Randolph Sheppard

Elective Committee Meeting

March 11th, 2022

STEVEN DEBRUHL: So right now we have Don, Earl, Candice, Shelly and Frank. I think we need Emma. Paul, is that you on the phone?

FRANK GAFFNEY: I heard him.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: 337.

FRANK GAFFNEY: That's got to be Paul. Earl is 985.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: I see there's 13 people.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I want to say that your co EC member, Pinkie Harris, has resigned from the committee last week and she's not seeking reelection or nor will she accept an appointment to be on the EC. She's concentrating on her business. And we have Herbert also resigned from the EC earlier a couple months back. So I think to get where we need to be, to have a quorum, we need five people plus the chair. We have four plus Frank. So we actually need Emma Zooming in if we're going to vote on anything. But we can certainly talk about what we want to talk about.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Right.

FRANK GAFFNEY: How much is a quorum? Is it more than half?

KEVIN MONK: Quorum is 50 percent plus one.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: So we actually have seven districts and then we have Frank.

KEVIN MONK: Yeah. We're good.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay. Frank, you want to give Emma a little more time or you want to go ahead and get started?

FRANK GAFFNEY: I just tried her phone number again. It goes straight to voice mail. I talked to her last night and made sure she had the information.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Well, there's no waiting room. Otherwise Don would be in it.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: That's right.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: So if she calls in, she'll get right in. That's not an issue. In that case, let's go ahead and get it started here. Like to remind everyone that the fabulous Lynsey Hebert is on with us. And she is recording the proceedings. And so I think she knows everyone's voice, but it would help if you could identify yourself when you speak so Lynsey can get a transcript. So welcome to the executive committee meeting. First one of 2022. We're going to start with a roll call. Frank, you want to get started with that?

FRANK GAFFNEY: Just a sec.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Did he say just a sec?

KEVIN MONK: Yeah. He did.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Candice, why don't you say your name.

CANDICE LINVILLE: All right. Candice Linville, New Orleans.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Shelly LeJeune, Baton Rouge.

DON ARABY: Don Araby, Alexandria.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Frank Gaffney.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: We have Earl Hebert. Earl's probably rocking the cash register.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. He's muted, I think. Right?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yeah. Earl, if you want to unmute yourself and chime in. Still muted. Earl, raise your hand if you're here.

FRANK GAFFNEY: He says he's only got two hands.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: At least he's got two of them. Use one of them. That's all I'm asking. All right. So Earl's here, you know. We'll circle back on that. Next item on the thing is welcome by Frank Gaffney, blind chairman. Frank.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Welcome, everybody, to another fabulous committee meeting.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay. That was very heartfelt. Appreciate it. Opening remarks by Steven DeBruhl. That's me. So we want to welcome everyone to our latest and possibly our last Zoom public hearing, meeting for the executive committee. Looking at the Covid numbers they're continuing to go down. There was only 178 cases yesterday which is a pretty good place to be considering where we were a month and a half ago 18,000 two days in a row. Starting to see some more activity. Michelle's on the phone. She's going to talk about Office of State Building. What he's been hearing from them. One pressing matter we have right now is the I49 welcome center has gone out to bid. Urlean's resign/retired from the location. And she'll be finishing her duty at the end of this month. Has anyone received the bid in the mail?

CANDICE LINVILLE: I haven't.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yes. Yes, I did.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: You did, Shelly? How long ago did you receive it? Shelly, when did you receive it?

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yesterday, I think, Frank. Yeah. It was yesterday.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Don?

DON ARABY: I have not received one. No. I have not.

FRANK GAFFNEY: I haven't gotten one in Shreveport either.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: All right. It's in route. Frank, I think I emailed you a copy of it as a work document.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: There's Earl.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Hey, Earl. Welcome in.

PAUL RABO: Hey, Steve. It's Paul Rabo. I just wanted to point out I sent Don one by email. I forwarded your email with the announcement. So he should have that even though he didn't get the mailed version.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Don, you did receive that?

DON ARABY: Yes. I did, Steve.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay. Well, David's going to be doing the tour. So just hook up with David and we'll take it from there.

DON ARABY: I think it's going to be Thursday at 12:30.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Next Thursday. Okay. Fantastic. So I wish you luck on that. Now I got some other things we'll hit over the agenda, but at this point our next item is remarks by Kevin Monk, blind services executive director. Kevin.

KEVIN MONK: All right. Good morning, everybody. Melissa was double booked for a meeting this morning, so she is not likely to make it at all to the meeting. But she has done some research for us and we're going to put these things in writing to you, but we do have some information to share. Frank had made some requests and so we do have that. One was in regards to any attorneys' fees that was paid. And we have no record of any attorney fees coming out of the blind vendors trust fund whatsoever this year. Either in‑house or outside attorneys.

Also, and this will kind of go along with some of the other things I have. We do have a new attorney. New/old attorney. Not old in the sense of age, but old in the sense that it's somewhat familiar with the Randolph Sheppard program. His name is John Williams. John worked for LWC for a lot of years. And he left, I guess about a year ago or so, to work for the city. Now he's back at LWC. And so I just pulled together and wrote about a three and half, almost three and half page memo to him updating him on the areas that we need assistance, his assistance for.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I plan to go over some of those items here that are on the agenda to correspond with that.

KEVIN MONK: Yeah. I included backup documents and everything in the email. Drafts of letters that we need to have reviewed and so on and so forth.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I think next time I'm going to revise our order of selection here. Next thing is introduction of LWC staff. Kevin, were you finished?

FRANK GAFFNEY: We have one more for Kevin. Any response of the February 2nd? The response I got back from RSA about the equipment?

KEVIN MONK: Yeah.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: We're going to get on that. That's on the item on the agenda. Let me just introduce the RSMAs that are on this call with us right now. We got Mica Smith, Eric Chupina. Paul Rabo and Michelle Duncan are also on the call. And Chauntey Carter is Zooming in for us. And Lynsey. That's everybody who's on the call. Just wanted everybody to know what's going on. And we have no guests other than‑‑ nobody that's not who I mentioned is on the call. And then the other items, review the agenda, which we've all done. And then approval and/or correction of the December 11th, 2021, minutes. Frank, you had a chance to look over those?

FRANK GAFFNEY: Yes. I've looked and as per usual she's got it word for word. No doubt in it.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. I also read them. Do we need to approve them?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: We do have a quorum. So if you want to move to approve the minutes.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yes. This is Shelly. I move to approve the minutes.

CANDICE LINVILLE: I second that.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: All in favor say aye.

{Collective aye}

STEVEN DEBRUHL: All opposed, say no. All right. Minutes are approved. Now Earl's un‑miked.

EARL HEBERT: I'm having phone trouble, dudes.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: That's okay. I'm going to put you on mute, Earl, okay?

EARL HEBERT: Yeah. Please. Steve, if you need me to talk just unmute me, please.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay. That sounds good.

EARL HEBERT: My phone is so screwed up. Thank you. Appreciate that.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: All right. Thank you. I got Earl on mute.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Hey, at least somebody got some business.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Speaking of business, old business is what's next on the agenda.

KEVIN MONK: Just real quick, Steve.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Go ahead.

KEVIN MONK: John had mentioned something about having the committee vote on the agenda items because of the open meeting law and then how it allows us to do Zoom. The committee has to vote on consideration of the agenda items. You remember seeing that?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I'm looking at the email he sent. So because this is not, it's still a public meeting, but because it's a Zoom John was looking at the actual law that gives us approval to do that. So he says remember to remind Steve for those matters that are critical and time sensitive, and that's how we're able to have this meeting, because it's critical and time sensitive. That's one exception that will allow you to do a virtual meeting as opposed to an in‑person meeting. As indicated in subsection D, you will need 2/3s vote of the members of the body present at the meeting to consider those items. I've highlighted the section below. So, Kevin, we all vote right now to go over each item?

KEVIN MONK: That's what I would say. Just vote on considering, vote on the entire agenda is what I would think. With my nonlegal opinion.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I didn't know if we had to do it specifically. If someone can make a motion to accept the agenda to discuss the items on the agenda that are time sensitive. And make a motion and second it.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Wait. Do we do this before or after?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: We're doing it right now. To consider all the items. You all received a copy of the agenda.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yes. Okay. All right.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: If you want to discuss every item that's listed on the agenda, I would just need for you to vote yes that you want to do that.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Accept the agenda as written?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Correct.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Okay. I move that we accept the agenda as written.

CANDICE LINVILLE: I second.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Okay.

FRANK GAFFNEY: All in favor.

{Collective aye}

FRANK GAFFNEY: Opposed.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Let that show unanimous decision of all members present. Cause you needed to have a 2/3s vote of that. So we surpassed that. Kevin, you think we're good?

KEVIN MONK: I hope so.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Me too. So the first item Frank listed was usual suspect, Fort Polk, Barksdale, Belle Chasse, coast guard, hospitals and the national guard. So like Kevin said, you know, I'm very excited that John Williams is back with us. And he's pretty much going to be our Randolph Sheppard attorney. And I had the privilege to work with John, you know, when he was here before. And he represented us in the first Cedric Mitchell, when Cedric first did his grievance. He didn't do it in a timely fashion and John made that case to the administrative law judge and they found in our favor. He's since appealed that decision. And then he had his arbitration and that went on. And LWC was successful in the arbitration. But he does have a good knowledge of the program. So Kevin sent him, like I said, about three-and-a-half-page memo addressing just about every item that was on old business. First and foremost was the University Medical Center Lafayette. We'll, of course, help him pursue that and to follow back up on that letter. Also, the hospitals in Shreveport. He's working to give us an opinion on the best way to do that. Kevin, you got the vending permit for the federal prison, Oakdale.

KEVIN MONK: Yeah. We talked about‑‑ I mentioned the permits for the Pollock federal prison as well as possibly pursuing the permit for the Oakdale prison. And we actually sent, I sent the draft permit that we have drafted up. Now I don't think the federal prisons are allowing visitors at this point. And so it may be a little bit premature, but we'll be ready when and if the time comes to, hopefully, when they do allow visitors back in. And then I also sent a draft letter requesting permission to conduct a site survey Which we would send, you know, if, when approved to Oakdale and the other locations that I mentioned. We're going to do two letters. One for federal and once that gets approved, we'll know how to word the state one. So we're going to do one for requesting site survey on federal locations. One letter for requesting site surveys on state locations. So I sent him all of that. And then I sent him a little bit of information on the Louisiana National Guard installations which we have discussed pursuing as well.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Well, we're looking forward to working with John. He's going to be able to help us with all of those items. Once we get, like I say, approved letter in the can, we can fire it off to anybody and everyone. But I was also talking about sending it to different department heads as well. Looks like the administration is looking to help us with that. All right. The vending location found by RSMAs is the next item. Like I said, we do have a few items out there, but we've kind of been holding back waiting for John to get his feet wet and provide those letters. Because when it's coming from the attorney or coming from me with the attorney's approval, you know, it has a little more weight and impact. So we're looking to do that.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Steve, I think Emma joined in.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Hey, Emma.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: She must be muted.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: She's not muted. Connecting to audio. She's trying to connect. That's great. Hey, Emma. Emma Palmar.

EMMA PALMER: Hey. This Emma.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Hey. Good to see you. How you doing today?

EMMA PALMER: (Inaudible).

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay. We were getting ready to put your picture at your post office. See if anybody recognized you. Knew where you were. Glad you showed up. And then Ms. Barbara Alexander has joined us as well as a guest. Barbara, good morning. I see you're muted. But welcome to the EC meeting. Lynsey, Barbara Alexander is going to be a guest today as well. All right. We're just kind of going over old business at this point. Item C on the agenda is inventory forgiveness. Kevin and I had a good conversation with Melissa about that. We submitted the plan, and she had a few questions about timing, when they had to report it. So I went back, and I pulled our inventory forgiveness policy when we could actually pay people. And we're tweaking that. And hopefully that will be good to go next week, Kevin?

KEVIN MONK: Yeah. That's what I'm hoping.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay.

KEVIN MONK: Once we get it tweaked and sent, we just got to come out with whatever paperwork we're going to use to go along with it. And I think we'll be okay.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: In the past we had a letter saying that I, Candice Linville, lost these many bagels on this date due to electric failure. In the past you had the option of being financially reimbursed or you could deduct it from your starting inventory. We don't have that financial reimbursement option anymore. But we want to pursue the idea of deducting from opening inventory. Melissa has no problem with doing that. Just want to make sure we got all the Is dotted and Ts crossed. But the policy's actually something Janel had put together. It's very specific. You need to notify the RSMA whenever you realize you've lost product. You document that loss. If RSMA goes over there and looks at it. If it's something smelly, you got to throw it away, you need to take a photograph of it prior to getting rid of it. Of course, you have to have your receipts.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Steve, I just want to say something because I know some of my managers are going to ask. This is not for expired product that you had in a vending machine that expired. This is for product that was lost due to like electrical or something like that.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Right.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Yeah. You got to tell them if they lose, if it's out of date, they just have to put on the report as lost.

EMMA PALMER: All right. Wait a minute. I didn't hear that. What you saying, Frank?

FRANK GAFFNEY: If your inventory goes out of date it's not a loss for electricity or anything. It's a loss due to spoilage. Which is a place on your form every month.

EMMA PALMER: Okay. So they had an option either to put it on the report or not...

FRANK GAFFNEY: If it's out of date you have a place on your form for spoilage.

EMMA PALMER: Oh, yeah.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: We're talking about‑‑

EMMA PALMER: I'm just saying‑‑ I know what you're saying. But it's just like a deal where Mike had where they came in and they had that asbestos and they just shut him down. And that mean he couldn't go back in inventory machines or anything. And then when they did open it back up, some like four months later, that means everything in the machine is out of date.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Right. Those situations do occur. Like we're saying, we're not talking about a routine situation where the guy's bag of chips expires because he didn't sell it. There's a section on the paperwork for that. We can certainly deduct that from your taxes and everything else as a loss. As far as getting forgiveness from the SLA, you know, it needs to be, spell it out different act of nature. Could be hurricane, power loss, you know. Or like when the pandemic hit, you know, closed them down. Won't let them go back. Like Mr. Bobby, they shut the gate on him. They had no opportunity to try to get rid of that. Now the pandemic has been covered because the FRP payments that everyone received. So going forward this will be, you know, if something new happens. The next hurricane, whenever that's going to be coming. But again, it is not financial remuneration. It will just be a deduction to the SLA as a result of the opening inventory. I would like to introduce Melissa Bayham, the director, has Zoomed in.

