Randolph Sheppard Quarterly Meeting

12/13/2019

FRANK GAFFNEY: Call to order. Herbert, you here? Would you like to do a prayer?

HERBERT READO: Silent moment. Father God in the name of Jesus we come to thank you for another blessed day. We thank you for all that you have done. Now we ask that you will guide us and direct us as only you can. We ask in the name of Jesus. For this we pray, amen.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Role call committee.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Shelly LeJeune, Baton Rouge.

HERBERT READO: Herbert Reado, Baton Rouge.

EMMA PALMER: Emma Palmar, Shreveport.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Candice Linville, New Orleans.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Pinkie and Earl and Donald are absent. Frank, I'm always here. Welcome everybody to our quarterly meeting. Remarks by Melissa.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Actually says by Steven, which is me. You passed me over. Season's greetings everyone. Steve, the program manager. Welcome Lynn and Tanisha from ABL just joined us. We were supposed to have the training this afternoon. Went through a lot getting it all set up. A broadcast from the zoom camera. But mid morning yesterday Terry sent us an email he thinks he has food poisoning. We're going to reschedule that. Talked about doing it during our next meeting in March. I heard on the TV this morning the next Friday the 13th is in 13 weeks and it's March 13th. Thinking we don't want to go on March 13th. Also this is going to be our last meeting here. You might see the tables are marked keep. The moving truck is supposed to come over here first two weeks of January. As far as the location at LWC I don't know that the conference room is big enough. Also where you had that regional meeting at the Red Cross building.

KEVIN MONK: That possibility. Like an auditorium one of the floors in the other building. And I don't know what it takes to schedule that. We will have to look into that. But I was going to mention as a possibility for the next meeting, I think Shelly you are on the board with the merchants. If you can check with Pam as a possibility they are having their meeting, their convention in Baton Rouge I think in March. I don't know if they would be willing to do that. I know they have done it in the past. Not speaking for them. Just ask Shelly if he could check into that.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: No problem.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Kevin and I finished up the federal report last week. Sent to Melissa and Ava so they can take a look at it. Kevin you had another report you had to do. And the latest is the truck. Big problems with the truck. George had gone to Alexandria, worked fine, but never started. Had it towed and had to spend a good amount of money on it. In the meantime, talking to the administration about getting a new truck what it would take to do that. I think we need to pursue that. We have a 2004 is the truck. Pretty much been rebuilt. Right now it's running like a charm. Something we want to pursue in the coming year. That's it for now. As far as travel expenses, I cannot find the forms we filled out in Houma. If you haven't got your check that's because it's never been turned in. We need to try to replicate that. Today for your travel Michelle and Chauntey are here. They are more responsible than I am. Let's get with them before you leave.

FRANK GAFFNEY: If we have it at home email it to you.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Email them to me.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Should we fill out another form while we're here.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yeah.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Kevin, you want to do Melissa's?

KEVIN MONK: Unfortunately doesn't look like she is going to make it today. Got called to a meeting for her boss. She sends her regrets. Basically all I have at this point. I am sure I will be talking throughout the meeting.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Next thing is LWC and LRS staff.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: We have Michelle and Chauntey. Again, talk to them about your travel reimbursement before we leave.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Introduction of guests.

SHIRLEY MCCORKAL: Shirley McCorkal.

LYNN BLANCHARD: Lynn Blanchard, Affiliated Blind of Louisiana.

TANISHA LOPEZ: Tanisha Lopez, program manager and trainer.

PAM GAFFNEY: Pam Gaffney, Shreveport.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: We have Lynsey here taking notes for us today. Helps if you identify yourself even though she is great and knows everybody by now. Identify yourself when you speak.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Next thing is review of agenda. Anybody looked at it and had any questions?

SHELLY LEJEUNE: If everybody is okay with the agenda I make a motion we approve it.

HERBERT READO: Second it.

FRANK GAFFNEY: All in favor. Opposed. Carried. Next thing is old business.

KEVIN MONK: The request for the written response on Fort Polk vending and North Louisiana Hospital Shreveport, Monroe specifically. Basically about the Fort Polk issue, and I am just going to summarize the written response. I did give Frank a response earlier in writing. But to summarize the Fort Polk response LWC Administration has agreed to meet with us after the first of the year and to discuss Fort Polk and pursuing the vending opportunities there. I will be honest with you, they are probably a little gun shy based on what has happened in the past. We are going to have to explain how this is different, how the vending is different than a cafeteria and so on. We anticipate doing that after the first of the year. In regards to the vending at the federal prison in Pollock, Steve did prepare the request for permit. I reviewed it, sent it on to legal. It's on their desk at this point. And that will probably also be an issue that will come up at our January meeting with the administration to make sure everybody is on the same page. Because I am sure the folks at Pollock will not be thrilled when they get that. Not going to like the idea of giving up the vending and their employee fund. As far as the North Louisiana hospitals goes, I will let Steve read the response. It's kind of got some legal stuff in it and it's more than I can paraphrase for you.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Let's paraphrase. There is an exemption in the Randolph Sheppard law for different things. The legal opinion we got as a starting point generally universities are exempt from the Randolph Sheppard preference in the language. Provision of this section shall not apply to state colleges, universities, contracted food services, vending operations or other such services. Title 17 of la revised statute chapter 4 re LSU subpart LSU Health Science Center creates an exemption to the above exception stated in accordance with RS 233023, which is the Randolph Sheppard Act, the division shall in all cases give preference to individuals who are blind under the LWC's blind vending program. However, division is defined of subpart C2 section 1519.1 paragraph five as follows. Health care services divisions, or divisions means the organizational unit of the LSU Health Science Center at New Orleans comprised of hospital and administration personnel immediately responsible for the operation of the division. Therefore it is believed the blind vending preference as it pertains to University Medical Center and state hospitals applies only to the New Orleans location. Basically saying we don't have preference up there. That's an opinion our people gave us.

EMMA PALMER: Maybe we need to get a lawyer to look at that.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Now that's our state lawyer. I don't know if they really researched everything on it. They are not state employees. I don't know how that continues to fall under it.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Meeting with Rob and Kenneth. I will really prepare for that meeting. I don't think it would hurt to send them a letter. A lot has been pushed back because of the election. Now the election is over we can move forward with this. The governor that was a big deal him putting Ochsner up there. That's an opinion. It's a legal opinion.

CANDICE LINVILLE: What hospital?

FRANK GAFFNEY: Ochsner in Shreveport and Ochsner in Monroe.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: They were privatized by Jindal. They kicked out the one company and put in Ochsner to operate.

