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BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
GOVERNOR'S RECEPTION ROOM
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P R O C E E D I N G S

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Welcome to the Board of Public Works. Today is November 19, 2013 and as we begin this meeting I will ask whether the Treasurer or the Comptroller have any thoughts as we open up here?

TREASURER KOPP: I believe the Comptroller has.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yes. Thank you, Madam Treasurer and Governor. Good morning. I know it is hard to believe that Thanksgiving is just a week away but I would like to underline my favorite holiday and say as we begin the whole season I want to encourage everybody once again to shop Maryland Local for the holidays. In previous years I have gone to Main Streets across the State to urge people to get off the internet and focus on these wonderful small Maryland businesses. If you have to do it on the internet find the website from one of these independent Maryland businesses. They employ our friends and neighbors.

And so I am headed out to Cumberland; I don't have to go very far to get to Takoma Park; Laurel; Mt. Washington; Annapolis; Easton; and

Cambridge. And we have a good exercise in getting the local elected officials together with community advocates and merchants to encourage everyone to do the right thing and shop local. I come back with a lot of stuff for my stocking. But it's good for the Maryland economy. Seventy percent of the dollars spent in these local stores stay in the State. They are the backbone of the Maryland economy. The retailers as you know employ almost half a million of our friends and neighbors. Small business owners sponsor our little league teams, they volunteer in our schools, they adopt our highways.

And so I look forward to the holiday shopping. And please encourage everybody to stop at these local retailers. And it will make a big difference to the shop owners. Because everybody is nervous. A lot of folks in many parts of the State, retailers, are deeply challenged by the economy. And so it is a big boost to them when you walk in their store.

On a sadder and more personal note, Governor and Madam Treasurer, I know you were a wonderful friend of this individual. I would like to reflect

for a moment on the life of John Tydings, who passed away over the weekend after a brief illness. John was a native of the District of Columbia. He lived in Maryland. We were truly honored to have him in our State. Above all else he was a true citizen of the Greater Washington Region. Nobody worked harder or advocated more skillfully for the civic and economic interests of this region than John Tydings did for more than 30 years as the President of the Greater Washington Board of Trade.

He understood as well as anyone I have ever met the nexus between effective government and a robust private sector and how the two had to work hand in hand to achieve economic prosperity. And by bridging these two worlds so masterfully and at times so discreetly John Tydings played a monumental role in transforming Washington from a somewhat, well let's say, be honest here, from a sleepy government town to the global economic juggernaut that it is today. And in spite of his legendary body of work he remained one of the most humble, approachable, and gracious people I have known in public life. Never let it go to his head. Never flaunted his stature as a revered

Washington legend because he knew that those who truly possess those qualities never have to show them off.

John Tydings will be missed. But he and the consequence of his remarkable life will not soon be forgotten. And Governor, I know the Treasurer was very close to Mr. Tydings and wants to be associated with my remarks, and I with hers.

TREASURER KOPP: Absolutely. John Tydings was a unique man who did great things. But I think made as much of an impression because of his character and intelligence and decency, the time he spent with other people, working with them and bringing them together. Peter is quite right. He was one of those unusual people who could bring the public sector and the private sector together to focus on the community and everyone benefitted and grew from that. It reminds me a little bit actually of in the Baltimore area Walter Sondheim. Just an outstanding man who after -- I first met him in the late sixties, early seventies when we were both starting out together. In fact he was with Pepco for a little while before the Board of Trade. But he made a big point of bringing the Montgomery County delegation, for which I worked,

in with Prince George's, and Northern Virginia, and the District of Columbia, to help create what he called the State of Potomac. Which went from Southern Maryland up to Hagerstown in his mind.

And in his discussions bringing people into Washington, Peter is quite right, he helped Washington grow in a very positive and strong way, the whole Washington area. But after he left the Board of Trade he continued counseling people and helping create the next generation of public and private leaders. Which is a difficult thing to do for someone who had been the leader of the Greater Washington Board of Trade which is the, was the premier organization in the District.

