



MINUTES
WORKSESSION
MARCH 16, 2009

Present: R. David Brown, Mikel R. Trapp, David L. Ferguson, Mary Lynn Kinley, Kamau Marcharia, Dwayne Perry, Carolyn B. Robinson, Council Members; Philip L. Hinely, County Administrator; Shryll M. Brown, Clerk to Council.

In accordance with the South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, Section 30-4-80 (e), as amended, the following persons and/or organizations have been notified of the time, date, and location of this meeting: The Herald-Independent, The State, and Winnsboro Cablevision, and forty-three other individuals.

{The Clerk was asked to leave the Chambers at the beginning of the meeting to make copies of the AARA document and the tape recorder was inadvertently not turned on as requested. Therefore, there was no recording of the first thirty minutes of the meeting}.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:

A. Report From Fairfield County Grants coordinator

1. Weatherization Funding And Emergency Efficiency Grants

MR. MARCHARIA: Is that bidded out or is it contracts? Do we hire local people because we do a lot of things that we reach halfway around the world to bring people here to work and we have local talent and skills here, so I'm wondering weatherization, is that a contract or a bidding process?

MR. MCGRAW: It's a contract and in this case right here, we just hired a director to be over the weatherization just two years ago and his job is to make sure he finds qualified contractors. But now with all the money that's coming in, there's not enough contractors. That's what I'm saying. It's not like a general contractor kind of a deal. I think it's just a simple contractor. You don't have to get into GC and all that kind of stuff, but I think from what I understand from the last meeting, they are training those folks that have any kind of skills that they want to do this stuff at York Tech right now.

MS. MICKENS: How can we find out? Do they advertise in the paper for people that want to go through the training?

MR. MCGRAW: I'm not absolutely certain. Mr. Calloway just had come back from Washington at the last meeting and the money is still held up right at the moment because some act, "Davis something", law being held up. But as soon as that is released, we almost got to re-write the books in order to find out who's going to qualify and how we're going to go about selecting. Matter of fact, we're going to have to put other people on staff just to handle this funding. So that was a real, real big issue

1 up there the other night about this, so we really don't have all
2 the answers yet. It's being held up because one of the questions
3 I asked about that that Davis (inaudible) Act was that when this
money start flowing, was there going to be any illegal immigrants
going to be able to come in and take the jobs and that's one of
the concerns that I had that I voiced up there, but they don't
know what the criteria's going to be until this bill is released.

MS. MICKENS: (inaudible) application for the monies to come down?

MR. MCGRAW: I think it's only nine agencies in the State and CCR
of Rock Hill is the largest one and we'll get the bulk of the
money that's coming in. I've always felt useless up there because
nobody was giving me any promise.

MS. KINLEY: We didn't know you were there or we would have been
talking to you.

MR. PERRY: Mr. McGraw, you're talking about the amount of money
that will be coming through and according to the Recovery and
Reinvestment Act, it's going to be increased from \$2,500 per
household up to \$5,000 per household under this new weatherization
stimulus plan.

MR. MCGRAW: That is what I'm hearing. We have not gotten the
actual numbers it's still going to be a lot of houses that going
to fit the amount.

MR. PERRY: I'm looking at it right here. We've got the stimulus
plan right here, so that's good news.

MR. FERGUSON: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Mr. McGraw, I'm like Ms.
Kinley, I'm certainly elated to know that you're on that board
because I would have called you had I known that. But I have one
problem with the structure. Ms. Kinley has called Rock Hill; I
have called Rock Hill and if you're on that board, nobody has made
you all aware that there have been complaints called in.

MR. MCGRAW: Not at all.

MR. FERGUSON: I have a problem with that because you are the
folks that need to be handling those problems and evidently the
buck's stopping somewhere up the hill and it's not rolling down to
the board and you should know that there's some problems in
Fairfield County because there have been some problems in
Fairfield County and you, above anybody, should know that because
you're the only lone representative for Fairfield County, so I
wish you would just voice your opinion next time and let them know
when they got problems from Fairfield County and Rock Hill.

MR. MCGRAW: We thought we were squeaky clean. Nobody told me
anything, so now I know.

MR. TRAPP: Mr. McGraw, do You all have any kind of time frame when
you all have the qualifications ready?

MR. MCGRAW: The other night, Mr. Trapp, was just an introduction.
I think we're going to start having some meetings in between the
meetings, as I understand it, from the weatherization committee,
particularly so that we can actually start getting ready to staff
and ramp up for this. So I don't have a whole lot of answers on
it yet because it was just introduced the other night and this

1 kind of like hit us broadside and we did not know all this money
was coming and so now we're in the early stages of it, so I can't
2 answer all your questions. I'm sorry.

MR. TRAPP: All right. Any further questions for Mr. McGraw?

3 MR. MARCHARIA: One other question. I don't know that you would
know this, or Ms. Mickens. Just heard her name, the lady that's
over it, you just mentioned her name, Ms. ...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. McGraw. We appreciate you
volunteering there.

MS. MICKENS: So I hope that helped you out.

MR. FERGUSON: It did. It certainly did. Appreciate that.

MS. MICKENS: (inaudible) Johnson, and Governor's Office and maybe
we can get our heads together and try to get the help.

Now, we're going to have Chief Lewis from the Sheriff's Department
talk to you about the COPS grant and I passed out some literature
that he'll be going down the line on. And hopefully we're going to
get a lot of this money from the Energy Program.

2. Overview Of The COPS Program

CHIEF LEWIS: Good evening. A couple months ago I think I was here
and kind of let the Council know that we might need some
additional men with the new nuclear plants and the new reactors.
I know that's off and on down the road a little bit, but I kind of
brought it to your attention a little early so that we could kind
of get prepared for it. But we did find a COPS grant that will
fund law enforcement officers. It's 100 percent; it's no match
from the county. Of course, it's only good for three years. It
doesn't buy any equipment, no uniforms, no vehicles. It's just
for personnel. We're not limited to any amount that we can ask
for as long as the funds are there to fund them. And it's just
something that we found and it's a grant and we just wanted to
bring it to you all for you all's consideration to see if this
might be something that we'd want to look into. Of course, under
the new COPS grant and under the stimulus package, we've got to
pick those employees up after three years, and that's something we
need to think about and consider. But we've been meeting with the
NRC a couple times last week. They have to meet with law
enforcement and they've assured us that approximately 3,500
workers will be brought into our county and wanting to know if
we're going to be able to handle it. I think we will, but I think
some extra men would be nice. And, you know, it's something we're
going to need. We're going to need a few. I don't think we're
going to need an abundance of people, but four or five officers
would be a great help to us. That might be too many, but, you
know, we don't know what it's going to bring. It will be a big
influence on the western side of the county. Traffic will be a
major issue over there and, of course, as we talked before, you
know, the economy's bad, crime's going to pick up from the
economy. We're already seeing not a rash of break-ins, but some
break-ins. Last week we had two attempted suicides in the county.
I'm not sure the relationship of it. I don't know if it was
financial problems or mental health, but that's more than we

1 normally see in a week in this county. But I'll be glad to answer
2 any questions. That's pretty much basically what I know about it.
3 There's 100 percent for three years. But it only pays for the
salary and fringe benefits. It's no equivalent.