MELISSA BAYHAM: Good morning, everybody. Good morning.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Glad to see you.

MELISSA BAYHAM: Good to see y'all.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: You want to kind of hang out? Okay. The next item on the agenda were vacations. Vacation election. We finalized the ballots. We were going to send them out with the EC nominations, but that was a little more pressing. Kevin, we're pretty much ready to go on that, don't you think, as soon as we tweak it a little bit?

KEVIN MONK: Yeah. So I would say next week.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Now the last item that's on the old business was attorneys for contract work. Frank, I think you brought that up about maybe working with Mary Anne or someone. But that was prior to, you know, John coming back to work with us. I think we need to try to work with John as best we can and give him as much as we need. If y'all want to go outside of that situation after a time maybe we can circle back on that, Frank?

FRANK GAFFNEY: Yeah. We can do that, and I agree with that. I want to leave it on there.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: All right.

MELISSA BAYHAM: Steve, can I speak to that for just a moment?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yes, ma'am.

MELISSA BAYHAM: I actually had a meeting with John, I believe it was yesterday. I'm sorry y'all. It's been a long week. And, you know, he actually‑‑ I had told him that Kevin was making him a list and he actually was asking for one. And I said I think Kevin is already working on that for you. So he's glad to be back. And he's trying to get back into the swing of things. But obviously, he has multiple things going on. So he was very thankful for that. And he's working with us on I have been trying to craft something for RSA. I think Kevin and Steve, I hope they agree that I am working really hard, all of my brain to try to figure out the issues with the equipment. So he's working on that with me to develop questions for RSA. And to just try to give them some different angles to look at. I'm not sure if y'all have discussed this yet. But, you know, what we've discovered is that the state doesn't necessarily have a different threshold for equipment. The way it's provided 2CFR200 because the Workforce Commission just uses the 5,000‑dollar threshold for 2CFR200 for equipment. However, the state does have an asset threshold which is 1,000 dollars. So we're kind of looking at it from that angle and a couple other things that we're looking at. So we are working very diligently to try to assist you with this. Because we all agree at LWC that it does not make sense for us not to repair a state asset. We just have to find a funding source. We have to make sure that, you know, the RSA is okay with us using either federal funds or the blind vendors trust fund. So we're still working on that, but we are working diligently to try to find a solution to that. We're not doing nothing. I can assure you.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: And I can vouch for that. Melissa, I was going to tell you I actually talked to Terry Smith to consult him about that. And he's convinced that you can use the 1,000‑dollar threshold. Cause in Florida Terry Smith at National Association of Blind Merchants handed out a survey to different BEP people. And they're what, about 36 different states deal with them. And got 15 or 16 responses. I put them all together. But Florida has like 500‑dollar threshold as does Arizona. A few that have 1,000‑dollar threshold. And they are paying for the repairs at that location. And Terry told me he had spoken with Jessie about Florida and about states that have assets.

MELISSA BAYHAM: The only question that I would have if that comes to pass is our prior approval with RSA. I guess everything would be covered. Would we have to send items over 1,000 for prior approval.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: That was the thing. At Florida anything they purchase over 500 bucks has to receive prior approval.

MELISSA BAYHAM: So if it does come to pass that we're able to use the 1,000‑dollar threshold for equipment just be aware that it is going to take longer to do things because we're going to have to get that federal approval.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: But currently we have to get federal approval for anything over 5,000‑dollars. But Kevin, you want to explain on that, you know, we basically have‑‑ we detailed it for a couple years. Get, you know, four outsiders, two auto fries. And added up to 150,000. I think right now it's basically a blanket approval for 150.

KEVIN MONK: Yeah. They allow us to do an aggregate approval. If the 1,000‑dollar thing comes out, I'm hoping that they would also allow an aggregate approval. But I don't know that they will.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: But also kind of anticipating what we're going to need. Because there are a lot of sandwich tables and refrigerators we can probably replace at this time. If we're able to go that route, then we can put them all in at one time and hopefully get them approved simultaneously. Okay. Thank you, Melissa. All right. Moving on to new business. The first thing we have on here is committee election. So I don't know if it's biannually. We vote every two years. But your terms are coming to an end. This is the second to the last meeting. So Chauntey helped us out tremendously and mailed out letters for people to nominate an EC member from their district. So only people in the district received a nomination. So we received a bunch of nominations back and just about everybody on this phone call has been nominated for return. Probably based on your excellent performance. With one exception of in Baton Rouge district. Well, Herbert was before district three, I think that is, Shelly. Tony Magura was nominated. And he's the only one that's been nominated in that district. And then Frank and Joseph Davis have been nominated for the Shreveport district. So looks like the only election we have currently would be between‑‑ today is the last day for nominations by the way. Would be Frank and Joseph. But then we also have Pinkie's resignation. The New Orleans district one. Candice is nominated in district two. So Pinkie, Frank you said Pinkie was going to nominate another individual? Was that the conversation?

FRANK GAFFNEY: She said she was nominating Sonny. But they just got their list to be sent in the other day.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I don't get that because that was mailed‑‑ when we started getting return nominations two weeks ago. But she can certainly nominate, but if no one nominates anyone that would be an open district, Frank. So what would happen in that case is the chairman would appoint someone there?

FRANK GAFFNEY: If there's any address, we can mail it back out for more nominations. If we get no response from anybody, then I can appoint with approval of the committee. So if I want to pick somebody the whole committee has to agree with it.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay. Your terms do not expire until the next meeting or second quarter meeting.

FRANK GAFFNEY: The new people take over at the end of June meeting.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Exactly. And at that point if no one's been nominated, you can make your appointment at that time?

FRANK GAFFNEY: Yes.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: But you could also appoint someone right now, couldn't you?

FRANK GAFFNEY: Yeah. I can do a temporary appointing.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: You want to hold off on that until the end of the day and see what we got?

FRANK GAFFNEY: Yeah. We'll see if anything comes in late on a nomination.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: And then you can maybe think of what you're going to do. We have to do a different meeting, we can do that.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Yeah. We can do a subcommittee meeting.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay. I think we have to get everybody together.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Yeah. It (inaudible) put on a subcommittee.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: So that's the only one that's really hanging out there is the New Orleans. All right. So now that we got an election in Shreveport, I'll be working on the ballots for that. So I'll mail the ballots to everybody in the Shreveport market and then they have to respond with their actual vote. So first there was a nomination, now there will be an election. But since no one‑‑ while you guys have no competitor, then you would automatically, if you choose to accept your nomination, serve another two-year term.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Is that the only election, Steve?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Frank and Joseph right now. And like I said, we have no nominations for New Orleans district two. Tony was nominated, Shelly, on the other side of the street for you.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: That's district three, correct?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Right.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Where Tony is.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: And you're district four. District three, we do have a nomination for Tony for Baton Rouge postal processing plant. Which is his permanent location. So I'll keep you guys posted on that. Put a deadline today, but if we have to go past that we can revisit that. The only thing really outstanding is district two, New Orleans. All right. The next section, new business B, is mergers. One thing we discussed, and I think would like to move forward with it is merging the Baton Rouge bus station with the Department of Agriculture. I'll let Michelle chime in in a second. Agriculture basically is not a big location. Never was a really strong location to start with from a snack bar standpoint. There's vending machines over there and they have a small snack job. And this being‑‑ Michelle, you want to tell what they want to do with the vending machines and stuff.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Well, they would like to take the snack bar out and put that as storage for vending. And then in the front where you would walk up and place your order at the snack bar, they replace the vending machines there. They would like regular vending machines, a refrigerated vending machine and their drink machines down there. And then to the right if you're facing the vending machines to the right of it, they do have a very long counter. It does have a sink. And they will put some better microwaves and stuff like that to accommodate putting in Hot Pockets, some breakfast Hot Pockets and items like that.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: They will keep the vending machines clean, not the vending machines, but the microwaves and the area clean themselves?

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Yes.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: So the thought there is that, Michelle can tell you too, that they finally finished with the bus station. It looks a lot better than it did, for sure. And the last time we put the bus station out we had nobody bid on it. Actually, the last two times. I don't see it getting a whole lot better as far as people turning out for it. So my thought was that if we merge the agriculture with the bus station, geographically they're less than 2 miles apart. Having the machines, the vending machines at agriculture will maybe sweeten the pot a little bit for the bus station. Be a source of income that that person will have. It would be hard to go back and forth to two snack bars, but if they're doing snack bar at the bus station, they're able to get a second source of income from agriculture. Together they might be able to turn into one good location.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Steve. Okay. Michelle, remember when you and I spoke, and you brought up down there Past Time where property control was.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Yes.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Is there anything there? Okay. I'll let you finish that one.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Yeah. They don't have‑‑ they're no longer doing the snack bar concession stand thing there anymore. They only have vending machines. And we're looking at either accommodating that one to somewhere else or maybe just putting it out on third-party.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Just so you know what Michelle's talking about. So we have the state property control warehouse and, you know, pre‑pandemic they would do a monthly auction on a Saturday. The first Saturday of the month or whatever. And we had like a lean to snack bar there that was attached to Department of Agriculture. Herbert used to do it. He would go over there sell bottled water, hot dogs, things of that nature. Just one day a month. But it could be a pretty good day depending on what was going on. He sold a lot of water on a hot day. But there's also two coke machines that are over there that we're servicing as part of Department of Agriculture as well. And then also one snack vending machine. Which we have on third-party with Refreshment Solutions. And we receive an income from that. So the thought could be if we merge the agriculture, you know, with the bus station and spin off those two coke machines and put them on third-party, to go with third-party revenue from the snack machine. That money could go in the trust fund. That's state property, not federal property. Because, as you know, we have to start migrating away from the federal third-party income. So that might be an opportunity to do that. So we wanted to see what your thoughts were on that.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: I'm okay with it if y'all want to put that into the trust fund.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Let's circle back. So as far as merging the bus station with Department of Agriculture.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Okay.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: What's your thoughts on that, Shelly?

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yes. If we have a proper manager in there, I think we can do it. I'm okay with it.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: And I'm going to say the bus station has just the snack bar and one coke machine. And Department of Agriculture will have probably six. Three vending and like three cokes. Maybe six to eight total at Department of Agriculture.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: And they do have a storeroom there, right, Michelle?

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Correct. They will have a storage room for Department of Agriculture. And there is a small storage room at the bus station as well, but they do have where maintenance has to be able to go into it, so they do also have a key. But Ricky Pettis has never had any problems with any kind of stealing or anything like that.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: It's good agricultural has a storeroom. So it's not like you have to bring stuff back and forth which is great.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: But even better than that, Shelly. So right now currently when you walk into agriculture snack bar to the left is a storage room big enough for a double door refrigerator, double door freeze and a desk and shelving. But they also took all the equipment out of the snack bar area. And we'll still have that. So that will be storage as well. You'd have as much storage as you would ever want or need. Whoever has the bus station they could use that if they're uncomfortable or they want to have that. Frank, what's your thoughts on merging those two locations?

FRANK GAFFNEY: Well, it sounds okay. We're going to run into problems. You know, I shouldn't do this, but we're looking at a small snack bar that you're going to have to have somebody there. But not only do you have to have somebody there on the day you get a delivery from coke, you're going to have to have somebody at the other location.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Right.

FRANK GAFFNEY: That's the only problem that we’ll run into.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: No. Department of Agriculture would no longer have a snack bar. It would only be vending.

FRANK GAFFNEY: But that's where you have to get your deliveries for all the soda machines.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Unless they deliver them to the bus station, and they transport them back over there. That would be able to work.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: As far as delivery from coke, I'm just going to put this in. If you choose to get your delivery early, I'm sure there's a day they can do it early. And then that wouldn't interfere with the manager being in two places at one time.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: And believe me, I do believe that Department of Agriculture is, you know, I do believe they've helped with doing deliveries for some of the other managers before. As in just opening the door for them to do the deliveries. So, I mean, if coke is coming at a certain time, I'd imagine, I do believe his name is Chris, he's a new guy, would not mind opening the door at all just to let them in to do the delivery.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Earl, I was trying to unmute you. Do you have any discussion on these two locations, Earl. I think he's still on mute. Emma, do you have any feedback you want to share with us? What your thoughts are on this.

EMMA PALMER: On combining the location?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yes, ma'am.

EMMA PALMER: Oh, I don't have a problem with agriculture and the bus terminal. I'm really trying to do it from work too. No. I don't have a problem with combining those locations. Just like they said, if you have someone that's willing to do it and you say they 2 miles apart?

MICHELLE DUNCAN: They're less than 2 miles. They're a mile, right at a mile.

EMMA PALMER: Okay. Yeah. Then they're going to have storage in both locations. That's real good. Cause the ones I'm doing I don't have storage in all locations. So that's good.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Steve, I think you had another guest come in.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I was going to say Lynn Blanchard from ABL just signed in. I muted him. Lynn, are you with us?

LYNN BLANCHARD: Yeah. I thought y'all were this afternoon. I'm actually on another Zoom meeting, but I just lowered their volume because I'm supposed to speak on this other Zoom meeting. I'm just tagging in to see if you guys needed anything specifically with me or if I need to address anything or if y'all have any information for me. Because I'm kind of stuck between two meetings right now.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I don't want you to be stuck, Lynn. That's the last thing I want for you, Lynn, on Friday, getting stuck with us. If you want to bail out, you're welcome to. You're welcome to stick around too. We're going to talk about new managers a little further down the agenda. Just want to welcome you in.

LYNN BLANCHARD: Either that or you guys can text me when y'all need. If you text me, I can jump off and jump back on to you guys.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: All right.

LYNN BLANCHARD: If y'all want to do that.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Let's just maybe go ahead then. Is there anything you want to give us? Updates on ABL, what's going on over there. What kind of challenges you guys are having.

LYNN BLANCHARD: I mean, the last time I think we were with you guys we still have the same challenges post Covid that we've had. Nothing has really changed. We are trying to see if we can get the weekends open right now. I don't know how long that's going to take. But we're looking at that. And, of course, it all is based on census, you know. Our census is lower than we would like it. And, of course, as the census increases, we can get back to doing all of those different services that we've had to temporarily shut down. That's particularly the weekends in the dorm. And the kitchen, we're still catering food in right now. We want to get that back up and running. But we're still doing our regular adjustment to blindness training and all the other grants are operating. Those are the major differences. Those are the things that are still in play from the last time. I know we had talked to, I think you and I and Kevin, some months back. I mean, if you guys have a line of folks lined up potentially to go, I need to know how many are there because we can certainly open the cafeteria sooner. But it makes no sense for me to hire someone to get them acclimated if there's nobody to train. Cause then I'm just wasting more money than I'm losing already.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Lynn, did you get any referrals yet or not?