So he will be very sorely missed not only as a great leader and inspiration, but just as a very good friend to many, many folk.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Thank you.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: I had occasion to travel with John to, on trips when I worked on an intergovernmental basis with the Mayor of Washington, Mayor Williams. Whether it was the 2012 Olympic bid that brought our two very distant metro areas

together, or whether it was pursuing better high speed rail links between Washington and Baltimore, he was a very, very decent man who understand that we're all in this together. And that whatever unique characters our two metropolitan areas have the fact is we share one region. And he was just, as the Comptroller indicated, a person who understood the essential role of an effective public sector working together with the private sector to create a robust economy, and a place where opportunity is expanding and not contracting. So God bless John Tydings --

TREASURER KOPP: Yes.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: -- and his family, and his memory.

So we now begin the Board of Public Works. I understand we have the Mayor of Eagle Harbor is here on a matter? Hello, Mayor. How are you? Good to see you, sir. What, oh he's on the DGS Agenda?

MR. COLLINS: Yes, sir.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Okay. Well why don't we go out of order? Then call the DGS Agenda item number what, now?

MR. COLLINS: Item 23.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Agenda Item 23. Come on up, Mayor. Introduce yourself to all of your neighbors here at the Board of Public Works.

MR. CRUDUP: Good morning, everyone. I'm the Mayor of Eagle Harbor and I have with me Commissioner Palmer. We bring you greetings from the wonderful little town on the tranquil Patuxent River down in Southern Prince George's County. I'm not sure how the proceedings go but we are here to ask for or explain a \$50,000 State grant to restore our historic artesian well.

Back in 1929 when our town was founded the artesian well was put in place to provide water for the citizens in our little community. We still don't have public water or sewer down there, but we do have septic and wells. But the artesian well was a central place when the town was founded in 1929 and it has been flowing since then.

Recently over the past year it has stopped flowing and we have a wall right there on the Patuxent where the well is that's also in need of repair and the whole site we would like to have it refurbished and made a historic town monument so that we can

recognize those individuals that founded the town back in 1929.

The reason we ask for the grant is because two or three years ago when we had the housing meltdown all across the United States, Eagle Harbor was hit hard. We get the majority of our money, 85 percent of our budget comes from property tax and we had about a 30 or 40 percent reduction in our budget, which is only \$60,000 a year. So we were hit hard. And we don't have \$50,000 to bring the well site up to what we consider to be a nice historic site in memory of our townsfolk. So that's why we're here asking for the \$50,000.

We're going to have the wall, the seawall repaired. That's only 20 feet long, about four feet high. We'll have that repaired. We'll have the site manicured and a pavilion put up and a big sign recognizing those great founders of our town. And we'll have the well repaired and redrilled if necessary. So that's why we're here.

TREASURER KOPP: What is the population?

MR. CRUDUP: Well it's two-fold. Let me explain it like this. We're really a resort town,

founded for that purpose. We have about 55 to 60 permanent residents. But during the summer we kick up to maybe 150 or 200 people on any given weekend. Folks come down and spend the weekend, spend a few days. They have relatives come in. So we're considered a resort town.

Any other questions?

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Are we good, Al?

Anything, Mr. Secretary?

MR. COLLINS: No, sir. I recommend approval.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: And this is item number?

MR. COLLINS: Twenty-three.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: The Treasurer moves approval of Item Number 23 on the DGS Agenda, seconded by the Comptroller. All in favor signal by saying, "Aye."

THE BOARD: Aye.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: All opposed?

(No response.)

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Congratulations, Mr. Mayor.

MR. CRUDUP: We appreciate it.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Well done.

MR. CRUDUP: And I'd like to welcome you all down to our Town Day, which is the first Saturday in August. We have a website and everything is there. And we have a lot of elected officials all across the State come down and visit us on that first Saturday in August. So --

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: And Mayor, you are just north of Benedict, right?

