

DRAFT

**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY
FINANCE COMMITTEE**

**Taken Friday, November 14, 2014
at 11:00 a.m.**

**Cook County Board Room
118 North Clark Street
Room 569
Chicago, Illinois 60602**

PRESENT:

CHAIRMAN: MR. JOHN P. DALEY

VICE-CHAIR: MS. DEBORAH SIMS

**COMMISSIONERS: MR. JERRY BUTLER
MS. EARLEAN COLLINS
MR. JOHN A. FRITCHEY
MS. BRIDGET GAINER
MR. JESUS G. GARCIA
MS. ELIZABETH ANN DOODY GORMAN
MR. GREGG GOSLIN
MR. STANLEY MOORE
MS. JOAN PATRICIA MURPHY
MR. EDWIN REYES
MR. TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER
MR. PETER N. SILVESTRI
MR. ROBERT B. STEELE
MR. LARRY SUFFREDIN
MR. JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI**

ALSO PRESENT:

**MR. MATTHEW B. DeLEON, Secretary
MR. ANTHONY W. LISANTI, Court Reporter**

1 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Good morning. The
2 recessed meeting of the Finance Committee will now
3 come to order.

4 We will begin this morning with
5 amendments to the fiscal year budget 2015.

6 Before we get started, I would like to
7 enter into the record a letter from the Civic
8 Federation in support, and their analysis of the
9 budget of President Preckwinkle, as well as Doctor
10 Shannon's response to the letter.

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12 (Whereupon said documents are in
13 words and figures as follows:)

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3 CHAIRMAN DALEY: We will now begin with
4 amendment number one -- Commissioner Silvestri.

5 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: I move approval.

6 COMMISSIONER GORMAN: I second it.

7 CHAIRMAN DALEY: It has been moved by
8 Commissioner Silvestri and seconded by Commissioner
9 Gorman to approve amendment number one.

10 Commissioner Silvestri.

11 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: This amendment
12 increases the financing surplus revenue estimate,
13 which is due to the City of Chicago reporting a
14 higher surplus than initially estimated. So we are
15 grateful for that.

16 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Leave for all members that
17 are present.

18 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: All members --

19 CHAIRMAN DALEY: That are present.

20 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: That are present.

21 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Any questions on amendment
22 number one?

23 All those in favor signify by saying
24 "aye" -- opposed "nay". The motion has carried.

1 Amendment number two, Commissioner
2 Garcia.

3 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: I move approval of
4 amendment number two.

5 COMMISSIONER TOBOLSKI: I second it.

6 CHAIRMAN DALEY: It has been moved by
7 Commissioner Garcia and seconded by Commissioner
8 Tobolski.

9 On the amendment, Commissioner Garcia.

10 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Mr.
11 Chairman.

12 This amendment is a response to a
13 campaign on the part of a broad coalition of
14 advocates of restorative justice practices in Cook
15 County. A great number of organizations. The
16 funding here is to the tune of \$500,000, and it will
17 provide funding for community-based restorative
18 justice services focused on reducing violence and
19 restoring communities.

20 This is a part of a larger movement to
21 institutionalize the practice of restorative justice
22 that will prevent young people coming into the
23 system and provide services at the local level, and
24 restore the harm that has been done on the victims

1 of crime involving juveniles.

2 It is a wonderful, new area as an
3 alternative type of practice that heals harm that
4 has been done in communities all over Cook County.

5 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Gorman.

6 COMMISSIONER GORMAN: I have a question. I
7 am not sure if Commissioner Garcia or maybe somebody
8 in the Administration can answer the question.

9 My concern is, which I have been
10 supportive of this; I have met with this group and I
11 believe they have referred to this as a "peace hub".
12 My concern is how is it going to be monitored? And
13 is the group actually getting this? Do they have to
14 request it? Is this by piecemeal?

15 MS. GIBSON: I can respond to that. Andrea
16 Gibson, Budget Director.

17 This would be subject to a competitive
18 RFP. There is no assumption on which group would
19 get it, but we will be working on that, and coming
20 back to the Board as we define that process.

21 COMMISSIONER GORMAN: Each restorative
22 justice program can apply for this to keep the
23 juveniles out of the jail system?

24 MS. GIBSON: Yes.

1 COMMISSIONER GORMAN: Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Suffredin.

3 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Thank you.

4 Commissioner Garcia, the campaign that
5 you referred to was asking for \$1 million. Why is
6 this only \$500,000?

7 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: So far, this was the
8 only amount that we could find that wouldn't come at
9 the expense of other programs that are in place. We
10 will keep looking to see -- with the insight of the
11 Budget Director, we might be able to secure monies
12 further down the road.

13 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: I think there are
14 other amendments from either Commissioner Fritchey
15 or myself that I would hope people would support to
16 try to get the other \$500,000.

17 To emphasize what Commissioner Gorman
18 just said, this money is not for the Community
19 Renewal Society. It is for programs that the
20 Justice Advisory Council has run in the past, and
21 have been competitively bid, both on restorative
22 justice and on antiviolence. This money goes to a
23 line item which, as the Budget Director indicated,
24 will be administered. I doubt that the Community

1 Renewal Society will be an agent to qualify because
2 they don't run these kinds of programs. It might be
3 member churches and other people in this coalition
4 that would apply; is that correct?

5 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Yes. That is my
6 understanding, Commissioner.

7 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Collins.

9 COMMISSIONER COLLINS: I agree with what
10 has been said. I am very, very concerned, Andrea.
11 It is going to take much more money to actually have
12 some real impact with balance and restorative
13 justice.

14 Let me tell you, there is another real
15 ongoing problem. It really is why you have such
16 imbalance in minorities, especially with African
17 Americans and Latinos in the Juvenile Detention
18 Center.

19 In the areas where the greatest need
20 exists, there are no programs there. The few that
21 was there, that was really, really effective that
22 were ran -- I know in Maywood through the court
23 system out there, the programs and services that
24 they had. The kids were actually involved. They

1 were learning. They had peer juries. They had all
2 kinds of activities where kids were learning how to
3 take responsibility for their actions, and also
4 their responsibility for paying restitution for the
5 damage they had done to someone else.

6 These are great programs.

7 Some of you who were seeing, at the
8 retirement party, we had those clips from our
9 television show. Obama was talking about our
10 biggest problem at the time when this issue was
11 proposed in the Legislature. I was one of the
12 sponsors and we worked with it.

13 The greatest problem was it had no
14 money. It had never been funded. In areas of
15 influence, they have community services that they
16 can provide. They can get money. The community
17 helps to support these programs. It keeps those
18 kids from having to get into more serious problems
19 when they first start having problems.

20 I would make this suggestion. It is
21 going to take more than this \$500,000. It is going
22 to take more than a million. If you somehow look at
23 all of the possibilities for money that is
24 allowable, once this budget passes, I understand it

1 has to be budgeted for that purpose. That money, if
2 it is for violence intervention, it is for reducing
3 the number of people in the Juvenile Detention
4 Center, for programs when they come out, back into
5 the community to keep them from that revolving door,
6 which would reduce recidivism.

7 I would suggest you put the money
8 together until you have enough money that will make
9 an impact. Don't just throw this money all out,
10 \$10,000 here, \$10,000 there, and \$20,000 -- but if
11 you put this in the community that you already have
12 with Justice, you can get together and really come
13 up with something meaningful that you can, in fact,
14 measure the results, and that you can see a
15 difference in reducing the number of kids who are
16 going in and being detained in the Juvenile
17 Detention Center.

18 I would support this, but in and of
19 itself this \$500,000, it is like dropping some water
20 into Lake Michigan.

21 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Garcia, did
22 you want to respond?

23 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Mr.
24 Chairman.

1 I just want to say -- all of the
2 points that the fellow Commissioners have made are
3 well taken. I think all of us recognize the great
4 need for practices that restore the harm that is
5 done and how this can be a very important tool to
6 divert people from becoming institutionalized in our
7 juvenile justice system in Cook County.

8 I want to share with everyone that
9 this is a part of a movement, communitywide in the
10 metro area, to bring restorative justice practices.
11 And while this is a modest investment in that, the
12 foundation world is also coming around to this. The
13 Woods Funds of Chicago, a philanthropic foundation
14 in Chicago, is investing in this area. Other
15 foundations are looking at the leadership, the
16 pioneering work that is being done on this.

17 I would hope that the private sector
18 also chimes in with generosity, especially since we
19 are approaching the holiday season, to invest in
20 young people. It is the wave of the future. It is
21 preventative, it is restorative, and it is healing.
22 I am glad that we are taking this step as we look at
23 further resources to make the investment from all
24 sectors of society in this area that promises a

1 great return, and that will be a tremendous resource
2 for youth, for families, and all of our communities.

3 Thank you very much.

4 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Gainer.

5 COMMISSIONER GAINER: Thank you, Chairman.

6 I had the opportunity to sit with
7 Commissioner Garcia and some people from the Woods
8 Fund and others who had come over from Northern
9 Ireland, who had done restorative justice in the
10 past four years. You see similar attributes, which
11 is long-time negative feelings towards different
12 communities, mistrust of the police, mistrust of the
13 criminal justice system, higher rates of
14 incarceration in certain communities.

15 I think the thing that this targets is
16 to take some of our most vulnerable -- not just
17 because they are low-income or not just because they
18 have not a good education, but they are so young.
19 When you look at the children who come into the
20 Juvenile Detention Center, some people are there as
21 young as ten years old. For those of us who have
22 children, that rips your heart out.

23 What we are saying is that this
24 creates the opportunity to step back and to give

1 these young people a different way to experience the
2 justice system. As we know as parents, to be able
3 to face the person who they harmed, to apologize, to
4 give some sort of restitution, whether it is
5 financial, whether it is service, or just the
6 acknowledgment that there are other people in this
7 world.

8 I think that to recognize that these
9 are not lost causes, that we have the opportunity to
10 come in and treat these young people, which is true.
11 They have a bunch of wonderful paths in front of
12 them. It is incredibly important.

13 I strongly support. I want to commend
14 Commissioner Garcia and others for taking the lead
15 on this. I think through our own juvenile Detention
16 Center it is a huge opportunity to effectuate this
17 fund.

18 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioners, before we
19 continue, there is breaking news that Jane Byrne has
20 passed away. I would ask that we have a moment of
21 silence. If we could please stand.

22

23 (Whereupon a moment of silence
24 was observed.)

1

2 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Thank you very much.

3 Commissioner Fritchey.

4 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Thank you.

5 On an aside, with respect to that
6 notice, it is a tragic passing. I don't think that
7 former Mayor Byrne ever got the recognition that she
8 deserved as the City's first female Mayor. She
9 definitely deserves more than an interchange being
10 named after her.

11 With respect to the pending matter, I
12 obviously support what Commissioner Garcia is going
13 to do. I want us all to be intellectually honest
14 with the public as well though. While the amendment
15 seeks to increase and even double what the
16 President's budget recommends putting in here, let's
17 be mindful that this is still a significant cut to
18 what we had tried to fund on violence prevention and
19 intervention in years past.

20 Two years ago, we funded \$1.9 million.
21 Some of you may not be aware that the work that was
22 done there and funded was still never completed.
23 There was a public service announcement campaign
24 that we had. A significant amount of work was put

1 in it; \$100,000 was set aside for that. At the end
2 of the day, it was just left collecting dust on the
3 shelf, and that is too bad.

4 Some of the money you are going to see
5 for violence prevention this year, or in the 2015
6 budget, is simply carryover funds that weren't spent
7 in this fiscal year. So in the past two years, we
8 had appropriated \$1.9 million in dollars towards
9 violence prevention, whether we want to talk about
10 the semantics, which are legitimate ones, talking
11 about restorative justice which still has the same
12 goals of reducing violence and restoring
13 communities.

14 We are cutting our commitment. We are
15 cutting our funding to that. It is a question of
16 how much we are cutting it by. Under the
17 President's budget, it is cut by seventy-five
18 percent. Even if we add another \$500,000 to this,
19 we are still cutting it by half.

20 My position has been -- and continues
21 to be -- the dollars spent in violence prevention
22 are an investment, not an expenditure. The lives
23 that we save -- not only do they save lives, they
24 save money. They save money from the court system.

1 They save money from incarceration. They save money
2 from broken families. They save money from lost
3 jobs, from the destruction of communities. We have
4 a generational problem here that needs to be
5 addressed, and it is not going to be addressed by us
6 reducing our commitment to this.

7 It is my intention to support the
8 Commissioner's amendment here. I will support
9 almost any true commitment to increasing funding on
10 how we handle restorative justice issues.

11 These are issues that affect us
12 whether you live in Englewood or in Galewood or
13 Maywood or Ravenswood. Whether they are your
14 neighborhoods that are being directly destroyed or
15 whether you are feeling the impact in your
16 pocketbook by virtue of the costs that we are
17 putting in.

18 Virtually anything that we can do to
19 prevent violence, to reduce violence, to keep people
20 out of the criminal justice, let alone the jails and
21 the prisons, virtually anything that we can do is
22 going to be cheaper and more cost-effective than
23 what we are doing now, and using prisons as economic
24 development, looking at the millions of dollars that

1 we are putting into the jails, and into the court
2 system, and into the JTDC.

3 We need to break the cycle. We are
4 not going to break the cycle by reducing our
5 commitment to changing things, to giving people an
6 opportunity, to interrupting the violence, to give
7 them alternatives to either keep them from getting
8 arrested, or once they are arrested.

9 We cannot sit here and pretend to be
10 surprised when people grow up in communities with no
11 hope and no future, and they resort to crime. Then
12 we do nothing to break that cycle.

13 It is not my intention to make you all
14 listen to another one of my speeches. When we look
15 at what we are doing in County Government, there are
16 few things that we can do that are as fundamentally
17 important as what we are doing with our criminal
18 justice system, and the impact that it has taken on
19 families and communities.

20 I don't care if you are talking about
21 what we do with the Health System -- you know what?
22 Criminal justice and reducing violence impacts the
23 Health System's budget. It impact the Chief Judge's
24 budget, the Sheriff's, the State's Attorney's, the

1 Public Defender's, and it impacts again the
2 pocketbooks and wallets of every one of the
3 taxpayers that we represent.

4 Whether we are looking at this as a
5 moral imperative or an economic imperative, the
6 seventeen of us have an ability to impact something
7 that is truly as much of a civil rights issue and a
8 family issue and a social issue as it is a criminal
9 justice issue.

10 I hope we recognize that.

11 Commissioner Garcia, I appreciate and
12 respect you for bringing this forward. I have a
13 couple of amendments that I am looking forward to
14 discussing that would further increase this funding
15 and get it back to the levels where we were at --
16 not even an increase.

17 Let's be honest with our friends with
18 the Community Renewal Society as well. There are a
19 number of us who said we would work to get
20 additional funding, not get back to where we were,
21 not fight to get to fifty percent of where we were,
22 but for additional funding. Whether you support the
23 idea or not, it is up to all of us. We have to
24 answer to ourselves and our constituents.

1 I would be wary of anybody that goes
2 back to the folks at Community Renewal, or goes back
3 to the countless advocates around the City and
4 around the County who are all joined together in
5 this cause. I don't think that any of us could go
6 back to them with a straight face and say -- hey, we
7 did what you wanted or we did what we thought was
8 right or we could not find any additional dollars
9 towards these programs. Not when we are creating
10 new job positions throughout the budget with six-
11 figure salaries that this County got by just fine on
12 for years without. Not when there are other cuts
13 that we didn't want to make for political reasons.

14 Don't tell these folks that there was
15 no place to find the money. Don't tell these folks
16 that we found them additional money. Don't tell
17 them that we got to where we were.

18 I think by the end of the day, when we
19 pass the budget, we are going to find that the
20 County has reduced its funding commitment and
21 dedication to both restorative justice and violence
22 prevention. That is my big picture view on this.

23 That notwithstanding, again,
24 Commissioner Garcia, thank you for bringing this

1 forward. Commissioner Suffredin, I will thank you
2 in advance. I know that you have an amendment that
3 will try to put funding into this as well. I thank
4 my colleagues, Chairman Daley, for hearing me out on
5 this.

6 Thank you.

7 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Silvestri.

8 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr.
9 Chairman.

10 I would ask the sponsor or anyone that
11 he feels can answer the question -- how do we
12 describe how this amendment affects people on the
13 street? How does this money go -- whether it be
14 \$500,000 or an additional million or \$10 million --
15 how does it get to the community itself? How does
16 it get there? Do you understand the question?

17 Andrea, it looks like you are
18 answering the question?

19 MS. GIBSON: It looks that way.

20 It would go through the RFP process.
21 It would be awarded. There would be grant programs
22 awarded to organizations.

23 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Are those programs
24 defined already? Do we know how the money will be

1 spent?

2 MS. GIBSON: We don't know. That would
3 have to be defined in the scope.

4 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Right now, we have
5 the concept of community-based restorative justice,
6 and through the RFP we are going to define how that
7 gets translated from this amount of money, which is
8 according to what I am looking, \$2.6 million; is
9 that correct?

10 MS. GIBSON: No. There are a couple of
11 programs in that same line. There is a total of
12 \$1.9 million; half of which are from '14 funds, half
13 of which from '15 funds available in 2015. Plus
14 this would add \$500,000.

15 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: To do something
16 new? Or to enhance what we are already doing?

17 MS. GIBSON: I think we will be reviewing
18 the scope, and potentially broadening the scope of
19 the antiviolence grants. I am less familiar with
20 the scope effect than some of you, but I think that
21 is the next task at hand to make sure that we are
22 incorporating the will of the Board in those grants.

23 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: It may be in
24 addition to what we are already doing or enhancing

1 what we are already doing; is that a safe
2 suggestion?

3 MS. GIBSON: Yes.

4 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Garcia wanted
5 to answer you.

6 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Sure; of course.

7 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Thank you, Mr.
8 Chairman, and Commissioner Silvestri, and ladies and
9 gentlemen of the Board.

10 There are groups in various parts of
11 the County, City, and suburbs that have been
12 pioneering the practice of restorative justice.
13 There are many highly-qualified groups that will
14 have an opportunity to come forth through a request
15 for proposal, submit their credentials and their
16 proposals that the Justice Advisory Council would
17 have an opportunity to select from, to ensure that
18 we are getting the best return for the investment,
19 and to continue to forge a path forward so that we
20 lay a good foundation for best practices as it
21 relates to this.

22 There are many groups out there who
23 have been practicing with shoestring budgets. This
24 helps further that cause, especially after

1 additional partners, as I stated previously, from
2 the foundation world; hopefully, the corporate world
3 will come on board to make the investment a much
4 more robust one, but for sure one that will provide
5 critical resources and alternatives for young people
6 so that they do not enter the prison pipeline,
7 first, through the juvenile justice system and
8 later, as studies have demonstrated, to places like
9 Cook County jail.