FRANK GAFFNEY: The election is over we can get with Rob and get another opinion.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I think at this point Fort Polk we have no money coming in and the money we get from the prison is minimal at best. I think just send a blanket all these people with a letter. They will turn us down, but go through the appeal process. It's going to take the backing of the administration. That's what we are going to try to get in our meeting.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Can't say we didn't try.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Ask and you get, you don't you won't. Send them all a letter.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Do it then ask for forgiveness. Next is the Fort Polk money. I know the last meeting we knew we had it, but it wasn't in the bank yet.

KEVIN MONK: It is in the bank.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: 120,513 something dollars.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Any questions on that? Moving on. Next thing is permits.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: This has been on the agenda for a while. April I sent Jessie at RSA, when everyone gets a location a form called the Randolph Sheppard RS709, rehab facility agreement. In the case of Candice and have your location. List the SLA responsibilities, the manager's responsibilities and then just general preferences. It was made back in the day when the state used to pay for the insurance. I had added a line the vendor would be responsible for paying the insurance. And we have all been doing that, but never been in writing. Sent it to Jessie on April 4th and I got it back Monday. It was approved. So the plan was today at the training session to have everyone sign it. And issue all new permits to everyone. Some people don't have permits. Frank's permit is from 2005. Give everybody a new permit. Since we're not having the training today probably do individual as RSMA comes during the inspections over the next month or two have them sign off and give everyone a new permit. The only difference really it has standards of operation, what is expected, but has the insurance on there.

HERBERT READO: When they sign off will the manager receive a copy.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: We can do that. You can sign it, they can sign it, give you a copy then. After I sign it I can send you another copy with my signature. Vending will be responsible for having the vending facility open for business. Good that people once in a while remember what the rules are. Good refresher course. That will be coming the next month or so.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Like if we happen to pull somebody's permit that's what on the permit. It says it on there. Any questions? Moving on. Next one turn over to Kevin since Melissa is not here, specialist position.

KEVIN MONK: We have had some discussion about the possibility of that. As it stands right now been no change since the last meeting. The position don't exist. It would have to be created and right now it's kind of difficult to get new positions created. Interested in re‑creating that position.

FRANK GAFFNEY: I think Melissa said something about a position that wasn't being used, see about getting it changed.

KEVIN MONK: She did mention that.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I can't emphasize the election was weighing on a lot of the decision making process. Now it's over, maybe change at our place too. It won't be as drastic if Mr. Rispone would have gotten in there.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Any questions on that? Moving on. Next thing is update on bus station.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: The bus station they actually have been having problems with electrical, water and the flooring. Ms. Vanessa sent me a message this week, things should be wrapping up towards the end of the week, first of next week. We will start on moving in equipment middle of next week, to the end of next week. We're looking probably at the first of the year it would ready to be opened again.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: If there is a manager to operate it.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Capital Annex that is all on the capital. They are still having to paint walls and do floors. And they are not rushing on it. I will send out another message to Calvin, but as of right now the last time I spoke with him he said he will put in a work order, but nothing has been done on the work order.

HERBERT READO: One question. Is that location going to be re-advertised?

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Yeah.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: It really was in bad shape. But we did re-advertise it and no one bid on it. Re-advertise the re-advertisement.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: The last time we had a walkthrough I stayed there an hour and 15 minutes and no one showed up to do a walk through.

HERBERT READO: After you get it remodeled I think it will work out better.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: When you re-advertise do it as a new location.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Completely remodeled with new equipment.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Another thing doing this federal report, the paperwork people turn in what they are saying they are making at the location. It's imperative people give us the right numbers. The bus station probably does a decent wage. If you are not keeping the paperwork done. Not saying Ricky did that. Going to be a lot better than what it was. A location, we have several small locations that aren't really producing enough to come close to our benchmark. If we don't have the right data we don't know exactly what is happening, what is not happening. Important everyone does their paperwork accurately and timely. When a location does come open this place did a hundred thousand dollars last year. Not 15,000‑dollars. The difference is probably in the middle somewhere. As far as Lake Charles, that is the Toomey Welcome Center. Closed for a long time, got ready to open up Paul Hebert decided he was going to retire because he wasn't satisfied with the way the storage was. He had a point. We have it on full service with M and M sales. Last month two snakes and two drink machines. The commission we made was right at 1,200‑dollars last month. A good location. The deal with M and M if we have someone to go service that location, a possible location in the future. Good money to the trust fund. If really was set up to be a manned location. That might be a location we can put out.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Are we going to put it out for bids?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: We have no one geographically. When Paul pulled out the closest person is like 120 miles away.

CANDICE LINVILLE: How many times does M and M go in a week to fill it?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Twice.

KEVIN MONK: You have a new manager something somebody might want to move there. Sounds like an okay job.

FRANK GAFFNEY: We do have a manager that's going to apply for it. Or says he is. Told me to ask about it again today.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: We will talk about it in the trust fund meeting. We weren't really getting it before. Before we depend on the money we might want to put it out. That's up and running. They try to help us, the original storage area was full of other stuff. Hot water heater, computer server. They did move the hot water heater. There is some storage. If someone would have that location probably would have to have their own storage.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Would that be big enough to put a one door refrigerator?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Maybe.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Where they can keep candy.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Not enough for drinks. We talked about putting a building there. The way it's designed there is nowhere to put a building. It does flood. They pushed back the opening for another month. When they close from when they opened it was almost four years. And it flooded the first week and had to close it. The second, third week the well ran dry so they had to shut it down for that. Right now I think everything is going good. Obviously they have people going through there. 5,000‑dollars is a pretty good number out of four machines.

KEVIN MONK: I stopped and looked at the machines. They looked really good. It was a Saturday morning. Everything was clean.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: The people at the welcome center are very happy with M and M.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Any questions? Next thing is Shirley B's building. I think Melissa was going to talk with some people about making an exception for state workers.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Shirley B sent us a letter of resignation effective December thirty‑first. Moving to by Lynn's house and ABL. Actually I was working on the bid letter yesterday talked to her about her timeframe. Stay to the thirty‑first. Put the letter out probably next week. Maybe do the selection first week of January. And get somebody picked up and lined up go and work with her for a week and set up with the machines. She has 19 vending machines. Ten coke and nine snacks. Location did about 129,000 gross last year. She has employees. Frank and I were talking about when we do the bid letter what is the best way to determine what level it is. I think if you look at the gross sales more importantly that will tell you how much revenue. What Herb can do with 129,000 and what Shelly decides to do employee wise determines what the profit is.

EMMA PALMER: How many employees is it?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: She has two.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: And herself.

HERBERT READO: December or January?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: January thirty‑first. What I want to do is put the letter out next week. Maybe the first week of January. Make a decision first week, second week of January. Because there is a transition setting up credit card readers. Gives more time to work on that. When she is ready to leave on the thirty‑first of January we will be ready to go.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Shirley did do us very well, gave plenty of time to make a selection. Definitely be leaving in good standing.

