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1 STATE OF INDIANA)
)SS:

2 COUNTY OF ALLEN)

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7 BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
 OF THE COUNTY OF ALLEN

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RE: LEGISLATIVE SESSION OF
SEPTEMBER 7, 2005

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DATE: September 7, 2005

15

TIME: 10:04 a.m.

16

LOCATION: Room 200
 Commissioners Courtroom
 City-County Building
 1 East Main Street
 Fort Wayne, Indiana 46802

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REPORTER: Rhonda M. Mullholand

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1 PRESENT:
2 Linda K. Bloom Allen County Commissioner
3 Marla J. Irving Allen County Commissioner
4 Nelson Peters Allen County Commissioner
5
6 Susan Elser Allen County Board of
 Commissioners' Office

7 Mary Hitchens Allen County Public
Information Department

8

John McGauley Allen County Public
Information Department

10

Bob Lee Allen County Treasurer

11

Steve Poulson Allen County Community
Corrections

13 Jane Howard Verizon, Inc.

14 Mike Fitch Allen County Highway
Department

15

Bruce Little Allen County Purchasing
Department

17 Michelle Wood Allen County Department of
Planning Services

18

19 G. William Fishering Allen County Counsel

20 Ron Smith GAI

21 Dan Avery Northeast Indiana Regional
Coordinating Counsel

22

Tony Burrus Allen County Department of
Safety & Security

24

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1 Thanos Genos Allen County Resident/
U.S. Marines

2

Vicki Cook Allen County Resident

3

4 Cindy Larson News-Sentinel

5 Ben Lanka Journal-Gazette

6 Rhonda M. Mullholand Rolf Reporting, Inc.

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19 7. Approve preliminary engineering
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1 BLOOM: Good morning and welcome to the
2 Commissioners' Legislation Session of September 7th.
3 First, we're going to honor our country, and a prayer
4 for our country today.

5 (At this time, the Pledge of Allegiance
6 is recited, followed by a moment of
7 silence.)

8 BLOOM: Thank you. Approval of the minutes of August
9 31st.

10 PETERS: I make a motion to approve the minutes of
11 August 31st.

12 IRVING: I'll second that.

13 BLOOM: All in favor signify by saying "aye."

14 PETERS: Aye.

15 IRVING: Aye.

16 BLOOM: Aye. The adoption of the 2030 Transportation
17 Plan.

18 IRVING: Commissioner Bloom, this was presented by
19 Dan Avery at the last meeting, and I think we've all
20 had a chance to review it--

21 PETERS: Uh-huh (affirmative).

22 IRVING: --so, I would like to make a motion that we
23 accept the 2030 Transportation Plan.

24 PETERS: I'll second it.

25 BLOOM: All in favor signify by saying "aye."

0008

1 IRVING: Aye.

2 PETERS: Aye.

3 BLOOM: Aye. Approval of the Contract for
4 Auctioneering Services for the Treasurer's Tax Sale.

5 Good morning, Bob.

6 LEE: Well, good morning.

7 IRVING: Good morning.

8 LEE: Thank you. Well, Bob Lee, and I serve as Allen
9 County Treasurer. This years the tax sales is going

10 to be one of the largest we've ever had, mainly

11 because of the delays we had last year in

12 reassessment we didn't have a tax sale last year.

13 So, we're still sitting at about 3,000 properties

14 right now for the tax sale.

15 So, we would like from the tax sale fee fund,

16 the fees that are charged to the people who are in

17 tax sale, to hire an auctioneering to conduct the

18 sale. That will help free myself, and my staff, up

19 to handle issues during the day of the sale and let

20 the auctioneering--auctioneer do the actual

21 conducting of the sale.

22 I solicited bids, and I would like you to

23 approve a services contract for Radabaugh Auctioneers

24 to conduct the sale.

25 BLOOM: Was this the low bid?

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1 LEE: This was the low bid.

2 BLOOM: All right.

3 IRVING: I make a motion that we approve the
4 contract, it's a two and a half day contract, is that
5 correct, Bob?

6 LEE: Right,, it's a per hour--\$30.00 per hour, was
7 --was the low bid.

8 IRVING: Okay.

9 BLOOM: Okay.

10 LEE: I guarantee we'll go through two days. We're--
11 we're also reserved for a third day, if we need it.

12 But, it will be \$30.00 an hour for him and an
13 assistant.

14 PETERS: But, because those guys talk fast, we
15 probably won't be into a fourth day.

16 LEE: Well, I was wondering about--I thought about
17 that. It's a per hour contract, and the faster they
18 talk, the--the less they make, so--

19 PETERS: You got it.

20 LEE: --I--yes, I've taken that under consideration.

21 IRVING: I'll now make a motion that we accept the
22 bid from Radabaugh for up to three days.

23 PETERS: I'll second it.

24 BLOOM: All in favor signify by saying "aye."

25 IRVING: Aye.

0010

1 PETERS: Aye.

2 BLOOM: Aye.

3 LEE: Thank you very much.

4 BLOOM: Thank you, Bob.

5 LEE: I will get the contract to Council as soon as
6 possible.

7 IRVING: Also, Bob, since we have not done this
8 before, and I know you have over 3,000 properties,
9 will you make sure that you give us an update as to
10 how it went, and how much time we saved, because it
11 might be something we want to continue to look at in
12 the future.

