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assistance, and AFSCME agreed to sign on that letter that we did from the National Governors Association with the local governments as well. And I know that unfortunately your union has borne the brunt of many of those 1.6 million people who have been laid off across the country, and we're hoping to avoid that here in Maryland. I just mentioned a moment ago about the potential for 10,250 jobs. Obviously, about 60 percent of those would be AFSCME. And we're hoping that we can reach other negotiations with you as we have with the other unions. So thank you very much. Next, we're going to hear from Bruce Bereano, who is representing both the BWI Firefighters and the Maryland State Park Rangers Association.

MR. BEREANO: Good morning, Governor, and good morning, Madam Treasurer and Mr. Comptroller. Thank you for the opportunity to address you this morning on behalf of the BWI Firefighters and the Maryland State Park Rangers.

Let me please adopt the comments of the previous speakers in the brevity of time. I appreciate the fact that you will be taking more time to look into these matters. It was abruptly brought upon us. We really did not have a good opportunity to negotiate further. We negotiated terms which were adopted by the Legislature, and then initially opposed the reduction.

We fully understand the difficulties. We fully understand things have to be done. We just feel, as has been stated before, that it's early, it's

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premature. You need further information, respectfully, not only in terms of revenue estimates but what will be coming from the federal government, either under the CARES Act or the HEROES Act, and will there be strings attached to it or not, to really have a better understanding.

Both the Firefighters and the Park Rangers will work totally cooperatively with the State. As you know, the State Parks have been inundated with people and have just shown the dramatic blessing we have in the State to have such wonderful Parks and the State workers that do that. And of course, our Firefighters, I know they are very important to you, Governor. You have been wonderful to the Firefighters. We deeply appreciate that. And we're frontline State employees like others. And we just want to be able to cooperate and be heard and have some more say in what ultimately might be the solution.

Thank you very much for your consideration. It is good to see the three of you and I'm glad to be a Marylander. Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much, Bruce. It's good to hear from you.

Lastly, we have Peter Kjome, who is the President and CEO of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra.

MR. KJOME: Good morning, Madam Treasurer and Mr. Comptroller and Governor. Thank you for your leadership and for the opportunity to speak with you today. I'm Peter Kjome, President of the BSO.

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We respectfully ask that you do not approve the proposed elimination of the required appropriation of \$1.6 million to the BSO in the FY '21 budget. In 2019, the General Assembly enacted House Bill 1404, which did three things. First, this appropriated \$1.6 million in FY '20 contingent on funds being released after July 1, 2019. Second, it mandated an appropriation of \$1.6 million for FY '21. And third, this established a work group on the BSO to make recommendations regarding cost containment strategies, audience developing, including diversifying access, and increasing statewide public participation.

The work group on the BSO, led by former State Senator Ed Kasemeyer, developed a comprehensive set of recommendations to put the BSO on sound financial footing over (indiscernible) years. One of the goals of these recommendations is to rely on a declining amount of State financial support. The BSO has been diligently implementing this plan and in turn leveraging private contributions to seed the organizational transformation ahead. The State commitment of funding in FY '21 was integral to that effort and public response, as was a consideration of further bridge funds in FY '22 and beyond.

We understand the significant fiscal challenges the State is facing in navigating this unprecedented crisis, but at the same time we cannot understate the significant fiscal challenges facing the BSO now. As the State's largest arts organization, the planned State funding is critical to advance the major cultural, procedural, and systematic changes outlined in our forward looking plans.

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On behalf of our Board, musicians, and staff, we respectfully request the adherence to what we believe is a reasonable approach to the FY '21 appropriation. Under the leadership of Governor Hogan and the General Assembly, Maryland is nationally recognized for its world class cultural assets and we are deeply grateful for your leadership and support. Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Kjome. Thank you for joining us this morning.

Secretary Gontrum, I guess should we pull out this Item 25 for a separate vote since it affects so many other items on your Agenda?

SECRETARY GONTRUM: Yes, sir, that would be ideal, Governor.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Do we have a motion on Item 25?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I would move, thank you, I would move approval of the amended item.

TREASURER KOPP: Governor, could I speak to it briefly again?

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Sure.

TREASURER KOPP: As you know, I don't think the timing is right. I think this is a great beginning. This meeting, those slides, these presentations, these witnesses, a great beginning for a discussion which will quickly educate not only all our State workers, but the public as well, of the

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dimensions of the problem and of alternatives to only a series of cuts. I would urge that you not do the cut, at least not in its entirety, of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, for instance. The Symphony is important to the culture of the State, to all parts of the State, and the Comptroller knows that Montgomery County built a great symphony hall because we too appreciate not only our National Philharmonic from the Washington area, but the Baltimore Symphony, which plays there during the year. And the Symphony, for instance, that Mr. Kjome didn't mention, is also a very important educational institution, reaching out to students across the State and bringing them into the wonderful world of music. That's an instance of a small cut that I think does significant harm.

