Wachter: Mr. Jim Gehrlein is the Chair of that Board.

Mr. Leone: That's the banker.

Mr. Wachter: Yes, former banker.

Mr. Peters: Someone from Schaffner, Knight, Minnaugh is on that Board, Harry Brown was on that Board. I don't recall the rest but there is a number of people on that Board.

Mr. Leone: Then I misunderstood what you were talking about as far as the million dollars was concerned.

Mr. Peters: I think that over the years we had given the Enterprise Development Fund \$1 million dollars, roughly. And by the way, the County Executive was here about one year ago – maybe two years ago – when the GEIDC was in the middle of their bankruptcy and the County Executive was here, sat in that chair, and said to me, "Why won't you give them another half million dollars?" There were many people around this table at that point and I said, "It would be irresponsible for us to give them any more money." I guarantee that's in the minutes somewhere.

It would have been an absolute travesty to have given this near-bankrupt organization another half million dollars.

Mr. Leone: I misunderstood what you said then.

Mr. Wachter: Mr. Leone, if I could just point out one thing as well. This Board, as long as I have had the pleasure of serving, has never loaned funds directly to a company. All monies that are ultimately loaned out go to some other entity that does the scrubbing of the loans, that issues the loans, that does the collections; they'll give us payments back pursuant to our notes. There is no direct Gaming Authority-to-Company loans.

Mr. Sample: What we did do was we restructured that loan with the GEIDC.

Mr. Wachter: That finally just closed. The GEIDC, because of their financial concerns, their financial issues, they are a CDFI (Community Development Financing Institution) certified by the United States Treasury. They had some concerns potentially about some bad loans that they did make and they were concerned that they were going to be unable to make the balloon payments at the end of their term back to the Gaming Authority, so this Board approved taking all of their loans, resetting them on a new 10-year clock, and having them pay 1% interest on a quarterly basis for nine years, eleven

months and on the last month to make a balloon payment back to give them time to reorganize so that that entity can continue to make it's low-interest loans to businesses in Erie County.

Mr. Sample: And if I'm not correct, they had asked us to forgive part of that and we could not do that.

Mr. Wachter: They wanted full forgiveness.

Mr. Sample: They wanted full forgiveness of the amount of money that was owed to us and we could not do that so what we did was we restructured it for them.

Mr. Leone: There was \$3 million dollars that was lost was the County's money. And just for your information, there was only one member that didn't vote for that \$3 million dollars to give to the GEIDC and you're looking at that person right now. I didn't vote for it because I didn't think it was a good plan in the beginning.

I did talk to the County Executive and I thought that was what we were talking about; loaning money to the RCWE building and she was opposed to that. Also, we talked about your Resolution E which has the Anchor Building. She's highly opposed to that too. I don't think that this Board should be involved in construction project to build buildings and to say, "Okay, we're going to bring 501c3's into that particular building." At least that's what I understood when I listened to what Mr. Wood was talking about. I think that's highly irregular to do that too.

Again, I still think that as far as transparency is concerned, there's no way that any regular citizen can look on this website that you have and say, "Okay, this is what's coming up on these Thursday meetings that you have." There's no way they could tell. After the fact, yeah, but I don't think that's what the community should be entitled to. I think they should be entitled to be able to look at your agenda, find out who voted for it, how they voted for it, and the minutes previous.

That's my thoughts. Thank you.

Mr. Lee: Mr. Chairman, if I could. In reference to the County Executive, she did not have all the information as it pertained to the RCWE building. We ascertained the information and we found it to be exactly what Mr. Peters had stated; that it was through the Enterprise Development Fund and that was how that money was facilitated. Once she understood that as far as the process, she understood that ECGRA was not making any direct loans to any facilities.

In reference to the Anchor Building, she and I have not gone through it. I have not gone through all the guidelines and all the information pertaining to that. Until we can go through that thoroughly, we cannot weigh in from the Administration side. I know it's a new concept and it's being evolved. I just wanted to inform you of that.

## PRESENTATIONS

### a. Daria Devlin – Erie's Public Schools: Planning for the Future

Ms. Devlin: Good morning, everyone. I'm Daria Devlin from Erie's Public Schools. I met most of you this morning. I'm the coordinator of grants and community relations for the district. Superintendent Polito had intended to be here this morning, but unfortunately, he didn't have water or power at 7:30am, so I am here in his place. You're lucky because I won't go into numbers the way he would; that's maybe a good thing or a bad thing, I'm not sure.

I do appreciate you letting me talk to you for just a few minutes about the Pilot Project Grant that we have put in. I really want to thank Mr. Maggio and Mr. Wood for allowing us and walking us through this. I understand that this is a new project for you as well, so I'm here to just talk about it.

I gave you some handouts this morning because there are some numbers and data that are important to see. Mr. Polito felt it was important for us to begin by telling you, in case you have been living in a hole over the last several years and you didn't know, basically the district has faced a series of, a decade really, of financial distress over the past ten years. This is just a summary of the things that have happened over that time. Many of you know this; we've close five buildings, six schools, eliminated more than 350 full-time employees, cut our central administration, and reduced a number of programs. As you know, our funding and equity was widely reported.

Because of the work of the community coming together with us we were able to secure an enormous investment by the State this year to really fix this problem, but up until then you can see that Erie's Public Schools was way out of whack in terms of funding with the rest of our local districts. The reason we talk about that is because what that means is that programs were cut over this period of time. I think that when we talk about money and we talk about cuts, I don't think people really understand what that means to kids.

Over that period of ten years, this is just a small list of the things that were cut as part of those budgetary issues. All small group instruction for elementary students – that's when you're individually working with groups of kids who are struggling – it completely went away. Our transition program completely went away. Summer school was cut completely. No after school help, no after school programs. Electives, all of those things that engage kids, completely went away. Instructional coaches, which was how we helped our teachers grow into better professionals, that was taken as well as professional development and curriculum replacement cycle. That period of ten years eviscerated what the City of Erie School District looked like and what it was able to offer. It resulted in severe academic problems for our students.

This graph was put together by our consultant, who I'll talk about in a moment, but in this graph every box represents 20 students. The way that our consultant likes to talk about this is if you have 20 students lined up in front of you, they are represented by one box. The box tells you how many of those students is actually scoring at a proficient level on State exams. For example, the first line there is all students in English/Language Arts. If you go all the way to the right, you'll see 2016-2017. Take a look at third grade. What that means is that in 2016-17 only seven out of twenty students were proficient in reading on State exams; only seven. And in fourth grade there were only six, and fifth grade only six, and it goes on from there. Those are pretty staggering numbers.

Even more staggering is if you go down to the next set of charts at the bottom which represents math, you'll see that in 2016-17 only three out of twenty eighth grade students were proficient in math. What that tells us is that this decade of cuts didn't just affect our teachers and our staff, it directly impacted the academic achievement of our students and now we find ourselves in really a crisis situation.

That being said, we were lucky enough to secure a \$14 million-dollar investment from the State; it was the highest investment given to any school district we believe in the history of state-subsidies. But it really does not solve every single problem that we're going to have. This particular graph, again this is Mr. Polito's world and I will do my best here, but this shows you that after that \$14 million-dollar subsidy and after the enormous reorganization we undertook last year in combining all of our high schools, we will be in 2017-2018 really okay. We'll have a surplus of about \$10 million dollars which is wonderful considering the fact that beforehand we were always operating in the negative.

If you look out a number of years to 2020-2021 you'll see that our surplus again is very low and in danger of perhaps going into a deficit. What this tells us is that we need to be very thoughtful about this \$14 million-dollar investment and we need to make sure that we are wise stewards of it because it will not just be smooth sailing for us on into the future.

Because of that we decided that we needed help; we needed a strategic plan, we needed a professional consultant to come in and tell us how to wisely invest this money, how to take all of those

cuts and all of those issues and align our dollars to reach our goals. These were really the goals of our strategic plan and the goals of our district.

I really want to call your attention to the third bullet point that talks about ensuring that students graduate with skills that meet the needs of the local economy. I understand your role in terms of economic development here in the County and I want you to know that Erie's Public Schools takes that very seriously as well. We are not just graduating students; we need to graduate students who can fill the jobs that are needed in this economy. Doing the work with middle and high school students to make sure that they are getting those skills is incredibly important to us and it is a stated goal of our strategic plan.

In looking to do a strategic plan we did a lot of homework to find a professional. We talked, and I'll be honest with you, we talked about whether we could do this in house; maybe we could just go through the process. But we really felt that we needed an outsider to come in to take a hard look at what we were doing and to give us some really good advice on how to move forward. In doing that homework we came across this organization – Performance Fact, Inc. This organization really rose to the top very quickly. It is led by Mr. Mutiu Fagbayi; whenever he comes to talk to us he tells people how to say his name because it is not easy!

