

STATE OF FLORIDA

IN RE: MEETING OF THE GOVERNOR AND CABINET

CABINET MEMBERS: Governor Rick Scott
Attorney General Pam Bondi
Chief Financial Officer
Jimmy Patronis
Commissioner of Agriculture
Adam Putnam

DATE AND TIME: February 8, 2018 at 9:00 A.M.

LOCATION: Florida State Fairgrounds
Bob Thomas Equestrian
Center Pavilion
4800 U.S. Highway 301 North
Tampa, Florida

REPORTED BY: Melinda McKenna
Integra Reporting Group
Court Reporter

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PROCEEDINGS

GOVERNOR SCOTT: Good morning. Welcome to the February 8th Cabinet meeting. To begin today's meeting, Commissioner Putnam would like to say a few words. First, let me say something about the Commissioner. It's great to be here at the State Fair. The Commissioner and his team always does a great job. Everybody at the State Fair does a great job.

The other thing I want to say is we've been working hard -- the Commissioner has been working hard to make sure we get our disaster relief funding. As you all know, our Ag industry, especially our citrus industry, has been really hurt this year, and we're -- it looks like we're getting closer, but, until we're there, we're not there. The Commissioner has been working very diligently to make sure that happens, and I hope it happens this week.

Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: Thank you, Governor. And welcome to the Florida State Fair, everyone. We're thrilled to have you here. We appreciate you coming out. I think this is even a little better crowd than we would have if we were having a Cabinet

1 meeting in Tallahassee, which sort of further
2 reaffirms that it's a good idea of us getting out
3 and about and making it a little closer for people
4 to see their government in action. This is the
5 114th Florida State Fair, and this is the seventh
6 time, I believe, that this Cabinet, under
7 Governor Scott, has hosted a Cabinet meeting here at
8 the fair, which I think is just a really great way
9 of showcasing some of the work that we do and some
10 of the responsibilities that the Cabinet has, and,
11 frankly, showcasing the Florida State Fair and what
12 over 1,000 really impressive young men and women
13 from all over the state of Florida have accomplished
14 and are exhibiting their hard work in the form of
15 crafts and home economics and animal exhibits and a
16 whole host of other things.

17 And I would like to recognize some of the best
18 of the best. We have the 4-H state officer team
19 right over here. Please stand and be recognized.

20 (APPLAUSE).

21 And I know we've got our FFA officers here as
22 well.

23 (APPLAUSE).

24 And this is heros' day. So you see an awful
25 lot of uniforms here. So I would like to ask our

1 veterans, military and first responders -- that's
2 law enforcement and the fire services and EMTs -- to
3 please stand and also be recognized.

4 (APPLAUSE).

5 There's some really special introductions that
6 the Attorney General and the Governor are going to
7 make in a little bit. But we do want to highlight
8 the fact that these are heros. These are our
9 community heros. There are an awful lot of veterans
10 who fell in love with Florida because they were
11 stationed in Florida, either in northwest Florida or
12 here in the Tampa Bay area, which has a reputation
13 of being the most military-friendly area in the
14 country, or up and down the Space Coast. And all of
15 our heroes enjoy free admission with their families
16 today. So please come back and bring the kids and
17 enjoy the midway.

18 One of the little secrets, when you get to
19 come to the fair as often as I do, is today is a
20 really good day to come back. The midway will be
21 all yours, and you can just ride the Himalaya over
22 over again without having to get back off. And, I
23 mean, the funnel cakes aren't going to be any more
24 fresh than they are today, right?

25 So this is the first state fair of the year.

1 And an awful lot of work goes into making the fair
2 possible, and I would like to recognize Cheryl Flood
3 and her team with the Florida State Fair, as well as
4 our Florida State Fair authority, our board members.
5 If they would please stand and be recognized. I
6 think they're scattered throughout the crowd. But
7 thank you for your service.

8 (APPLAUSE).

