

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:08,680

Since it's a public hearing, should the motions be read in this public hearing and displayed

2

00:00:08,680 --> 00:00:09,680

for the public to view?

3

00:00:09,680 --> 00:00:10,680

MR.

4

00:00:10,680 --> 00:00:11,680

It will be entered into the public record.

5

00:00:11,680 --> 00:00:12,680

MR.

6

00:00:12,680 --> 00:00:13,680

That wasn't my question.

7

00:00:13,680 --> 00:00:14,680

I said should it be read out?

8

00:00:14,680 --> 00:00:15,680

MR.

9

00:00:15,680 --> 00:00:16,680

There's no need for that.

10

00:00:16,680 --> 00:00:19,000

The Board has read it, and the Board's the one making the decision here.

11

00:00:19,000 --> 00:00:24,240

So if anyone in the public wants to see the document upon which the Board made their decision,

12

00:00:24,240 --> 00:00:26,000

they're free to because it will be in the record.

13

00:00:26,000 --> 00:00:27,000

MR.

14

00:00:27,000 --> 00:00:28,000
Okay.

15
00:00:28,000 --> 00:00:29,000
Thank you.

16
00:00:29,000 --> 00:00:30,000
MR.

17
00:00:30,000 --> 00:00:36,180
Hold on just a second.

18
00:00:36,180 --> 00:00:37,180
Is that the IT?

19
00:00:37,180 --> 00:00:38,180
MR.

20
00:00:38,180 --> 00:00:39,180
No.

21
00:00:39,180 --> 00:00:40,180
MR.

22
00:00:40,180 --> 00:00:41,180
No?

23
00:00:41,180 --> 00:00:42,180
Okay.

24
00:00:42,180 --> 00:00:43,180
Sorry.

25
00:00:43,180 --> 00:00:44,180
MS.

26
00:00:44,180 --> 00:00:45,180
Is this on?

27
00:00:45,180 --> 00:00:46,180

MR.

28

00:00:46,180 --> 00:00:47,180

You can continue.

29

00:00:47,180 --> 00:00:48,180

MS.

30

00:00:48,180 --> 00:00:49,180

Can you hear me?

31

00:00:49,180 --> 00:00:50,180

MR.

32

00:00:50,180 --> 00:00:51,180

Yes.

33

00:00:51,180 --> 00:00:52,180

MS.

34

00:00:52,180 --> 00:00:53,180

Good morning, Board.

35

00:00:53,180 --> 00:00:54,180

MS.

36

00:00:54,180 --> 00:00:55,180

Ms. Easter, do you have any questions?

37

00:00:55,180 --> 00:00:56,180

MS.

38

00:00:56,180 --> 00:00:57,180

She submitted it to the office or something?

39

00:00:57,180 --> 00:00:58,180

MS.

40

00:00:58,180 --> 00:00:58,980

I'm sorry.

41

00:00:58,980 --> 00:01:00,160

We can get the IT person.

42

00:01:00,160 --> 00:01:04,160

We're adjourned until we can get the technological aspects of this figured out.

43

00:01:04,160 --> 00:01:05,160

MS.

44

00:01:05,160 --> 00:01:06,160

Can IT come in here?

45

00:01:06,160 --> 00:01:07,160

MR.

46

00:01:07,160 --> 00:01:08,160

Yeah.

47

00:01:08,160 --> 00:01:09,160

Here.

48

00:01:09,160 --> 00:01:10,160

We can all.

49

00:01:10,160 --> 00:01:11,160

MS.

50

00:01:11,160 --> 00:01:12,160

Yeah.

51

00:01:12,160 --> 00:01:13,160

We're looking for a happy medium of being able to hear me.

52

00:01:13,160 --> 00:01:14,160

MS.

53

00:01:14,160 --> 00:01:15,160

Okay.

54
00:01:15,160 --> 00:01:16,160
Thank you.

55
00:01:16,160 --> 00:01:17,160
Thank you.

56
00:01:17,160 --> 00:01:18,160
MS.

57
00:01:18,160 --> 00:01:19,160
Thank you.

58
00:01:19,160 --> 00:01:20,160
MS.

59
00:01:20,160 --> 00:01:21,160
Thank you.

60
00:01:21,160 --> 00:01:22,160
MS.