MR. CRUDUP: Benedict? Yes, just north. You are absolutely right.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Are you north or south of Kings Landing?

MR. CRUDUP: I'm not familiar with Kings Landing. But we're basically in Aquasco. If you come down like 381, which is Brandywine Road, or if you come across the Benedict Bridge, you can get to us.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Got you.

MR. CRUDUP: So --

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Pretty part of our State.

MR. CRUDUP: Absolutely.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Thanks very much for your leadership.

MR. CRUDUP: Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Thank you, Commissioner.

MR. CRUDUP: Thank you.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Thank you.

MR. CRUDUP: Does that mean we can leave?

Or should we stay?

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Yes, sir.

(Laughter.)

MR. CRUDUP: Thank you, everybody, and have a wonderful day.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Thank you. I would get while the getting is good.

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Sometimes they change their mind, you never know.

TREASURER KOPP: No --

MR. CRUDUP: You can see we're running.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Yes --

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Sometimes someone runs through the door, "Wait! Wait!" Okay, we go to the Secretary's Agenda.

TREASURER KOPP: Governor, before we start that could I just take a moment to introduce a new person in this room?

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Sure.

TREASURER KOPP: Cate Allen is the new counsel for the State Treasurer's Office. We have been without attorney for some time, which is a certain level of freedom but on the other hand --

(Laughter.)

TREASURER KOPP: -- not appropriate. We welcome and thank Cate for joining us.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Thank you.

TREASURER KOPP: That's Cate with a C.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Okay. We now go on to the Secretary's Agenda.

SECRETARY MCDONALD: Good morning, Governor, Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller. There are nine items on the Secretary's Agenda this morning, five reports of emergency procurements. And we are prepared for questions you may have.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: All right. Any questions? The Comptroller moves approval, seconded by the Treasurer. All in favor signal by saying, "Aye."

THE BOARD: Aye.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: All opposed?

(No response.)

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: And the ayes have it. We move on now to the Department of Natural Resources Real Property Agenda items.

MS. WILSON: Good morning, Governor, Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller. Emily Wilson with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. We have 11 items on our Agenda today. And with approval of today's Agenda we will have permanently preserved almost 140,000 acres since January of 2007. This represents roughly two and a half times the size of Baltimore City and almost the size of Howard County.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Wow, that's great.

MS. WILSON: So we really appreciate the strong, extraordinary support really that this administration has provided to land conservation and recreation funding, as well as this Board. It's

directly tied to the ability to conserve the public recreation spaces and it's most appreciate by not only those who implement these programs but by the stakeholders who are so passionate about these programs.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Especially the ones that aren't born yet.

MS. WILSON: Right. Exactly, for our future generations.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Madam Treasurer?

TREASURER KOPP: Do we ever keep track? One of the reasons that we were pushing hard right now is the price of Open Space was lower than it had been for years and presumably than it will be for years. But do we ever keep track of the assessed values as time passes to see whether in fact our assumption is correct?

MS. WILSON: Of the assessed values or the appraised values?

TREASURER KOPP: Well I don't know how you would, of the value of the property --

MS. WILSON: Yes, we do. I mean, we have, you know, we have the ability to provide, you know, average per acre value over the years.

TREASURER KOPP: Yeah.

MS. WILSON: And we have actually been able to take advantage of the down real estate market in getting, you know, large landscapes preserved in the down market. Not only at appraised value but sometimes with a discount.

TREASURER KOPP: So we, we can look back and say, yes, in fact we saved X --

MS. WILSON: Yes. Yes.

TREASURER KOPP: -- millions of dollars by acting when we did?

MS. WILSON: Exactly. And just in an aggregate over the last several years, probably since about '09, we have saved nearly \$12 million in discounts.

TREASURER KOPP: That's something. And will increase as the value of the property, at least the opportunity benefit, not that we're going to sell it.