Another is the movement that the eradication of the sister state program, the international programs in the Secretary of State's Office. A very small item, but one that has tremendous impact and is not easily understood.

In addition, another larger example, the Cade formula. You have put \$10 million into community colleges this year for job training because we realize how very significant it is. But on the other hand, taken out many more millions in this cut. It seems to me that getting together people can focus on how best to efficiently use the funding that is there, perhaps take some out but not all that amount. So looking at the community college formula would be a very good thing to do over the next month.

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And another example, the Sellinger, I focus as you know on education. The Sellinger Grant to independent colleges, it's a large grant, almost all of which goes to scholarships and aid for Maryland students, 90 percent of it. Those are students who couldn't attend without that aid and we have provided that as a State.

So I would simply urge us once again to wait until the 2020 revenue are in two weeks from now and look at these cuts and at the total picture of the federal money, the reserves, and use the time to education people. I appreciate the fact that the item before us is different than the one we saw on Friday, that this deferral of the employee related cuts gives you and the administration and all of us time to talk to the employees, to understand what the options are, to look even at a progressive furlough instead of some of the other solutions, the sort of furlough where people who are paid more get docked more. These sort of options we simply haven't had time to look at and I think in the interest of bringing everybody together and going together as a State, as we will in the end, I believe, we could use this time very efficiently.

So that is why I will be voting against this motion. There are specific cuts, but more importantly I think we are losing an opportunity to continue further education. People will realize, just as you said, Governor, there are only certain places you can go for the money. You can't spend what you don't have. And we have to go where most of the money is, and everyone is









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GOVERNOR HOGAN: Very well. Thank you very much. I think maybe we'll start off by let's hear from the opposition, from Mr. William Collins, and then we'll move on to the Cape St. Claire Improvement Association.

MR. COLLINS: Yes, good morning to all. I guess the first issue I'd like to bring up is that my involvement with this has been fairly truncated because the notification was not sent out until, to me, until two weeks ago, until Saturday of a week before last. And I've ramped myself up to speed as quickly as possible to be able to address what are my concerns.

As far as support or opposed, I'm not either. I'm certainly not anti-fishing, or anti-beach going, or anti-fun. The movement seems to be to convert or annex a traditional wetlands into a community amenity. The amount of traffic that has been on the property for many, many years is ever increasing. And the, it's my humble opinion, the erosion that exists is mainly caused by or exacerbated by the amount of foot traffic on the dune. And certainly the aerial photographs that were provided for me from the engineers themselves would certainly bear that out.

The proposed structure is, the proposed disturbance area is 1,000 feet long. It is going to place 5,000 square feet of permanent structure on the bottom of the Magothy River and the limited area of disturbance is about the size of an aircraft carrier. The proposed structure is about two and a half car lengths from my beach that I maintain and have maintained for the past 30 years with my

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grasses and we stay off the dune and we maintain the beach itself, the structure being that close in proximity to my beach that has sustained weather conditions. We enjoy, as documented, we enjoy land accretion and have over the past 30 years or so. The opposite side there does not. The proposed structure, again, very large in a very sensitive environmental space is, I've been given a lot of claims from the folks that have done the proposal, but have not been given, I've asked repeatedly for supporting documents and supporting studies from either wildlife or sand shift or proposed certainly wave redirect action, and have not received any.

The two items that, the other item, certainly, the ongoing maintenance of the flows of debris from the Conowingo and from the Susquehanna have always been a big issue for us because we get a lot of that. And obviously, the panel knows that the Annapolis area has had some issues with that just in the past couple of years in a big way. The answer back to that to me was that, from the engineers, is that we're well out of the flow area for that. Well, I've got debris on my beach from as far north as the Sunbury Dam that is labeled that is 100 miles north of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. So the extent of this proposed structure is going to create a great big funnel and pull it into the end of the navigable waterway.

So (indiscernible) to quickly the two issues that Mr. Morgante said that he was not as interested in or outside the scope, I put these in and mentioned

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that they are a little outside the scope, however worth mentioning. The safety of the use of the channel, because there are so many more, over the years, so many more people using the channel as swimming and bathing and sunbathing and certainly boat traffic and kayaking and all of the recreational parts of things. The young people, the little guys, they come out to run out and line up on the end of that bulkhead to climb up onto the piling and jump into the water is increasing, ever increasing. The rip tide that rolls through there, we've certainly had drownings here, even in recent years, and the lack of supervision and the enticement that not only the existing structures and the existing beach create, but also the proposed structure, without addressing that, I think that moving forward without, and again, I'm not for or against, but without addressing that I think that's reckless.