61
00:01:22,160 --> 00:01:23,160
Thank you.

62
00:01:23,160 --> 00:01:24,160
MS.

63
00:01:24,160 --> 00:01:25,160
Thank you.

64
00:01:25,160 --> 00:01:26,160
MS.

65
00:01:26,160 --> 00:01:27,160
Thank you.

66
00:01:27,160 --> 00:01:28,160
MS.

67

00:01:28,160 --> 00:01:29,160

Thank you.

68

00:01:29,160 --> 00:01:30,160

Thank you.

69

00:01:30,160 --> 00:01:31,160

So a good idea.

70

00:01:31,160 --> 00:01:32,160

Thank you.

71

00:01:32,160 --> 00:01:33,160

What about being able to hear me here versus hearing all the rustling of papers?

72

00:01:33,160 --> 00:01:34,160

MS.

73

00:01:34,160 --> 00:01:35,160

Test, test.

74

00:01:35,160 --> 00:01:36,160

MR.

75

00:01:36,160 --> 00:01:41,600

And we'll probably need some thumbs up or thumbs down from the back as far

76

00:01:41,600 --> 00:01:48,400

as whether you can hear or not.

77

00:01:48,400 --> 00:01:49,400

MS.

78

00:01:49,400 --> 00:01:50,400

Test, test.

79

00:01:50,400 --> 00:01:51,400

It's good?

80

00:01:51,400 --> 00:01:52,400

It's better?

81

00:01:52,400 --> 00:01:53,400

MS.

82

00:01:53,400 --> 00:01:54,400

Yeah.

83

00:01:54,400 --> 00:01:55,400

It's good?

84

00:01:55,400 --> 00:01:56,400

MS.

85

00:01:56,400 --> 00:01:57,320

I'm MUMBO.

86

00:01:57,320 --> 00:01:57,400

How about we try someone else?

87

00:01:57,400 --> 00:01:57,980

MS. Okay.

88

00:01:57,980 --> 00:01:59,980

Can you hear in the back?

89

00:02:27,980 --> 00:02:57,960

Thank you.

90

00:02:57,980 --> 00:03:16,960

I would imagine it's all online through that same system, but I don't know how they handle it.

91

00:03:18,580 --> 00:03:25,560

And once you received the complainant's wife's application, what were the next steps?

92

00:03:26,560 --> 00:03:27,560

So I actually just...

93

00:03:27,980 --> 00:03:37,720

We didn't even know that she had applied because the District 5 seat became available on 7-3

after Chair resigned.

94

00:03:38,640 --> 00:03:44,920

And I did not know that she had even applied until that motion came up and there was a copy of her application.

95

00:03:44,920 --> 00:03:57,280

She applied on 7-22, but I pulled 32 applicants on 7-3 and started the process of replacing the District 5 seat.

96

00:03:57,980 --> 00:04:14,100

On 7-3 at 1154 a.m., I sent a list of 32 applicant addresses over to the Assistant Director, Ms. Phillips of Elections.

97

00:04:14,100 --> 00:04:18,480

That's how we verify that those addresses are within the District 5.

98

00:04:20,320 --> 00:04:27,560

So once she got back to me, she emailed me back that same day at 359,

99

00:04:27,980 --> 00:04:31,660

identifying what addresses were in the District 5.

100

00:04:32,960 --> 00:04:48,780

On 8-7, I contacted HR and told them that these four applicants were ready to move forward to get drug screening and background checks.

101

00:04:49,400 --> 00:04:56,540

On 8-21 at 128 p.m., HR sent me an email saying all the four applicants had been cleared.

102

00:04:57,980 --> 00:05:03,460

So I contacted the DA's office because they're the ones that scheduled the interviews with the grand jury.

103

00:05:03,740 --> 00:05:06,960

They scheduled interviews for 9-18 at 11 a.m.

104

00:05:06,960 --> 00:05:19,620

So the application process was already finished by 8-7, all the applicants that I had pulled from NEOGOV.

105

00:05:19,900 --> 00:05:23,300

So I didn't even see Ms. Tripp's application.

106

00:05:24,320 --> 00:05:25,560

She wasn't part of the pool.

107

00:05:27,980 --> 00:05:28,460

Thank you.