KEVIN MONK: One of the things Steve and I discussed last week a possibility and for consideration could you turn that location into like a Starbucks kind of thing or gourmet kind of coffee. People tend to like that kind of thing seems like. From all accounts Pinkie is doing well. Candice is doing well on coffee. With something like that as a change maybe in addition, take something away from the location and add the coffee to it, I don't know. Something to get the people in the building interested again.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: We have to remember Iberville location Shirley B we're restricted. You can have no outside people coming in, none. No DHH, no other state employees. Nobody is allowed to go onto that third floor.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Unless they were accompanied by someone.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: You would have to work in the building. Hey look, I need a drink. But for her, she can't even escort. She can't go down and get you and escort you up there.

KEVIN MONK: There's how many people in that building, 7, 800.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: No, not anymore. Maybe three. I will double check with Calvin again. The last time I heard 300 something. This week they had a training down in those conference rooms, not one person in that training is allowed to go up there to that snack shop.

FRANK GAFFNEY: I thought that was something Melissa was going to check on.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I don't think there is much Melissa can do about that.

HERBERT READO: Who made that decision?

MICHELLE DUNCAN: That building. That building, the family and child services and they had an incident where someone got into the building and got on a floor they weren't supposed to be on and confronted one of the child service people and they shut everyone out.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Go back to the bid letter. On Shirley B's location are the employees there interested in staying? Do y'all have any idea?

MICHELLE DUNCAN: From what I heard if they could go somewhere else they would probably move. I do know one of the other managers may be looking at trying to take them on. Not sure if another manager gets in there before and works with them if they will decide to stay or not or what. I know that she had talked to some other managers about the employees moving.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: That might be a location like what Harvey was doing micro market. Maybe making some hot food. Tying her hands it's hard to make a living when you only have 300 people. Serve 10 percent or 20 percent that's only 60 people. Not a lot of money. The labor cost that is a big expense on her.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: And she does the vending and they use those vending. Every floor has it. And they have added vending machines to the bottom floor because there is IT down in the basement and they can come on the weekends and they use those vending machines. I have talked to Shirley B and it is something that me and her did discuss about like Major Menu and places like that. She does have the option of taking orders over the phone and leaving them downstairs. She chooses not to do that. Another manager may choose to do that and could up their sales back up. Major Menu does it. She says she gets a lot of Major Menu up there. There is a table on the first floor Major Menu walks in, they don't have to go through security, two tables in this room. They actually said they will set up a table just for her, nobody else. They label them and set it there.

EMMA PALMER: How does she get paid?

MICHELLE DUNCAN: People call in the order to her, make up the order, have order times. Like you have from 10:50 to 11 to call in these orders. And at 11:20 your order would be downstairs ready for you. When they call in they would give her the credit card, do it, punch it in, charge them. That was the other thing she was talking about when the new manager comes in if they wanted to go through Major Menu she could post what she has and you pay a fee. And I told her that would be an option whoever comes in if they wanted to do that.

KEVIN MONK: No more risky for her to do that than it is for Major Menu.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: If I was to do it I would just take the order myself. Between certain times from 10:50 to 11 I can have your food down there 11:20, 11:30 something like that. That's what they do. They have a call in time, a certain frame of time if you want your food by 12 you have to call in by a certain time to get your food. And she could do menus and put that on there and drop it off to the other buildings that used to come to her. She has one lady from DHH always came in and got food and she does it. She does it for her, but she's not doing it for anyone else just that one employee.

FRANK GAFFNEY: They can get on the first floor, just can't be above.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: They can walk into the front area. When you walk in the doors you can go to the right, a room with a door and vending machines in there and two tables. And that is where major menu puts all their stuff. She could have had the people from the meetings downstairs, she could have gave them the thing and had all of those. Like I told her, she could have catered that. She doesn't do any kind of catering down there.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: She is going to be out of there. The next manager an opportunity for them. The manager can make that determination when they get in there. How long have they been doing this?

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Seven months now.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: She still has a pretty strong business. It has been down trending. Still a viable location. Better than the bus station. That's going to be going out.

HERBERT READO: Have we done anything as far as notify the billing in writing, a letter stating about that.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: We have went back and forth with the people that are over OSB and she has confronted the lady that is over that building that submitted to have the security because of what happened. And they have turned us all down.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Moving on, next thing is River City.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: End of the current semester. Been really no change in the population. Still in the high sixties. Maybe a hundred people. Trying to get this high school to come over there. But two vending machines there, they are doing minimal. Herbert you did a big catering thing over there.

HERBERT READO: I did a box lunch over there for about 700 students. I think they did that for two days. From what I gathered they had a whole lot left. It's a nice campus, but no students.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: We had an appointment with Delgado talking about how many students you have on this campus, that campus. They say the way they track it, amazing to me, if I apply from Avondale you go to City Park, still count him being from River City. It's not even a real number. When you walk through there you don't see anybody. There is nobody over there.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Nothing between online students either and the ones that are on campus or day and night. Just a flat number.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: About 65 students over there. And it will grow. Right now Sandra has the snack machines and coke services the coke machines. Talk to us about we do have a kitchen area, we have storage over there. It's ready to go if there is anybody there to serve. In the future. Hopefully it will get better. Right now, barely supporting the two vending machines.

HERBERT READO: When you say River City Delgado has another college Sydney Collier. And I do a little bit over there. And my concern with that one is they have a vendor over there. I feel I am encroaching them to some degree. I did something the other day they called for a breakfast for ten people. And they could have really let that manager do that. Not sure why they didn't do that.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: The policy is you are supposed to do all the catering. It's yours to make that decision.

HERBERT READO: The other one they did they closed the snack bar was closed that day. And they used that area.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Did they request it be closed.

HERBERT READO: When I came to set up they said set up by the snack bar.

FRANK GAFFNEY: I know you are supposed to do the catering, but can you form it out yourself. You would have to collect the money and pay the manager if he wants to do it.

HERBERT READO: I don't know about that. I don't know if they are relying on me or ever contacted a manager to do it. I can understand if they had 50 to 60 people. These caterings that require ten people that should be pretty simple.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: It's up to you really.