9 And, Governor, thank you again for your
10 commitment to continue to bring the Cabinet down. I
11 want to thank the Cabinet for being great sports
12 about it. You got up early, flipped the switch
13 at 6:00 a.m. And that's like a typical day for an
14 Ag commissioner. I mean, we always get invited to
15 the 6:00 a.m. breakfast. I don't know when you
16 insurance guys get up.

17 But -- it's a real -- look, this is a -- you
18 know, this is a great opportunity to get into the
19 community to remind everybody that government ought
20 to be closer to the people and to be able to
21 interact. So please enjoy your time here. Enjoy
22 the Cabinet meeting. And, Governor, thank you for
23 your commitment and your support, not only of
24 Florida agriculture, but of our young people and of
25 this fair.

1 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you, Commissioner.

2 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: You bet.

3 GOVERNOR SCOTT: So if you came to Tallahassee
4 and follow the Cabinet meetings, you would know that
5 everybody, according to Adam Putman, is from
6 Polk County. All the good things in the world
7 happen in Polk County!

8 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: Imperial Polk County.

9 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Yeah, Imperial Polk County.

10 But at the other side of the table we have
11 Attorney General Pam Bondi, and all she talks about
12 is Tampa.

13 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: That's right.

14 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Tampa, Tampa, Tampa, Tampa,
15 Tampa. And so I'm going to -- she's going to
16 introduce the individual that's going to do our
17 invocation. But, once she does that, if you'll
18 remain standing after the invocation for the
19 Pledge of Allegiance. It's going to be lead by
20 Zohana Hait. Following the pledge, we have a
21 singing National Anthem lead by Elijah.

22 So, Attorney General, you'll probably want to
23 brag about Tampa a little bit like you do at every
24 Cabinet meeting.

25 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: I sure do. And he

1 did the invocation at our inauguration. My pastor,
2 Aaron Burke is here, Radiant Church in Tampa. Aaron
3 and Katie started this church four years ago with a
4 couple hundred people, and now it's grown to
5 thousands. And what makes them so special as a
6 Bible-based church is that he is bringing young
7 people, like I've never seen before -- high school,
8 teenagers, college kids -- out from everywhere who
9 are coming to church.

10 So my pastor, Aaron Burke.

11 (WHEREUPON, THE INVOCATION WAS GIVEN AND THE
12 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE WAS STATED.)

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1 2018 MEETING SCHEDULE

2 HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES

3 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Next on the agenda is
4 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles. It's my
5 understanding that the executive director is unable
6 to attend today's meeting. Is there a motion to
7 withdraw the Highway Safety and Motor Vehicle
8 agenda?

9 CFO PATRONIS: So moved.

10 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a second?

11 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Second.

12 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Comments or objections?

13 (NO RESPONSE).

14 Hearing none, the motion carries.
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1 OFFICE OF FINANCIAL REGULATION

2 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Next I would like to
3 introduce Drew Breakspear with the Office of
4 Financial Regulation.

5 Hi, Drew.

6 COMMISSIONER BREAKSPEAR: Thank you. Good
7 morning, Governor Scott, Attorney General Bondi,
8 CFO Patronis and Commissioner Putnam.

9 We have two items on the agenda today. Our
10 first agenda item is I respectfully request approval
11 of the minutes of the meetings of November 7th and
12 December 13th, 2017.

13 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a motion?

14 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: So moved.

15 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Second?

16 CFO PATRONIS: Second.

17 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Comments or objections?

18 (NO RESPONSE).

19 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Hearing none, the motion
20 carries.

21 COMMISSIONER BREAKSPEAR: Our second agenda
22 item which I respectfully request approval of is the
23 Agency's quarterly report covering the period of
24 October 1st through December the 31st, 2017.

25 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a motion to accept

1 the report?

2 CFO PATRONIS: So moved.

3 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a second?

4 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: Second.

5 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Comments or objections?

6 (NO RESPONSE).

7 Hearing none, the motion carries.

8 COMMISSIONER BREAKSPEAR: And our rating was
9 3.25, meeting expectations for the quarter.

10 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Great.