13 LEE: I sure will.

14 IRVING: Thank you.

15 BLOOM: You don't have that money appropriated

16 already?

17 LEE: It's "Come Tax Sale Fee Fund." It's the \$45.00
18 advertising fee--or, cost fee that is put on each
19 property at tax sale. So, this is going to be paid
20 from that, along with other costs of the sale.

21 BLOOM: Okay. Thank you.

22 LEE: All right.

23 BLOOM: Annual renewal of maintenance and support
24 agreement with BI, Inc. for Allen County Community
25 Corrections' electronic monitoring computer system.

0011

1 Good morning, Steve.

2 POULSON: Good morning.

3 PETERS: Good morning.

4 IRVING: Good morning, Steve.

5 POULSON: Steve Poulson. I'm the Center
6 Administrator with Allen County Community
7 Corrections. And, we're--Community Corrections is
8 asking that we have your okey dokey to renew our
9 annual maintenance and support contract with BI, Inc.

10 Actually, we're three months late on this.

11 BI overlooked the fact that our contract was up.

12 They contacted me and said, "We have a little
13 problem." We--

14 BLOOM: "You owe us some money," huh?

15 POULSON: --we've been with--no, actually what
16 they've done is, they said since it was their fault
17 that they would not charge us for those three months
18 --

19 PETERS: Oh, wow.

20 POULSON: --and assured us that, if anything had to
21 go wrong--had gone wrong at that time, that they
22 would have taken care of us. So--actually, I think
23 we saved about \$6,000.00.

24 BLOOM: I was going to ask, how much a month. Huh.

25 IRVING: Yeah, that's what it looks like.

0012

1 PETERS: And, that--and that contract is for
2 \$20,796.00?

3 POULSON: That's correct, sir.

4 PETERS: Okay. I'd make a motion that we approve the
5 annual renewal of maintenance and support agreement
6 with BI, Inc. for Allen County Community Corrections.

7 IRVING: I'll second that motion.

8 BLOOM: All in favor signify by saying "aye."

9 IRVING: Aye.

10 PETERS: Aye.

11 BLOOM: Aye.

12 POULSON: Thank you very much.

13 BLOOM: Thank you, Steve. Update on the Verizon STTP

14 Project.

15 IRVING: Good morning, Jane.

16 BLOOM: Good morning, Jane.

17 HOWARD: Hello.

18 IRVING: I'm lucky, I get to see you two days in a

19 row.

20 HOWARD: Yeah. I have show and tell, and I will be

21 very brief.

22 BLOOM: Oh, my word.

23 HOWARD: Well, the first--

24 BLOOM: Are you getting extra muscles here.

25 HOWARD: Yeah, I know. We've got to do something

0013

1 about that.

2 BLOOM: Wow.

3 HOWARD: Thank you for the opportunity to give you an

4 update. I would like to correct, it's the FTTP,

5 "Fiber To The Premises" Project, and--

6 BLOOM: FTTP.

7 HOWARD: --we have been underway for just under six

8 months. And, I'm very pleased to tell you that

9 things are going very well. Our construction crew is

10 about three weeks ahead of schedule--

11 IRVING: Great.

12 HOWARD: --which is wonderful. We have actually

13 connected eight employees to our fiber optic system.

14 This is the test phase for certain parts of the

15 community. I remind you that this is an 18 to 24

16 month project, so don't look at it as though we are

17 all done and ready to go. But, as part of our test

18 we have connected eight employees now, and I'm very

19 proud of our technicians and our staff that all of

20 those connections have gone very well. And, so we

21 are in the process of a testing facility.

22 We are now going around and talking to lots

23 of folks to gauge interest, for two reasons, one, we

24 want to make sure that we have the appropriate number
25 of technicians trained and fully capable of

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1 installing service when we go general availability in
2 early December; and, the other thing is that we don't
3 want to have any more cables laying on the frozen
4 ground over the winter than we have to, so we are
5 looking at burying cables from the curb, up to the
6 house, of those that are going to be interested.

7 And, I would like to leave behind with you some
8 information cards, if you have anyone--

9 BLOOM: Great.

10 HOWARD: --and fact sheets. And, I'd like to do a
11 show and tell very quickly, if I might.

12 IRVING: Okay. Do you need some help.

13 HOWARD: Nope. It's all right, I will stand and--and
14 balance it up here. What I--thank you--what I wanted
15 you to know is, we talked about an optical network
16 terminal in my earlier presentations, an acronym of
17 an ONT. That's what this larger piece is. This is a
18 piece that's mounted on the outside of your home, or
19 your small business. This is the battery pack. The
20 battery pack can be 100 feet away from the ONT. This
21 is all the electronics that we're connecting to your
22 computer. And, then this is the power pack, and this
23 can be 50 feet away from the battery pack. These can
24 be inside the house. Most likely would be in your
25 garage, in a closet. Our technicians will work with

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1 you when they come out.