MR. FERGUSON: What is your normal size of a shift? Is it four
people? Five people? Your road people I'm talking about.

CHIEF LEWIS: We actually have five officers on a shift and
that's a lieutenant, a sergeant, and three deputies, and there's
four shifts. We work twelve hour shifts from 6:00 in the morning
to 6:00 in the evening. But, of course, everybody knows that
somebody's out sick or you got vacation time and stuff, but we
average four deputies a shift. And, of course, during daylight
hours, usually we have investigators out and narcotic agents and
they answer calls too, but there are times when we only have four
out.

MR. FERGUSON: Well, one more comment that I'd like to make is one
of the programs that I sat in on in Washington, with one of the
stimulus packages it was not limited to personnel only. And
that's why I'm getting a little bit confused about that because I
sat in on one and they called it a boundary grant, but what it was
basically for was folks like us who have energy plants in the
county. The pot of money's is actually from Homeland Security, am
I not right, Michael? And that was totally inclusive. It was
equipment, cars, salary--the whole nine yard package. And I sat
in on that meeting for that and fire equipment, they do total
package fire equipment also. And I was talking to Mr. Brown one
night when we came back from the meetings, but that was two of the
things that were real imperative to me that they had, you know, a
grant out there that was totally inclusive, fire department and
police department.

CHIEF LEWIS: I've heard of that. I just have not received that.
What I'm giving you all now is a COP grant which is comes out of
the community policing recovery program and I'm hoping there's
other ones out there. I just brought this to Mr. Hinely and
Barbara brought it to my attention. It's just something there
that I wanted to let you all be aware of. This might be something
that we want to wait and see if there's something better we can
get because when you put a deputy out on the road, there is a lot
more expense than just paying his salary. You know, we're talking
about uniforms and equipment, bullet-proof vests, and in-car
cameras, and vehicles. I know it's expensive.

MR. FERGUSON: Well, one thing that would seem probably if we
went after all of them and if you get what grants you get, you the
one to decide if you want to take it or not down at the end, but I
wouldn't want us not to apply for one. Barbara, does that make
sense?

MS. MICKENS: (Inaudible). I can get with them tomorrow...

CHIEF LEWIS: And I think the deadline on this one is like April
14th.

MR. FERGUSON: So it just seems like if we apply for as many as we
can and then down at the end, if we get the one that pays for

1 everything, we'll tell these no thank you, but if we can't get
2 that one, you know, we could at least maybe pick up some of the
3 officers. I mean, seems like that's the way we should head off
in.

MS. MICKENS: And I think there's some specific guidelines that you have to go by so it would may be that you are not qualified to get that money (inaudible) able to apply for the (inaudible) and the (inaudible) so we may not (inaudible) grant (inaudible) we may not be able to apply for the grant that pays for everything (inaudible) grant (inaudible) pick up stuff in the everything grant. We'll just have to see.

MR. FERGUSON: I talked to the guy that's over FEMA that actually did the program up there and the COPS grant that they're dealing with is almost written for what Fairfield County is. It's for counties who have plants and also airports and from what he was saying, our profile fits what he was saying was the reason for the writing of the grant and the way it was written, so I think we would stand a real good chance. That's the reason I stayed around after the conference and talked with him one on one to try to feel him out on where we were and he seemed to think that we probably would fit into that. Especially we got one and they're applying for two more, so with three sitting out there in western Fairfield, if anybody should be qualified for it, we certainly should be. I'm through, Mr. Brown.

MR. PERRY: We talked about a year ago, I think Attorney General McMaster was talking about internet crimes against children and I kind of mentioned did we have anything monitoring that. I did want to make you aware that in this new stimulus package, there's \$50 million set aside for counties or local municipalities that want to pursue internet crimes against children initiatives. There's a grant out there for that, as well. So, just to make you all aware, if you are looking at doing something like that, there's \$50 million set aside for that, as well.

CHIEF LEWIS: We don't have that now. We do have investigators who, when they get tips that something's going on, of course we try to get with SLED because they have a wonderful computer crime system now. A lot of agencies do have people who that's pretty much a full time job monitoring that computer to see if there's any predators out there. And we have had a couple from our county who have been doing that, but they was going to other counties thinking they was meeting a 15 year-old when they was actually meeting Richland County or some other agency.

MR. PERRY: Okay. Well, if you decide to pursue that, whether it's on a part-time basis or whatever, there is money that's set-aside in here for that, so just want to make you aware.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Hinely?

MR. HINELY: One thing I'm hoping we can come away with tonight is kind of some direction from Council because I think as you notice on all these handouts, particularly as it relates to the COPS, the deadline is kind of like today and about 30 days from now, about

1 28 days from now. So what I'd like to do so that we can kind of
2 get moving on this thing and so without us making a lot of
3 assumptions is we ought to kind of generally say we want one
additional policeman, we want two, we want three, we want four,
with the understanding that at worst it's paid for three years
with no equipment, and at best, it's paid for three years with 100
percent equipment, but year number four, it shows up here and I'm
not talking against it, I'm like Chief Lewis, my job is to tell
you the upside and the downside, and to say, okay, our share on
that well, it's four years from now, yeah, it's going to be a long
time, but, we also have this thing called a millage cap and so the
reason I'm telling you all that is whatever you all say you all
are going to do, let's say you say four for the sake of argument,
I'm going to start setting aside some money now for that fourth
year when they come on line, because if we get hit with that all
of a sudden, we're going to be in a little sticker shock and so I
think we can let Ms. Mickens and maybe Mr. Michel or whomever,
along with the Chief, start looking at all these avenues. I would
like you all to tell me tonight. We know three, raise that hand;
we know four; we don't want any. You know, it's nice, but we just
can't afford it. You tell me and then we'll get the best deal we
can for the County. Understanding that five or twenty-five, at
some point that chicken comes home to roost. That chicken comes
home to roost. I'm like the chief, I'm not talking against it, I
want you to do it, but at the same time I want everybody to know
it up-front and say look here, Hinely, you didn't tell us that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I think there was some conversation about this up
in Washington kind sporadically, and we were talking about four,
so you would have a shift, pretty much a shift. We all thought
four was a shift, Mr. Lewis, I hate to tell you that we didn't
know five was a shift.

CHIEF LEWIS: Well, we have four shifts. But that would give me
an additional man on every shift.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We were just kind of shopping around in Washington
a little bit just over lunch or whatever and if anybody has any
suggestions about that or if anybody wants to make a motion to
recommend four, I will be glad to take that.

MR. FERGUSON: I'll make that motion, Mr. Brown.

MS. ROBINSON: Second.

MR. CHAIRMAN: I got a second from Mrs. Robinson. Any further
discussion?

MR. MARCHARIA: I have a question, Mr. Chairman. After three or
four years that we take on the officers, then it becomes the
County's responsibility or burden to fund that project. Give me a
ballpark figure how much. You said we have a cap and you need to
start saving now if we do it. What would be a ballpark figure are
we talking about?