HERBERT READO: I don't want to cause any bad blood.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Any other questions? Next thing is third party update.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Doing federal reports, so last year we received 377,000‑dollars in third party commissions. Biggest one actually was Refreshment Solutions. One reason for that is University Hospital. Steady 5, 6,000‑dollars a month out of that location. 155,000 from Refreshment Solutions and all the locations. Nobody does like University Hospital. Coke 113,000 from coke. And again, 60,000 that was probably University Hospital. We had 91,000‑dollars in commissions earned from federal property. The rest is from state, municipal or other locations. Right now we're pretty much on pace doing like we were doing last year. Be in that same range 377 unless we start privatizing some of those rest areas or whatever else. And Steven Johnson he has been giving us, Chauntey gets a copy of the check and she sends copies to us. But we never really got a copy of the deposit slip. When you are doing the federal report it's what dollars were deposited in the account during that fiscal year. If we have a deposit slip the check might come to Chauntey in August but didn't get deposited till October or vice versa. Keeping track of things. The trust fund is in pretty good shape compared to where we were five years ago. Always looking for more third party locations.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Have we gotten any new third party?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: The last location we got we decided to flip it over to Radel cause he was in that area. If we have the choice I would rather have a manager add to their location in a place like that. But no, as far as the last location was the Ochsner one. That is actually doing pretty good. Been doing well with that location.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Then we got that possibility the one they called you on that might come up sometime in the future, a thousand people or something.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: NASA had I think Department of Agriculture does all the payroll for all the federal employees. And that was NASA got hit by that tornado. Looking to put all these people in a new location. Looked at a shopping mall in north shore square. One of the three locations they have narrowed down. Gotten a request for a possible location in Baton Rouge. Didn't have the location. I think it's all part of the same thing. That should be coming up saying by 2021. Should find out more about that as it comes. I think narrowed it down to these three locations. GSA reached out to us on that. That could be a big location. Especially that north shore square. A thousand to 1100 people that worked in that building got hit by the tornado. Some of them still work there, but looking at giving them a permanent location. Hopefully for next year. Probably more like the year after. In the meantime, they have those portables and we added an outsider and two drink machines where all the portables are. Just got started with that last week. Been doing good so far. Three more machines for NASA that he didn't have before.

FRANK GAFFNEY: This isn't on the agenda, update on Hale Boggs since it's doing so well.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: It is doing well. Used to be we had the snack bar there, never really could make it work. The vending machines were in the hallway. Took all the vending machines in the snack area, redesigned it and have a food machine in there. Doing really well. An industrial coffee maker. Another vending machine put in the cup, the pod, the sugar, the creamer. You pay your 2‑dollars to the vending machine, you get the cup and put the pod in there. About 350 cups of coffee last month and 350 food items as well. That location is doing well. Pretty good commission off of it too. One that could be reopened again at some point in the future. Might be something Shirley B, just going to be tough to make a lot of money. Hale Boggs has been doing well attached to Hebert. Steady about 1,800‑dollars between the two buildings a month.

HERBERT READO: All the problems with that one, leave it in there.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: GSA headquarters always in there with the cameras. God forbid they see an expired date on the Oreo they take pictures and blow it up and copy 600 people on the email.

FRANK GAFFNEY: We had enough trouble trying to make them happy.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: They are happy. That coffee machine I like that. We used to have the snack bar front door and a side door. Room 106 where everybody gets the license reinstated they had like seating for 35 people. Always flooded out in the hallway. They took half of our area and extended that room out and they covered over that wall where it used to be a door. You still have to go by the bathroom. New signage and stuff for that area. In the meantime, that's where the ransom ware hit. The DMV was closed for two weeks. The third week doing just new licenses. Then reinstatements last week. Where most people come from. They get about 700 people a day. We have to let them know we are there. Coke is going to give me a sign say vending over here. Working with a sign guy to get some new signs. Sandra is doing a really good job at that location.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Any questions? Moving on to future possible, the chemical plant.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Syngenta they sent out a flier to all their employees. They are still interested, but they just don't move forward fast. She has touched out to me a couple times saying they are interested, but all her upper head management they are just not moving on it. I have sent her on email Tuesday asking her for an update and I have not heard back from her.

HERBERT READO: Where is this?

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Out in Gonzales, Geismar.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Any questions? Moving on, next thing is RSA prior approval.

KEVIN MONK: Prior approvals. We did request prior approval to expend money on equipment of 5,000‑dollars or more. We requested 150 thousand dollars worth of authority. We can do a blanket authority for an aggregate amount, whatever we think we are going to need. Up to 150 thousand dollars approved for that. I did have the opportunity to go to Jacksonville to the NCSAB conference in November, early November, end of October and RSA was there at the time. They presented and pretty much coincided with that, released further guidance on the prior approval issue. To make a long story short, we still have to get prior approval for the purchase of equipment. But we no longer have to get prior approval for what they call participant support costs like your meetings, your travel. That kind of stuff. We no longer have to get prior approval for that. And so that's kind of an update on the prior approval issue.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: We're good to go. Bought a couple big vending machines for Sam and one for NASA. Most refrigeration stuff is under that number. Plenty of wiggle room if we need to buy anything.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Any questions? Next, new business, Herbert.

HERBERT READO: Is this the letter?

FRANK GAFFNEY: Yeah.

HERBERT READO: If I may Mr. Chairman, thank you. I have prepared a statement in regards to the letter I sent to the state agency as far as displaced status. If I may I wrote my notes down so I am going to read from my notes. A letter was sent to the state licensing agency in November 2019 for displaced compensation. Little background from the Fort Polk military contract was awarded to the state licensing agency on August the 10th 2017 for a base year, four option year in May of 2018. The Fort Polk contract went into administrative hold where all of our meals rotation and service was ended. While the military started a pilot program of self feeding in July of 2018. The United States Army at Fort Polk notified the state licensing agency to exercise the option year from August the 10th 2018 to August the 10th of 2019 no reason given. The SLA contacted the army in August of 2019 as to the status of the Fort Polk contract. The army replied the contract ended with the option year clause. The contract period is a contract between the state licensing agency and the granter. The displaced manager is a displaced manager who has been displaced from his or her business enterprise through no fault of his own. The state licensing agency that issues licenses to persons who are blind and vision impaired for the operation of the business enterprise program on public and on private property. As a manager selected for this location there were several requirements. One was to select a teaming partner. The other one was in the process of bidding on another location you had to give up your previous location in order to qualify for that location. Move to Leesville, Louisiana and take up residence in that city. And to report to work and operate the facility as a teaming partner, with a teaming partner. In the past vendors across the State of Louisiana has received displaced status and received compensation for months, sometimes even a year or more where this location has under gone remodeling or repairs as no fault of their own. My suggestion and encourage this committee and the state licensing agency to approve my request for compensation for up to nine months. Please advise me o of your decision in writing. Once again, thank you for your consideration. That is my letter and comment in regards to being compensated as a displaced vendor from Fort Polk beginning in 2018.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: To start the conversation, there is two issues. You have displaced manager status and you have location closure assistance. You are considered displaced manager. So when you applied for Delgado you were given extra consideration because you were a displaced manager. Now location closure assistance is a different issue. But that's where the money would come from. You are a displaced manager. And you were recognized as such. Now location closure assistance is when a business is closed for remodeling or for whatever reason and there is a date. Not a date certain, but a projected reopening date. Under the case of Paul down there at Toomey Welcome Center they closed supposed to be a year, two years he was paid location closure assistant funds approved by the board. I think that is what we are talking about, location closure assistance.