Mr. Fagbayi is from Nigeria originally. He worked for Kodak, which we all thought was interesting. In fact, we're pretty sure that he worked with our former superintendent, Dr. Badams, at Kodak years ago which was just a strange coincidence. Mr. Fagbayi worked for Kodak, went on to work for the National Center on Education and the Economy, and then since the 90's has been doing this work – professional development and strategic planning for urban school districts. For any of you who have met him, I know Mr. Peters and Mr. Wood have met him at some of our community meetings, he is really wonderful. He is wonderful in the way he's able to bring a room together and what he's been able to provide us so far.

Here's the process that he has given us that we have gone through since January. He started with some student focus groups, meeting first with kids, and he is clear about this – we are not going to talk to any adults until we talk to kids about what they want from their schools. So, he met with focus groups from our schools in January, he has then met with all of these groups. We have a core planning team that includes about 150 members; those people have met for four full days and they have two more coming up during the spring. We have an alignment team, that's what we call the movers and shakers; they are the higher level like the Mayor, the County Executive, the leader of the Erie Community Foundation, United Way. Those are the people that are going to help us align our strategic plan to what's happening in our community.

He has obviously met with our school board leadership, our district leadership; we've had two formal community meetings plus the Metro 100 that the Jefferson hosted for us. Right now, our schools are all meeting as one. Each individual school is meeting with its entire staff to talk about the process and to find out from the janitor, from the lunch lady, from everybody in the building whether we are on track for our strategic plan.

Let me show you where we are. After all those meetings, these are the five benchmarks that all of those people have basically agreed upon at this point for what we need to do before 2024. Let me just say that these are frightening and when we have met, there are people at the table, I think that Mr. Polito alluded to, that are sweating a little bit when we say that this is where we want to be in 2024. For early reading, we want to show that 90% of our students are proficient in reading by the end of Grade 3 by the year 2024. If you recall back to those slides, our numbers are not at 90%. They are nowhere near 90%. This is going to take huge effort, but we're willing to say that this is something we want to put out and align our resources to do.

In terms of civic responsibility; there was a great discussion about making sure that kids are graduating, being able to critically think, and engage in their community. We've decided that by 2024, 100% of students will participate in a real-life community project. We're saying that right now that by

graduation, that is what they will do. We're saying that in the core subjects of Reading and Language Arts, Science, and Math, we're going to double our proficiency rate. If it was seven out of twenty students, it's got to go to fourteen out of twenty in Reading and Language Arts, and we're going to triple that rate in Math. So, in those places where there were three students proficient in Math, we need to get to nine. That's probably not where we need to be in the end but by 2024, that's our goal.

Proportional discipline was a very heated conversation. This really deals with issues of race. We understand, in our district, we have real issues in terms of proportionality and discipline. We have about 35% of our students are African American but about 70% of our disciplinary actions are against African American students; that's out of whack. We need to do professional development and work with our students to, by 2024, reduce the behavior events involving African American students by 50%. That also is a huge goal for us but we know that it is important and it really gets at these issues of race that underlie a lot of our work.

Finally, probably the most exciting for you, we want to say that by 2024 we will have a 100% graduation rate. Right now, graduation rate is about 79%; that's not great. We need to increase that to 100% by 2024 and that includes a 0% drop-out rate. Every kid, even if it takes them six years, walks out with a diploma. That's something that we're willing to say that by 2024 we will commit to.

The cost of the strategic plan, the cost of this work so far and what the consultant has been able to do with us is \$106,600; that includes the space for the meetings, the food for the meetings, all the technology and supplies. We have requested of you \$30,000 to go toward that cost. We have also put in a \$30,000 request to the Erie Community Foundation Helping Today; so, we're really asking you and the Erie Community Foundation to match each other. Gannon University has provided us with \$12,000 of in-kind; that's space for our meetings, that's technology at all of our meetings which really is not insignificant. They have been kind enough to offer that; that's a huge investment by Gannon. The District will then cover the rest and that comes out to about \$34,600.

My goal here today was really to let you know how important this is to the district. As I think you can see, it is hugely important work; it is important to our entire community and we would hope that you would invest as part of your Pilot Projects because we believe that other districts might look at this process and say, "This is worthwhile. It's something we want to do. It's something that we could replicate."

I'm happy to answer any questions that you have. I know that some of that data is a little difficult to understand. If I can, I'm happy to answer questions about that or about the process itself.

Mr. Lee: Thanks, Daria, for the great presentation. Can we go to the slide that deals with the student's proficiency on the state tests? If I am interpreting this correctly, I'm looking under the English/Language Arts; the American Indian or Alaska Native for sixth grade, I'm reading that 20 out of 20 are at that level – they are performing proficiently?

Ms. Devlin: Yes. I'll be honest, Mr. Lee, that was something that was surprising to us as well. We went back to Mr. Fagbayi because he took an enormous amount of data and distilled it into this and we questioned that number too and asked him to go back and check. He said that, "Yes, that really was the number." We were a little concerned because you don't see that in Math as well. We do believe that that number is correct. We would hope that all of our squares will be blue like that in the future, but yes, that is correct of those American Indian students.

Mr. Lee: This may require additional research, but has anyone been able to drill down to identify why the students are doing so well, which is great?

Ms. Devlin: It is great. To be honest with you, arranging the data this way isn't something we wanted to do but I think that drilling it to those 20-student blocks really helps put this into focus. So, no, I think



this is the first time we have looked at the data this way and that is something that we need to do – drill down and find out why.

Mr. Lee: Hopefully that can be added on. One other question in reference to the proportional discipline; you stated that 35% of the students are African American as far as the student population and 70% is a disciplinary issue. Have you been able to ascertain why that is currently?

Ms. Devlin: We have not been able to ascertain why. Of course, you will get a broad range of answers when you start digging into this. I think the important issue is that we are recognizing it, we're being transparent about it, we're not trying to hide that issue. What Mr. Fagbayi has said that I think resonates with a lot of people is, "This is a problem that has to be solved on two sides. Teachers need to change their mindsets; we know that and that is professional development that the district can provide. Students need to change their behavior."

What you'll see at the bottom of the slide that I didn't even point out, it's a little note for us that we need to go back and revisit/work in self-responsibility and self-discipline. When Mr. Fagbayi met with the students, they actually called out this as the most important goal to them. We found it very interesting for elementary and middle school students to say, "We want to have more responsibility and self-discipline." We thought that was odd, but what we know is that kids see misbehavior around them, they know it is getting in the way of their learning, and so they want us to address it. We believe that by working in some of this goal-setting into that proportional discipline benchmark, we can help kids take some responsibility for the behavior of themselves and their peers and get at that from both sides – teachers and students.

We're working on strategies now. We've identified the benchmarks. Now it's time to do the hard work of the strategies.

Mr. Lee: Thank you.

Mr. Peters: I wanted to make a comment. I had a chance to go to the event at the Jefferson and participate in the survey part of this and it was really fascinating. You're sitting in small groups and everyone has their paper and writing and then the facilitator came and sort of worked with each of us. It was fascinating to see how similar the responses were. What was most fascinating though, you might think that business people and elected officials and people who are paying attention to this kind of stuff probably have some similar goals. What was really fascinating to me was the slide that showed what the students said what was important to them and how close they were. I know Mr. Lee was there and Mr. Wachter and Mr. Wood. I don't know what it was like at your tables but at my table it was really a neat experience to go through that process.

Ms. Devlin: Except for the technology one, which was interesting. Only the Metro 100 group identified students graduating with technology skills and being able to function in a technological world; only that group identified that as a goal. None of the other ones had. To us that's important because if the business leaders are saying it's important, then perhaps it should be worked in somewhere because, for the most part, those are the employers. We also found that very interesting that that was the only who came out with technology.

Mr. Barney: Twofold. One is the question pertaining to, and I know you have Ken Nickson as far as the diversity, how is that progressing as far as a change in the make-up of the presenters? I feel that that plays a part with the disciplinary action, especially at the grades that you're identifying – three through eight. Failure to succeed there is nothing but a set-up for failure in nine through twelve. And

then we keep speaking on the graduation rate. So, first how are we moving along as far as Ken and diversity, identifying maybe instructors that look more like the population that is in the building.

Ms. Devlin: Do you want me to answer that one first?

Mr. Barney: Sure.