11 COMMISSIONER BREAKSPEAR: And I just have one
12 other thing, which I want to thank Attorney General
13 Bondi's statewide prosecution of, because we've had
14 some great cases in the 30 to 60 days onboard, and
15 there's a lot of people the State is giving free
16 board and lodging to for an extended period of time.
17 I want to thank you very much for your team's help
18 with our team in getting that done. Thank you.

19 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Thank you.

20 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you, Drew.

21 COMMISSIONER BREAKSPEAR: With that, it
22 concludes my report. Thank you very much.

23 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thanks, Drew.

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1 ADMINISTRATION COMMISSION

2 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Next I would like to
3 recognize Judge Robert Cohen with the Division of
4 Administrative Hearings.

5 Hi, Judge.

6 JUDGE COHEN: Good morning.

7 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Hi, Judge.

8 GOVERNOR SCOTT: How are you doing?

9 JUDGE COHEN: Good morning, Governor,
10 General Bondi, CFO Patronis, Commissioner Putnam.
11 It's great to be here at the Florida State Fair.
12 When we were kids, I grew up in Central Florida, and
13 we had a small fair in Orange County. It's not
14 Imperial Orange County. It's just -- but Orlando is
15 the City Beautiful, and it was, and parts of it
16 still are. But, when we were really good, which
17 wasn't very often, we were promised we would get to
18 go to the Florida State Fair over in Tampa. And we
19 would pile in the car and come over here. And some
20 years we got to do it, other years we didn't quite
21 make the grade.

22 But that kind of segues into the annual
23 review. I'm here for my annual review, as well as
24 our fourth quarter. And you have all the written
25 materials that have been submitted to you. And I

1 just want to remind, for people who may be in the
2 audience who aren't familiar with what we do, we are
3 basically the administrative and workers' comp
4 adjudicators, like the administrative workers' comp
5 court for the State of Florida, but we're not part
6 of the state judiciary. We're part of the
7 Executive Branch. And our commitment is, of course,
8 the fair and impartial adjudication of disputes
9 between agencies and the people and workers' comp
10 disputes.

11 And I won't go through a lot of our data. You
12 have all that information in front of you. But just
13 a few highlights to show that we move cases through
14 the system. We don't let them languish, as some
15 people find these days, that because of the demands
16 of criminal courts, that civil cases have a hard
17 time getting through the process in state court.

18 But, at the administrative level, 95 percent
19 of our cases are set for hearing within 90 days.
20 Eighty-nine percent of all cases are closed within
21 120 days. Ninety-eight percent of our professional
22 licensure cases, which are all the various
23 professional licensees in the state -- doctors,
24 nurses, nursing home administrators -- all those
25 types of cases are set for hearing -- 98 percent are

1 set for hearing within 90 days, and 78 percent of
2 those are closed within 120 days.

3 GOVERNOR SCOTT: That's great.

4 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Yeah.

5 JUDGE COHEN: On the workers' comp side,
6 93 percent of all workers' compensation are closed
7 within the statutory time frames. What that means
8 is the people who can get back to work, get back to
9 work, and people who need to get benefits and get
10 out of the workforce, so employers can go forward
11 and hire new employees, are out of the workforce. I
12 mean, that's how the system is supposed to work.
13 It's supposed to be self-executing. But with the
14 assistance of mediators and judges, we move them
15 through, and 97 percent of workers' comp mediations
16 are timely held. And, when they're not timely held,
17 it's usually because the parties need more time,
18 hopefully to settle the case.

19 We offer a user-friendly E-filing platform.
20 There's public access to all our dockets online.
21 Free access to the public. Very transparent. The
22 only thing that's not available to the public are
23 confidential matters that are confidential by
24 statute and personal identifying matters of children
25 and other vulnerable parts of the population. We

1 accomplish all this with an outstanding lean and
2 efficient staff of judges, as well as our
3 administrative staff. This electronic filing saves
4 the public and saves the parties a lot of time and
5 money, because you can do it from anywhere.