10 This is a diversion. This is an
11 investment. This returns the burden of healing a
12 harm that has been done to local communities and
13 local stakeholders.

14 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: But it is
15 preventative; is that what you are saying?

16 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Yes.

17 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: It is helping to
18 prevent really the development of young criminals?

19 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: That is correct.

20 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Is there an age
21 group that is targeted to this type of program?

22 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: I think teens are the
23 primary focus of this investment.

24 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: With respect to

1 the amount, Ms. Gibson, the amendment that I am
2 looking at says that it is going up from \$2.1
3 million to \$2.6 million; is that correct?

4 MS. GIBSON: That is correct for that line.
5 It also includes the antirecidivism grant in there
6 as well. There are a couple of line items embedded
7 in the same budget line.

8 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: What this
9 amendment though, that is calling for the \$500,000,
10 is this something that we are not doing at all? It
11 is a new initiative?

12 MS. GIBSON: I think the reason that it is
13 a little ambiguous is that there is a grey area
14 between antiviolence and restorative justice.
15 There's an overlap there. I think we have been
16 doing the antiviolence grants, a component of which
17 hasn't been specifically in restorative justice in
18 the past. I think that is where we need to work on
19 this scope.

20 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: The specifics?

21 MS. GIBSON: Yes.

22 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Thank you.

23 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Vice-Chair Sims.

24 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: Thank you.

1 I am not going to repeat everything
2 that Commissioner Fritchey said. He and I are in
3 total agreement. When we do these grants for
4 juvenile justice and restorative justice in our
5 community, if you think about what we do at the
6 County -- we look people up. We put them in
7 detention centers. We bury them. But we never
8 think about all of the stuff in between.

9 We do all of the stuff that I would
10 say is the bad stuff, but we need to do some of the
11 good stuff, too.

12 I think in order to keep young people
13 out of jail we need to be in the interventional part
14 of this. When I worked for the City, I worked for
15 Chicago Intervention Network, which we intervened.
16 We tried to stop some of this stuff. We tried to
17 stop the kids from being in the detention center and
18 in the jails system. In order to do that, you have
19 to put some money there.

20 I personally don't think that we put
21 enough into these programs, considering that at the
22 end result we are either going to lock them up, put
23 them in a detention center, or bury them.

24 I think we need to do more. I think

1 we need to find more dollars to do this.

2 I would hope in this process -- I know
3 Commissioner Fritchey and myself would like to be
4 in, and we have made this request in the planning
5 stages on how we do this, because he and I are
6 closely involved in this or have been closely
7 involved with the young people, and trying to figure
8 out how we would help them, that we be a part of
9 that conversation, that we make a process that is
10 easier this year because we think that the process
11 that we have in place now is a hard process for
12 those agencies out there that have the ability to do
13 the work.

14 What we end up doing is -- the big
15 organizations that get the money from all of the
16 other places, they get the money first. Then you
17 have some organizations out there that are really
18 doing some on-the-ground work with people to try to
19 keep them out of jail, trying to keep them from
20 getting killed. They don't get the funding.

21 I would hope in our conversation, and
22 as we move forward in trying to figure out what we
23 do with this, we at least have some input on how
24 that is going to work.

1 I know that Commissioner Fritchey is
2 constantly trying to find money to put in those
3 programs. It is just that we have to be careful
4 where we take it from. I know the people from
5 restorative justice. When I met with them, they
6 thought that the money was going to come from the
7 Juvenile Detention Center as we closed pods. But I
8 see that that is not where the money came from.

9 I don't think we should be taking
10 money from the Juvenile Detention Center in light of
11 that it is going to be turned over to the Chief
12 Judge and we don't know what all of his ideas are
13 for the Juvenile Detention Center.

14 I would hope, before this budget is
15 ended, we do everything; that we come up with some
16 ideas to put a half a million back into juvenile
17 justice. That is my comment on this.

18 I think I would like to commend the
19 sponsors of this, and would like to be added as a
20 sponsor to let people know we are at least trying to
21 do something. We are not doing enough, but we are
22 trying to do something.

23 This is -- in my opinion, this is
24 still just a start.

1 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Please add Vice-Chairman
2 Sims.

3 Are there any other questions?

4 All those in favor signify by saying
5 "aye" -- opposed "nay" -- the amendment passes.

6 Amendment number three, Commissioner
7 Suffredin.

8 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Thank you, Mr.
9 Chairman.

10 I move approval of amendment number
11 three.

12 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: I second it.

13 CHAIRMAN DALEY: It has been moved by
14 Commissioner Suffredin and seconded by Commissioner
15 Silvestri to approve amendment number three.

16 Commissioner Suffredin.

17 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Thank you, Mr.
18 Chairman.

19 Amendment number three takes some of
20 the TIF surplus money that we approved in amendment
21 number one, and applies to two very important
22 programs that we have recognized as being
23 antiviolence programs -- the pretrial release and
24 the pretrial diversion program.

1 This gives eleven new positions,
2 divided between the Probation Office, the Public
3 Defender's Office, and the State's Attorney's
4 Office.

5 While I am very happy we have these, I
6 think we will find that an investment in these
7 positions will reap us great benefits. I really
8 wish we had more, but we only have \$812,000.

9 I ask your approval.

10 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Silvestri.

11 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Mr. Chairman, I
12 would like to be added as a sponsor.

13 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Please add Commissioner
14 Silvestri as a sponsor.

15 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: I wholeheartedly
16 support it.

17 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Do you want to be added on
18 this one, Commissioner Sims?

19 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: Yes.

20 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Please add Vice-Chair Sims
21 on amendment number three as well.

22 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Leave to add all
23 members.

24 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Leave to add all members.

1 All members will be added.

2 Commissioner Collins.

3 COMMISSIONER COLLINS: I support this
4 amendment, but I really want to make it very clear
5 for the Public Defender's Office -- this is going to
6 the Public Defender's Office. If we hope to
7 expedite those cases and move the cases through the
8 system, and to ensure that each defendant has equal
9 protection under the law, and equal justice, we are
10 going to have to get the Legislature to change the
11 rules as it relates to the number of Assistant
12 Public Defenders, their caseload.

13 When you look at what is going on, we
14 complain about moving people through the system,
15 getting them out of there, and reducing the
16 population. It doesn't work when they have to sit
17 there, and the caseload of the Public Defender is so
18 high. They don't have enough investigators -- it
19 has nothing to do with it. It shouldn't have
20 nothing to do with this. I looked at the law again
21 myself. I see the errors in that law because I am a
22 sponsor.

23 We need to talk to them about some way
24 in which we can make a fair determination about the

1 caseload and the kinds of cases that we are looking
2 at. I understand it takes more for these
3 misdemeanors that go into that system, because these
4 are children; getting these kids through the system
5 and out of the system. But you still have to put
6 forth a case when that kid has done something that
7 would constitute a felony if they were adults.

8 They were still tried as children; yet
9 they committed a crime, they hurt someone, and they
10 need representation. You can't trip over national
11 rate per caseload and then expect for them to
12 provide a proper and fair case to present to the
13 Judge.

14 That is why you get a lot of
15 continuances because they don't want to be called up
16 to try people when they know there is unreadiness on
17 the part of the Public Defender's Office.

18 The other problem I have is -- because
19 of the mandatory sentences on certain types of
20 crimes, we also have too many people who are forced
21 to say they committed a crime of which they didn't
22 even commit.

23 The plea bargaining issue on these
24 cases with mandatory sentences, and at the same time

1 the lack of fair representation, we need to deal
2 with that. I don't think this Board has any sense,
3 shouldn't have the responsibility of how many
4 investigators, how many Public Defenders is needed,
5 or what the caseload should be in order to have
6 equal justice and protection under the law. It
7 doesn't exist now, guys.

8 That is why we have sixty percent of
9 the people plea bargaining to crimes because of the
10 mandatory laws. It is better for them to get out
11 right away, and they do, or to take the lesser
12 penalty because they don't have anyone to build a
13 proper case to properly defend them. That is what I
14 wanted you to know.

15 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Are there any other
16 questions?

17 All those in favor signify by saying
18 "aye" -- opposed "nay" -- amendment number three has
19 passed.

20 Amendment number four, commissioner
21 Suffredin.

22 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Thank you, Mr.
23 Chairman, and members of the Committee.

24 I move approval of amendment number

1 four.

2 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: I second it.

3 CHAIRMAN DALEY: It has been moved by
4 Commissioner Suffredin and seconded by Commissioner
5 Silvestri to approve amendment number four.

6 Commissioner Suffredin.

7 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Thank you.

8 Based upon the conversation we just
9 had about amendment number three, I sat down with a
10 number of the offices that are part of our criminal
11 justice system to figure out how we could
12 incentivize them to try to increase their own
13 revenue so we can use those revenues to be more
14 effective in Bond Court and in the State's
15 Attorney's Office with the community justice center
16 that they would like to open in the Hyde Park area.

17 What we did is we looked at the budget
18 book and realized that the only revenue that is
19 shown in our budget is \$1.9 million, which is
20 generated from felony and misdemeanor conviction
21 fees.

22 We sat down with the State's Attorney
23 Office Civil Division, the division that represents
24 us in this room, and we looked at the last number of

1 years. In the activities of our civil lawyers --
2 not our criminal lawyers, but our civil lawyers --
3 we found an average of \$17.7 million that they were
4 involved in representing us and recovering for the
5 County. Now some of that money has been allocated
6 to other departments -- the Clerk of the Circuit
7 Court and the administrative adjudication and other
8 places.

9 I sat with the Budget Director and
10 said -- all right, let's take the maximum amount,
11 the \$17.7 million figure. Let's give that as an
12 incentive to the Civil Division to see if they can,
13 in this next calendar year, the budget year, come up
14 with any amount over that. If they can, that we
15 would put that into an escrow, or a reserve fund
16 that we are going to discuss later, so that they
17 would have the ability to hire, in the next budget,
18 nine entry-level attorneys for Bond Court and
19 establish a community justice center.

20 This is a novel approach, but it is
21 based upon, I will tell you, a very high number. I
22 don't know if the State's Attorney's Office can meet
23 that number, especially when we looked at the
24 location, some of these funds that have been raised

1 in the past or other places. I think it is a high
2 enough number that it gives them an incentive. The
3 incentive for them is additional lawyers for Bond
4 Court, which will save us money, and additional
5 money for a community justice center in the Hyde
6 Park area where there has been a lot of violence.

7 I ask for an "aye" vote.

8 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Are there any questions?

9 Andrea, did you want to address this?

10 MS. GIBSON: We have some concerns about
11 this amendment. I think Commissioner Suffredin has
12 summarized it well, but revenue of \$17 million -- I
13 don't agree that this is the number that the Civil
14 Division generates. For example, it includes all of
15 the orders through administrative hearings, but
16 doesn't factor in the cost of the collection
17 agencies.

18 I agree it is a high number. It would
19 surprise me if they exceeded it; although I am
20 always delighted when someone does.

21 The 2015 budget is what we are
22 discussing right now. I am hesitant to support
23 something that ties our hands in 2016. Each budget
24 is a statement of priorities, looking at total

1 resources available against our highest priorities.
2 It is hard to sit here today and say this is a
3 higher priority than something we don't even know
4 might come up between now and then.

5 I like the idea of providing an
6 incentive. I am thinking about ways to do that, but
7 the amendment, as it stands, is not out of balance.
8 It is more of a policy statement and a resolution,
9 but it is not one that we can support.

10 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Silvestri.

11 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: I think Andrea
12 expressed some of my concerns. I feel like we need
13 more State's Attorneys. I think it would be a good
14 thing. I think it is certainly effective to get
15 things done. But I am concerned with all of the
16 concerns that are raised by the Administration
17 repeatedly about next year's budget that we commit
18 anything for anything next year.

19 That is what I was going to ask Andrea
20 earlier, but I guess it is related with the TIF
21 surplus. Isn't that a one-time shot, too?

22 MS. GIBSON: The TIF surplus has been a
23 one-time revenue for the past four years.

24 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Like a one-

1 hundred-year flood every two years?

2 MS. GIBSON: It seems to be an annual
3 occurrence at this point. The amount is something
4 that we have to watch closely because the exact same
5 amount won't be declared this year. Both suburban
6 and City TIFs, it does seem like there is a surplus
7 every year.

8 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: I am a fan of the
9 concept of incentives. I am a fan of adding State's
10 Attorneys. I am just concerned about creating a
11 program for next year's budget this year.

12 Thank you.

13 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Gorman.

14 COMMISSIONER GORMAN: If I can just ask
15 Andrea -- what is the number generated by the Civil
16 Actions Bureau? Do we have a history from 2013 or
17 2014? Do you know what that number is?

18 MS. GIBSON: We have the information that
19 the State's Attorney's Office put together. It
20 shows the total orders. What we haven't done is
21 factored out any kind of costs associated with the
22 collection agencies, for example. There is also a
23 nuance with the Public Administrator's revenues that
24 the State's Attorney participates in securing for

1 the County.

2 We have to hold that in a fund. It is
3 not available -- unless it reaches the threshold of
4 \$5 million, it is not available for the general
5 fund. It is something that we could refine. I
6 don't have a number that I am one hundred percent
7 confident in today.

8 COMMISSIONER GORMAN: If I could just ask
9 the sponsor, Commissioner Suffredin, because
10 obviously he just didn't pull \$17 million out of the
11 sky. How did you arrive at over and above \$17
12 million?

13 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Commissioner
14 Gorman, I sat down with the State's Attorney's
15 Office. We went through all of the places where the
16 lawyers in the Civil Division have been in court
17 collecting civil fines or judgments on behalf of
18 Cook County.

19 I will tell you that my motivation for
20 this is based upon the US Attorney's Office for the
21 Northern District of Illinois, where their civil
22 division collects more than twice the total budget
23 for the office of the Northern District of Illinois,
24 the US Attorney. I was looking for the chance to

1 incentivize the State's Attorney.

2 The \$17 million is an extremely high
3 number. I think this may be difficult for them to
4 meet because that is what the average has been of
5 all of the sources that they showed me. As the
6 Budget Director has said, some of these are already
7 being allocated to other people. I am not giving
8 them an easier task. I am really giving them a
9 difficult task. But the idea is to give them a
10 reason to be out there looking for other places that
11 they could, with the use of the Civil Courts,
12 generate revenues for the County of Cook.

13 I know the Budget Director expresses
14 concerns about the 2016 budget. But this amendment,
15 if it is reached, I am going to be really very, very
16 surprised.

17 I think what it is going to give us
18 during this year is an accurate number of what the
19 State's Attorney's revenue really can be for the
20 next budget because, as I have said, in the current
21 budget the only number that is there is \$1.9
22 million, which is money that is collected upon pleas
23 of guilty or findings of guilty in misdemeanor and
24 felony cases.

1 COMMISSIONER GORMAN: Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Collins.

3 COMMISSIONER COLLINS: Commissioner
4 Suffredin, all of these cases come before the
5 Administrative Board; right?

6 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: The State's
7 Attorney represents the County in all matters before
8 the administrative adjudication hearing offices that
9 we have in the County.

10 COMMISSIONER COLLINS: Are these figures
11 based on actual cases that are owed? Or are they
12 based on what we take in, what we actually collect?

13 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: We base these
14 numbers on the judgments they have received. Now
15 the Budget Director has some questions about the
16 collections against the judgments. Again, we picked
17 the highest possible numbers so that we would avoid
18 having to get into this discussion.

19 It is not like I am asking them to
20 reach a minor threshold. I am asking them to exceed
21 whatever maximum they could have gotten up until
22 now. The allocations you are talking about -- we
23 are talking about them having to bring in at least
24 \$18 million before there is a dollar that we could

1 use.

2 The idea is to incentivize them to be
3 able to go after this. Again, using the US
4 Attorney's Office, their civil division collects
5 these civil fines and judgments which exceeds the
6 budget of the entire office. I think we have the
7 capability in a county of this size to have our
8 Civil Division do some of that.

9 COMMISSIONER COLLINS: I guess my problem
10 is -- I am lost. I am still lost on the question
11 that was asked before. Are these figures based on
12 the total number of cases that are adjudicated
13 through the administrative process?

14 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: That is one part
15 of it. There are a series of things. There are
16 cases that our Assistants are in the Circuit Court
17 or in the Federal District Court. There are cases
18 that are in the administrative adjudication. There
19 are cases involving the collection of fines and
20 things from the Criminal Court, where people who
21 have been assessed fines haven't paid and they go
22 and do it civilly. There are a number of things.

23 The Budget Director mentioned the
24 Public Administrator issue. We have something in

1 Cook County, required by statute, that is called the
2 "unnamed" heirs fund. We are required to keep \$5
3 million in that. Unknown heirs, I said "unnamed".
4 It is the unknown heirs, and it comes in later after
5 a public administrator has closed an estate. They
6 make a claim saying, "Well, that was my great uncle,
7 and I did not know they died." We have to defend
8 that. That is not done by the Public Administrator.

9 If we defend that, we are keeping the
10 money in the fund, the \$5 million that the Budget
11 Director said. But the State's Attorney can also
12 add to that and anything over that goes into our
13 budget.

14 That is why I am suggesting that if we
15 do this we are establishing the rules with the
16 Budget Director as to how we know what the real
17 revenue is our Civil Division collects. If they hit
18 the jackpot -- I am going to tell you, this has to
19 hit the jackpot to get over \$17.7 million. Their
20 benefit would be that we would hold some of that
21 money to help them get Assistants for the Bond
22 Court, which we all agree after our last discussion
23 of the prior amendment is a place where we can save
24 money, if we had more people working there.

1 COMMISSIONER COLLINS: Am I hearing that
2 you are saying all fees and fines uncollected --
3 because once they go through the administrative
4 system you can't collect the money, you still have
5 got to go through the regular court in order to
6 collect the money.

7 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: We are not
8 counting the money twice. The State's Attorney is
9 counting what they collect.

10 COMMISSIONER COLLINS: What they actually
11 pay. In other words, I got a fine. I pay my fine.
12 They are not counting the money that I got fined,
13 but I have to go to the regular court. The Civil
14 Court --

15 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: We are not
16 counting it twice. We are counting it when we
17 receive it. It is a very high threshold. As the
18 Budget Director, I think, properly characterized it,
19 this is a policy decision. But it is a question of
20 trying to get a number of our offices to have the
21 mindset that they can help control their own budgets
22 and help us in our budget by generating additional
23 revenue.

24 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Are you finished,

1 Commissioner?

2 Commissioner Murphy.

3 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Thank you, Mr.
4 Chairman.