HERBERT READO: Wouldn't it be when the army issued the option year they specified from one year to the next year which gave you the indication that you may have continued that contract after that one year. That was not a termination at that particular time that I thought. And I was getting feedback from the teaming partner as well as the state that there may be a possibility that contact can start again.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: That was always my fault too.

HERBERT READO: It was not my understanding that was a closure at that particular time. I was believed that was still possible that contract can come back into force.

FRANK GAFFNEY: What Steve is saying we don't need to word it as displaced manager. It's temporary assistance is what you are requesting. Because and like you were just saying, you were under the impression after one year reinstated. That's temporary closure. And they didn't inform you it was canceled that made you a displaced manager until what was it August when you said Fort Polk replied. You weren't a displaced manager until then. You were temporary closure is what you are requesting.

HERBERT READO: If I may there was a pending case similar to this one in Camp Landing Florida arbitration was filed against the army in the same regards. The army had that contract and they used the option year. The SLA filed an injunction against the army and later the vendor pulled out the arbitration and the army continued the contract for the reminder two years. My understanding the government said the option year ended. Some saying the option year doesn't end it. Kind of confused on that.

KEVIN MONK: All I know when the army was contacted by the LWC administration they advised us and I think had an email to that effect, when they discontinued the contract, when they didn't exercise an option year that it essentially terminated the contract. If Randolph Sheppard is to go back into Fort Polk it's going to have to be under a new contract. Cannot be under the old contract.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: What you just said right there, when did the SLA find that out, a year later?

KEVIN MONK: Pretty close to that, probably ten months or something after.

FRANK GAFFNEY: That's why we are saying he qualifies for temporary assistance. He was not made a displaced manager.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I did that, I am the one that does that. He was a displaced manager. But at that point nothing came up to bid. But when there was an opportunity to bid you were considered a displaced manager in the review process. It helped you win what you have now. Not that you wouldn't have got it without displaced manager, but you were given the two extra points. The question is the assistance for that period. I never read the contract. I wasn't privy to that. Always presented to me as come back the year after that. Had an opportunity to cancel it year two come back year three and cancel year four. Apparently the way the contract was written it said that in the contract.

FRANK GAFFNEY: That's why we feel he is entitled to that temporary assistance.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Frank I would like to make a poll of the committee to see if it's approved he get temporary assistance for those nine months.

FRANK GAFFNEY: If the committee will support it.

EMMA PALMER: What are we basing it on, how many money you talking about?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: That's another thing. The location closure assistance it's worded the way it's worded basically you get what you were making as far as income or what your social security disability check is whichever one is less. You can't get compensated, if you were making 1500 a month for SSDI you would max out on that number. Didn't do that with your boy Paul, but that's the way we did it with Alex George.

FRANK GAFFNEY: That's the way the rule is, your SSI, your social security check they match it. Not that large amount of money being requested. We will take a poll.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: I support it.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Like to make a motion from Shelly to support Herbert in his upcoming request.

EMMA PALMER: I second it.

FRANK GAFFNEY: All in favor. Opposed. Being nobody has opposed the committee is unanimously in favor of supporting Herbert Reado. Any questions?

HERBERT READO: One question. Would this matter be forwarded to the state licensing agency for their approval?

KEVIN MONK: We did receive your letter maybe a week ago, maybe a little less.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: For some reason it didn't show up until five weeks after you mailed it. We have Herb's letter. Maybe you could send us a short thing the EC met, voted unanimously to support Herb. We can take that along with Herbert's letter and forward it up the food chain.

FRANK GAFFNEY: All right. Number two, this is just for everybody's general information, I am on a chat line for the committee chairs once a month and one of the things that was brought up at the last meeting it's not too far off in the future doing away with all plastic. Won't be any plastic bottles, plastic straws, any of that. No telling how long that will take. Just like healthy vending that is on the agenda. Just for general information. When it comes up it's not a prize.

HERBERT READO: So we are not going to have plastic water bottles?

FRANK GAFFNEY: No. They are looking at cans.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: One particular example 93 cents. That's 93 cents empty.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Next thing is RSA Steve and Kevin were talking about stated they are starting to do state monitoring. Assuming, I don't know for sure how that works, but I guess they move right into your state and check everything. I believe three states per year. At least started with three states. Started with three states closest to them. Expand it later on, I don't know. This hasn't been done in years and years and now they were starting it again.

KEVIN MONK: I don't have anything further. RSA was at the conference. Jessie and the other employees were there that are working Randolph Sheppard. And they are doing three states as Frank said this year. And basically they said they told us which states they were. But they said if you haven't heard then you are not one of the three basically. We haven't heard they are coming here. It's possible they will. If they are doing three states a year do the math, 50 divided three. Take them that long to make the rounds of everybody. Certainly I guess they are trying it and depending on how it goes once they work out the bugs they could go to four or five or how many ever. Right now not set to come here.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Something they do for LRS all the time. Welcome to come down.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Next thing is reminder pre approval doesn't have to be in place anymore for training. If anybody is going to sage brush or blast the state will reimburse your registration money. That chat line I am on I asked that question you wouldn't believe the difference in all the different states what they do. Texas reimburses everything and anything a state employee gets they get. For DM, mileage, travel, everything. We don't have that money. Poydras update.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Let Michelle take it over. Dewayne Manual was asked by OSB to remove Dewayne. He was removed. We had an informal hearing with Kevin and Melissa and he showed up with his wife and an attorney. Kevin formulated the response to that meeting. Expected he will file an appeal for a full hearing. Put it out to bid, a selection and Michael Doucet was picked to replace him and Michelle has been working with Michael.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: Michael took over on Monday. He got all the vending machines, cafeteria and everything. He did hire Rickey's employees and then fired them on Wednesday and hired his own. He is doing really good. He has came in, he has been working really hard on the vending machines. He is going above and beyond on his cleaning. He took a grease trap, the grease machine that filters the grease filter machine, took it all apart, cleaned it, looked like a brand new machine. He has actually done the same thing with the fryer. Yesterday I had Decote's go out, no one had reported to me someone had damaged one of the knobs on the brand new oven we brought a couple years ago. We had them come out, repair that. He had them explain the inside of the fryers because he wanted to clean on the inside as well, but not burn a machine up. He stays till probably 8, 9:00 o'clock at night. He lives across the street, walks over there. Been cleaning and prepping food and everything else in the afternoons and then working on his vending machines. He is doing really good, very impressed. He had a lot of concerns when he first took off not knowing how to get his business up and going, if he should be sole proprietor or LLC, getting another account, doing all those things that you have to do when you first start opening a business and becoming a manager. Otherwise I am really impressed, he is doing really good.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Any questions? Next thing is insurance. If anybody has their insurance with them just hand it to me and I will take care of it. I have to meet with the insurance people and sign all the papers. I will take the checks to them.