6 The biggest issues facing us in the past
7 year -- first of all, on the workers' comp side of
8 things, we all know that there were cases handed
9 down by the Florida Supreme Court that changed the
10 way -- or it changed the standard for awarding
11 attorneys' fees. There was an immediate reaction by
12 the insurance industry to raise the rates for
13 workers' comp insurance. There was a large increase
14 in rates. And, after a year of experience, the
15 insurers realized, as most of us believed, that
16 there wasn't going to be just this outpouring of
17 unreasonable attorneys' fees. And so the rates have
18 come back down to get Florida back in line with
19 where we had been for so many years, since 2003, as
20 a state where workers' comp insurance premiums have
21 been on the decline and made it more cost-effective
22 to have coverage for your employees.

23 On the ALJ side of things, we had some
24 legislation that came up last year that changed the
25 way that administrative law judges are selected and

1 retained in office. It didn't pass last year. It
2 passed the House, not the Senate. But, as I learned
3 yesterday evening, there is an amendment this year,
4 and that issue is back up again. And, of course, we
5 will follow that and -- regardless of what happens
6 with that legislation, we will be here to do our
7 jobs.

8 And what does that mean when we say we do our
9 jobs? The job of a judge, especially a judge in the
10 Executive Branch -- because we don't have any
11 inherent powers of adjudication, no powers of
12 equity. We have only the powers that are conferred
13 to us by the legislature. So what do judges do?
14 What are our judges taught to do and gets pounded
15 into them time and again? To follow the evidence,
16 to listen to the legal arguments, and to write
17 orders that apply the facts to the law as written,
18 not the law as an individual judge might want it to
19 be, not the world as you might see it if you can
20 wave the magic wand or get some divine intervention
21 to decide cases, but the law as the legislature has
22 handed it down.

23 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Thank you for that,
24 Judge, by the way.

25 JUDGE COHEN: Our judges are trained to do

1 their best to make the right decisions, not
2 necessarily the popular ones. We've had a lot of
3 high-profile issues this past year, and we do every
4 year, but some of them were related to medical
5 marijuana and growers' issues and the rulemaking
6 process. Others were related to storm issues and
7 generators for nursing homes. These are the type of
8 issues that everybody wants safety and protections,
9 but the rules have to get written in a way that will
10 not only pass an administrative law judge's review,
11 but an appellate court's review.

12 This is the essence of what we do. We render
13 decisions not based on emotion. We render decisions
14 based on the law. The public, the agencies who
15 utilize our services, the school districts whose
16 cases we hear, the teachers and the administrators,
17 and all those who do business before us, deserve
18 nothing less, and that is our commitment.

19 I thank you for the opportunity to serve the
20 great citizens of our state and to serve you, the
21 Cabinet, and, in effect, the executive branch though
22 the work we do. And I ask for your favorable
23 consideration of this year's annual report and my
24 performance review, and I would enjoy and welcome
25 the privilege of continuing to serve. And, of

1 course, I'm here to answer any questions you may
2 have.

3 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Does anybody have any
4 questions?

5 (NO RESPONSE).

6 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a motion to accept
7 the report?

8 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: So moved.

9 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a second?

10 CFO PATRONIS: Second.

11 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Any comments or objections?

12 (NO RESPONSE).

13 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Hearing none, the motion
14 carries.

15 JUDGE COHEN: Thank you.

16 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you, Judge. Good job.

17 JUDGE COHEN: Thank you. Now I can eat my
18 strawberry cookie from Plant City.

19 CFO PATRONIS: And the donuts.

20 GOVERNOR SCOTT: The donuts are pretty good
21 too.

22 JUDGE COHEN: Along with the funnel cake.

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1 BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE INTERNAL IMPROVEMENT
2 TRUST FUND

3 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Next I would like to
4 recognize David Clark with the Department of
5 Environmental Protection.

6 DEPUTY SECRETARY CLARK: Good morning,
7 Governor Scott, Attorney General Bondi, CFO Patronis
8 and Commissioner Putnam. For the record, my name is
9 David Clark, Deputy Secretary of Land and Recreation
10 at DEP, standing in for Secretary Valenstein. He
11 sends his regards, and he appreciates the
12 opportunity for the Agency to present an agenda at
13 the Florida State Fair.