MS. WILSON: Exactly.

TREASURER KOPP: But, thank you.

MS. WILSON: Thank you.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Okay. The Comptroller moves approval, seconded by the Treasurer. All in favor signal by saying, "Aye."

THE BOARD: Aye.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: All opposed?

(No response.)

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: The ayes have it. We now move on to the Department of Budget and Management.

MS. FOSTER: Governor, Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller, good morning. There are 14 items on the Department of Budget and Management's Agenda for today. We'll be happy to answer any questions you may have.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Mr. Comptroller?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Thank you, Governor. On Items 1-S and 2-S, Madam Secretary?

MS. FOSTER: Yes. Item 1-S is a contract for consulting services. We have Robert Cain from the Public Service Commission here.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Great.

MS. FOSTER: And the second one is also with the Public Service Commission. It's a contract to provide technical staff with support in reviewing reports pertaining to improvements.

MR. CAIN: Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. The, as I understand it was had that very terrible storm in June of 2012, the derecho storm. And the first contract would pay an Allentown, Pennsylvania based firm called Silverpoint Consulting \$350,000 over three years for essentially reviewing written reports that were submitted by the utility companies in the aftermath of that big storm in which they outline, the utility companies, their plans to prepare, communicate, dispatch personnel, restore power more effectively the next time something like this comes around.

So my question is it appears that the contractor who is getting the \$350,000 is not responsible for producing the report. They are simply responsible for, and I am quoting straight from the background materials, the review and analysis of the reports in order to provide the commission with comprehensive reports addressing each of the reports

and make recommendations for needed improvements to the restoration services, a cost analysis, etcetera, etcetera.

So my question is this group apparently is going to read the reports and report on the reports.

MR. CAIN: Well actually --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Maybe I'm, help me because I feel like I'm watching Office Space, that old movie.

MR. CAIN: Actually they are going to be doing more than that. They are analyzing, what they are doing they are analyzing and reviewing highly technical reports that the electric companies are providing to the commission in regards to what is needed to strengthen the infrastructure for the electric companies. And they are providing technical advice to the commission on this, which is specialized information which the commission needs in order to prevent electricity outages that occurred with the derecho, as well as with Hurricane Irene, with Snowmageddon, and other natural occurrences that we have had. Without someone being able to review and to analyze these reports the commission is left sort of

without technical expertise to make a determination as to what is needed to make the electric companies improve their electric distribution.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay, I can understand that. But it strikes, I thought that the PSC had core kind of employees who had these kinds of technical abilities. Why do we have to hire someone to, well, I don't know whether you do or don't have the technical expertise in house. But --

MR. CAIN: Well the commission does have technical expertise in the house. However, they are a party to the proceedings in this matter, in the case in regards to the derecho.

As you may know the commission is a judicial, is a quasi-judicial administrative body. And by statute the commission staff is a party to the proceeding. And as a party to the proceeding the commission staff cannot have direct contact with the commission during a proceeding.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay.

MR. CAIN: We have rules regarding ex parte communication, as you would in a judicial proceeding. And that's why the commission --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. That makes a lot of sense. This is outside my subject expertise, so I can see what you are saying. I do think that you might ask, the next time this happens just ask the contractor to go out and produce the report themselves rather than sifting through utility reports. But let me ask about the second contract since you are up there.