HERBERT READO: What was the dead line?

FRANK GAFFNEY: 17th.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: I know a lot of our guys had intended on bringing theirs today. When they heard yesterday we weren't having the training they made sure they put it in the mail. I have a couple of them that had not so I am going to pick them up today. And I do have a check for Mike Doucet that he wrote on Tuesday.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: We're missing 20 people. So 17 outstanding.

FRANK GAFFNEY: I have two. I had a phone call from the dead. I got a phone call said I want to speak to Frank Gaffney. This is him. She said this is Janice Foster. I said who. I thought she was dead. As it boils down to I'm going to pay her insurance and she's mailing her check to me.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Ryan Smith and Kathy Wheat put theirs in the mail. Need to get that wrapped up.

FRANK GAFFNEY: I don't know what day I have to meet with the insurance guy. David will let me know.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I have a list of people that owe. I will give you this.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Next thing is Kevin or Steve y'all checked on it, the ICE camps.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: What he is talking about is like border control. ICE has been taking undocumented babies and adults. When John Bel did his prison reform it opened up a lot of jail cells in parish prisons. ICE has gone in and subcontracted with those local affiliates and putting these federal prisoners in these local facilities. I think Kevin said the state was paying like 38‑dollars a day. The feds are paying like 79‑dollars a day. Technically to me that becomes federal property if you have federal employees in there. But in the parish. We're doing some research. It would involve getting a determination that this portion of the parish court or private facility is dedicated to federal. I wanted to ask Terry Smith today. It's not a full blown ICE facility, like a parish facility with ICE being a subtenant in there. The way the state law reads it's controlled by the state whether they own the building or not that's state property. Might be a case to be made we should have at least some vending machines.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Any possibility we can find we are looking for it.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Something I was also going to bring up in our meeting with Rob. Again, I think send out letters and see what people say. Population of a thousand people, 250 are federal prisoners. Does that make 25 percent of the location become federal, I don't know. A place like Pollock a hundred percent federal. That's the challenge to figure that out.

KEVIN MONK: Probably going to come down to an issue who is in control of the property. My gut is telling me most of these cases, and I printed out a list of the locations, the majority were parish prisons under the control of the parish, IE the sheriff. And so in some cases you would have the feds paying to house inmates there, have the state paying possibly to house inmates there, and of course have parish inmates at the prison. All three under the same roof in the same facility under the control of the local sheriff.

FRANK GAFFNEY: But the questions will be asked.

KEVIN MONK: We will ask the question. My feeling on those locations is probably not going to fly. But I will ask the question.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Any questions? Other states are doing it. But what kind of facilities are there, I don't know.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: That's the deal. If it's a straight up federal facility, no doubt. I think the case could be made that becomes a portion of it. Some machines, not all machines.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Or part of the commission. Open discussion.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: I want to let everyone know we have a new manager at the downtown post office, Zora Brown. And him and his wife has been trying to have a baby for probably seven or eight years now and they just had one. It is in ICU, it is on a breathing machine that is doing over 90 something percent of the breathing for it. If everybody can say a prayer for him I know he is going through a hard time right now. She is in the hospital right now. Yesterday they said the breathing machine wasn't doing much. Last night had a bad night and it's doing over 90 percent this morning. He is still at the location. He went to work this morning I told him to keep close tabs with his wife if things didn't get better he should leave and go be with his wife and child.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: He's having a hard time making any money at that location. With the post office having so few employees. Only so much revenue. I know he's trying hard.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: When I spoke to him earlier he said Friday was his first time to have his best day ever and he sold five entrees.

TANISHA LOPEZ: With Zora I follow his business on Facebook between he and his wife they post a lot of things just trying to draw business in. Very enthusiastic about it. She is a big supporter of him.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: And I don't think she is doing well either.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: She also has cancer.

TANISHA LOPEZ: She is a survivor of it, breast cancer, and it keeps coming back.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: I need to talk to you after the meeting because I reported his sales off of what Tony had because I didn't have any sales for him. He is not doing not nearly what they were doing so I need to know.

FRANK GAFFNEY: I don't know what we can do now. I will ask. I will be meeting with David so I will ask.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Right now it's 187‑dollars.

FRANK GAFFNEY: If not I can pay part of it and return part of it back to him, whatever. Next thing is subcommittees. Pinkie is not here. Constitution bylaws is Emma.

EMMA PALMER: Unless Steve have something I don't have anything.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Earl is inventory. He's not here. Location merger.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Inventory, supposed to be like equipment.

FRANK GAFFNEY: When we were doing it properly and we had a lot of things going on inventory included like we made up that form supposed to be using for incoming and outgoing managers. Part of it worked on that until we got it done. And then we kept up with the inventory in the location what people were getting and the equipment inventory what was where and what we had.

EMMA PALMER: Still using that form.

FRANK GAFFNEY: No. Supposed to be, but not been.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: You went to the warehouse yesterday about the vending machine inventory.

FRANK GAFFNEY: I was in the warehouse again yesterday with Pam. We got I think about five more machines set to be sent out for repair. And then we checked out three or four others, made sure everything was working and tagged them. And then we checked out a single door cooler and made sure it was running. About a 3‑foot sandwich location. It was working, got it working properly, plugged in and tested. And then salvage out a lot of stuff. Getting to be way less stuff in that warehouse was all junk, just staying on our inventory and gradually working on that and getting everything that is no good. Before the meeting, the day before the meeting been coming down and we go over there and go through. I help them go through it. So we make sure everything that goes is not something we want to keep. And it's moving on. We're getting real close to being real good. Also something we're going to be trying. We are not going to salvage out any of the five wides. Because we couldn't get parts, but there is a company the Vendors Exchange. For years they have had a replacement door for APs and first time I saw it man, this was great. Found out they didn't make it for ours. Now they are making it for the five wide AP133 series. I think we are going to be buying one and have it put on to test it to see how that works. If that works going to look just like a brand new machine. And all the controls other than the motors will be all new. And that would be a lot less. We are not getting rid of any of the five wides.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: The door cost about a thousand bucks. But also comes with a board and a bin. Five wides if the bin breaks you cannot replace it.

FRANK GAFFNEY: The bin is steel.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Do a door and see how it looks. Makes the machine look like a brand new machine from the front. With a new bin and board and everything else.

FRANK GAFFNEY: And you don't have to buy the black. You can by the one with the red face or blue or whatever. We haven't discussed this yet, but you can even have on the top of the machine, the top of the front above the glass you can have a label put in says Blind Rehab Services or Randolph Sheppard Blind Services on the top of the machine. That's another option we can put on it.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: The actual door is much sturdier for opening and closing.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Any questions on that? Location merger, Shelly.