The other part of the proposal for the structure itself, the living shoreline was given a waiver and for reasons that I won't go into. But everybody has their research on that. The proposed structure put as many rocks out there as you want and pay as much money to do that as you want. But if they don't limit and channel the amount of traffic on the dune itself, and like they do in New Jersey and certainly on the Delaware and Maryland Shore, that if that's not done in conjunction with the structure then the erosion problem I don't believe is going to be abated.

Thank you very much.

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GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Collins. And

now we'll hear from Beau Breeden, who is from the Cape St. Claire Improvement Association.

MR. BREEDEN: Thank you, Governor. Thank you for the opportunity to speak today. My name is Beau Breeden. I am the Beaches and Parks Chair for the Cape St. Claire Improvement Association. We are a socioeconomic diverse community of nearly 8,000 residents located on the shores of the Magothy River and Chesapeake Bay. I'm here representing our community to help finalize these permits and move forward with our living shoreline project.

For most of the last decade our community has worked and strived to be better stewards of our environment. We have put forth countless volunteer hours into bettering our community owned properties to improve local ecosystems, water health, and restore more native and resilient shorelines due to a number of challenges. This project before you is one of seven sites we hope to restore in the near future to help accomplish these goals.

In 2016, we hired Biohabitats to assess the community owned properties and potential projects. After listening to community priorities, working with federal, State and county agencies, and hiring two engineering firms, Biohabitats and Sustainable Science, to study and design our projects we have moved forward towards funding these projects.

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Our story in Cape St. Claire is one where we have put forth countless work hours, but also the residents have voted for a special community benefit district budget process to fund and design this project, spending nearly \$200,000 and dedicating up to \$650,000 to help secure additional matching funding. We have created partnerships with the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, been awarded more than \$298,000 from the Chesapeake Bay Trust and Anne Arundel County grants, secured a 2019 bond bill grant, and most recently DNR Capital Waterway Improvement Funding, in working with our elected State delegation of Senator Reilly, and Delegates Bagnall, Saab, and Malone. We have forged partnerships with support from local organizations such as the Little Magothy River Association, Cape Conservation Corps, Goshen Farm Preservation Society, among other committed partnerships with local scouting groups to help planting the new habitat during the course of this project. We as a community are striving to help protect and restore our eroding shorelines through the challenges of the stronger storms, more frequent storms, the impacts of the shipping channel of the Chesapeake Bay, along with other natural challenges.

We have worked diligently through the permit process for the last two years with multiple agencies and look forward to moving our project to construction stage. We believe this community led effort and multi-organization partnership will not only benefit our 8,000 residents of Cape St. Claire, but help improve the Magothy Watershed for generations to come.

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Thank you for your time. I'll be happy to answer any questions.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Breeden. I also understand that we have two project designers on the line, Joe Berg from Biohabitats, Albert McCullough from Sustainable Science. And from MDE we have Assistant Secretary Suzanne Dorsey, Eastern Regional Chief of Tidal Wetlands John Stewart, and Project Reviewer Matt Wallace. I think let's go ahead and hear from Suzanne Dorsey first, and then if she wants to call on any of her colleagues, and then if anybody has any questions of anybody.

DR. DORSEY: Good morning. This is Suzanne Dorsey, Assistant Secretary at MDE. We appreciate the close scrutiny of this project. We have reviewed it and worked with both parties on this issue and find that the revisions that have been put forward by the Community Association address the needs brought up by the property owner. We did, we were able to get him an appropriate time the notification. As he is across the inlet from this property, he is not exactly an adjacent property. But we recognize that he's very close and it's certainly in his community. So we took his concerns very seriously.

I think he raises some really important issues for the community to consider. Certainly, dune protection is a valuable and important opportunity and we encourage him to pursue that with the Community Association through education processes. The partnerships that the community has forged with Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts are an example of how that can be achieved.

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We have reviewed this very carefully in collaboration with Bill Morgante, and we believe that it's an appropriate exercise of the riparian rights of the community and that it will provide benefits from erosion as well as an important use of a tool, the living shoreline, which has co-benefits including carbon sequestration. So we support moving this permit through. I'm happy to answer any questions or allow John Stewart to talk to the specifics of it.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Any questions?

TREASURER KOPP: Yes, Ms. Dorsey, could I just add, do you have any comments on the concern regarding the inadequacy of protection against storm surge?

DR. DORSEY: I don't have any concerns about it. I think that the design is appropriate to the needs of this community. Storm surge can and will be a threat to any coastal community. The design as it's laid out will offer appropriate support for this community. You know, I don't think that we have any significant concerns. That isn't to say, however, that a large storm can't and won't produce damage should that occur.