2 The battery pack--the battery, if we should
3 have an extended power outage, your battery should
4 last you somewhere between four to eight hours, we're
5 still working on defining that exact time, but it
6 uses a regular 12 volt battery that can be replaced
7 very, very easily. But, this is what the hardware is
8 going to be looking like. So, it becomes reality to
9 people, after just talking about it for so long, so
10 that's why I wanted to show you a little bit of the
11 hardware, and answer any questions you had about our
12 project.

13 IRVING: Well, I'd like to encourage my two partners,
14 I--I had a chance yesterday to go get a first hand

15 tour. I was extremely impressed, and I saw--and I
16 also got to witness the speed between the five, the
17 30, and the--I'm sorry, five, 15, and 30. Our
18 community is very, very fortunate, I think, that
19 Verizon has chosen us in order to do this, because I
20 think it--it's only another tool for economic
21 development and for people to be able to locate their
22 business anyplace in the--in the United States and do
23 business anyplace in the world.

24 I--I heard the other day that the producer--
25 and you two may be a lot more up on producers names

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1 than I am, that did Hoosiers, the movie Hoosiers,
2 that he has moved now to Bloomington, Indiana, and is
3 living there full-time. And, he liked the community,
4 he liked the changes of the seasons, which kind of
5 surprised me, but he said anymore you can produce a
6 movie anyplace, you can have your screenwriters, you
7 can have the actors, you can do--anyplace, really,
8 within the world. I think this is just gonna open up
9 lots of new avenues for us and for our community.
10 HOWARD: And, we're pleased to be a partner with you.

11 BLOOM: Thank you.

12 PETERS: Jane, thanks, for of all, for coming in
13 today and giving us this brief demonstration. When--
14 when do you expect service to begin running in this
15 area, and what are you going to do about marketing
16 for it, how--how are we going to get the word out to
17 people?

18 HOWARD: We are building according to wire centers,
19 and as far as the downtown, as--as I think we've
20 talked about in previous times, one of our challenges
21 is multiple dwelling units, apartment buildings, that
22 kind of situation, we're still working on that
23 solution. I can't tell you exactly when we'll be
24 working the immediate downtown area. But, we are
25 constantly looking at that--that part of the--the issue. We really did focus on

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1 residential,
2 primarily, so we're all around the immediate downtown
3 area.

4 The marketing is--is pretty extensive. We do
5 have a marketing arm that will handle all of that,

6 and they will begin, basically, taking over from the
7 informational phase that I've been involved with,
8 into providing more information. But, in the
9 meantime, if anyone's interested, they can go--they
10 can call 461-FIOS, the same number that we set up as
11 a construction resolution center.

12 PETERS: I remember.

13 HOWARD: Yeah. Well, that--that number works great
14 for general information. And, then we also have a
15 website that people can go to, 461-FIOS@verizon.net.
16 And, you can also visit the Verizon website. But, we
17 will be--continue to be--get more information out now
18 that we are farther along in the build process.

19 PETERS: Where does this go in terms of cable TV?

20 HOWARD: When we deploy--when we--we actually start
21 connecting people to the system in late November,
22 early December, the fiber optic that we're placing
23 will be fully capable of voice data and video.

24 Initially, we will only be offering voice and data.
25 Video is down the road, and we're not prepared to say

0017

1 exactly when yet.

2 PETERS: Okay.

3 IRVING: But, it is set up--

4 BLOOM: Isn't that amazing?

5 PETERS: Uh-huh (affirmative).

6 BLOOM: Wow.

7 IRVING: --and there is the little connection within
8 the box that--that it's--it's ready to go, it's just
9 a matter of some engineering needs to be done yet.

10 HOWARD: It is--it--it really is--Commissioner Irving
11 got a great education yesterday in--in seeing how
12 this was going to help us with maintaining the
13 equipment in bad weather, in terms of provisioning
14 someone when they want to change their service, it's
15 not always a matter of sending someone out to your
16 home and getting in the queue that way. A lot of
17 that is done directly with the electronics on-site.

18 It's a whole new world. Very exciting.

19 BLOOM: Yes, it is.

20 HOWARD: Yeah, I would--

21 BLOOM: And, you're living it.

22 HOWARD: --it--we will find a time for you to come

23 see it.