Ms. Devlin: What I think is really exciting about this process, and again why it has been so important for us, the district has a lot of initiatives and this is showing us how to streamline and align all of our initiatives. So, Mr. Nickson's work around increasing diversity of staff fits absolutely under this issue of proportional discipline. We know that the two things are connected so it really gives credibility to some of these initiatives to say that they are lined up and that we need to put more resources into them. The work that he has been doing somewhat in a vacuum is now being brought very formally into the plan. I would say to you that I think we'll see even more action from him over the next few years. So, yes, it's already begun with him visiting job fairs around the area, we have some work being done about how to alternatively certify teachers. So, if we have an African American with a Bachelor's Degree who is interested in teaching, we're reaching out and saying, "Here's how you might be able to get an alternative certification to be a teacher." Those things are moving and I think they'll continue to move based on this plan.

Mr. Sample: Dale, did you have another question?

Mr. Barney: I'll pass on it because that coincides with the disciplinary action.

Mr. Sample: Are there any other questions? Thank you very much, Daria. That was very helpful.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Treasurer's Report – Mr. Peters: I apologize in advance because the March meeting is always pretty busy in this department.

1. First, we have the monthly financials. I'll let you all ask questions if you have any. You have the regular Profit & Loss, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, Budget vs. Actual (remember that this is our last month of our fiscal year), Schedule of Grant Reserve (where we outline for everyone where we've committed those dollars that we've already got), and the Check Detail Report (which highlights the checks that we have written).

I'm comfortable with the staff's preparation of these reports and am glad to answer any questions that anyone might have.

Mr. Paris makes a motion to approve the financials. Mr. Barney seconds the motion. Motion carries 9-0.

2. Next, I wanted to talk about a couple things that have come up over the last couple of months. We have, as an Authority, been asked to be as transparent as possible in our reporting. As I thought about this, one of the things that I thought might make sense is that we consider, along with an annual audit, a quarterly financial review. We're a small organization; we don't have a large, sophisticated accounting department. I think Tammi does a tremendous job and when I see things that I have a question about, I

talk to her. If I want her to get some advice, she goes to MaherDuessel (which is the firm that does our audit). That's been, generally, a very good process.

At the same time, I am not an accountant or a CPA. I'm not sure if anyone else on this Board is; it might make sense that we invest some money with MaherDuessel to do quarterly financial reviews. We did solicit proposals from both Buzz Felix at Felix & Gloeckler (they were our prior auditor) and from MaherDuessel (our current auditor). At the end of the day, I think that my recommendation would be that we consider – and I'll talk about the budget a little later – but it would be \$1,500 a quarter. They would, in essence, be doing a mini-audit every quarter. I think that would be a wise investment of our dollars based upon the fact that lots of people ask us lots of questions about the financials and just knowing that we have someone who does this for a living is reading them might make sense.

That is just something I wanted to discuss with everybody and get everyone's opinion. I built that cost in to the Draft Budget.

Mr. DiPaolo: Mr. Chairman, you're talking about transparency; why would you limit it to two CPA groups? Why wouldn't you open it to everyone in Erie and then get the best price?

Mr. Peters: We can do that. This was something that . . .

Mr. DiPaolo: Mr. Barney, what are you laughing about? You think that's funny?

Mr. Barney: Because I want to. I can laugh when I choose to.

Mr. Sample: Part of the issue with Felix & Gloeckler thing initially, Chuck correct me if I'm wrong, they didn't have the qualifications to do the original audit. Was that not part of it?

Mr. Peters: I don't know. We switched from Felix & Gloeckler . . .

Mr. DiPaolo: The only thing I'm saying is if you want to do this, let it out to everybody and see what kind of price we can get. Maybe we can get it cheaper than \$1,500 every quarter. That's what I'm saying.

Mr. Paris: Aren't there only a few companies in Erie that can do this?

Mr. Peters: I don't know. I have no issue putting it out to bid; it doesn't bother me one way or the other, if that's what the Board chooses to do.

Mr. Leone: Mr. Chairman, might I comment?

Mr. Sample: That's fine.

Mr. Leone: He's quite right in having to do something. I think it's quite appropriate. We just lost Joe Maloney, who we paid substantially more than what you're getting if you went with Felix & Gloeckler or whoever. I understand Mr. DiPaolo's concept to go out for bid for this; we always go out for bid regardless of who it is, to come up with the best possible of meeting the requirements obviously. I think that's an excellent idea.

Mr. Wachter: If I could just make a comment. It has been the experience of me and my clients and I believe we have had this experience here at the Gaming Authority that yes, going out to bid is a good idea but please remember that the last few times we bid out for auditors, we get very limited response. There are less and less accounting firms that are doing this level of government audits. I want to at least set the expectation that you will probably have a very limited response.

Mr. DiPaolo: If you only get two back, that's fine. At least you did it.

Mr. Sample: We can do this in two stages. We can approve the quarterly financial review process, then we can suggest that it go to bid.

Mr. Peters: Ultimately, as we go through the budget, if it makes sense we can plug in the number that MaherDuessel gave us and then we direct staff to go out and find other potential auditors and if it's less than good. If MaherDuessel ends up being the lowest qualified bidder, then we are able to just proceed.

Mr. Sample: That would be the benchmark.

Mr. Barney: Excuse me. Just for clarity, Mr. DiPaolo, I wasn't laughing at you. It was really about the problem with opening it. From previous exchanges, I knew that due to the type of funding that we have, whoever audits us has to have a certain status or levels of qualification. And also, we're not considered big enough for a lot of them to want to do it for us. That's where I was coming from, because we had already discussed this. Yes, I'm open to the lowest bidder that meets the necessary qualifications.

Mr. DiPaolo: Very good. I'm sorry about that.

Mr. Sample: Moving along, because we are under some time constraints today.

Mr. Peters:

3. Credit card policy – The County Controller, Ms. Schaaf, requested a copy of our credit card policy. This goes back to when we sent her various financial information that she had asked for, and one of the things that came up was she asked for a copy of our credit card policy. First of all, just so you're all aware, she asked if we all had credit cards and if we are allowed to use them and of course the answer to that is no, none of us have credit cards. Perry does have a credit card which is used for various things and we review that monthly.

But she brought up a good point that we don't have a written policy that says, "Here is when you can use this credit card; here's when you can't." So, I had asked the Solicitor to please prepare a draft credit card policy for us to review. Tim, I don't know if you want to talk further about that.

Mr. Wachter: This is an issue that came up with another client that was audited by MaherDuessel and I asked MaherDuessel if they had a sample credit card policy that would be appropriate for that organization. They said they did. I've asked Mr. Wood to ask MaherDuessel from the Gaming Authority if they had a sample credit card policy. He has and

there has been no response. So, rather than recreate the wheel for something that exists, we've asked the auditor for something that they would find to be acceptable.

Mr. Peters: I would hope that we will take action on that next month unless any of my colleagues on this Authority Board would differ with that idea; I'd like to just continue to ask Tim to work with Perry and MaherDuessel to get us something that we can all just vote on next month for the policy.

4. Draft Budget: The next thing I had asked Perry to put on the agenda was a draft budget. I took a stab at what I thought the budget should be. Typically, we vote on this at our April meeting. Since I've been on this Board, long before I was the Treasurer, it was sort of policy that in March we would go through the budget and discuss it and then we would take action in April. In thinking about that a little bit, Tim and I talked about how the month ends our fiscal year and we likely need a continuing resolution to spend at current levels between April 1 and whenever the April Board meeting is that we vote on this.

With that as sort of a backdrop, I thought we could go through this. There are some line items that propose increases such as 62110 – Auditing Fees. That includes the MaherDuessel, and really, we're only adding three \$1,500 payments because we're doing the audit. If I read that proposal correctly, is that right Perry?

Mr. Wood: Yes. There would only be three because the fourth quarter is the audit.

Mr. Peters: Right. Anyway, that's how we got that number. I kept Government Relations as it was, Professional Services stays the same. Legal services we bumped up a bit because we've had an extensive number of right-to-know requests in the last several months and it does require some work on the Solicitor's part so, I propose that we nudge that up a bit. As we go through the next category of Facilities & Equipment, that budget number goes down a little bit. Office Administration - you see a few categories that go down a tiny bit based on our current spend levels.

The other thing that I thought we might want to consider talking about is you'll see I kept Salaries & Wages the same. We may want to consider an Executive Session and ask the staff to leave for discussion of that point, but for purposes of knowing that this Authority likes to participate in these conversations, we did not propose any sort of cost of living adjustment. I believe that the County has but I also know there are some differences in how the County did it – there were some “true-ups” and things that made it pretty complicated. I don't know if Mr. Leone has any comments on that. But I didn't propose any increases there.

I'm not sure how you guys want to proceed – if you guys want to talk about it line-by-line or I'm open to however you want to discuss it. But we would ask that we do our best to get our comments in on this to me, if you want to talk about it today, but if there are further things that come up, it would be ideal that we take action on this next month and consider a continuing resolution for the first few weeks of April.