TREASURER KOPP: Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Any other questions? Okay. Thank you very much. I'd like to call up Items 14 and 15. I understand the Maryland Environmental Service is requesting approval of two architecture and engineering contracts to convert the cogeneration facility at Eastern Correctional Institute

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from burning debarked wood chips and fuel oil to operate on clean natural gas.

This project will provide a cleaner and more reliable source of fuel for the Department of Public Safety and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore. The project will spur regional economic development, creating jobs while bringing lower energy prices to the residents and businesses on the Eastern Shore.

We've been working very diligently to expand their alternative energy options and there is immense support for this project. We've heard from everyone, from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore President Heidi Anderson, to the President of the Somerset County Commissioners Craig Mathies, to Delegate Sheree Sample-Hughes. We have with us the new Director of the Maryland Environmental Service on the line. I want to say to Charles Glass, welcome to your first Board of Public Works meeting in your new capacity. I have here with me your predecessor Roy McGrath, who has left you big shoes to fill. He's now my Chief of Staff. He did a great job there at MES and Charles, we're very happy to have you with us. We also have some speakers signed up to speak on this first. We're going to hear from Anthony Field for the Chesapeake Climate Action Network.

MR. FIELD: Hello, and thank you. Good morning. My name is Anthony Field and I'm a Coordinator with the Chesapeake Climate Action Network. Thank you for this opportunity to address the Board. I know you all have a very busy day ahead of you.

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Later on today, you will be asked to make deep and painful budget cuts to critical services such as public education, childcare, and healthcare. At the same time, the Board is being asked to vote on a proposal to invest half a million dollars to retrofits at the Eastern Correctional Institution. These investments would allow the State facility to begin to convert its heating operations to burning fracked gas. The Eastern Correctional Institution will be an end user of two pipelines that have not yet been fully permitted. We understand that this is the first step in a multistep process of converting the facilities to gas. Regardless, we still believe the investments you are being asked to make today are premature at best.

Given the State's commitment to clean energy and greenhouse gas reductions, CCAN is further concerned that investments in gas are harmful to the climate and an unwise investment overall. Even if the steps are preliminary, additional investments in gas get us closer to being locked in a reliance on this harmful fossil fuel. Specifically, we are requesting that you vote no on Agenda Items 14 and 15, or at a minimum that you defer these investments to a more appropriate future meeting. Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much. Next up is Somerset County Committee Randy Laird.

MR. LAIRD: Governor Hogan, Comptroller Franchot, and Treasurer Kopp, on behalf of the Board of Somerset County Commissioners, we

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strongly support this project to extend natural gas, to help extend natural gas to our county. This project in my opinion will help the carbon footprint by eliminating dirty fuels, like wood chips and other petroleum products. We're not alone in this. We have overwhelming support from other local stakeholders, including the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Somerset County Public Schools, Somerset County Economic Development Commission, the Town of Princess Anne, Pocomoke City, Worcester County Commissioners, Wicomico County Council President Larry Dodd, and the Tri-County Council of the Lower Eastern Shore. We'd also like to express our thanks to Senator Mary Beth Carozza and Delegate Charles Otto for their support on this project.

This expansion will bring natural gas to our county for the first time. In order to compete with other counties and jurisdictions, we need this for economic growth. It's hard to compete with counties that have natural gas because they can offer these companies a lot cheaper product to run their business. Therefore, I respectfully ask that you approve the two contracts and continue to support the success of Somerset County. Thank you very much.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much, Commissioner. I appreciate you being with us. Now we have a private citizen, Andrew Hinz.

MR. HINZ: Good morning, everyone. Thank you -- can you hear me now?

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yes.

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MR. HINZ: Good morning, everyone. Thank you very much for this opportunity to participate. I am a lifelong resident, taxpayer, and utility ratepayer in the State of Maryland. I'm 60 years old now almost. I am requesting that you either reject this half a million dollar expenditure or put it off to a later date, and for three reasons. I'll try to be brief.

The first reason is because of the current COVID pandemic and the current economic crisis, I believe we have many, many more pressing priorities for a half a million dollars investment of this kind.

Second, we are in a climate crisis. It's not impending, it is here. We are living it right now. Every pound of methane and CO2 that we put into the atmosphere will result in a life lost somewhere in the planet. That is a fact. We have exceeded our limit for these kinds of gases in the atmosphere. So we are doing more harm with this. So Maryland is particularly vulnerable to the effects of the climate crisis and for that reason it is also bad.