24 PETERS: I'd like to--

25 HOWARD: It helps make it real.

0018

1 PETERS: --right.

2 IRVING: Yeah, it does.

3 BLOOM: We'll have to get an appointment and get--

4 IRVING: Thank you very much, Jane.

5 HOWARD: Thank you. Appreciate--

6 BLOOM: Thank you.

7 IRVING: And, we will have this information in our

8 office, so anybody that--that's watching, that wants

9 to know, how can we get this information, the

10 website, the phone number, or we do have them in the

11 Commissioners' office.

12 HOWARD: And, also, the City of Fort Wayne posts the

13 construction schedule for two weeks in advance on the

14 City website. We provide that--

15 BLOOM: Okay.

16 HOWARD: --every couple of weeks if you're

17 interested.

18 IRVING: Great.

19 HOWARD: Thank you.

20 IRVING: Thank you.

21 BLOOM: Thank you. Approve and award Bid Reference

22 #28-05 re-bids for the Scipio Road Bridge over Wann

23 Ditch, Bridge #9, and Scipio Road Bridge over Hamm

24 Ditch, Bridge #10, to Primco, for a combined total of

25 609,860.01 [\$609,860.01]. If you remember, we bid

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1 these before and could not use the bids because they

2 were over engineering estimates. Now, they're okay.

3 The engineering estimate was 616,907 [\$616,907.00],

4 so this clearly fits within that parameter.

5 PETERS: Do we--do we change the parameters for

6 engineering if something like that happens? I guess

7 I'm curious as to why--how we got down below the

8 engineering estimate when we couldn't do it before?

9 BLOOM: Actually, the engineering had been done

10 several years ago. We didn't have the money to do

11 this. Because of costs, we actually had to raise the

12 engineering estimate.

13 PETERS: Okay.

14 BLOOM: Because, they were like three, four years
15 old, and, of course--
16 FITCH: Mike Fitch, Allen County Highway Department.
17 BLOOM: Hi.
18 PETERS: Good morning.
19 FITCH: On--to answer your question about the
20 engineer's estimate, when the bids were taken before
21 the engineer--the bids were over 20% of the
22 engineer's estimate.
23 BLOOM: Right. Uh-huh (affirmative).
24 FITCH: When that happens, we go back, and we look at
25 our engineer's estimate, and we look at the prices

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1 quoted, and see if there's things out of line. We
2 found that there were some things in our engineer's
3 estimate that--you know, when you get three
4 contractors that bid pretty--pretty much the same
5 price, and our price is lower, there's a problem with
6 our estimate. So, we ad--we adjusted, made
7 corrections to our estimate and re--rebid the
8 project. This--this time it was our, you know,
9 problem. Sometimes the contractors misinterpret what
10 we want, and there's some unusual high--high bids,
11 and we get back and we modify the specifications, and
12 then those bids will come in lower. So, it's just a
13 combination of things. This--this time, we found
14 some errors in our estimates. And, as Linda said,
15 the estimates were put together a year or so ago and
16 --and somebody didn't, you know, up--update the--some
17 of the unit prices.

18 PETERS: Okay. Thank you.

19 IRVING: I make a motion we approve.

20 PETERS: I'll second that.

21 BLOOM: All in favor signify by saying "aye."

22 IRVING: Aye.

23 BLOOM: Aye.

24 PETERS: Aye.

25 BLOOM: Approve preliminary engineering services

0021

1 between DLZ and Allen County for Carroll Road Curve
2 Relocation, Phase I, total lump fee 54,584
3 [\$54,584.00].

4 FITCH: This--this project is being coordinated with

5 some of the development that's taking place along
6 Carroll Road. They're developing both sides of
7 Carroll Road, and this is an opportunity to eliminate
8 two--two of the sharp curves on Carroll Road.

9 BLOOM: This is good.

10 FITCH: This is phase one, of a two phase project.

11 PETERS: I make a motion to approve the preliminary
12 engineering services between DLZ and Allen County for
13 Carroll Road Curve Relocation, Phase I.

14 IRVING: Have we already done that one? Mike, have
15 we already approved the initial contract on that?

16 The contract that I have here in my hands, from DLZ,
17 is a lot more than 54,584 [\$54,584.00].

18 FITCH: Yeah, this--

19 IRVING: So, why--

20 FITCH: --I just noticed that this--this contract
21 that you have is the--

22 BLOOM: We don't have the right contract here.

23 FITCH: --the right contract. There were some
24 modifications made to the scope of work and they did
25 --they did supply us with--

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1 BLOOM: Well, slightly. So, we've--

2 IRVING: I mean, when you--a half a million dollars
3 difference, yeah.

4 FITCH: Okay. Excuse me, we have a--

5 IRVING: That's--

6 FITCH: --a valid contract just delivered.

7 BLOOM: Okay.

8 FITCH: Sorry about that.

9 IRVING: Well, what is the one that I have? Has this
10 been approved?

11 FITCH: No.

12 IRVING: This one has not--

13 FITCH: No.

14 IRVING: --the five hundred--

15 FITCH: No.

16 IRVING: --and sixty one thousand [\$561,000.00] has
17 not been approved?

18 FITCH: No. The--that's the construction estimate
19 costs. The engineering--

20 BLOOM: That's not engineering. That's--

21 FITCH: --the engineering fee--

22 IRVING: Oh, okay, I understand now. Okay. So,
23 you've had a chance to review that?

24 BLOOM: Yes.

25 IRVING: Okay. I make a motion we approved.

0023

1 PETERS: I actually made a motion.

2 IRVING: Oh! I'll second it.

3 BLOOM: All in favor signify by saying "aye."

4 IRVING: Aye.

5 PETERS: Aye.

6 BLOOM: Aye.

7 IRVING: Yeah, that's a big price difference.

8 BLOOM: Well, one's engineering, and one's

9 construction.