MR. HINELY: Well, just the salaries and benefits for four people
is \$150,000 a year. It doesn't count buying them a car and sending
them to training and that's a mill. You're adding a mill. You're

1 adding a mill to the tax rate, which, you know my feeling on that
2 cap thing anyway, but we're not going to go there. But not
3 letting locals run the local government, but, yeah, you know, in
some years, it would be \$200,000, because you got to get a car and
stuff like that. I'd average \$175,000 a year--one car every year.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Any further discussion on that? All in favor
signify by saying aye.

COUNCIL: Aye.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Those oppose likewise. Motion carries. So we're
looking at four if we're lucky and can get the grants.

CHIEF LEWIS: So am I correct in saying that I can apply for this
grant?

MR. HINELY: Yes, sir. Get with Ms. Mickens and then we'll fill
it out and I'll submit it. We will try to get the best deal we
can.

MR. FERGUSON: And hopefully. If you don't get that one, we'll
get one better than that.

MR. HINELY: We ought to do that one and the other ones.

CHIEF LEWIS: Just so I can let the Sheriff and myself know, if
this is the best we do, is the County going to give me four
vehicles and four equipment and uniforms? I'm just asking.

MR. FERGUSON: I think that the answer to that would be get that
and come back and let us see.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It doesn't make much sense to hire a deputy if he
doesn't have an automobile and clothes to put on.

CHIEF LEWIS: I understand.

MR. HINELY: I'm assuming that they're getting it. If we do that,
I think that's implied in there. That's kind of what I'm trying
to say is you all need to understand we're talking about four cars
and four vests and we're going to try to get somebody else to pay
for it.

MR. MICHEL: There is in addition to, in the stimulus bill, we're
going to receive what Ms. Mickens has referred to as JAG grant
money that's formula that's going to come to us (and we took a
look at that number when we were in Washington and I don't have it
in front of me). We're also going to be able to apply
competitively for JAG grant funds (the Edward Byrne Justice
Assistance Grant). So the County could, if we wanted to, designate
that formula money that we're going to receive to pay for the
other accoutrements that have to come along with those four
officers. So that's an option that you have to spend that money
in that way as opposed to on other equipment.

CHIEF LEWIS: I have plans for that money. You all know we're
trying to come in and update--but we are trying to get in-car
computers for our patrol cars. The main purpose and the biggest
selling point I can tell you about the in-car computers other than
it allows every officer to do an instant report right there from
his car, and it goes straight in, it's wireless. Of course,
SLED's paperless now. We send everything by computer. And we're

1 one of the few Sheriff's Offices in this state that actually
2 report every crime we have. Some counties don't report every
3 crime. The just report the ones they have to report. If somebody
steals Mr. Hinely's weedeater, we report that. It goes to SLED as
a larceny. Some of our surrounding counties, they don't report
all their crimes, and their clearance rate is a little bit better,
but that's because they're not reporting everything. The in-car
computers is a back-up to our 800 radio system. Right now if
something happens to our radio system, we have no way of
communicating. The in-car computers would be a link of
communication from dispatch to every officer and from every
officer car to car. That's what I wanted to use his money for.
But, of course, I'm open. I'll do whatever I need to do to, you
know, to do right for the citizens and all, but we did have plans
for that money. I wasn't sure how much we were going to get yet,
but I think it's going to be close to \$100,000. In the past it
kind of dropped. Eight, nine years ago, we used to get about
\$90,000, and then it kind of dropped down to about \$20,000, and I
think it's going back up now.

MS. MICKENS: I don't know if we can buy four cars, all the
uniforms--everything we need with \$100,000.

MR. CHAIRMAN: We'll go work on finding some other grant money,
etcetera, and see what else we can come up with. Thank you, Mr.
Lewis.

MR. MARCHARIA: Let me just ask a question. There seems to be at
least three different mechanisms to ask for money, one that Mr.
Ferguson mentioned or either FEMA or Homeland Security. I don't
know how much they'll give, but given to the nature of this
county, looks like you would get absolute support given to the
potential danger that's involved. And the two other grants. So
if we get grants, do we take it all or do we take what works?
Let's say two agencies say we're going to give you money, how does
that help? If FEMA, Homeland Security and the other groups give
money, do we say we have enough, we won't take this money, or we
just go for all and take what we can get?

MR. HINELY: If you ask me, we cut the best deal. But at the same
time, if one of them says they'll give us four and another one
gives us four people, we're not going to get eight, we're just
going to get four. We'll cut the best deal for the county--the
least expense for the county and hopefully do some other computers
and do everything we need to do until we run out of dough.

CHIEF LEWIS: And, of course, I'm going to try to make some
connections tomorrow with Homeland Security. I'm hoping there's
some funds somewhere that might just be for equipment. I like
buying equipment because that's something I don't have to come
back to you all and ask you all to pick up the ante on it, you
know, maybe an automobile, but computers and equipment and stuff,
so we're going to keep looking and hope we can find some other
grants.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you, Mr. Lewis.

CHIEF LEWIS: Thank you all.

B. Discussion Of Stimulus Bill Funding

1 **MR. CHAIRMAN:** Anybody else. At this time, I would just like to
2 inform everybody, this past week Council went to Washington
3 because right now are very important times in Washington. What we
were working on this week were really earmarks for the 2010
budget. The meeting tonight is to kind of decide where we're going
on stimulus requests as we went to Washington and we felt good
about Washington; we met with Congressman Spratt and Senator
DeMint's office, Senator Graham's office, and Mr. Clyburn's
office. And we told them some of the things we needed that we'd
like to be earmarked. Now what earmark is you hear about pork and
all of that in the budget sometimes, it's monies that different
legislators and congressman and different people put in the
budgets as specific expenditures, like a waterline to the
reservoir or a bridge over a certain river. And it wouldn't get
funded unless it was an earmark. It wouldn't come through your
regular channels of CDBGs that Ms. Mickens handles or it wouldn't
come through the channels that other monies normally come through.
It comes directly to a county for a special reason. And most of
the time these are expensive items that the county couldn't afford
if we didn't get federal funding. So we went to Washington and we
met and had very positive response from everybody we went to see.
One or two of them said we just can't fund that or go along with
that, but the other ones pretty much said they could pretty much
agree with what we had. Now, today we're here to discuss stimulus
funding. There has been no money that this county has received as
far as stimulus money yet. We got to apply for it; we got to send
in the request; and hopefully, we can get it approved by the
different agencies in Washington and we can get some stimulus
money. We started working on the stimulus money a while back. As
you all know, President Obama wanted the stimulus money and all
these grants done almost three months ago. He wanted stimulus
requests put in that were shovel ready, something that was already
ready to be bid out, the plans were already drawn, everything
was done. He would give the funding to that agency and they could
let a contract and people could go to work putting the stuff in,
whatever it may have been, bridges or schools or whatever. Well,
the Republican party started holding things up; they cut a lot of
things; we were very hopeful to get a lot of money for building
programs for the school system and the first thing I think was cut
out the budget was I think the original budget for funding for
school buildings was a few billions dollars and they cut it down
just to a few hundred million. And when you divide a few hundred
million by 50 or so states and ten times that many school
districts, not a whole lot of money to go around. But we are
still hoping to get some money for a new school. We're very
fortunate to have Mr. Michel. You all have been hearing Mr.
Michel speak once or twice tonight. One thing I found out in
Washington was Mr. Michel, who used to work for Mr. Al Gore, is
definitely a Washington insider and he knows how the system works
and he knows how to ask for money or tell people where to go to