5 I think this is a good idea. I think
6 anything we can do to incentivize our employees to
7 try to bring more revenue into the County is a good
8 idea.

9 This isn't going to hurt us in any
10 way. It is not going to do anything to harm us. It
11 is simply something that will incentivize the
12 employees to work harder, to reach a threshold of
13 the seventeen, which they may never reach; but to
14 try to reach it, to get more people to help them to
15 do their jobs. I don't see where the harm is in
16 this. I don't know how this will hurt us if we do
17 it. I think it is a good idea. I would vote "yes"
18 for it.

19 CHAIRMAN DALEY: The concern is, we are
20 passing the 2015 budget. My only concern as we look
21 to 2016, that is going to be a very, very hard
22 budget as we approach it, with new revenues and
23 every elected official who came in here, they have
24 asked for additional revenue during the department

1 hearings.

2 My only concern is, rather than
3 looking at 2015, we are looking at 2016. We have to
4 deal with budget by budget, and this is the 2015
5 budget.

6 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: How would this hurt
7 the 2016 budget?

8 CHAIRMAN DALEY: I don't think it is
9 hurting it, Commissioner. When we look to 2016, as
10 soon as we pass this, the Budget Director will be
11 looking at and reaching out -- as soon as this is
12 passed -- to the 2016 budget because in our meetings
13 with the Finance team and with the President, as we
14 look to the 2016, we know we are going to face some
15 serious issues on revenue.

16 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: How will this affect
17 this 2016?

18 CHAIRMAN DALEY: I am not saying it does.
19 You have to look at everyone in the equation in the
20 2016 budget.

21 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Maybe I am not
22 understanding this. Maybe I can have Andrea answer
23 this. How will this affect the 2016 budget? How
24 will this harm it?

1 MS. GIBSON: My point was, when you develop
2 a budget you look at all of the resources that are
3 available and what your highest priorities are to
4 allocate those resources. It is hard to sit here
5 today and say that one thing is a higher priority
6 than another between now and next October. There
7 might be something else that is more urgent that we
8 need to put available resources to.

9 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: And you are saying if
10 they success and they raise these additional funds,
11 we may want to put it someplace else rather than
12 what you are saying? Is that what you are saying?

13 MS. GIBSON: We may want to put it in the
14 State's Attorney's Office. We may want to put it in
15 the Civil Division of the State's Attorney's Office
16 to generate even more revenue.

17 What I am saying is it is hard to make
18 a foregone conclusion on what is to be funded with
19 the additional revenue.

20 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: I don't see how
21 passing hits today would really interfere with that,
22 other than we are saying that the money, the extra
23 money that they raised, if they didn't have it in
24 the past, would be allocated to them. I don't see

1 where this harm comes in.

2 Anyway, I will be in favor of this.

3 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Are there any other
4 questions?

5 All those in favor signify by saying
6 "aye" --

7 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Roll call.

8 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Roll call.

9 SECRETARY DeLEON: Mr. Chairman, this is a
10 roll call on a motion to approve amendment number
11 four.

12 Commissioner Butler.

13 COMMISSIONER BUTLER: No.

14 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Butler is
15 "no".

16 Commissioner Collins.

17 COMMISSIONER COLLINS: I am going to vote
18 "present" because I don't have a problem with what
19 we are trying to do. But the reality is I am not
20 sure because many of these entities have to go
21 through the administrative process for the fines and
22 fees. They depend upon that money to also help to
23 balance their budgets, the individual constitutional
24 offices.

1 The other problem I have is
2 designating where and who the money is going to go
3 to. That is a real concern of mine.

4 I am going to vote "present". I would
5 love to help my colleagues, who have always been
6 there in helping me with those items that I had.
7 But this I can't do because I really don't want to
8 see this money allocated before. It should go where
9 the greatest need is. Most of these budgets don't
10 go where the greatest need is, even in this one. It
11 is very, very clear-cut that this may not go where
12 the greatest need is.

13 So I am going to vote "present".

14 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Collins is
15 "present".

16 Commissioner Fritchey.

17 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Present.

18 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Fritchey is
19 "present".

20 Commissioner Gainer.

21 COMMISSIONER GAINER: No.

22 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Gainer is
23 "no".

24 Commissioner Garcia.

1 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: No.

2 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Garcia is
3 "no".

4 Commissioner Gorman.

5 COMMISSIONER GORMAN: Seventeen million is
6 a high threshold, but it is a good incentive. I
7 really don't see an issue of the State's Attorney
8 being able to somehow achieve that goal, and they
9 need additional State's Attorneys. So be it. The
10 State's Attorneys, we have cut for years in the
11 extreme times when we were trying to balance the
12 budget.

13 If this is an opportunity to bring
14 additional attorneys in for Bond Court, I don't see
15 any problem with is, so I vote "aye".

16 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Gorman is
17 "aye".

18 Commissioner Goslin. Commissioner
19 Goslin is absent.

20 Commissioner Moore.

21 COMMISSIONER MOORE: No.

22 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Moore is
23 "no".

24 Commissioner Murphy.

1 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Aye.

2 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Murphy is
3 "aye".

4 Commissioner Reyes.

5 COMMISSIONER REYES: No.

6 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Reyes is
7 "no".

8 Commissioner Schneider.

9 COMMISSIONER SCHNEIDER: No.

10 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Schneider
11 is "no".

12 Commissioner Silvestri.

13 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: I just want to say
14 once again that I think it is a creative way to
15 generate money. I am concerned that more State's
16 Attorneys aren't just added because we need more
17 State's Attorneys. I don't think we have to have a
18 specific incentive program in one department of one
19 elected official to kind of justify their own needs.

20 I think either we do this across the
21 board and we should have everybody create incentives
22 to reach so they can get additional staffing or we
23 just do the right thing and add more State's
24 Attorneys.

1 At this time, I would vote "no".

2 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Silvestri
3 is "no".

4 Vice-Chair Sims.

5 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: No.

6 SECRETARY DeLEON: Vice-Chair Sims is "no".
7 Commissioner Steele.

8 COMMISSIONER STEELE: No.

9 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Steele is
10 "no".

11 Commissioner Suffredin.

12 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Aye.

13 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Suffredin
14 is "aye".

15 Commissioner Tobolski.

16 COMMISSIONER TOBOLSKI: No.

17 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Tobolski is
18 "no".

19 Chairman Daley.

20 CHAIRMAN DALEY: No.

21 SECRETARY DeLEON: chairman Daley is "no".

22 Mr. Chairman, you have four "yeas",
23 ten "yeas", two "present", and one absent.

24 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Amendment number four

1 failed.

2 Amendment number five. There is a
3 substitute, I believe.

4 SECRETARY DeLEON: I apologize, Mr.
5 Chairman. That is three "yeas", eleven "nays", two
6 "present", and one absent.

7 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Amendment number four
8 fails.

9 Amendment number five. There is a
10 substitute.

11 COMMISSIONER BUTLER: I move approval.

12 CHAIRMAN DALEY: There is a substitute and
13 Commissioner Butler moves to accept the substitute.

14 COMMISSIONER STEELE: I second it.

15 CHAIRMAN DALEY: It has been seconded by
16 Commissioner Steele.

17 All those in favor of accepting the
18 substitute signify by saying "aye" -- opposed "nay".
19 The motion has carried.

20 COMMISSIONER BUTLER: I move approval.

21 COMMISSIONER STEELE: I second it.

22 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Butler has
23 now moved approval of the substitute number five and
24 it has been seconded by Commissioner Steele.

1 On the amendment.

2 COMMISSIONER STEELE: This is a technical
3 amendment to approve these items in the various
4 departments.

5 CHAIRMAN DALEY: The Budget Director will
6 address this.

7 MS. GIBSON: This is a countywide technical
8 amendment in the general fund. It corrects a couple
9 of things in the budget, including something that
10 came up in the JTDC hearing, where there was several
11 titles with no job codes. Those are corrected in
12 here.

13 Some in classifications have come
14 through HR since the time of introducing the budget.
15 Those title changes are made. There were some job
16 code errors, and then there were a few filled
17 positions that were accidentally deleted. Those
18 were replaced by the right vacancies that will be
19 deleted in lieu of those.

20 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Any questions?

21 Commissioner Fritchey.

22 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Thank you.

23 Andrea, if you can help me here. I
24 understand technical amendments and the recoding of

1 some things. Some things look like they would be
2 kind of last-minute pay raises. I don't want to
3 scan through this whole thing. Let's just start
4 with the first line here, administrative analyst II.
5 That was recommended at \$50,000, and then it goes to
6 \$61,000.

7 MS. GIBSON: Commissioner, you have
8 identified one of the reasons for the substitute.

9 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: I apologize.

10 CHAIRMAN DALEY: The substitute is what we
11 are dealing with.

12 MS. GIBSON: That position was actually
13 coming down. That was an error in the first version
14 of the substitute.

15 That position is a vacancy. That was
16 an error in the first draft.

17 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Let me go to the
18 substitution. It looks like there are a couple of
19 positions being treated -- the Bureau Chief of Asset
20 Management. That wasn't in the recommendation that
21 is in here now for \$145,000?

22 MS. GIBSON: It was in their
23 recommendation, but it had the incorrect job code.
24 It had the job code associated with the Deputy

1 Bureau Chief. So we are cleaning that up so it
2 matches what we have on file with the Court.

3 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: I promise you I am
4 not going to go through this. Let me just ask you
5 one more then. Let's just go a couple of lines
6 down. Senior network administrator III.
7 Essentially there is two of them. This looks to be
8 adding one more.

9 MS. GIBSON: That's correct. It was
10 inadvertently deleted during the budget. This is
11 restoring that position. Actually it was at a
12 dollar. It was supposed to have been funded.

13 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: In a situation like
14 that, where is that money coming from, for the
15 additional \$80,000?

16 MS. GIBSON: The Assessor's Office had a
17 few things in this technical amendment. It is all
18 self-balancing. They had a number of title changes
19 working through reclassifications. This one all
20 balances within their personnel line.

21 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: I guess to the
22 amendment -- I understand this somewhat eviscerates
23 some of the budget process in the questioning of
24 different offices when they are coming before us

1 based on certain positions, etcetera. I am not
2 singling out the Assessor, but this looks to be kind
3 of across the board here.

4 But when positions are seeking to be
5 either added, reclassified, or the pay grades
6 changes, or something that was in as a dollar and
7 now is \$80,000; none of these things were able to be
8 debated during that time, and now it is on the
9 amendment. I guess it defeats the purpose. Now we
10 are going to have this office come up and we are all
11 going to look at that budget, and then we have this
12 office come up and we are going to look at that
13 budget.

14 There are a couple of pages and dozens
15 of positions here being affected that really never
16 came through the normal budget process.

17 When I say "normal budget process", I
18 understand this is part of that process. You
19 understand what I am talking about.

20 MS. GIBSON: I understand, Commissioner.
21 For what it's worth, a technical amendment of this
22 length is fairly typical in our amendment process.
23 There are always things that change, new
24 information, for example, going through HR that we

1 have by the time of the amendments, and we want to
2 be sure to bring that to you Commissioners.

3 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Again, I am not
4 upset by this. I am not taking issue and I am not
5 saying that there is anything nefarious. But maybe
6 the way to do this -- these positions need to be
7 codified and set prior to these departments making
8 their presentations to the Board.

9 There is a difference between a
10 technical amendment or corrections being made as
11 opposed to really just personnel changes being made.
12 It would be different if it was a Commissioner
13 introducing an amendment to something specific. But
14 this is kind of a catchall amendment
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COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: I do though.

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MS. GIBSON: Maybe you do.

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COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: I do, and the
second group is the Assessor. I know that, 0401420.
I would call it the Assessor's Office.

19

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MS. GIBSON: 040 is the Assessor's Office.

21

That is correct.

22

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COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: I recall that, and
it says "Assessor" next to it.

24

I think part of it is also with this

1 Bureau of Asset Management. Did we receive a new
2 chart on that, on what replaces what?

3 CHAIRMAN DALEY: We did, yes.

4 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: These all give
5 different administrative positions and assistants
6 that kind of shifted around with these titles,
7 etcetera.

8 MS. GIBSON: I assume so. I am not sure
9 exactly what was supplied.

10 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Yes, there was backing.

11 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Ultimately the
12 impact is zero dollars?

13 MS. GIBSON: That's right.

14 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Is there anything
15 that stands out in your mind in terms of an increase
16 in pay that we will hear about later?

17 MS. GIBSON: No.

18 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: You are on the
19 record with that.

20 MS. GIBSON: I know.

21 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Thank you.

22 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Collins.

23 COMMISSIONER COLLINS: In the name of
24 transparency, which is often used here, Andrea, I

1 really think it would be better and clearer to
2 everyone, because no one can remember all of the
3 departments by code. We have this big book here,
4 and with the time frame we have to work with, in
5 looking at this amendment, it is almost impossible
6 to do.

7 So for the public to understand, once
8 they pick up this amendment, if you have the
9 department there -- I can guess if you say a
10 correctional officer, it is either with the
11 Department of Corrections, the Sheriff's Department,
12 or something like this. But when you have got all
13 of these staff people, administrative assistants,
14 and on and on here, without any definition or
15 anything but some numbers to determine what the
16 department is, it makes it very, very difficult.

17 It is most certainly not transparent.
18 I know this Body often talks about it.

19 MS. GIBSON: We will look at that,
20 Commissioner, as an improvement for next year. I
21 was thinking the same thing when I was answering
22 Commissioner Silvestri's questions. I appreciate
23 that feedback.

24 COMMISSIONER COLLINS: Thank you very much.

1 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioners, I think the
2 other thing is when the electeds come in we ask them
3 specifically. This is your budget. Do you concur
4 with the budget that is before you? The Assessor
5 was here for ten minutes. Maybe we can modify that.

6 Are there any other questions?

7 All those in favor signify by saying
8 "aye" -- opposed "nay". Substitute amendment number
9 five passes.

10 Amendment number six, Commissioner
11 Butler.

12 COMMISSIONER BUTLER: I move approval.

13 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: I second it.

14 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Amendment number six has
15 been moved by Commissioner Butler and seconded by
16 Commissioner Garcia.

17 On the amendment, the Budget Director.

18 MS. GIBSON: This is also what I would
19 consider a technical amendment. It is in a
20 different fund. It is in the Clerk of the Circuit
21 Court's automation fund. Since the time of
22 introducing the budget an employee has returned from
23 a long-term leave of absence. We need to restore
24 that position. They are offsetting it with a

1 reduction of another position.

2 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Collins.

3 COMMISSIONER COLLINS: When someone is on a
4 leave of absence, what would make you eliminate
5 their position?

6 MS. GIBSON: Their length of time. If it
7 is a long leave of absence, if it is over a year, we
8 bring the position down to a dollar so that the
9 department can use that funding. Typically people
10 tend not to come back after a year, and very
11 unlikely after two years. This particular situation
12 of somebody returning was the exception to that
13 rule.

14 COMMISSIONER COLLINS: You have the
15 conditions set up by the department when they go on
16 disability. Are these disability cases that you are
17 talking about, where people are on a leave of
18 absence? What would they be on a leave of absence
19 for, other than being ill themselves or family
20 leave?

21 MS. GIBSON: I would assume it was because
22 of disability. I am not familiar with this
23 particular case. I imagine there are a number of
24 reasons you could be on a leave of absence.

1 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Is there a representative
2 from the Clerks' Office here?

3 COMMISSIONER COLLINS: I don't think you
4 should be able to be on a leave of absence even for
5 a number of reasons. I think you ought to have
6 rules and regulations that specifically says if you
7 want to take a leave of absence, how long you should
8 leave.

9 MS. GIBSON: I think we do, Commissioner.
10 I am just not very well-versed in what these things
11 are.

12 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Maybe a representative
13 from the Clerk's Office.

14 MR. FASHINA: Good afternoon,
15 Commissioners. I am Wasiu Fashina from the Clerk of
16 the Circuit Court.

17 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Did you hear Commissioner
18 Collins' question?

19 MR. FASHINA: Yes. Commissioner, this
20 individual was on disability and she came back right
21 after the budget was presented by the President.

22 COMMISSIONER COLLINS: Thank you. So the
23 person was on disability and we do have a designated
24 length of time where a person can be on disability?

1 MR. FASHINA: I'm sorry. Can you repeat
2 the question?

3 COMMISSIONER COLLINS: Do you have
4 something in writing about one's position being
5 eliminated? And what would happen if that person
6 stayed out a couple of years, and like she said, you
7 may want to use that money, but supposing you didn't
8 have another position; would you create a new
9 position for that person?

10 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioners, we are
11 going to take a short break. One of the department
12 heads needs some medical attention. While she is
13 getting that medical attention, maybe we can clear
14 away from her.

15 We will stand in recess and perhaps
16 the Board Room should be cleared. Please clear the
17 Board Room now. We ask everyone to leave the Board
18 Room immediately.

19 Thank you.

20

21 (Recess had.)

22

23 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioners, the Finance
24 Committee will now reconvene. I know we all would

1 like to thank Doctors Shannon and Mason, and the
2 Sheriff's Office personnel, for their attention to
3 Doctor Alexander. We wish her the best, and we will
4 keep her in our prayers.

5 We were on amendment number six --
6 Commissioner Fritchey.

7 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: We had a
8 representative from the Clerk's Office that was
9 about to address Commissioner Sims' question.

10 CHAIRMAN DALEY: It was Commissioner
11 Collins' question.

12 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: At the appropriate
13 time, I will be asking questions.

14 CHAIRMAN DALEY: It was a leave of absence.
15 I think you recall Commissioner Collins' question.
16 It was in reference to a leave of absence. The
17 position was left out of the budget.

18 MS. GIBSON: It was a position that wasn't
19 funded, but the person came back after being out for
20 quite a while. I think Commissioner Collins was
21 asking if the person was on disability.

22 MR. FASHINA: Yes. The individual was on
23 disability.

24 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Fritchey.

1 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: If I could ask a
2 follow-up, and obviously I will yield to
3 Commissioner Collins when she comes back to the
4 floor.

5 As I understand this, and I get this
6 part of it -- there was a procurement specialist VI
7 that had been on leave. Are you zeroing that
8 position out?

9 MR. FASHINA: It wasn't a procurement
10 analyst; it was the data entry.

11 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Data entry is being
12 added in?

13 MR. FASHINA: Yes.

14 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: But then I am also
15 seeing a procurement -- I guess I am trying to
16 figure out the second part of this. There is a
17 procurement specialist VI that is being sought to be
18 added in here, but taken out at the same time. Is
19 that just a grade change?