108

00:05:28,900 --> 00:05:34,320

At any point in the application process, is the board informed of the names of the applicants?

109

00:05:34,580 --> 00:05:35,360

Absolutely not.

110

00:05:36,000 --> 00:05:36,360

Thank you.

111

00:05:36,660 --> 00:05:37,640

Thank you, Ms. Bannister.

112

00:05:37,740 --> 00:05:38,740

Are there any additional questions?

113

00:05:39,960 --> 00:05:40,560

Thank you.

114

00:05:44,120 --> 00:05:45,400

Is the board ready to vote?

115

00:05:48,140 --> 00:05:49,260

Do you want to make the motion?

116

00:05:50,500 --> 00:05:52,200

We can go down the line, yay or nay.

117

00:05:53,540 --> 00:05:56,200

Is there anyone who...

118

00:05:56,920 --> 00:05:57,960

Are there any members of the...

119

00:05:57,980 --> 00:05:59,340

Hold on one second.

120

00:06:00,000 --> 00:06:00,200

Yes.

121

00:06:01,540 --> 00:06:03,940

Sorry, IT has to come up there and adjust your microphones.

122

00:06:04,900 --> 00:06:05,180

Okay.

123

00:06:13,180 --> 00:06:17,700

Okay, thank you.

124

00:06:22,220 --> 00:06:27,840

Are there any members of the board in favor of granting the respondent Morris' motion?

125

00:06:27,980 --> 00:06:28,980

Okay, motion to dismiss.

126

00:06:28,980 --> 00:06:29,980

Okay, motion denied.

127

00:06:29,980 --> 00:06:41,560

Now, we can continue the hearing that began on October 29th, 2025.

128

00:06:41,560 --> 00:06:46,100

Before we begin, I'd like to remind the parties and the board that upon agreement between

129

00:06:46,100 --> 00:06:50,820

the parties and the board, the time limits typically imposed in these hearings were waived,

130

00:06:50,820 --> 00:06:54,900

which resulted in this hearing not being concluded in one day.

131

00:06:54,900 --> 00:06:56,100

One of my duties is to facilitate an efficient resolution of this.

132

00:06:56,100 --> 00:06:57,100

Thank you.

133

00:06:57,100 --> 00:07:03,220

And to that extent, I did not fulfill my duty on October 29th.

134

00:07:03,220 --> 00:07:07,260

I respectfully request that the parties and the board focus on the claims at issue in

135

00:07:07,260 --> 00:07:11,160

this case and the facts necessary to resolve those claims.

136

00:07:11,160 --> 00:07:16,240

If there's a line of questioning that appears to be going too far off path, I will interrupt

137

00:07:16,240 --> 00:07:20,760

and request that the parties or the board focus on the relevant facts at issue.

138

00:07:20,760 --> 00:07:25,020

In other words, please be a bit more concise in your presentations of evidence and questioning

139

00:07:25,020 --> 00:07:26,220

than you were on October 29th.

140

00:07:26,220 --> 00:07:26,720

Thank you.

141

00:07:27,100 --> 00:07:30,100

If not, you're probably going to hear from me about it.

142

00:07:30,100 --> 00:07:33,100

That said, would complainant please call your next witness?

143

00:07:33,100 --> 00:07:36,100

I'll call Holly Kampen.

144

00:07:36,100 --> 00:07:40,100

I'm sorry to interrupt.

145

00:07:40,100 --> 00:07:42,100

Yes, hold on just a second, please.

146

00:07:42,100 --> 00:07:43,100

I'm sorry.

147

00:07:43,100 --> 00:07:46,100

I was just pulled aside.

148

00:07:46,100 --> 00:07:52,700

The county manager has requested that all the employees leave the room and head back

149

00:07:52,700 --> 00:07:55,220

to their department because their counsel has been denied.

150

00:07:55,220 --> 00:07:56,220

Thank you.

151

00:07:56,220 --> 00:07:58,000

They're not needed to stay here any longer.

152

00:07:58,000 --> 00:07:59,760

Their counsel has told them that they do not need to be here.

153

00:07:59,760 --> 00:08:03,740

I asked the county manager if she'd like to come in to talk to the board and they said

154

00:08:03,740 --> 00:08:04,300

no.

155

00:08:04,300 --> 00:08:04,960

Oh, there she goes.