14 Before we begin the agenda, I want to
15 highlight one of our great state parks,
16 Oscar Scherer State Park. It's located in Osprey,
17 which is about an hour south of here. And I know
18 that all of you are very engaged in making sure that
19 there are successful land acquisitions that resonate
20 with our communities and also to ensure that our
21 lands are effectively managed. This park emphasizes
22 a successful acquisition, habitat protection and
23 quality resource management. And that can't be done
24 without great volunteers, one -- a couple that you
25 recognized earlier today, and their commitment to

1 our state parks.

2 Oscar Scherer has 421 acres of scrubby
3 flatwoods, which is the ideal habitat, in an urban
4 environment, for the Florida scrub jays, which is a
5 state and federally listed threatened species. It's
6 the only species of bird endemic to Florida, which
7 makes it a true native Floridian.

8 Currently, there are five scrub jay families,
9 totaling 17 individuals, in the park. In the past
10 year, those families have had six fledglings, which
11 is the highest number in the past eight years, which
12 is a testament to that quality management. I bring
13 this highlight up to you because it shows the
14 commitment that's being made to manage our land in
15 the best manner, especially using tools like
16 prescribed fire.

17 So I'm only speaking that if you take care of
18 the resource, the wildlife will flourish. And a lot
19 tourists come to the state to see the wildlife
20 interacting with our national resources, as a matter
21 of fact, 32 million tourists last year, and we hope
22 to break that record again this year. As always, we
23 encourage Floridians, and beyond, to come into our
24 state parks and enjoy all 175 award-winning state
25 parks.

1 Thank you for allowing me to share that
2 information with you.

3 GOVERNOR SCOTT: How many gold medals have we
4 gotten?

5 DEPUTY SECRETARY CLARK: We have three, and
6 we're hoping to get four.

7 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: That's great.

8 GOVERNOR SCOTT: How often can you get them?

9 DEPUTY SECRETARY CLARK: Every five years.

10 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Wow.

11 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Every five years.

12 DEPUTY SECRETARY CLARK: They made that rule
13 after we won two, because we kept on winning them.

14 GOVERNOR SCOTT: How many states have won two?

15 DEPUTY SECRETARY CLARK: I don't believe there
16 is one.

17 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Who hands those out?

18 DEPUTY SECRETARY CLARK: The Florida Rec and
19 Park -- the Federal Recreation and Parks
20 Association, a federal association.

21 GOVERNOR SCOTT: No. 1 state park system.

22 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: And well deserved.

23 DEPUTY SECRETARY CLARK: So there are eight
24 items on the Board of Trustees agenda today. Item 1
25 are the minutes from the December 13, 2017, meeting.

1 The Department recommends approval.

2 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a motion?

3 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: So moved.

4 CFO PATRONIS: So moved.

5 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a second?

6 CFO PATRONIS: Second.

7 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Comments or objections?

8 (NO RESPONSE).

9 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Hearing none, the motion
10 carries.

11 DEPUTY SECRETARY CLARK: Item 2 is request for
12 a lease modification to a 25-year sovereignty
13 submerged lands lease to authorize the use of
14 225 existing wet slips and decrease the preempted
15 area by 170 square feet for an existing commercial
16 docking facility. The applicant is Tarpon Point
17 Marina. The lease modification request was noticed
18 to property owners and the Save the Manatee Club.
19 No objections were received. The Department
20 recommends approval.

21 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a motion on the
22 item?

23 CFO PATRONIS: So moved.

24 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a second?

25 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Second.

1 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Any comments or objections?

2 (NO RESPONSE).

3 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Hearing none, the motion
4 carries.

5 DEPUTY SECRETARY CLARK: Item 3 is the
6 determination that it is in the public's interest to
7 allow non-water dependent activities to be conducted
8 on approximately 795 square feet of sovereignty
9 submerged lands leased by Bonita Bills Waterfront
10 Cafe. Per rule, the consideration is based on the
11 appraised market rental value of this activity, and
12 the Department recommends approval.

13 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a motion?