This is for \$440,000 over two years for Washington-based firm of Bates White will, according to my background materials, provide the commission's technical staff with reviewing and revising reports that are submitted to the PSC for major outage events. So I guess I'm honestly confused. The first one was for \$350,000 to do that. The second one is for \$440,000. Basically I'm not sure whether they, are they looking at the same things that Silverpoint is? Or --

MR. CAIN: They are not looking at the same thing as Silverpoint is. They are actually looking at providing the commission with advice in regards to passing or implementing regulation. They are looking at it in a different point of view. They are looking

at whether or not the commission should adopt some of the recommendations that were made from the Governor's Resiliency Task Force report. And they are also looking at performance guidelines. And they are looking at recommendations to submit to the commission in regards to passing regulation to make sure that the electric outage that occurred with the derecho, Hurricane Irene, and the other natural occurrences doesn't happen again. And also provides the commission with regulatory authority to hold the electric companies accountable, to make sure that they provide electricity distribution as quickly as possible and that they have the resources that are needed to prevent outages as long as what occurred during Hurricane Irene, the derecho, Snowmageddon, and the other current natural occurrences that we've had previously.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. Well maybe my background material doesn't really communicate that kind of analysis. It certainly looked to me like we're spending almost \$800,000 worth of taxpayer dollars, ratepayer dollars, utility dollars, somebody's dollars, and I'm still pretty confused as

to what exactly, what company is doing what. We have Silverpoint reporting on the reports. We have Bates White analyzing the Silverpoint I guess reporting and the reports from a different perspective. And then we have the PSC, you are anticipating they are going to recommend legislation or --

MR. CAIN: Well --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- regulatory actions based on all of this?

MR. CAIN: Well the commission staff, what they are tasked with doing is, they are tasked with coming up with regulations in order to hold the electricity companies with recovering electricity within a reasonable time. They are also tasked with coming up with regulations to make sure that the utilities are prepared for a natural occurrence such as the derecho, Snowmageddon, and some of the other natural occurrences that we've had. They are looking at it from a different point of view than, than the, than Silverpoint is looking at it. They are actually assisting the commission staff with regulation. The commission staff is, the commission staff is sort of, the commissioner doesn't have, I guess commission

staff doesn't necessarily have the staffing requirement to fulfill this requirement. A lot of our engineers deal with pipeline safety, making sure that, making sure that gas lines don't explode as well as other things. And they are not necessarily as familiar with coming up with regulations like this to combat the natural occurrences that have happened recently. So the commission staff needs a consultant to provide it with advice on which regulations should be passed or implemented, or what needs to occur in order --

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: If I could interject here? All of this is about finding the balance in a time of unprecedented violent weather.

MR. CAIN: Correct, Governor.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: All of this is about finding the proper balance between the degree of resiliency we expect in our grid and compared to the losses we have been experiencing, especially in the Washington area, where people for a time there were throwing out a couple week's of groceries every time a bad storm rolled through. So this is very much a work in progress. It would be good if Public Service

Commission could make a decision quickly on this. I mean, we've been looking at it a while. Pepco has come up with some proposals that were not accepted, BGE has come up with other proposals. There's things that can be done in terms of modernizing the, what is it, the switchers, and undergrounding some of the transmission's infrastructure. And those are the things that we're attempting to, we're trying to find a balance here. And part of it requires a lot of technical questions with regard to the age of the grid, the technology available, the cost effectiveness of that. And the PSC very often does contract for engineering services and others to be able to make the proper evaluation and to make the proper call.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I couldn't agree with you, Governor, more. I'm, go back and look at the movie where they have the efficiency expert show up, and he's talking to one of the senior people and it finally comes down to his question: "Tell me again exactly what do you do here?" And I don't --

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: I have a little --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- quite get the report on reports and the, and the, then the second

contract coming at it I guess from a best practices standpoint. I'm just following my briefing material. I couldn't agree with the Governor more on the need for review.

But let me just finish by asking on the second one, why did you all pick the company that was the, had the fourth lowest bid of \$440,000 and you overlooked bids of \$177,000, \$283,000 and \$331,000? Apparently for technical reasons?

MR. CAIN: Well our technical staff looked at the proposals that all the companies submitted and they felt that Bates White was the best company to perform the job and to work with them in implementing regulations that will help improve the electric distribution systems.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Well when you put something in front of us with the kind of language that I read earlier about the fact that this is going to be a report on reports, I think it's important that you, when you have enormous price gaps like this, \$171,000 to \$440,000, that you have some explanation in there as to why you are paying such a premium price. Because it's not clear to me at all.