Mr. Wachter: Mr. Peters, it appears the continuing resolution did not make the agenda. However, I believe Mr. Wood has the language if we could pull that up again to show the Board what the continuing resolution would say. It can be summarized by saying that it is merely an authorization for this Board and this Authority to continue spend levels at last year's budget on a proportionate basis until such time that the budget is adopted and this authorization would only go until the April 2018 meeting of the Board of Directors. Essentially,

this is just an authorization to continue spending at the usual and necessary levels for the next few weeks.

Mr. Peters: I would say that we have a reorganization next month when the Board positions have the potential to change. I would recommend to whoever is the new Treasurer that maybe we bump this up and go through the draft budget in February and then vote on it in March, rather than having those sort of dangling few weeks that we're dealing with. I went back and looked at it's just the way this Board has done it for years and I think it's just one of those things that as we mature, it's probably a good idea to correct that.

I'm open to talking to the budget in general. My recommendation is that if we're going to discuss staff compensation that we call an Executive Session.

Mr. Lee: Mr. Peters, under the auditing fees, I know you covered MaherDuessel. Are there any other expenses because it is going up by \$4,500 and that's about a 40% increase? Are there any other fees associated with that?

Mr. Peters: It's the \$1,500 times three. The full-on audit is more expensive but that, in essence, covers that fourth quarter.

Ms. Wyrosdick: Just a question regarding employee compensation. Is there a process by which the employees are annually evaluated, such as a performance review?

Mr. Peters: There is a Personnel Committee. I don't recall who does that.

Mr. Paris: Dave Yapple was in charge of that.

Mr. Peters: He was the Chair of the Personnel Committee.

Mr. Wood: Short answer is yes, there is an evaluation process in place.

Ms. Wyrosdick: During that evaluation, is there a recommendation that then comes from the committee?

Mr. Wood: There has been in the past.

Mr. Sample: I don't know if you want to go into an Executive Session but I'd like to propose that there at least be a cost-of-living in Wages & Salaries.

Mr. Peters: Mr. Leone, I haven't been able to follow completely. Is the County doing a COLA (cost of living adjustment) this year or is it different because of – I know there was a consultant that came in and recommended some changes on how to deal with payroll and things. I'd love to just learn.

Mr. Leone: I think we've been through that more than once; it's been about two or three times of having a consultant come in. Our IT office can certainly help you with a lot of what you're talking about as far as the budget itself is concerned. I think that your plan to hire somebody in that particular area to do quarterly reports helps in any type of transparency as far as this department is concerned. I don't have all the particulars; I'd have to go to the IT department to

find out just exactly what they've done and how they've done it. I think they've done an excellent job.

Even our budget, when we have budget sessions, if the department comes in and let's say they need another employee, they spell out the reason why they need the employee, what the cost of the employee is, how much more we have to put in the budget for that particular employee. Every issue is pretty well spelled out. By the time you're done, there are no questions on a \$406 million-dollar budget. That's a pretty extensive set-up as far as. We get a budget disc every year and it's updated every couple of months because as we spend, there are changes in spending patterns and what goes on as far as spending. I don't know what they recommended in that particular area.

Mr. Peters: Do you know, Mr. Lee?

Mr. Lee: At the last meeting it was suggested that this particular Board reach out and find out what the County's IT process is, as far as what Mr. Leone is referring to as far as record keeping and being transparent. I provided Mr. Wood with the information to Mr. Freeman who is the director of our IT; perhaps Mr. Wood can comment on the communication that he and Mr. Freeman had.

I will comment on this and will be very brief but in reference to the County as far as cost of living, as you know, we deal with 1,200 employees. Of the 1,200 employees, approximately 800 are what we call bargaining Union employees and the other 400 are non-bargaining which would essentially be management. Where we are currently, we are going in to negotiations in the later part of the summer or early fall, and traditionally what has transpired – and this is not what you have to do – whatever percentage for the increase for the bargaining employees, we typically translate that for non-bargaining employees. That is not a written rule; there have been years when the bargaining unit received an increase and the non-bargaining, which is management, did not. That's at the total, complete discretion of the County Executive for the non-bargaining. But traditionally we follow that route.

The last four years I can speak from 2014 until today, it was 3% for each year. What is going to happen in 2019, that is to be determined through our negotiations. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

Mr. Peters: Thank you both. We can come back to the software and technology part later but I was hoping that we could talk about the budget itself.

Mr. Sample: I would still propose that we put a cost of living increase in there.

Ms. Presta: Mr. Chairman, when does the annual performance review take place?

Mr. Sample: Because Mr. Yaple was in charge of that, we're going to have to proceed with that. I would say as soon as possible.

Mr. Peters: Do you recall what month Mr. Yaple would hold those?

Mr. Wood: We wouldn't do it every single year. I think that two years ago was the last time we did it. We did it pretty steady and then we stopped doing it at some point.

Mr. Peters: This is a working Board that has to do that. Whoever the Chairperson is of that committee has to make sure that that happens because Perry can't do the review of himself. It's a little different because there is no structure other than Perry.

Mr. Wood: I have templates based upon Executive Director reviews of best practices from non-profits and it typically starts with an Executive Director doing a self-review and then members of the Personnel Committee doing an Executive Director review in conjunction. Then both results go to the committee for discussion purposes and typically that committee publishes a report for the rest of the Board.

Compensation, historically, is not part of the assessment. Some HR experts will tell you that it's not a good idea to link non-profit compensation to that employee review. That's more in alignment with whether or not the employee is achieving the strategic goals of the organization in the form of the strategic plan. Folks in the HR community are on both sides of that.

Mr. Peters: While I think those are good and solid questions, I'm looking at it, as the Treasurer, purely as a whether we go forward with that expense at some point later or not, again that's up to the Board. I guess I need some direction from my colleagues as to whether we want to even consider budgeting for that.

Mr. Sample: I think it's important that we put it into the budget; it may not come to fruition but I think we need to budget for it. Are there any other feelings on that?

Mr. Wachter: Is there a Personnel Committee at this time, Mr. Sample?

Mr. Sample: No. Mr. Yapple was in charge of that.

Mr. Wachter: From a process standpoint, would it make sense to reconstitute that Personnel Committee, put something in the budget so you have an allowance expenditure, but note the fact that the Personnel Committee should come up with those reports and a recommendation. If you get it done by April, great; if you get it done by May you can determine at what point it would be effective.

Mr. Logue: Are we going to coordinate with whoever our accounting, if we are going to quarterly, to ensure that our council can weigh in on that also and maybe also have some ideas with respect to how to handle the compensation or whatever. Maybe we just need to hold off a little bit, find out who we're going to get for our quarterly audits, who's going to do that and then rely on them to be part of the Personnel Committee to help us through this.

Mr. Sample: I think we still need to put it into the budget. We don't want to be out of budget. If we don't award it, it doesn't happen.

Mr. Logue: We're kind of out of budget already with what Mr. Wood had sent us. (inaudible)

Mr. Sample: I'm sorry, Tony, but I can't hear you.

Mr. Logue: I think it's a good idea but (inaudible).



Mr. Barney: Excuse me. We had a problem down here hearing what was said, so could you repeat that, please?

Mr. Logue: I said that it's a good thought but it needs more discussion.

Mr. Sample: I'm just trying to get it into the budget; I'm not saying that it's going to be awarded.

Mr. Peters: Just to clarify what I'm hoping for is that we do need to take action on it by the end of next month. This is something that I put together and need weigh-in from everybody. If you'd like me to consider changes to any of these line items, if you think we're missing anything, if there are questions that you have, I would just respectfully request that you send me a note or give me a call with any questions or concerns that you have with the budget. I tried to hold this pretty tight in comparison to this past year. If I can't answer something now, feel free to shoot me an email or something. Ideally, at next month's meeting, we're either going to enter into another continuing resolution next month or we're going to take action on a budget. It has been customary that we would take action next month.

Mr. Sample: Any other questions of the budget?

- b. Regional Assets Committee: Mr. Wood: It hasn't met as a committee but the Mission Main Street as a grant program is on your agenda today.
- c. Strategic Planning Committee: Mr. Paris: We have nothing to report.
- d. Update from County Council: Dr. Foust is not present.
- e. Update from County Executive's Office: Mr. Lee: Mr. Chairman, in the essence of time I will provide an update at our next meeting. Thank you.

### REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Mr. Wood: I will try to expedite my comments as well. You'll see in front of you that you have a hard copy of the draft version of the Annual Report. The Annual Report comes out this time every year and we ask the Board to formally accept it into record at the April reorganization meeting. The purpose of the Annual Report is to list in detail the expenditures of the Authority, especially in the terms of the five Impact Areas that we have selected.