10 IRVING: Yeah.

11 PETERS: Uh-huh (affirmative).

12 IRVING: I know.

13 BLOOM: Okay. That's not the right--there's another

14 one to--there's one, and there's another one. Thank

15 you. Approve traffic posting update for the

16 following, Freshwater Trail at Union Chapel, post a

17 STOP sign.

18 IRVING: So moved.

19 PETERS: I'll second it.

20 BLOOM: All in favor signify by saying "aye."

21 IRVING: Aye.

22 PETERS: Aye.

23 BLOOM: Aye. We have two plats this morning, Vera

24 Cruz, Section II, and Woodlands of Liberty Mills.

25 We'll do those after the meeting. Thank you. Are

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1 you finished?

2 FITCH: Yep.

3 BLOOM: Thank you, Mike.

4 IRVING: Thanks, Mike.

5 BLOOM: Bruce is--

6 IRVING: I think he's going to talk about--

7 BLOOM: --do the--

8 ELSER: Gas update.

9 IRVING: Fuel update.

10 BLOOM: --oh, the gasoline update. You bet.

11 ELSER: Fuel update.

12 IRVING: Thanks, Bruce.

13 LITTLE: Good morning, Commissioners.

14 PETERS: Good morning.

15 IRVING: Good morning.

16 BLOOM: Good morning.

17 LITTLE: Bruce Little, Allen County Purchasing
18 Director. I wanted to give you an update of where we
19 stand with the gasoline. Obviously, we're not
20 concerned about our price for the rest of the year
21 since we have locked in for the calendar year at
22 \$1.73 a gallon, approximately, including our taxes.
23 My main concern was a possible shortage, if we'd be
24 looking at having trouble getting the product. So, I
25 called our regular fuel supplier yesterday, and he

0025

1 said that in the near future, at least, he's not
2 having any trouble getting us fuel.

3 Of course, as unpredictable as current
4 situations are, there's no guarantees for the future.
5 But, as it stands now we should look towards an
6 uninterrupted supply of fuel. Should shortages begin
7 to exist, we, the County government, along with other
8 public service agency level governments, is his top
9 priority. We will get fuel before commercial
10 accounts get fuel. So, I'm very optimistic that we
11 won't see any problem in getting product.

12 As far as the outlook, I'm not even gonna try
13 to predict what's gonna be happening to the prices in
14 the coming months. It would appear that they've
15 peaked, but, obviously, events as they unfold are
16 gonna be driving the prices on the fuel. As far as
17 the outlook for next year, I was told by our supplier
18 that if we were to be going out for bid right now,
19 for our gasoline, he cannot find any fuel company out
20 there even offering firm price contracts for next
21 year, at any price.

22 BLOOM: No kidding!

23 LITTLE: So, we normally do this bidding in November.
24 If things settle down, and roll back considerably, we
25 can go out for bid. If they stay the way they are

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1 now, even if somebody offered us a price, I'm afraid
2 we're looking at peak prices, and--and, I'd have to
3 be convinced that we're looking at a catastrophe next

4 year to lock in at prices anywhere near where we're
5 at now. And, just to give you an idea, the week
6 before last, the open--or, the opus average for
7 gasoline was approximately \$2.20 a gallon for 87
8 octane, including our road tax. This most current
9 one is about \$2.91 a gallon. The average price
10 jumped last week, on the wholesale level, 70 cents a
11 gallon. But, again, the County's locked in at \$1.73
12 for the rest of this year. But, as of January 1, it
13 looks like we're gonna be buying on the open market.
14 IRVING: And, do you have any idea--you gave us an
15 update, time flies when you're having fun, I don't
16 remember, a couple months ago, do you have any idea
17 how much money we have been able to save over the
18 year for having the locked in price, Bruce?

19 LITTLE: I can give you--I didn't come with an exact
20 figure today, but I can tell you, based on this most
21 current price, if it were to remain in effect, we
22 would be saving approximately \$25,000.00 a month.
23 BLOOM: A month?
24 LITTLE: A month. But, again, I don't expect to see
25 that price of \$2.90 sustained for very long, but no

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1 guarantees.