MR. CAIN: Okay. We'll do that next time.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Check the movie out.
It's a good one.

MR. CAIN: I will.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: The Comptroller's line of questioning reminds me of a true occasion across the street in the Miller Building when it was AME Day, and I went in to talk to a lot of good people at the AME Church who were there including a lot of young school kids. And a little boy said to me, "What do you actually do?"

(Laughter.)

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: And I looked the little boy in the eye and I said, "Well, I'm the Governor of Maryland and it's my responsibility to work with the people your parents elect in the Legislature to find the proper balance between the taxes that we pay, the services we expect, to make sure that there is proper monitoring, and that the police officers are on the street and that there's good teachers in the classroom so that we can give you more opportunities when you

become an adult." And the little boy said, "Yeah, but like for work, what do you do?"

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: True story. All right. The Comptroller moves approval, seconded by the Treasurer. All in favor signal by saying, "Aye."

THE BOARD: Aye.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: All opposed?

(No response.)

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: The ayes have it. We now move on from the Department of Budget and Management to the University System --

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Oh, I've got a --

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: I'm sorry, we've got one more?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, we had one other issue.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: I'm sorry, we have one other one on Department of Budget and Management.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: 12-S.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Is that Department of Budget and Management?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yes, please.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Okay. We're going to, the Comptroller moves to reconsider the Department of Budget and Management Agenda items.

MS. FOSTER: Okay.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Thank you, Governor.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: And seconded by the Treasurer. All in favor signal by saying, "Aye."

THE BOARD: Aye.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: All opposed?

(No response.)

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: So now we are going back and reconsidering the Department of Budget and Management and with a particular focus on Item 12-S.

MS. FOSTER: Okay --

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Did I do that properly?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, that was good. You worked hard.

MS. FOSTER: Item 12 adds additional funding to hire staff to support the Medicaid expansion population. And Daryl Plevy is here from the Mental Hygiene Administration.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Excellent.

MS. PLEVY: Good morning.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Good morning. So my question is this is a modification of an existing contract?

MS. PLEVY: Yes.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: If you could just explain the basis for it?

MS. PLEVY: Okay. Well with the implementation of the Accountable Care Act we are expecting a significantly larger population, you know, for all parts of the healthcare system. And this is the mental health portion of it. So this provides additional staffing support to do the work of the base contract for additional people. So it would be claims, payment, medical necessity review, etcetera.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. And I recall four years ago we had the original contract for this company, Value Options, up before us and there were a lot of controversial stories about their experiences in other states. How, what has their experience been in the State of Maryland in the last four years, please?

MS. PLEVY: We've been very happy with their performance. They have, and there's been very little controversy as the contract was implemented.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And the dollar amounts are what in this?

MS. PLEVY: I didn't bring my papers with me. I --

MS. FOSTER: The modification adds an additional \$280,000 to the contract.

MS. PLEVY: Thank you.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Okay. Thank you very much.

MS. PLEVY: Thank you.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Comptroller renews his approval motion, seconded by the Treasurer. All in favor signal by saying, "Aye."

THE BOARD: Aye.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: All opposed?

(No response.)

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: And the ayes have it. We now move on to the University System of Maryland.

MR. EVANS: Good morning. Joe Evans representing the University System of Maryland. We

have six items on the Agenda today. We're here to answer any questions.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: They all seem crystal clear to us. The Treasurer moves approval, seconded by the Comptroller. All in favor signal by saying, "Aye."

THE BOARD: Aye.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: All opposed?

(No response.)

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: The ayes have it.

MR. EVANS: Thank you.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: We move on now to the Department of Information Technology, Isabel Fitzgerald. The very first woman ever to be the Secretary of the Department of Information Technology.