You also have a copy of the draft operations budget in front of you. The Board has been working with the Treasurer on that document. Then I want to go into the grant programs that are currently on the agenda to see if anybody has any further questions. I'll do staff evaluation of the Pilot Project that is in front of us based upon the questions that we ask ourselves internally.

Physician's Health Network, which is a school-based health center, we're going to ask you to take that off of the records and we will explain why. Then if there are any questions about the Ridge Policy Group update in terms of what is next.

Let's start with Special Events. We're going to ask you today in the form of a resolution to award Special Events in the amount of \$172,745 to 45 non-profits. We received approximately \$250,000 in requests. There are numerous events throughout the year that these funds support for the 45 non-profits, most of which have multiple events that they are supporting. We did deem two events ineligible in the staff review process. We modified about

half of the budgets that came in based upon inaccuracies or reviews that were inconsistent with our guidelines. There were two non-profits that reached that \$20,000 cap, which were Presque Isle Partnership and Roar on the Shore.

Municipal Collaboration funding was created in 2012; we are recommending that, this month, we open it up for the fourth time. Back in 2012 there was a lot of research that went in to this grant. We did an evaluation in 2014 to see how things were going. We have had 38 out of 39 municipalities throughout Erie County that have somehow participated in this type of grant-funding.

Mr. Peters: Who is the one who hasn't?

Mr. Wood: I believe it's Elk Creek Township. Just a reminder how this works – municipal collaboration's whole purpose is for functional cooperation from municipalities; it's new creative ways for municipalities to work together to split services. Things like municipal-merger consolidation and municipal study services are all eligible. These are creative ways that they can work together. We debated whether or not to continue this program at the end of last year in Strategic Planning and the Board did decide to go forward with it. The staff is recommending that we open this up; it's in the form of a resolution.

Next is Neighborhoods & Communities as an Impact Area and we're hoping this is going to expand. Typically, it has been focused simply on main streets all throughout Erie County. Eleven or so main streets have participated in the last several years in that grant funding cycle. We are recommending that Mission Main Street be open again for this year, beginning in October, being closed in December, and being awarded in January of next year in the amount of \$150,000.

We are also recommending that this area includes Renaissance Block Program as well based upon the research and focus groups. And finally, the staff is recommending, based on Board input and based upon the County's Cultural Master Plan, that the Anchor Building Program begin as well. In order to support buildings for adaptive re-use purposes, it requires some type of gap-finance. That program is focused on non-profits, municipalities, and authorities. These are the amounts we are requesting for funding; Anchor Building – two years to draw down \$350,000; Renaissance Block – two years to draw down \$500,000; and Mission Main Street – one year (being next fiscal year 2018-19).

Anticipating the Anchor Building and Renaissance Block would be over a two-year period recognizes two things. Number one, the programs are new and there is going to be an education process and workshop process that we will have to go through, but also some folks may not be ready for it right now. So, we may do two actual application processes, depending on what the reception is in the first round. We will keep the Board updated on that.

The Pilot Project consideration; you heard Daria present this morning. This would be the first Pilot Project that the Board is recommending since we moved to this title grant process taking place. And these are the questions we asked as a Board: Has the future of the public schools been documented through some type of public demand? The answer to this is Yes. Does this request fall outside existing ECGRA programs? It does. Does this request bridge a gap with other funding systems? The answer is Yes; there is no current system where someone else could make this type of thing or that we could participate in. Does this request fall within ECGRA's Strategic Planning criteria? Yes, it does; in Youth & Education. Does this request have an economic and community development focus? It does; in large portion what you saw in the presentation and in the written application is that they would like to align skills with what the local economy needs, they would like to align the education priorities with the region's economic and community development priorities. These alignments are really about getting young people graduated, getting them to college and getting them to be career-ready as the application requires.

The next question is, Does this request call for a purpose under the PA Economic & Development Financing Law? The answer is Yes. Does the applicant have a 1-to-1 match?

As you saw this morning, they have a 1-to-1 match simply with school district funding, but they probably have a 2-to-1 match based upon their other funding sources. So, staff is recommending that we move forward with this \$30,000 Pilot Project as per the milestones outlined in this description.

Grant reserve – the grant reserve report is a great way to track where we're at with multi-year drawdown funding. One of the things that we funded a couple of years ago was a school-based health center that was run by the Sarah Reed Children's Center at Wayne Middle School. We recently received a letter saying that that project is no longer going to move forward. So, I recommend that we take that \$100,000 off of the grant reserve.

Next, the Ridge Policy Group update; you'll see in the Executive Director's Report that there are two reports provided. First, is the activity of November 2017 – February 2018 in which we lay out specifically the steps taken by Ridge Policy on behalf of ECGRA and the mission we've given them for that period of time; it's there for your review. The second report is a specific activity report for the month of March. That March template is a little more detailed; that's the template that we're going to look to Ridge to do on a monthly basis and be able to provide to the Board at our meetings so we can clearly report out on a step-by-step basis what they did.

After you take a look at that, if you have any questions don't hesitate to contact me. Also, if there is something else you would like to see be a part of that. So far, they have included what they did as far as their action steps, the cost associated with the reporting to both State and Federal levels with their government relations activities, and communications between myself and Ridge Policy Group to show that there is back-and-forth communication, and finally, what is on deck and what is the next phase?

Impact Investing – I think this is something that has distinguished us a local government authority. It's when you make investments in the funders of small business. We've done this several times over the last seven years. This morning we talked about the Enterprise Development Fund; probably not the best example, but that is an example of a mission-driven revolving loan fund which makes investments in small businesses. We have invested in The Progress Fund, we have invested in Bridgeway Capital, we have invested in Ben Franklin. These are the types of entities that then take our funds, and through their due diligence process, they make investments in the private sector. This also insulates us from making investments in the private sector, which I think would be politically risky. We're in the process of opening that up again; I'll bring that back to you in April for consideration.

Exploration – what is exploration? We have talked about STEM on-and-off for the past several years. We've done a couple STEM pilot projects; we've learned a lot from that. I would say that it is still in the exploration phase as we move forward with the school district foundations. That has been a learning process for us – how to interact with school districts. The STEM stuff seems to resonate well with this Board of Directors. What I will do is I will continue to do research, we'll bring it to a Strategic Planning Committee meeting, bring it back to the Board along with the research, and have some dialogue of what it might look like.

ECGRA Legacy Endowment – I have presented on this a few times but we have yet to take the next steps with the dialogue there; primarily because I haven't gotten a lot of feedback on that. I will be looking for more feedback in the next month or two.

That concludes my report. Thank you.

Mr. Logue: Mr. Chairman, with respect to the school district Pilot Program – staff recommended \$30,000. Who on the Board did you also speak to about that? Is there a committee on the Board that you went to to come up with that \$30,000 figure? Or is that just you and Mr. Maggio and Tammi coming up with that amount?

Mr. Wood: That's the amount requested by Erie Public Schools.

Mr. Logue: Is there a committee on this Board that you went to?

Mr. Wood: No there's not. Just to clarify, this is the first time that we have opened this process up since we created that new set of grant guidelines and so if the Board would like to have a separate committee meeting to explore Pilot Projects, we certainly can do that.

Mr. Logue: It's on the agenda now. You probably should have thought about that beforehand.

Mr. Peters: It's not been our process typically. We had a pilot program for several years that we stopped doing when there were questions about the expenditure. At that time, instead of that being in our grant budget, it was in our operating budget and we just recently moved that. This is the process that has been followed in the past. Processes can be changed, Tony, but the process has been that Perry would come with an idea that someone had brought to him, we would discuss it – and we as a Board have discussed this concept, and then at some point if they meet the criteria and the Board feels like it's a good idea to move forward, then we would move forward. I am not in favor, personally, of creating a committee to review Pilot Projects that come along a few a year. I personally would prefer that we work through it at existing regularly scheduled meetings. At this point, our committee meetings, we do invite everybody to. I don't know if, for something that would only happen two or three times a year, if it makes sense to have another committee. There are only nine of us. That's just my personal opinion.

Mr. Logue: When I was on the Board before, we did have a couple of Pilot Projects and that's when they first came about and we discussed them. If you recall that. If you also recall about committee meetings, when I was last on the Board, you wanted to segregate those committee meetings to just members and wanted to exclude everybody else; if they weren't on that committee then they couldn't come. That's all in the past. I see where you've moved on from there. Thank you.

Mr. DiPaolo: Mr. Chair, I did have a couple questions only because of the fact that I am new here. The \$172,000 that you're going to give to these organizations, 42 of them, how do we determine who gets what? How is that done?