1 get money. I think he's going to be a great asset to the county.
2 We had some good meetings. We also went to see the Chief of Staff
3 at the Commerce Department in Washington. Right now it is a
fellow by the name of Rick Wade. You might remember Mr. Wade. He
ran for Secretary of State about ten years ago. He is now Chief
of Staff at the Department of Commerce, which has billions of
dollars. And right now they hadn't confirmed the Secretary of
Commerce's appointment yet, so Mr. Wade is pretty much running the
he's pretty much running Commerce Department right now.
Everybody been hearing about broadband and Wi-Fi money--it's \$9.1
billion. Mr. Wade's in charge of that. That's to try to get
broadband coverage to rural areas in counties throughout America.
He's over like the EDA, Economic Development Authority, where we
also asked for money and have asked for money over the years, and
it was a very positive meeting with Mr. Wade because he wants to
help South Carolina as much as he can. So that's just one person
we need to keep going back to see because he is pretty much the
number two man at the Commerce Department. And I don't know what
their total budget is, but it is definitely a lot of billions of
dollars. I don't know how many. So that was a good meeting. But
getting back to the stimulus money, when we were there last week,
they were coming out with most of the guidelines and how to apply
for stimulus money. I think the deadline was last Wednesday on
the different departments and different agencies to get out the
criteria of how to apply for some of it. And now the different
agencies got 150 days to get all requests in, go through them,
look at them, and see who they're going to send money to. So it
didn't move quite as fast as Mr. Obama wanted it to move, but
there is some stimulus money coming to people who applied very
early and just knew what was going on before it happened, or took
a chance on going ahead and applying for a few things. But not
very much of it has come out of Washington yet. But it is coming.
And plus the 2010 budget is coming. Plus they are looking at
maybe possibly another set of funding before the year is over as
far as some additional funds. So I think Mr. Obama is doing what
he needs to do as far as trying to stimulate the economy. I don't
know what the stock market did today, but last week it went up
four days in a row. I saw where General Motors didn't need to
borrow an additional \$2 billion because they were doing a little
bit better. So, hopefully, things are improving. I'm looking
forward to the real estate business getting better. But actually
I feel like it is getting a little bit better. I think people are
starting to feel a little bit better about the economy. But we
are doing what we can and we'll continue to do what we can.
Between Ms. Mickens and Mr. Michel and our staff, hopefully, we
can get some additional packages. We talked to people in
Washington that said what are you applying for and we would say
everything that we can. We aren't going to pick and choose, we're
going to just throw everything up there. I've always felt like
the greedy hog gets there first and I don't believe in just
throwing everything, but if that's the way they want us to do, I

1 think that's a good way to do it. Fairfield County doesn't have
2 that many requests. We've got about seven or eight right here of
3 different things that we're going to talk about tonight and we've
got quite a few projects in the County as far as roads and bridges
and different things that Mr. McGraw and CTC couldn't get funded
all in the next few years. So there's a lot of things that we are
going to be trying to get for Fairfield County and hope we do get
some. Any that we get will be better than none, and that's what
we are looking at. So we are going to try to do what we can. In
this budget of Mr. Obama's, there are a lot of funds that like we
were talking a few minutes ago, Mr. Perry was talking about
different funds, new funding, for catching people doing stuff on
the internet they shouldn't do. And the Sheriff's Office got to
apply for that. There might be something else that Mr. Anderson
needs to apply for because of EMS funding or whatever. It's a lot
of different departments and in each department, there's hundreds
of different agencies and everybody has a little bit of money, and
you just got to work away at it, apply for as much as you possibly
can, and hopefully you can get the funding. It might not be a
whole lot in one basket. It might be a little bit here and a
little bit there, but, hopefully, by the end of the day, it will
add up and help Fairfield County do a lot of things that we hadn't
been able to afford to do and wouldn't be able to afford to do
with the different spending caps and things that the state
legislature or the Governor's office has put on us. I listened to
Ms. Mickens talk a few minutes ago and everybody knows about Mr.
Sanford saying he didn't want the money; he wasn't going to take
the money, and there was talk that he was going to drag his feet
and not approve anything until the very last day in hopes of them
sending the money back to Washington. I hope that's not what's
going on with what Ms. Mickens was talking about. But we're here
doing what we can; we're going to continue to work hard at
identifying stimulus money that we can actually apply for. Some
of these things here that we've had some work done on are things
that we can take to Congressman Spratt's office or wherever and
say we are working on these things. And that's where we are. And
at this time, what I would suggest Council doing, last time I let
Mr. Michel come up and kind of give a report of what he thought
transpired last week in Washington and where he thinks we should
be and where he thinks we should be going because it was a hurry
up and wait type thing. Now it's here and we've got to hurry up
because the time line is short. So, let Mr. Michel make a
presentation.

MR. MICHEL: Thank you. I appreciate the Council's attention to
all these programs because there is a lot of opportunity
available. It's going to require that we make decisions and make
decisions fairly quickly and then use the resources that are
necessary to fill out the applications to try to secure the
funding for the programs that we want to try to get some funding
from. The best example that I've got is a solicitation that I saw

1 for the first time today, though it's dated March 11th, I didn't
2 see it on March 11th and it has an eight-day window, which to me
3 must be a typographical error, for rural business enterprise
grants. There's \$20 million available and it can be secured by
state governments, county governments, special district
government, etcetera, etcetera. The purpose of the program is to
finance and facilitate development of small and emerging rural
businesses, provide financial assistance for rural distance
learning networks, and fund adult education programs, particularly
those projects providing job advancement or potential employment
opportunities. And the first thing that I thought of was the
Quick Start Jobs Program for which we need funding. If indeed this
is not a typo, this grant application is due on March 19th, which I
believe is Thursday. \$20 million available nationwide grants
(they anticipate 300 grants). I'm not smart enough to figure out
how much that is for an average grant, but I think that's
something we would want to look at. In addition, Council has a
document that I have to give credit to my friend, Barbara McCall,
in Washington, D.C., because I am using her document that was put
together for another of her clients (and I have several summaries
of the stimulus bill), but this particular summary was made to
highlight programs that would be of interest to local governments.
However, it does not include USDA programs, which are very
important to us because those are where the rural programs
are. I don't know how we want to proceed through this. It would
be a similar exercise to the one that when we spent two hours
going program by program and deciding how we wanted to task out
whether we wanted to make application for these particular
programs. But there are a number of them that are going to come
down. The opportunity to apply is going to arise and then it's
going to close in the next probably 45 to 90 days, maximum. There
are some programs such as the rural broadband program that's going
to be out farther because right now they haven't decided a lot of
the background issues that have to be decided before they ask for
applications. I anticipate going onto Grants.gov in the next few
weeks and coming across applications just like this rural business
enterprise grant program that then has a solicitation requirement;
it has a closing date; and if you don't apply, you don't get the
money. If you do apply, you have a chance of getting the money.
And we have to figure out how we're going to do that with the
resources that we have or let those opportunities pass us by. The
other thing that I would note that I don't think that I've noted
before full Council is that we talked in the past about the
drinking water and sewer grants. And those are not all loans.
There are competitive grants available, I believe it's in the
neighborhood of \$1 billion for the sewer projects. So I would
have to take a look and see exactly what that number is. But for
our priorities of enhancing the ability of the Winnsboro Water
System to serve more residents, that's something that we
absolutely need to make an application for. So you have the