LYNN BLANCHARD: Referrals‑‑

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. that's what I mean, for Randolph Sheppard.

LYNN BLANCHARD: No.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Okay.

KEVIN MONK: I have reached out personally to all of the counselors working in the blind caseloads and have let them know that we need a few good prospects for managers in the program. We don't need 30 or 40. We need three or four good manager prospects. And so I have done that. A while back at the end of last year I made a presentation to the National Federation of the Blind convention, and I did mention to them that we are looking for a few manager prospects for the program. So every chance I get I'm trying to put the word out that we're looking for people.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: And Kevin, we're going to do it again April 8th, 9th and 10th.

LYNN BLANCHARD: Right. And I know there is an expectation. My understanding is based on vending that doesn't have managers that y'all have to have managers in those areas now. So once that starts to happen, you're going to have stands at least at different areas that are going to start to open up. So I know there's an expectation. As long as y'all keep me in the loop to know what the pace in which all that's going to happen. We want to be ahead of it and not behind it when it happens. Somebody actually asked me in a staff meeting, I want to say this week, about Randolph Sheppard and all because they had told me they were aware of at least three vending facilities in the Baton Rouge area, I think, that didn't have managers right now. So I just told them that I was going to be on a meeting today and I would find out more.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Well, we don't currently have any LRS designated people lined up to go for Randolph Sheppard. I'll just say this, I'm looking at an email from Trina McDonald who is a lobbyist for NSAB, National State Agency for the Blind. And it says in response to our call for information it would be helpful as part of the Randolph day at the NSAB to put together a panel on recruiting new vendors. So what they're going to try to do at a federal level, again, try to come up with a strategy to get new vendors. Cause it's not just us. It's not just Randolph Sheppard Louisiana. It's Randolph Sheppard nationwide that's having issues getting new vendors as well. Now we have a lot of vendors. We got some smaller locations. We want the people that are vendors, who are working good for us, now we want to try to help them make more money as well. So that's why I'm thinking going back to this merger of agriculture and the bus station. It's like two bad locations and you merge them, maybe get one decent location out of it. That might be what we want to do in some of these areas as well.

LYNN BLANCHARD: Is that all y'all have for me? Cause if it is, I'm going to get back on this other meeting.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yeah. Thanks again. I think that's good for us. We'll check in personally with you in the future as things start progressing. Thanks for Zooming in on us.

LYNN BLANCHARD: And nobody else on the committee, y'all don't have any questions or anything?

EMMA PALMER: No. Thanks, Lynn.

LYNN BLANCHARD: All right. I'm just a phone click away. All right.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: No problem, Lynn. I'll keep in touch.

LYNN BLANCHARD: Okeydokey.

EMMA PALMER: Okay. Steve, this Emma. Back on those two locations. Is the same lady still doing agriculture?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Michelle, you want to jump in on that?

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Sorry. I was trying to unmute myself. So yeah. Carol McCray is still doing the Department of Agriculture. And Ricky Pettis is filling the vending machine at the bus station. So but I do believe we have Carol McCray as just....

FRANK GAFFNEY: Interim.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Interim manager because she did retire. So we will put that back out. If she wants to keep it, she will have to bid for it.

EMMA PALMER: Oh, okay. Yeah.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Now Ricky did retire shortly after his wife passed away and his daughter passed away a very short time together. That's when we were paying medical stipends. But since we no longer pay the medical stipend to retirees, he's asked about, he's thinking about coming back into the program again. And it's been, he has a valid license and he left in good standing, doesn't owe any money. So he would be available to bid on a new location. But I don't even know‑‑ I talked to him specifically about it. He's not convinced that, you know, the bus station by itself is worth his time.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Right.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Put it out and see if anybody applies for it. That's all we can do. But before we do that, Frank, do we need a motion to merge these locations and maybe vote on it?

FRANK GAFFNEY: Yeah. We have to have a motion.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay. Y'all want to do that?

DON ARABY: Steve, I vote we merge both locations.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: This is Shelly. I second it.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Shelly seconded it?

DON ARABY: Yes. I just did.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yes. He did.

FRANK GAFFNEY: In all favor.

{Collective aye}

FRANK GAFFNEY: Opposed. Motion carried.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: All right. So we'll work on that. So Shelly, it's kind of up to you too. In the past we merged Claiborne vending, Claiborne cafeteria. We have those locations that have been closed so we have different VF numbers. So Shelly, you're going to keep your old VF number. And Matt's keeping his old VF. And Herbert will be getting a new VF number. That's in the process. But in a case like this, Kevin, you think we should merge these two VF numbers into one VF number since we're merging a location?

KEVIN MONK: Yeah.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. You just need one.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: So I'll get with Tess, and we'll work on that. Cause there's kind of a finite number of VF numbers. So if we do this it will free it up so we can use it at a later date.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Do we want to do that before we get a manager?

SHELLY LEJEUNE: That would be good.

SPEAKER: Yes.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yeah. But the bus station, they just spent some money, and it looks a lot better. Put new flooring in there. Shelly, you want to kind of run through it? New glass all the way around it.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Well, they just put the glass in the front. The sliding glass windows, they replaced all those. And they replaced the floors. And they did some cleaning and everything else. And so then we did bring in some new equipment. We did make it to where you can actually open the door and walk straight in. Before you actually had to open the door, squeeze in, close the door and then you could go in. Now the lady is, Ms. Vanessa does want it to where there is no grease, no frying, you know. She said you can do nachos, maybe hot dogs in a hot steamer or something like that. But she is adamant of keeping this place clean and in a very nice order.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: No grease. Cause there is no grease trap or anything.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Nope.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: There is a grease trap. A very small one. But they had so many plumbing problems before, you know, she doesn't want any kind of frying or anything like that in there. I said well, what about if, you know, they wanted to do hamburgers or something like that. She said if they have to cook them here, probably not.

FRANK GAFFNEY: What about the microwave hamburgers?

MICHELLE DUNCAN: I guess as long as they kind of put the grease in a paper towel. She may be okay with that. I don't know. I said a few things like, you know, microwave bacon. And she just kind of made a face at me. So I'm not sure.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: How about a hot air frier? That's all air. That works very good and very clean.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Yeah. They do. I didn't think about those. Yeah. I have an air frier and I like mine too. Yeah. She may be willing to do that. There is no vent hood. You know, so no vent hood to try to vent anything out, you know.

FRANK GAFFNEY: I did those microwave hamburgers for years. All you did was put a paper towel in the microwave.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Right. I know that the precooked bacon isn't that bad either. And I made that comment to her. And like I said, she just made a face at me.

EMMA PALMER: And get them hamburgers in bulk too. Buying them off the truck or at Sam’s.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Right.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I think she's willing to work with us. What did Ricky do before? I mean, sold hotdogs and nachos.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: He had chips. He did have a fountain drink, which she said she didn't really want to do again either cause of the syrup and stuff. She said he had that crap everywhere. But she is willing to let us have an ice machine and sell them a drink and a cup of ice. But he didn't really at the end, Steve, he wasn't really doing much of anything. He was doing a couple of hotdogs and that was about it. But this is stuff they have to get on the bus, you know. So that was the other thing she was thinking about somebody goes and grabs it and jumps on a bus and they have to worry about cleaning it up on the bus. So that's one of the other issues that she has as well.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yeah. But we have to be able to make some money. We have to be able to sell something.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Right.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: So we'll work on that bid letter for that now that you guys decided to merge. But also Department of Corrections, that's another one that's going to go out again. Currently Herbert is satelliting that on our behalf. We did put it out to bid about two months ago and Carol McCray from Department of Agriculture went and looked at it. She told me she's going to bid on it and she's kind of never responded again.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: She didn't show up for the showing that time. She just went down when Herbert had put in his notice that he was going to retire. She went down there and looked at it and said she would maybe satellite for us if Herbert was going to leave.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Herbert, he's continuing to do a good job for us over there. But he's asked Michelle, he would be ready to leave if someone could take his place. But he was concerned about, honestly, Carol McCray being able to handle the volume of work over there. Because he's doing pretty well with it. Department of Corrections is a part of town there's not a whole lot around there. Plus parking's at a premium. People have to park outside the gate. So if they leave in a car to go to McDonalds then they might come back and not have a parking spot. They do well when they're open. So that bid letter will probably go out on Monday for that. And then follow on the heels of that with the bus station. Those are the only two ones we talked about merging. Is there anything else, Shelly, or any other locations you guys think might be suitable for merger?

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Right now no. Unless it's somewhere out of Baton Rouge. I don't think so.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: One thing I'm thinking about too is Delgado. So right now we have Delgado City Park campus which is Hasan's doing that. And Mica can chime in a little after we finish. And then we have Candice doing the Einstein Bagel. Which has been shut down for quite a while. Mica and I talked to Delgado cause Einstein‑‑ Delgado's actually the franchisee for Einstein. Not us, but they are. And we manage it on their behalf. And that got setup years back. So the guy in charge of Delgado now didn't even realize he was the franchisee. He thought we were the franchisee. So Mica and I met with him and explained to him no, you're the franchisee. He was open to the fact and we explained to him the challenges that we have to have people on campus because of the requirements that Einstein puts forth is coffee can only last an hour and you have to buy this, you have to buy that. So he said he was opened to leaving it closed through next fall. Or he said we don't have to do Einstein if we don't want to do Einstein. And then Mica took Chris, the guy from Delgado, over to see Pinkie's operation. Mica, why don't you take it from there. Kind of fill us in on what Hasan's doing as well.

MICA SMITH: Hasan has been doing about 800‑dollars a day. Somewhere around that. It fluctuates a little bit. But he's barely making enough money just to keep it open right now. Talking about the cafeteria. And so I do see some catering coming back. One piece of good news that I just received, I talked to him yesterday, was that the catering from Goldman Sachs is going to start up, is planned to start up barring any other type of Covid issues. Is planned to start up in the summer. So hopefully that starts as planned. Cause that's like a mainstay of that cafeteria. And the Goldman Sachs is steady catering work. And it's a pretty big part of the piece of income there.

Now as far as Einstein, of course, it's been closed as Steve has said. And, you know, I met with Chris. Well, we first met with Chris and Ron and that's where we first came up with the idea of maybe them being able to see what was possible if you did not go with, if they decided not to go with Einstein. So my idea was just to bring him over to Pinkie's location at the Gretna courthouse and just let him see it. So that's what we did. And Chris was pretty impressed with that operation. And so he seems to think that, you know, Delgado‑‑ he's fine with it, but it's Ron Russo who is his boss who is the vice chancellor of business operations who's probably going to be making the decision of whether to go with Einstein or possibly go with an unbranded location. So that's kind of where we stand right now. I had called Chris yesterday and asked him if he had any updates as far as that decision. Had he had heard anything from his boss about that. He said no, he hasn't. So I guess that's where we stand right now.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Thanks, Mica. But going back to where we started out, when we first took over the location Scott McGee was the manager. We had issues and then we ended up removing Scott from Einstein and he kept the cafeteria that spun off to that new location. That's when Candice took it over. So it's on the same footprint. It's on the same campus. Cafeteria's over here. Einstein's over here. So do we want to keep that as a separate location, plus Candice has a vending machine in building two. Knowing the traffic on campus is, you know, like you say, he's barely making it right now at the cafeteria. Hopefully as people come back to school it will get better. Do we want to look at maybe putting it back together where it was originally before we broke it from Scott? Or do we want to keep that Einstein building two as a separate freestanding location?

CANDICE LINVILLE: You're talking about Einstein and building two in the same?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Talking about everything on Delgado City Park be under that one just, you know, cause Delgado has West Bank.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Right.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: The nursing school. Which is now being built, the new nursing school's being built on campus. And then they have the West Bank. So Hasan's doing the vending machines and none of them are really killing it. So instead of having two managers on the City Park campus, merge them back and just have one manager that would service the Einstein and the cafeteria and the vending machines.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Well, the only problem with that, and I thought about that for years and we've had many conversations, it just stretches you employee wise, you know. Like there was a point where I was like, you know, I'll do the cafeteria and I'd want to put Einstein in the student union. That way all your equipment's right there cause you got the walk‑in cooler and everything. And then all your employees are together. And so the only thing outside of that realm is your vending machines. But the problem with that is, there's nothing really going on in the student union. You know, that's building 22 and 23. And there are a few classrooms in there. But building one is a good location. That is a three-story building. You got a nursing school that's seven stories being built right next to it. I think it needs to stay there in that area. And personally I think it just stretches if you have a really great manager that's in the cafeteria, and y'all think Hasan is that guy, maybe so. But otherwise, that's tough. I mean, y'all saw, I reported all my sales. I was doing 2,000 a day in a six-hour window. My busiest day ever was almost 2,400 and that was just with three employees. But that was rocking and rolling from 8 until 2. You can't be distracted. If it's going to be an Einstein, you know. With the other distractions. Is just my personal opinion.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay. Thanks, Candice.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Shelly. Frank. Y'all got any comment?

SHELLY LEJEUNE: I'm looking at what Candice just said about the nursing school, the new building opening up. That might pull more people. Can you go just to a generic coffee shop instead of an Einstein?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yeah. I think that's what we talked to him about. Because Einstein's a whole different level.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Intensity. It's a whole different level of intensity.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yes.

CANDICE LINVILLE: It's got a lot of moving parts, you know. I say, in my opinion, if it stays an Einstein you need to just have a manager for that because they require a lot, and it could be a little stressful. If it's going to be a place like just a normal coffee shop that doesn't have all the stipulations Einstein has, you know.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Well, you don't have to have all the stipulations. You can still have had all the products and probably move a lot easier. You know, and make it a standalone.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: If you were not an Einstein?