Mr. Wood: That is a great question. The Regional Asset Committee met several years ago and created a set of guidelines. That set of guidelines guides the staff in this process; that set of guidelines is passed every year by the Board. What we have typically done is we determine eligibility and award non-profits that qualify for Special Events a percentage of their budget.

If you look at the guidelines the way they are currently written, it allows non-profits to apply for up to 5% of their budget. Celebrate Erie, for example is run by a non-profit. CAFÉ would come in with their current budget, let's make it easy and say it's \$100,000, then they would apply for \$5,000 for their Special Events grant. That \$5,000 budget goes into the cumulative grant total; the staff reviews the grant to make sure that what they're spending it on is consistent with the guidelines and that it is calculated accurately. We often find calculation errors. Then we take a look at the total overall; we start with 5% and then we shave it down until it gets to an acceptable number. The \$172,000 is about what we did last year and that was about 3½%.

Mr. DiPaolo: I understand what you're talking about but the question is, you're giving it to 42 Special Events. What if there are 70 that apply? Who makes that determination would 42 get it?

Mr. Wood: So, 45 applied and 45 are receiving the grant.

Mr. DiPaolo: So, in this instance, everybody who applied, got it.

Mr. Wood: Yes, sir.

Mr. Sample: As long as they qualify. There have been times when they didn't qualify and they were set aside.

Mr. DiPaolo: Okay. Second question I have on Resolution Number 5, is there a reason why you put the Anchor, the Renaissance, and the Mission all in one? Shouldn't these be separated?

Mr. Wood: We could separate them. They are all part of the Impact Area that we call Neighborhoods & Communities, so that's why they were put together. They obviously can be separated out.

Mr. DiPaolo: I would like to see them separated if possible.

Mr. Wood: You would just need to make a motion.

Mr. Sample: We're not to that point yet, so you can do it then.

Ms. Wyrosdick: At our special meeting two weeks ago, we asked that a meeting with the Ridge Policy Group be set so we could set an agenda for them for next year. Do we have any idea when that will take place?

Mr. Wood: We did talk about that earlier. It has not been set yet, but we are looking to set that meeting for April.

Ms. Wyrosdick: I'm sorry. Thank you for clarifying.

Mr. DiPaolo: I have one more question, if I may; in regard to the school district's request. Naturally, a lot of you know that I just retired as a District Judge and I had seven schools in my area at one time over that last 24 years. The truancy situation that Erie County is out of control, at least in the city. Since I was in office, I had over 5,500 truancy cases in 24 years. Last year, in 2017, I had close to 600 truancy cases. Everything that this young lady, Daria, said today with kids not graduating, kids not understanding what's going on in school, drop-outs, she is 1,000% right. I have worked with the school district for many, many years in regard to this problem, not only with that but the discipline that there are problems in school with. I would like, if at all possible and I don't know if we can do this or not, but I would like to bump that \$30,000 to \$50,000.

Here is my reason for doing that. You give money to Empower Erie, if I'm correct; \$400,000 for a community college that might not even become a community college. That's number one. You've given money to the Jefferson Society in the amount of \$400,000 for education. Well, I don't think there is any other organization for education than the Erie School District that needs that kind of money. That's my own preference. If at all possible, I would like to see that bumped up, if we can do it. If we can't, we can't.

Mr. Sample: Isn't that the amount they requested?

Mr. Wood: It is because their budget is based upon what the funds are that they are going to use.

Mr. Sample: Your point is well taken but we can encourage them to come back for other projects. But if that's the amount they requested . . .

Mr. Peters: With that said, if we gave them more they would just spend less of their money because they were in for like \$34,000. As long as we don't ever stray from our match requirement, we've always said, "If we give you \$50,000, you've got to match it with \$50,000." My thought is that if that proposal was made, if I'm reading the budget correctly, they would still be in compliance with our match. It's just that we would be spending a little bit more than the Community Foundation and the \$34,000 that they put up. Is that right?

Mr. Wachter: Mr. Peters, I am going to comment on this; please note that I am the Solicitor for the Erie School District. I don't get involved in who applies or reviewing applications for any project but I will say that the budget that was presented by Ms. Devlin is \$106,000 for the total project. There would be at least \$56,000 of other dollars spent that could be available for match.

Mr. Logue: Or if they wanted to, they could come and ask for supplemental something to help them out. That would be their option.

Mr. Wachter: If you were interested in opening that up as a Pilot Project. The concern, Mr. Logue, if we were to do that we would be setting a precedent of opening up Pilots for whomever, whenever, at whatever time. I just raised that because that is a concern.

Mr. Logue: Well, that would be up to them, if they wanted to come back.

Mr. Wachter: Then up to you as to whether you wanted to open it.

Mr. Sample: Correct.

Mr. Peters: Procedurally, couldn't that be done? Just like Mr. DiPaolo saying he wants to make a motion to separate these, he can make a motion to separate those; if he wants to make a motion to amend the resolution to \$50,000, procedurally, he could do that?

Mr. Wachter: Procedurally, he could do that. Yes.

Mr. DiPaolo: Thank you.

Mr. Peters: Can I ask one more question? This goes back to the continuing resolution.

### SOLICITOR'S REPORT

Mr. Wachter: That is part of my report. As I had indicated earlier, the continuing resolution was not part of the agenda. If this Board wanted to consider the continuing resolution under New Business, I would suggest you take a motion to amend the agenda to include the continuing resolution for the period of the few weeks in April.

The second item is something that I previously disclosed; there are many entities that my firm represents that receive money. The Erie School District is my client and they have an application before you as we have discussed today. As legal counsel, I do not get involved in reviewing applications, receiving applications, advising on applications, nor do I make recommendations for approval or not. I'm just here to approve whether the process is legal and I wanted that to get on the record.

Mr. Peters: Since I had specifically elected to have that continuing resolution be on the agenda, I would like to make a motion that we amend the agenda to include, as New Business, acceptance of the continuing resolution.

Mr. Barney seconds that motion. Motion carries 9-0.

## OLD BUSINESS

### a. Review of Knowledge Park lease

Mr. DiPaolo: I had asked Perry for that be put on the agenda. I know we had talked about it a couple months ago in regard to the amount of money that we are paying for that. I talked with Mr. Leone, I talked with Mr. Lee, I talked with Mrs. Dahlkemper in regard to possibly continuing a month-to-month lease here at Knowledge Park with the understanding that they are looking into different places where ECGRA could be housed at; an area that would naturally have plenty of parking so we don't have to worry about parking.

Mrs. Dahlkemper informed me that they are looking at a couple of places downtown in Erie; basically, they're just looking at this particular time. They would like to see if in fact we could do a month-to-month lease here and then determine later on, if in fact they can't find anything, then we can go back to a yearly lease with Knowledge Park. That's the reason why I asked that this be on the agenda. If anybody has any comments.

Mr. Paris: What would the cost be?

Mr. DiPaolo: They don't know. They're looking at different places right now and they haven't talked about that. Maybe Mr. Lee can fill you in on that.

Mr. Lee: You're absolutely right, Mr. DiPaolo. We're considering and it's a moving target. One of the things is the County remains committed to cost and making sure that it's feasible. We have a budget that we have identified that we want to stay in. But as of right now, it continues to be a moving target.

Mr. Logue: Mr. Chair, are we on a month-to-month already up here?

Mr. Sample: I was going to ask the same thing.

Mr. Wood: I believe it expires in May.

Mr. Logue: Then we revert to month-to month?

Mr. Sample: I am not aware of that; I don't know how the lease is written.

Mr. Wachter: If I can ask Mr. Wood to send me a copy of the lease to review and determine if month-to-month is available under that lease. I can get an answer for you.

Mr. Sample: And the other answer that would be important would be if the County did find a building, what would be the time frame be to convert that so that we could go to a year lease, or something like that. But I think that needs further investigation.

Mr. DiPaolo: Before you do that, I would like to make a motion that we go to a month-to-month lease instead of a yearly lease.

Mr. Sample: Maybe we can do that in May.

Mr. DiPaolo: However you want to do it. But in any lease, and Council knows this, nine times out of ten when the lease expires it goes month-to-month until you determine what you want to do.

Mr. Sample: Once that gets reviewed we'll know.

Mr. DiPaolo: That's fine. We can wait until May.

Mr. Sample: Well, we'll do it in April.

b. Financial Disclosure page

Mr. Logue: Mr. Chair, I sent an email to Perry back on March 1<sup>st</sup> of this year; I actually started speaking about his in January when I first came back on this Board. Perry eluded to it, Mr. Leone eluded to it; the website is terrible. First of all, you have people who have to log in to get something back in order to review that and even the way it's structured is terrible. I asked Perry to liaison with the County IT person and I don't know if he had. If he did, I would like to see some of that. I also asked that our website person be here; is that person here?