156

00:08:04,960 --> 00:08:06,020

I don't know if she needs to talk.

157

00:08:06,020 --> 00:08:11,060

Were you free to take that advice or not?

158

00:08:11,060 --> 00:08:18,760

So, if you would like to stay voluntarily, you're free to do so.

159

00:08:18,760 --> 00:08:25,820

If you would like to disregard the contents of the subpoena, we will

160

00:08:26,220 --> 00:08:38,520

do so at your own will so am i correct they are being told to disregard any subpoenas

161

00:08:38,520 --> 00:08:41,240

that appears to be correct i think

162

00:08:41,240 --> 00:08:45,540

yes

163

00:08:56,220 --> 00:09:22,720

i'm sorry i do i do redact um i it was not the county manager's request it was

164

00:09:22,720 --> 00:09:26,080

chair harrell's request um the county commissioner

165

00:09:26,080 --> 00:09:26,200

[illegible]

166

00:09:26,220 --> 00:09:36,580

[illegible]

167

00:09:36,580 --> 00:09:42,540

[illegible]

168

00:09:42,540 --> 00:09:48,080

ii have

169

00:09:48,080 --> 00:09:52,120

has the county attorney chosen to make an

170

00:09:52,120 --> 00:09:56,080

appearance have had the county attorney

171

00:09:56,080 --> 00:10:02,000

that's the okay yeah so she says the the county attorney sent the letter that you

172

00:10:02,000 --> 00:10:04,540

the board should have a copy of that

173

00:10:04,540 --> 00:10:19,580

it was forwarded to all of you miss bullard did not put a copy in there we didn't think we would

174

00:10:19,580 --> 00:10:25,780

need that but it was the email the letter from the county attorney that was forwarded to the

175

00:10:25,780 --> 00:10:37,060

entire board so am i could someone point me to the line in the bill senate bill 22 that states

176

00:10:37,060 --> 00:10:43,240

that the board has power of subpoena yeah well that the board has power of subpoena

177

00:10:43,240 --> 00:10:48,600

but also that we're not under the supervision of the um

178

00:10:50,120 --> 00:10:55,360

eric county chairperson or the uh yes ma'am if you just give miss bullard just a few minutes