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. If you're not an Einstein. You can still do, you know, like a regular generic coffee shop, but you have a lot of things you can bring in also.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Right. I mean, all the equipment’s there. It's ready. Turnkey. Yeah.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: The equipment actually belongs to Delgado.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Right.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I actually read the franchise agreement that says Einstein can buy it back if they want it. The guy from Einstein said they don't want it back. And the guy from Delgado says they can't just sell it. They would have to go through property control. I think we're okay. It is well stocked. It has an oven, convection microwave. That's why we wanted to take a look at Pinkie’s cause she's the closest thing we got to another coffee shop, and she does really good. Candice, that was a big driver of your profits, the coffee.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Yeah. I was, you know, I'd say 60/40. You know, we sold a good amount of food too, you know. Everybody did love their pizza bagels. In the morning it was more focused on coffee and, of course, breakfast sandwiches. Our afternoons were slower. So we did the bulk of our business between 8 and I'd say 11:00. And after that, you know, it didn't nearly jam as much.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Definitely, Steve, leave it where it is. Everything's in place over there. And you may have more people with the nursing school.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Definitely have more people. That's a year away before it gets built. They are building it, but it's still in construction.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Have they given you any enrollment numbers for what they think, the projection?

MICHELLE DUNCAN: No. They haven't. And I've asked about that. I've asked for years.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Right. I know. Look, I always find out from somebody that works there. Because they never give you any. And if you look online, you know, they have a number and it's a little dial thing. Like a slot machine. Yeah. It's fake news.

MICA SMITH: I mean, for us also, the online students don't matter to us. And that's always been their problem. They can't separate who's online, who's not for the number for us.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Day shift, night shift.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Right.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I think also they have the Avondale location in River City. Mica and I go over there. There's nobody over there.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Right.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: But if someone were to register to go to City Park campus from Avondale because their home address, they say this person's going to go to Avondale, but they might actually go to City Park. Even the numbers you get, you don't really know how valid they are.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Well, that number on the website I think is all seven campuses combined. That's total involvement.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Right. But plus that also includes telecommute.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Right. It's everything. Right.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: So what do we want to do? Do we want to leave it like it is? Cause it is closed right now. They're not really pressuring us to open it back up again. But when the time comes for them to open it back up again, do we want to keep it as two separate and distinct locations? Or do we want to merge it back to where it was originally to one location? Or do we just want to wait and see what happens?

FRANK GAFFNEY: I would not combine numbers.

CANDICE LINVILLE: I agree.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Me too. Leave it the way it is.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Not the way it was, but the way it is.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I got you. I don't think we need to vote on that. So that's what it is.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: No.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Keep going status quo. And we're not going to put it out to bid until we know exactly what we're going to do with it. The other question will be whether keep it Einstein and go independent on that. Again, we can kind of jump off that bridge when we get to it. But right now it's closed up because of Candice.

CANDICE LINVILLE: You better stop it.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Any other locations? All right. Let's go past that. Next item on the agenda was the BEP tag manual. So we have been having a series of meetings with a subgroup to basically redo the whole BEP manual. We got a lot of feedback from Terry Smith. He read through it and made a bunch of recommendations. And we pretty much followed most of those. But one of the things the definition in there of equipment and definition of supply. So we're kind of hung up on that right now until we can move past that. But then we're also going to be revising the tag manual to correspond with the changes in the BEP. But hopefully we get some clarity on equipment and things of that nature. Frank, you got any feedback.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Like you said, we're in a holding pattern, basically. We're still working on some other stuff, but our main holdup is that definition of equipment.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Janel and Frank had worked on changes to the tag manual in the past. And they were voted on, not promulgated, but voted on by the EC. But it was never actually physically gone on and the tag manual was changed. So we have to do all that. When we promulgate it, we have to send the rules to RSA prior to the promulgation process to make sure that, you know, we make sure everything's straight with them and then we'll promulgate it. But we're going to have to send them the tag manual as well at the time. We're kind of working on other areas of the tag manual that doesn't rely upon the equipment. But other policies and procedures. And we'll take this opportunity to tell you what Frank and Janel have worked on together and incorporate them. We'll have a new tag manual. Again, that has to be signed off on by RSA as well.

FRANK GAFFNEY: It doesn't have to get promulgated itself. They just want to see that it jives with the BEP.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Right. But the BEP does have to be promulgated by law. So make sure we're straight on that. All right. That's a work in progress. Frank, you got insurance down here.

FRANK GAFFNEY: That's always on there. As far as I know, everybody has paid in. We got one that we're working on. But it's being covered. So as of right now everything on the insurance is up to date and covered as far as I know.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Beautiful. Actually, I got a copy of the policy in the mail. Which I'll send out to the RSMAs. If a landlord or anybody needs it, we can certainly provide a copy of the proof of insurance. Also got one from Louisiana‑‑ they sent them to me, but it's not for me. Like the insurance for Louisiana Institute for the Blind. So I think we got it by mistake. Kevin, I'll send it back to you.

Next item was Delgado. Which Mica talked about. And then update on locations. Other than the DOC bid. Troy Chaney has been having some health issues. And he had talked to Michelle about resigning from the location. But I reached out to him and spoke with him, and they closed the snack bar at the building. It's on the tenth floor of the Baton Rouge Governmental Complex. And no one from in power at the building has asked him to open it up again. He does get employees saying when are you going to open the snack bar. But he doesn't feel like he's physically able to open the snack bar at this time. Nor, you know. But he is able to service the vending machines. So I told him as long as he's servicing the vending machines, he's healthy enough to do that we want to let him have that opportunity to continue doing that. But when the building does come to start pressing us to reopen the snack shop then we can reevaluate the situation. So right now it's vending only and he's servicing the vending machines. We're just kind of keeping that going until they press us to open up the snack shop. You guys good with that?

CANDICE LINVILLE: Yes.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yes.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Yeah. There's one that hasn't been mentioned that I forgot about it too, is the state building in Shreveport. You know, snack shop's closed. Emma's doing the vending machines, but there's not enough people in the building yet to open the snack shop.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Same situation, right?

FRANK GAFFNEY: Yeah.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Melissa, did you go to the Shreveport state office building last week?

MELISSA BAYHAM: I go to Shreveport all the time.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: What did you notice about that building? Seem like they had many people there?

MELISSA BAYHAM: I mean, it's a big building. Well, that's part of my issue, we're short staffed. But all the LRS people have been there. And there's always people when I go there. Now I don't know comparatively speaking, but there's definitely people there.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay. Emma, how are the vending machine sells over there at state building?

EMMA PALMER: They just doing like okay. And then cause that's like a 30-count machine. A small snack machine. It's just doing okay. I still only go over there maybe once a week.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Right.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: How much machines you have, Emma?

EMMA PALMER: All it is is one snack machine and one drink machine.

MELISSA BAYHAM: And where‑‑

EMMA PALMER: It's down in the basement.

MELISSA BAYHAM: That's part of the problem is people don't know it's there. Because I could have used something while I was there, I can tell you that.

EMMA PALMER: And most of the people there they go across the street to the hospital.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Really.

EMMA PALMER: I mean, you know, as far as going to eat and stuff. But they still don't have a lot of them. I don't think they're working every day there. Most of the ladies I talk to, some people just come in on Thursday and Friday. Some come in on Monday. They don't work five days.

FRANK GAFFNEY: They only let us put the machines in two places. Down in the basement and one other floor.

EMMA PALMER: Yeah. You don't have the option to put them. It would be great if you could put them at that front door, but they're not going to let you do it.

KEVIN MONK: Michelle, I know this morning you met with the Office of State Buildings to discuss how many people are in the places in Baton Rouge. I believe the Shreveport building is an OSB facility. Can you email the guy and ask him for a count for Shreveport as well?

MELISSA BAYHAM: I definitely can. And that building is humungous. Like the hallways are humungous. So I don't know why we can't put machines in there.

EMMA PALMER: They've always had it. And even in the front, it would be great if they would let you put a couple machines on that first floor when you come in. Because that's where everyone have to come in and out of either one or two doors.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay. Melissa, I don't know if you've been in there. They have a snack bar on the bottom level and there's a couple little tables and stuff in there. And that's where the vending machines are down there.

MELISSA BAYHAM: I'll have to go look next time I'm there. I think I'm there end of April.

EMMA PALMER: Well, David had something about just as far as the snack he was looking into maybe just putting sandwich machine and something else in there. You know, without opening up, if he didn't have to open up the full snack machine. But, you know, he's been talking about it and looking into trying to do that.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Instead of doing the snack bar?

EMMA PALMER: Yeah. To just have like sandwich machine and I don't know, some other little things he was saying.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Emma, tell them how the sandwich machines don’t do that great.

EMMA PALMER: At all. Yeah. They don't. And even Willie was saying that. Willie called me, what was that, Thursday or Friday. Whenever you told me we was going to have a meeting, Frank. And I talked with Willie, and he was saying that the snack machine at the Vinton Courthouse, he had a sandwich machine. He says Ms. Emma, the sandwich machine just don't do nothing. Cause I asked him, I said you think maybe if I ordered you some sandwiches with mine off of Vistar. Even though mine doesn't do that great, Frank. I don't order those sandwiches all the time.

FRANK GAFFNEY: By the way Emma, there is no sandwiches.

EMMA PALMER: There you go.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: They quit handling them.

FRANK GAFFNEY: They quit handling them, they don't have any. I asked yesterday.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Supply chain challenges.

EMMA PALMER: And see my people at the post office they're saying well, those things should be frozen. Shouldn't just be a sandwich machine. I mean, no, the sandwich machine doesn't do all that. But David, I forgot how he was saying. But I know he was saying like a sandwich machine and a couple other things he was trying to work on to do, you know, since they couldn't open up the snack machine. Thinking maybe we could get someone to do that. And probably Willie cause he's right there at it. You know, once he put it out and no one bid on it. And Willie is more or less like he says since he got all that storage, he can just walk over there to it if it was any problem. I told him you have to be over there a lot because the machines really give you trouble as far as having to work on them. And he said well, I could walk over there if they had a problem. And it's up to the point that I have a cousin working in that building. I just left some money with her. I said when they call and tell me they lost a dollar I'm going to send them with you. Give them a dollar of this money. Cause last week when I went, I went on two floors to pay the ladies back, they gone.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Come to my house and pay a dollar.

EMMA PALMER: It's a hassle, really.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I know it is. I know it is.

EMMA PALMER: And for some reason the coke machine I'm thinking that, cause they do have a lot of homeless guys be up there. They don't wait till the drink come out. They try to stick their hand in there and pull it out. They putting a hole in the drink and it's crap all over. Every time it's crap all over the machine.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Oh, my gosh.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Kind of going down a rabbit hole here. We appreciate you doing those machines for us. But Michelle, she sent Calvin an email so we can get some numbers on the building as far as populations. And we can take it from there. While we're in the Shreveport area David has been‑‑ so the Shreveport Police Station has been there for the longest time. Frank did his tour duty over there. So the sink goes down, goes into the wall to the grease trap. Well, now you're supposed to have an airgap in the sink before it goes into the wall by the health department. So to do that I had David get a plumber go out there and take a look at it, what it would cost to do that. And they have to take a jackhammer to the floor at the police station and install a drain down there. It could be anywhere from 12 to 15,000 bucks all in. Which we can't pay for. Also, the Shreveport police station bought another property. They're going to be moving in the next year, two years, merging with the fire department. They do want us to go with them on the ride over there. So that location will be closing eventually. So the gentleman in David's building is in charge. He's like the regional manager for the inspectors that go out for the health department. So he told David what he could do, which he's never seen them approve it, but he can apply for a waiver to not put that airgap because of the conditions I just mentioned. And the guy said you can do that. Send them to Baton Rouge. They'll probably turn you down. In the meantime if the person comes back, you can say we've applied. Because they were going to come back and shut them down until this man stepped in to help us out here. But that's kind of pending out there. But if it gets to that point, it might be that we won't be able to serve food in that location again either. And it's been this way ever since it's been there. They changed the law a couple years back. They've just kind of always looked the other way, but this last inspector went out there and was pretty adamant we had to do it, or they were going to shut us down. That's when we talked to the reginal director about it. And he says it may come to it at some point. But in the meantime, apply for that waiver. And David did do that. We haven't been rejected yet. So that's kind of hanging out there.

FRANK GAFFNEY: That building was the original Confederate Hospital.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Confederate Hospital?

FRANK GAFFNEY: Yeah. That's how old it is. At this present time there's leaks all over the place. Asbestos. They have those huge 5, 6‑foot tall fans blowing circulation through it because the air conditioning won't cool it.

EMMA PALMER: Yeah. They did have it at one time where at the top once they used the commode, it wasn't the water from out the commode after they use it, but when it flushes and the clean water come in, the water come in the bottom too. It comes through the wall.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Yeah. Come through the ceiling right over by the cash register.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Nice.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. No kidding.

FRANK GAFFNEY: I took the building over in 2001 and it's been that way when I was there since I took it.

EMMA PALMER: Frank, if they turn down Davis' request and if they put in an appeal or something he should do that. Just keep on buying time until they decide to move him. Cause they're going to move it.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yeah. They are going to move it. But, you know, the wheels of justice turn slowly. So I don't know if it's going to be two years from now when they move. Might even be a little longer than that.

EMMA PALMER: I think with this new money they talked about they got some extra money when the mayor went to Washington DC with the governor. And they did give Shreveport some extra money. So I'm thinking and they had another vote with the city council. They may do it sooner.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Good. That would be freight.

EMMA PALMER: That's why I say if he just appealing and keep doing it. Just keep putting them off.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: That's the strategy right now. Any other location updates? I'll just say by looking at the numbers, you know, Eric told me‑‑ Eric, tell me about MMS. Mineral Management. What was going on.

ERIC CHUPINA: Lee told me that they'll start bringing in people Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at the end of March. So Lee's thinking about opening maybe the beginning of May, the first week of May. How they're just kind of straggling them in.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yeah. That's a federal location and they've really embraced that telecommuting. Sounds like they're trying to get them back in. I know President Biden at the state of the union, you know, talking about getting federal employees back into the federal buildings. I'm looking at cases today. It was 173 yesterday. It's 142 today. So it's definitely, as far as new cases go, has been down trending. So I'm thinking that's probably going to precipitate a return to the office for other state agencies as well. So we're going to, hopefully, start seeing more people come in the building.

ERIC CHUPINA: They still have to justify the whole kitchen too.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Right.