1 document in front of you, I'm open as to how you want to go
2 through it, how much we want to cover tonight and what kind of
3 framework we want to set up for moving information and decision
making along on this over the next several weeks. One thing I can
tell you from my knowledge is that we are not way behind, but
we're not way ahead either. There are other people that are just
sort of responding to these things as they get them and they
haven't really thought about it until they see it. Those people
are more behind. There are other local governments that I'm aware
of, who have a full staff or a staff of two people in place right
now working full-time on making sure that they are putting these
grants together and they're collecting the information to apply
for the grant and waiting for the solicitation to come out. So
we're sort of in between that. We haven't missed anything yet,
but they're starting to come out and if we're not ready, then we
will miss some things. But I would turn it back over to Council
to decide, number one, how we want to make decisions on this
tonight; and then, number two, how we want to exchange information
and make decisions going forward.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do I have any suggestions from Council? Kind of
my opinion that this was a work session to discuss stimulus and
what we were going to do next. I know we've had one or two long
meetings gathering the information we gathered in order to go to
Washington and present our earmarks and 2010 budget request, and I
think we took a good slate of requests to Washington and we are a
little bit, in my opinion, a little bit behind on the stimulus
funding and I think we need to sit here and go through this either
in executive session or either out here on the floor and go
through it and decide tonight what we need to do. Everyday that
we do nothing, we're a day behind. And pretty soon we're going to
run out of those days because right now, we've got Ms. Mickens,
who is our grants department, and Ms. Mickens definitely needs
some help in her department in order to write as many of these
grants as we can and know where to go to get these grants.

(Tape Flipped)

MR. MICHEL: ...She's from South Carolina originally and lived
here on into her adult life, to some degree. She grew up in South
Carolina. She is at USDA and she could be very helpful.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. So we've got a couple of people in
Washington, especially in certain areas, that should be more than
glad to help us, and in a couple of good areas. And then we just
need to go after as much as we can go after. So does anybody have
any suggestion on how to handle this tonight? Just start going
through it line item by line item like we've done in the past?

MR. TRAPP: Talking about the whole booklet?

MR. CHAIRMAN: On this right here.

MR. MARCHARIA: On this, what we have tonight, I'm still going
over this. I haven't been able to absorb all of this, but as
everyone knows the clock is ticking and we only have weeks to get
some of these things in. Seems like that's a lot of grant writing

1 being very specific. And I'm just looking on page eleven where
2 they've got the community development block grants. They have \$1
3 billion out for that and still there's not a criteria. I called
around, still, you don't know what to really write to put in to
even ask for the grant, because what's the criteria?

MR. MICHEL: For a grant like that, it will be the same criteria
as it is every year, that's a regular program. Ms. Mickens has
experience in doing that. The amount, \$1 billion, is about one-
third of what we normally get. That money will be distributed by
the COG to Fairfield County.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Some of these items are going to go through the
regular channel, like CDBG and some other ones. And that is one
of those. What we can do is kind of go through the ones that are
not going to be through normal channels and eliminate everything
that is going to be going through normal channels, because that is
going to be a little slower than what the regular stimulus request
is going to be, is that what we are saying?

MR. MICHEL: I think that if we looked in the distribution column,
one, two, three, fourth column, and then the recipient column, we
could identify pretty quickly the possible programs that we could
apply for. And then, like I said, I apologize, this does not have
the rural programs in it. There are a number of other rural
programs that we can take a look at like this rural business
development ... rural business services program. We'd have to do
that separate and apart from this, but we could go through this
first.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. Why don't we just go through ...

MR. MARCHARIA: Let me comment on what Mr. Kyle said. This whole
package that we took to D.C. and what I'm looking at probably 95
to 98 percent of everything is in town in Winnsboro. Like you
said, There is nothing for the rural areas specifically. And
apparently they hadn't put out anything for the rural area. I
still have concern in my community, we live in the most dangerous
community in this county, and it's very rural. And I can't see
why we can't find anything to address some of the needs of that
community with the potential danger that we live in. I don't
understand it. Everything's either for the Town of Winnsboro or
locally. And this is what we're going to discuss this evening?

MR. CHAIRMAN: We are going through, Mr. Marcharia, this is all
the different supplemental FY 2009 appropriations, and we can go
through it, let Mr. Michel point out which ones are going to be
going to the COG or through normal avenues that we can be applying
for within the next few months, but the ones that need to be
applied for now, we need to kind of identify them.

MS. ROBINSON: But then there's also more that is for rural
counties. I downloaded this today, but he also has something else
that had about 80-something pages that I didn't download today-
that you also have available to you, but I didn't download it and
I would think it had ... that may be what he's looking at now.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It was sent to you.

1 MS. FERGUSON: It's a whole book.

2 MS. ROBINSON: It probably has a lot of the rural things in it as well.

3 MR. CHAIRMAN: It should be on your computer.

MR. MARCHARIA: I understand and I will read it, but I'm asking him as representing us, is there anything specific again to the request that I made for that side of the County, anything in those packages that would address our recreation? We know we're dealing with the rural health things, looks like that's going to be taken care of, adequate fire protection, fire stations, there's nothing in the rural ... You haven't found anything in there that can address that? If we're going to go through this, I don't know how it affects the community where I live.

MR. CHAIRMAN: What I think, Mr. Marcharia, just a few minutes ago, Council approved four additional policemen one time and the reason we approved those four additional policemen is because of the increased population and increased amount of people who were going to be on the western side of the County. So that is funding for the western side theoretically. We are working on a new community healthcare facility that's going to be on the western side. Recreation, it might be in here something to discuss recreation. We need to go through this. We all got this tonight because things are moving extremely fast and the only way we're going to find out is anything in here concerning recreation or either in the rural program guideline book that he also sent us online is to go through it. If it's something in there for recreation, I think Council has pretty much said we are addressing recreation this time around. If it's any way for us to address recreation, we're going to do that. We've already decided that. We can't do but so much. Now, you know, a new healthcare facility on the western side is going to be extremely nice. And more policemen to help offset the amount of traffic, etcetera, on the western side, that's going to be good. Let's go through this and see if there's anything in here specifically talking about recreation. If there is, we'll apply for it.

MR. MARCHARIA: Well, I just heard him say that there wasn't anything in there for a rural area on this, but there was another package.

MR. CHAIRMAN: It's 80 pages long.

MR. MICHEL: She's going to make a copy of the rural parts of the stimulus bill that's not included in this summary that you have in front of you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Ms. Brown's already doing that.

MR. MICHEL: We'll look at that when we get it.