14 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: So moved.

15 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a second?

16 CFO PATRONIS: Second.

17 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Comments or objections?

18 (NO RESPONSE).

19 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Hearing none, the motion
20 carries.

21 DEPUTY SECRETARY CLARK: Item 4 is
22 consideration of a request by the City of
23 Winter Springs to exchange a 1.36-acre parcel of
24 land for two parcels totalling approximately .54
25 acre of conservation lands owned by the Board of

1 Trustees. The Cross Seminole Trail is approximately
2 30 miles in length, and if this is approved, it
3 will complete one of the last remaining segments of
4 the trail providing improved trail access to the
5 community. Seminole County is the current manager
6 of the trail and is in support of this proposed
7 exchange. The Department recommends approval.

8 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a motion?

9 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: So moved.

10 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a second?

11 CFO PATRONIS: Second.

12 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Comments or objections?

13 (NO RESPONSE).

14 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Hearing none, the motion
15 carries.

16 DEPUTY SECRETARY CLARK: Item 5 is
17 consideration of a surplus and sale of approximately
18 4.63 acres of state-owned non-conservation land in
19 Miami-Dade County. This parcel was marketed,
20 competitively bid, and the winning the bidder was
21 Natural Vitamins Laboratory with an offer of
22 \$3,031,001. The buyer has indicated they have plans
23 to build a new manufacturing and distribution
24 center. The construction project is anticipated to
25 provide temporary jobs. When complete and

1 operational, the company will provide nearly 200
2 full-time and part-time jobs in that community. The
3 Department recommends approval.

4 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a motion on the
5 item?

6 CFO PATRONIS: So moved.

7 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a second?

8 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Second.

9 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Comments or objections?

10 (NO RESPONSE).

11 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Hearing none, the motion
12 carries.

13 DEPUTY SECRETARY CLARK: Item 6 is
14 consideration of a surplus and conveyance of
15 approximately a 630-acre parcel of land to
16 Cemex Construction Materials. Cemex will purchase
17 this parcel for \$14,765,000. Pursuant to statute,
18 this conveyance continues the legislative intent
19 under the Miami-Dade Lake Belt Mitigation Plan, and
20 these funds would be deposited into the state school
21 trust fund. The Department recommends approval,
22 subject to the receipt of the release of lease from
23 Miami-Dade County.

24 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a motion on the
25 item?

1 CFO PATRONIS: So moved.

2 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a second?

3 COMMISSIONER PUTNAM: Second.

4 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: Second.

5 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Comments or objections?

6 (NO RESPONSE).

7 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Hearing none, the motion
8 carries.

9 DEPUTY SECRETARY CLARK: Kal Knickerbocker,
10 with the Division of Aquaculture, will present
11 Item 7, and Item 8 will be to presented by
12 Jim Karels, with the Florida Forest Service.

13 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thanks, David.

14 DIRECTOR KNICKERBOKER: Good morning -- excuse
15 me -- good morning, Governor Scott and fellow
16 Trustees. Item No. 7 this morning is about the
17 Gulf Jackson Aquaculture Use Zone. The applicants,
18 Michael Davis, Tracy Grumman and Frank Grumman are
19 requesting Trustee approval for three new submerged
20 land bottom leases located adjacent to the
21 Gulf Jackson Aquaculture Use Zone in Levy County.
22 Each lease will be approximately two acres in size.

23 The Gulf Jackson Aquaculture Use Zone is in
24 the Big Bend Sea Grasses Aquatic Preserve just west
25 of the city of Cedar Key. The orientation of the

1 proposed lease parcels will allow consistency of the
2 navigation and easement quarters into the existing
3 aquaculture use zone. The Gulf Jackson Aquaculture
4 Use Zone was originally approved by the Board of
5 Trustees in 1992 and expanded in 1997. Today it is
6 comprised of 110 occupied lease parcels. The
7 Department is requesting expansion of the
8 Gulf Jackson Aquaculture Use Zone to include these
9 three parcels.