Finally, my third reason that I would like you to not approve this for, especially to delay it, is that the timing of this, two days before the Fourth of July holiday, when it is setting in motion a chain of events that will put enormous pressure on the Public Service Commission to approve these two fracked gas pipelines is irresponsible. We all know the overwhelming support from the citizens of Maryland for climate change action now, not later. This is now. This is the time to take the action, right now. So I think the timing of this and setting

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these things in motion right now has the appearance, has the appearance of an ethics compromise in my mind. I'm not saying it is, but it has the appearance. And for that reason also, it should be at least delayed.

So thank you very much for listening to me and I appreciate the time. Thank you.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you. Next up is Michael Folkoff from Wicomico Environmental Trust.

DR. FOLKOFF: Good morning, Board. I'm Mike Folkoff. I represent the Wicomico Environmental Trust, as well as the county in which the pipelines are going to pass through. But the question at the moment is to the logic of approving this expenditure when the pipelines have not yet been fully permitted. We stand some chance as the future holds of not only not having the pipelines, but also we see, although it's controversial at the moment and there is some people who don't think so, that the future is not in natural gas, it's not in fossil fuel, it's in alternate energy sources. And those alternate energy sources are not far away. They are around the corner. And many people are thinking they will be here even sooner than we might think, given the current technological advances.

In this time of COVID when money is so precious and the budgets are so tight, to approve this under those circumstances and leave behind stranded assets, as well as other problems, it doesn't seem logical to at least postpone this

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decision until these pipelines are fully permitted and the process has a chance to proceed to the end.

Thank you very much for hearing me. I appreciate your consideration.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yes, thank you very much. Next we're going to hear from former Senator Jim Mathias, who is the Director of Government Relations for the University of Maryland Eastern Shore.

MR. MATHIAS: Good morning, Governor, and good morning, Madam Treasurer and Mr. Comptroller, and I just want to say how humbled and honored I am to be here this morning representing, to be with you, but also representing more importantly President Dr. Heidi Anderson, the President of the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, an HBCU. And we thank you so much for the good work that you do.

Although you, you know, we're here from UMES, and you hear that the Items are 14 and 15, we ask for your favorable support because we're kind of partners. In the pro forma, it was our diligence that really enabled Chesapeake to bring this project in. As end users, UMES and ECI will make certainly a much more affordable and a cleaner fuel, a cleaner fuel with less emissions. We will take diesel trucks off the road that deliver our product now. And this is a good pragmatic choice that we ask you to make. You know, please, respectfully (indiscernible). You know, UMES has been recognized as an

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environmental leader by a magazine, *University Magazine*. You may remember we were, when modestly I was in Community Jurisdiction in the Senate Finance Committee, we were leaders working to make land based wind turbines happen in Somerset County, Pioneer Green. And we were right on the cusp of that happening when Patuxent River, when our defense contractor stepped up and said that that would be awkward. We have a solar array there. Not awkward, it would really be harmful to their business model there down at Patuxent River. And that project was sadly defeated at that time.

What I'm trying to say to you is, with our solar array, certainly we generate about a 2.2 megawatt energy for our consumption there. We do other things. And this clearly will allow us to be a clean end user and a best corporate citizen and a university citizen for our environment.

Respectfully, I ask for your favorable report. And as the summer goes forward, Governor and Madam Treasurer and Comptroller, on behalf of President Anderson, I invite you to the campus. Please come down. You know, we're LEED certified. Our aviation engineering building is LEED certified. We have geothermal. And I look forward to seeing you on campus and respectfully, I have to say this, I look forward to seeing you on the Shore in my hometown, Ocean City, Maryland. Thank you so much and have a wonderful Fourth of July.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you --

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TREASURER KOPP: Governor, could I ask the Senator a question?

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Sure.

TREASURER KOPP: Or maybe you, I don't know. Has anyone gone back, did anyone go back to the Navy after they nixed the plans for the wind turbines?

MR. MATHIAS: If I could, I have to tell you that it was the first time and the only time that our dear friend the Majority Leader Steny Hoyer --

TREASURER KOPP: -- I remember it well --

MR. MATHIAS: I remember it well. I was the last standing Democrat, Madam Treasurer. Everybody kind of left me in the lurch there. But he promised me that we would be able to work this out. To date, we have broached that a few times. That has not been able to happen, I'll be very honest with you. But I have his good pledge to go forward. But this is important --

TREASURER KOPP: -- pursued alternative renewables --

MR. MATHIAS: -- well, we have as I have illustrated --

TREASURER KOPP: -- what you have.

MR. MATHIAS: Yes. And again, I like to say practical and pragmatic. This is a practical and pragmatic decision to move forward. And you know, the one thing that we're struggling with today are these budget cuts. The savings, the savings that this will allow. And as an HBCU, every dollar is

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critically important. It will go to the bottom line, our first generation students.