MR. MARCHARIA: Very good. One other question I have to ask. You just had something about rural areas about business, the initiative that you just read.

MR. MICHEL: Right.

1 **MR. MARCHARIA:** Who have you identified that can take these jobs
2 and move out to the areas and do? Have we identified
entrepreneurials and businesses and grants for people we can do
that with?

3 **MR. MICHEL:** I can identify the grant for the adult training
program that I believe the County is wanting to set up with the
partnership with Midlands Technical College.

MR. MARCHARIA: Right.

MR. MICHEL: This solicitation that came out today would fund ...
what I understand is that there's \$750,000 that's needed to put in
addition to the \$1 million the County has secured to make that
quick start job center go forward.

MR. MARCHARIA: Okay.

MR. MICHEL: That's what that funding would be for.

MR. MARCHARIA: Okay. I thought I heard you say something about
creating businesses, but I understand that's part of the training
center.

MR. MICHEL: The businesses can apply for this, as well, or
counties can apply for it for business assistance, but the one
thing that jumped out at me was the money to train people county-
wide at that quick start job center. Council can decide whether
they want to apply for money for that or whether you want to apply
for money for something different under that program.

MR. MARCHARIA: Okay. I see.

MR. MICHEL: I don't think it'll take as long to go through this
as it did to go through the thing we went through a few weeks ago
because of how many of these are not really applicable to
Fairfield County. But if we can start. (1). The EDA program is
usually used for infrastructure. There may be money in EDA for
industrial parks, industrial park development, so we would
definitely want to look into that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. And all of these are under the Department of
Commerce, which we know Mr. Rick Wade is there to help out.

MR. MICHEL: (2). 2010 Census is not applicable to us. (3). The
broadband technology opportunities program is applicable, but we
don't need to make any decisions on it tonight because it's not
going to come out for a long time. There's also at Department of
Agriculture, which you'll see later, a rural broadband program
that's more applicable to us than this broadband technology
opportunities program, which is more designed for urban areas,
though it will include rural areas, as well. (4). Digital TV
converter boxes, we don't need to worry about. (5). Broadband map
and inventory is a state program. (6). Byrne Justice Assistance
Grants, we've already discussed tonight. We'll receive a formula
grant for that. There's also a competitive Byrne Justice
Assistance Grant that I do not see listed on this, which we
discussed earlier, which Mr. Hinely, I assume, that the Sheriff
will make a decision and Ms. Mickens will make a decision on
applying for the competitive Byrnes Justice Assistance money. I

1 believe it's in the range of \$200 million nationwide. (7). The
2 COPS hiring grant, we've already discussed. (8). We've discussed
3 the violence against women programs. That would be something that
Council and others would need to make a decision on whether
there's some program in the County that would benefit from that
that we would want to take a look at applying for.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Hinley and Ms. Mickens, As far as the violence
against women, we've got an organization (I know we've got the one
about rape). Isn't there another one that we also have that's
already operating in the County?

MS. ROBINSON: Victims advocate.

MR. CHAIRMAN: But then we got the other people out there at DHEC
building. This is rape victims assistance, Palmetto ...

MR. HINLEY: They get like earmarked money. Of every fine that's
paid, a certain amount goes to that or something like that. We're
required to spend a certain amount on that and the County does
that. I'm not minimizing violence on women, but funds are
currently being spent in that area.

MR. CHAIRMAN: The Sheriff's office can look into this also. And
let them know that they need to look into that.

MR. MICHEL: And that may be a good way to handle it from a
resource standpoint. (9). This next one, which is competitive
grants for victims of crime, criminal justice system improvements,
and youth mentoring programs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That's the Sheriff also.

MR. MICHEL: (10). Then there is a victims of crime fund which is
not designated as to who can apply for it. It's \$100 million
nationwide. (11). Then there is the internet crimes against
children's initiatives, which Mr. Perry already noted. All of
those would be at the Department of Justice and would be that the
Sheriff's Department would look into.

MR. MARCHARIA: Can I digress just a moment? Go back to the one
on the competitive grant for victims of crime, criminal justice
system, improvement of youth administering program, does that
necessarily have to come under law enforcement? We can't have any
youth mentoring programs outside of the criminal justice system?
Is that what it's saying? We can't apply for those grants for
social workers and other people in the community to mentor these
children, young people?

MR. MICHEL: I don't know, but my guess is that it does not have
to come through a law enforcement agency. My guess is that it
could be used by nonprofit organizations that provide youth
mentoring from the look of projects that have been funded in the
Commerce Justice Science Bill that I read for the past five years.
That's probably doesn't have to come through law enforcement
agencies. So that's something that if there is an organization
that's providing those services, they could apply for it or the
County could apply for it on their behalf, yes.

MR. TRAPP: Can churches apply for it also?

1 MR. MICHEL: I don't know the answer to that. There's something
2 in the bill that I've read that ... I think churches that have a
3 separate 501C3 apart from their religious organization can do
that, but I don't think that if it's only a church. In Columbia
we have Brookland Baptist and we have Bibleway and they have a
number of different organizations that they operate under, but the
actual church itself I don't believe is eligible for receiving a
federal grant because of the First Amendment concerns.

MR. MARCHARIA: Mr. Kyle, the reason why I mentioned that, we
have about three or four groups in this County now that's looking
at gang situations. I'm involved with two. A lot of these young
folks need to be mentored and either people apply for the 501C3 or
through the school or through the County, I just thought that it
was a good thing that we find some kind of way to mentor some of
these young people.

MR. MICHEL: The gang prevention programs, if they have a program
that's seeking funding, the County would apply on their behalf or
the County would apply for the funding and then the County would
pass the funding through to those gang prevention programs and
gang prevention awareness programs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: 4H and FFA and things like that, through Clemson
Extension or through the school system, they do mentoring, would
any of that kind of be ...

MR. MICHEL: We'd have to read the solicitation. Typically, the
programs that are funded under that section of Department of
Justice are more programs that are run specifically by youth
violence prevention program groups, and the groups like Mr.
Marcharia is talking about as opposed to programs like 4H and
other programs like that. I'm not saying they can't, but I'm just
saying that's typical.

MR. MARCHARIA: We talking about at risk young people, I would
imagine.

MR. MICHEL: I'm going to put a star by that one to make sure that
I get you the information on it when the solicitation comes out.

MR. MARCHARIA: Thank you.

MR. MICHEL: (12). Energy efficiency and conservation block grant
program. We discussed this one before. This money is also coming
to the state energy office, to John Clark's office, which is where
Rick Grant works, who was referenced earlier. The funding trail
for this program will look like the CDBG program where the ten
entitlement cities will get a block grant and the COG, I think
will approve, but the state energy office will distribute 30
percent of the money to non-entitlement communities. This is
money that we've talked about in the past to pay for County energy
efficiency and conservation efforts primarily on County-owned
property, which means this building, which means any other
building that you own, or any other facility that might need
energy efficiency upgrades, whether that's caulk on the windows or
insulation or whether that's more energy efficient heating and air
system, swapping out your light bulbs for fluorescent light bulbs,
all those types of things. I would encourage the County to

1 consider getting an energy efficiency audit which can be paid for
2 with these funds and then having that audit as the back-up for an
3 application for these funds. The reason that I encourage that is
because I think that this program is going to be funded year after
year after year, so that if you go and you get an energy audit and
you pay for the energy audit with the first year's funds, then the
energy audit sits over here on the shelf and the next year you
apply for funding to implement phase one of the audit, and next
year phase two of the audit, and phase three of the audit. It
doesn't do anything other than save the County money over time to
do that. The easiest way to do it is to start with an audit so
that you have a professional opinion to go in an application to
send to the state energy office for these funds. I think that as
long as this president is in office, that program's going to be
funded.