179

00:10:55,360 --> 00:10:55,740

she'll

180

00:10:55,740 --> 00:10:55,760

you

181

00:10:55,760 --> 00:10:55,780

um

182

00:10:55,780 --> 00:10:58,820

able to find that board thank you

183

00:11:07,620 --> 00:11:13,940

i found it section 5.7 subpoenas for are we still on the record for use

184

00:11:13,940 --> 00:11:17,540

and proceedings under this section the board of ethics shall have the power to

185

00:11:17,540 --> 00:11:20,900

issue subpoenas to compel any person to appear

186

00:11:20,900 --> 00:11:24,980

give sworn testimony or produce documentary or other evidence

187

00:11:24,980 --> 00:11:28,340

any person who fails to respond to such subpoenas may be subjected to the

188

00:11:28,340 --> 00:11:31,940

penalty set forth in subsection six of this section

189

00:11:34,020 --> 00:11:35,140

um in addition

190

00:11:38,100 --> 00:11:43,220

page 21 oh no it's the same that's not

191

00:11:53,940 --> 00:11:54,440

well

192

00:11:54,980 --> 00:11:57,440

the question remains of the board do we continue this hearing without any

193

00:11:57,440 --> 00:12:01,840

witnesses get it done today or do we continue this for another day

194

00:12:01,840 --> 00:12:06,680

until we can hear from this county attorney regarding

195

00:12:06,680 --> 00:12:12,020

the advice to disregard the subpoenas

196

00:12:17,880 --> 00:12:21,520

so investigations and hearings

197

00:12:22,360 --> 00:12:24,900

the board of ethics shall conduct investigations and to a

198

00:12:24,900 --> 00:12:24,980

the board of ethics shall conduct investigations and to a

199

00:12:24,980 --> 00:12:34,220

alleged violations of code ethics investigations and hearings the Board of

200

00:12:34,220 --> 00:12:38,600

Ethics shall conduct investigations into alleged violations of code of ethics

201

00:12:38,600 --> 00:12:42,220

hold hearings and issue decisions as prescribed in the subsection the

202

00:12:42,220 --> 00:12:45,600

proceedings and records of the Board of Ethics shall be open unless otherwise

203

00:12:45,600 --> 00:12:49,940

permitted by state law upon request of the Board of Ethics and hearing County

204

00:12:49,940 --> 00:12:53,780

solicitor or any attorney representing of the representing the office of

205

00:12:53,780 --> 00:12:58,400

Henry County solicitor or in the event of a conflict any attorney who shall be

206

00:12:58,400 --> 00:13:01,820

selected by majority vote of the Board of Ethics shall advise the Board of

207

00:13:01,820 --> 00:13:07,960

Ethics so we will get legal representation to advise us moving for

208

00:13:07,960 --> 00:13:14,400

but as it states in the bill here we as the Board of Ethics do have the right to

209

00:13:14,400 --> 00:13:23,780

subpoena witnesses yes Senate bill 22 specifically states for use in proceeding

210

00:13:23,780 --> 00:13:26,840

under this section the Board of Ethics shall have the power to issue subpoenas

211

00:13:26,840 --> 00:13:31,100

to compel any person to appear give sworn testimony or produce documentary or

212

00:13:31,100 --> 00:13:39,560

other evidence therefore the Senators of Georgia bestowed upon this board the

213

00:13:39,560 --> 00:13:44,480

ability to issue subpoenas which were just disregarded by upon advice of

214

00:13:44,480 --> 00:13:50,720

counsel so the board is certainly at liberty to continue and I don't mean

215

00:13:50,720 --> 00:13:53,360

continue to a later date I mean continue here today

216

00:13:53,780 --> 00:14:01,040

to hear this issue and decide this issue here today and decide how to address the

217

00:14:01,040 --> 00:14:06,260

failure to appear pursuant to those subpoenas at a later date should it so

218

00:14:06,260 --> 00:14:16,340

choose so the question is do we have it also says all testimony shall be under

219

00:14:16,340 --> 00:14:19,880

oath which shall be administered by a member of the Board of Ethics any person

220

00:14:19,880 --> 00:14:23,420

who appears before the Board of Ethics shall have all the due process rights

221

00:14:23,780 --> 00:14:26,600

and privileges or responsibilities of witness appearing before the courts of

222

00:14:26,600 --> 00:14:30,320

this state so are they saying when subpoenaed for the court of the state

223

00:14:30,320 --> 00:14:35,960

they don't show what's the what's the process to that right they're subject to

224

00:14:35,960 --> 00:14:41,240

penalty for not showing the question is essentially does the board want to

225

00:14:41,240 --> 00:14:45,500

pursue those my question really though goes to respondents did the respondents

226

00:14:45,500 --> 00:14:47,780

issue any subpoenas or are these all complainants

227

00:14:51,320 --> 00:14:53,720

and have all those people left they did

228

00:14:53,780 --> 00:15:13,400

respondent that is a good question for you because it's it's your due process that's at issue here

229

00:15:14,060 --> 00:15:20,180

and those individuals that left just disregarded lawfully issued subpoenas

230

00:15:21,320 --> 00:15:23,480

so it's up to you whether you would like to

231

00:15:23,780 --> 00:15:28,940

continue here today or postpone this hearing to a later date so the issue of

232

00:15:28,940 --> 00:15:35,720

the the issuance of the subpoenas can be addressed with was it the county or the

233

00:15:35,720 --> 00:15:39,980

city county attorney so just so we have it on the record

234

00:15:41,420 --> 00:15:48,200

um subsection M violations of appeals any intentional violation of this section

235

00:15:48,200 --> 00:15:52,640

furnishing a false and misleading information to the board of ethics or the ethics officer failure to

236

00:15:52,640 --> 00:15:53,360

follow an opinion

237

00:15:53,780 --> 00:15:57,500

rendered by the board of ethics or failure to comply with the subpoena issued by the

238

00:15:57,500 --> 00:16:01,520

board of ethics pursuant to this section shall be self-subject the violator

239

00:16:02,720 --> 00:16:07,340

to any or one or more of the following administrative sanction of not more than a

240

00:16:07,340 --> 00:16:11,840

thousand bucks assessed by the board of ethics public reprimand by the board of ethics and