MS. FITZGERALD: Good morning, Governor, Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller. Isabel Fitzgerald with the Department of Information Technology. We have five items on the Board before you and we're here to answer any questions that you may have.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: I think we are all pretty good on these. The Comptroller moves approval,

seconded by the Treasurer. All in favor signal by saying, "Aye."

THE BOARD: Aye.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: All opposed?

(No response.)

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: The ayes have it.

MS. FITZGERALD: Thank you.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: We move on now to the Department of Transportation.

MR. SMITH: Good morning, Governor, Mr. Comptroller --

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Good morning, Secretary Smith.

MR. SMITH: -- Madam Treasurer. For the record, Jim Smith, Secretary of MDOT. MDOT is presenting 22 items as Items 17 and 19 have been withdrawn. I would be happy to answer any questions.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Any questions? The Comptroller moves approval, seconded by the Treasurer. All in favor signal by saying, "Aye."

THE BOARD: Aye.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: All opposed?

(No response.)

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: The ayes have it. We move on now to the remaining items on the Department of General Services Agenda items.

MR. COLLINS: Good morning again, Governor, Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller. Al Collins, Secretary of the Department of General Services. We now have 34 items remaining, including one supplemental. And we are withdrawing Item 1-EP. I'd be glad to answer any other questions.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Any questions?
Treasurer?

TREASURER KOPP: I am just looking for one -
-

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: -- one item?

TREASURER KOPP: Where is the Center for Families and Children?

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Center for Families and Children?

TREASURER KOPP: Yes, the national -- I'm sorry.

MR. COLLINS: Which one is that?

TREASURER KOPP: Well one of them here.

Thank you.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Item 31, everyone.

TREASURER KOPP: I was simply going to --
yes, thank you very much. No, I was just going to use
this opportunity to suggest that at some point,
Governor, you and the Comptroller would like to come
and visit this outstanding institution. It's one that
--

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: What is that?

TREASURER KOPP: It's on Greentree Road.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Oh, wow.

TREASURER KOPP: It is really a nationally
recognized center for children and families in need
and just as a few of the folks that we talked to in
previous meetings have been able to bring people
together, take the kids through the high schools, and
help them graduate into good citizens and leading
members of the community. So does this organization.
And it's just an outstanding --

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: There's a lot of good
work going on --

TREASURER KOPP: Yeah.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: -- helping vulnerable families in ways we have never been quite as effective at doing before.

TREASURER KOPP: I would just urge when you are in the area of Rockville to really --

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Rockville.

MR. COLLINS: Madam Treasurer, thank you for pointing this out. In one of my previous lives, I am very familiar with this program. They are outstanding. The State has continually been supportive to this operation.

TREASURER KOPP: Right.

MR. COLLINS: So it is really an outstanding --

TREASURER KOPP: I just want to thank you --

MR. COLLINS: Absolutely.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I agree with the Treasurer. And I know we are all just about to leave. But if you are looking for some good entertainment, I'm not very musical myself, but my favorite singer Amos Lee is visiting Baltimore tonight. He'll be at the Lyric at 8:00. With the exception of obviously

elected officials I think he's the best singer in the country.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Thank you very much.

(Laughter.)

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And if you, I think it's an 8:00 show up at the Lyric, and well worth taking in if you have a little bit of free time. My wife listened to him because I played for her. I said, "This guy is so fabulous." And she said, "My God, he sounds like he's depressed." I said, "No, he's an artist." And that's just the way artists express themselves. So.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: So this is going to be a new one, I think. Comptroller's Pick.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yes.

(Laughter.)

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: Comptroller's Weekend Pick. All right. The Comptroller moves approval of the DGS items, seconded by the Treasurer. All in favor signal by saying, "Aye."

THE BOARD: Aye.

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: All opposed?

(No response.)

GOVERNOR O'MALLEY: The ayes have it. Thank
you all very much.

(Whereupon, at 10:51 a.m., the meeting
was concluded.).