Mr. Wood: No, our website person isn't here.

Mr. Logue: Well it seems that now it's - January, February, March – 90 days. I don't know how much longer this process can take. It seems like it would just be a matter of having us tweak and the IT person for the County and I think even Mr. Lee spoke about that too. If safety problems are a concern here, I think (loud noise covers what is said). I'd like to see these people up here next month, I'd like to talk to them, and I don't think this is a big thing to ask for, to have them here.

Mr. Wood: Let's get the specifics here on the record. So, I did talk to the director of IT at the County and he explained to me how we can protect ourselves by putting financial data on our website. So, we took that advice, we took down the two-step authentication process that you're referring to and we put up reports that are consistent with what he determined to be IT security-consistent with what the County does. If you go to the website now, you can get the Profit & Loss statement without going through the authentication process that you're referring to.

The second thing was you said that our website is terrible. Why is our website terrible, Tony?

Mr. Logue: I don't know but I'd like to have those people here. Mr. Lee, maybe you could have the IT person come up here and

Mr. Wood: I'm not sure what an IT person would say about our website being terrible. Our website is a combination of information that has been collected and aggregated and is probably the best Authority website in Erie County.



Mr. Logue: Thank you, but Mr. Lee is there a possibility of having the IT person come up here and speak to this Board about whatever discussion he had with Perry and then any input that he gave him. Obviously, my March 1<sup>st</sup> email fell on deaf ears; I never knew that Mr. Wood had corresponded with the IT person. Is that possible that we could have him come here to the next meeting?

Mr. Lee: I would defer to the Board Chairperson for this. The reason why is, Mr. Freeman who does an excellent job with not only our website but everything else with the County IT. To answer your question Mr. Logue, I really want it to come from the Chairperson as far as what does the Board want and I can go from there.

Mr. Sample: To me, it has been taken care of. The two-step process has been taken down so I don't know what having that person come in would do.

Mr. Logue: It appears you're trying to hide something and if you don't want to have this person could come in and speak to us . . .

Mr. Sample: One problem we've got, and maybe we've got to adjourn and come back into session, is we've got people out there that are here for a 10:00 event. I personally take offense when you say we're trying to hide something. It was recommended before that we put up some type of structure so that our – and I'm going to use the wrong word – but so we couldn't be scrubbed. We went to that effort, you had a concern that we were not transparent enough. Perry has been in contact with the IT person at the County, he gave them suggestion as to what we should remove. That has been removed and there is no longer a two-step process.

Mr. Logue: Mr. Chair, what would you think just assuming these facts as hypothetical, someone sends you an email asking for this type of information saying what the problems are and you go ahead and do something, wouldn't you think out of common courtesy you would email back that person who sent you that email out of concern saying, "This has now been corrected. We did this, this, and this" instead of not saying nothing. What do you think about that, Mr. Chair?

Mr. Sample: I don't know how I would feel about that.

Mr. Wood: Mr. Chair, I would recommend that Mr. Logue send an email to myself and cc the Board on it telling us why the website is terrible and therefore we can review it in a pragmatic manner step-by-step and decide how to fix that website.

## NEW BUSINESS

a. Is there a motion to approve the 2017-18 Annual Report?

Mr. Paris makes a motion to accept the report. Mr. Barney seconds the motion. Motion carries 9-0.

b. Discussion of 2018-19 Officers

Mr. Sample: I know that Perry had sent out an email requesting some recommendations. I would recommend that Mr. Paris become the Chair; he's been the Vice-Chair for two years.

Mr. Wachter: Mr. Logue had mentioned to me earlier today, and I checked the by-laws, that those recommendations and nominations should be made at the Annual Meeting which should be held within the first ten days of April. I believe, at this point, if we were to establish a process and provide a notification that nominations would be taken at the next meeting or however it is that you come about to do the officers, but that would be the appropriate way and we would leave the nomination of officers to the Annual Meeting.

Mr. Sample: If the meeting is supposed to take place in the first ten days of April, we're going to have to move our April meeting.

Mr. Wachter: You'll have to reschedule the April meeting.

Mr. Sample: I propose that nominations or intentions be forwarded.

Mr. Wachter: According to by-laws, Mr. Chairman, the Chairman would preside over the nomination of new officers and then whoever would be elected Chair at that point would continue after that process is complete.

Mr. Peters: So, the nomination is from the floor. Theoretically we're at this meeting and I say, "I make a motion that Mike Paris be the Chair or Lisa Presta be the Chair." There would either be a second or there wouldn't, there would be a vote.

Mr. Wachter: The way that it would work is the Chair would call for nominations; if you were to nominate Mr. Paris first and there would be a second or if Mr. Logue were to nominate Ms. Wyrosdick and there would be a second and there would be no further nominations, then there would be a motion to close nominations. The Chair would then take the nominations in the order in which they were received. You would call for the vote on Mr. Paris; if the majority was not received then you would move on to Ms. Wyrosdick. If a majority was received, she would be the Chair, but if not, you would proceed through each one of the nominations until you got to the end. Then at that point you would continue with the Vice-Chair and other officers or if the Board would so wish or desire, you could do it as a slate.

Mr. Peters: I remember in the past talking to Tony about this. People tend to nominate in slate so that's viable if someone wants to but it is not required.

Mr. Wachter: That's correct.

Mr. Peters: It might make the whole thing more streamlined if there is going to be a lot of discussion about who is going to do what, maybe it makes sense to at least consider doing individual nominations. I don't know if that complicates it or makes it easier. I guess we can decide next month. I guess we'll wait and see who makes what nominations.

Mr. Sample: The big thing is getting the April meeting moved.

Mr. Barney: Question pertaining to the ten days; it would still have to be on a Thursday, which means it would have to be on April 5<sup>th</sup>. Is that what we're looking at? Because the next one is the 12<sup>th</sup> and our regularly scheduled meeting is the 19<sup>th</sup>, so we'd be meeting then on the 5<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Wachter: These are items of the by-laws; I mean it's not a fatal defect if you don't organize within the first ten days but the by-laws do state that you should organize in ten days.

Mr. Peters: What's the correct process if we wanted to move outside of that ten days? We are already scheduled for the 19<sup>th</sup>; what would the process be? I don't know about the rest of you but my schedule gets kind of tight; I have the 19<sup>th</sup> locked in. If there is a process by which we can do this without causing any issues, what would that be?

Mr. Wachter: You as a Board can govern your own compliance with the by-laws so, if the Board wanted to take a motion to set aside the ten-day requirement, I would say that that would be the process.

Mr. Peters: And that can happen mid-stream in this meeting?

Mr. Wachter: Much like you took a motion to amend the agenda, you could offer a motion. The first motion would be to amend the agenda for the purpose of the by-laws and then there would be a second vote on the ten-day clause in the by-laws.

Mr. Peters make a motion to amend the agenda. Ms. Wyrosdick seconds the motion. Motion carries 9-0.

Mr. Peters makes a motion to set aside the by-laws ten-day clause for the annual meeting and instead move that to the 19<sup>th</sup> for the regularly scheduled meeting. Ms. Wyrosdick seconds the motion.

Mr. Sample: Is there any discussion of that?

Mr. Logue: The publication of this meeting should be specific that it should relate to the election of officers so the public knows.

Mr. Peters: I would amend my motion, if I can do that, to include that we add another public notice just to clarify.

Mr. Sample: Ms. Wyrosdick, is your second inclusive of that?

Ms. Wyrosdick: It does.

Motion carries 9-0.

Mr. Wachter: Would you like to enter the Continuing Resolution at this time?

Mr. Wood: No. We'll make it Number 8 to keep it in order, please. Thank you.

c. Review of Draft Budget

Mr. Sample: I'm assuming we're past the Draft Budget?

Mr. Peters: We're not taking any action on it today.

- d. Resolution Number 4, 2018 – Resolution to enter in to agreement with the Erie County Special Events Grant applicants.

Mr. Wood reads the resolution.

Mr. Sample: Is there any discussion on that?

Ms. Presta: Mr. Chair, just for the record, I provided on March 20, 2018 a memorandum to Mr. Wood and our Solicitor that I am abstaining from voting on this Resolution given the representation of 20 (twenty) of the 45 recipients by my law firm. Those are identified in the memorandum and I ask that it be attached to the minutes of this meeting.

Mr. Barney makes a motion to approve Resolution Number 4, 2018. Mr. Paris seconds the motion. Motion carries 8-0-1 (with Ms. Presta abstaining).