MR. CHAIRMAN: How do they charge for energy audits, depending on
how many buildings you got, etcetera?

MR. MICHEL: It depends on how many buildings you have and you
can just pay them outright or you can let them be paid out of the
savings over time. It also depends on what they find in the audit.
It's kind of like going to Bill Green, the first consultation
doesn't cost you anything. So I would have them at some point
have one or two come up and talk to them and make a proposal and
then you go forward in that discussion, they will lay out the
costs and how it could be paid for. They may say this is the
proposal and the County looks at it and says, "We can't afford
that right now," and you put an application in to state energy
office to pay for the audit.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Do I have a motion from the floor to ...

MS. KINLEY: So moved.

MS. ROBINSON: Second.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Motion and second, any further discussion? To allow
Mr. Hinely to get some people to come in and tell us what
transpired. All in favor, signify by saying aye.

COUNCIL: Aye.

MR. CHAIRMAN: All opposed, likewise?

MS. ROBINSON: Using these funds (inaudible)

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay, weatherization.

MR. MICHEL: (13). We've discussed the weatherization program
earlier. (14). The state energy program will go also to Mr.
Clark's office, the state energy office. They have yet to put out
a solicitation. It's anticipated that they will be funding
renewable energy projects or other renewable energy and
conservation types of projects, like if the County wanted to take
a building and make it solar powered or if someone wanted to put
in a wood chip gasification system or if somebody wanted to put in
a bio-diesel plant, are those kinds of projects. If there are no
projects like that on the horizon, I would say we would just skip
on over that one and wait to see if anything comes back that we
want to look at. It's a lot of money for South Carolina. I think

1 the office I think his office is going to have \$60 million. I
2 could be off on that. It may be \$50 million, but he's going to
3 have a lot of money to spread around the State of South Carolina
for these kinds of projects.

MS. KINLEY: So we'll skip that one?

MR. MICHEL: We'll skip that one unless someone says well, there's this one little nifty project that we always wanted to do, like if the County owned a landfill and they wanted to get landfill gas out of it or something like that. I don't know if there's anything like that.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Would it possibly give you money to purchase a landfill that you already was leasing and then get the gas out of it?

MR. FERGUSON: Let's don't go there, Mr. Brown.

MR. MICHEL: Maybe.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Okay. We'll check on that.

MR. MICHEL: Is the landfill active?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No.

MR. MICHEL: (15). Smart grid is not going to be applicable to our County because I don't believe that the County operates any electric transmission or distribution, but it might be to Fairfield Electric Coop. (16). Rail transit and security grants is not applicable to us nor are (17). Port security grants. (18). Firefighter assistance grants is what we've noted earlier and I need to correct myself. I didn't mean to say that that money was at FEMA instead of Homeland Security to Mr. Ferguson because FEMA is within Homeland Security. He was correct, it is Homeland Security, Department of FEMA or the FEMA office. That's \$210 million that's available nationwide for fire station modification and upgrades. We can look at that money. That is a textbook example of the kind of project that I think is going to be extremely oversubscribed, because I think every nook and cranny in this country has a fire station in it or they want one and there's \$210 million in that pot and I think the \$15 million is the limit on the project. You can tell that over the entire country, there are not going to be very many of those grants that are going to be given out.

MR. FERGUSON: Mr. Hinely and Mr. Chairman, have we already had some conversation with our local fire folks about the possibility of this grant?

MR. HINELY: Had some general discussion about the need for doing something like that, yes, sir.

MR. MICHEL: We can always apply for it. It's one of the ones that we would have a lower chance of getting it than other grants, but we could always apply for it.

MR. HINELY: I kind of hook on that is to let try to go through the Homeland Security situation more so than just anything in general. Because that's kind of how we would kind of settle that.

1 **MR. FERGUSON:** One of the things that the Nuclear Regulatory
2 Commission said both times they've been here was they wasn't
3 overly impressed with what we have in western Fairfield for that
plant. And I'm thinking that if we put that thing in the right
light, that we would probably have a good chance of getting that
going back and referring back to the plan itself and the Nuclear
Regulatory Commission not being totally ecstatic about the way
we're facing that thing right now. And using it from that
leverage, I would think they would probably leverage us to
probably get some of that money.

MR. MICHEL: Either out of there or out of the Homeland Security
funding.

MR. MARCHARIA: Why can't we apply for both? We can apply for
both areas, couldn't we?

MR. MICHEL: We can apply for both, absolutely.

MR. MARCHARIA: Do you need a motion on that, Mr. Chairman, or
are we just talking theoretically that we can and we might?

MR. CHAIRMAN: No, I think we need to talk to the fire departments
and let them write the grants on both sides. Is that what we need
to do, Mr. Hinely?

MR. HINELY: Yes, sir.

MR. CHAIRMAN: And let them apply. They have grant writers and
let them apply from FEMA and from smart grid.

MR. MARCHARIA: So I'm hearing that we have several groups here,
special purpose districts, and they can apply for their own
grants, elected officials to apply for their own grants, and we're
applying for them?

MR. CHAIRMAN: In my opinion, our weakest link in this thing
right now is we don't have but one person in the grants
department. If the Sheriff's office has somebody who can write
grants, use them. It'll still be Fairfield County. If the
community volunteer fire department or our fire marshal has
somebody who can write grants, it'd still be through us, but at
least somebody would be writing the grants, so it would get done.
That's where I'm coming from.

MR. MARCHARIA: Okay. Got you.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Because we just don't have enough manpower.

MR. MARCHARIA: Okay.

MR. FERGUSON: Mr. Chairman, let me ask the question. If that is
written, would Ms. Barbara or somebody that's affiliated with us
have an opportunity to look at that thing to see if it's credible
before it's sent off? I mean, there's no need for us to blow this
opportunity. I mean, you get where I'm coming from?

MR. CHAIRMAN: I've been saying this for the past two or three
weeks, and Mr. Hinely and myself both have been calling trying to
get people that might be interested in coming to help us. Ms.
Cooley even told me, you know, she would look over grants. She
doesn't have time to write them, but she can look at them to see.
Mr. Huffman has to let me know. Georgiana Graham said she would
even look over grants if we had somebody prepare them. So, we

1 still need somebody. If Mrs. Harrison can do it or Ms. Mickens
2 knows somebody who can come in here and help do it, but we need
3 help if we we're going to be competitive. It's like Mr. Michel
said a few minutes ago, people got two or three people doing
nothing but writing grants for them right now, trying to take
advantage of as much of this as they can. We can sit here and say
this is what we want to do, but if we don't have somebody writing
the grants, all we doing is wasting our time. So, we need anybody
who has experience in writing grants that will know how to answer
the questions right. I even asked Ms. Cooley the other night, I
said, "Robin, what department do you go to - to get somebody; what
degree do you have?" She said, "Well, David, you know, I got a
history degree." She said, "You just need somebody who's detailed,
who can think like they do, write like they do, and ask questions
like they do. And she said it's just experience. So if the Fire
Department has somebody--there's a fellow up there at the Town of
Winnsboro Fire Department who has gotten us and the Town of
Winnsboro numerous grants. And the Boulware girl who just retired,
she might be a good person.