ERIC CHUPINA: They spent all their money on the remodeling right before Covid.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yeah. Mineral Management, they spent about 45,000‑dollars on equipment and they redid the whole place. It's really nice, but there's nobody in the building. Hopefully they're going to start coming in there too. I think we're also going to start seeing more people come back in state buildings. Like I said, Michelle's trying to get the information from OSB who gets it from Johnson Control. He's trying to get it from somebody else. As soon as we get those numbers, we'll update it. And that includes, Shelly, I know you have on here Claiborne and LaSalle. Like I said, we're efforting to get those.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Okay.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: So that's another domino. Because we have LaSalle that's currently closed. We did the selection for that. Mike Dozat from Poydras was awarded that location, but we haven't opened that back up again. So whenever that does come up, that's going to be a big location. Need someone to handle that. Next item was update on equipment. We just completed the equipment inventory we have to do every year for the state. And all items are present and accounted for. Which is good. Don't want to have anything missing. (Inaudible) onto the office. Mica was in the warehouse. He kind of went through a bunch of vending machines. And we have a little selection of vending machines we can call upon. But we haven't bought any new equipment. Nothing less than 5,000‑dollars.

There is an opportunity, and Kevin's talked to Melissa about it, the Bentonville courthouse up there by Emma. We have 45,000‑dollars’ worth of equipment up there. Three vending machines. Still about 32,000‑dollars. There's an oven, two refrigerators, a freezer, worktables, two auto fryers, sandwich table, under counter freezer, countertop icemaker. So there's a lot of items up there. That location's been closed quite a while. Stuff just sitting there. Basically that's like our satellite warehouse. So now that Covid is down trending, and we can maybe do some out of state overnight travel, see if we can work with Melissa to get George up the road up there and he can bring that back. Like I49, Frank had mentioned that Earlene is retiring. She has her own freezer at the I49 rest area. So on the way back he can drop off one of those freezers at I49 to help with that. Get that back in the warehouse. There's some items on here that we can put in other locations that are below 5,000s bucks at this point that we can reuse. And then Michelle has a few items over there, agriculture, as we go. There's a merchandiser over there. But Michelle's claimed that for somebody else already. We're trying to use all the equipment that we currently have no matter where it's located to try to redeploy it to make it work.

FRANK GAFFNEY: As it stands right now on that equipment definition, all those snack machines we got in the warehouse we can't even fix because they don't reach the criteria.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: If they're AP machines, that's right.

FRANK GAFFNEY: AP machines, 2005 when they're bought, I think.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay. The next item was update on new managers. We discussed that earlier with Lynn. You know, we're efforting to try to get more people in the program. But it's an issue. No doubt about it. And the last item on here is the credit card readers. Shelly, what were your thoughts on the credit card readers?

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Well, in my area for sure I've been getting a lot of calls about updating credit cards. And you know with this 5,000‑dollar problem it's going to cost a lot of managers a lot of money to update equipment or change credit card readers. Because the majority of those machines are AP machines and they're under it. So I'm just wondering what is the agency going to do? What is Kevin and Melissa going to allow the agency to do? Are they going to find money to fix these credit card readers because they belong to the state anyway?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Credit card readers, just so we understand what everybody's talking about. So some of these credit card readers are older and they're on the 3G network. Which they're going to be turning off the 3G network here as they go. Could be cut off today, but definitely by the end of this year.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. Between August and December.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Right. So the 3G, you can use that same credit card reader and add an antenna to it and maybe get onto the 4G network. That's one issue. The separate issue is the electronic, the tap function. So you have to have, if you're going to use the tap function instead of swiping the card, there's a European Visa Master Card rule that you'd have to actually upgrade these credit card readers to add another bezel. So some of our credit card readers are fine. Some are 3G that have the bezel. And we have some that don't have the bezel, aren't 3G. They'd have to be completely replaced. Replacement cost is a couple hundred bucks. The bezel's 100‑dollars, the kits. So been working with USA Technologies and pretty much have a list of every managers' credit card readers. The ones that need to be upgraded. Candice, for example, all yours are good at the rest area.

CANDICE LINVILLE: At the rest areas. But Delgado all need to be replaced, right.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: So my argument to Kevin was the machine cost 5,000 bucks. The credit card reader's actually part of the machine. So machines that are 5,000‑dollars and over we could pay for the new credit card readers with that is my interpretation.

KEVIN MONK: And that's absolutely correct. And just to interject here, you know, Shelly it's not my decision, it's not a decision that Melissa's making or anything like that as far as, you know, being able to do that. You know, Melissa at this point is dedicating all of her efforts towards trying to get a resolution to this issue on high from the feds. And basically, you know, if her argument holds true, then the whole 1,000‑dollar threshold, you know, will come to be and we won't have the issue. So, you know, she is going to bat for you guys. And so, you know, I think that was kind of a little bit of a mischaracterization a while ago. Because it's not a decision that we're making.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Okay. One other thing, Kevin. I know it was mentioned that if it wouldn't work out that way that managers could open a rehab case. Is that still on the table or it's not on the table anymore?

KEVIN MONK: If you read the regulations, and I don't have them right here in front of me, I don't know that that would be permissible if you read the regulations. Because the whole reason that, you know, Randolph Sheppard, you know, the locations get to be served is under what they call services to groups. And so that's why in the past what we've done is like a bar code reader or a specific piece of assistive technology that a person needed, you know, that's why it generally went through VR. But the other stuff, the stuff that anybody would need if they were in a Randolph Sheppard location like a cash register or credit card reader or anything like that. That's why that kind of stuff always went through the program in the past. Because it was specific to the program.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Okay. But it would still be the optic of maintaining your business, correct? You know, help you function better in your business.

MELISSA BAYHAM: So maybe I can interject here. Just as far as vocational rehabilitation, we only, we have procedures on small business enterprise. Like let's just take Randolph Sheppard out of it and just talk about small businesses. Even in those instances we only pay for the initial startup costs. And the case of regular VR I'll call it, we only contribute a certain percent. The person has to contribute 20 percent. I can't remember what our max is right now. I think it's around 20,000‑dollars. But we don't ever, if somebody can't come and reopen their case because they need something else for their business. We wouldn't do that. And the regulations say that we can only pay for supplies for the first six months of the startup of Randolph Sheppard. And that's in the services to groups part of the manual. I'm sorry. A part of the regulations. So that's why we're trying to assist with the equipment because it does specifically state that, you know, we can buy the equipment and we can repair equipment. But it also specifically states that we can only purchase supplies up to six months. And that's in the federal regulations. So it's not going to help to open a vocational rehabilitation case cause it's still the same rules that we're trying to resolve if that makes sense.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. I didn't come out to point fingers at anybody. It's just that came out and we needed to get an answer, you know, directly. That you can or can't.

MELISSA BAYHAM: Okay.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I think the answers came out, right. Which I'm sorry to hear, but we have to go by the rules. Okay. Also under credit card readers let you know that Kevin and I and the RSMAs had a conference call with USA Technology, Bunny. As far as setting up a master account with them. Like Shelly mentioned, every one of these credit card readers are owned by the state, you know. The issue is when you go from say using Tracy and Shirley McCorkal, for example. When it was in Shirley's name, even though we owned the readers, you know, Shirley was the customer, USA Technologies. So when they move it from one customer to another, like from Shirley to Tracy they charge a 30‑dollar per reader transfer fee. So Tracy's case she had seven readers. That was 210 bucks that they wanted her to pay. Which she actually did pay. But if we set up a master account what they can do is they can train all the RSMAs that we could do the transfer. And therefore we wouldn't incur any other kind of expenses. Cause what happened with like with Shirley's case, and I'm just using her for an example, like she went ahead and cut the credit card readers off, you know, the day before she got ready to leave the location. When she was inventorying out. So it took almost five, six weeks to get them reactivated again with Tracy. So that, you know, there was the fee that Tracey had to pay. Also the opportunity lost, you know, because people weren't using the credit card to buy product in the machine. And when they go to the machine and the credit card reader doesn't work, that doesn't reflect well on the business. Doesn't reflect well on us. So by doing this master account it will allow us to be able to turn them off, turn them on. And, you know, we're not waiting on USA Technologies. Cause right now they'll tell you‑‑ they can usually do it in a day or two. But they'll say it takes up to seven days to transfer over.

In this case Mica wanted to go in and change Delgado from one to the other. He could do that in just a matter of seconds, and it will be done. So there's still a little more paperwork, but they're setting up the account. What they have is he gave me a letter they have in other states. They've done this in Florida, Nebraska. I think he said in 12 different states. In Florida they have 2500 credit card readers, the state does. So there was a form you would say like I, Shelly Lejeune, would like to transfer these different readers to the state master program. And that way, you know, we would have Shelly call Michelle. And Michelle could go in and she'll be able to diagnose and make adjustments to it. Technical support, still have to call USA. But this will give us an idea, a lot of easier access, a lot more control over our credit card readers. And then you also have the other point where, you know, if we want to have to replace a credit card reader. I know some of you guys talk about Nayax, this other credit card company. So we could also do a similar situation with Nayax. Currently we don't have any Nayax credit card readers. Everything we have is USA Technology which is also now Cantaloupe. But there's a lot of Cantaloupe ones that need to be replaced. So we need to make a decision at that time do you want to replace them with Cantaloupe or do you want to go through a different company, Nayax.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Well, I thought we were supposed to have a meeting with somebody from Nayax so we could hear from the horse’s mouth exactly, you know, how they do business.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Well, we're going to get there. At this point without knowing what we can pay for, not pay for. We're kind of holding off on that. You guys are certainly welcome. I did talk to the guy from Nayax. Basically do the same thing as far as a master agreement goes as well. I think they're a dollar less per month, you know, for their rental than it is for USA Technologies. From them exactly what we have, what we need to replace. And then we can look at those. But I don't see replacing a perfectly good 5G credit card reader with USA Technologies with Nayax just to save a buck.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Right.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: At the same time you got an old 3G that needs to be replaced. Make a decision at that point. Do you want to stay here. Cause I know you guys have issues with Cantaloupe all the time as far as customer service goes.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Correct.

EMMA PALMER: Are we talking about the credit card readers? These still the ones with the two antennas, right?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Right, Emma. Now the two antennas gives you that 4G, 5G service on the network. So you can make a 3G one go to 4G by adding that antenna and that other kit to go with it. That still doesn't help you with your tap European Master Card protocol. That would have to be replacing the bezel. The bezel's 100 bucks. The kit's 100 bucks. A new credit card reader already set to go is 200 bucks. So make more sense just to buy the new one getting the latest and greatest technology.

BARBARA ALEXANDER: Mr. Steve, this Barbara.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Hey, Barbara.

BARBARA ALEXANDER: Hi. How you doing? Hi, everybody. I did all through that through Ms. Michelle and I'm still getting reports from Rubicon. I'm not getting the report from the Iberville building at all. So what I want to know would I be responsible to pay to get my credit card reader set up the right way? Or what do I need to do next to see what my machine is, the cards are producing or what my sales are? Of course, I'm not getting any of that.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Let me ask you this, Barbara. Are you still getting the money from those machines?

BARBARA ALEXANDER: No credit card. This is reports.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Just getting the reports, but the moneys‑‑ okay.

FRANK GAFFNEY: If she's getting a report it's going to her account.

BARBARA ALEXANDER: No. It's not. Cause normally they have my routing number for my bank and stuff. And I'm wondering the Iberville building credit card readers are my money that I make going to the previous owner? How do that work cause I'm not getting anything, you know?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Michelle?

BARBARA ALEXANDER: I'm dead in the water.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Hey, Donald. Could you explain what you had to go through when you moved from the hospital.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: He's still going through it. I don't hear Don.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I think he dropped off. Michelle, let's go back to Barbara. Unmute yourself, Michelle. Cause I know she set you up with USA Technologies.

BARBARA ALEXANDER: Yes. And she turned my readers on, but I'm still not getting a report from them.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay. That's part of the customer service situation talking about with USA Technologies. Hey, Michelle.

FRANK GAFFNEY: I know with Donald it took way over a month before he finally got a figure that he had to pay Sonny.

BARBARA ALEXANDER: It's three months now.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Right. Cause money, the money was going to Donald instead of going to Sonny.

BARBARA ALEXANDER: That's what I'm trying to figure out.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Ms. Barbara, I'm going to work on that for you and I'll give you a call back after the meeting today.

BARBARA ALEXANDER: I appreciate it. Thank you.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I appreciate you. So it was my understanding that was all set up at this point. But that is part of the problem with USA Technologies is that they say they have the best customer service, but really is issue after issue.

CANDICE LINVILLE: I was on that call when Buddy said that. I had to do everything I could not to laugh.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: The grass isn't always greener on the other side. But maybe it is. Okay. That concludes new business on the agenda. We have open discussion. Frank, you want to take anything from there?

FRANK GAFFNEY: Well, we basically, along the line we covered things I had for open agenda.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Police department and everything.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: There's something I want to bring up about location. Location that has a snack bar and vending machines. A manager wants to focus more on the snack bar and less on the vending machines by putting those vending machines on a third-party relationship. And the manager will receive the commission from the third-party operator while still, you know, working full time in the snack bar. Now going through the BEP and going through the tag manual like we've been doing, it really has not been specified that you cannot do that, you know. Kevin will tell you the policy, informal policy, is that we don't want managers to just put the machines on third-party. You know, we want them to work. And that's part of the employment program is to work your machines. But the same token it is an entrepreneurial program, and we want you guys to make your own business decisions as well. I know in the past the only one that's been doing it is Honeywell plant. And the rational there was that that they wanted someone that had vision. And that's the story I've been dealing with. So what is your feedback on having managers put their vending machines on third-party if they have a snack bar and vending machines. My thought was if it's strictly vending, we don't want to do that. You don't want to just have a manager getting a check because they would make less money that way and they wouldn't really be operating their business. They would just be getting a commission check from the third-party operator. A vending only location. But at the same time if you have a full-blown snack bar, like Candice was saying with Einstein, you're blowing and going the whole day, you may not have the time to go out and service the vending machines properly. Again, that reflects back on you. I was going to see what kind of feedback, active participation you guys would give me on your thoughts on allowing a manager. I don't even know if it's allowing a manager. I don't know that we can really say you can't. What are your thoughts on having a manager put their snack machines on third-party if they have a snack/vending location?

FRANK GAFFNEY: That goes back to 2005 when we bought the vending machines. It was said, again, it was never put in the rules.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: What was never put in the rules?

FRANK GAFFNEY: That before that we didn't have any state-owned machines and part of the agreement was we'll go ahead after arguments that we'll buy the state-owned vending machines and put it in, but you have to service it and not do third-party. But like I said, it never got put in the rules.