2 IRVING: Okay.

3 LITTLE: We--

4 IRVING: Well, our--for once, our crystal ball paid
5 off, didn't it, Bruce?

6 LITTLE: For once, it did. Well, we've got a pretty
7 good record, not 100%, but it's never paid off, like
8 it has here, before.

9 BLOOM: Who's involved in this? Who did we do this
10 combined effort with, besides the schools?

11 IRVING: Well, we didn't.

12 LITTLE: The--we are--we are not in--this is a County
13 contract. This is not in cooperation with any other
14 local government.

15 BLOOM: I thought we had, though.

16 LITTLE: Well, last year, we were buying in
17 cooperation with the City and the Fort Wayne
18 Community Schools. Last year, we were on that week
19 to week average market.

20 BLOOM: Right.

21 LITTLE: This year we went out to bid, they still had
22 their three year contract in place, that they're
23 still buying off of, but when we saw we could lock in
24 at that \$1.73 last October, we decided that was the--
25 the way to go. Of course, the first couple weeks in
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1 January, when the market price was about \$1.40--

2 BLOOM: Yeah.

3 LITTLE: --and we were paying \$1.70, we didn't look
4 too good. But, I--I wasn't too pessimistic in the
5 beginning, I knew there was another 11 months to go,
6 and--and it seems to be paying off.

7 BLOOM: No kidding.

8 PETERS: Can we bank any of that? Suppose, for
9 instance, that we were agreeable, and I'm just
10 speculating here, to park some cars throughout the
11 rest of the year, in an effort to save what we would
12 normally burn in fuel. And, maybe we'd double up--
13 and, again, I'm just talking off the top of my head,
14 but doubled up a building inspector, or doubled up
15 this person over here for purposes of--of conserving
16 that fuel. Could we, in the meantime, take 500,000
17 gallons that would have been utilized by those
18 people, and--and--and bank it, save it, is there--is
19 there a way to allow us to tap into that--

20 LITTLE: No.

21 IRVING: No.

22 LITTLE: --in 2006, or something?

23 IRVING: Nuh-uh (negative).

24 LITTLE: No, there isn't. The contract is up
25 December 31st, and our contract called for,

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1 approximately, I think it was 320,000 gallons through
2 December 31st.

3 PETERS: Right.

4 LITTLE: If we only used, let's say, 280,000 gallons,
5 well, we would just have to walk--

6 PETERS: Can't we take the other 70,000 and put them
7 in a--

8 IRVING: No. They don't bank.

9 PETERS: --someplace.

10 LITTLE: We--we don't have storage capacity for--we--
11 we have storage capacity at our using facilities, and

12 there's no--we don't have a terminal anywhere where
13 we can just stick it somewhere.

14 PETERS: Well, I'm just thinking, I mean, if you look
15 at the cost difference right now, might it be worth
16 our while to find a place that we could do that?

17 LITTLE: Um--I'll tell you what, I can look into it
18 to see if there's a tank where we can put this. But,
19 first of all, you would have to be generating a lot
20 of savings in the fuel, you would--

21 PETERS: Understand.

22 LITTLE: --have to be parking a lot of cars.

23 PETERS: Right. Understand.

24 LITTLE: And--because, our 320,000 gallon estimate
25 appears to be right on track.

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1 PETERS: Right, and I hear what you're saying.

2 LITTLE: There would have to be a significant drop in
3 the use of the cars.

4 BLOOM: To even be worth it, yeah.

5 LITTLE: And--

6 IRVING: And, please look at all angles of this, too.

7 I mean, I understand, and there isn't anybody that
8 likes to save money in government more than I do, but

9 I also understand that there is a fuel shortage out

10 there, and here we're thinking about stockpiling

11 fuel. I, personally, know that they did not have

12 enough diesel fuel to go around, we had truck stops

13 in this area that were shut down. I know that the

14 Federal government even released the "red fuel," and

15 that's good until September 15th, which, hopefully,

16 they may even extend that, but, you know, I want to

17 see the pros and cons. I hate to think that County

18 government would consider stockpiling fuel when other

19 people don't have enough fuel to use in their--

20 LITTLE: And, allow--

21 IRVING: --daily businesses.

22 LITTLE: --allow me to reiterate, we cannot buy more

23 fuel than we contracted for.

24 PETERS: Right.

25 IRVING: Thank you.

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1 LITTLE: So, we--we cannot go out there and buy extra

2 fuel. I think--

3 PETERS: No, I under--I understand.

4 BLOOM: Right. No, you--

5 LITTLE: --what Commissioner Peters was saying is, if

6 we were to somehow be able to dramatically cut our

7 fuel usage by the end of the year--

8 IRVING: And, then stockpile it.

9 LITTLE: --and then that extra fuel we didn't burn

10 save until next year, but--but, again, I--

11 BLOOM: We're using--we're right on schedule.

12 LITTLE: Right.

13 BLOOM: Okay.

14 PETERS: I'll appreciate that. And, it may be just

15 the craziest notion in the world, but--

16 IRVING: I think it's something we need to look at,

17 but--

18 LITTLE: I would suggest that if there is a way of

19 dramatically cutting back your gasoline usage,

20 regardless if we can find extra storage space, even

21 if we walk away from it, we're still paying \$1.73 a

22 gallon for gas. If there's ways of cutting back on

23 our usage--

24 BLOOM: Right.

25 LITTLE: --regardless if I can find a place to put

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1 that extra gas, we ought to be doing it.