It's really critically important. As we are recovering from COVID, we don't know the depths of it. But I want you to know this, on behalf of President Heidi Anderson, we are a solid partner and we appreciate the work that you do.

And I just have to say this as a person that has been, that I too, Governor, share Treasurer Kopp's glee in your good health report. And you understand where I'm coming from, I won't belabor it. But God bless you and all.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well, thank you very much, Senator. And

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COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Governor, can I --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- last but not least, we're going to hear from Charles Glass, who it may be his first Board of Public Works meeting but we're going to have him be the last speaker. Oh I'm sorry, was there a question?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: No, I just wanted to thank Senator Mathias for his long career in public service and say, personally, I happen to think as much as I love UMES, they are lucky to have you, Senator. And just keep being a champion for the Eastern Shore.

MR. MATHIAS: Thank you, and I'm grateful for our relationship.  
Thank you so much.

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GOVERNOR HOGAN: I'll second that, too, Mr. Comptroller.

Mr. Glass?

DR. GLASS: Good morning, Governor Hogan, Madam Treasurer, and Mr. Comptroller. For the record, my name is Charles Glass, and I am the new Director of the Maryland Environmental Service. I am humbled and honored by the appointment of the Governor to this position, and I look forward as an environmental engineer and as engaged in Maryland to continue to move forward the administration's goals and the goals of the Climate Change Commission, for which I have been a part of the Adaptation Response Working Group and the Scientific Technical Working Group for the last few years, and both positions as Assistant Secretary at the Maryland Department of Transportation and as Deputy Secretary at the Department of Natural Resources.

These two contracts are critical to advancing improvement of the boilers at the Eastern Correctional Institution. The system is already 30 years old and has reached its useful life. The current debarking and wood chipping uses a lot of diesel fuel for the production of the wood chips and for the delivery to the site. In addition, this is a 365/24/7 operation and the residents of the ECI really rely on that heating that comes from this boiler. Technology has moved a long way in the last 20 years, 30 years, and there are a lot more advances on the way.

I'm not here to really discuss the pipeline in particular, but I would like to acknowledge the fact that Chesapeake Utilities has entered a partnership

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with Bioenergy Development Corporation to bring renewable natural gas to customers on the Delmarva Peninsula. This was announced about a month ago. It's been done in partnership with MES with my predecessor, developing this opportunity. The company is based in Howard County. And this is really a new way of especially, Madam Treasurer, for the anaerobic digestion of all the food waste that's produced down on the Lower Eastern Shore. It actually is a carbon negative technology, where if you are familiar with anaerobic digestion, there will be a solid inert component of carbon that's the result of anaerobic digestion as well as the production of biogas. And that material can be placed in the soil, nutrient rich and carbon, as I say, carbon negative in storage.

So with that, I'll answer any questions. I do have my Managing Director for Environmental Operations Steven Tomczewski and Chief Engineer of Water/Wastewater Ellen Frketic to assist me with any answers that, given my recent appointment, that I am unable to answer. But thank you very much for your time. I'm here to answer any questions.

TREASURER KOPP: I do, Governor --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: It sounds like you are up to speed already. You know, you didn't waste any time, you know, taking over from that guy, McGrath.

TREASURER KOPP: Can I ask Dr. Glass a couple of questions?  
It's good to see you there. And I know that you have been an active leader on the

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Climate Change Commission and its work groups. So I'm asking you that, in the context of the concerns that we have heard about the increasing use of fracked gas in your area and the question of methane leakage because of new pipelines, etcetera. Could you or some of your people address that? Because we know the situation isn't good now. We know something has to be done. The question is whether this is the least harmful and the critics say that it's encouraging fracked gas. You talk about renewable natural gas. Which is it?

DR. GLASS: So, you know, the critical issue is having the infrastructure to move forward into the next phase on all of these projects. You know, anaerobic digestion and production of biogas as a renewable natural gas is not new in wastewater treatment. And this, the company, Bioenergy Development Corporation, has over 200 facilities around the world and is just launching operations in Maryland. With the pipeline in place as a distribution network, it will be able to accept this renewable natural gas. And just like your electricity at home, the customers, MES is just the engineers of record on this project.

TREASURER KOPP: Right.

DR. GLASS: The customer is the Eastern Correctional Institution and the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, will have the choice to select their natural gas purchase. So even though the entire system will have this natural gas in place, customers will be able to choose their natural gas source, at least the

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money that goes to further invest in the projects. Just as you can choose on your Pepco bill, I'm assuming, you can choose wind or solar or renewables. And if there is a differential in cost, you choose to pay that difference. But the customers will be able to make that choice with the natural gas and the natural gas sourcing. So this is a shift in the natural gas industry. I am not an engineer, energy engineer. However, I have read recently documents, including from the United Nations, that suggest that this is a path forward.