20 MS. GIBSON: That was an error. It was
21 listed as a grade fourteen when it actually was a
22 grade twenty.

23 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: That was the only
24 change in this one. I am assuming it is going along

1 with this because it is in the same office.

2 MS. GIBSON: In the same fund. We separate
3 these technical amendments by fund.

4 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Andrea, I think you
5 are off the hook. My question is for Andrea, and it
6 is easy, I think.

7 Do you know offhand -- was that a
8 previously existing position?

9 MS. GIBSON: I believe so. I assume this
10 position was on leave for greater than two years.

11 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Not the one that is
12 on leave, Andrea. I apologize. This procurement
13 specialist one that was miscoded as a grade fourteen
14 instead of a twenty. It had previously been there?

15 MR. FACHINA: Yes, and it is still there.

16 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: And it had
17 previously been there as a twenty?

18 MR. FACHINA: It was at a twenty, but when
19 the budget was loaded somehow it became a fourteen.

20 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: This is a
21 restoration back to the way it was. It is not a
22 change after the fact?

23 MS. GIBSON: That's correct.

24 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: That is all I

1 wanted to know. Thank you.

2 MR. FASHINA: Thank you, Commissioner
3 Fritchey.

4 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Any other questions?

5 All those in favor signify by saying
6 "aye" -- opposed "nay". The motion has carried.

7 Amendment number seven.

8 COMMISSIONER BUTLER: I move approval.

9 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: I second it.

10 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Butler moves
11 the approval of amendment number seven and it has
12 been seconded by Commissioner Silvestri.

13 On the amendment -- the Budget
14 Director.

15 MS. GIBSON: For both this and the next
16 amendment that you will consider, the indirect
17 expenses related to County overhead for having the
18 special purpose funds was omitted in the original
19 submission. We did have it in the general fund was
20 revenue, but for the lead poisoning fund it means we
21 need a \$37,000 expense added to the County
22 Administration line. That comes from the general
23 fund

24 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Fritchey.

1 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: A quick question.
2 Maybe this is a matter of lack of understanding on
3 my part, but shouldn't there be the resulting
4 revenue component to offset this amendment so this
5 is a balanced amendment? As it is, this is an
6 amendment that is out of balance?

7 MS. GIBSON: Because this is part of the
8 Health System budget. As you know, the Health
9 System budget is passed before we present the budget
10 to you. Once it comes through the Board of
11 Commissioners in September, we don't change it. In
12 the intervening period, we noted that we forgot to
13 include this. So we assumed the revenue already in
14 the general fund.

15 In that sense, it is balanced with the
16 revenue estimate in the general fund.

17 In both this and the next fund, they
18 have a fairly significant fund balance so that is
19 where the funding will come from.

20 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: So it is a draw
21 against a surplus?

22 MS. GIBSON: Yes.

23 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: That is permissible
24 even though the amendment on its face -- I am not

1 taking issue with this, I am just trying to
2 understand this. It seems in different contexts I
3 kind of get told different things. Again, I am just
4 trying to understand this going forward.

5 It is a draw against a fund balance
6 because there is a surplus sitting there. And it is
7 okay for there to be an amendment, even if the
8 amendment, on its face, is out of balance?

9 MS. GIBSON: That is correct because we
10 already have factored in the general fund revenue
11 coming in from this fund.

12 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: I don't want to
13 belabor this, but why wouldn't that be shown in this
14 amendment saying that?

15 MS. GIBSON: Because it is a different
16 fund, so if we were amending the revenue estimates
17 in the general fund that would be a separate
18 amendment. This deals only with the lead poisoning
19 prevention fund.

20 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Thank you.

21 Thank you, Chairman.

22 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Silvestri.

23 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr.
24 Chairman.

1 Madam Director, the reimbursement for
2 the administrative services, that is permitted under
3 the statute creating the special purpose fund?

4 MS. GIBSON: yes.

5 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: You know that for
6 certain?

7 MS. GIBSON: Yes.

8 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Did someone tell
9 you that?

10 MS. GIBSON: We have reviewed all of the
11 special purpose funds and determined which ones we
12 can charge and which ones we can't.

13 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Are these funds
14 created by statute?

15 MS. GIBSON: Yes.

16 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: So you and your
17 legal staff from the State's Attorney or somebody
18 reviewed those to make sure?

19 MS. GIBSON: We can review it. We have
20 done that not recently, but I don't think it would
21 have changed. The statute hasn't changed.

22 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: So you're
23 confident?

24 MS. GIBSON: Yes.

1 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Any other questions?

3 All those in favor signify by saying
4 "aye" -- opposed "nay". Amendment number seven
5 passes.

6 Amendment number eight.

7 COMMISSIONER BUTLER: I move approval.

8 COMMISSIONER STEELE: I second it.

9 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Butler has
10 moved approval of amendment number eight and it has
11 been seconded by Commissioner Steele.

12 On the amendment -- the Budget
13 Director.

14 MS. GIBSON: Similarly, this is the TB
15 fund, also with the Health System. We had the same
16 situation here the Health System budget was done
17 before we noticed that we hadn't budgeted for the
18 indirect expense for the Cook County administration.
19 This corrects that. Just like the lead poisoning
20 fund, there is a significant fund balance in this
21 fund.

22 CHAIRMAN DALEY: All those in favor signify
23 by saying "aye" -- all opposed "nay". The amendment
24 passes.

1 Amendment number nine.

2 COMMISSIONER BUTLER: I move approval.

3 COMMISSIONER REYES: I second it.

4 CHAIRMAN DALEY: It has been moved by
5 Commissioner Butler and seconded by Commissioner
6 Reyes to approve amendment number nine.

7 On the amendment -- the Budget
8 Director.

9 MS. GIBSON: Amendment number nine is the
10 Health System technical amendment that reflects
11 technical corrections since the budget, and also the
12 new reorganizational structure of the Health System.
13 The amendment fund sets several positions, including
14 Chief Strategy Officer, Chief Business Officer, and
15 Chief of Clinical Integration. It adds new
16 positions including the Deputy CEO of Finance and
17 Strategy and the Deputy CEO of Operations.

18 This also includes additional nurses,
19 seven additional nurses to the Health System budget.

20 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Silvestri.

21 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr.
22 Chairman.

23 Madam Director, this amendment talks
24 about reflecting a reorganization change in job

1 codes. The reorganization came after the
2 introduction of the budget to the Health and
3 Hospitals Board, and subsequently to this Board; is
4 that correct?

5 MS. GIBSON: That's correct.

6 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Can someone from
7 the Hospital explain why they presented a budget to
8 the Independent Hospital Board and eventually it
9 came here that had to be drastically changed because
10 of the reorganization at the same time?

11 CHAIRMAN DALEY: With leave of the Board,
12 Doctor Shannon.

13 DR. SHANNON: I am Jay Shannon, Chief
14 Executive Officer for the Health System.

15 The simplest answer to your question
16 has to do with timing. I was named the Chief
17 Executive Officer in the midst of the budget
18 process, at the tail end of June. Really, in my
19 first ninety days, I had to re-review the way the
20 Health System was organized.

21 Those were my recommendations. But
22 the Health System budget process was already well
23 along its way.

24 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Was it to a point

1 that it was already introduced and approved by the
2 Hospital Board?

3 DR. SHANNON: Yes, it was.

4 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: So the Independent
5 Hospital Board obviously recommends these changes or
6 supports these changes in the budget?

7 DR. SHANNON: Yes. The reorganization was
8 introduced and reviewed in detail with the Health
9 System Board on October 31. My office did share
10 with Commissioners that day a brie memo outlining
11 those reorganizations and the rationale behind it.

12 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: I am not
13 questioning the reorganization or the rationale
14 behind it. I guess it goes back to exactly how you
15 started out your commentary, the timing. Obviously,
16 we reviewed one budget that had one set of numbers
17 and one set of positions, and because we are
18 isolated from a larger discussion, I was curious as
19 to the timing of these changes.

20 Now, with respect to Director Gibson
21 there -- when you talk about job codes, are you
22 talking about different types of levels for those
23 positions? Or is that what the job code refers to?

24 MS. GIBSON: The job code is a four-digit

1 number associated with a unique title. So if as
2 part of the reorganization one title was changed to
3 another, it would necessitate a change in the job
4 code.

5 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Thank you.

6 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Vice-Chair Sims.

7 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: My question is -- some of
8 these have substantial increases to the salary. One
9 in particular -- this one is not an increase, so let
10 me ask you this one first.

11 The Executive Director of Facilities
12 is making \$180,000. I believe the person that has
13 that same title -- and correct me if I am wrong --
14 for Cook County is not making that much. What are
15 they comparing it to?

16 MS. GIBSON: If you are talking about the
17 head of Facilities Management, I don't recall the
18 exact salary, but you are correct. The salary is
19 lower than this one.

20 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: That person has a larger
21 number of buildings to manage than the Hospital. I
22 am trying to figure out -- where did you find this?
23 How did you arrive at this figure?

24 DR. SHANNON: The Executive Director of

1 Facilities is a vacant position presently. I think
2 the Commissioners are aware that the Health System,
3 aside from having to embark on a major redesign, in
4 conjunction with the Office of Capital Planning for
5 the County of the central campus, is going to have
6 to review and probably completely overhaul its
7 entire ambulatory platform going forward in the next
8 five to ten years.

9 We have sixteen community-based
10 centers. About four of them, I think, would meet
11 current standards, as far as being good facilities.
12 The remainder of them are seriously wanting.

13 This is a position that will require
14 both content knowledge about specifications and
15 patient needs in the ambulatory and the inpatient
16 environment. It will also require extensive
17 background and regulatory requirements that are
18 unique to healthcare facilities.

19 This is a strategic leadership
20 positions. This is not a position --

21 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: Be careful what you say
22 because the person that manages our buildings is
23 listening.

24 DR. SHANNON: I'm sorry?

1 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: I said be careful what
2 you say because the person who manages our buildings
3 is listening. Be careful what you say about the
4 experience.

5 DR. SHANNON: No, no. I do think it is a
6 unique position. It will require and it will be
7 part of a leadership team that is helping us to
8 figure out where our facilities are, how they are
9 constructed. All those different pieces that go
10 along with delivering care in both an ambulatory
11 environment and an inpatient environment and a
12 diagnostic environment.

13 Again, the regulations and the codes
14 around that are fairly unique, and they are very
15 extensive.

16 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: I think the person that
17 does the same thing for the County's buildings has
18 to have that same kind of experience, has to have
19 that same knowledge. I am just curious why that
20 person is going to make a lot more money than the
21 person that is running the County's buildings.

22 My problem with this, Doctor Shannon,
23 is somehow the salaries at Cook County have gotten
24 totally out of hand. And the Hospital -- it started

1 over here about four or five years ago. Some of the
2 problems we have is that the salaries have gotten so
3 far out of hand, we would not have some of the
4 problems we have -- we do understand union
5 negotiations, and we should pay those line people
6 the salaries that they deserve. But we are talking
7 about management. It is like we are so top-heavy
8 with these salaries.

9 When we look at stuff like this,
10 people are looking at this, and people are getting
11 \$10,000 salary increases, and these are new people
12 coming in, people that have been there for years and
13 not making those salaries, it kind of destroys the
14 morale of the system and there is no way for us to
15 get a handle on this and to put things back in line
16 where they should be.

17 When you start saying you are
18 correcting titles, that is another way of just
19 saying you may be eliminating a position, but you
20 are going to give another person more money. Then
21 you are going to hire somebody at maybe a lesser
22 salary. Then you're going to hire somebody at more
23 salary. Maybe the other person leaves that had
24 another position and you are going to pay them a

1 lower salary.

2 I think we need to be careful of that.

3 I would hope next year, when you come to present
4 this budget, your budget, that you would bring
5 somebody from the Governance Board with you.

6 Because if they were the ones that you presented to,
7 and they approved it, they need to be here to answer
8 to this as well.

9 They have the feeling that they are
10 above us and they don't have to respond to us. But
11 they have to realize, at the end of the day, they do
12 have to respond to us.

13 DR. SHANNON: I can't comment on your last
14 part, Commissioner. You and I talked about this
15 before.

16 I respectfully disagree with your
17 comments about the salary lines. I think, in fact,
18 when they are looked at, our salary lines are in a
19 very competitive healthcare environment, at or below
20 industry averages for this. I think we will need to
21 prove that, as I have talked about it with this Body
22 before.

23 I think we will need to approve that
24 with external eyes. We are more than happy to

1 undertake that analysis.

2 I have no doubt that what we will
3 find, from the scope, size, and the complexity of
4 the healthcare organization that we are running,
5 that our leadership and our management salaries are
6 not at market rates. You are going to find they are
7 below them.

8 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: Doctor Shannon, how long
9 have you been here?

10 DR. SHANNON: It depends on what you are
11 calling "here". I have been the CEO since June 27.

12 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: How long have you been
13 here?

14 DR. SHANNON: I have been with the Health
15 System for sixteen years.

16 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: Doctor Shannon, you have
17 been here long enough to know that when people came
18 to work at Stroger Hospital they came to work at
19 Stroger Hospital because they wanted to come. It
20 wasn't because of the salaries that we paid them.
21 It was because they loved the Hospital. They came
22 because they wanted to.

23 We had everything. They got to see
24 everything. People coming into the Hospital had all

1 kinds of diseases. They wanted to be there because
2 they wanted to heal people. They wanted to get the
3 experience, and we gave them that.

4 We have now become just like Rush,
5 Northwestern -- we are talking about market and how
6 much money. Eventually we are not going to be
7 serving the people that we are committed to serving
8 because we are paying the highest dollars for people
9 that are not -- how committed are they? I would
10 want a committed person that is there for the reason
11 of helping the people as opposed to I come because I
12 know that I'm going to make the top dollar.

13 You can go to Northwestern for that.

14 DR. SHANNON: I think we still, as we
15 always have, look for mission alignment when we are
16 hiring people. At the same time, we have to
17 recognize that the world has changed. We do have
18 competition for talent. We require not only
19 commitment and compassion, but we require
20 competence.

21 We have to make sure that we are
22 bringing people on -- when we are running a \$1.5
23 billion health system, we have to make sure that we
24 not only have mission-driven individuals, but people

1 who are trained and have the competence to be able
2 to do the jobs that they have.

3 I agree with your point about the fact
4 that we want to make sure that we don't have people
5 who are coming there, if you will, only for the
6 salary. People, as everyone knows, come to their
7 positions for a whole variety of personal drivers;
8 one of them is salary.

9 But I will just point out again that
10 we would find out -- I am very concerned that we
11 would find out that we would be at a competitive
12 disadvantage in today's environment if we tried to
13 attract professionals for some of our leadership
14 positions if our salaries are not good enough. That
15 is what we and I believe the Health System Board are
16 trying to attain.

17 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: I disagree with you on
18 that part. Because I think most doctors, they leave
19 hospitals, or they don't stay because -- what is it
20 called when people sue them?

21 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Malpractice.

22 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: For malpractice. That is
23 more driven than anything else. Some doctors want
24 to come and they don't care about their salaries.

1 They just want to do the work. There are a lot of
2 doctors. I just think we are putting ourselves in
3 that position.

4 You and I can have that as a sidebar
5 conversation.

6 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Gainer.

7 COMMISSIONER GAINER: Thank you, Mr.
8 Chairman.

9 Doctor Shannon, in looking at this,
10 obviously whenever there is this many changes you
11 always want to make sure there is something holistic
12 and things not coming in outside of the budget
13 process.

14 One of the things that I will say is I
15 appreciate the comments of Commissioner Sims. But I
16 am happy to see some of the things that I think I
17 have been less pleased with. There are huge
18 reductions, a couple of hundred thousand dollars
19 came out of marketing and public relations. It
20 seems like those went into some of the things we
21 need to be focused on in an environment where people
22 have choice.

23 Finance and Director of Hospitality,
24 from my conversations, have been all about how to

1 make the Hospital a place that people want to return
2 to as patients now that they can go elsewhere.

3 All of the moving around is a lot, but
4 I am glad to see salaries and funds come out of some
5 of the things that I don't think are as necessary
6 and go into focusing on how are we going to collect
7 revenue, how are we going to manage this
8 multirevenue stream environment that we are in, and
9 how are we going to make sure that we have a
10 hospital system that people are going to choose to
11 come back to, when really they are customers of
12 choices and not captives.

13 I am heartened by those changes.

14 DR. SHANNON: Thank you.

15 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Doctor, what is the
16 percent of management versus union?

17 DR. SHANNON: There are more than ninety
18 percent of the staff belong to a collective
19 bargaining unit. The direct appointment positions
20 that we have constitutes less than one and a half
21 percent of our budgeted positions.

22 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Thank you.

23 Any other questions?

24 All those in favor signify by saying

1 "aye" -- opposed "nay" -- the amendment passes.

2 Commissioners, there is a substitute
3 on amendment number ten.

4 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: I move the
5 substitute.

6 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: I second it.

7 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Suffredin
8 moves the substitute for amendment number ten and it
9 has been seconded by Commissioner Fritchey.

10 All those in favor of accepting the
11 substitute signify by saying "aye" -- opposed "nay".
12 The motion has carried.

13 Commissioner Suffredin.

14 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: I move approval of
15 the substitute.

16 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: I second it.

17 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Suffredin now
18 moves approval of the substitute for amendment
19 number ten and it has been seconded by Commissioner
20 Fritchey.

21 Commissioner Suffredin.

22 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Thank you.

23 This amendment deals with the issue of
24 what is the appropriate amount of pension payments

1 that we should be making. I distributed to all of
2 you a few months ago a letter from the State's
3 Attorney's Office in which they indicated that we
4 are not bound to just the property tax levy for
5 pension payments.

6 As we look at the decisions of the
7 Illinois Supreme Court in a recent case, and the
8 proposed Bill that was floating around Springfield
9 pertaining to the County, additional payments are
10 clearly going to be necessary.

11 What I started to do is to have
12 discussions with people in the Administration about
13 creating additional payments so that we are not
14 having sticker shop in the next budget. Some of the
15 Commissioners have talked about how the next budget
16 is going to have all kinds of serious issues.

17 What this does -- it creates a reserve
18 fund where all of the monies that we leave unspent
19 and unencumbered in the various funds would go into
20 that reserve fund, and will be used to assist in
21 making our payments to the Pension Fund based upon
22 whatever the outcome will be of either the court
23 cases or of the General Assembly. But it shows that
24 we have skin in the game.

1 One of the issues that came up in
2 Springfield is that many legislators didn't
3 understand how the County would make the payment of
4 the \$160 million it was discussing to the Pension
5 Fund. This shows that at least we are trying to use
6 a creative way of doing this.