2 PETERS: Right.

3 BLOOM: Absolutely.

4 PETERS: No, I concur.

5 IRVING: Is the Federal government--I know that

6 Commissioner Peters has mentioned a couple of

7 different times about the 40-1/2 cents a mile that's

8 being paid, is there--have you seen anything where

9 the Federal government is thinking of raising that,

10 or the State?

11 LITTLE: I haven't, but probably that information

12 will first be going to the Auditor's Office--

13 IRVING: Okay.

14 LITTLE: --should--should there be such a

15 consideration.

16 IRVING: Okay. Well, thank you for the update.

17 LITTLE: Okay. Well, thanks for having me.

18 PETERS: Appreciate it.

19 BLOOM: Thank you very much.

20 LITTLE: Sure.

21 BLOOM: And, now on the agenda we have the
22 introduction of a very special young man, that I
23 think Commissioner Irving is going to take care of
24 here.

25 IRVING: Will you come up? Take a seat for a minute.

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1 BLOOM: Good morning.

2 IRVING: I think he's nervous.

3 GENOS: Good morning.

4 IRVING: I would like to introduce not only my two
5 partners, but everyone that's here and all of our TV
6 audience, this is Marine Corporal Thano Genos. And
7 if you remember, about eight months ago, he was a
8 topic of conversation with us because it was Thano
9 that gave his mother the inspiration, which kind of--
10 the birdie told me about my "Heart to Heart Program,"
11 that we started--

12 BLOOM: Absolutely.

13 IRVING: --with the phone cards. And, Thano is home
14 on leave right now, after spending seven months in
15 Iraq. He was born and raised out in the Leo area.
16 He's 22 years old. And, he is a combat photographer.
17 And, more important than all of this, he remembered
18 through e-mails that I substitute taught him when he
19 was probably in second or third grade, which he
20 remembered and I did not put the two together.
21 Anyways, he is here, and I wanted to bring him and
22 introduce him to all of us because we've had pictures
23 blown up, and I know you even have a couple pictures
24 that you're going to share with us a little later.

25 GENOS: Yes, I do.

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1 IRVING: And, when we went out to Leo Elementary
2 School, his mom twisted my arm and we even gave her
3 the life-size pictures of her--of you, for her, that
4 I guess she has all over the house. But, we are so--

5 PETERS: You look different.

6 IRVING: --without your--did you bring one of them
7 with you? Let's show--can you--Vicki, come on up--I
8 know you're probably gonna shoot me--this is his
9 mother, Vicki Cook. And, throughout his time in
10 Iraq, he e-mailed me his pictures, as he did his

11 mother, and--and other friends. The first picture is
12 his living quarters--and, Thano, I'm going to quit
13 talking, and--and you tell us about your experience.
14 GENOS: Well, this first one here is kind of a messy
15 living quarters. We didn't have too much time to
16 worry about, you know, cleaning stuff up when we were
17 outside most of the time. We had nice beds, big
18 mattresses, you know, we slept okay when we were
19 there. You know, had all the junk food, and
20 everything that everybody sent, which was wonderful.
21 But, we weren't there too often, we were usually out
22 --out in the desert sleeping, under the stars, which
23 wasn't always too bad.

24 This photo here, just another photo I took,
25 just on a patrol. It shows a marine in a every daily
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1 patrol, you know, out just being the street cops that
2 we are. You know, just a little girl just kind of
3 looking at him like, you know, "Who's this?" You
4 know, just to draw a picture, you know, something
5 you'd see every day if you were a little fly on the
6 wall in Iraq.

7 I know that something that we did quite often
8 was we'd get weapons caches, either from houses, dug
9 up from fields, gardens, whatever--wherever they
10 would put 'em, and I just had somebody take a picture
11 of myself to send home, everybody could see, hey,
12 this is--this is--this is what we're doing.

13 BLOOM: Great pictures.

14 IRVING: Wonderful pictures.

15 GENOS: I mean, I've got thousands and thousands of
16 pictures that--that I took while I was over there,
17 but, you know, if it wasn't for the support here, I
18 wouldn't have been able--been able to be over there
19 doing that.