In addition, for this infrastructure to be in place, if hydrogen fuel cell technology advances and becomes the final energy for distribution, then this pipeline would allow Somerset County to participate in that. And without it, they would be having trucked (indiscernible). I know that there is a busy Agenda and I just want to be brief in my responses.

TREASURER KOPP: I'm not quite sure I understand the response. But Governor, you are on record, as the State is, not wanting fracking here and not wanting to be dependent on fracked gas. Is there a way that we can see that at least the State institutions don't go in the wrong direction? I guess we're opening it up for the entire Somerset County area. I'm a bit concerned.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I understand your concern. But I mean, this has been, this has been in the works for I think five years. This has, I think this clean natural gas is much better than burning crude oil and burning trees --

TREASURER KOPP: Yes, I --

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GOVERNOR HOGAN: -- step in the right direction and all the things that Administrator Glass just talked about is I think doing a lot to improve the environment. And I think we're already obligated to Chesapeake Utilities with a \$1 million a year commitment from the State for not closing. So there's no budgetary concerns. And I think they have addressed all the environmental concerns. I think it's much, much better for the environment and I think we ought to move forward. But I understand if there are concerns we ought to talk about them.

TREASURER KOPP: Well, I understand. It is an improvement and I agree with Senator Mathias, you can't let the perfect be the enemy of the good and we have to do something. But I'm not quite sure I understand how we can do this and still have some control over the type, the origin of the gas that we are using and meet the mandated greenhouse gas goals that you and the Legislature and everyone have subscribed to and enacted into law, where this fits in.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I'm not sure we're going to be able to resolve all of that today at this meeting. But it's a great discussion to have.

TREASURER KOPP: Has the Department of the Environment, the Head of the Climate Change Commission, taken a stand on this?

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GOVERNOR HOGAN: I mean, they have been talking about this project since 2015. I'm not sure now is the time to bring up these issues. But I don't have any of those folks here to talk to you about it.

TREASURER KOPP: Well, this is the only time I've been voting on it.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Could I just comment, Governor, Madam Treasurer? You probably have forgotten. But I was the Subcommittee Chairman in Appropriations many years ago --

TREASURER KOPP: Right.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- that approved the wood chip thing.

TREASURER KOPP: I know.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: We thought it was --

TREASURER KOPP: -- it was a great --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: So it's your fault.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- you know, a great idea. It turned out to be not so great, I guess. But I think, I thought I saw just recently that the largest gas fracking company in the world are filing for bankruptcy. They are ironically named Chesapeake Energy and they are based out in Oklahoma. But the whole fracking industry right now is going through a significant

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shrinking. But obviously, the Treasurer always is correct in saying we want to pay attention to the future. I don't really think this is the do we support fracking or not type of issue that we need to resolve right now. And I know --

TREASURER KOPP: I guess that's really my question. Can we go forward with a design of the pipeline, etcetera, and not be committed to continue to discuss the question of the origin, the nature of the gas? It has to go to the PSC anyhow. We don't know. No one knows. No one can answer.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- with this with the Treasurer's caveats, and I think there's a good one, that you need to keep us in the loop as far as is this renewable or is this just, you know --

TREASURER KOPP: Yeah.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: -- it was attached to this thing. I would be interested in that. But I do think the fracking industry as a whole is, you know, on a, you know, it's not hanging by a thread but it's in a very fragile economic situation.

TREASURER KOPP: Well, that would be good.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Any other questions on this item? Any other questions on the remainder of the Secretary's Agenda?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Move approval.

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GOVERNOR HOGAN: Is there a second? I'll second. This is, I think we took the budget items off. So this is the remainder of the Secretary's Agenda. It's been moved and seconded. All those in favor?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Aye.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Aye.

TREASURER KOPP: Aye, with the understanding we'll continue to pursue this question of not using fracked gas.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Sure. I'm sure the PSC will take a look at those concerns. Now we're going to move on to the DNR Real Property Agenda.

MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: Hi, good morning, Governor and Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller. For the record, I'm Jeannie Haddaway-Riccio, the Secretary of the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. And we have six items on our Real Property Agenda today for which we are seeking approval. And we're happy to answer any questions you may have.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Well, good morning, Madam Secretary. Are there any questions on the DNR Agenda?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: If there aren't, I'd move approval. But it's always good to have the Secretary with us. And thank you for doing a great job. Because I know people are flooding the parks right now.

MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: Yes --

GOVERNOR HOGAN: This weekend will be busy.

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MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: Yes, for sure.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Is there a second on the DNR Agenda motion, Madam Treasurer?