7 I wish we were making it a direct
8 payment, but the Administration has gotten an
9 opinion from a lawyer, other than the State's
10 Attorney, who wonders if we should be able to make
11 that payment now. I would rather get the money in
12 reserve and at least establish the principle that we
13 understand and that our taxpayers understand that we
14 will need to make additional payments to our Pension
15 Fund.

16 I would ask for an "aye" vote.

17 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Are there any questions?

18 All those in favor signify by saying
19 "aye" -- opposed "nay". The substitute for
20 amendment number ten is approved.

21 Amendment number eleven.

22 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Mr. Chairman,
23 could we be added? Leave to be added to 10(S)?

24 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Leave to add all members

1 to substitute ten.

2 Amendment number eleven.

3 Commissioner Suffredin.

4 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Amendment number
5 eleven, if I could, before I make a motion on it.
6 The purpose here of number eleven is that under the
7 ACA a number of people have been able to get
8 coverage and insurance that have high deductibles.
9 Doctor Shannon has acknowledged one of the great
10 successes of our system recently, and is that over
11 fifty percent of our patients for the first time in
12 our history are under some coverage; including a
13 number of people who are covered by ACA exchange
14 commercial insurance policies. But for the
15 individual to be able to afford it, they had to have
16 very high deductibles.

17 This is a problem that is developing
18 throughout the country. The insurance carriers will
19 not pay the medical providers -- hospitals, in our
20 case, or our clinics -- until the person has spent
21 down their deductible.

22 Originally, what I was trying to do
23 here is to come up with some ideas. We are going to
24 have patients who have \$5000 and \$10,000

1 deductibles. But we have expended hundreds of
2 thousands of dollars in medical costs. We can't
3 capture that until somebody can pay the five or ten
4 thousand dollar deductible.

5 After discussions with the Health
6 Board, and one of the things we have been concerned
7 about, we don't want to help people pay their
8 deductible and have them go to Rush because their
9 deductible is paid, and then have their insurance
10 cover them at Rush.

11 I am going to move to withdraw this.
12 I have given you on your desks a copy of a
13 resolution which I will present next Wednesday. The
14 resolution allows the Budget Director and the CEO of
15 the Health and Hospitals System to sit down and try
16 and determine a methodology for us to capture the
17 payments that are due for services, if, in fact, the
18 patient has over a two hundred percent more than
19 their deductible receivable in our system.

20 If we have expended two hundred
21 percent or more of their deductible, and we can't
22 get that money, that we would sit down and figure
23 out some way to do this.

24 I will ask your support on this

1 resolution, but for this amendment number eleven, I
2 will move to withdraw it.

3 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Amendment number eleven is
4 withdrawn.

5 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Commissioner Sims
6 would like to be a sponsor on this. I will make her
7 a sponsor on the resolution. I will file that and I
8 will put anybody who wants on it.

9 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Amendment number twelve,
10 Commissioner Fritchey.

11 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: I move approval of
12 amendment number twelve. I will be happy to discuss
13 it at the appropriate time.

14 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: I second it.

15 CHAIRMAN DALEY: It has been moved by
16 Commissioner Fritchey and seconded by Commissioner
17 Suffredin to approve amendment number twelve.

18 Commissioner Fritchey.

19 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Thank you.

20 Amendment twelve is one of two
21 amendments I have tried to actually increase funding
22 for violence prevention and restorative justice.
23 This effort attempts to do it by identifying a
24 number of funds within the Health System which have

1 run significant surpluses in the past. I have taken
2 amounts from well under the amount of those
3 surpluses and then transferring them over.

4 I will be happy to run through it on a
5 line by line basis or to answer any questions.

6 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Any questions?

7 COMMISSIONER STEELE: Can the Budget
8 Director give the impact on these items?

9 MS. GIBSON: Yes. Andrea Gibson.

10 For amendment number twelve, what this
11 amendment proposes to do is to reduce a variety of
12 accounts in the Health System that we think could
13 have a negative impact on pharmacy operations.
14 Also, this is where we have the funding for the Call
15 Center, the mail order pharmacy, and registry staff
16 that is used on an as needed basis to meet patient
17 demands and wait time.

18 I mentioned the Call Center. There is
19 also some external graphics and reproduction
20 services, advertising for specific purposes. These
21 are tied to serving and reaching more CountyCare
22 patients, which we think is critical for the future
23 of the financial performance of the system.

24 In addition, there is an account in

1 the JTDC, department 241. That is for training of
2 staff required by legal mandate.

3 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Fritchey.

4 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: I would like to
5 address that.

6 With respect to the JTDC, that
7 account, which I looked to take certain funding away
8 from, that is an account that spends approximately
9 one percent of what we appropriated to it last year.

10 With respect to communication
11 services, which I believe is the line item that the
12 Call Center would come out of, I would be reducing
13 that appropriation from \$3.65 million to \$3.15
14 million.

15 If we look at the expenditures for
16 this year, then when they were again proposed at a
17 similar amount, they are on track to spend about
18 \$1.5 million out of what they were appropriated for
19 2014. In 2013 they spent \$1.54 million. In 2012
20 they spent \$1.4 million.

21 Under any of those contexts, this
22 amendment would still leave them with double what
23 they have spent. Would leave them, assuming
24 everything else in the communications line item

1 would stay on track as it has for the past two years
2 -- actually three years, '12, '13, and '14. It
3 would still leave them with an amount of
4 approximately \$1.6 million more than they have been
5 spending under that line item.

6 Ladies and gentlemen, if you disagree
7 with what I am attempting to do here, that is how
8 the process works. I understand that, and I accept
9 that. For those of you that said you are looking to
10 increase funding for violence prevention or
11 restorative justice, or at a minimum not decrease it
12 as the budget is presently doing, that money has to
13 come from somewhere.

14 These funds were not picked
15 haphazardly. We looked to find funds that had
16 consistently underspent significantly what they had
17 been appropriated in years past. I understand that
18 one year can be an aberration, which is why we
19 looked back to 2014, '13, '12, and '11 in some
20 cases. These are funds that have historically
21 significantly underspent what was appropriated.

22 We can decide that our priority is to
23 allow funds to continue to run surpluses or we can
24 say -- you know what? We have got a better idea of

1 how to spend some of this money.

2 I won't repeat my prior speech on this
3 issue, but, again, I do believe that violence
4 prevention and restorative justice funding are
5 investments more than expenditures, and they are
6 investments that save lives and dollars, ironically
7 at the Health Service, as well as any place else.

8 We are looking at about \$50,000 for a
9 gunshot victim. It is not hard to see how the
10 savings would add up very quickly.

11 I don't believe, and I have not heard
12 an argument that the transfers that I am proposing
13 would adversely, let alone materially, impact any of
14 those funds or the services provided under those
15 funds.

16 I will be happy to answer any
17 questions. As I said, this is really just an issue
18 of what our priorities are going to be, and what our
19 policies are going to be. At some point, we have
20 got to realize that words alone are not going to
21 keep people from being victims of violence and
22 communities from being ravaged by violence.

23 Not that throwing money at these
24 issues does it by itself either, but if we are going

1 to commit to work on some of these programs, we have
2 to fund them somehow. If we want to fund them, I
3 think the most prudent way to fund them isn't by
4 finding new revenues, but by looking at historically
5 unused revenues from past budgets.

6 That is what this amendment does.

7 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Suffredin.

8 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Thank you, Mr.
9 Chairman, and ladies and gentlemen of the Committee.
10 If I could ask the Budget Director a
11 question.

12 As your budget is now in balance, how
13 much is the overall budget?

14 MS. GIBSON: The overall budget, everything
15 is \$3.9 billion.

16 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Thank you.

17 We are dealing with a \$3.9 billion
18 budget. We currently have, with the amendment
19 Commissioner Garcia put forth, \$2.6 million in
20 either antirecidivism programs or antiviolence
21 programs. The decimal points go out. It is not a
22 significant percentage of our budget.

23 What Commissioner Fritchey is doing
24 here is suggesting another million dollars. It may

1 be symbolic in the overall cost of government in
2 this county, but to the neighborhoods where there is
3 violence, this million dollars means something. The
4 money the County had last time really has not had
5 any impact because none of the groups that really
6 deal in violence in my community of Rogers Park or
7 Evanston or of Skokie were included.

8 I really want to see us do something
9 more. I think we should thank the faith communities
10 for coming out to our public hearings. If they
11 didn't come out, we wouldn't have had any witnesses.
12 They were our only witnesses.

13 We are talking about such a small
14 amount -- I think that Commissioner Fritchey has
15 made good points for the dollars that are here.

16 I would ask for an "aye" vote. Thank
17 you.

18 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Reyes.

19 COMMISSIONER REYES: Thank you, Mr.
20 Chairman.

21 Andrea, correct me if I am wrong. All
22 these departments fall under the Hospital, and also
23 to include the JTDC, 241?

24 MS. GIBSON: Yes. All of them fall under

1 the Health System, including the health office that
2 serves the JTDC.

3 COMMISSIONER REYES: They were informed of
4 Commissioner Fritchey's amendment; correct?

5 MS. GIBSON: The Health System, they are
6 here. I believe they are aware of this amendment.

7 COMMISSIONER REYES: Are they going to
8 speak to defend this? Or are they not?

9 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Doctor Shannon. We are on
10 amendment number twelve.

11 DR. SHANNON: The Health System, as the
12 Commissioner has suggested, is obviously in favor of
13 anything that reduces violence in our communities.

14 That being said, the Health System has
15 tried to put forward a full budget that has taken
16 into account all of the needs that we are going to
17 have in the coming year.

18 The kinds of lines that we are talking
19 about here, the pharmacy lines, communication, and,
20 most importantly, really as we shared with this
21 group, I believe two months ago with our initial
22 proposal of the Health System budget, the Call
23 Center is a critical need for us to be able to
24 maintain good, quality services that allow our

1 patients to access our system when they need to.

2 I am particularly concerned about the
3 timing of this because, as this Board has already
4 discussed earlier in the day, our patients have
5 choices. Starting in 2015, those patients that are
6 not able to make an appointment, that are not able
7 to reach the Call Center, that are not able to
8 reschedule a visit with the specialist, are going to
9 have huge opportunities to go elsewhere with their
10 business. I am very concerned about that.

11 As well, some of these monies are
12 associated with funds for pharmacy services. Some
13 of them are around advertising, which we have
14 already discussed today. Some of them are around
15 helping us to fill critical vacancies of talented
16 staff that we need.

17 Again, a key portion of our proposed
18 budget for the coming year is to get our vacancies
19 down to six hundred by the end of this fiscal year.

20 Thus, I do not support -- even with
21 the good intentions, I do not support this because I
22 think it is going to cause significant challenges
23 for the Health System going forward.

24 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Reyes.

1 COMMISSIONER REYES: Doctor Shannon, based
2 on what Commissioner Fritchey said, as far as those
3 numbers, that these departments for the last three
4 years have not utilized all of their budgeted
5 dollars -- what is your answer to that? As a
6 Commissioner, if we don't use all of our money, it
7 goes back to the general fund. We can't roll it
8 over.

9 DR. SHANNON: Again, I would remind us that
10 the tax allocation support that the Health System
11 has requested for the coming year is \$11 million
12 less than it was last year. We are trying to find
13 frugal approaches to care in each line of the budget
14 that we proposed.

15 But the budget that we proposed,
16 getting down by \$11 million compared to last year,
17 was a stretch for us.

18 I can't speak to the historical use of
19 the dollars that have preceded my leadership, but
20 what I can speak to is the commitment that I got
21 from my departmental staff is that what we have
22 proposed in the FY15 budget is what we need to be
23 successful.

24 CHAIRMAN DALEY: The Budget Director.

1 MS. GIBSON: I would like to add one thing.
2 The Call Center is a new going forward plan that
3 wasn't in the prior year's budget. That has been
4 part of what the Health System has talked about in
5 terms of retaining patients, making sure you have a
6 call center. It is a little bit of apples and
7 oranges, because that wasn't in the 2014 budget, but
8 it is part of 2015.

9 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Fritchey.

10 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Thank you.

11 Doctor, you know I respect you and the
12 work that you're doing over there.

13 Let me ask this of either you or
14 Andrea. Do you have a rough estimated price tag on
15 the Call Center? Because I couldn't find a breakout
16 anywhere.

17 MS. GIBSON: If I recall, was that \$2.2
18 million?

19 DR. SHANNON: Give me one million because I
20 think we said \$1.25 million. Let me pause. Let me
21 ask my Budget Director, but I believe it was \$1.25.
22 I am getting a confirmation of that -- \$1.25
23 million.

24 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Doctor, the

1 proposed amount for the communication services,
2 which is what the Call Center would fall under, is
3 \$3.65 million. Under my amendment, that would be
4 reduced to \$3.1 million. That would still leave you
5 anywhere from \$1.6 to \$1.7 million over what you
6 have spent in 2014, '13, and '12.

7 Even if there was a new addition,
8 taking everything else being the same and there was
9 a new addition of a call center at a million and a
10 quarter, that would take that line item up to
11 somewhere around \$2.7 million. Still about a half a
12 million under what I would be leaving in that line
13 item.

14 DR. SHANNON: I think I can say frankly I
15 don't think that we have been providing the service
16 historically in that function to the patients that
17 we serve as well as we should have.

18 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: I guess my response
19 to that -- again, we are just having a discussion --
20 is this: If you feel you can be enhancing those
21 services, under my proposal you would still have the
22 funding for a \$1.25 million Call Center, as well as
23 a thirty percent increase in what you have been
24 spending in the communications line item to start

1 with.

2 When we talk about the pharmacy
3 services, those aren't new services. We have been
4 providing pharmacy services for a long time.

5 When I look at the registry services
6 line -- in 2012, it looks like about \$500,000 was
7 spent. In 2014, \$328,000 was spent. After my
8 amendment, you would still be left with \$600,000.

9 When you look at office supplies,
10 which is appropriated right now as proposed,
11 \$196,000. In 2012, when I say you the Health System
12 spent \$70,000. In 2013, \$115,000. You are on track
13 in 2014 to spend \$13,000. And under my amendment
14 you would still be left with \$96,000.

15 I can do this line by line.
16 Advertising for specific purposes. 2012 was
17 \$170,000. 2013 was \$200,000. You are on track in
18 2014 for \$127,000. I would still be leaving
19 \$225,000. A \$100,000 increase, almost a one hundred
20 percent increase of what your expenditures are this
21 year.

22 Time and time again -- exterior
23 graphics. \$91,000 in 2012. \$86,000 in 2013. You
24 are on track for \$12,000 in 2014. After my

1 amendment, you would still be left with \$216,000.

2 I understand and I expect you want to
3 hold on to every dollar you can. That is your job.
4 I respect that, and the independence of the Board.

5 But for somebody to make an argument
6 that I am going to be leaving any of these line
7 items strapped, we still left them with significant
8 increases. The Call Center is the best example.

9 Now that we have got a price tag on
10 that, as I said, you will still be left with a half
11 a million dollar increase on top of everything else,
12 which is a thirty percent increase in just that one
13 line item after this amendment.

14 DR. SHANNON: If I may, respectfully. If
15 you could ask our patients historically about the
16 effectiveness of our communications and our Call
17 Center, they would not give us a good grade. Part
18 of this is not only the development of our new Call
19 Center functionality, but it is, in fact, even doing
20 simple things that we haven't done historically,
21 including staffing the Call Center poorly to the
22 needs of the patients that we have.

23 The other points that I would say is
24 that in all of the other dimensions that you have

1 addressed, there has been a significant change since
2 '11, '12, '13 and '14. That change is two things.
3 The first is the number of people that we serve,
4 which is far greater now than it has been
5 historically by virtue of our health plan. That has
6 significant impacts on all of these lines, including
7 the pharmacy line.

8 The second is choice under the
9 Affordable Care Act. The game has changed for us
10 substantially. I would posit, as I have spoken
11 about with this Board before, that we are in a
12 totally different environment. The expectations of
13 us are going to be far greater and for us to remain
14 relevant and a place of choice rather than a
15 provider of last resort is going to require us to
16 significantly invest in all aspects of the Health
17 System.

18 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: I could not agree
19 more with what you are saying, which is why, even
20 pursuant to my amendment, professional services
21 would increase by twentyfold over what you spent in
22 any years past -- twentyfold. We talked about
23 communication services, exterior graphics would
24 triple from what you spent for 2013. And it would

1 be twenty times more than you are on track to spend
2 in 2014.

3 Advertising would be, again, almost
4 double for what you are on track to spend this year,
5 and still more than you spent in any of those prior
6 years. The pharmacy I just discussed would still be
7 about an eighty percent increase as well as office
8 supplies.

9 I agree with everything you are
10 saying, but my amendment actually still winds up
11 being very respectful of what you are trying to do
12 and what your additional tasks and goals are.

13 I agree. There is a certain analogy
14 here that some of the increased monies that you want
15 to spend are actually going to leverage returns.
16 The better we can attract and retain patients the
17 better off we are; the same way with some of the
18 money that we spend on violence prevention and
19 restorative justice result in returns and savings.

20 But, again, I still haven't heard this
21 -- I don't mean this as obviously any disrespect
22 whatsoever -- I haven't heard that any of my
23 proposed changes here keep you from accomplishing
24 any of those goals. At a certain point, we are

1 going to simply agree to disagree.

2 I don't want to drag this out, Mr.
3 Chairman. I think we actually have had a good
4 explanation of what these do, and we can just vote
5 it up or down. But people cannot say they want to
6 find additional resources -- let me clarify one
7 thing -- Commissioner Suffredin said there is \$1.9
8 million in the budget right now under violence
9 prevention. With Commissioner Garcia's amendment,
10 that would go up to \$2.4 million.

11 Everybody please keep in mind that out
12 of that \$1.9 million, \$1.4 is simply a carryover.
13 In the past two years, we allotted \$1.9 million of
14 new money. This year we have allotted \$500,000 in
15 new money.

16 There is a strong disconnect from what
17 we are telling the public than from what we are
18 funding.

19 MS. GIBSON: If I may clarify on that
20 point.

21 There is \$950,000 on violence
22 prevention available from the 2014 allocation. That
23 is rolled over. In terms of new money, there is
24 \$950,000 that was in the executive recommendation,

1 plus the \$500,000 from Commissioner Garcia. So in
2 total that is \$2.4 million available for those
3 initiatives.

4 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: We can go back and
5 forth what constitutes new money and what
6 constitutes elapsed appropriation or what
7 constitutes money that got carried over because it
8 wasn't properly and efficiently spent during this
9 last year. This Board did not appropriate \$1.9
10 million last year to have half of it carry over
11 again. That was money that we wanted to put into
12 the County, into communities, and into programs this
13 past year.