KEVIN MONK: And I would assume, Frank, that probably has to do with having control of the equipment. The state-owned equipment.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Right.

KEVIN MONK: You know, that you can't turnover state-owned equipment. And we know we've heard that one state was doing that. They were buying equipment and they were allowing third-party vendors to fill it. And, you know, in exchange for a higher percentage. And so I suspect it had to do with that. RSA did not like that when the state was doing that.

FRANK GAFFNEY: West Virginia still does it. All their third-party, the state owns the equipment. Even the cafeteria at the state building.

EMMA PALMER: And yesterday evening on the phone with Jessie they kept bringing up there from different states about the federal locations.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Right.

EMMA PALMER: And they were saying that may be something the state eventually have to consider doing because they don't have enough managers. And I mean they're probably saying that for other states that got larger federal buildings that the states may have to consider giving the equipment and put in there if you don't have enough managers to take all those federal locations and do it that way. The manager (inaudible).

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Let me clarify what this situation is. Is the third-party operator will provide the vending machines. They're not going to use our vending machines.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Right. Now that is in the rules. You can't use state equipment.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: And that's what we're talking about. We're not talking about third parties using our equipment. We're talking about a third-party coming in replacing our equipment. Which will give us some more equipment we can use somewhere else in this particular case. But having them service their machine and pay a commission to that manager at that location. Like I say, I'm just trying to see what you guys think about that idea.

FRANK GAFFNEY: I wasn't talking about the third-party using our equipment when I was talking about it. The agreement was we'll buy state equipment, but you have to agree that you're going to use the equipment and you're going to fill the machines.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. That's correct what Frank is saying. Once the state bought the machines for a different manager, whatever manager no matter if he had a snack bar or not, he fills his machines himself. Or hired somebody to do it. You know, one of his employees.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: What I'm saying, also, you're saying that's the agreement. Who is that an agreement between? Is that codified somewhere, written down?

FRANK GAFFNEY: It never got written down.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: No.

FRANK GAFFNEY: They failed to write it in. It was a verbal agreement that never got put in writing.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Right. See I personally think we should‑‑ I think from the managers’ standpoint they'd make more money if they did their own machines.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yes. And what you just said right there, Steve, that's what Jessie kept on saying yesterday. That's the purpose of a manager making money.

KEVIN MONK: And based on what Jessie was saying yesterday, Frank, it's probably a good thing it didn't get put in writing.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. Exactly.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: But yesterday's conversation was really about unassigned 3rd party vending on federal property. This is not none of that. This is a manager on state property, parish property. You know, making a decision what's best for their business, you know. So that's kind of what the program is. Candice decides she wants‑‑ we want you guys to have as much autonomy in operating a business, making the choices you want to make, what you think is best for your business.

EMMA PALMER: Like Shelly said, if it's your location, you run an Einstein, you don't have time to do the machines, then hire one of your employees to do it.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Right.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: So Candice, what do you think?

CANDICE LINVILLE: You know, I'm all pro filling your machines. But that's a personal thing to me. I want to make all the money. And I think that's part of your location, I think that's the outlook you should have. Because the whole point of being in our program. But, I mean, you know.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Steve, you have incidents where you have a manager right now that has a snack bar that wants to put the machine, the state machines on third-party?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Replace the state machines with a third-party operator who would provide their own machines to that location. So they would still have the vending machines in that location. But the maintenance of the machines would be serviced by another party who would pay them a commission.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Okay. In my opinion doing it the way you're saying as long as the third-party provides the machines, really the agency has nothing to do with it because it's not state machines.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: But going back to the agreement is between SLA and the host. Whether it be State of Louisiana or Rubicon or wherever. So if the operator gets into a separate agreement with another operator, then I think, you know, we should at least have‑‑ I'm not saying veto that. But we should be made aware of it because our agreement with different people are different. The permit, say Jefferson Parish, for example. They're very specific on what kind of levels of insurance that they have to have. So if a third-party operator would come into Jefferson Parish, for example, they would have to meet the same criteria that the manager meets as far as insurance requirements. But if they're able to do that, you know.

EMMA PALMER: What happens if that manager leave the location and someone else come in and they don't want to do the third-party?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Kick the third-party out and go back the way‑‑

FRANK GAFFNEY: The contract is strictly with the manager. Not with the state.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Right. The other issue is I don't know that we can prevent someone from doing that. We can say it's the agreement, but if they want to pursue it, I don't know what our defense would be, you know.

KEVIN MONK: You know, the only thing I would say to that is definitely probably have to get some legal input into it because it's almost like a teaming partner type arrangement. Very similar. And so, you know, the state may actually have to be made aware of or a party to, I don't know, I'm not an attorney, you know. But the state may have to be a little more involved in the agreement than just saying okay, we wash our hands of it. You know, it's between the manager and the third-party. I don't know.

FRANK GAFFNEY: I believe the state should have a copy of the contract and make sure it's verified with the host.

KEVIN MONK: That's something that I can add to my second list of issues.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Steve, you have a lot of different situations cause you're dealing with state and you're dealing with federal. And then what you just mentioned a while ago, Steve, you mentioned Honeywell. That's private.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Right. If the host says look, you know, I don't want‑‑ I want it on third-party, you know. We don't have anything saying we can't do that because obviously we can. We've been doing it at Honeywell for quite some time. But at the same time I don't want somebody's got vending on a location just put the whole thing on third-party. That affects the spirit of the program, I think.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Right.

FRANK GAFFNEY: They even said in the meeting last night. They even say we're not in the business for a manager to sit home and collect money.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Nope. That was said yesterday. Not once either.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: That's not what I'm talking about either. Talking about if someone has, you know, a snack bar where they're busy and want to be open when they close. And then if they say, you know, maybe they don't even want you to bother with the vending machine, but they have to have a vending machine as stipulated in the agreement. They think their time would be better served instead of servicing that vending machine working more at the snack bar. I mean, if that's a decision that the manager makes, you know, it may not be worth it to them to do the vending machines, you know. Mr. Bowman over there at the courthouse, he used to call his Tom's machines. No. They're not Tom's machines. They're your machines. The state’s machines. But he was paying his wife's father-in-law, in law. He would come do the machines, but Mr. Bowman never even worried about the vending machines. He was focused on that snack bar. He worked there for 50 years, and he made a good living. To him his time was more valuable behind the counter than dealing with the drinks and the snack machine. So what do you think?

SHELLY LEJEUNE: One thing we need to goes back to what Frank just said, if it's not in writing it needs to be put in writing.

FRANK GAFFNEY: The way it is right now in writing unless the only way I could see it could be stopped if they want to do it is if the host says no. I might be wrong.

EMMA PALMER: Yeah. But it's nowhere even agreed on the way Steve is saying this is totally new.

MELISSA BAYHAM: I had to step away. So we're talking about putting on third-party a private location, is that we're talking about?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: We're talking about like a manager has a snack bar and they have a couple vending machines. So instead of them servicing those vending machines, they want to put those vending machines on third-party agreement. The third-party operator would put in their own snack machine, own drink machine. They would service that and pay commission to the manager. The agreement would be between that manager and that third-party operator.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Your question was, Melissa, if it's in private. No. It can be any location. Not just private.

MELISSA BAYHAM: I was just trying to figure out what y'all were talking about. I'm sorry.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Look, I never worked in the private. And I never worked in the federal. But I have been in the state buildings all the time. And I can tell you right now the building I'm in I don't think OSB would want just anybody going in there filling machines. That takes care of something right there.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Right.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Melissa, if you're still there what this boils down to back in 2005 everybody had third-party contracts at their locations with third-party because the state would not buy vending machines. We thought that we would make more money doing our own equipment. So it finally came down we got a grant and bought 200 something vending machines and it was an unofficial agreement that okay we're buying equipment, you have to fill them yourself, and there is no more third parties.

MELISSA BAYHAM: Okay. Thank you, Frank. I appreciate that.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay. That was in 2005. Some of the same vending machines we bought in 2005.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yep.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: But again, it's not in the BEP. It's not even in the tag manual, anything written down saying it's got to be this way. So if I had, say a litigious manager say this is what I want to do. It's my location. Part of the program. A business enterprise program. It's best for my business to do it this way. This is what I want to do. I don't know that we can say no, you can't do that. And this is the reason why and it's specified in the BEP. Perhaps might be better served to talk to John about it, Kevin, and maybe get...

KEVIN MONK: Yeah.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: And circle back.

KEVIN MONK: I'll definitely add that to my second list of items to get feedback from John. Because I do think that we're going to have to be a party to, our notified, or have copies of, or something. We're going to have to have some kind of dealings with the contract between the manager and the third-party. Whether it's just having a copy in the file or actual signing, I don't know. I mean, I'm not an attorney.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Like I say, anybody who's third-party they would have to meet the same requirements that the host requires. Whether it be insurance level, vaccination, whatever. They would have to adhere to whatever the host has. So say if it's Refreshment Solutions, for example, you know, they have the proof of insurance, they have the operators, they have the machines, you know. If it's some other yahoo off the street wanting to get his own vending machines, different subject. It would have to be a reputable firm that can meet the same criteria that the building requires. But if that's the case then I don't know how to say no. I don't know that I want to say no, to be honest with you. To me, if the person wants‑‑ instead of making 45 percent on the candy bar and they make 25 they can use that other 20 cents worth of time to do something else and maybe make a dollar over here. So again, you know, to me the spirit of the program is, you know, it's your business. Run it the way you want to run it. But don't just put everything on third-party. That's not what we're talking about. We're talking about a unique situation when you have people with a snack bar. Shelly, how about you? You had Claiborne and you had to do the cafeteria and the vending machines.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yes.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: You had help in the cafeteria.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Right. I had a manager that actually took care of the problems of the cafeteria. But nothing was decided until it went through me anyway. So I took care of the vending machines myself.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Say if you want to go the other way. Say you want to be in the cafeteria full time, you know. But then you wouldn't have enough time to mess with your vending machines. If you wanted to say hey, look. I want to get a third-party to do that, you know, while I'm working in the cafeteria. To me that's something that I think, you know, the manager should be allowed to make a decision that would affect their business like that. That's just me.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: I understand, Steve. You can't deny them. But there's going to be stipulations. It's got to be approved by the agency, by the building and you can't use state machines.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Right.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Cut and dry. Yep. Okay.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: But if all the stipulations are met, you know.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. You as a program manager, you can't deny them. You're totally right. Not going to argue with that. But I still think it's stupid not to do your own machines and get your money yourself.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Right.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: That's your choice.

EMMA PALMER: But by the same token, how if he can't deny that way, how can he deny it if you just got all machines?

SHELLY LEJEUNE: You mean just vending machines period and put it on third-party?

EMMA PALMER: Yeah. If it's not in writing anywhere, you just said it. What is the difference. If he can't deny if you have a snack machine and vending machine, how can he deny it if you just got all vending machines. I mean, not that I would want to do it. I would never do this either, but I'm just saying what's the difference.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Emma, you were on that call last night.

EMMA PALMER: Oh, I know. I know.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Pay the manager to work. And sitting home is not the manager working.

EMMA PALMER: Well, that's what I'm saying. Just like Shelly said when he had the snack machine. I mean he had the cafeteria and the snack machines. He paid a manager. If he decided to do the cafeteria, he would pay a person to do the vending. And you're still overseeing. I mean, what we got someone in the program wanting to do this now?

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yes. That was my question earlier too.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yes.

EMMA PALMER: Is that the case?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yes. Emma, it is the case.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: My thing is what if you have vending and you put it on third-party, don't y'all have like an hour requirement. I know it says in our thing y'all supposed to meet so many hours during a work week. If you're sitting at home and they're doing all your work.

EMMA PALMER: You can ride around and pick up your money and make your thing. You can do the Sam's run. You can still work that out.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Not if you're doing third-party.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Michelle, there is nothing in the rules about 40 hours a week.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: I just know that we say y'all are supposed to put in so many hours.

FRANK GAFFNEY: I know, but this has gone into other courts and‑‑

SHELLY LEJEUNE: And it lost.

FRANK GAFFNEY: If you were required to work 40 hours, then you become a state employee.

PAUL RABO: Frank, this Paul Rabo.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Yeah.

PAUL RABO: I thought on the VR side it was a requirement for them, the counselor to have a closure that had to be based on a 40-hour work week.

FRANK GAFFNEY: That's what they said, but once you're in the program if you require a 40 hour week, you're not working for the VR program. But if you're required for‑‑ this came up, you know, because there was some things, you know, states was requiring and holding them to it that you had to work 40 hours a week. And it came out that if they required you to work 40 hours a week, then you were determined to be a state employee. Cause the state was requiring you to work.

PAUL RABO: Well, hey. Steve, on the third-party machine issue, couldn't we just write it up in a way to leave it open as a possibility for where we could call it extenuating circumstances that the manager would have to present like to apply to put machines on a third-party. And then it had to be like approved somehow maybe by the EC or whatever to go ahead and do that in certain circumstances. Instead of just slamming the door on it all together. Like have some kind of, you know, a filter from, you know, there being a legitimate need to do it that way verses just someone not wanting to, you know, work and do their own machines.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Well, you know, in this particular case I think it goes back to the law. Maybe going forward as we promulgate the BEP and get that approved from RSA, we can do that. But right now, we don't have anything saying that you cannot do that. Other than saying we never did it that way before. If someone's litigious and they said well, I'm doing it. I'll see you in court.

BARBARA ALEXANDER: What about some of us who have to have paid employees to assist us?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I'm sorry, Barbara. What was that?

KEVIN MONK: You're covered. Yeah. If it's you and your employee filling machines, you know, that's what the intent is. It's state-owned equipment. You and an employee are filling machines.

BARBARA ALEXANDER: Okay.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: That's good. Steve, I don't want to push anything who this person is, but I do know there's a case that a manager wanted to close the snack bar and just keep vending machines. I don't know if that's the same person or not.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: No.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Okay.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: But I don't know if we can make a rule that, you know, if you have vending machines only, you know, that you can't put it on third-party. That would make sense to me. If you have snack and vending, you know, we prefer that you service your own machines. But if you make a business decision that's best for your business to have it on third-party. We have a situation in Baton Rouge where you got an operator got vending machines and a snack bar. Not really able to do either one of them well, you know. So some cases might be better for the tenants of the building and for that manager to have it on third-party. Where the vending machines are always full because the vending machine’s empty, he's not getting the chance, or she's not getting a chance to fill the vending machine then somebody goes there and it's empty then that's a solid loss anyway. Kind of hard to quantify what you didn't sell. But you got a lot better chance of selling if your machines are stocked and fully loaded. If you don't have the personnel to do that, you know. It's worth it to you to get a quarter instead of 35 cents. You're going to get a lot more quarters if the machine's full.