20 IRVING: Oh, that's nice.

21 PETERS: Thanks so much for your courage and your
22 service to this community and--and the country.

23 BLOOM: Absolutely.

24 IRVING: Uh-huh (affirmative). What did it mean--I
25 mean, I--you know, we--I think that probably our

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1 generation up here knows what it's like not to be

2 able to call home, as we didn't--we didn't have cell
3 phones. Now, our kids now--I mean, I have one that
4 goes to North Carolina, and I probably talk to her
5 more than when she's home. I mean, we all remember
6 it used to be expensive to call long distance--and.
7 tell us just a little bit, I mean, you're 22 years
8 old and I know you've had a cell phone, you know,
9 what was it like to be able to come home? First of
10 all, what was it like not being able to call home,
11 because you didn't have the right kind of phone cards
12 or a phone cards, and then what was it like--tell us
13 what it was like with and without the cell phone
14 cards.

15 GENOS: It was more than I ever expected. You know,
16 I expected, you know, going to war, you know it was
17 gonna be, you know, a minimum amount of, you know,
18 electronics, whatever, you know, phones, computers,
19 but they provided us with a lot of opportunities to
20 get to phones, use the phone cards, you know, do the
21 e-mail thing. It was great. I'll tell you, getting
22 the phone cards, you know, the guys loved them, you
23 know, they'd--I got more than most people did over
24 there, you know, every time we'd get mail they'd come
25 running up, "Hey, what have you got today," and--
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1 PETERS: The inside track.

2 GENOS: --me with--with the guys that I was with, you
3 know, I always passed out the phone cards, you know,
4 kind of shared the wealth. You know, we'd get to the
5 phones a couple times a week, to be able to call
6 home, and it was nice--a lot--a lot of times, if
7 you're overseas, the phone cards, you know, they
8 don't give you minute for minute. But, being with
9 the government, they provide us with phones, they
10 give us, you know, minute for minute. That way, you
11 don't have a 100 minute phone card that's only gonna
12 last you five minutes of talk time, you'll actually
13 get your--your talk time, which is--

14 IRVING: Right. Uh-huh (affirmative).

15 BLOOM: I wondered about that.

16 GENOS: --you know, that's--that was a big worry on
17 our part at first, was--was that, but--but--

18 IRVING: Well, we have, in January--we don't have the

19 dates yet, we have 400 from the air base that are
20 gonna be deployed in January, so we have continued
21 the "Heart to Heart Program." What we would like to
22 be able to do in--in January is, when they go through
23 the lines, so we don't have to send them, this time
24 is to hand them, and we would like to--to buy up to
25 800 minute phone cards. And, that way, when they

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1 leave--because they will not be deployed as long as--
2 as some of our other boys over there, that we would
3 like them to be able to pass their cards along. So,
4 the program, Vicki, that you helped me start, with
5 the Commissioners, and the support of the community,
6 is an ongoing program. We're probably about 3/4ths
7 of our way to having enough money to purchase these
8 for January then. And, hopefully, we'll have enough,
9 and we'll get these out, and you'll continue to call
10 home.

11 GENOS: Yes, we will.

12 IRVING: And, it's really good to see you, wonderful

13 GENOS: And, it's good to be back in the good old
14 USA.

15 PETERS: Good to have you.

16 BLOOM: We're so very, very proud of you.

17 IRVING: Thank you. Thank you very much.

18 (At this time, there is a round of
19 applause.)

20 IRVING: Oh, it brings tears to my eyes.

21 BLOOM: I know. Especially to think you started him
22 out so well by teaching him.

23 IRVING: Well, I think it was pretty amazing when we
24 got the e-mail and he actually--I mean, he told his
25 mom, he said, "Well, I think she used to be my

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1 substitute teacher." And, then it brought it all
2 back. And, he's just as handsome now as he was then.
3 Thank you.

4 BLOOM: How about the approval, please.

5 PETERS: I make a motion, or approval, to waive the
6 2nd reading on any matter approved today for which it
7 may be deemed necessary.

8 IRVING: I'll second that motion.

9 BLOOM: All in favor signify by saying "aye."

10 IRVING: Aye.
11 PETERS: Aye.
12 BLOOM: Aye. Any comments from the public this
13 morning? Any comments? Hearing none, meeting
14 adjourned. Thank you very much.
15 PETERS: Thank you.
16 IRVING: Thank you.

17 (Adjourned 10:41 a.m.)

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1 STATE OF INDIANA)
) SS:

2 COUNTY OF ALLEN)
3 REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

4 I, Rhonda M. Mullholand, a Notary Public in
5 and for the State of Indiana, County of Allen, do
6 hereby certify that the above and foregoing is a true
7 and accurate transcript of the Board of
8 Commissioners' of the County of Allen, Legislative
9 Session, held before me on September 7, 2005, in the
10 Allen County Commissioners' Courtroom, Room 200,
11 City-County Building, 1 East Main Street, Fort Wayne,
12 Allen County, Indiana; that I am not related to,
13 employed by or interested in any of the parties to
14 this cause of action.

15 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereto affixed my
16 hand and seal this 12th day of September, 2005.

17
18 _____
19 Rhonda M. Mullholand, Notary Public
20 Residing in Allen County, Indiana

21 My Commission Expires:
22 June 21, 2009