TREASURER KOPP: I would second that. I'm sorry, Madam Secretary, we never seem to have anything to pick at you on. But thank you.

MS. HADDAWAY-RICCIO: I'm okay with that.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: I'm sure we'll find something, though. We'll work hard. So it's been moved and seconded. The vote is three-nothing. We'll move up next to the University System Agenda. And I want to welcome Tom Hickey, who is presenting the University Agenda for the first time, I think. He has taken over for Joe Evans, who retired last month. So we're sorry to see Joe go after so long, but we're very happy to welcome you, Mr. Hickey. And thank you for joining us.

MR. HICKEY: Thank you, Governor, good morning to you, to the Treasurer, Comptroller Franchot. I'm representing the University System of Maryland. We are presenting seven items for your consideration. We are withdrawing Item 7. And I have a team of people backing me up to answer any questions you may have.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Are there any questions on the University System Agenda? Is there a motion?

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TREASURER KOPP: Could I just ask one brief question? The School of Public Policy, you are still going forward with working on the School of Public Policy, right?

MR. HICKEY: That is correct. Madam Treasurer, we should be bringing that item back at the first meeting in August.

TREASURER KOPP: Thank you. Thank you, Governor.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I would move approval unless there are other questions. And I was glad you asked that one, Madam Treasurer.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Is there a second?

TREASURER KOPP: Second.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Great. The motion carries three to nothing. We'll move on to the Department of Transportation Agenda.

MR. SLATER: Good morning, or I'm sorry, good afternoon, Madam Treasurer, Mr. Governor, Mr. Comptroller. For the record, my name is Greg Slater, Secretary of the Maryland Department of Transportation. And the Maryland Department of Transportation is presenting 12 items today for your consideration. I am here as well as representatives to answer any questions you may have.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: My question is, what is the traffic going to be like on the Bay Bridge this weekend for the Fourth of July?

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MR. SLATER: You know, we're planning to space it out a little bit. But we expect some increased traffic. But of course, this year's holiday comes with a different kind of safety challenge and health threat. So you're going to see some of that messaging in what we do as well.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah. Thank you very much. Any questions on the Transportation Agenda?

TREASURER KOPP: Governor, I just want to thank the Secretary. Your CFO Jaelyn Hartman joined us yesterday, the Secretary and the Comptroller and DLS and I, in talking to the rating agencies and bringing them up to date with what's happening with the finances, the P3, and the Purple Line. I appreciate that very much. It's a difficult issue and we're not going to go into it right here, but I just want to thank you for having her there.

MR. SLATER: Thank you so much, Madam Treasurer. She does a wonderful job for us.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Yeah, let me just second the Treasurer. Because that was a potential thorn in the side of our application.

TREASURER KOPP: Right.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: And she handled it very expertly. Obviously, there are still some big uncertainties out there but you know, she indicated that you guys were going to be down in revenues like I think \$500 million last year, \$500 million again this year that we've just entered. So she

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really kind of set the groundwork and calmed down everybody's questions. And so thank you. I agree with the Treasurer.

MR. SLATER: Excellent.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much. Thanks for both, thanks to both of you for giving the compliment to his department. Any other questions on the Secretary's Agenda or is there a motion?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Move approval.

TREASURER KOPP: Second.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Yeah, three-nothing on Transportation. We're going to move to Department of General Services.

MR. CHURCHILL: Good afternoon, Governor, Madam Treasurer, Mr. Comptroller. For the record, I'm Ellington Churchill, Secretary for the Maryland Department of General Services. Today we have 33 items on our Agenda for your consideration, including one supplemental. And we are withdrawing Item 18. And we are available to answer any questions you may have at this time.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Anybody have questions on the DGS Agenda?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: I have a lot of confidence in the Secretary. I just want to make sure your staff continues to work with my staff on this emergency procurement, you know, oversight, I guess. And thank you for

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what's going on. And I just want to make sure that at the next meeting we have some kind of presentation.

MR. CHURCHILL: Yes. We are continuing to update the Board staff. I do want to thank the Comptroller's Office and the Treasurer's Office for the assistance. And we're going to get all the information that is required so that this can be reviewed by the Board. So thank you for your cooperation and patience.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Thank you very much, Mr. Secretary. Is there a motion on DGS?

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Move approval.

TREASURER KOPP: Second.

GOVERNOR HOGAN: Three-nothing. Thank you very much. That concludes today's Board meeting. I want to thank my colleagues and I thank everybody for joining us, and we'll look forward to seeing you in a couple of weeks. Thank you.

COMPTROLLER FRANCHOT: Thank you, Governor.

(Whereupon, at 12:07 p.m., the meeting was concluded.)