MS. MICKENS: (Inaudible).

MR. CHAIRMAN: That, I agree 100 percent, Ms. Mickens. I don't
understand all the grants writing mechanism. Only thing I've
been saying is Mr. Hinely, Mr. Anderson, let's find somebody to
help Ms. Mickens because if we identify numerous programs, we've
got to have somebody apply for them.

MR. HINELY: One thing kind of in answer to Mr. Ferguson's question
about what are we getting when we get through with this, I'm
assuming that's kind of generally your question. One of the
things that Ms. Johnson and Mr. Anderson and Ms. Mickens and I
have been doing over the last several years, and it's taken a
while, but I think we're getting there. We're still not there
Before we got the stimulus money, and everybody's kind of in a
gold rush mentality now to get the stimulus money, but prior to
that, we have a lot of departments that are kind of semi
departments of the County and semi autonomous. For instance, we
have the museum which now is a County department and we have the
recreation and we got the Sheriff and we got the fire board and
all of that. It became obvious just a few years ago that, you
know, a lot of them were kind of applying for their own grants,
which then ultimately has some financial impact to the County,
just like the Sheriff applying for these four people. And what I
said, and hopefully you all agree, is you need to let me,
representing you, see that and at least sign off on it before we
send that in so we can coordinate it through the finance
department, through Ms. Mickens and to make sure that the right
hand knows what the left hand is doing, because a lot of these
grants, again we got this gold rush mentality now, but prior to
that, and a lot of the stimulus money is 100 percent and that's
good, but prior to that, we got museum out applying for a grant;
next thing I know, they show up one day and they say, look here, I
need \$25,000, because they used to have a match for that. They

1 used to do in-kind match, but now they want cash. Ms. Mickens
2 and I are going round and round right now with the railroad museum
3 because they got one that used to be in-kind and now it's cash.
And, you know, so anyway, so we are gradually ... so that's kind
of a long answer to the question earlier of is there some
coordination of this and I say semi-coordinated. It's better than
it used to be and it's going to be better this time next year and
it'll be better the next year, but we're trying to coordinate all
that and back to your question, at the same time, we know that
we're being kind of bombarded on this and so we are trying to look
and see if we can get some help for Ms. Mickens because in some
ways kind of writing the grant is almost the easy part. You know,
once you get the money, because in all these meetings that I was
in and you all were in, they spent more time talking about, I
thought, accountability and transparency, than they did about how
to get the money. And this one guy said, I think the meeting that
you and I were in, and I'm sure in these other ones, said this
accountability's going to be a nightmare, I mean in a nice way
that's kind of what he said. We've got to get somebody and having
said all that, we don't want to lose any of this either. We want
to get what we can get for the County.

MR. CHAIRMAN: And I made this statement the other day, maybe at
the last Council meeting, Council approved years ago that anybody
applying for a grant had to let this body know prior to applying
and that memo needs to go back out because actually it's a two-
stage. When they go to apply, they're supposed to inform us and
they're supposed to keep us in touch with what is going on with
it, especially if money is involved. So we definitely need to
know about that.

MR. HINELY: What we've done to anticipate that, what Mr. Johnson
and I have done is we've said, "Listen, if you even think you're
going to apply for one in the next fiscal year,"-- we started
this a couple years ago, "and there's going to be some match, you
need to put that in your budget so that you all can approve that
in advance." None of this coming up to see me in January and
saying, "Oh, by the way, I told Council you're going to get this
grant, but nobody ever asked me how much money it was going to
be," and something like that. We need to know that up-front. You
need to know that up-front. So we're doing what you're saying,
but we're kind of doing it through the budget saying. "Don't come
to me and say, 'look, I need 25 grand for this match,' I'm going
to say I'm sorry. If it's not in the budget, you don't get it."

MR. CHAIRMAN: We definitely need to know up-front. That's why we
pay you, Mr. Hinely.

MR. FERGUSON: On page five? Mr. Hinely, do you think maybe Ms.
Holmes could not use some of that thing for transit security on
her buses and that kind of thing? I mean, that's just a question.
It would fit under that.

MR. HINELY: We'll certainly see. You know, we're going to see on
all of these things.

1 MR. FERGUSON: If we're going to look over it. It's not a bit pot
2 of money. I know when she first started transporting the high
3 school kids, you remember, Mr. Anderson, there was a question ...

MR. ANDERSON: Cameras on the buses? We can take a look at that
and see if we can get some.

MR. MICHEL: I want to make one statement for my overworked
colleagues in the grant world. What works, I think in this
circumstance, is if you were to bring someone on at maybe 30 hours
a week to help get the applications out the door, that same person
would stay on over the next six or eight months to then deal with
all the requirements that would come back for accountability and
compliance, because there is a lot of work to do. There is going
to be a lot of work to do for the County if you get these funds.
The other thing that I would note is that a lot of these federal
grants allow the County to hold back five percent or ten percent
or some amount for administrative costs that could help pay for
that extra person if you were able to identify that person and
bring them on to help with this project over the next several
weeks.

MR. MARCHARIA: Well, I told the Chairman, I did meet two or three
different groups in D.C.; one group in particular impressed me,
and that's all they do is write these government grants for
agencies like our county governments. And I hadn't submitted that
information to the Chair but I think we might want to ask them or
have Ms. Mickens talk to them and see if we want to think about
using them. Get it to you tomorrow.

MR. MICHEL: On page six, the (19). clean water state revolving
fund is something that we will want to look at. We'll definitely
pull down information on that because there's going to be grants
and loans under that fund. Actually, that's the sewer funds.
We're looking more at the (20). drinking water funds, the next
one, for the water project that we have here. But I'll ask you to
hold off on concluding on that one, though we'll keep an eye on it
because there is a rural drinking water fund that we'll look at
USDA that has competitive grants that would be a higher likelihood
that we would get the funding because of the fact that there are
fewer rural applicants that will come in. (21). The Brownfields
program would clean up brown fields if we have any that have been
problematic in the County. (22). The diesel emissions reductions
grant are for making changes to either ways of doing things or to
equipment to lower diesel emissions in areas. (23). The airport
improvement program is something that we may want to take a look
at. Bear with me for just a minute because I'm not positive that
that amount of money is correct. I've yet to read any stimulus
summary that didn't have a mistake in it. That's correct. It's
\$1.1 billion. That's competitive. I know we have an airport here.
I don't know if there's any interest in that airport applying for
any money for improvements.

MR. FERGUSON: We've run a five-year continuous plan on that thing
and we upgrade it each year, so we could use anything out of that