- e. Resolution Number 5, 2018 –

Mr. DiPaolo: Mr. Chair, I would like to make an amendment to this, please. I would like to have it separated for Anchor Building, Mission Main Street, and Renaissance Block to have each individual one instead of all three.

Mr. Wachter: Mr. DiPaolo, is your motion to separate any one particular program or to separate all three?

Mr. DiPaolo: Separate all three.

Mr. Wachter: Mr. Chair, should that motion should receive a second and be approved, I would suggest that Resolution Number 5, 2018 be separated as Number 5A to reflect Anchor Building, 5B to reflect Mission Main Street, and 5C to reflect Renaissance Block as three individual guidelines. Would that be appropriate, Mr. DiPaolo?

Mr. DiPaolo: Yes. Thank you.

Mr. Wachter: So, you would need a second on the request to separate that Resolution.

Mr. Logue: I second the motion.

Motion carries 9-0.

Mr. Wachter: Then you would need to call for a vote on 5A which is the Anchor Building Guidelines.

Ms. Wyrosdick makes a motion to approve Resolution Number 5A – Resolution to adopt the 2018 Anchor Building Grant Guidelines. Mr. Paris seconds the motion.

Mr. Sample: Is there any discussion?

Ms. Presta: I want to ask if Ms. Wyrosdick had an opportunity in reading together the Anchor Building Program with the Renaissance Block Program to provide some input on the guidelines.

Ms. Wyrosdick: I did. I spent about an hour reviewing all of the grant guidelines. I sent Mr. Wood some questions just to get some more clarity on what would constitute an Anchor Building and what projects might be eligible and he responded. Mr. Wachter responded to some other questions I had as well. I was confident in the responses that I received.

A little background – when I was with the County we completed a Cultural Heritage Plan for the County and one of the priority recommendations of that plan was there was a need for local technical assistance for someone to help (inaudible) to do an inventory to understand what these historic assets are. I had not been party to the development of the Anchor Building guidelines but after reading them, I saw that this could be an opportunity to provide some local technical assistance for some of our historic buildings. I had not had those conversations with ECGRA during the development but I was confident in the guidelines as proposed, with some clarifications.

Ms. Presta: Thank you.

Mr. Sample: Is there any other discussion?

Mr. Logue: Mr. Chair, with respect to the Anchor Building. Is that, it's not really clear to me when reading it, with respect to fighting blight, that is?

Mr. Wachter: Yes.

Mr. Wood: The program is effectively an adaptive reuse program of existing buildings.

Mr. Logue: We had T.J. King here at the last meeting and he spoke to us about Bridgeway Capital and what they do and such. I had asked him specifically, and you can find it in the minutes here, I asked him, "If someone comes to you for direct lending, like if Marquette or Northwest had said "Sorry, I can't help you" they have an idea that it's a blighted property. Instead of that blighted property being torn down, they come to you and ask for the funding. Some of that funding, that if you okay for that individual for that blighted property, comes from ECGRA; some of this money for this blighted property and you assist that person." He says, "Yes, we would. We've had two facilities with ECGRA; one was for \$100,000 grant to support the Erie Urban Entrepreneur Loan Program. Those are loans typically \$15,000 and under to \$1 million to support lending facility worth lending opportunities throughout Erie County. We used quite a bit of that money to fund projects directly." I then responded, "So, this Board is already helping blighted properties throughout Erie County." Mr. King responded and said, "By working with us through specific loans, yes."

So, we have Bridgeway Capital, the City wants to start a land bank to handle blighted properties, the County wants to do that. How many blighted properties assistance do we have going on now? Mr. Chair?

Mr. Wood: Mr. Chair, Bridgeway Capital is designed to make loans to for-profit businesses and this Anchor Building grant is designed to serve non-profits, municipalities and authorities in gap financing.

Mr. Sample: Any other comments? We've got a motion and we've got a second.

Motion carries 7-2, with Mr. Logue and Mr. DiPaolo voting in the negative.

Mr. Sample: Resolution Number 5B, 2018 – Resolution to adopt the 2018 Mission Main Street Grant Guidelines.

Mr. Barney makes a motion to approve Resolution 5B. Ms. Wyrosdick seconds the motion. Motion carries 9-0.

Mr. Sample: Resolution Number 5C, 2018 – Resolution to adopt the 2018 Renaissance Block Grant Guidelines.

Ms. Wyrosdick make a motion to approve Resolution 5C. Ms. Presta seconds the motion.

Mr. Sample: Is there any discussion?

Mr. DiPaolo: Mr. Chair, the reason I wanted these to be separated along with the Anchor is I have to agree with Mr. Logue. County Council voted to take that \$1 million and have their land bank in the County. Naturally, ECGRA wanted it at that one particular time. I think that's all this is, is the back door of the land bank; it's for blight. You can't look at blight any other way than basically what it is. I don't think we should be involved in it, especially with the fact that the County Council basically stated that they would take over the land bank in conjunction with the City and whatever they're going to do. I don't feel that we should be in it and that's the reason I asked for that to be separated. Thank you.

Mr. Sample: Thank you. Any other discussion? We have a motion; we have a second.

Motion carries 6-3, with Mr. Bagnoni, Mr. Logue, and Mr. DiPaolo voting in the negative.

f. Resolution Number 6, 2018 – Resolution to adopt the 2018-19 Multi-Municipal Collaboration Grant Guidelines.

Mr. Wood reads the resolution.

Mr. Peters makes a motion to approve the Resolution. Mr. Paris seconds the motion. Motion carries 9-0.

g. Resolution Number 7, 2018 – Resolution to enter into agreement with the Erie Public Schools.

Mr. DiPaolo: Mr. Chairman, as I stated before with the explanation I gave, I would like to amend this resolution to give the city school district – to up their number that they're looking for from \$30,000 to \$50,000 – if the Board would so.

Mr. Sample: Did you want that to be up to \$50,000 or a set \$50,000?

Mr. DiPaolo: Set at \$50,000.

Mr. Barney seconds the motion.

Mr. Sample: Is there any discussion?

Mr. Wood: I will just go on record as saying that I think it's a really bad idea for someone to come in and ask us for funds and for us to say, "We really like you" or "We really want to support you more than you've asked us and therefore we're going to arbitrarily, and that's the key word here – arbitrarily – increase the amount of funding." We've never done this before. I think it's ground-breaking, precedent-setting activity and I think it's highly risky. Thank you.

Mr. Sample: As I stated before, I think that we should award them the \$30,000 and make them aware that if they need more, we are certainly open to that. I also don't think it's a good idea to over-fund. Any other discussion?

Mr. Peters: I think it's a tough call. Mr. DiPaolo's idea – I think we all get excited in these meetings and I think it's solid to want to do something because the school district is struggling but I absolutely see Perry's point. It's tough. We've never once done that. It's a tough one. I respect both Mr. DiPaolo's and Mr. Wood's comments.

Ms. Wyrosdick: I agree as well. I would encourage Erie's Public Schools to come back and request additional funding if they feel comfortable. But to arbitrarily increase or suggest that they receive additional funding beyond what they requested, I would suggest that there is a reason to the amount that they requested and that we honor their request if we support the application. I absolutely support their success; I think it's phenomenal. I've been part of their strategic planning core sessions. The gentleman they have facilitating is some of the best I have ever seen. Hopefully they will come back to ECGRA and request additional funding, hopefully to implement their strategic plan which is engaging for Erie County. But I do agree that I think it would be inappropriate to arbitrarily increase their funding.

Mr. Peters: That's a great point. When they come back to implement, they may need a bigger chunk.

Ms. Wyrosdick: That is what I suspect.

Mr. Sample: I apologize but did we have a motion and a second?

Mr. Peters: We have a motion and a second. The motion was to increase the amount.

Mr. Sample: Is there any more discussion?

Mr. Wood: This is the motion to increase to \$50,000.

Motion fails 3-5-1, with Mr. Paris, Mr. Peters, Ms. Presta, Ms. Wyrosdick, and Mr. Sample voting in the negative; Mr. Logue abstains).

Mr. Logue: I have a conflict so I am going to have to abstain. Our counsel will prepare a memo and have that attached to the minutes.

Mr. Wachter: The conflict for Mr. Logue is that he does have a representation of the Erie School District.

Mr. Logue: Thank you.

Mr. Sample: Do we have a motion to approve for the \$30,000?

Mr. Peters makes a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Ms. Presta seconds the motion. Motion carries 8-0-1 (with Mr. Logue abstaining).

h. Resolution Number 8, 2018 – Resolution to adopt a continuing budget.

Mr. Paris makes a motion to approve the resolution. Mr. Barney seconds the motion. Motion carries 9-0.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

There are no announcements at this time.

### ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Peters moves to adjourn. Mr. Barney seconds the motion.