FRANK GAFFNEY: And I'm not saying Emma would do this, but I'm just going to use her location as an example. She has the main post office. In the contract she has to keep the vending machines at the substations filled.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Right.

FRANK GAFFNEY: And it's a pain. You know, it's spread out. I think it's about, if you're doing it all in one day it will take you two days if you were having to do it all the time. But it's all over town. Not saying she'll do this, but you have to pay somebody to drive you around to do it. And you talk about a location that's got ten people in it. So you're going in, you're taking the old stuff out, putting new stuff in. You know, is not profitable. But it's time consuming.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: So losing time and losing money. But if you turned it around and Emma's saying she got a third-party, Tom's Vending or whoever up there, and they're servicing those machines and she's taking the risk of losing money off of spoiled items out of there. So that's better for her business that way too.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Exactly.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: And those aren't our machines

EMMA PALMER: And the post office would have to clear Tom's. They would have to go through all this and that and present all their insurance and all that.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: That's what they do though. They have to do that everywhere else. If you have, you know, like our operators that do third-party for us. Tom's, Refreshment Solutions, M and M. They're all big operators. And, you know, they have to have that to go where they go anyway. These plants and things that they're doing. Whoever, if we ever went with a third-party, they would have to adhere to all the stipulations set forth by the host, you know. Same we did over here. One less vending machine we would have to buy. Machine breaks down. We don't repair it. The third-party guy repairs it. The inventory that goes in the machine, the manager's not putting that money out to get it back later on. They're stocked by the third-party. So they make less profit, perhaps. You know, makes less gross. But you factor everything in with lack of spoilage, lack of having to pay a driver. It might be more financially feasible for a manager to have it on third-party. Again, that's why I'm bringing it up.

PAUL RABO: Hey, Steve. That would be a big help, you know, with these federal locations that they want us to be manned and stuff because, you know, be a hassle. You know, the guy kept talking about a route, creating these routes of these, you know, not really viable individual locations and stringing them together. But for an existing manager to add that to his snack bar or whatever it would be kind of problematic, you know. And a route, typically, there's not really a lot of managers out there that really are setup to handle a route, you know. Trying to transport all these drinks and snacks. You know, around the city like that.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Some of these locations, Mondays and Tuesdays, got a snack machine and a drink machine over here. Like you say, you got ten people there, it's not even worth the time driving over there. Spend a lot of time and energy not making money.

FRANK GAFFNEY: As it stands right now as the rules are we can't stop somebody if they want to do it. Unless as long as they meet the requirements.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Well, we can look at that when we do our BEP and maybe address it in that situation. It's not something I'm advocating, by any stretch of the imagination. But at the same time, if somebody wants to do it, which they do, it's available to them. Okay. We're going to get with John and talk to him about it as well. Anything else on open discussion you guys wanted to bring up at this point? Moving on to subcommittees then. Which was Pinkie. Frank, you want to weigh in on anything?

FRANK GAFFNEY: No. I haven't gotten anything.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Constitution and bylaws.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Did y'all find that other money?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yeah. Pretty much. I'm going to go over that in the trust fund meeting. Emma, you got anything you want to bring on bylaws, constitution?

EMMA PALMER: No.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Okay. It's Frank. Under constitution and bylaws in the BEP and everything redoing we did have a revision redone on constitution and bylaws that was okayed by Mark Martin back in a number of years back. But that will be added to the BEP when we rewrite it.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Fantastic. Inventory. Earl, got you down for inventory. Earl's probably muted right now. But we talked about that. Location merger. Shelly. We hit that earlier.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. That's taken care of.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Got Herbert on new facility development. But we kind of covered that already. Policy and procedure. We talked about. And roadsides. Frank, what you got going on on roadsides? Other than the fact we got 49 out.

FRANK GAFFNEY: 49's out. Candice went over hers. Got a road closure. Donald, I haven't talked to him yet. But when he was going there Thursday, he was going to see if they corrected the road anymore because they've been, the whole time he's been there the entrances to the location were more or less shutdown. And Sam, he's Sam. Mine is the same. Just slow. And then the one in Mound, that's third-party. And I haven't heard anything back.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Go ahead, Paul. Paul, I thought you wanted to say something. M and M did go out there and install credit card readers on the Tomey Welcome Center yesterday. Paul, you're on mute.

PAUL RABO: I think I unmuted. What was that again, Steve?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I was just saying, reported M and M installed the credit card readers.

PAUL RABO: Yeah. They finally were able to get out there yesterday and put the telemetry update on. Update the telemetry. And they actually gave us six bezels to install as well. So we should be good to go over there as far as, you know, the upgrades to 4G and all that. And the EMV compliance issue.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay. All right. And then we had Herbert with training. Candice, you got anything on vending you want to talk about other than what we've talked about? That's your subcommittee.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Yeah. Not really. I mean just about I would like to have that meeting with the Nayax people, but like you said, I mean everything I said about vending regarding previous.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Upgrade a couple vending machines in your location.

CANDICE LINVILLE: None of mine need upgrading. I mean, I'm upgrading equipment.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I'm talking about the vending machine itself.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Oh, yes. Yeah. And coke is doing the same. Coke is putting all new equipment for me. Thanks to a wonderful letter.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yeah. Well, good. So we got Upward Mobility training is Shelly. One thing we have been doing is going to the Blast virtual. I think that's been helping out.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Well, that's for the ones who go through it.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yeah.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Cause I definitely sent it out to a lot of people. It's mostly committee people on it anyway.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Now that we're kind of between the fourth and the fifth wave there might be an opportunity to get together and do some in‑person training as well. One thing I thought about, we got Barbara on the phone here too. And we have people that have vending machines that have been trained through ABL and are doing it. But you can never know too much about a vending machine. Make more opportunity for like say John who does our repair work for us. If he could stage like a one-hour training session for a small group of managers. Three or four managers, some individual training, hands on training on the machine. I think that might help some people from a standpoint.

ERIC CHUPINA: Can he do AMS machines too? Cause that's eventually where we're going to go.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. Yes. He works on AMSs also.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Yeah. He does work with all of them.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: So Shelly, what do you think about maybe doing that, breaking it out? Because we tried it once before. Frank grave a presentation that kind of evolved into people talking.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. When Frank did it, I was with him and the problem that we had was a little bit too many people.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Yeah. I think it needs to be setup where you can designate one manager at a time to a certain amount of time. If we can get with John and say look, how long do you think it would take to do a brief overview on a machine and set them up for times.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Two or three managers doing it together.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Right.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Doesn't have to be individual. You want people to put their hands on it. Like Tracy, she got trained when she was with ABL. She was on the beach for two years before she got this location.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Steve, I got a suggestion.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: What's that, Shelly?

SHELLY LEJEUNE: If you want to work a training session into a convention, October of this year ABL will be having a convention in Baton Rouge. And I'm on the chairman of that committee. And I'm also the Baton Rouge chapter president. So whatever you want to do, I can make sure it gets worked in. So we can make a session. Or maybe more than one session if we have to.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: What I'm kind of thinking of is having him go to the location of that manager. Or so say Iberville, Bienville, somebody else on the street there. The three managers get together and get a little more individual training. Those people can, you know, put their hands on the machine, do everything. I think the large, that's what we did last time. A bunch of people and then they start talking and then it just kind of dissolved into chaos.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. Even at a convention we can break it off. Like, you know, like half hour here and half hour there. That sort of thing.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: We would need like a separate room.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yes. Definitely. And like I say, ABL will be having a convention at the end of October, and something can be done. I can make sure it gets taken care of.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay.

EMMA PALMER: Steve, this is Emma. If you had a manager that was real good with navigating through their iPhone, they can kind of Google that machine and a guy come on video and just like it is now while we're talking and he's showing you different things. I've done that.

CANDICE LINVILLE: I was going to suggest that with John Lamonica. If we could do like a video where someone can actually videotape what he's doing. And you can do like an AMS machine, an AP machine. So, you know, they're not merged together. So you have something to go back and refer to.

EMMA PALMER: Yeah. You can pull it up. You can Google it. And the guy is on there. Because I had kind of forgot how to do something. I said well, I know I remember, but I just can't. And that day I had my nephew with me who is good with the iPhone and computer. And he looked at that machine and pulled it up and he brought it to the table and sit down. And the guy was on there and actually walking you through it and showing you what to do. Which I could see what he was doing, but just listening to him brought it to me on what I needed to be doing.

KEVIN MONK: Sounds like a YouTube video. YouTube is my friend on a lot of stuff.

EMMA PALMER: Yeah. I don't know what it was. I just know he just sit it in front of me and the guy was on there. And he could see him pointing at it. But me just listening to it, it brought oh, now I remember. I know what I'm supposed to do with that when it come up.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I'll do a little YouTube research, see what they got on vending machines. Frank, we talked about insurance already. Now district concerns. Anybody have a concern other than what we talked about? I'll take that as a no. The last thing is the date for the next meeting. I think we decided already June 17th.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: No. June the 11th, I think.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Was it June the 11th, Shelly?

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. The second Friday.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay. You're right.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. The second Friday.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: No. June 10th is the second Friday.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. I wasn't sure about the exact date, but I know it's the second Friday.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: June 10th. Does that sound good to everyone? Okay. We'll say June 10th is going to be our next meeting. And that's probably going to be an in‑person meeting. And probably in Baton Rouge, you think?

SHELLY LEJEUNE: That's fine. Where at, Steve, since we don't have that district office anymore?

KEVIN MONK: That's a good question.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: LWC, Kevin? We'll work on getting a location.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Okay. Yeah, Kevin's office is not big enough, right?

KEVIN MONK: No.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: I knew that was coming.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Well, we do have conference rooms and stuff up there. We'll figure it out.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Okay.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay. So next item would be adjournment. Do y'all make a motion to adjourn this meeting?

SHELLY LEJEUNE: I move we adjourn the committee business meeting.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay.

CANDICE LINVILLE: I second.

FRANK GAFFNEY: All in favor.

{Collective aye}

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Very good. I'm going to take a point of personal privilege here. I need to actually take a comfort break. Y'all are welcome to talk amongst yourself here for the next few minutes. And I'll be right back. Pop back in probably about three minutes.

I'm back.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Man, that was quick.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I've been back. Where you been. A lot of times the building wants what the building wants. Then they don't support it. We don't want anybody to lose money. Be open just to be open on the rare case this guy wants to go get him a cheeseburger at 2:00 in the afternoon, you know. But if you're not doing business between two and three, make the case, again, like Frank said, go hour by hour.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. I had to do that already. Steve, I want to bring up something just in general. When Emma was talking about a sandwich machine or frozen machine. I think there may be two locations here in Baton Rouge. They ended up giving that up because it just wasn't paying. If Michelle's still on, she can back that up. There were two locations for sure. For sure one that I know of. And they actually give up their frozen machine and sandwich machine.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yeah. We had these machines that were attached.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Correct. That's what both of them were.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Those things were always a maintenance problem.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: I know. I dealt with one.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Freezer machine's expensive. The small one's like 7,000‑dollars. You're better off buying a drink machine. But that's another thing. We want a machine with sandwiches. Okay. Here's a machine with sandwiches. Well, I don't want those sandwiches. You end up having spoilage. And talking to Refreshment Solutions who told me he has 6,000 machines. He has very few that are food machines.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Suggestion. If we do buy any of those food machines, I suggest a four wide. It's a lot cheaper and don't have to put in as much and it looks better.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. Especially when you have trouble getting sandwiches, right.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Yeah. I just did an order yesterday with Vistar. And I ordered, I requested five different kinds of sandwiches and they didn't have any.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Vistar is the biggest operator in the United States.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yes.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: We already adjourned the last meeting. We need to move on to our blind vendors trust fund.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Okay. We're ready to go.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Frank, you want to do a call to order on that for us?

FRANK GAFFNEY: Let's call to order. Quiet everyone.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Candice Linville, New Orleans.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Shelly LeJeune, Baton Rouge.

EMMA PALMER: Emma Palmar, Shreveport.

BARBARA ALEXANDER: Am I supposed to still be on this meeting? A private meeting?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Earl's on here. If you want to unmute, Earl. He's still on us.

EMMA PALMER: You can still be on, Barb.

BARBARA ALEXANDER: Okay. Thank you.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. You can listen. How about Don? Is he still here, Steve?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: No. Don's not here.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Not here anymore. Okay.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: We got Earl, Emma, Frank, Shelly and Candice.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Okay. We have enough, right, Kevin?

KEVIN MONK: You got five, you know. So four out of seven.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: We're good. Okay.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: The official roll call. Thank you for that. Review of the agenda. Kind of small. Hope you had a chance to look at it. We should vote?

KEVIN MONK: Yes.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Okay.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Y'all reviewed the agenda. Make a motion to accept the agenda and vote on it if need be.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yes. I move that we accept the agenda.

FRANK GAFFNEY: As written.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: As written. Sorry.

CANDICE LINVILLE: And I second.

FRANK GAFFNEY: All in favor.

{Collective aye}

FRANK GAFFNEY: Opposed. Motion passed.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Last meeting we had was February, December 11th. Lynsey gave us our minutes for that. Frank, you had a chance to review the minutes?

FRANK GAFFNEY: Yeah. Definitely. Again, it's word for word. That's been our best investment in years.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Right about that.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Okay. I'll move that we accept the minutes for‑‑ I won't be able to say it.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Approval of minutes.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah.

CANDICE LINVILLE: I second.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Favor.

{Collective aye}

FRANK GAFFNEY: Opposed.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: I'm getting hungry.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: All right. Well, good. We approve those meetings. Okay. In the last meeting I went back and, thanks to Lynsey, went back and looked at what I had said the last time. At that point the balance was 728,981‑dollars at our last meeting. I did make a note that under the expenditures whatever reason there was only 154‑dollars in the month of November. There was only 2,600‑dollars in the month of December. Want to share my screen here. So we have gone to a new system from what we used to have. Shared my screen. Hope you can see it.