14 So, again, I am trying to be as nice
15 as I can. I am not giving anybody credit to say
16 this is another new \$950,000 because we didn't get
17 around to spending it the last time.

18 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Butler.

19 COMMISSIONER BUTLER: You know, when I came
20 in the room, Commissioner Collins was saying that is
21 not enough to do anything with. Though we are
22 talking about new money and old money, it is still
23 not enough money to do anything with.

24 We need to quit picking at these

1 budgets, if we don't identify where we are going to
2 spend the money. Where is the restorative justice
3 money going to be spent? Give me an itemized line,
4 like we have here from the Hospital. Then you can
5 strengthen your argument by showing me what you are
6 going to spend it for.

7 You just gave us a ballpark. We are
8 going to spend this much money to do something. But
9 we don't know quite what it is yet. But give us the
10 money and we will figure it out.

11 Leave the budget alone.

12 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Silvestri.

13 COMMISSIONER BUTLER: A roll call when we
14 get to it.

15 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr.
16 Chairman.

17 Doctor Shannon, Commissioner Fritchey,
18 my esteemed colleague, said a few times, and I think
19 you should answer it -- how does this amendment
20 affect the goals of the items in your budget? I
21 don't think you have answered that question.

22 DR. SHANNON: Sir, we can go line by line.
23 In some of the cases, what this would affect would
24 be personnel that would be staffing, for instance,

1 the Call Center. In some of these cases, it would
2 be supplies that will be going to buy drugs, for
3 instance, in the pharmacy.

4 In some of these cases, it would be
5 buying media or buying advertisements for the Health
6 System or for the health plan. Various sorts of
7 media buys that would not happen. For some of these
8 cases it would include training of staff to do
9 things like the implementation of the electronic
10 health records at the Juvenile Detention Center,
11 which we are required to do under Federal decree.

12 I would just like to, again,
13 respectfully point out that historically the
14 relative changes that the Commissioner has alluded
15 to about increases of this much or that much are
16 over absolute amounts. If you match them for the
17 scale of the Health System that we have, they really
18 are unbelievably underfunded. If you talk about
19 increasing our advertising budget, I would challenge
20 anybody in the room to tell me the last time that
21 they heard or saw printed or media or television
22 advertising for the Health System or the health
23 plan. These are increases over historical
24 nothingness from a relative stance to the scale of

1 our Health System.

2 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: So you anticipate
3 spending these amounts that have been proposed in
4 the budget for the items that you are talking about?

5 DR. SHANNON: That is correct.

6 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: In a year I am not
7 going to say to you -- Doctor, you told me that you
8 were going to spend that money and you didn't, and
9 why is that -- by the way, any money you don't spend
10 I am okay with. In fact, anybody around here, any
11 money you don't spend, I am okay with.

12 Do you understand my point, Doctor
13 Shannon?

14 DR. SHANNON: I do.

15 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: You are saying
16 that these amounts are appropriate for these
17 programs and the staff, etcetera.

18 What is the registry services? Can
19 you just tell me that real quick?

20 DR. SHANNON: Registry services are for
21 those kinds of skills -- you may use registry for
22 nursing. You may use registry for laboratory, for
23 radiology, for pharmacy. All of those kinds of
24 things you would have.

1 I think it is worth pointing out that
2 as we anticipate the pension reform is passed, and
3 we see significant retirements from the Health
4 System in the coming year, those registry functions
5 will become all the more vital as a bridging
6 function as we bring in new staff.

7 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: I am glad you said
8 bridging because it is not your goal to use
9 registry?

10 DR. SHANNON: No, not at all.

11 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Thank you, Doctor.

12 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Tobolski.

13 COMMISSIONER TOBOLSKI: Thank you, Mr.
14 Chairman.

15 Just a couple of things -- please, we
16 don't want the message from the County Board to be
17 "spend your appropriations". That is what this is.
18 This is an appropriation. It is not a finite
19 budget. We passed an appropriation of what you
20 think you may or you may not spend. It could be
21 high; it could be low. We, under Illinois law, know
22 that you can't overspend your appropriation.

23 I think we all need to get back on the
24 commonsense page here, instead of fantasyland. We

1 need to understand -- yes, I would want to hold you
2 accountable to every single penny in your budget. I
3 think the Doctor knows that him and I would really
4 square off if he spent every single line item in
5 that budget as well. It is his appropriation.

6 That being said, we just went through
7 a six-week process to vet this. That was the time
8 for all of these conversations about whether there
9 was money available, and what is this money being
10 used for. We are just bringing that process right
11 back here again today.

12 These were all discussed. If you went
13 to the meetings, you had time to call these people
14 in. You could have went through it and there would
15 be agreement. We will say -- Yes, everybody agrees.
16 We are going to go ahead to do this. But we don't.

17 I know Pete corrected himself --
18 Commissioner Silvestri, that is great to hear. The
19 one thing that you and I talked about, we had a
20 little bit of a heated conversation, which became
21 great conversation, and is now ongoing conversation,
22 just to keep an eye on things. You said to the
23 extent I can, Commissioner, I will.

24 Again, I just want to make sure that

1 that is not the message. It is an appropriation.
2 We all need to be clear on that. It is an estimate.
3 It is not a finite number. I don't want our
4 department heads spending their budgets down.

5 Like Pete said, it is nice when they
6 do go a little bit over. But it is an
7 appropriation. It is not a finite budget. We know
8 that every single dollar in that line item may not
9 be spent.

10 I guess the other question I have,
11 which I am not clear on, is that we rolled -- I
12 think I understand it and I am not taking issue with
13 anyone. As we are making the argument that we are
14 taking this because it wasn't spent and it is
15 rolling over, I am hearing that that is what we did
16 in violence prevention. It is a circular argument.

17 My question is -- maybe it is because
18 something wasn't handled the right way or whatever.
19 Why are we looking to increase this if we are
20 rolling whatever that figure is, \$800,000? It
21 doesn't make any sense.

22 MS. GIBSON: I will address that. Sorry.
23 I think I confused the point. But with the violence
24 prevention those contracts were issued midyear.

1 Through how we procure, you can encumber all of the
2 funds this year and they can be spent throughout
3 2015.

4 But for the Health System, if they
5 don't encumber the funds that they didn't spend in
6 2014, those would simply revert back into the fund
7 balance of the health fund. It wouldn't roll over.

8 COMMISSIONER TOBOLSKI: Right. But you
9 concur. It is an appropriation. I think some of
10 the argument here is that you had these line items
11 and you weren't exact and you were actually over;
12 therefore -- there is never going to be an exact
13 budget. You can't exceed your appropriations. You
14 want to make sure legally you appropriate enough.
15 There is going to be a cushion in there; right?

16 MS. GIBSON: I agree that an appropriation
17 is the maximum amount, and that this is the plan for
18 next year. It is helpful to look at the current
19 year. It doesn't form (does inform??) an analysis,
20 but in the end the budget that is presented by the
21 Health System is their plan for the next year.

22 COMMISSIONER TOBOLSKI: One hundred
23 percent. I know that from local municipal work.
24 That is just my two cents on it. Like I said, I was

1 a little concerned that you got to spend it. No, we
2 don't want to do that.

3 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Fritchey to
4 close.

5 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Thank you,
6 Chairman.

7 I will just go on a couple of points.
8 I appreciate the manner and substance in which
9 Doctor Shannon made his comments.

10 With respect to the increase in
11 advertising, we had a pretty aggressive effort this
12 year to get people signed up, etcetera. The
13 anticipated expenditures for this year were
14 \$127,000. Again, I would still be leaving \$225,000.

15 Commissioner Tobolski talked about the
16 rollover in violence prevention. I think when
17 Andrea answered very honestly -- some of that money
18 had already been encumbered; it hadn't been spent,
19 but it had been encumbered. It is not new money
20 that is available in 2015. It is going to be spent
21 for things that were done this past year.

22 I don't want to take up more time. I
23 just want to make sure that there is no confusion
24 that that is not new money that is available for

1 things this year.

2 Ladies and gentlemen, I appreciate
3 your time and indulgence. I think all of us, I
4 think, do and should tread carefully when it comes
5 to the Health System's budget. That is what I have
6 tried to do here. Maybe I am just missing
7 something, but I have not heard how, even under this
8 amendment, any of Doctor Shannon's goals and
9 objectives are not still more than adequately funded
10 based on their anticipation or anticipated
11 programming this year.

12 With that being said, we will just
13 take a vote.

14 CHAIRMAN DALEY: There has been a request
15 for a roll call.

16 SECRETARY DeLEON: Mr. Chairman, this is a
17 roll call on the motion to approve amendment twelve.

18 Commissioner Butler.

19 COMMISSIONER BUTLER: No.

20 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Butler is
21 "no".

22 Commissioner Collins. Commissioner
23 Collins is absent.

24 Commissioner Fritchey.

1 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Yes.

2 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Fritchey is
3 "aye".

4 Commissioner Gainer. Commissioner
5 Gainer is absent.

6 Commissioner Garcia. Commissioner
7 Garcia is absent.

8 Commissioner Gorman.

9 COMMISSIONER GORMAN: No.

10 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Gorman is
11 "no".

12 Commissioner Goslin. Commissioner
13 Goslin is absent.

14 Commissioner Moore.

15 COMMISSIONER MOORE: No.

16 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Moore is
17 "no".

18 Commissioner Murphy.

19 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Pass.

20 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Murphy
21 passes.

22 Commissioner Reyes.

23 COMMISSIONER REYES: Present.

24 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Reyes is

1 "present".

2 Commissioner Schneider.

3 COMMISSIONER SCHNEIDER: No.

4 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Schneider
5 is "no".

6 Commissioner Silvestri.

7 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: No.

8 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Silvestri
9 is "no".

10 Vice-Chair Sims.

11 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: Yes.

12 SECRETARY DeLEON: Vice-Chair Sims is
13 "aye".

14 Commissioner Steele.

15 COMMISSIONER STEELE: Yes.

16 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Steele is
17 "aye".

18 Commissioner Suffredin.

19 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Aye.

20 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Suffredin
21 is "aye".

22 Commissioner Tobolski.

23 COMMISSIONER TOBOLSKI: No.

24 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Tobolski is

1 "no".

2 Commissioner Murphy.

3 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Aye.

4 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Murphy is
5 "aye".

6 Chairman Daley.

7 CHAIRMAN DALEY: No.

8 SECRETARY DeLEON: Chairman Daley is "no".

9 Commissioner Gainer.

10 COMMISSIONER GAINER: No.

11 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Gainer is
12 "no".

13 Mr. Chairman, you have five "yeas",
14 eight "nays", one "present", and three absent.

15 CHAIRMAN DALEY: The amendment fails.

16 Amendment number thirteen, the
17 substitute, Commissioner Fritchey.

18 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: I so move.

19 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: I second it.

20 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Fritchey
21 moves to accept the substitute for amendment
22 thirteen. It has been seconded by Commissioner
23 Suffredin.

24 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Mr. Chairman, I

1 prefer to move with the substitute amendment
2 thirteen. There were two amendments filed. It is
3 not my intention to move those. It is my intention
4 to move the underlying 13(S).

5 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Fritchey
6 moves to approve amendment number thirteen and it
7 has been seconded by Commissioner Fritchey.

8 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Thank you.

9 Ladies and gentlemen, the same goal.
10 I am trying to find a million dollars for
11 restorative justice and violence prevention programs
12 that we have all said at one time or another we
13 support. Now we need to put our money where our
14 collective mouths are.

15 The way that I am seeking to do this
16 is pretty straightforward. We have a number of
17 motor vehicle road repairmen positions. They are
18 presently under the President's Office. I would
19 like to take those, move them from the President's
20 Office under motor fuel tax line items. The offset
21 of \$1 million would then be taken from the surplus
22 in the President's Office to get us the million
23 dollars.

24 As far as the impact of moving those

1 into MFT, MFT has historically, over the last
2 several years, run a surplus of approximately \$3 to
3 \$3.5 million in surplus dollars.

4 These jobs, I believe, are fully
5 permissible to be funded out of MFT. This is a way
6 that we are not increasing positions; we are not
7 decreasing positions. It is a simple budget
8 realignment which would free up the million dollars
9 to put this money into the programs that we like.

10 CHAIRMAN DALEY: With leave, the Budget
11 Director.

12 MS. GIBSON: Just to clarify. The proposal
13 is to move the drivers from department 500, the
14 Department of Highway and Transportation, to the MFT
15 fund.

16 The concern that we have with this
17 amendment is that the drivers are not considered to
18 be eligible to be paid for out of MFT funds, which
19 are restricted to capital projects and purposes. We
20 would have to go to IDOT and ask if they would be
21 eligible.

22 They approve -- they routine approve
23 what is in our MFT fund, and we have no indication
24 that they would approve maintenance or drivers.

1 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Before I respond

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The function of snow removal and winter operations is a function that is eligible. So, yes, you said, and I do know you understand the motor fuel tax laws, that there are certain aspects of drivers that wouldn't be eligible. When I, almost three years ago, got this position, some of the functions that they were performing were more of a delivery kind of doing things outside of snow removal. So instead of doing a half a year motor fuel tax, half a year corporate, the Department budget was such that it was just easier to have them on the corporate line and not have them a six-month either way.

1 Obviously, since I have been here,
2 there has been some repurposing of some of their
3 functions. But, technically, snow is eligible, but
4 some of the other functions that they do may not be
5 eligible.

6 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: But under the job
7 classification that is a repairman, that is an
8 eligible position under MFT?

9 MR. YONAN: It is a nice title, but it is a
10 motor vehicle driver. The road repairmen are some
11 of the newer functions. As I said today, I can take
12 some credit for using them to do some asset
13 preservation, some roadway type of repairs, that
14 again are of maintenance in nature, but would have
15 to be part of a plan that I can present to the
16 Illinois Department of Transportation as being
17 eligible.

18 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Understood, but
19 given that that role is maintenance in nature -- I
20 want to do this carefully so as not to put anybody
21 behind the eight ball -- given that these are
22 maintenance in nature, if I was to, or if you were
23 to reach out to IDOT, to the Secretary, and ask if
24 these are qualifying positions under the MFT

1 expenditures, what would you expect their answer to
2 be?

3 MR. YONAN: Again, first and foremost, they
4 are going to look and say -- what is your multiyear
5 program? What are going to be the impacts of taking
6 these off of the corporate budget? Obviously, a
7 number of DOTs and agencies that have motor fuel tax
8 continue to try to push the envelope to get them off
9 of the corporate budget. IDOT is aware that that is
10 something that they are always going to look at how
11 you are preserving your assets. Where is the money
12 going for your capital improvements? That would be
13 the first and foremost thing they did ask me -- how
14 is your program going to suffer from this?

15 That would be something, again, we
16 would go back and forth with some correspondence,
17 and, obviously, get that all in writing and
18 approved.

19 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: To the extent that
20 the MFT program has drawn a surplus in excess of \$3
21 million every year, putting additional road repair
22 titled positions, that would still leave you a
23 budget surplus of over \$2 million per year, is not
24 going to be looked at unfavorably by IDOT. Do you

1 think that is a safe statement to make?

2 MR. YONAN: Well, they are going to ask,
3 "Why do you have a surplus?" just like you asked. I
4 think first and foremost the motor fuel tax surplus
5 is not supposed to be an annual appropriating type
6 effort by any DOT. However, the nature of the
7 bidding projects -- today we are in a different
8 world where we encumber dollars. Some of this just
9 happened to be historically -- in the past, the
10 money was pay as you go.

11 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: John, I apologize
12 for interrupting, but let me jump in right here. I
13 think that is a good point. They don't give us MFT
14 dollars -- the State doesn't give us our share of
15 MFT dollars so we can hold them in surplus. As a
16 matter of fact, having a larger surplus may work
17 against us at the end of the day than having a
18 smaller surplus.

19 The fact that we are actually going to
20 be putting more road repair positions in our budget
21 and carrying a \$2 million surplus instead of a \$3
22 million surplus actually further strengthens our
23 argument with IDOT so that we don't lose MFT funding
24 down the road.

1 MR. YONAN: What you are saying is correct.
2 But, again, going back to the surplus -- you know,
3 shame on the DOT for not having projects cued up and
4 ready to go to spend the money.

5 That part of it -- again, you
6 understand that we are now going to lose a little
7 bit of the funding to do those capital projects.
8 Again, since I have been here in this department, we
9 know we are going to find more projects to do
10 because of our efforts to work with the locals,
11 having a planning session. We are obviously out
12 there spending a lot more of the appropriated
13 dollars that we have.

14 The motor fuel tax is going down
15 generally. But I would hope, again, the surplus is
16 not something that is even discussed with IDOT. We
17 have to spend the money that we have.

18 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: We have to, but we
19 don't, which is why we are running a surplus of over
20 \$3 million in the past couple of years.

21 MR. YONAN: You are going back further than
22 that. I don't want to be the one that is
23 responsible --

24 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Let me say this:

1 That has been since you have been here. Let me say
2 this: The surplus predates you. This is in no way
3 that you are not finding ways to get the money out
4 the door. To the contrary, I think you have done a
5 yeoman's job -- Yonan -- in getting the dollars out
6 the door and out to the roads where they belong.

7 But the fact of the matter is that we
8 still run multimillion dollar surpluses. After this
9 amendment, we can continue to run a multimillion
10 dollar surplus.

11 Ladies and gentlemen, I think, for
12 better or worse, this vote is going to be based on
13 politics and not policy.

14 Very plainly, we are taking jobs. We
15 can move them from one code onto another code. The
16 same workers doing the same jobs. We still have a
17 multimillion dollar motor fuel tax surplus. There
18 is not a question of legality whether we can do this
19 under motor fuel tax or with IDOT; we can.

20 This will give us the dollars that so
21 many say you want without inflicting any pain on
22 this budget, without inflicting any difficulties on
23 Mr. Yonan and his ability to do his job, without
24 impacting any capital infrastructure or road

1 improvement projects in any of our Districts.

2 Everything that was anticipated and
3 planned and appropriated to be done pursuant to the
4 MFT line item would continue to be done in the
5 upcoming year. The only difference is money that
6 has been sitting as surplus year after year after
7 year after year -- not benefiting roads, not
8 benefiting the County taxpayers, not affecting their
9 wallets, and not doing anything but sitting in a
10 line item -- a third of that money can be taken and
11 put into programs.

12 I don't know of anybody I can respect
13 more than I do Commissioner Butler, when he asks for
14 a line item expenditure on how those funds would be
15 spent. I understand and it is an appropriate and
16 the right question to ask. The way that we have
17 done this historically has been through an RFP
18 process, and through that process -- obviously, we
19 can't say that upfront other than to say -- here is
20 the general area where we are going to spend these
21 funds.