EMMA PALMER: Before you move on, I want to bring up a situation I am having with the post office. The second time they pushed the glass out of the machine. The post office got a thing saying you can't bring cameras because with the union you can't have their people on the camera. My thing is this here, I don't plan on sitting back and letting them keep doing that.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: There is a camera you can put inside the machine takes pictures looking out.

EMMA PALMER: A small camera that's what I am saying cause I was talking to someone at the post office and they was saying the union has it where you really can't put camera.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Put a camera for employees, but the federal employees or postal workers catch them when they were at the counter buying and their union says they can't be photographed. The post office can do it, but we can't. Told her she couldn't have cameras.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Is that including in the vending machine. They said on their property. The machine is your property.

EMMA PALMER: That cash register is my property also. I really need to video my own people. We did catch one of their persons coming in there on a Saturday morning at 6 o'clock.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Who told you you couldn't do it?

SHIRLEY MCCORKAL: I don't think you can do that at state building either.

EMMA PALMER: I am going to do it. I will deal with it when it come down to just so you know.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Did you price those cameras?

EMMA PALMER: The first place I have to get a router. Frank you said when I went and talked with Jonathan he said I could.

FRANK GAFFNEY: He said as far as he was concerned we could. He is the post master.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: That's his domain.

FRANK GAFFNEY: He said he knew nothing about couldn't take pictures.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I know Refreshment Solutions had some of that. You get a picture of the guy pushing on the glass. We can't have people beating up our machines.

SHIRLEY MCCORKAL: What is the recourse?

EMMA PALMER: Last time they terminated at the post office some years back.

SHIRLEY MCCORKAL: Guards in these state buildings they just relocate them. They don't do nothing cameras or not.

HERBERT READO: Delgado has similar problems, always knocking the glass out.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Mica met with the postal inspector at the New Orleans post office cause we had that problem. He said he was going to investigate, never heard back. He was there trying to catch someone stealing money out of the mail. There are postal inspectors.

FRANK GAFFNEY: It's all in cameras. They have cameras in the whole place.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: When they went to NASA took a photograph of the machine do an incident report and send to the administration. They may or may not do anything. At least putting them on notice this is what happened.

EMMA PALMER: Exactly. They had the caution tape all around the machine.

FRANK GAFFNEY: She does have people looking out for her. The people called her and told her about it. They put caution tape all over it. Even some of the postal workers put the stuff back together for her. After that I made a brace and installed it on the machine so it can't be pushed in at the top anymore.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Those new doors might help that too.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: No plastic screws.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Put some screws in there.

FRANK GAFFNEY: The problem with the AP with the glass on it tiny screws and plastic.

EMMA PALMER: Frank came in with a curtain rod.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Herb at Sydney Collier Delgado somebody broke into it they pulled up the camera, big girl. You see the younger person put the money and she couldn't get it out. And she just plowed into that machine. The guy from Delgado pull the tape and they suspended that girl for 3 days.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Emma had that problem at the votech.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: They have cameras. Do you have to do an incident report, why won't they look it up.

EMMA PALMER: They have them, but I don't think they are supposed to have them either. The lady that is over the union she says even the post office is not supposed to have cameras up in here. I know they got them because when I was complaining about all the stuff coming from the vent over there the lady was getting ready to retire and Marry told me stop complaining about those vents cause the cameras are up there, they are not going to take that down. They do have them. They had an incident, a fight in there and they actually find out what happened. They had to have a camera to know who was lying.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Anytime we have problem document it, take pictures. I told you four times people broke into my machine. I am putting a camera. Just being the union doesn't give you the right to steal somebody else's property that I know of.

KEVIN MONK: If it's vandalism involved the cops should be involved.

FRANK GAFFNEY: I had some people break into my vending machines they were professionals. There was cameras on my machines and they did catch the people. Not saying they did anything to them. I haven't heard anything. They were breaking into big ice machines too, several places. Roadsides, me. We already went over Lake Charles. Mine I told you about them breaking into my machines. Of course I bought higher security locks they can't do that. The guy when they arrested them they told us what not to buy. Next thing is training. I skipped over Shelly.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Nothing in either one of them.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Facility development.

HERBERT READO: We don't have anything no more than what was brought about the chemical plant and possibility with the vending machines at Fort Polk and the prison. That's about it.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Policy and procedure was Earl. Roadsides I just gave. Training, Herbert and Lynn.

HERBERT READO: I don't have anything on that.

LYNN BLANCHARD: We don't have anybody right now.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I said this earlier we were supposed to have training today. Move it to the next EC meeting in March. For the upward mobility training.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Vending machines I think we went over.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Yeah, we covered pretty much everything. Glad to hear over at Sydney Collier I believe he put credit card readers on his machines.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: He did.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Really at the request of the chancellor. They make us more money. Put them on.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Still got people who don't want to do it.

CANDICE LINVILLE: They increase your sales by at least 40 percent.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Emma at the post office the machine that has a credit card reader broke down they don't buy nothing. Upward mobility, Shelly, which got canceled.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: The only thing it got canceled which we can find out if we can have it in March and I will check with Pam Allen with NFB.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Where is that going to be at?

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Baton Rouge. Usually is at the Crowne.

FRANK GAFFNEY: I must stay there too much. They know Emma and I walked in after I got through at the warehouse, hi Frank.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: One question, Steve are we going to do this next one in March basically like you were going to do over here?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yeah.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Whoever wants to come to the Baton Rouge area can come.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: One thing because we had the system set up here.

KEVIN MONK: Make sure we can zoom. Ain't going to be able to do it with a hot spot.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Michelle did it on her telephone. That was set up pretty good. People come to different locations. Alexandria go to Lafayette. Paul had a big projector. We have stuff like that. That was based on tapping into what we have right here in this room.

KEVIN MONK: I will check and see if you can zoom with a hot spot.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: I will be getting back with you Kevin once I find out something.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: The thing I was talking about even though it's mandatory always people who can't come for whatever reasons. What should be the consequences I guess for people who don't show up for a mandatory meeting.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Are you writing them up?

MICHELLE DUNCAN: If they notify you ahead of time.

KEVIN MONK: The other thing if you zoom, if we are able to do it you can actually archive it so no excuse they can get on later and watch it.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: That was the plan.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: The ones I had that weren't going to be able to show up going to make come in here next week and re watch it.

FRANK GAFFNEY: I don't agree with that. I feel small of ones we have them no excuse for not attending other than illness or something in that area. And everybody knows when we had them down here I had to drive all the way from Shreveport. If anybody in Baton Rouge can't make it over here or they can't make it even easier just go to their state building I don't see any excuse for it. Mandatory training. Mandatory is the word.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: So what are the consequences?

FRANK GAFFNEY: Wrote up.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Wrote up and what, bad girl, bad boy.

FRANK GAFFNEY: As long as it goes into their record. It has to be something.