FRANK GAFFNEY: See you.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: They're having issues with the new system as far as making deposits. And then what they used to do is allocate the monthly expense for salaries. Which equates to like 28,000‑dollars, 30,000‑dollars a month for all the RSMAs and everybody else. They kind of lump summed it in here at 96,000. Are you able to see that, Kevin?

KEVIN MONK: I'm still looking at you.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: How about now?

KEVIN MONK: Not yet. Yeah. We got it.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: All right. So yeah. This is blind vendors trust fund balance. So there's a 96,000‑dollar debit in here. Which is really prorated. It's like three months’ worth of numbers. So 30, 30, 30. And we're missing about 35,000‑dollars of deposits. We're having issues as far as getting those in. So this says a balance of 658,000. When in actuality it's about 695,000‑dollars. Which would make more sense. So I think we're a little bit over. The number was bigger, smaller than I said it was last time. And it's actually larger. So the balance in the trust fund is approximately 690,000‑dollars as of today.

FRANK GAFFNEY: So all the stipends are paid then?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: All the stipends have been paid. Those were those two big expenditures in September and October. So I think Steven Johnson told me our total expenditure on stipends this year was a little less than 120. And that's because we're no longer paying the retired managers that stipend. That has saved us. Don't want to say saved us, but that's about another 30,000‑dollars we didn't spend this year that we spent last year on stipends. And again, that wasn't a decision we just came to arbitrarily. That was based on what Kevin got from RSA.

FRANK GAFFNEY: What it boiled down to was we were using more money for the stipends than we were collecting from federal.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah.

{Music playing}

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Who is that?

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Man, somebody's getting with it.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Shelly, is that you?

CANDICE LINVILLE: I don't know, but I'm changing my ring tone. I like it. Got a little pep in it, you know. It sounds like a kid's game like when you're at the arcade. Or Donkey Kong. You remember how Donkey Kong used to have that little when you tried to go up the thing?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I don't know what that was. So I apologize for not having a more direct, you know, solid number for you. But that's kind of ball parking where we are. Like I said, we haven't been spending a whole lot of money on new equipment or repairs or anything else. But the collections have been down a little bit just like your revenue's been down because of the pandemic. Hopefully as businesses start coming back in these federal locations we'll be ramping back up again. But it's kind of status queue right now as far as the trust fund goes. That is one issue we talked about. We started discussion about the federal, third-party on federal locations. That is going to be a ding on the trust fund because we're getting about 30 percent of our revenue is coming from federal locations. So as we spin those off to managers, we're looking for some help to try to fill that back in. That's why we're working with John to try to get these hospitals back. So we can have as much third-party on state property as we want to. That's where we need to fund the trust fund. Or you guys vote to have set asides. You all kick in and go that route. Okay. Open discussion. Frank, you got anything you want to start us off with as far as discussion goes? I think I muted you. You got to unmute yourself, Frank. Emma, you got anything you want to discuss?

FRANK GAFFNEY: There we go. You got me now?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I got you.

FRANK GAFFNEY: All of a sudden, I had a thing on my screen said muted or unmuted. What it boils down to on that pay it winds up being a little over 500,000 each year for payroll.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Right. I'm still sharing my screen. This is actually the general ledger. This is the new one we're getting from the Lagov system. Honestly, it's not as easy to read as it was before. What we had before. And I'm working my way through it. But I'll be happy to share this with you, but I don't know that you'll be able to read it any better. But this is the top up here where we talked about, you know, the salaries for all the RSMA staff, myself, and part of Chauntey and Kevin as well. And utilities, acquisitions.

KEVIN MONK: Is that in Excel, Steve?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: The is in Excel.

KEVIN MONK: Okay. I might be able to get somebody to enlarge it.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay. I'm going to forward it to you. I think you got it.

KEVIN MONK: Yeah. Send me a notice to which tab that is.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay.

KEVIN MONK: And I'll try to get somebody to work on that. And that way we can share it and so everybody can have something that's a little more useful to them.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Right. Yeah. Cause it's more complicated. We even have some internal issues with transition. I used to go to Steve Johnson to pull it up, but he can see one side of the ledger, but he can't see the financials. We're having to deal with a couple different people to try to get all the information to one location. So we're going to try to streamline this a little bit ahead of our next meeting. And then whatever we get I'll backfill this. I'll send y'all a copy of it. Once I have something that you can actually read and make sense. And we update these numbers on here.

So going back to the third-party on federal property. You got a couple locations that we can maybe spinoff and make new individual locations out of. Things specifically like in New Orleans we have Hale Boggs. And then we have the Customs House. And then there's also (inaudible) Hebert and the Wisdom building. So the three courthouses are in the same plaza. And then the Customs House is a four-story building down by the French Quarter. Maybe half a mile, mile down the street. So I thought that might be a location that we can look at maybe creating one new private location and put that out to bid. And that was also the Army Corps of Engineers. Which we have multiple machines. I think we have 18, 19 machines over there. That could also be one that we consider spinning off into a new individual location. A lot of things we got on Mondays and Tuesdays. That is going to present a challenge. Like the Lafayette Parish courthouse. I think Earl is off of here now. But nobody in there really has the transportation to service that location. In Lake Charles you got that machine in the post office that really needs to be spun back out. But in some cases, we're not going to be able to, there's not going to be a blind manager that can physically go out there and service that machine. Or it's even worth his time to do that. So I think that's what we talked about yesterday in that last training meeting about having third-party agreement with the manager and the third-party operator to service these kind of far flung, small location machines. And it was my understanding you can do that. Is that what you were getting from‑‑ what was y'alls opinion on Jessie's thoughts.

FRANK GAFFNEY: That was my opinion.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. Mine too. I agree. That was my opinion. And you can give it to a manager that's in the closest area that has maybe a lower income.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Right.

FRANK GAFFNEY: I was going to figure if we put something on Mica. Get like a map with spots of where locations are. And then an additional one spots that we have to fill. You know, so we could see whose closest and what area is it. What their income is. And, you know, whether it's a big location or small location. Just all that kind of information.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Right. You know, we want to look at it from an equity standpoint too. You know, say Federal City's closest to the location.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Right.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Mike doesn't really need another vending machine.

CANDICE LINVILLE: No. Nor money.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I think Frank had said we would try to start with those who are making the least than a geographic standpoint. Like, for example, in Baton Rouge. Zora's got the post office right now across the street from the federal building there. There's four machines. Two and two in those two buildings right there. That's geographically right across the street, you know. And that location's not doing good at all. So it would make more sense to merge it with that location.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Right.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: So you want to try to maybe do like a little subcommittee meeting next week to week after. Cause Herb and I started talking about it, but then he got off the board. And the big ones I think I'd be more comfortable making them into just a freestanding location. Like Army Corp of Engineers. That's probably enough right there.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Those three bigger ones we definitely have to begin with, we have to put it out for bid.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Right.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Do we have any available managers?

KEVIN MONK: You have one on the bench.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Who's on the bench? Oh, yeah. Leon. Right.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: That's New Orleans area.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: He really doesn't want to move from New Orleans.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Right.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: We would have Leon lined up for that.

FRANK GAFFNEY: If nobody bids it as a manager then we'd have to go with satellites.

KEVIN MONK: Right.

FRANK GAFFNEY: On the bigger locations.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: And in that Blast training yesterday with Jessie, you know, Terry was asking all kind of different questions about how we postpone it and everything else. They do want to see motion and activity. That we're moving forward with doing it. But it's going to be a ding on the trust fund.

KEVIN MONK: And he did say on there that, you know, you don't really have to do it until your contract ends. But the way I took it is you do have a contract still going on it, you got to have a plan of action for what's going to happen as soon as it's over.

KEVIN MONK: Right.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: And don't renew your contract.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Well, most of our agreements are, you know, in perpetuity with either ten day or 30 day written notice termination by either party. So the big ones we'd give them a 30 day notice we're going to be taking over.

FRANK GAFFNEY: That's an option to get out. They have a contract date. Have a five-year contract.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yeah. Usually. But the ones we have right now there's nothing that prohibits getting out of any location that we want. Now Delgado's a little different. Delgado, I think we put a 60 day out on that one just because we're taking ourselves (inaudible).

{Members speaking simultaneously}

FRANK GAFFNEY: What I understood was if you have a five-year contract, and let's say there's two more years to go on that contract, you don't have to get out of that until that contract expires.

SPEAKER: Right.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Well, Steve, some of the locations, do you know if they have contracts and when they're going to expire?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yeah. Like I say, I can send a letter to anybody and everybody right now saying we decided, through no fault of our own, that we're going to take this location private back from you guys in 30 days. That's what it says in the agreement. It's like a standard facility agreement that's been on the books forever. That's what it says in there. Now the older ones have ten days. But the ones that I've always done it's 30 days. But the problem is now say we go into Corp of Engineers and there's 12 snack machines over there. We'd have to buy 12 snack machines to go to that location. So then that's, now you're looking at a big expenditure in that particular case. Cause that is the one good thing about having these third parties. Their machines. They're servicing. We don't have to pay for machines. But when we do spend these off, we'll have to purchase vending machines to go with them.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. And get new managers in. Cause it can make a chain reaction and you're going to need new managers.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: You know, we've also‑‑ that would be a new location, you know. So we would be able to staff it up. I mean, buy all the equipment we need. Just a matter of having the money to do it.

FRANK GAFFNEY: I think we ought to do an LLC and divide it all up between everybody.

EMMA PALMER: Oh, my goodness. Did you hear him say that yesterday?

KEVIN MONK: That was funny.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Frank, when do we sign off on it?

EMMA PALMER: That's a thought, Kevin. That's a good thought.

FRANK GAFFNEY: See that's why I been saying we're way ahead of the game. Because on that chat line I'm on those people are coming up with some of the weirdest ideas of what to do.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. What did Jessie say. Y'all sure creating it. He said that yesterday.

EMMA PALMER: Yeah.

FRANK GAFFNEY: I was on a call with California and the director out there was bound and determined that they only had to do that on new locations. That all the other stuff was grandfathered in.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I think they made it pretty clear in what they sent out and the conversation yesterday. They do expect some progress on this.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yes.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: They're kind of looking at the RSA15 to, you know, see what you got. That's how they're going to be kind of monitoring the activity. Look and see how it goes on RSA15. Which they've extended again till April 4th as of now. But they still haven't provided us with guidance on the FRP dollars, how we're supposed to account for those. So unless we get that in the next day or two, it's probably going to be extended yet again.

FRANK GAFFNEY: That's still a big thing on our chatline whether it's taxable.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: What's taxable?

FRANK GAFFNEY: FRP. Yeah.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I'm going to say it is.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Some of the states sent out 1099s, some states didn't. And some of them just well, take it to your bookkeeper and ask them.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: That's exactly what I'm doing. I got all the information and it's already been sent to him.

KEVIN MONK: I would say you're replacing income. You pay taxes on your income.

FRANK GAFFNEY: I'm going to say it doesn't matter what your bookkeeper tells you because if they sent you a 1099, that's being sent to the government.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Uncle Sam wants his money.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. First. First.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Perhaps you want to maybe set up‑‑ we need to get back on our promulgation deal next week. But maybe you want to have a meeting. We'll work on that map like you were talking about, Frank. I think Eric has the ability to do that. We can address each one and maybe get together next week and maybe start looking at different locations, what we want to do.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. And Steve, could we also have another committee meeting or subcommittee dealing with the credit card readers so we'll know exactly how everyone lines up, what they can and can't do and how y'all are doing with the master account.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: If y'all don't mind.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yeah. So we can meet at any time we want. Blind vendors trust fund is a public meeting, you know. But there's no reason why we can't just have our own Zoom meeting and discuss whatever we want to discuss whenever we want to do it.

{Members speaking simultaneously}

FRANK GAFFNEY: We can have a subcommittee meeting anytime.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Okay. I just wanted to bring that up so we can keep‑‑ credit cards is going to be, to me, it's going to be a big issue, you know, for a lot of other managers.

MELISSA BAYHAM: Steve, me and Kevin need to get with the attorneys on that. This is a public body, so you have to be really careful with open meetings laws. So Kevin, that's something else you might want to. I know Danielle had mentioned doing training for both this body and the LRC on open meetings law. Because whenever you convene people who are on this body it is considered an open meeting.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay.

MELISSA BAYHAM: You just got to be careful.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I want to be careful. If you had, say you had three submanagers like we're doing that promulgation, you know, it's just been three of the EC members. Which is not a quorum or anything like that. Does that still need to be?

MELISSA BAYHAM: That's something we'll have to clarify. Did you get the information on the open meetings laws?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I did. But I didn't realize‑‑ I thought this was an open meeting. I'll go back and review it. I'll sign up for the training for that too. I want to make sure I'm doing it right as well.

MELISSA BAYHAM: I'm not completely sure, but I do think we need to look and just make sure. That they don't have to be open to the public.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Okay. Kevin, put that on your list.

FRANK GAFFNEY: What about a conference call?

MELISSA BAYHAM: It's the same thing. It's a meeting. It's a convening of the people of your committee. So Kevin, maybe we'll get with John.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: All right. Well, let Kevin and I get with John. Once we figure it out, I'll get back in touch with you guys and send out an invitation. Have a discussion. We'd probably be better off if we have one meeting on third-party federal property and we have a separate meeting on credit card readers.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: That's fine.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: So whichever one's more. We need to do both of them. Plus keep going with our tag manual. So let us check with our attorneys and I'll get back in touch with Frank and try to organize this for next week.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Okay.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Is there anything else you guys want to discuss?

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yeah. What's for lunch?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I'm thinking Canes.

FRANK GAFFNEY: I got to go to Sam’s and go to work.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: You're on the clock right now, Frank. You are at work.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Yeah.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: That's right.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Forty hours a week out of you, Frank. Just remember that.

CANDICE LINVILLE: You get your 40 out of Frank.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I get 40 hours of conversation out of Frank a week. I know he's on the case. All right. Y'all want to make a motion to pull the plug. Lynsey, thank you so much for your help today. You're great. Appreciate you.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Always.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Yes. Always keep us clear what we say and don't say. Like to move that the trust fund committee meeting be adjourned.

CANDICE LINVILLE: I second.

FRANK GAFFNEY: In all favor.

{Collective aye}

FRANK GAFFNEY: Opposed.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Thanks for Zooming in. I appreciate it. All right. Guys, y'all have a good weekend.