22 We don't know, nor can we direct in
23 the budget, that we are going to put these funds
24 directly to a specific group or program. That is

1 how we have structured them, and that stays the
2 same, as it is in a number of other areas, actually.

3 Again, I don't want to be any more
4 redundant than I have. I think that this was really
5 straightforward. I will respect whatever the
6 outcome is.

7 CHAIRMAN DALEY: I do think every amendment
8 that is proposed, an individual Commissioner is to
9 his or her way, not so much the politics.

10 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: I didn't mean
11 anything but that.

12 CHAIRMAN DALEY: The word "politics" was
13 said, versus "policy". I think each Commissioner
14 votes his or her own individual way.

15 Vice-Chair Sims.

16 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Mr. Chairman, if I
17 can address that.

18 I would apologize to everybody if my
19 comment was either worded improperly or taken in a
20 way that I didn't mean it. I mean "politics" with a
21 small "P". Politics impacts policy.

22 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Politics is politics.

23 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Politicos is
24 politics. Truer words have never been said in this

1 room. But the issue then here is, from a policy
2 standpoint then, personally we all have to do our
3 jobs to the best of our ability. Personally, I
4 can't understand a policy that we would prefer to
5 have a million dollars sitting in surplus than to
6 advance some of these programs; many of which are
7 programs where we are looking at violence prevention
8 and restorative justice, that the President herself
9 has championed time and time again since she has
10 been in and back to her time as Alderman.

11 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Vice-Chair Sims.

12 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: Thank you, Chairman
13 Daley.

14 As the Chairman of Highway and
15 Transportation, Superintendent Yonan and I have had
16 numerous conversations on road projects and things
17 that he wants to move forward on in the future.

18 I understand, Commissioner Fritchey.
19 You know I am on board with you in trying to find
20 this money in any and every place that you can. I
21 appreciate your efforts in trying to find someplace
22 to get the money from. I know you have to throw
23 everything on the wall to try to see what sticks.

24 I think in this case this should not

1 stick because in the coming months we are going to
2 be doing more and more road projects. We don't know
3 what kind of winter we are going to have this year.
4 We don't know what projects the Superintendent is
5 going to have to do and have to use that MFT money
6 in order to do that.

7 I know several years ago we used some
8 of that money out of the MFT funds. We were told
9 then we should probably not do that again.

10 Since being Chairman, I have tried to
11 make sure that we don't do that so that there is
12 enough money to do the road projects, to make sure
13 whatever things need to be done gets done -- not in
14 one District, but in all Districts.

15 I think everybody can say sitting on
16 this Board that since the Superintendent has taken
17 this position we have road projects going on in all
18 seventeen of the County's Districts. That would not
19 have happened if we didn't have Superintendent Yonan
20 being so vigilant in trying to make sure we spend
21 the money where it should be spent.

22 Again, I will say to you,
23 Commissioner, I applaud you for trying to pull out
24 everything, including the kitchen sink, to try to

1 find this money. In this case, I would hope that
2 you would withdraw this because this is money that
3 we desperately need to stay in Highway.

4 Thank you.

5 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Schneider.

6 COMMISSIONER SCHNEIDER: Thank you, Mr.
7 Chairman.

8 John, you are one of the bureau chiefs
9 that I respect more than any in this county. I
10 still haven't heard whether you support this
11 amendment or you don't support this amendment.
12 Being that you are intimately involved in making
13 this decision, and this impacts your department, do
14 you support this or not support this?

15 MR. YONAN: I do not support this right
16 now, Commissioner, just because I don't know the
17 impact of what it is going to have for our 2015
18 construction program.

19 COMMISSIONER SCHNEIDER: Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Silvestri.

21 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: I just want to
22 know if Director Gibson could respond to the fact
23 that this money sits from year to year. Is that an
24 accurate description of this surplus?

1 MS. GIBSON: You know, I think
2 Superintendent Yonan is a little bit more of an
3 expert on the MFT funds. But I believe that IDOT
4 has them on a project basis. It really depends on
5 how the rollout is of the schedule.

6 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: They sit there,
7 and are they encumbered for a specific project?

8 MS. GIBSON: Essentially, yes. Is that
9 right, John?

10 MR. YONAN: Right. They are.

11 Commissioner, what happens then is we
12 can unencumber them and you don't lose it. So if,
13 for instance, with our salt contract, we were able
14 to encumber \$2 million, but we only spend \$1
15 million; that other \$1 million has been encumbered
16 to pay for the salt. As Commissioner Fritchey said,
17 it looks like the money is there, but it is
18 programmed for other uses.

19 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: The other million
20 that is there for the salt -- have we bought the
21 salt? Have we used the salt? Are we anticipating
22 that we are going to need salt, unfortunately?

23 MR. YONAN: Again, it dovetails. It
24 accounts for the fact that we have salt for this

1 coming year. We have it for this weekend. We have
2 it for next month --

3 CHAIRMAN DALEY: It will be pretty soon.

4 MR. YONAN: That million dollars is going
5 to buy us some additional salt. Our hoppers are
6 about fifty percent full. This additional money
7 will go to this contract that was multiyear to pay
8 for our 2015 salt.

9 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Either you or
10 Andrea -- is anything that is sitting in the account
11 accounted for, is it encumbered for some project?
12 Or is there money there that is discretionary? Do
13 we make a profit in Transportation?

14 MS. GIBSON: No, unfortunately I think --
15 John, why don't you answer?

16 MR. YONAN: What happens is we are lining
17 up projects. They are in the program, Commissioner.
18 The program that IDOT wants to see that you are
19 going to build, rebuild certain parts of your
20 assets.

21 Again, we get a monthly check on this.
22 When we go and say we are going to do about \$40
23 million worth of projects next year, we don't
24 actually have that money. We have a commitment to

1 do those projects. Monthly, as the cash flow comes
2 in, that is how then we will program for the
3 projects, and spend the money once it is built
4 (billed??). It is sometimes up to eighteen months
5 between when you award a contract, start doing the
6 functions, pay the bills, and then complete the
7 project.

8 That is how the money is set up, with
9 a program that again sometimes looks as if it is a
10 rollover. As the Commissioner has said, that is
11 what happens, but it should be used for next year's
12 program and the following year's program.

13 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: That doesn't
14 include additional staff being paid from there? Is
15 that what you are saying? Or can it be?

16 MR. YONAN: I'm sorry, Commissioner. I was
17 just talking to the Chief Financial Officer here. I
18 missed the question -- one more time.

19 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: The question was
20 -- you are saying you cannot use those funds to pay
21 for additional staff being transferred over to that
22 account?

23 MR. YONAN: What I was trying to clarify is
24 that there needs to be a discussion with IDOT on

1 some of the functions. Historically they weren't
2 being billed to the motor fuel tax because those
3 reasons were they were doing other functions that
4 may not have been eligible before I got here.

5 Now we will be making a plan to them
6 as to how I am going to use that money. Then, of
7 course, again, the follow-up question is what roads
8 aren't going to get done. What bridges are not
9 going to get the repairs? Again, that is the aspect
10 of why we go pursue Federal dollars, why we are out
11 there looking for other planning funds to be able to
12 supplement the budget because we know our
13 infrastructure needs more money than we have
14 available.

15 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Thank you.

16 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Fritchey to
17 close.

18 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Thank you.

19 Again, I appreciate a sincere debate.

20 When you look at the budget, among the
21 things that are being funded under "capital" out of
22 the MFT dollars -- a new attorney for \$100,000 a
23 year -- let me back up, if I may.

24 Andrea, isn't there a position being

1 moved from the President's Office into MFT right
2 now, for \$135,000 a year? John, do you know what I
3 am referring to?

4 MR. YONAN: I'm sorry, again. I was
5 distracted. One more time.

6 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Isn't there a
7 position in the budget that is being moved from the
8 President's Office -- I think a planning person --
9 for \$135,000 that is being moved from the
10 President's Office into MFT?

11 MR. YONAN: It is not the President's
12 Office. Commissioner, what we wanted to do is to
13 bring a Director of Strategic Planning as part of
14 the Transportation and Highways Department.

15 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: But they are
16 already on the payroll, right?

17 MR. YONAN: There is somebody in the Bureau
18 of Administration.

19 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: So it is in the
20 Bureau of Administration. They are being moved from
21 the Bureau of Administration to take them off of
22 that budget and they are moving them into MFT and
23 paying them out of MFT dollars; correct?

24 MR. YONAN: Correct. That is the plan.

1 But, again, subject to --

2 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: So, folks, I don't
3 mind losing on a motion, but let's be intellectually
4 honest here. The President's budget has a planning
5 position for \$135,000 that is being moved from
6 Administration into MFT. And they are drawing it
7 against MFT funds. Nobody said "boo" about that.

8 I am trying to move labor repairmen
9 into the MFT budget -- a far more permissible
10 personnel shift -- and when it comes to the issue of
11 money that has been encumbered, money that has not
12 been encumbered -- you can go back, and this is
13 before I got here, and when you back out all of the
14 encumbered dollars that carry over year to year, and
15 a number of those are replenished, the MFT fund has
16 run a multimillion dollar surplus -- not encumbered
17 money that is rolled over. Back all of that out;
18 they still run a multimillion dollar surplus.

19 There are no programming implications
20 here. There is not a project that wouldn't get done
21 because of this. The argument about being able to
22 move positions out of Administration or somewhere
23 else into MFT is apparently okay when it is in the
24 executive budget, but if one of us is trying to do

1 it as an amendment, there are some other procedural
2 problems with doing that.

3 Ladies and gentlemen, I am simply
4 trying to find money. I asked the Administration, I
5 said, "If you don't like my idea about doing this on
6 MFT" -- it seems to be a fantastic way to do it --
7 "if you don't like me doing this through health
8 services," I said, "find me the money anywhere in
9 the budget." I was told that they could not or
10 would not find the money anywhere else in the
11 budget. So I have worked to try to find it.

12 If you want to put money into
13 restorative justice and violence prevention, here is
14 how to do it in a legally permissible way that has
15 no adverse impact on County services. If you don't
16 want to do it, that is fine, too. But, as I said,
17 all I ask is for an honest victory or defeat; not
18 one where we get to pick and choose the facts on a
19 case-by-case basis.

20 Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

21 COMMISSIONER STEELE: Mr. Chairman --

22 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Steele.

23 COMMISSIONER STEELE: John, will this
24 position that Commissioner Fritchey is referring to,

1 was that approved by IDOT?

2 MR. YONAN: It is a position that our
3 Department of Transportation is very excited about.
4 When we said we wanted to be more than highways, the
5 Department of Transportation pursued planning
6 funding. President Preckwinkle has even gone and
7 talked to the Governor's Office about how we need to
8 build within the DOT a planning section led by this
9 position, which would be in my organization what I
10 call a "bureau chief exempt position" that would be
11 responsible for some of the planning functions that,
12 again, go on with some of our capital improvement
13 projects.

14 So, yes, that was discussed right when
15 I got here with the President and the Governor's
16 Office.

17 CHAIRMAN DALEY: On amendment thirteen,
18 there has been a request for a roll call by
19 Commissioner Butler.

20 SECRETARY DeLEON: Mr. Chairman, this is a
21 roll call on the motion to approve amendment number
22 thirteen.

23 Commissioner Butler.

24 COMMISSIONER BUTLER: No.

1 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Butler is
2 "no".

3 Commissioner Collins. Commissioner
4 Collins is absent.

5 Commissioner Fritchey.

6 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Yes.

7 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Fritchey is
8 "aye".

9 Commissioner Gainer -- Commissioner
10 Gainer is absent.

11 Commissioner Garcia.

12 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: No.

13 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Garcia is
14 "no".

15 Commissioner Gorman.

16 COMMISSIONER GORMAN: No.

17 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Gorman is
18 "no".

19 Commissioner Goslin -- Commissioner
20 Goslin is absent.

21 Commissioner Moore.

22 COMMISSIONER MOORE: No.

23 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Moore is
24 "no".

1 Commissioner Murphy.

2 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: No.

3 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Murphy is
4 "no".

5 Commissioner Reyes.

6 COMMISSIONER REYES: No.

7 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Reyes is
8 "no".

9 Commissioner Schneider.

10 COMMISSIONER SCHNEIDER: No.

11 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Schneider
12 is "no".

13 Commissioner Silvestri.

14 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: No.

15 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Silvestri
16 is "no".

17 Vice-Chair Sims.

18 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: No.

19 SECRETARY DeLEON: Vice-Chair is "no".

20 Commissioner Steele.

21 COMMISSIONER STEELE: No.

22 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Steele is
23 "no".

24 Commissioner Suffredin.

1 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Aye.

2 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Suffredin
3 is "aye".

4 Commissioner Tobolski.

5 COMMISSIONER TOBOLSKI: No.

6 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Tobolski is
7 "no".

8 Commissioner Gainer.

9 COMMISSIONER GAINER: No.

10 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Gainer is
11 "no".

12 Chairman Daley.

13 CHAIRMAN DALEY: No.

14 SECRETARY DeLEON: Chairman Daley is "no".

15 Mr. Chairman, you have two "yeas",
16 thirteen "nays", and two absent.

17 CHAIRMAN DALEY: The amendment fails.

18 Amendment number fourteen,
19 Commissioner Suffredin.

20 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: I will move
21 approval.

22 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: I second it.

23 CHAIRMAN DALEY: It has been moved by
24 Commissioner Suffredin and seconded by Commissioner

1 Fritchey to approve amendment fourteen.

2 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: I will eventually
3 withdraw this. What I want to do is to explain what
4 we are trying to do here.

5 This, again, gets into the pretrial
6 services and the savings that we are showing in the
7 County.

8 Currently, as of Monday, the
9 population of our jail is 9339 people. There are
10 1900 people on judicial electronic monitoring, which
11 comes out of the pretrial service programs. The
12 number of people being given I-bonds has been each
13 day going up in this county. There are now at least
14 2000 people currently on I-bonds.

15 No money, so these are people that did
16 not have electronic monitoring, didn't have I-bonds.
17 They would be in our custody, and we would be well
18 above the 10,000 person threshold that we are trying
19 to stay below as we try to get out of these Federal
20 cases.

21 There are in the budget sixty-two
22 pretrial probation officer positions that are funded
23 at one dollar. What I was trying to do here, in
24 working with Judge Evans and in working with the

1 Budget Department, is to come up with a formula of
2 savings that we could show by the actions of our
3 pretrial services -- the number of people on
4 electronic monitoring continued to grow. The number
5 of people on I-bonds continues to grow.

6 As you can see from what is in
7 amendment fourteen, we put together a rather
8 elaborate mathematical formula for the Budget
9 Director to look at; the idea being that we would
10 take whatever savings resulted and we would use that
11 to begin to fund the sixty-two one dollar funded
12 positions for pretrial probation officers.

13 After a lot of discussion, I am going
14 to withdraw this. I have another resolution, which
15 is on your desks, that I will introduce at the
16 Wednesday Board meeting. The resolution empowers
17 the Budget Director to work with the Sheriff and the
18 other criminal justice stakeholders -- the Chief
19 Judge, the State's Attorney, the Public Defender,
20 the Clerk of the Circuit Court, the Justice Advisory
21 Council, and the President of the Cook County Board
22 -- to begin to collect accurate data that will let
23 us know what it really costs us to keep people in
24 the Cook County jail, and what all of these

1 diversion programs and all of these electronic
2 monitoring actions by the judiciary, what they are
3 doing to save us money.

4 The object would be, hopefully, that
5 we would be able to quantify and determine those
6 savings so that we could, in future budgets, or
7 maybe even during this budget, come to a conclusion
8 that if we funded more of those dollar positions, we
9 would, in fact, be saving our taxpayers more money
10 and reducing that total for the jail population of
11 9339 as of yesterday to a lower number.

12 The other thing, and this is how it
13 relates to the antiviolenence discussions we have been
14 having and funding these programs. One of our best
15 antiviolenence programs is having pretrial supervision
16 of people that are already in the system. Our
17 probation officers stay on top of those people,
18 surround those people, make sure, since they are out
19 on pretrial bond, that they get into CountyCare.
20 That we get them mental health treatment. That we
21 get them drug treatment, which, in the long run,
22 saves us a lot of money.

23 As we keep our arms around them
24 through the supervision of these probation officers,

1 the number of these folks who readmit into the
2 system keeps shrinking. It is smaller and smaller
3 because we are actually keeping them from committing
4 another crime or getting another arrest.

5 I am going to move to withdraw this.
6 I would ask you to look at this resolution, and help
7 to cosponsor this with me on this Wednesday.

8 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Amendment number fourteen
9 is withdrawn.

10 Amendment number fifteen, Commissioner
11 Silvestri.

12 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Mr. Chairman, I
13 move approval of amendment number fifteen.

14 COMMISSIONER STEELE: I second it.

15 CHAIRMAN DALEY: It has been moved by
16 Commissioner Silvestri and seconded by Commissioner
17 Steele to approve amendment number fifteen.

18 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Based on recent
19 trends, I am happy to report that the department
20 feels that we can increase the revenue estimate by
21 \$120,317.

22 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Any questions?

23 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: I would encourage
24 your support. It is going to be spent in the next

1 amendment.

2 CHAIRMAN DALEY: All those in favor signify
3 by saying "aye" -- opposed "nay". The amendment
4 passes.

5 Amendment number sixteen, Commissioner
6 Silvestri.

7 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: I move approval.

8 COMMISSIONER STEELE: I second it.

9 CHAIRMAN DALEY: It has been moved by
10 Commissioner Silvestri and seconded by Commissioner
11 Steele that we approve amendment number sixteen.

12 On the amendment.

13 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: The amendment
14 increases the number of ventilating and plumbing
15 inspectors. It is only for part of the year, half a
16 year, based on revenues being generated. These are
17 inspections that need to be done in the
18 unincorporated areas. This will facilitate a
19 greater efficiency to do it.

20 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Are there any questions?

21 All those in favor signify by saying
22 "aye" -- opposed "nay". The motion carries.

23 Amendment number seventeen,
24 Commissioner Suffredin.

1 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: I move approval of
2 amendment number seventeen.

3 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: I second it.

4 CHAIRMAN DALEY: It has been moved by
5 Commissioner Suffredin and seconded by Commissioner
6 Fritchey that we approve amendment number seventeen.

7 Commissioner Suffredin.

8 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Mr. Chairman, and
9 ladies and gentlemen of the Committee. What this
10 does, this allows our Budget Director to allocate
11 any increase in revenue above the approved
12 projections that will be in this budget, collected
13 from Home Rule taxes, to be spent in accordance with
14 amendments adopted by the Cook County Board of
15 Commissioners.