EMMA PALMER: Documentation.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: What should it be? Should it be like a letter of reprimand you missed a meeting. Or say you are on probation for three months. If you don't make the next meeting you are on double secret probation.

KEVIN MONK: A letter in the file is a minimum. It should come up at selection the person missed.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Basically everyone should be treated alike.

FRANK GAFFNEY: If you tell them you can look at it on your telephone later on ain't nobody going to come.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Both a letter in your file plus you still have to go back and watch.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Do I have a nomination?

EMMA PALMER: We are going to have excusable things.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Yeah.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: As soon as Shelly gets with us we will send a letter in January and send another out in mid February. We have a letter already, just have to change the dates. Give people advanced notice. Three months from now. They can definitely plan around it. What about the time of the day. We have one to three. Better back it to two to four.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Should be no excuse not being able to have help for that. With three months notice you can notify your building you have to be closed for that amount of time. Failure to attend mandatory training will result in a letter reprimand in your file and you must attend the next available. Which will be with the RSMA if they have it on record they can look at it.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: And come up on your selection question.

FRANK GAFFNEY: That part is in the rules. But they don't know if it's not in your file.

EMMA PALMER: Failure to attend the mandatory upward mobility training meeting will result in a reprimand in your file and also it would come up in any new selections you may choose. And you also have to do a makeup meeting.

HERBERT READO: I second your motion.

FRANK GAFFNEY: All in favorer. Opposed. Passed. Just had to have something.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: One thing about that zoom you could participate live if you couldn't make it. Pinkie had a doctor's appointment. If she is sitting there waiting you can look in and listen to it live. As long as you are participating don't have to be physically in that office. It does document when you log in and everything.

FRANK GAFFNEY: On the zoom I am on it says how many people are on it, doesn't say who they are.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I will research it. We want them to come.

MICHELLE DUNCAN: They have to sign off on the paper work and everything else too.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Button up that date and start advertising. Three months to plan you should be able to figure it out. Do you still want to do one to two. The reason was to accommodate Terry.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Two to four everybody should be closed by 2:00 o'clock. If not in their time of the day no business anyway. Anybody oppose to that?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: That way if they close at 1:30 not that big of a deal.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Moving on, district concerns. District one.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Nothing from my district.

FRANK GAFFNEY: District two is Pinkie and she didn't give me anything from anybody. Not even from John. And then district three is Herbert.

HERBERT READO: No concerns. Kind of new so have to reach out a little better.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Shelly contacted them all.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: The most questions I had a few people ask for the cleaning for the vending machines and then spoke to Michelle about this. Pretty sure everybody got the blood kit. But guess what, I didn't get one. Michelle is going to take care of that.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: I looked in the warehouse and I think it's been misplaced. A small brown box.

FRANK GAFFNEY: If not we can reorder some. The blood kits were cheap. District four, Shelly. Next one is Donald, he is not here. The only thing, and he is the one asking, putting out Lake Charles rest area. The last but not least, Emma Palmar.

EMMA PALMER: We didn't get anything. But I still didn't hear anything about Willie's shop and whether David had contacted the people since they building that food court over there.

FRANK GAFFNEY: And there is more. I forgot to talk to Emma about this. They were trying to get money to build a new Police Department. And that failed. 26 million. But now we got a problem we are going to have to look into very soon. They have found an existing building, some oil company or something. I tried to get in there when they were moving from Houston. That business went out of business. The building is about four years old and the Police Department is looking at buying it for 5 million. It's a preexisting building. I don't know if there is any place in it for a snack shop or what.

EMMA PALMER: We have to stay on top it to make sure they don't faze Willie out.

HERBERT READO: Where is Willie at?

FRANK GAFFNEY: The Police Department. That Police Department the very original Charity Hospital. You know how old it is. There is mold in it. The air condition circulation, those huge fans in different places in the building trying to circulate air. Everything leaks. It's shot. If they buy it that is pretty quick move. Date of the next meeting.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Let's wait and find out what I find out from Pam. I will get with you.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Terry would love to come to that if it's going to be right there.

KEVIN MONK: I think its March 13th that weekend.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Temporary make it for the 13th which is subject to change. Any objection? Do I hear a motion to adjourn.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: I make a motion the committee meeting be adjourned.

HERBERT READO: Second.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Opposed. Moving on. Call to order. Roll call of committee.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: Shelly LeJeune, Baton Rouge.

HERBERT READO: Herbert Reado, Baton Rouge.

EMMA PALMER: Emma Palmer, Shreveport.

CANDICE LINVILLE: Candice Linville, New Orleans.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Review of agenda. Approval of minutes from the last meeting. New business. Trust fund monthly income and trust fund balance.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: The balance right now is we had that from Fort Polk for 120,000. The current balance as of December 10th 839,341.57. I think that's the largest I have seen since I have been here. Takes into account all the medical stipends, 160,000 medical stipends this year, already been taken out. Continue to try and hustle as much third party money as we can. The expenditures are listed. If there is any specific questions you have. On the federal report spent almost 100,000 less than we did last year. We're being more frugal with our money. But again, if you need anything.

FRANK GAFFNEY: We fired the outside attorneys.

STEVEN DEBRUHL: That could have affected that number too.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Under new business is not here. But I would like another motion and vote on supporting Herbert Reado.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: I would like to make a motion that the trust fund start sending disbursements for Herbert.

EMMA PALMER: Second it.

FRANK GAFFNEY: In favor. Opposed. Approved. For the record. Unfinished business. Source of revenue. You got that already. That is all in our paperwork Steve?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yeah.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Open discussion. Anybody have any questions?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Another fight down there at Lafayette Medical Center. Now managed by, which was always University Lafayette and then got privatized. Still getting, Robert Schafer a snack bar. Vending machines there on third party through M and M. Got taken over by the management Terrebonne General. They went to M and M said you need to start sending me the money. Normally 1,500‑dollars a month for those snack machines, a similar amount for coke machines. Got a commission statement with all zeros with a note saying the money now goes to Terrebonne General. I tracked down the person at Terrebonne General sent them an email telling them I think it's in violation and give us our money back. I haven't heard a response yet. Probably have the attorney send them a letter after that too. The building itself is owned by the state. No matter who is managing they are paying the state rent, obviously the state owns the building. State owned facility. I sent them a copy of the law. I sent them an email. I don't know if he is checking with his lawyers right now. But we are going to pursue that as well.

KEVIN MONK: Unless something has changed that one is under New Orleans.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Did we get a check from coke?

STEVEN DEBRUHL: Yeah, we did. He hasn't got to the coke guy yet apparently.

FRANK GAFFNEY: Any questions? That came up a while back and Steve had been working on it till we could find out something. Next thing is adjournment, do I hear a motion.

SHELLY LEJEUNE: I make a motion the trust fund be adjourned.

HERBERT READO: Second.

FRANK GAFFNEY: All in favor. Opposed. So carried.