10 In August of 2017, the Board of Trustees
11 authorized the Department to modify existing bottom
12 leases in Gulf Jackson to allow use of the full
13 water column. For consistency, the Department is
14 requesting the same authority to modify the
15 additional three leases to the water column, upon
16 leaseholder request, in determining compliance with
17 all rules and statutory requirements.

18 Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation
19 Commission and the Department of Environmental
20 Protections Board, our coastal office, have reviewed
21 this item and have no comments. No comments were
22 received during the public comment period. The
23 Army Corp of Engineers and the National Marine
24 Fisheries Service have had no objections.

25 The Staff is recommending approval of

1 Item No. 7.

2 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a motion on the
3 item?

4 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: So moved.

5 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a second?

6 CFO PATRONIS: Second.

7 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Comments or objections?

8 (NO RESPONSE).

9 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Hearing none, the motion
10 carries.

11 DIRECTOR KNICKERBOCKER: Thank you.

12 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thanks, Kal.

13 DIRECTOR KARELS: Good morning,
14 Governor Scott, Attorney General Bondi,
15 CFO Patronis, Mr. Putnam.

16 Item No. 8, Cannon Family Farms conservation
17 easement. First request, consideration of, one, an
18 option agreement to acquire a 412-acre perpetual
19 conservation easement over land lines within the
20 Cannon Family Farm project of the Florida Department
21 of Agriculture and Consumer Services Rural and
22 Family Lands Program from Ronald E. Cannon and
23 Sarah F. Cannon and, two, the designation of
24 Florida Forest Service as the monitoring agency.

25 The county it's located in is Marion.

1 Consideration price is \$742,424. If approved, this
2 will be the 40th perpetual conservation easement
3 under the Rural and Family Lands Program totalling
4 41,504 acres so far.

5 The Cannon Family Farm is a working farm that
6 has been in agriculture production for over
7 100 years now. The original home site, built in the
8 late 1800s on the farm, was first used as a church
9 and is now the home for the family. The family,
10 they're converting it and restoring it. There is
11 also a grinding mill on the property that's being
12 restored to manufacture cane syrup.

13 It's one of the few gaps, this easement, in
14 the 100-mile-long Cross Florida Greenway. With the
15 purchase of this conservation easement, it will help
16 to ensure the connectivity of that Greenway across
17 Florida. The Cannon Family Farm has multiple
18 agricultural practices -- cow path, row crop and
19 timber.

20 The staff recommends approval of this item.

21 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a motion on the
22 item?

23 ATTORNEY GENERAL BONDI: So moved.

24 CFO PATRONIS: So moved.

25 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Is there a second?

1 CFO PATRONIS: Second.

2 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Comments or objections?

3 (NO RESPONSE).

4 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Hearing none, the motion
5 carries.

6 DIRECTOR KARELS: Thank you.

7 GOVERNOR SCOTT: Thank you, Jim.

8 DEPUTY SECRETARY CLARK: Governor, just for
9 the record, it's actually the National Recreation
10 and Parks Association, and we become eligible next
11 year, and so we'll be applying. And we're very
12 excited. We think we're poised, because of this
13 Cabinet's leadership, to be successful in the hunt
14 for the next gold medal. And, despite Irma and the
15 damage, we're at a good place, and we appreciate
16 your leadership post-Hurricane Irma in the state
17 parks, and many offices for all the Cabinet members
18 who engaged to help us get back on our feet quickly.
19 So thank you for that.

20 And that concludes the Board of Trustees'
21 agenda.

22 GOVERNOR SCOTT: All right. Thank you.

23 Thanks, David.

24 I want to thank everybody for coming today.

25 This concludes today's meeting. Our next meeting is

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March 7th in beautiful Tallahassee.
(WHEREUPON, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED).

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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

STATE OF FLORIDA)
COUNTY OF HILLSBOROUGH)

I, MELINDA MCKENNA, Court Reporter, certify
that I was authorized to and did stenographically
report the foregoing proceedings and that the
transcript is a true and complete record of my
stenographic notes.

Dated this 19th day of February, 2018.

MELINDA MCKENNA
Court Reporter