16 What this is aimed at -- there will be
17 a series of amendments coming up. One of them is
18 for \$500,000 for an additional antiviolenace,
19 antirecidivism program. What we will do here is if
20 our revenues exceed what we said they would, that
21 money can be spent.

22 It is a very simple amendment. As
23 Commissioner Sims said, you try to throw everything
24 you can out there to try to fund these programs when

1 you are dealing on the decimal side of a percent in
2 our budget.

3 This is a way that doesn't create any
4 of the other problems that Commissioner Fritchey's
5 two amendments had that was discussed. This is
6 purely that we do well with our taxes over the next
7 year, that we take what is over our projections and
8 use them to fund some very positive programs. I ask
9 for your approval.

10 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Any questions?

11 The Budget Director wanted to address
12 this.

13 MS. GIBSON: On this amendment, the
14 concerns that we have are several. One, there is no
15 indication at the current time that we will exceed
16 our projection of Home Rule tax revenue.

17 Secondly, if we do exceed the Home
18 Rule tax revenue, there may be another revenue
19 source that is not doing as well, that we would need
20 that for.

21 But, finally, and maybe most
22 importantly, what this resolution outlines is a way
23 to increase the appropriation beyond what is
24 approved by the Board of Commissioners. Under State

1 law, you can't budget for expenditures and not have
2 the revenues budgeted for at the time of the budget.

3 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Any other questions?

4 All those in favor signify by saying
5 "aye" -- opposed "nay". The amendment fails.

6 Amendment number eighteen,
7 Commissioner Suffredin.

8 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Because that
9 failed, these are without revenue sources. The
10 first one is \$1 million to go to the three
11 educational resource centers, the intermediate
12 service centers that service all of our school
13 districts; that unfortunately do not have any money.
14 We need to come up with some solution to help them.
15 These are the ones that replaced the regional
16 education authority.

17 Remember, our school bus drivers, our
18 schoolteachers, all of the people who have special
19 certificates have to go through those offices, and
20 they are in desperate shape.

21 Unfortunately, I will have to withdraw
22 amendment number eighteen.

23 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Amendment number eighteen
24 is withdrawn.

1 Amendment number nineteen,
2 Commissioner Suffredin.

3 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Amendment number
4 nineteen. Again, this was to be funded by the Home
5 Rule, the increases in the Home Rule taxes. This is
6 another \$500,000 for the antirecidivism and
7 restorative justice and antiviolence programs.
8 Again, since the source of revenue is defeated, I
9 have no other revenue. I will have to withdraw it.

10 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Amendment number nineteen
11 is withdrawn.

12 Amendment number twenty, Commissioner
13 Suffredin.

14 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Amendment number
15 twenty is, again, additional Public Defenders to go
16 into the Bond Court, to be able to help us get more
17 people on electronic monitoring, on I-bonds, to
18 reduce our overall costs. It is a mere \$468,180.
19 But, again, my only source of revenue for it was the
20 increase in Home Rule taxes, which I predict we will
21 have. A year from now, I will tell you how big it
22 was, but, unfortunately, I will have to withdraw
23 this one, too.

24 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Amendment number twenty is

1 withdrawn.

2 Amendment number twenty-one,
3 Commissioner Steele.

4 COMMISSIONER STEELE: I move approval of
5 amendment number twenty-one.

6 COMMISSIONER REYES: I second it.

7 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Steele moves
8 approval of amendment number twenty-one. It has
9 been seconded by Commissioner Reyes.

10 On the amendment, Commissioner Steele.

11 COMMISSIONER STEELE: This is an increase
12 where two staff people can be added to the oral
13 health area of the ambulatory and community health
14 network. We just opened a new facility in the
15 Englewood community yesterday that has many
16 volunteers and not actual staff of the ambulatory
17 health area.

18 We are going to add a dental hygienist
19 and a clerk position to that location, also to be
20 shared in the Robbins location in the oral health
21 area.

22 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Are there any questions?

23 All those in favor signify by saying
24 "aye" -- opposed "nay".

1 Amendment number twenty-one is
2 approved.

3 Amendment number twenty-two,
4 Commissioner Suffredin.

5 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: I move approval of
6 amendment number twenty-two. The Administration is
7 okay with this one, so somebody can second it.

8 COMMISSIONER TOBOLSKI: I second it.

9 CHAIRMAN DALEY: It has been moved by
10 Commissioner Suffredin and seconded by Commissioner
11 Tobolski.

12 On the amendment.

13 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: We have funds that
14 are within the County budget that deal with no place
15 to stay. These are individuals where a Judge may
16 have entered an order saying electronic monitoring
17 would be an appropriate release mechanism, but they
18 have no place to go. The electronic monitoring has
19 to be to a specific location that we can monitor
20 them.

21 This money has been in the Sheriff's
22 budget, but there have been some questions raised
23 about when it is in the Sheriff's budget are those
24 people still considered in custody and, therefore,

1 not qualified for CountyCare and other benefits.

2 What we are looking at is transferring
3 this to the Chief Judge's Office where, if our
4 pretrial service probation officers are the ones who
5 are monitoring them, they would not be considered in
6 custody. They would qualify for CountyCare. In
7 most of these cases, we are talking about people who
8 need mental health care or who need drug treatment
9 care. We would be able to pay for that through the
10 CountyCare Medicaid program.

11 While we worked out those details, all
12 we are doing here is taking his money and parking
13 it. We will come back to the Board to do a fund
14 transfer, but we are parking it into the 499 account
15 while the Chief Judge, the Sheriff, and all of the
16 people who have got to make sure we agree so we can
17 maximize our funds for these individuals come to
18 that agreement.

19 I ask for an "aye" vote on this.
20 This, in the end, I think, will be a significant
21 savings to us as we get more of these people on
22 electronic monitoring and into places where they can
23 live, because they are homeless, and it not be the
24 County jail.

1 Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN DALEY: All those in favor signify
3 by saying "aye" -- opposed "nay". Amendment number
4 twenty-two is approved.

5 Amendment number twenty-three,
6 Commissioner Tobolski.

7 COMMISSIONER TOBOLSKI: Thank you, Mr.
8 Chairman.

9 I move the approval of amendment
10 number twenty-three.

11 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: I second it.

12 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioner Tobolski has
13 moved amendment number twenty-three, and it has been
14 seconded by Commissioner Garcia.

15 Commissioner Tobolski.

16 COMMISSIONER TOBOLSKI: Thank you, Mr.
17 Chairman.

18 This simply puts back into the budget
19 two positions that takes us back to the 2014 level.
20 With the understanding that, obviously, these
21 positions would only be filled if they were
22 justified, and there was a need for them.

23 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Are there any questions?

24 Vice-Chair Sims.

1 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: The question is: You are
2 putting these in only if they are justified. Why
3 are we putting them in? Are these positions that
4 were already there? They had a dollar amount in
5 them and there is a question with regards to them
6 being taken out?

7 COMMISSIONER TOBOLSKI: Yes. That is true,
8 Commissioner.

9 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: So there was only a
10 dollar in these and you are trying to resurrect
11 them?

12 COMMISSIONER TOBOLSKI: Just to make sure
13 that they are there so if something arises they are
14 in there already.

15 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: If there were in there
16 already, why are we doing an amendment?

17 MS. GIBSON: If I may -- the positions are
18 in the 2014 budget, but they were eliminated. They
19 are vacant positions in the executive
20 recommendation. What the amendment does is restore
21 those positions to the 2015 budget to stay at the
22 2014 level.

23 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: If I am understanding
24 this correctly, they were taken out last year?

1 MS. GIBSON: Just in October, with the
2 presentation of the executive budget for 2015.

3 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: So it was a miss?

4 MS. GIBSON: These positions existed in the
5 2014 budget. They were removed in the executive
6 recommendation. What this amendment does is restore
7 them.

8 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: Puts them back, okay.

9 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Are there any other
10 questions?

11 All those in favor signify by saying
12 "aye" -- opposed "nay". The amendment passes.

13 Madam Budget Director, is the budget
14 balanced with all of these amendments?

15 MS. GIBSON: Yes. The budget is balanced.

16 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Commissioners, I would
17 like to thank everyone for your work on this budget.
18 It was a very easy budget this year. But, as we
19 know, get ready for 2015 (2016??).

20 I would like to thank everyone for
21 your hard work, the staff support -- Andrea, the
22 Budget Director, to the President's staff, to Laura,
23 Kim, Pat, the Secretary's staff, and the public who
24 came out to testify.

1 Vice-Chair Sims.

2 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: You thanked everybody
3 else, so thank you for your hard work in listening
4 to all of our complaints. Thank Tony for his hard
5 work. I know his fingers hurt. I know it is hard
6 understanding all of the stuff we say all the time.
7 But, Tony, we never, ever say "thank you for being
8 here and doing the journals for us, and getting it
9 right on the money". Thank you as well.

10 Thank you to all of our staff, and for
11 all of the people that the Chairman has to holler at
12 to make sure things fall in line. To your new staff
13 person, to Arya (sp??) that sits over there, to make
14 sure he delivers our messages back and forth. We
15 thank you as well.

16 To everybody's staff, thank you all.
17 This has not been an easy time. At least we are not
18 in blizzard weather this year. We should give
19 ourselves a hand for not being in a blizzard.

20 CHAIRMAN DALEY: I also wanted to thank the
21 Sheriff's staff, who did an outstanding job as well
22 as Facilities, and to everyone.

23 Vice-Chair Sims.

24 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: I move approval.

1 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: I second it.

2 CHAIRMAN DALEY: It has been moved by Vice-
3 Chair Sims and seconded by Commissioner Silvestri to
4 approve the tentative amendments to the 2015 budget.
5 This is the Finance report that is being sent to the
6 President's Office. This is on the budget
7 amendments.

8 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: Mr. Chairman, this
9 is the approval of the budget?

10 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Correct.

11 SECRETARY DeLEON: Mr. Chairman, this is a
12 roll call on the motion to approve item 14-5866, the
13 FY2015 executive budget recommendation.

14 Commissioner Butler.

15 COMMISSIONER BUTLER: Aye.

16 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Butler is
17 "aye".

18 Commissioner Collins. Commissioner
19 Collins is absent.

20 Commissioner Fritchey.

21 COMMISSIONER FRITCHEY: Present.

22 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Fritchey is
23 "present".

24 Commissioner Gainer.

1 COMMISSIONER GAINER: Aye.

2 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Gainer is
3 "aye".

4 Commissioner Garcia.

5 COMMISSIONER GARCIA: Aye.

6 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Garcia is
7 "aye".

8 Commissioner Gorman.

9 COMMISSIONER GORMAN: Aye.

10 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Gorman is
11 "aye".

12 Commissioner Goslin. Commissioner
13 Goslin is absent.

14 Commissioner Moore.

15 COMMISSIONER MOORE: Aye.

16 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Moore is
17 "aye".

18 Commissioner Murphy.

19 COMMISSIONER MURPHY: Aye.

20 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Murphy is
21 "aye".

22 Commissioner Reyes.

23 COMMISSIONER REYES: Aye.

24 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Reyes is

1 "aye".

2 Commissioner Schneider.

3 COMMISSIONER SCHNEIDER: Aye.

4 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Schneider
5 is "aye".

6 Commissioner Silvestri.

7 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: Aye.

8 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Silvestri
9 is "aye".

10 Vice-Chair Sims.

11 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: Aye.

12 SECRETARY DeLEON: Vice-Chair Sims is
13 "aye".

14 Commissioner Steele.

15 COMMISSIONER STEELE: Aye.

16 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Steele is
17 "aye".

18 Commissioner Suffredin.

19 COMMISSIONER SUFFREDIN: First, I would
20 like to thank Commissioner Daley and the staff for
21 all of the work on this budget.

22 For the first time since I have been
23 on this Board, I will be voting "no" on this budget.
24 I do this because I do not see this budget as

1 transparent enough. It hides serious structural
2 flaws, and postpones serious funding deficits until
3 next year.

4 This budget contains no new taxes,
5 fees, or fines. It does signal that significant
6 revenue increases will be necessary next year to
7 meet our healthcare and pension needs. Postponing
8 bad news does not eliminate it. There is no
9 planning for next year built into this election-year
10 budget.

11 Transparency requires that I warn
12 people of the coming budget storm. The failure to,
13 number one, properly address our increasing jail
14 population; two, shore up CountyCare, and, three,
15 stabilize our government in the face of pension
16 changes that will have a profound impact on the
17 future of Cook County.

18 A year ago I hailed our budget that
19 showed promise to save money and provide quality
20 services. It was a sea change for Cook County,
21 making public safety the cornerstone of the budget,
22 rather than healthcare. Unfortunately, this change
23 did not work.

24 I had hoped that today I would be

1 reporting to you that we had reduced crime and made
2 progress on reducing recidivism. Instead, I report
3 to you that much more work needs to be done.

4 I offered amendments and ideas today
5 to strengthen our commitment to expanding successful
6 pretrial service programs and diversion programs run
7 by the Chief Judge and supported by the best efforts
8 of the State's Attorney, the Public Defender, and
9 the Sheriff. Those efforts failed.

10 Our pretrial services have saved the
11 County millions of dollars, and caused thousands of
12 individuals to be put on supervised bail release.
13 These efforts caused a reduction in the jail
14 population where we warehouse too many mentally ill
15 and drug-dependent people.

16 Furthermore, these efforts caused
17 successful supervision of people on bail bonds who
18 are able to get the mental health and drug
19 treatments they need to straighten out their lives.
20 Failure to properly fund pretrial service and
21 diversion programs costs Cook County taxpayers.

22 While I expect to pass a resolution to
23 study this issue during the next year, any real
24 savings will not happen until 2016.

1 A year ago I reported our great
2 success at the Cook County Health and Hospitals
3 System with the Affordable Care Act, and the 1115
4 waiver. The 1115 waiver allowed us to create
5 CountyCare, a program that allows us to enroll new
6 Medicaid-qualified patients a year early; allowing
7 us to increase revenue by almost \$700 million in
8 2014. These patients were previously being treated
9 at the expense of the County taxpayers.

10 Today, for the first time in the
11 history of our system, more than fifty percent of
12 our patients are covered by some form of insurance.
13 But with these changes come new challenges, as
14 Federal eligibility rules and private insurance
15 payment requirements strain our staff resources.

16 I do not believe that this budget puts
17 enough resources into recovering every last dollar
18 earned; therefore, we will face a potential deficit
19 in 2016 driven by increasing costs and reduced
20 payments.

21 For example, many of our new insurance
22 covered patients have very high deductibles. Cook
23 County will not get paid until these deductibles are
24 met. I have also introduced a resolution that will

1 let us develop strategies to help these patients
2 meet their deductibles so we can maximize our
3 reimbursements.

4 Finally, on pensions. While pretrial
5 service and healthcare is a priority, the largest
6 financial issue facing us is the need to increase
7 pension payments and plan for changes caused by the
8 anticipated large number of retirements in key jobs
9 in the Health System and the Sheriff's Office.

10 On the pension payment front, even the
11 best scenario projects that we would need to
12 increase our payments by \$160 million. What that
13 final number will be is dependent upon what the
14 Illinois Supreme Court does in ruling on the
15 constitutionality of the State pension bill, and
16 what changes the Illinois General Assembly passes.

17 I tried to increase our pension
18 payments this year, but was met with strong
19 resistance. I was able to get a refund fund
20 established that may or may not have enough money to
21 make the extra payments we will need in this coming
22 year.

23 Besides the pension payment issue, the
24 other looming problem is that any change in the

1 pension law will cause significant increases in
2 retirements. It is estimated that up to 1500
3 employees in the Health System and five hundred
4 employees in the Sheriff's Office would retire the
5 day any County pension bill passes the General
6 Assembly.

7 There is no plan in the budget to deal
8 with these massive retirements. Any change in the
9 Health System and the Sheriff's Office in staffing
10 puts the County at financial risk for not meeting
11 minimum staffing requirements under court orders and
12 Federal rules.

13 Finally, I vote "no" on this budget
14 because I respect our County taxpayers and our
15 County employees. I know how hard our taxpayers
16 work. We must protect their pocketbooks, their
17 health, and their safety. Our workers are the best,
18 and they deserve a budget that supports their
19 effort, and guarantees them of their pension.

20 I vote "no" because someone has to
21 point to the future that there are landmines out
22 there that can destroy the many good things that we
23 have accomplished in the last four years. We must
24 plan for our economic future and face our battles in

1 pension, public safety, and healthcare immediately.

2 This budget does not do that.

3 I vote "no".

4 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Suffredin
5 is "no".

6 Commissioner Tobolski.

7 COMMISSIONER TOBOLSKI: Yes.

8 SECRETARY DeLEON: Commissioner Tobolski is
9 "aye".

10 Chairman Daley.

11 CHAIRMAN DALEY: I am voting "aye".

12 From the beginning, President
13 Preckwinkle has made it clear. If you look at the
14 budget book from last year, we do know there are
15 revenue problems coming. At every meeting she has
16 been at, the meetings with us, when we went in she
17 made it very clear that there were problems.

18 We, as Commissioners, could see those
19 problems coming. We know there are contracts
20 coming, and that will have to be addressed.

21 Everyone who supports the unions and who has
22 supported the unions will have to make a decision.

23 In reference to the pensions, she has
24 made a personal trip to Springfield to address the

1 pension issues right on. She made it very clear
2 that current retirees will not be affected. It has
3 passed the Senate, but, unfortunately, it got tied
4 up in the House. She worked on that bill very hard.

5 In reference to the jail population,
6 she went herself to the Supreme Court to get
7 involved with the problems facing the judicial
8 system here, and they responded.

9 With the jail population, she has time
10 and time again addressed these issues. She believes
11 that there are too many people in the jail
12 population. They are in jail who should not be
13 there, and there has to be more diversion.

14 This is a good budget. It is a budget
15 that I think we should be proud of, and I strongly
16 support it.

17 SECRETARY DeLEON: Chairman Daley is "aye".

18 Mr. Chairman, you have thirteen
19 "yeas", one "nay", one "present", and two absent.

20 CHAIRMAN DALEY: The County executive
21 recommendation, 14-5866, is approved.

22 Vice-Chair Sims.

23 VICE-CHAIR SIMS: I move to adjourn.

24 COMMISSIONER SILVESTRI: I second it.

1 CHAIRMAN DALEY: Vice-Chair Sims has moved
2 to adjourn and it has been seconded by Commissioner
3 Silvestri.

4 All those in favor signify by saying
5 "aye" -- opposed "nay". The motion carries.

I certify that the foregoing is a
correct transcript of the original shorthand notes
of proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

Anthony W. Lisanti
Court Reporter

Date