241

00:16:11,840 --> 00:16:15,920

prosecution by the Henry County solicitor in the Magistrate Court of Henry County and upon

242

00:16:15,920 --> 00:16:21,860

conviction a fine of 1 000 per violation up to six months imprisonment whether the official or employee

243

00:16:21,860 --> 00:16:23,660

is elected or appointed

244

00:16:23,780 --> 00:16:26,780

paid or unpaid I just want to put that in record

245

00:16:26,780 --> 00:16:40,100

just on the board and Mr Morris can take that into consideration when determining it to continue or not

246

00:16:41,300 --> 00:16:47,360

Mr Morris your call right now whether you want to proceed today or well I'll see if there are no

247

00:16:47,360 --> 00:16:49,940

witnesses so let's postpone it I guess

248

00:16:53,120 --> 00:16:53,600

board

249

00:16:53,780 --> 00:16:59,120

I don't know that we have any choice in this matter in regards to Mr Morris's rights to due process so

250

00:16:59,120 --> 00:17:00,260

I appreciate it

251

00:17:00,260 --> 00:17:03,800

we're just going to go to the board and acknowledge his favor of postponing

252

00:17:03,800 --> 00:17:12,860

uh I raise your names those in favor of postponing this hearing so for the date postponing yes

253

00:17:13,820 --> 00:17:19,820

yeah they're all in agreement with the disagreements of postponing because he can't present his case without his

254

00:17:19,820 --> 00:17:20,120

reason

255

00:17:20,120 --> 00:17:24,320

is hearing will we continue

256

00:17:26,060 --> 00:17:26,780

we're turning

257

00:17:26,780 --> 00:17:33,080

it where's it

258

00:17:33,080 --> 00:17:40,280

it I need you to cut the mics and the cameras please

259

00:17:40,280 --> 00:17:41,180

you

260

00:17:41,180 --> 00:17:41,960

you

261

00:17:41,960 --> 00:17:42,500

you

262

00:17:42,500 --> 00:17:43,040
you

263
00:17:43,040 --> 00:17:43,640
you

264
00:17:43,640 --> 00:17:44,180
you

265
00:17:44,180 --> 00:17:44,680
you

266
00:17:44,680 --> 00:17:45,180
you

267
00:17:45,180 --> 00:17:45,680
you

268
00:17:45,680 --> 00:17:46,180
you

269
00:17:46,180 --> 00:17:46,680
you

270
00:17:46,680 --> 00:17:47,180
you

271
00:17:47,180 --> 00:17:47,680
you

272
00:17:47,680 --> 00:17:48,180
you

273
00:17:48,180 --> 00:17:48,680
you

274
00:17:48,680 --> 00:17:49,180
you

275
00:17:49,180 --> 00:17:49,480

you

276

00:17:49,480 --> 00:17:49,880

you

277

00:17:50,120 --> 00:17:50,800

you

278

00:17:50,800 --> 00:17:51,320

you

279

00:17:51,320 --> 00:17:51,820

you

280

00:17:51,820 --> 00:17:52,320

you

281

00:17:52,320 --> 00:17:52,820

you

282

00:17:52,820 --> 00:17:55,000

you

283

00:17:55,000 --> 00:17:55,060

hello

284

00:17:55,060 --> 00:17:55,700

in the

285

00:17:55,700 --> 00:17:56,380

in the

286

00:17:56,380 --> 00:17:56,480

in the

287

00:17:56,480 --> 00:17:58,500

the

288

00:17:58,500 --> 00:18:00,260

in the

289
00:18:00,260 --> 00:18:00,860
in the

290
00:18:00,860 --> 00:18:02,980
in the

291
00:18:02,980 --> 00:18:03,180
in the

292
00:18:03,180 --> 00:18:04,160
in the

293
00:18:04,160 --> 00:18:04,240
in the

294
00:18:04,240 --> 00:18:08,760
in the

295
00:18:11,960 --> 00:18:12,280
in the

296
00:18:12,280 --> 00:18:13,260
in the

297
00:18:13,260 --> 00:18:18,700
in the

298
00:18:18,700 --> 00:18:19,040
in the

299
00:18:19,040 --> 00:18:19,700
in the

300
00:18:19,700 --> 00:18:19,980
in the

301
00:18:19,980 --> 00:18:49,960
Thank you.